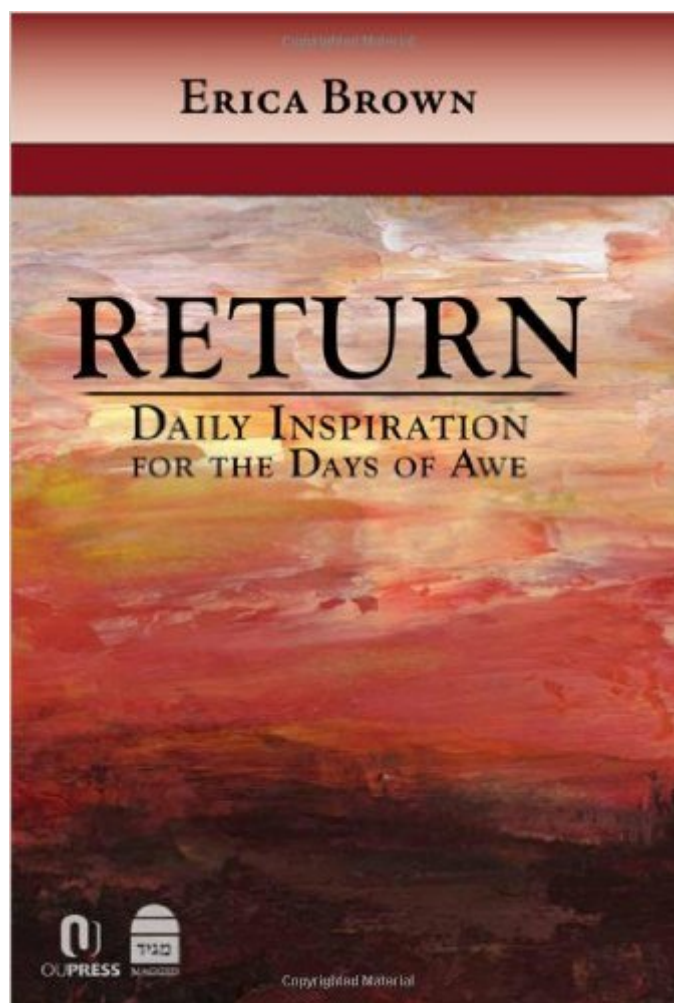


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Return: Daily Inspiration For The Days Of Awe



Synopsis

In her new book, *Return: Daily Inspiration for the Days of Awe*, Dr. Erica Brown, one of today's most sought-after Jewish educators, leads the reader on a transformative journey spanning the ten days between Rosh HaShana and Yom Kippur. In her distinct interdisciplinary approach, Brown presents an original guide to teshuva that is both highly scholarly and deeply personal. For each day, the book offers a biblical- or rabbinic-themed essay, passages for textual study, and a practical exercise of self-improvement. The result is an engaging dialogue with both text and self, empowering Jews of all backgrounds to connect to the Days of Awe.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The ten days between and including the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, New Years and Day of Atonement, were instituted by rabbis as ten days during which Jews should recall and examine their past deeds and thoughts, think why mistakes were made, decide not to repeat errors, and consider ways to improve. People should, of course, think about their mistakes at all time and remedy them immediately. However, many culture, like the Jews, recognize that most people fail to do so; so they remind people to check their behavior at the onset of a new year and make resolutions to improve. Thus it is well known that many people go on diets and promise themselves to study more during new year holidays. The Jewish practice, stimulated and enhanced by many ceremonies and prayers, is a strong inspiration to "return" to the teachings of Judaism. Moses Maimonides (1138-1204) wrote a code of Jewish law called Mishnah Torah. One section of ten chapters is called Laws of Repentance. Since the Days of Awe are also ten, many

Jews decided to read one of Maimonides' chapters each day and use the readings to inspire improvement. These readings are helpful since Maimonides includes ideas how improvement can be achieved. Erica Brown, a writer, lecturer, and scholar-in-residence at the Greater Washington Jewish Federation, has a similar approach. She devotes her book about the ten days to ten chapters that can be read on each of the Ten Days of Awe together with a Forward, Preface, a fourteen page introduction, and an epilogue. She writes that the ten days is an opportunity "to improve, to change, to forgive, to apologize, to become what we've always meant to become, to return, to come home...to recover, to revisit our best selves, to become whole again.

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