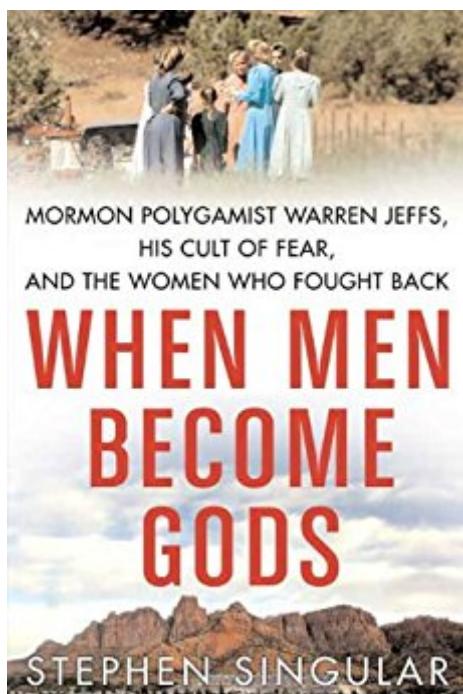


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When Men Become Gods: Mormon Polygamist Warren Jeffs, His Cult Of Fear, And The Women Who Fought Back



Synopsis

In When Men Become Gods, New York Times bestselling author Stephen Singular casts a light on a dark corner of religious extremism. He reveals a group of fundamentalists operating in the present-day United States, where teenage girls are kept in virtual bondage in the name of upholding the "sacred principle" of polygamy. As the leader and self-proclaimed prophet of the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints, a sect of Mormonism based in isolated southern Utah, Warren Jeffs held sway over thousands of followers for nearly a decade. His rule was utterly tyrannical. In addition to coercing young girls into polygamous marriages with older men, Jeffs reputedly took scores of wives, many of whom were his father's widows. Television, radio, and newspapers were shunned, creating a hidden community where polygamy was prized above all else. But in 2007, after a two-year manhunt that landed him on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List, Jeffs's reign was forcefully ended. He was convicted of rape as an accomplice for his role in arranging a marriage between a fourteen-year-old girl and her nineteen-year-old first cousin. In When Men Become Gods, Edgar Award nominee Stephen Singular traces Jeffs's rise to power and the concerted effort that led to his downfall. It was a movement championed by law enforcement, private investigators, the Feds, and perhaps most vocal of all, a group of former polygamous wives seeking to liberate young women from the arranged marriages they'd once endured. The book offers new revelations into a nearly impenetrable enclave---a place of nineteenth-century attire, inbreeding, and eerie seclusion---providing readers with a rare glimpse into a tradition that's almost a century old, but that has only now been exposed.

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Customer Reviews

This was just an all around great book. If you have any interest (or even if you are just looking for something great to read) regarding Warren Jeffs and the Fundamentalist Latter Day Saints; you need to read this book. It does a wonderful job of providing a history/overview of FLDS, including the doctrine behind plural marriage. Likewise, the book does a great job of discussing Warren Jeffs and his role as the "prophet" of the FLDS. I also appreciated the author's clear and neutral writing style. I came away with a deeper understanding of Jeffs and the FLDS while also pitying the culture and environment that formed and shaped Jeffs into the monster he became. I would highly recommend this book--as I said in my title--I literally couldn't put it down!

Read "Under the Banner of Heaven" and became fascinated with FLDS and later with Warren Jeffs. This is a well written book that offers insight into Jeffs and the power and control he had over the lives of the men, women and children who believed in him. It offers detail accounts of the people who sought to break away from his control and those who willingly risked their lives to help them. Their stories are fascinating and make for good reading.

This book closely supported the movie's version. I bought the book because of the fantastic tv movie on Lifetime network. I was very pleased to be able to purchase this book. has afforded me the opportunity to purchase books that are out of date. That's why I recommend for interested readers of varied taste. This Warren Jeffs biography is worth the read. The movie, Outlaw Prophet is worth watching. Tony Goldwyn plays the title role.

I appreciated the author's historical references. It was a very interesting read and a glimpse into a secretive group of people. If you can read this without becoming angry with Warren Jeffs, the men he entrusted with power, and our own legal system's lack of action, you do not have a heart. This is

information we all need to know

This well written exposé of Warren Jeffs and the FLDS religion takes the reader on a journey most would find haunting to be going on in the USA today. One can only pray that help does continue to flow into these communities and that the practice of under age marriage, and rape, will come to an end. This practice is not God's will, and those who promote and practice it should be held accountable.

This story has some good research in it. It is quite compelling from a reader's perspective. However, it does have its limitations. It portrays all of these groups and people as the same sinister actors. Much of the story is based upon the perspective of the outcasts. I have personally known some of these people and it is a bit of an unfair characterization. There is no question that they have had significant faults and even criminals in their leadership at times, but I don't think that reflects the mentality of the people as a whole. They are people who are psychologically trapped within their culture. Many of them are true believers and genuinely trying to carry out the positive teachings of their god, despite its limitations. Overall, I do recommend this read. It is eye opening.

Well written and very detailed. So hard to comprehend that this has gone on for so many years. Recommended for anyone who is interested in the FLDS.

This book was great up until page 222, chapter 42. At that point, the book started to go backwards for 52 pages. Literally, the chapters went from 42 down to 33 and then back to 43 again and upwards. I hope I'm not missing something; it's too late for me to return the book for another. The writing was great, emotionally unattached, which is nice when reading cult(-ish) stories so the reader doesn't get attached to the members, they are reading the account of what happened. I hear this book is similar to other books, from other viewpoints, and more emotional, but I'm looking for distant, accurate information and I found it in this book. I've been fascinated with Mormons for sometime now, especially the FLDS. This book is a good insight to Warren Jeffs, just what I was looking for on my way to understanding why people followed him.. so interesting.

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