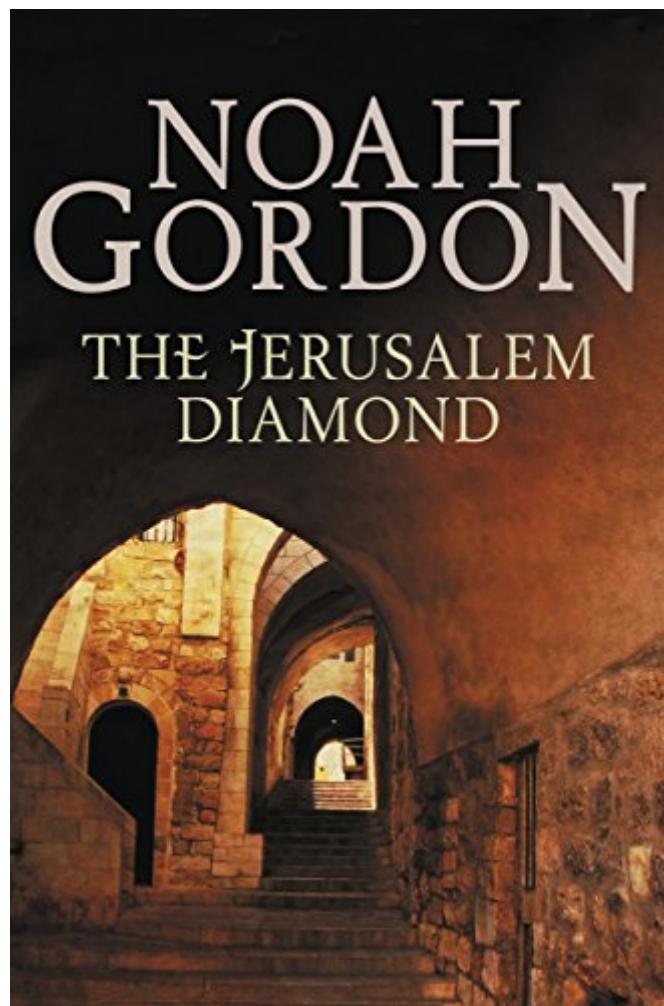


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The Jerusalem Diamond



Synopsis

A man travels to Israel to uncover a diamond's remarkable past in this vivid historical saga from the New York Times' "bestselling author of *The Physician*. A diamond cutter and seller from a long, respected line of precious-gem dealers, New Yorker Harry Hopeman is intrigued by the story of the so-called "Jerusalem Diamond," a magnificent yellow jewel rumored to date back to the biblical time of King Solomon. So when he's asked to broker a deal that will return the legendary gemstone to Israel, he eagerly accepts. Arriving in the volatile Middle East, Hopeman soon discovers that his assignment will be anything but easy. Representatives of the Holy Land's three major religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—are all laying claim to the priceless jewel that once adorned the miter of Pope Gregory, and they will do anything to possess it. Partnering with Israeli government agent Tamar Strauss—a beautiful and courageous Yemenite war widow who inspires the visiting American's passion as well as his respect—Hopeman is soon entangled in a web of mystery and intrigue that crosses continents and stretches back thousands of years. As the duo follows the twisting travels of the gem and the bloody conflicts it has ignited throughout its extraordinary past—a history that intertwines with Hopeman's own family saga—the story of a breathtaking land and its people unfolds in all its drama and glory.

International-bestselling author Noah Gordon's "whose acclaimed historical novel *The Physician* was the inspiration for the major motion picture of the same name starring Ben Kingsley" has packed a suspense tale with religious, historical and archeological underpinnings, along with fascinating insights into an industry whose conduct is generally shrouded from outside scrutiny. (The Philadelphia Inquirer).

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Customer Reviews

This book weaves history, science, religion and the true meaning of living into a delightful novel where nothing is purely black or white. Motives, histories, the personal perception of identity showcase the many actors in this book, exposing eerily the lives that we choose to lead, the cost and rewards of those choices. A great book for a few rainy days... you don't want to put it down

Well, at least for me. One capsule review likened the book to The da Vinci Code, which is way off-base, from my point of view. But it is a well-written and engaging story, one that kept me up past my bedtime, as it mixed historical periods, a romance, a mystery, and interesting details of the diamond business, history, and Jewish life and culture.

Excellent narration of Jewish history, the State of Israel and diamonds. There is one error. The Vatican stopped calling for the internationalization of Jerusalem in the 1950's and instead called for international guarantees for the Holy Places.

Noah's earlier books were better. This book was too rambling for me. I couldn't find a consistent theme. Each ramble in itself was excellent but the story was a minor player.

Great story line interesting characters and a lot of history of Israel and the Jewish people!! Enjoyed very much and am looking forward to reading another of Noah Gordon's books!!!

Interesting premise. A bit much on the personal relationship side. I thought it got in the way of the basic story. Good read though.

Story structure includes multigenerational history and geographic information. It is all tied into a

warm, thoughtful, and easy to read novel.

Informative but story line somewhat disjointed, needed proof reading

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