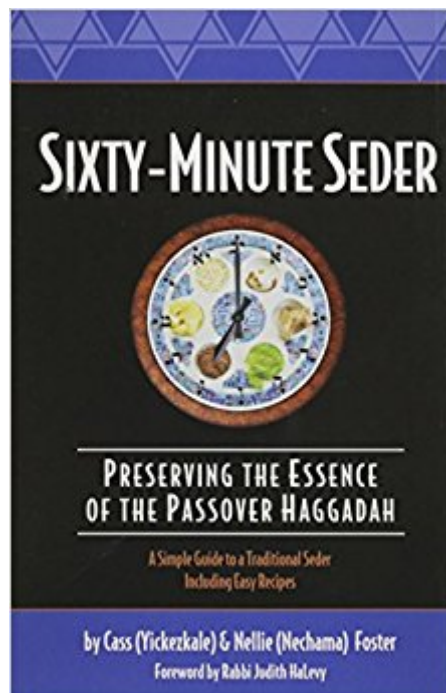




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# Sixty-Minute Seder: Preserving The Essence Of The Passover Haggadah (Sixty-Minute Collection)



## Synopsis

Sixty-Minute Seder : Preserving the Essence of the Passover Haggadah is not about taking the traditional Seder and turning it into something so modern that the reader loses all sense of tradition. This conservative Jewish couple has condensed the Seder - which normally runs anywhere from two to five hours - to one which is under an hour. Although it is condensed, everyone can honor and celebrate the annual Passover Seder as intended. Readers will welcome the instructions on how to keep Chametz (unleavened products forbidden during Pesach) for use following the eight days of Passover, and Nellie's delicious Seder meal recipes. Most books provide instructions for only the service of the Seder. Cass and Nellie Foster have created an easy-to-follow guide that explains how to prepare for Passover, how to prepare for the Seder, and how to execute the service. Also included are instructions for proper kitchenware, how to set the Seder table and create the Seder plate, candle-lighting, a wide variety of children's activities, how to manage the Fast of the First Born without having to fast, how to keep chametz (unleavened products forbidden during Pesach) for use following the eight days of Passover and recipes for the ideal Seder meal. Part of the Sixty-Minute Collection. Foreword by Rabbi Judith HaLevy, Preface by Rabbi Jack Moline, and Epilogue by Rev. Jerry Clark M.Div.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Cass and Nellie Foster have done an amazing job of sifting the essence of the Passover ritual from the embellishments of time. Each section is explained clearly, with the appropriate blessings in

Hebrew and transliteration. The symbols are explained in a manner accessible to Jews and non-Jews alike.... Best of all, Nellie's family recipes make it possible for anyone to create a Splendid Seder Meal." -- Rabbi Judith HaLevy, Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue

"A seder in an hour? To a traditional rabbi, it sounds like heresy! But you now hold an opportunity to discover a truth about this long-standing ritual that is often obscured by the focus on form over substance....Cass and Nellie Foster have distilled it to its essence. And I dare you not to be captivated by the opportunities they present." -- Rabbi Jack Moline, Agudas Achim Congregation, Alexandria, Virginia

"We are indebted to Cass and Nellie Foster for taking the bold step of creating a revolutionary Haggadah that offers a path to creating a superb alternative to the traditional Haggadah by offering us choices and helping us with planning. For those who seek a modified Seder that will stimulate discussion, inspire interest and educate Jews with a range of backgrounds will find the Sixty-Minute Seder a perfect script for the Pesach drama." -- Rabbi Jerome M. Epstein, CEO/Executive Vice President Emeritus United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

"You have created a Sixty-Minute Seder for seniors! We love your book. It is great and written so warmly and clearly, it's perfect for our seniors here at the care facility." -- Cantor Leo Fettman and his wife, Annette Fettman. Cantor Fettman co-authored SHOAH: Journey from the Ashes with Paul M. Howey.

"You have done a great job in highlighting the main points of the Haggadah and arranging them in an order that allows the Seder to flow and the story it tells to be easily absorbed...I hope the book is a success and helps many to have a meaningful Seder." -- Rabbi Dr. Andrew Goldstein, President, Liberal Judaism, London, UK. (Reform)

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Nellie Foster has spent her entire adult life in the medical field, from managing and creating medical labs to working as an educator in the field of infertility, to serving as the Director of Clinical Operations in a naturopathic college in Tempe, Arizona. When Cass approached her with the idea of a condensed Seder, she was immediately onboard. Educator, director, playwright, and nationally known stage fight choreographer, Cass Foster is a lifelong master of Shakespearean theater. He devotes himself to making Shakespeare more approachable to students and theater companies alike through his highly lauded Sixty-Minute Shakespeare series. The series includes *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night* and Foster's eighth book, *The Tempest*. His experience as a professor emeritus of theatre has enabled him to condense the plays to be staged in 60 minutes rather than three hours, while maintaining the Bard's enduring prose. Foster's diverse theatrical background includes producing, directing, and choreographing stage fights for over 200 productions for various types of theater. He is now based in Kauai, Hawaii. Judith HaLevy has served as Rabbi of the Malibu Jewish Center and Synagogue since 1996. She holds advanced degrees in International Relations from both Rutgers University and Columbia University and was ordained in 1992. She has been a member of the executive committee of the Los Angeles Board of Rabbis since 2002 and was installed as president of the Board of Rabbis of Los Angeles in May 2011. She is known throughout the Los Angeles area as a gifted teacher and speaker.

interesting

Terrifically disappointing: abounding in self-congratulatory "cute" asides, misinformation (No, Torah is not the same thing as Tanakh), no Hebrew alongside the phonetic transliterations, mishandling (i.e. "improvement") of beloved and amusing songs, this edition is woefully misbegotten and unintentionally patronizing. Will discard this book rather than inflict it on any person or community. Cannot imagine who would prefer this version to one of the many haggadahs already available from so many diverse viewpoints.

Jeffl was intrigued by the idea of a one-hour seder. My wife would love for me to reduce the length of our Seder but we only do one seder a year and she spends so much time preparing - less than an hour would not adequately honor her contributions. I decided to look into a couple of one-hour Haggadahs. I don't usually review books but this particular Haggadah deserves mentioning.

Two Rabbis and a number of people who use only their first name and first initial of their last name review one of the Haggadahs while the one I recommend is reviewed by Rabbis of all denominations from around the world. They use their full names and affiliation. I'm fascinated by the reasons the edition I prefer was created and admire how they cover all of the necessary steps without our having to go online during the seder for necessary support. The one I recommend is laid out very clear and is very easy to follow. The one I'm not interested in does have much more use of illustrations but that isn't necessary for us. My wife and I like our preference also because it's so easy to determine which selections our children can read and I appreciate the use of humor throughout. And while not wishing to argue there IS Hebrew alongside the transliteration, as a reviewer criticized them for not providing. The one I don't prefer uses very little Hebrew. We saw absolutely nothing self congratulatory as the same reviewer claimed. The congratulations actually come from Rabbis. Not the authors congratulating themselves. They cover everything we need to know and everything we need to do and are respectful without taking themselves too seriously. Bottom line: Because of Rabbi endorsements from all denominations the one we'll be using will be kosher enough for my father-in-law. I gladly give this one-hour Haggadah a Five Star review. It will be both welcomed and appreciated in our home.

This review originally appeared on The Magical Buffet website on 3/27/14. A few of years back I admitted to being a bad Jew and hosting less than polished Seders. However each year we have a Passover Seder, a special ritual dinner where we tell the story of the Jews flight from Egypt. Seder comes from the Hebrew word for order, referring to the order of the ritual. I always hope that like in most things, it's the thought that counts. You know who are some awesome Jews? Cass (Yickezkale) and Nellie (Nechama) Foster. These guys aren't bad, they're Orthodox. They're some hardcore, boxing up pots, pans, dishes, silverware, etc. keeping Kosher folks. That also means they were hosting what could politely be called marathon Passover Seders. 50 or more dinner guests were attending Passover Seders that would last 3 or 5 hours. Cass Foster, known for having written 'Sixty-Minute Shakespeare' plays was soon jokingly, or not so jokingly, being asked, 'What about a Sixty-Minute Seder?' And so the 'Sixty-Minute Seder: Preserving the Essence of the Passover Haggadah' by Cass (Yickezkale) and Nellie (Nechama) Foster was born. The Haggadah helps guide you through the Passover Seder and there are tons available with loads of different focuses; ranging from feminism to children. 'Sixty-Minute Seder' is traditional

but simple enough to follow that even a below Reform level Jew can follow what's going on. It also has recipes, and you all know how I love recipes! With Passover in just a couple of weeks, now may be the time to consider taking a new Haggadah out for a test drive. Perhaps this will be the year you'll have a Sixty-Minute Seder.

We've used this twice now and it's a good one. Has enough to be authentic but not so much that one is overwhelmed. It's a fun spirit, much more than the haggadah we had when we were kids. This would be a really good one for families to adopt.

I would definitely invite this book to my Seder, and the authors as well! Seders can be way too long and I've been looking for something that would still honor the tradition, but just honor it in less time. This is it!

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