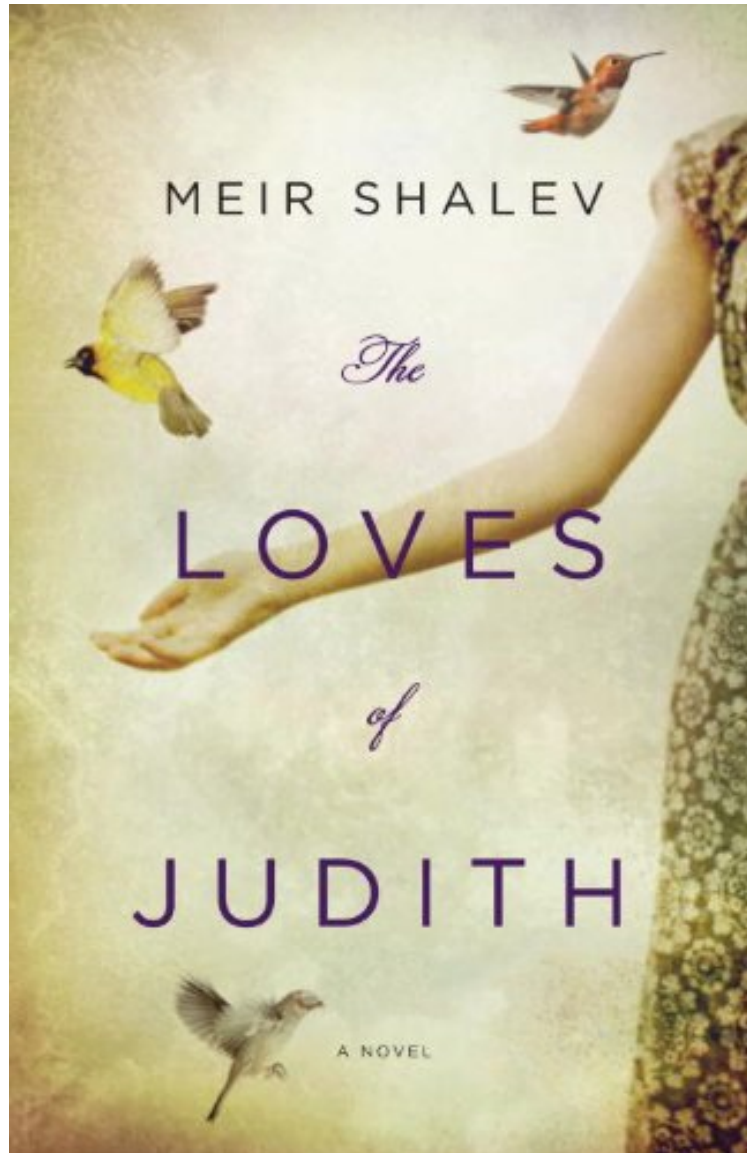


(Download pdf) The Loves of Judith: A Novel

## The Loves of Judith: A Novel

*Von Meir Shalev*

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**Von Meir Shalev : The Loves of Judith: A Novel** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Loves of Judith: A Novel:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. startling metaphors tear the reader away from everyday lifeVon Judith van PraagMeir Shalev's work has been called wordy, but I beg for more. Shalev paints a world which is best described as having a literary resemblance with paintings by Chagall. Colorful images tumble across a stage set with minute imagination. Shalev's eye for detail is delicious. A

startling story of love and loss unfolds gracefully, as the author introduces the characters with their idiosyncracies, their shortcomings and strengths. The narrator, Judith's son, is an old man looking back at his life. His tale is fresh, as though he has finally put the puzzle pieces together. Allegedly the son of three possible fathers, he shares insights concerning his creation and the people involved; sharing and withholding information, offering bits and pieces, until all that has happened in his life makes sense. As far as such is possible anyway. By letting his narrator come to terms with the ingredients of his existence, the author's comment on life seems to be that it is fantastic, outrageous and far from sensible. Shalev is a master story teller with a poetic inclination. His bizarre characters are larger than life as we know it and yet they are believable and in the end the reader may recognize universal and even individual truths about loss, love and if not recovery and survival than at least continuation. Meir Shalev's work is a celebration of life and should be on everyone's list. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A real treat Von Bonnie Mitchell The narrator of this marvelous novel has three different fathers. There is no rankle nor fuss here, this is just the way things are. With characters both real and unreal and plots that vibrate with expectancy, the tale is as mystical and luminous as the land, Israel, from which it sprang. Hurrah to the author for such a fine piece of writing. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. the best storyteller this century Von Ein Kunde this is one book you have to read, it's entertainment, romance and yet in a way also educative. the story, though seeming to progress slowly because it's being told bit by bit by an old man, managed to keep me on the edge of my seat and filled me with an urge to finish the book quickly yet wanting to savour every sentence.

Kurzbeschreibung A woman with three loves and a son with three fathers: a universal story of passion and personal destiny by the award-winning author of *A Pigeon* and *A Boy*. When the mysterious Judith arrives in a small agricultural village in Palestine in the 1930s, she attracts attention of three men: Moshe, a widowed farmer; Globerman, a wealthy cattle dealer; and Jacob, who loses his wife the most beautiful woman in the village because of his obsession with Judith, who insists on living in a cowshed rather than settling down with any of her admirers. When she gives birth to Zayde, all three suitors consider him their son, and Zayde, who tragically loses Judith, imbibes their triple wisdom and their distinct versions of his origins. As Zayde pieces together the beguiling story of the singular woman who was his mother, Meir Shalev weaves a magical novel of the joys and secrets of village life, of an unconventional family, and the unexpected fruits of love. On a precarious frame--three men contending for the love of one resolutely perplexing woman--Meir Shalev arrays a tale so bittersweet and lyrical that it's nearly possible to overlook a stunning bit of sleight of hand: in an unabashed love story, the romance becomes tangential. For *The Loves of Judith* is, ultimately, an homage to love itself--its elusiveness, its pain, and, above all, its endurance. During the pause between world wars, Judith, the woman in question, arrives in a small Palestinian village to tend house for Moshe Rabinovitch, a widowed farmer. Confused by her past waywardness, Judith chooses to live in Moshe's cowshed, cries at night for the daughter she's lost, and finds herself adored not only by the stoically formidable Moshe but also by a randy and conniving cattle dealer named Globerman and the garrulous canary breeder Jacob Sheinfeld. "Man makes plans and God laughs," Globerman explains, and as the three men clumsily scheme to win Judith's love, she remains imperturbable, the still point at the center of their longings. Most desperate of all is Sheinfeld, who cares little that his unconcealed love has made him a fool before the entire village. He seeks only "the eternal picture of love," and finds consolation in a life seasoned with consuming desire. The story is resolved slowly by Judith's son Zayde, who may be the child of any of the three men--or, remarkably, all three. And so the men raise him, care for him, love him. Over several years, Jacob discloses very nearly all the details of Judith's world to Zayde. "What did you think, that I told you everything?" Jacob finally asks. Like love itself, the story fulfills because it has the grace not to overwhelm. --Ben Guterson *Pressestimmen* Told in a euphonic voice and employing the magic conventions of a fairy tale, this is a heartwarming narrative agleam with moments of plangent sadness, rueful humor, and compassionate insight. *Publishers Weekly*