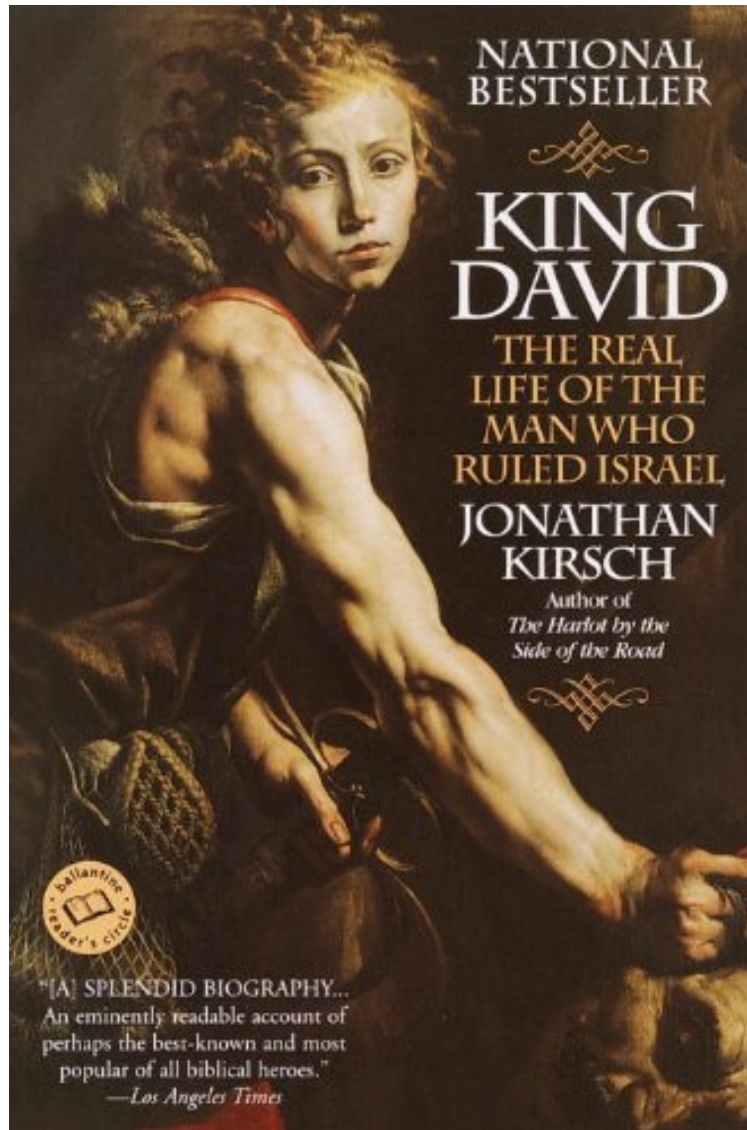


(Ebook free) King David: The Real Life of the Man Who Ruled Israel (Ballantine Reader's Circle)

King David: The Real Life of the Man Who Ruled Israel (Ballantine Reader's Circle)

Von Jonathan Kirsch

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Von Jonathan Kirsch : King David: The Real Life of the Man Who Ruled Israel (Ballantine Reader's Circle) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised King David: The Real Life of the Man Who Ruled Israel (Ballantine Reader's Circle):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Weaves A Biography That Leaves You Hungry For More!Von James Gallen"King David" introduces the reader to the most

central figure of the Old Testament. Author Jonathan Kirsch does an excellent job of fleshing out this legendary figure from the sketchy stories recorded in the Bible. Kirsch follows the biblical writings very closely, unlike other tomes on Biblical subjects which tend to discount the Scriptural accounts. Kirsch starts out with the Scriptural texts and then explains them in light of scholarship concerning the identity and purpose of the various sources and how each may have influenced the final draft of the story. He talks often of the Court Historian, believed to be the primary author, along with later editors who may have supplemented or altered the original text. This book does a good job at exploring how King David, with all his faults, could be "A man after God's own heart." It tries to part the mists of history to find the flesh and blood man behind the ancient legend. It weaves the scattered Biblical accounts together to form a biography. It explains how David is central to all Biblical characters who follow him. One standard by which I measure a book is whether it whets my appetite to read more on the subject. I am now reading the David narratives in the Bible. By this measure it passes with flying colors.

Kurzbeschreibung David, King of the Jews, possessed every flaw and failing a mortal is capable of, yet men and women adored him and God showered him with many more blessings than he did Abraham or Moses. His sexual appetite and prowess were matched only by his violence, both on the battlefield and in the bedroom. A charismatic leader, exalted as "a man after God's own heart," he was also capable of deep cunning, deceit, and betrayal. Now, in *King David: The Real Life of the Man Who Ruled Israel*, bestselling author Jonathan Kirsch reveals this commanding individual in all his glory and fallibility. In a taut, dramatic narrative, Kirsch brings new depth and psychological complexity to the familiar events of David's life--his slaying of the giant Goliath and his swift challenge to the weak rule of Saul, the first Jewish king; his tragic relationship with Saul's son Jonathan, David's cherished friend (and possibly lover); his celebrated reign in Jerusalem, where his dynasty would hold sway for generations. Yet for all his greatness, David was also a man in thrall to his passions--a voracious lover who secured the favors of his beautiful mistress Bathsheba by secretly arranging the death of her innocent husband; a merciless warrior who triumphed through cruelty; a troubled father who failed to protect his daughter from rape and whose beloved son Absalom rose against him in armed insurrection. Weaving together biblical texts with centuries of interpretation and commentary, Jonathan Kirsch brings King David to life in these pages with extraordinary freshness, intimacy, and vividness of detail. At the center of this inspiring narrative stands a hero of flesh and blood--not the cartoon giant-slayer of sermons and Sunday school stories or the immaculate ruler of legend and art but a magnetic, disturbingly familiar man--a man as vibrant and compelling today as he has been for millennia. From the Hardcover edition. [deThe difficulty of bringing into perspective figures that are larger than life is well known to Jonathan Kirsch, the author of a life of Moses and of the provocative biblical study *The Harlot by the Side of the Road*. In this well-researched narrative he attempts the same for King David, arguably the most important figure in the entire Jewish Bible. By searching for the real King David, Kirsch does not claim to bring new information to this study. He is more journalist than biblical scholar, and clearly acknowledges when he is speculating \(as, for example, in his reconstruction of the scene when David first glimpses the beautiful Bathsheba\). Rather, he wants to remind his readers that David is not myth but flesh and blood and is, astonishingly, presented this way in the biblical texts themselves. He is real, human, both heroic and flawed. Following much of modern scholarship in calling the Bible "a patchwork of ancient texts that were composed and compiled by countless authors and editors," this study is clearly not going to appeal to most fundamentalist readers. Neither is it intended for scholars. It should, however, satisfy many readers who wish to explore more deeply the fascinating and pivotal life of a very real man, a charismatic leader who, as one historian puts it, "played exquisitely, fought heroically, and loved titanically." --Doug Thorpe.co.uk](http://deTheDifficultyOfBringingIntoPerspectiveFiguresThatAreLargerThanLifeIsWellKnownToJonathanKirsch,theAuthorOfALifeOfMosesandOfTheProvocativeBiblicalStudyTheHarlotByTheSideOfTheRoad) The difficulty of bringing into perspective figures who are larger than life is well known to Jonathan Kirsch, author of a life of Moses and of the provocative Biblical study *The Harlot by the Side of the Road*. In his well-researched narrative Kirsch brings King David, arguably the most important figure in the entire Jewish Bible, into relief. In searching for the "real" King David, Kirsch does not claim to bring new information to his study. he is more journalist than Biblical scholar, and clearly acknowledges when he is speculating (as, for example, in his reconstruction of the scene in which David first glimpses the beautiful Bathsheba). Rather, he chooses to remind his readers that David is not myth but flesh and blood--and is, astonishingly, presented this way in the biblical texts themselves. Kirsch's David is real, human, both heroic and flawed. Following much of modern religious scholarship which sees the Bible as "a patchwork of ancient texts that were composed and compiled by countless authors and editors," this study may not appeal to more fundamentalist readers; but it is not intended for scholars. It should, however, satisfy many readers who wish to explore more deeply the pertinent and picaresque life of a very real man, a charismatic leader who, as one historian puts it, "played exquisitely, fought heroically and loved titanically." --Doug Thorpe