



## Women in the Hebrew Bible: A Reader

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### **Women in the Hebrew Bible: A Reader** From Routledge

*Women in the Hebrew Bible* presents the first one-volume overview covering the interpretation of women's place in man's world within the Hebrew Bible or Old Testament. Written by the major scholars in the field of biblical studies and literary theory, these essays examine attitudes toward women and their status in ancient Near Eastern societies, focusing on the Israelite society portrayed by the Hebrew Bible.

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## Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Bach (religious studies, Stanford Univ.), author of *Women, Seduction, and Betrayal in Biblical Narrative* (Cambridge Univ., 1997), has compiled a fascinating collection of nearly 40 essays on attitudes toward women and their status in early biblical times. Top scholars in the field—Esther Fuchs, Susan Ackerman, Howard Eilberg-Schwartz, Bach herself, and many others—analyze the lives and roles of the "wives" (Sarah, Rebekah, Leah), the "Good Girls" (Ruth, Esther, Judith), the "Bad Girls" (Eve, Delilah, Bathsheba, Jezebel), the "Sad Girls" (Lot's daughters, Dinah), the "Women Warriors" (Miriam, Deborah), the "Amazing Women" (the Medium of Endor, the Wise Women of Tekoa, the Playmate of God), and the ordinary women in extraordinary and revelatory depth. Included are extensive notes and bibliographies, though, alas, no index or author credits. Students and scholars in the fields of Hebrew studies, biblical history, and feminism will revel in the complex insights here, though general readers may have trouble. Highly recommended for special collections. —Marcia G. Welsh, Guilford Free Lib., CT

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## Review

"Bach has compiled a fascinating collection of nearly 40 essays on attitudes toward women and their status in early biblical times....Highly recommended for special collections."

—Library Journal, 1/1/1999

"The scope and breadth, the range and diversity of the set of articles offers great access both to the feminist project of the late twentieth century and to Hebrew biblical study."

—"Hebrew Studies

"Alice Bach has gathered an excellent collection of essays in the field. This reader is a 'must' for anyone taking courses in Biblical Studies."

—Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza, Harvard Divinity School

"The emergence of feminist biblical criticism is one of the most exciting and provocative developments in modern biblical scholarship, and Alice Bach is one of the leaders in the field. Her new anthology serves as both an excellent introduction and a fine survey of the state of the art. I recommend it highly to all biblical scholars, and to general readers with an interest in some of the most important biblical criticism of our time."

—Alan Cooper, Jewish Theological Seminary of America

## About the Author

**Alice Bach** is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Stanford University and the editor of *Biblicon*, a journal of Bible, media, and culture. She is the author of *Women, Seduction, and Betrayal in Biblical Narrative* (1997) as well as numerous award-winning children's books.

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