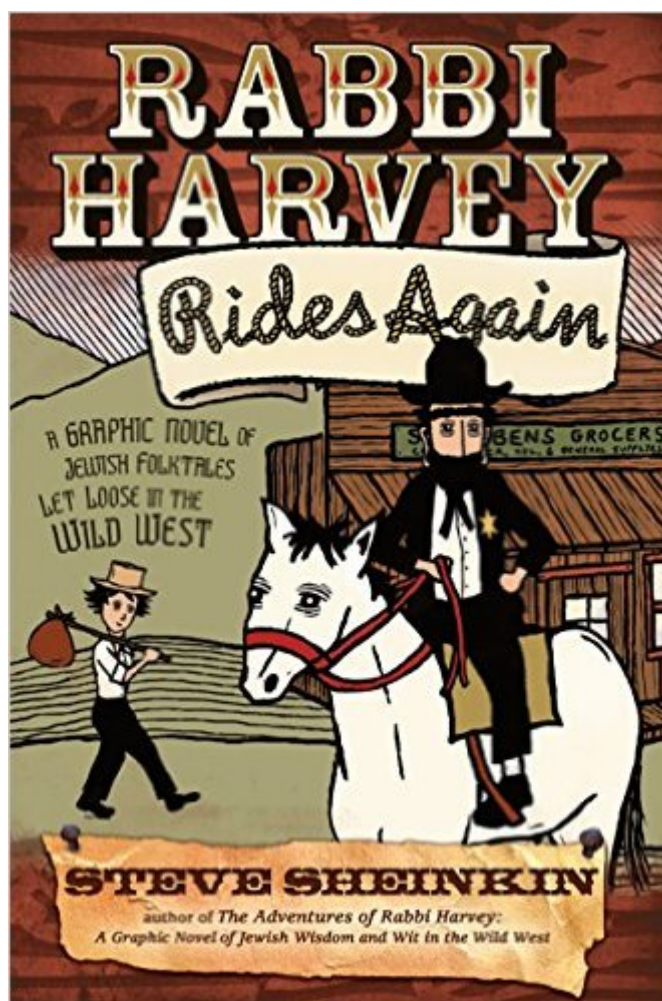


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# Rabbi Harvey Rides Again: A Graphic Novel Of Jewish Folktales Let Loose In The Wild West



## Synopsis

Rabbi Harvey is Back with Ten Hilarious New Adventures In this follow-up to the popular *The Adventures of Rabbi Harvey: A Graphic Novel of Jewish Wisdom and Wit in the Wild West*, the Rabbi returns to the streets of Elk Spring, Colorado. Part Wild West sheriff, part old world rabbi, Harvey protects his town and delivers justice, wielding only the weapons of wisdom, wit, and a bit of trickery. These adventures combine Jewish and American folklore by creatively retelling comic Jewish folktales and setting them loose on the western frontier of the 1870s. As his fame grows throughout the Rocky Mountains, Rabbi Harvey meets new characters—including the luckless gold miner Abigail—and faces a slew of new challenges. He encounters the return of “Big Milt” and Wolfie Wasserman (the most feared father-and-son outlaw team east of Nevada), and investigates another bold crime by the sweet-faced Bad Bubbe. And, as ever, the Rabbi is the quickest draw in the West—when it comes to pulling out bits of Talmudic insight to fit any occasion, that is. Like any great collection of Jewish folktales, these stories contain layers of humor and timeless wisdom that will entertain, teach and, especially, make you laugh.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the second in a so-far three volume series of humorous narratives told with cartoon graphics. The hero is Rabbi Harvey the old-style clever bearded and heavy eye-browed rabbi wearing a big black hat in the 1880s, in Elk Spring, Colorado, in the Old West. The rabbi is able to answer everyone's questions and solve their problems. There are ten stories in this book, just as in the first

volume, and some are comprised of several episodes. All are based on ancient Jewish humorous and morality stories. Sheinkin gives his sources, which include the Talmud, and tales about Chassidim such as Rebbe Nachman of Breslov and the Maggid of Mezeritch. Wasserman the outlaw reappears in this volume as well as the cunning contest "Stump the Rabbi," which cost questioners five cents. A new character is introduced, Abigail the luckless gold miner who becomes Elk Spring's school mum. The witty tales include, the time the wind blew away Abigail's food. She traveled to question the much-heralded shrewd Rabbi Harvey, who she meets for the first time. She asks him to litigate her case against the wind for its thievery. There are also funny reports about the man who dreamed that he would find a treasure in Denver and left home to get it, and about the contest at the rabbis' convention to decide which rabbi could find the most precious item, and the poor couple who wrote to God begging for money since they were cold and starving, and the time when Rabbi Harvey's cart driver changed places with him so that the driver could see how the rabbi reacted to questions when they came to a town that had never seen the famous sharp rabbi before.

I admit to initial doubts about the Rabbi Harvey books, but when I finally read them, they were extremely fun and entertaining. He admits he takes otherwise known Jewish stories, and rewrites them in a western setting, but they are good stories, and the retelling is done really well. The dialogue is often hilarious, and these books really appeal to the American Jewish public.

In this second graphic novel of Wild Western tales Rabbi Harvey dispenses wisdom and justice to the fictional shtetl of Elk Spring, Colorado, and surrounding areas, taking on Bad Bubbe, Big Milt and Wolfie Wasserman, and even the wind with his mind instead of a gun. The illustrations evoke the Old West and are simple enough to avoid detracting from the story. There is no cartoon nudity in this volume, although he does get down to his underwear a couple of times. I highly recommend this funny, funny book to anyone of any age, whether or not they have a religious persuasion of any sort. Those with Jewish literacy will enjoy seeing the old Jewish folklore and rabbinic tales in such an incongruous setting, but everyone will appreciate the wit of the stories.

I enjoyed this sequel even more than the original. The clean style of illustrations, combined with wit and wisdom, make these book(s) enjoyable and rewarding for children as well as adults. Yipee-Ki-Yay, Stephen Sheinkin and Rabbi Harvey.

[TITLE]â ¢ Rabbi Harvey Rides Again:â ¢ A Graphic Novel of Jewish Folktales Let Loose in the Wild

West|AUTHOR| Steve Sheinkin|BOOK FORMAT| soft cover|BOOK PAGES| 126 pages|COVER DESIGN| Jenny Buono (based on design creation of Sara Dismukes)|BOOK COPYRIGHT|© Jewish Lights Publishing© For people of all faiths, all backgrounds|BOOK FIRST PRINTING| 2008|BOOK ISBN| 13-978-1-58023-347-7 quality paperback|BOOK SETTING| Our U.S.A. Western Frontier: on or about 1870|ENDORSEMENTS|© Trina Robbins, author of "The Great Women Cartoonists" © Jewish Book World © Rabbi Edward Feinstein, author of "Tough Questions Jews Ask: A Young Adult's Guide to Building a Jewish Life" © "Every day is like reliving the Miracle of Hanukkah" • page 66 © Rabbi Harvey Rides Again by Steve Sheinkin 2008 © This outstanding book for should be in the Judaica Shops of all of our Synagogues and Temples (Orthodox, Conservative, Reformed, and Reconstructionist) and in the Hillel Centers for Jewish Life on all of our Universities and our College campuses. © All of our Religious School Directors should both have a copy and the parents of our students in all of our Synagogues and Temples should have a copy for review and for study and for their own personal ikar (their personal learning journey). © Each and every student in our Religious Schools must be given a copy for study and discussion with their Teachers, with their School Directors, with their Rabbi and with their parents. © I plan to read my copy to my five Ecumenical Grandchildren .

I really enjoyed the predecessor book, *The Adventures of Rabbi Harvey*, so I was thrilled to see another installment. This is another unique-looking graphic novel, and it extends the dry, gentle wit of the original. The book is a series of detective stories, with the scuffling Rabbi Harvey, a kind of sagebrush Solomon, using only his wits to unmask frontier fraudsters and defeat outlaws. At the same time, it's replete with throw-away one liners right out of a Lower East Side deli. In Harvey's domain, the worst and best of human nature are on raw display as the assortment of sobbusters and merchants try to scratch out a living. But in the end, meh, nobody takes themselves too seriously.

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