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Mourning for Pap: A Story of a Syrian-Jewish Family in Mexico

By Jacobo Sefami

Floricanto Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 240 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.5in. x 0.6in. Using the death of the father as a point of departure, the novel is divided into ten chapters, a structure that is particularly effective because the chapters correspond to the ten days that begin on the Jewish New Year and end on the Day of Pardon. . . Thus the mythic time of a millenarian religion such as Judaism is strategically juxtaposed to the recapturing of a familys memory that is both contemporary and unmistakably Mexican. . . The dialogues are tinged with Jewish humor -Jorge Schwartz Each character lives simultaneously within three cultures -Jewish, Syrian, and Mexican-in a hybrid narration that produces fascinating mixtures -Luca Guerra The representation of a state of mind throughout the novel is magnificent, particularly since he dares to portray a personal story as it pertains to both a collective consciousness and to the alienation that is caused by death. . . The blend of comedy and tragedy is maintained throughout the novel, in the best Jewish tradition, as established by Fernando de Rojas. I certainly enjoy the interweaving of languages and linguistic varieties. It is a pleasure to see such...



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Reviews

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