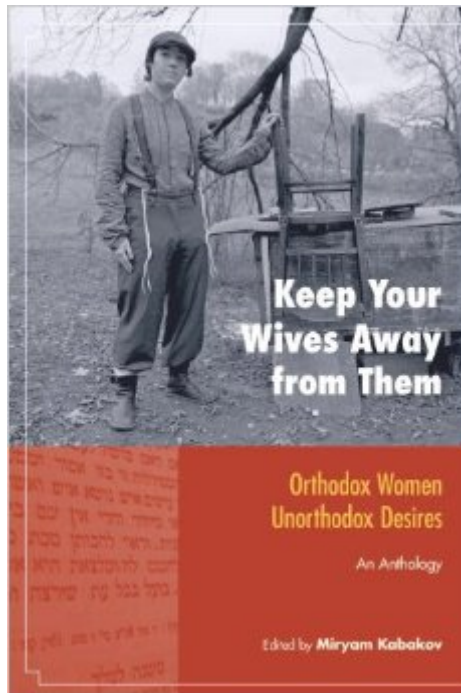


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# Keep Your Wives Away From Them: Orthodox Women, Unorthodox Desires



## Synopsis

\*\*\*WINNER, 2011 Golden Crown Literary Award - Anthology Reconciling queerness with religion has always been an enormous challenge. When the religion is Orthodox Judaism, the task is even more daunting. This anthology takes on that challenge by giving voice to genderqueer Jewish women who were once silencedâ and effectively rendered invisibleâ by their faith. *Keep Your Wives Away from Them* tells the story of those who have come out, who are still closeted, living double lives, or struggling to maintain an integrated "single life" in relationship to traditional Judaismâ personal stories that are both enlightening and edifying. While a number of films and books have explored the lives of queer people in Orthodox and observant Judaism, only this one explores in depth what happens after the struggle, when the real work of building integrated lives begins. The candor of these insightful stories in *Keep Your Wives Away from Them* makes the book appealing to a general audience and students of womenâ™s, gender, and LGBTQ studies, as well as for anyone struggling personally with the same issue. Contributors include musician and writer Temim Fruchter, Professor Joy Ladin, writer Leah Lax, nurse Tamar Prager, and the pseudonymous Ex-Yeshiva Girl. *Keep Your Wives Away from Them* official website: <http://www.keepyourwivesawayfromthem.com/>

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (2 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

"Keep Your Wives From Away From Them" presents the stories of an exceedingly narrow demographic: "LGBT" observant Jewish women. Yet the authors poignantly and articulately sound

universal themes about the challenges of being "different" in a world that fundamentally rejects such "differentness." To compound matters, most of the authors made the discovery of their differentness in their formative years. Compound again, by ensconcing them in a hermetic community that rejects such differentness as a violation of divine law. How does one come to terms with family and community steeped in religious traditions that fundamentally reject such fundamental differentness, and value traditional marriage and having children as a central tenet of religious and community life? How does one live from day-to-day when even looking in the mirror is an existential struggle? The group of contributors to "Keep Your Wives From Away From Them" lead you through their individual voyages of self-discovery, and the fears, terrors, joys and ultimate triumphs of coming to terms with family, community, and themselves in the struggle to live their lives in accordance with their true identities. For all, it is hard. For some, the journey is not complete. For some, there is much scar tissue. Others have been fortunate to reconcile with family and self, and even to an extent, the communities that rejected them. But what truly inspires is how the loss of community, family and self-identity beget the birth of new communities, courageously wrought by these pioneers out of the very pain and suffering they experienced.

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