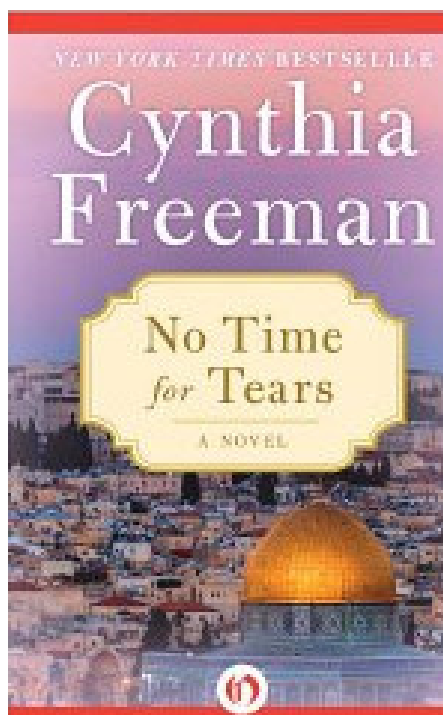




No Time for Tears

Cynthia Freeman

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No Time for Tears Cynthia Freeman

Sweeping from Russia to Jerusalem, from New York to Nazi-occupied Germany, and finally to Israel, this is the richly layered story of an extraordinary woman whose epic struggle mirrors the battle of an emerging nation to forge its own identity

Chavala Rabinsky is sixteen when her mother dies and she becomes the caretaker of her five siblings. Beautiful and wise beyond her years, Chavala catches the eye of Dovid Landau, a poor cobbler whose dreams transform her life when he marries her. But Odessa, Russia, is a dangerous place in 1905. The Landaus flee the pogroms of their homeland for Ottoman-ruled Palestine—until escalating violence forces the family to become wanderers again.

Rich in passion and scope, No Time for Tears sounds a call of love and liberation that will ring out for generations to come.

No Time for Tears Details

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From Reader Review No Time for Tears for online ebook

Athena says

It was said numerous times in the book, Chavala Landau is a remarkable woman. And she was. Her determination, efficiency, and sheer will to survive was definitely inspiring; her strength combined with her street-smart no-nonsense attitude gave her the ability to achieve her dreams; the reader can't help but cheer her on.

This is a story about a Jewish family, the Rabinsky-Landau's, who trekked from the slums of Odessa to Palestine and beyond; surviving on instinct alone. While the characters were greatly developed, the story itself seemed to be all over the place. At times it was difficult for me to keep track of where certain characters were going to or coming from; Haifa, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Athlit, so on and so on. I found the part of Russia to be very boring, and although most people would applaud, I felt that there was too much focus on military strategy, or ammunition, or who's getting ready to protect what, when we have the Landau boys meeting girls and proposing on the second date. Maybe if the story were balanced it may have been different, but I just found the Jewish history to be dull, and other parts rushed through.

Gary says

A compelling historical novel and family saga, both compelling and rich in scope.

It takes us from from turn of the Century Russia to the Holy Land, New York and Germany.

Sixteen year old Chavala, a courageous and spirited young girl must take charge of her family after the death of her mother in childbirth and after marrying Dov, the family migrates to Ottoman-ruled Palestine.

The novel takes us through the trials and tribulations of the Jewish Yishuv (community) of the Land of Israel from the time of Ottoman rule, the heroic work of NILI Zionist network against the Turks during the First World War, and the Arabs pogroms against Jews starting in the 1920's, under the leadership of Mufti Haj Amin el Husseini, while the British armed the Arabs at the as same time preventing Jews from carrying arms of taking basic self-defence measures.

Meanwhile the Nazis supported the cause of the Palestine Arabs putting out the canard that the Jews were stealing Arab land under the protection of British imperialism, while encouraging and helping to organize Arab pogroms against Jews in the Holy Land.

Brilliantly captures British brutality against the Jews of the Palestine during the British mandate, Nazi cruelty and Arab blood lust.

One of Chavala's sisters marries a gentile German and go's to live in Germany, later perishing in the Nazi Holocaust, while Chavala works in New York to set up a jewellery business to support her family in the Holy Land.

Excitingly novelizes Jewish history from 1905 to 1948, a story of Jews and Israel, persecution and survival, death and renewal.

Patricia says

Cynthia Freeman wrote that a thin line between fact and fiction often lives in the mind of the author and that her novel is a fantasy about the way the events might have unfolded. This wonderful saga is an example of historical fiction at its best -- s story of love, loss, hatred, war, inhumane treatment, abject poverty, and ultimately survival and family ties. It would have been helpful if the author had included some historical notes.

When her mother died in childbirth, sixteen year old Chavala Rabinsky assumed the responsibility for her grief-stricken father and younger siblings. The newly married woman, her husband, and the Rabinsky family fled the pogroms in Russia to live in the Turkish province of Palestine.

Chavala Rabinsky Landau has a dream and a strong sense of responsibility -- to move to America and provide for her family. Defying tradition this strong woman leaves her beloved husband behind and forges a new life dedicated to financially supporting both her family still in Palestine and the struggle for Jewish independence.

No sex

No graphic violence

Toni says

The history behind the story is very well researched and quite interesting. The story itself is very uneven and I found the characters all too perfect to be believable.

Irisdiana says

I read this book years ago and it is one of those that stays with you.....amazing read!

Rita Kelley says

No Time for Tears

An incredible story of a Jewish family during WWII and the persecutions they withstood from the nazi's and many others. This was an epic tale of the birth of the state of Israel which cost many lives and tore families apart and still continues today.

Liz says

This book reminds me of when I would sleep over and my grandma's house and raid her bookshelf. I read this book about 25 years ago, and just tracked it down. I understood a lot more of it than I did before. I am keenly interested in modern Jewish history, and while the book is a bit "Forrest Gump-y" in that the whole family is interwoven with actual historical figures, it is accessible to all readers. I enjoyed the trip down my own personal memory lane and enjoyed catching up with the landaus.

Heather says

Freeman brilliantly uses a single family to give the reader a complete picture of what was happening in the world to all the Jews. It primarily focuses on the life and points of view of Chavala and Dovid. Chavala is the eldest sister of four sisters and a brother. She feels a responsibility for the whole family, which is understandable, given the events of the first chapter. Dovid, on the other hand, feels his greatest responsibility is to Israel and doing everything in his power to attempt to convince any empire to create the State of Israel. Though Dovid himself is fictional, I'm sure that the creation of Israel is due to real men out there who had the dedication and determination of this character. Overall, I loved the book. Each of the five sisters were different and they had their problems. Like sisters do. They also had problems within their families that they sometimes shared and sometimes didn't with each other. No one went completely unscathed by life, which is realistic. The one brother also had good and bad times. Each of the siblings start with opinions and ideas of the world that change and grow as circumstances and conflict destroy those ideas. Each goes through life changing events and are realistically changed. It also didn't end with too neat a bow, but was still a happy ending.

The book covers a lot of time and a lot of places. The way that Freeman manages to cover all of this is just amazing. She depends on the reader to know of the more popularized world events such as the Holocaust and the Great Depression, so she doesn't do much more than refer to them as things that are going on. Then she tells you where everyone sits with this events, bringing them in but not feeling the need to get into how they went down. The how isn't as important as recognizing that these events shaped the characters and that most people know exactly what has happened during these times. The Holocaust was mostly covered from the point of view of Israel as a set of settlements in Palestine yearning to be a state which I had never seen before. It wasn't even until recently that I had been made aware that there had been Jews living in Israel/Palestine prior to WWII. I get how ridiculous it sounds, but I just didn't get that part in high school history class. I originally got it from another book.

Trisha Owens says

The Title was deceptive for me. I thought of some melodramatic romance, and was pleasantly surprised to find a historical novel that was compelling. The story is largely about Chavala Landau, and her determination at all costs, to uphold the sanctity of her marriage and her family. The saga spans 300 years and several different locations, Palestine, Russia, Germany and New York, USA. It is descriptive of the genocide and the efforts to quell the German fronts across Africa and Europe, while weaving a tale of Honor and sacrifice within Chavala's own family. I enjoyed this story of triumph over slim odds.

Mary says

Not sure how I picked this one. Very good historical novel about Jewish family. Russia-Palestine-America. 1905-1949.

Amantha says

DNF. I quit after about 100 pages. Some parts were interesting and I do enjoy Jewish history but this book is just too melodramatic for my tastes. All the women are in love with their sister's husbands. All that could possibly go wrong does. And I just did not agree with most of what Chavala had to say about everything.

Joanne says

Fabulous read - couldn't put down immediately went on to the next one..if you love historical fiction you must read!

JaNae says

One my mom used to own that I read more than once. Found it at a library sale last night and bought it right up for \$.50! Will be reading this one again in the near future.

Lynne Goldberg says

I loved this book. Truly educational it was like taking a class beginning in Odessa, and studding this wonderful family all the way through the Jewish Independence. I recommend reading the book. Once you start you can't finish or pit the book down. It's a great read!

Vonnie says

I could not get into this book at all, even after reading 150 pages.
