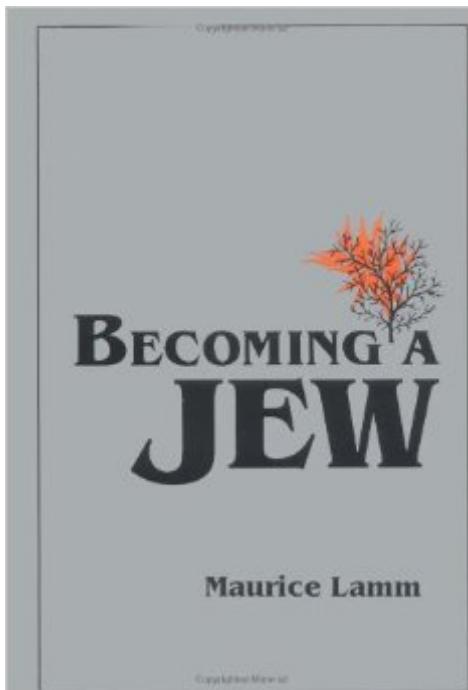


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# Becoming A Jew



## **Synopsis**

The author of the highly popular Jewish Way in Death and Mourning and Jewish Way in Love and Marriage offers us a work designed expressly for non-Jews who are contemplating converting, for those who have already converted, and for Jews by birth who wish to gain deeper insight into their heritage. Becoming a Jew describes the odyssey of the convert and charts the traditional approach to conversion. Written in a crisp, contemporary style, this volume addresses questions converts frequently have relating to the procedures of conversion. An invaluable contribution.

## **Book Information**

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (33 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #550,635 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #443 inÂ  Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life

## **Customer Reviews**

Rabbi Lamm's book is very informative, very comprehensive and very forcefully argued. He pulls no punches and strongly makes his case that (to him) the only real/authentic conversion to Judaism is the Orthodox conversion. I found his arguments very convincing, and ultimately I guess I decided NOT to convert on account of this book. Which is not to say I didn't enjoy reading it...I did, very much so. I have been disillusioned by Christianity since early childhood and I was amazed just how "Jewish" my ways of thinking have been over the years. I am adopted and sometimes I do wonder if maybe my birth mother wasn't really Jewish...I think the odds are strongly against it, but it might explain a lot about myself if it were true. I enjoyed very much the testimonials of converts and their "what I don't like about Christianity" criticisms. I found myself nodding in agreement more than once. But I realized paradoxically that I agreed with Lamm's unspoken assertion that Orthodox conversion is the only real authentic route but also came to understand I could never have the self discipline to live up to Orthodoxy's stringent standards, either. I used to joke to a friend who is converting under Reform auspices "It's really too bad you can't convert to SECULAR Judaism", to

which she responded with a laugh "but honey you can, it's called REFORM!"...we used to have some interesting arguments, since I started pondering conversion because of this friend. I always found myself lining up with the Orthodox and Conservative interpretations while she always lined up with the Reform tradition. I guess I'm too much of a hellenic sensualist, too much a pagan Stoic to fit the Orthodox-Jewish mold.

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