

Title: **The Intermission**
Author: **Elyssa Friedland**
Genre: *Fiction*
Subject: *Young marriage*
Hook: *How different people react to the same events.*
Reviewer's opinion: *She is such an inspiration!*
Personal recommendation: *Although I did not find the characters compelling, it was an easy read and enjoyable*

Reviewed by **Alan Pritzker**

TBI member

The book is a novel about a young married couple, Jonathan and Cass, who live in New York City. Jonathan is from a wealthy society family in New England, while Cass is from a lower middle class community in the suburbs of Detroit. At the beginning of the book, Cass announces that she wants to separate for a six month period, **to determine whether or not the couple really wants to continue to be together**. She moves to Los Angeles, but the couple remains in close contact to arrange transfer of their **dog** back and forth between the two of them. The book goes on to describe their separate experiences, weaving in stories of their youth, how they met, and their married life prior to the separation.

Although I enjoyed the book, **I did not particularly like either one of the main characters**.

They both kept significant secrets from each other, one of which fundamentally affects the foundation of their relationship. They were both fairly manipulative and deceitful, particularly Cass. My lukewarm feelings towards them made me not really care so much whether or not the intermission ended in them reconciling or splitting up.

Although the author of the book is Jewish, there is **nothing in the content of the book related to Judaism** at all, so if a reader is looking for a Jewish context, this is not the book for him/her. Although I did not find the characters compelling, it was an easy read and enjoyable.