



# Not in the Heavens: The Tradition of Jewish Secular Thought

By David Biale

Princeton University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Not in the Heavens: The Tradition of Jewish Secular Thought, David Biale, Not in the Heavens traces the rise of Jewish secularism through the visionary writers and thinkers who led its development. Spanning the rich history of Judaism from the Bible to today, David Biale shows how the secular tradition these visionaries created is a uniquely Jewish one, and how the emergence of Jewish secularism was not merely a response to modernity but arose from forces long at play within Judaism itself. Biale explores how ancient Hebrew books like Job, Song of Songs, and Esther downplay or even exclude God altogether, and how Spinoza, inspired by medieval Jewish philosophy, recast the biblical God in the role of nature and stripped the Torah of its revelatory status to instead read scripture as a historical and cultural text. Biale examines the influential Jewish thinkers who followed in Spinoza's secularizing footsteps, such as Salomon Maimon, Heinrich Heine, Sigmund Freud, and Albert Einstein. He tells the stories of those who also took their cues from medieval Jewish mysticism in their revolts against tradition, including Hayim Nahman Bialik, Gershom Scholem, and Franz Kafka. And he looks...



**READ ONLINE**  
[ 6.11 MB ]

## Reviews

*A must buy book if you need to adding benefit. It is rally intriguing throgh reading time period. I am pleased to tell you that here is the very best book i actually have study in my very own lifestyle and may be he finest ebook for at any time.*

-- **Ms. Lora West Jr.**

*This pdf is very gripping and fascinating. We have read and that i am certain that i am going to going to read once more again in the future. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding.*

-- **Burnice Cronin**