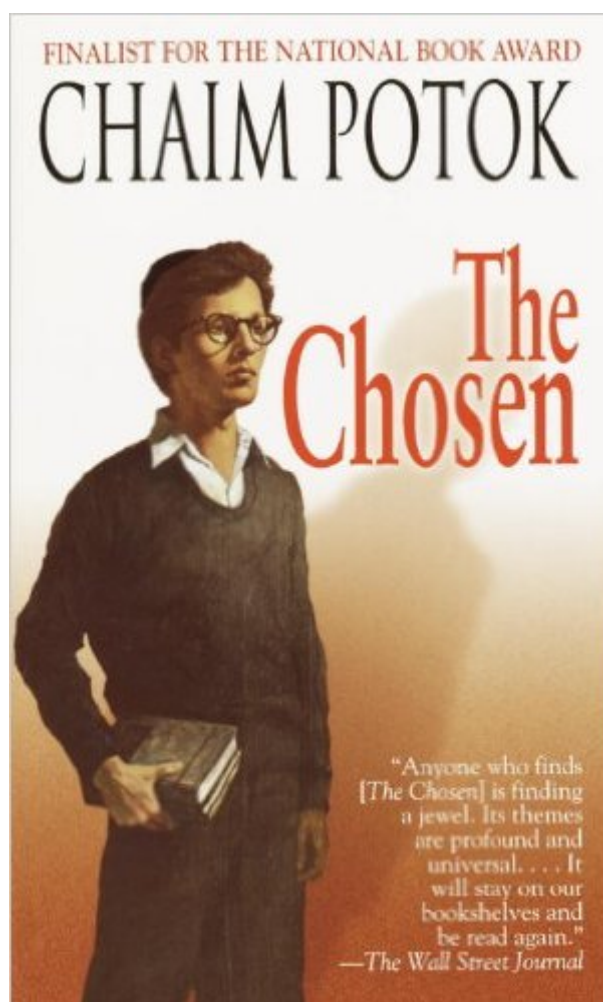


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# The Chosen



## Synopsis

"Anyone who finds it is finding a jewel. Its themes are profound and universal."THE WALL STREET JOURNALIt is the now-classic story of two fathers and two sons and the pressures on all of them to pursue the religion they share in the way that is best suited to each. And as the boys grow into young men, they discover in the other a lost spiritual brother, and a link to an unexplored world that neither had ever considered before. In effect, they exchange places, and find the peace that neither will ever retreat from again....

## Book Information

Mass Market Paperback: 304 pages

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Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-0449213445

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.8 x 6.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (494 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #8,449 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#) #287 in [Books > Mystery, Thriller & Suspense > Thrillers & Suspense > Psychological Thrillers](#) #375 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Classics](#)

## Customer Reviews

I am an African American attorney who read this book as part of collecting readings for a summer trip with Operation Understanding to share with Black and Jewish high school students. Operation Understanding takes 8 Black and 8 Jewish students between their Junior and Senior years of high school on a trip across the South and Northeast, stopping at places of significance to both, in an effort to restore the alliance that existed between the groups especially during the Civil Rights Movement. This was the perfect book to gain a deeper understanding of American Jewry for the trip. The book explores the relationship between two deeply religious boys from profoundly different traditions within that religion who are accidentally -- divinely, really -- brought together. The development of both boys' spirituality starts with lessons from their fathers and deepens with lessons from each other. The Chosen takes place in World War II America. I was already familiar with many of the classic accounts of Holocaust survivors (Anne Frank, Elie Wiesel, and others.) This book richly filled a gap in that understanding by presenting a fully formed first person account,

though fictitious, of the wrenching experience of American Jews who helplessly learned of the horror from here. The book also offers thorough background information (which will have to be supplemented by further reading) about Jewish history, both cultural and religious. The author patiently explains terms presumably unfamiliar to the general reader and then trusts the reader to turn back if, during the course of reading the novel, the terms are momentarily forgotten. Those reviewers who said that Potok left the reader unaided were simply not paying close attention.

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CliffsNotes on Potok's The Chosen (Cliffsnotes Literature Guides)  
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