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# **The Mountain Jews And The Mirror**





### **Synopsis**

Yosef and Estrella have spent their whole lives in Morocco's Atlas Mountains. When they move to the city, they face a strange, unfamiliar world. Will their love survive the surprises of their new home? A funny and charming folktale-like story of mistaken identities.

#### **Book Information**

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

#### **Customer Reviews**

The Atlas Mountains of Morocco were alive with joy when Estrella and Yosef joined hands in marriage. It should have been a joyous time, but the couple  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{TM}$ s eyes grew sad and teary as they looked at one another.  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}ceMazal$  bueno!  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{\bullet}$  Yes, everyone wished them good luck, but the only income they had was the money Yosef made  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}ceselling$  nuts and sheep.  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{\bullet}$  They would be happy, but no, it wouldn  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{TM}$ t be enough money for the two of them. Soon good news came to the village when Estrella  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{TM}$ s uncle wrote to them.  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}ceselling$  and the young couple to Casablanca. Yosef will work in my carpet shop.  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{\bullet}$  It should have been a blessing, but worry still clouded their faces. How could they leave all they knew to move to an small apartment in a city? Soon Estrella and Yosef were in Casablanca setting up their new home. So magnificent because there were  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}cetwo$  whole rooms just for them!  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{A}$   $\hat{A}^{\bullet}$  Gone were the dirt floors and a new life was to be had. Estrella soon became sad because the women were so much more

beautiful than she. The cousins carried a wardrobe â Âœstep by step, up to the new coupleâ Â™s apartment.â Â• Carvings curled around the top and bottom and the doors were inlaid with mirrors. What luck!When Estrella returned home, she became frightened when she saw a â Âœstrange, beautiful womanâ Â• in her apartment. â ÂœWeelie, weelie, my husband has taken another wife. â Â• The others pointed the way to the rabbi for he would know what to do. Yosef was pleased that he had a job selling carpets, for their fortunes would increase, but he felt let down. â ÂœAh, a mountain Jew,â Â• exclaimed a man, â ÂœI can tell just by looking at you.â Â• To make things worse, when he returned he found a strange man in their room. Estrella and Yosef were in trouble in the big city, but could the rabbi help them out of this mess? This is the humorous tale of two young, married mountain Jews who head to the big city of Casablanca. Of course Estrella and Yosef were what many would call a couple of country bumpkins. They were so  $na\tilde{A}f\hat{A}$  ve, they had never even seen a mirror. The wise old rabbi, who was not much wiser than they were, failed to see his own reflection in the mirror as well. The tale has a wonderful folktale feel, so realistic I actually thought I was reading a retold tale. The artwork is beautifully rendered and complements this tale perfectly. This is a very unique, tale that is great fun and would be a perfect tale to read during circle or storytime. This book courtesy of the publisher.

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