

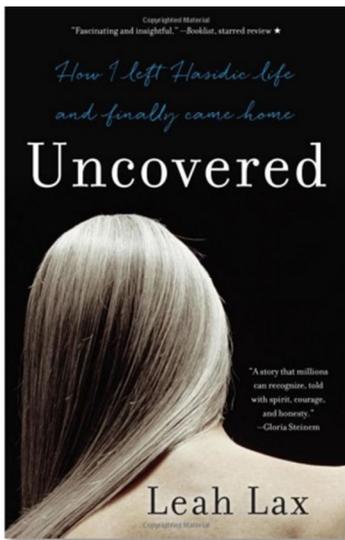
MEANINGFUL VOICES

BOOK
CLUB

UNCOVERED by Leah Lax

She Writes Press, 2015

{frequently asked questions, answered by the author}



How is your relationship with your ex-husband Levi?

Levi is a reticent man, and subject to the terms of Jewish law; he is required to strictly adhere to requirements of modesty as with a strange woman; we have no social or personal engagement. And yet, I can say we forgave one another, swore to never detract one another to our children, and when the occasion warrants, as in planning the weddings of our children, we've had warm easy communication. He once told me the things he thought unraveled our marriage (his cancer, my homosexuality) were not in our hands.

How is your relationship with your children today?

Par for the course I think with twenty-somethings. We had to rebuild on a new basis. It's a work in progress, but I think we're good.

How did the Hasidic community treat you after you left?

There was a cutoff, a resounding silence. A few old friends I saw in the grocery gathered their children to their skirts and shuttled away. Most simply disappeared. I felt shunned. Now I know some were simply shocked, others did shun me, others again had mixed feelings, reactions as varied as individuals. Today, some old friends stop to chat when I see them, or share pictures of grandchildren. Then we part knowing neither of us will ever call. When you're in that world, those on the outside are less three dimensional, less relevant, and from my side, well, I've moved on.

Do you have a relationship with the Hasidic community today?

Not directly, but I use my understanding of that world and its language whenever I'm with my children and grandchildren who live within the fold. Through them, I can say "yes."

Uncovered has sparked an offshoot in the form of a secret Facebook page called LGBTQ Chabad, creating a community of deeply hidden and isolated gay people and I stay connected with them.

Join us on March 2, 2016 as we discuss *UNCOVERED*.

Leah Lax will be joining the conversation.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.faithtrustinstitute.org/book-club-uncovered>

FaithTrust
INSTITUTE

Working together to end
sexual & domestic violence