

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

MASSACHUSETTS LEVEL I HONORABLE MENTION 2009

Dear Sarah Darer Littman,

Your book *Confessions of a Closet Catholic* really made me accept my religion. When I was nine and I read this book, I was really questioning why I was Jewish. Is there a reason why I can't be like my friends? I never did Mass or confessions in my closet or stole my best friend's cross necklace, but I still felt like Jussy. Out of place, unique, and strangely different. I read Hebrew that nobody understood at school. I never could relate to Christmas and Santa Claus or the Easter bunny, and it felt like I was missing out.

But after I read your book I realized all the things that Catholics don't have. I get to celebrate Chanukah and have eight days of fun, and they only get one. I get to leave wine out for Elijah, which is kind of like leaving cookies for Santa. I get to speak a different language and learn prayers. I get to read the Torah and have a Bat Mitzvah. Now that I realize all the wonderful things about being Jewish, I'm proud to be the way I am. I'm proud to be Jewish. I have more confidence in my religion and in myself now all because of your book. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marni

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