

Some audience reviews:

Since completing this project, Jeffrey Cohen has presented selections of it on the radio, to schools and to literary groups. The responses were consistently enthusiastic, as demonstrated by the following sample audience reviews:

Thank you for sending me Genesis in Poetry. I have enjoyed reading it. In fact I was greatly tempted to sing parts of it, though I resisted. The close rhymes and steady rhythm are indeed very musical, and I wonder if you have considered setting at least a section of it to music?

Ann Sansom, proprietor of The Poetry Business, and editor and director of The North Magazine
(see //www.annsansom.co.uk)

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Thank you so much for reading extracts from your poetic version of Genesis. I do congratulate you upon the vitality and range of feeling you achieve in your use of couplet. The lines Chamor speaks, in smooth, assured and superficial tones, in your telling of the story make this heartless and powerful figure as vivid as Claudius celebrating his assumption of Denmark's throne at the opening of "Hamlet".

Mr Philip Skelker, Principal, Immanuel College, Bushey,
and former teacher of English at Eaton.

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I hardly think I need to tell you how greatly we all enjoyed your outstanding readings last night. Because I was in the privileged position of sitting opposite the audience, I could watch their enraptured expressions, faces reflecting just how captivated they were by the varying moods - the drama, the comedy, the lovely pastoral description, the whimsy - of your chosen extracts. It was a true tour de force and made such a powerful impact. We really were treated to an absorbing and stimulating evening.

Judy Frankel, Educationalist and former senior
teacher of English

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Thank you for your wonderful Genesis in Poetry evening. People are still talking about it as an unforgettable experience, which was not just absorbingly enjoyable, but had your audience totally captivated. Among the audience acclamations I heard were, 'brilliant' 'highly original and refreshing', 'inspiring', 'intriguing,' and 'provocative.' Your own recitation added to the pleasure of the imaginative verse. If schools presented the subject in that way, there would be far more enthusiastic students around!

Naomi West, Former teacher and organiser
of poetry reading in aid of Laniado Hospital, Netanya

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Your lecture and poetry were by any standards, masterly and deserve a wider but not necessarily Jewish audience. Jeanette and I found your performance (excuse the word but it had a media feel) educational, intellectually stimulating and entertaining - no mean feat!

Raymond Cannon, Former Chair of Governors, JFS, London