

# Joseph and the Colorful Coat: A Timeless Tale of Envy, Betrayal, and Redemption

## The Story of Joseph and the Colorful Coat

Joseph and the Colorful Coat is a beloved biblical tale that has captivated readers for centuries. It is found in the book of Genesis, chapters 37-50, and tells the story of a young man named Joseph who rises from slavery to become a powerful vizier in Egypt.



### Joseph and the Colorful Coat: The Brick Bible for Kids

by Amy Meltzer

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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Joseph was the favorite son of Jacob, also known as Israel. His father's favoritism aroused the envy of Joseph's brothers, who sold him into slavery and lied to their father, telling him that Joseph had been killed by a wild beast.

Joseph was taken to Egypt, where he was sold to Potiphar, the captain of the Pharaoh's guard. Through his hard work and God's favor, Joseph rose

to become Potiphar's trusted servant and manager of his household.

However, Joseph's success aroused the jealousy of Potiphar's wife, who falsely accused him of attempted rape. Joseph was thrown into prison, where he languished for two years.

While in prison, Joseph interpreted the dreams of two fellow prisoners, a butler and a baker. The butler's dream predicted that he would be restored to his former position, while the baker's dream foretold his execution.

When the butler was indeed restored to his position, he remembered Joseph and mentioned him to the Pharaoh. The Pharaoh had been troubled by two dreams that no one could interpret. Joseph was summoned from prison and interpreted the dreams as a warning of seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.

The Pharaoh was impressed by Joseph's wisdom and appointed him as his vizier, second only to the Pharaoh himself. Joseph used his authority to prepare Egypt for the coming famine by storing up grain during the years of plenty.

During the famine, Joseph's brothers came to Egypt to buy food. They did not recognize Joseph, but he recognized them. Joseph tested his brothers, revealing his identity and confronting them with their past betrayal.

However, Joseph's heart was filled with forgiveness, and he revealed that God had used their evil intentions for good, to save the lives of their family and the people of Egypt.

Joseph's brothers were filled with remorse and asked for forgiveness. Joseph embraced them, and the family was reunited. Jacob and his family moved to Egypt, where they lived in peace and prosperity under Joseph's protection.

## **Characters in Joseph and the Colorful Coat**

- **Joseph:** The protagonist of the story, a young man who endures envy, betrayal, and imprisonment but rises to power through God's favor and forgiveness.
- **Jacob:** Joseph's father, who favors Joseph over his other sons, causing their envy.
- **Joseph's brothers:** Envious of Joseph's favor and power, they sell him into slavery.
- **Potiphar:** The captain of the Pharaoh's guard, who buys Joseph as a slave and promotes him to manager of his household.
- **Potiphar's wife:** Falsely accuses Joseph of attempted rape, leading to his imprisonment.
- **The butler and the baker:** Fellow prisoners whose dreams Joseph interprets, predicting their future.
- **The Pharaoh:** The ruler of Egypt, who seeks Joseph to interpret his dreams and appoints him as his vizier.

## **Themes in Joseph and the Colorful Coat**

- **The dangers of envy:** Joseph's brothers' envy of his favor and power leads them to betray him.

- **The importance of forgiveness:** Joseph forgives his brothers for their betrayal, demonstrating the transformative power of forgiveness.
- **The power of God's providence:** Despite the setbacks he faces, Joseph's story shows how God uses even adversity for good.
- **The importance of family:** The story emphasizes the importance of family relationships and the power of redemption.

### **Symbolism in Joseph and the Colorful Coat**

- **The colorful coat:** Represents Joseph's favor and status, as well as the envy and jealousy it arouses.
- **The dreams:** Symbolize divine guidance and the role of God in Joseph's life.
- **The famine:** Represents the challenges and adversity that Joseph faces, as well as the hope and redemption he brings.
- **Egypt:** Represents a place of refuge and prosperity, as well as the fulfillment of God's promises.

### **Lessons from Joseph and the Colorful Coat**

- Beware the dangers of envy and jealousy.
- Practice forgiveness and reconciliation.
- Trust in God's providence, even in the midst of adversity.
- Value the importance of family and relationships.

Joseph and the Colorful Coat is a timeless tale that continues to resonate with readers of all ages. Its themes of envy, betrayal, forgiveness, and

redemption offer valuable lessons for life. The story shows us the importance of overcoming adversity, the power of forgiveness, and the unwavering providence of God. It is a story that inspires hope, encourages reconciliation, and reminds us that even in the darkest times, there is always light at the end of the tunnel.

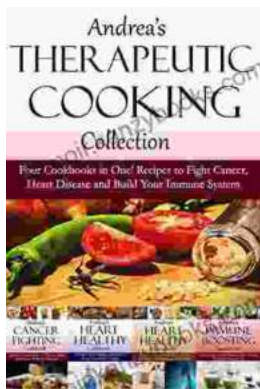


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