

#1

Three Daughters By Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Pages 3-50, ST

In these pages there were three main characters that were described Shoshanna, Leah, and Rachel, the daughters of Rabbi Sam Wasserman. They share a couple distinct factors that these girls have in common. These factors are their family, culture, and their religion, but they do not share a common history. Shoshanna Safer, is the youngest Wasserman daughter, and she is forced to relook her over structured and planned out life. When she finds her Filofax skidding across the highway scattering her life to pieces. Shoshanna sees this accident and she starts picking up the pages of her book from the highway. A Filofax is diary for the year or a note-pages, according to Wikipedia. She has been hoping to bring order to a family for a really long time. One of the pieces lost from Shoshanna's notes was a letter from her father who was living in Israel. Her father was planning a trip to New York City to receive a lifetime achievement award from the shul he presided over for 30 years. She was happy about the honor her father was about to get but Shoshanna has her own plans for what she believes will be Sam's last visit to the United States.

#2

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Pages 50-97, SF

In these pages there was an essay written by Leah and in that essay she described western culture. Although it only gave her introduction in the essay it was very well written. With that being said, she had a bias against western culture. Leah said a quote about women doing chores and doing housework that said, "Western culture has demonized dirt and disarray in order to preoccupy women with domestic work." Leah really expresses through this essay that she wants the housebound women to be free and to live for what she wants to live for, and not to be pushed around by the man in the house or any man for that matter. I can relate to Leah because she wants to be liberated from the working conditions and I want to be liberated from the older men and women who say that I am too young and inexperienced to do something new, and just as Leah wants justice so do I. What I really enjoyed in this section was how Leah told her sister, Shoshanna, that everything has meaning. That idea alone is brilliant because everything in this world has some meaning to it. Big or small, tall or large everything has a purpose and a right to do what he, she, or it wants to do. Leah Wasserman and I have more in common than I thought we did and as I read on I continue to find out more and more brilliant ideas from Leah. This section had a feeling of provocativeness in the sense of sparking an idea or not being outspoken. This made me feel empowered to do more in my life than I already am, if time allows me to.

#3

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Pages 98-145, NF

There were two main events in this section, one event being that Shoshanna had to help her sister Leah plan a wedding and the other event was Leah writing her essay. Leah meet Shoshanna to discuss the wedding and explain what she wanted. Leah had ask where the wedding was going to be because she did not remember it from the phone call with Shoshanna the night before. Shoshanna told her sister that her soon to be husband, Leo, had not picked out where the wedding was going to be yet. Eventually Leo decided that he wanted to have the wedding at the local synagogue and Leah agreed upon his decision. At the wedding Leo had to sign a contract to get married to her. Leah wrote essay on why Wasserman Wed and it was about her family and their fathers consent on this. Although it did not tell whether or not Mr. Wasserman will allow his daughter to get married to Leo I think that Mr. Wasserman will allow her to wed because Leo seems like a great guy who loves Shoshanna with all of his heart.

#4

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Pages 98-145, SF

"Sadly, the qualities she'd treasured in Leo that made him *unlike* any other men had, over time, metamorphosed into irritating inadequacies that made her wish he were *more* like other men. Someone who didn't take to his bed with spells of world pain. Someone who could hold his liquor, fix the plumbing, talk back to assholes like his brother, and solve her problems for a change, instead of always depending on her to solve his. Someone who would grab her and rip her clothes off She resented him for making her miss the stereotypical male traits he lacked." This passage was taken from 179. I choose this passage for one main reason, most of us have someone in our life who we want to change but sadly we know that they only one who can make that change is the person who we want to change. This passage really spoke to me and it sparked my comprehension of what Leah was feeling.

#5

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Pages 191-240, NT

In this section Shoshanna and her friend, Stefanie, went on a final spring vacation and they got to pick where they would go every day. On Monday, Shoshanna decided that her and her friend were going to go help out at a San Diego women's center, where they worked with female libbers. On Tuesday Stefanie wanted to go kayaking and there was one problem that Shoshanna had with this was that she was afraid to go but reluctantly went along with it. On Wednesday Shoshanna planned a day spa. In this section the time, place, events, and the entire sections setting changes within a paragraph. I found this to be very astonishing and gave thumbs up to the author.

#6

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Pages 241-283, ST

This section started off with Leo, Leah's husband, starting to get depressed and beginning to drag his feet around the house. What surprised me was that Leo began showing signs of his discomfort and tiring behaviors happened right after he had gotten married. It made me sad to think about Leah who could only find one good thing about his laziness was that at least Leo showed some affliction. Leah was afraid that her husband might kill himself so Leah, who had not trusted any shrinks or medication, was now in a situation where she had a decision to make. Either she let her husband suffer and be miserable for the rest of his life or she must take him to a hospital or shrink to get looked at. The idea of letting her husband take his own life while she was supposed to be monitoring him was almost too much for Leah to take so she made the decision to take him to the hospital. As she was dropping him off at the shrink Leah said to her morbid husband, "Get better." Leo replied, "Don't worry...I'll be back soon." Leo later in this section comes back with an almost full recovery from his depressed state and is almost like new again, this made Leah's entire day seem to go by faster.