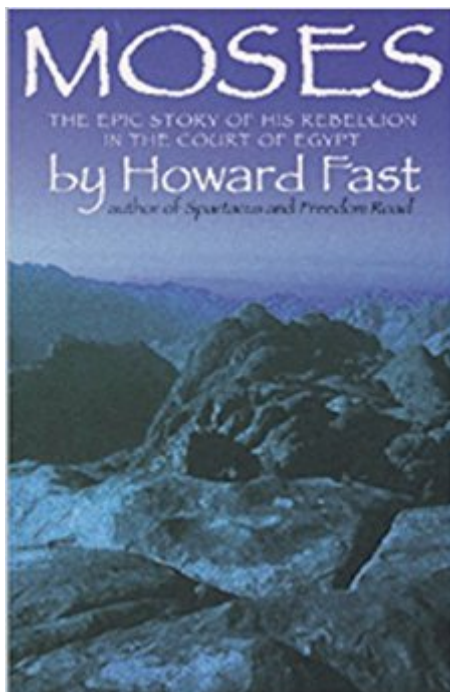


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# Moses: Prince Of Egypt



## Synopsis

From the author of *Spartacus* and *Freedom Road*, comes a novel of the Bible's greatest freedom fighter, the rebellious prince of Egypt, Moses! This definitive new edition of Howard Fast's riveting novel portrays the early years of the man who would lead his people out of slavery to freedom. In *Moses*, Howard Fast uses his widely acclaimed storytelling skills to paint a portrait of the most fascinating figure of the Bible. The child Moses grows to adulthood in the royal household of Ramses II, surrounded by the political factions, sensing, but not fully understanding, the paradox of his singular position. Through the strikingly contrasting events of Moses' epic life, Howard Fast traces the growth of his character as a biblical hero. An outsider in the court of Egypt, Moses sees the corruption and decadence of the royal family for what it is. Their autocracy acts as a forge for his moral character. Fast takes us into the white house above the first cataract as Moses experiences his first love; watches as Moses endures the savage Egyptian campaigning against the black men of Kush; and recalls the young man's rebellion against the Egyptian priesthood. Renouncing his royal trappings, Moses casts his lot with his own enslaved people, the Jews, and becomes, for all time, an inspiration to the world. FIRST TRADE PAPERBACK EDITION WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY THE AUTHOR You can share your thoughts about Howard Fast's *Moses* in the new iBooks virtual readers' group at [www.iBooksinc.com](http://www.iBooksinc.com).

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Howard Melvin Fast (11 November 1914, New York City - 12 March 2003, Old Greenwich,

Connecticut) was a Jewish American novelist and television writer, who wrote also under the pen names E. V. Cunningham and Walter Ericson. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book lasted me nearly a month as I'd only read a few chapters each day so as to stretch out my enjoyment factor. For a work of fiction I found it an entirely fascinating account regarding the trials of Moses from his rescue as a babe from the river Nile, testing his mettle against the other spawn of Ramses, challenging Fate as a captain aboard a chariot against the Kingdom of Kush right on up to the climatic scene we all remember from the movie "Ten Commandments" where he kills the Egyptian overseer using only his bare hands. Well-written, a story line you become fully immersed within, characters which become living/breathing entities, an overall excellent read. Wish this author was still alive today, but happy to know he was a prolific writer in his time and fully intend to read many more of his works. Has my fullest recommendation so will end this review with three simple words, 'Get this book!'

This compelling story about Moses' life while in Egypt until he was a youngish man (30,35, 40 years old??) is well written and interesting. Howard Fast is a known fine writer. Although most of this book is a conjectural story, Howard Fast spent years investigating life in 12-14th century BCE Egypt, which is the time many historians think that Moses lived. I really enjoyed this book and, as a Bible scholar and someone who has studied the Hebrew language and the history of the Jews, I think that Mr. Fast was very thoughtful in his portrayal of Moses' younger life. I am often amused by attempts to enlarge on the stories in the Bible, but in this case I found myself nodding in agreement with Howard's inventiveness. This is a worthwhile read for anyone interested in Moses and in the very early history of the people who became the Jews who left Egypt with Moses.

Howard Fast was one of the twentieth century's most successful and prolific authors. He had the unique talent of making his readers feel that they had moved back in time and were there wherever the action was. His novel Moses, written and published in 1958, was no exception. Fast's friend and WW2 co-worker, author Louis Untermeyer, wrote this brief review: "It is a wonderful work. The setting and the people come to life in the very first pages and the story begins to move before the opening conversation ends. It's a book people will believe in. The perfumes and stinks of Egypt, the lusts and cruelties, the wars and corruptions rise from the pages--and so do the beauties and braveries, the small tendernesses and the large understandings. It is a better book than anything of

its genre. It is a book that any author should be proud to have written."I agree. I had previously read a print edition of Fast's "Moses" and enjoyed rereading it in 's ebook version fully as much.

From a story point of view--I'm not a historian so I can't judge it on that basis--this is an excellent novel. It shows the gradual spiritual growth of Moses, first as a youth and finally as a young man. Initially, he's indifferent to the barbaric Egyptian culture. But as he ages and participates in the senseless killing of the Kush tribe, whose leader pleaded for peace with both sweet words and costly gifts, he grows in sensitivity. He then rejects the Egyptian king's arrogance and inhumanity to human beings, especially toward the slaves that he savagely uses to fulfill his egotistical goals of self-glorification. At first Moses thinks the king is his father and the king's sister is his mother. He is in line to become the next king. But he slowly learns the truth, that he is a Jew--no better than the slaves who toil listlessly for the pharaoh--and rejects the callous materialism for a life among his own people, notwithstanding its hardships. This is clearly manifest when, unable to bear watching a slave-driver whip an old Jewish slave, he punches him to death. This causes a rift between Moses and the king, who then plans to kill Moses. But Moses, with his former slave, Nun, escape to start a completely new life. The action and realization scenes are riveting--it's near impossible to stop reading the book, so well are they written. The evolving relationship between Moses and his angry slave Nun is especially touching, for Nun starts his service by hating and wanting to kill Moses, but he ends up totally loving him and never wanting to give up his company, despite that Moses gives him his freedom. Moses wins his heart by his affection for Nun--seen by Moses not as a slave but as a human being--and this effects the gradual bonding of Nun to Moses. Very touching, indeed. What I did not like about the book was its wordiness--long reflective, inessential, plodding diversions from the story itself. Yes, they allude to Moses and other important characters but they slow the story down, cause a loss in momentum in reader interest, are boring, and create a ho-hum mood. After reading several of them, I began to skip over them and stick to the heart of the story, namely, Moses' inner transformation to goodness. I highly recommend this book, chiefly because it deals with the early or youthful Moses, of which little is known by the general public. This story would make a GREAT MOVIE. With a great actor, script, and director, it could become classic, perhaps as popular as THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

Sets a standard for historical fiction.

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