Contents

Acknowledgments	XV
Foreword, Rabbi Sally J. Priesand	xix
Preface, Rabbi Jacqueline Koch Ellenson	xxiii
Introduction: What Kind of Job Is That for a Nice Jewish Girl?	xxix
Short Takes	xxxiii
An Offering Made in Honor of Those Who Have No Time	
to Make an Offering, Rabbi Karen Bender	xlvii
Women Rabbis' List of Firsts	xlix
PART ONE • Those Who Came Before Us:	
The Pre-history of Women Rabbis	1
1. Who Controls The Narrative? A "Stop Action" Analysis	
of the Story of Beruriah and the Implications for	
Women Rabbis, Rabbi Judith Abrams, PhD, z " l	5
2. Chasidic Women Rebbes from 1749 to 1900,	
Rabbi Renee Edelman	23

viii • THE SACRED CALLING

3.	"The Long and Winding Road" to Women Rabbis, Pamela S. Nadell, PhD	31
4.	Rediscovering Regina Jonas: The First Woman Rabbi, Rabbi Laura Geller	45
5.	The Women Who Set the Stage: Celebrating Over One Hundred Years of Women in Reform Judaism, RABBI MARLA J. FELDMAN	51
	Personal Reflection: A First Rabbi, from a Long Line of Rabbis, Rabbi Naamah Kelman-Ezrachi	63
	Personal Reflection: Going into the Family Business, RABBI SUE SHANKMAN	67
Paf	TTWO • Reform Ordination of Women	71
6.	Letters from Hebrew Union College to Sally J. Priesand	75
7.	The Ordination of Sally J. Priesand, A Historic Interview	81
8.	Looking Back to See Ahead, Rabbi Richard F. Address, DMin	101
9.	What's in a Word? Inequality in the Reform S'michah, RABBI MARY ZAMORE	109
10.	A Brief History of the Task Force on Women in the Rabbinate, Rabbi Neil Kominsky	127
11.	From Periphery to Center: A History of the Women's Rabbinic Network, Rabbi Carole B. Balin, PhD	137
12.	Women Who Chose: First a Jew, Then a Rabbi, Julie Wiener	153
13.	O Pioneers: Reflections from Five Women Rabbis of the First Generation, RABBI SUE LEVI ELWELL, PhD	165

Contents • ix

14.	From Generation to Generation: A Roundtable Discussion with Rabbi Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus	175
	Personal Reflection: The Pregnant Rabbi, Rabbi Deborah Zecher	223
	Personal Reflection: Ima and Abba on the Bimah: Being an RK Squared, RACHEL MARDER	227
PAF	RT THREE • Ripple Effects: The Impact of Ordaining Women	233
15.	JTS, HUC, and Women Rabbis—Redux, Rabbi Gary Phillip Zola, PhD	237
16.	Creating Opportunities for the "Other": The Ordination of Women as a Turning Point for LGBT Jews, RABBI DENISE L. EGER	261
17.	The Impact of Women Rabbis on Male Rabbis, Rabbi Charles A. Kroloff	269
18.	Women Rabbis in Israel, RABBI DALIA MARX, PhD	279
19.	The First Thirty Years in Israel: Avnei Derech, Rabbi Kinneret Shiryon, DD	295
20.	A New Reality: Female Religious Leadership in the Modern Orthodox Community, Maharat Rori Picker Neiss	305
21.	Orthodox Women (Non-)Rabbis, Rabbi Darren Kleinberg, PhD	317
	Personal Reflection: The Presence of Women Rabbis: A Transformation of the Rabbinate and of Jewish Life, RABBI SAM GORDON	339
	Personal Reflection: Growing Up with Women Rabbis as	343

x • THE SACRED CALLING

	Personal Reflection: A Man's Experience of Women	
	in the Rabbinate, Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner	347
PAF	RT FOUR • Women Rabbis and Feminism	351
22.	Women Rabbis and Feminism: On Our Way to the Promised Land, Rabbi Laura Geller	355
23.	"I Find By Experience": Feminist Praxis of Theology and Knowledge, Rabbi Oshrat Morag	367
24.	Shifting the Focus: Women Rabbis and Developments in Feminist Theology, RABBI KARI HOFMAISTER TULING, PhD	379
25.	Real Men Marry Rabbis: A History of the Jewish Feminist Movement, Rabbi Rebecca W. Sirbu	391
26.	Betty Friedan's "Spiritual Daughters," the ERA, and the CCAR, Rabbi Carole B. Balin, PhD	403
	Personal Reflection: Finding a Seat at the Right Table: Gender at HUC-JIR, RABBI DANIEL KIRZANE	419
	Personal Reflection: Becoming a Woman of the Wall, RABBI SUSAN SILVERMAN	425
PAR	RT FIVE • Jewish Life	429
27.	Making Up for Lost Time: Female Rabbis and Ritual Change, Rabbi Debra Reed Blank, PhD	433
28.	The Mikveh as a Well of Creativity, RABBI SARA LURIA and SHAINA HERRING	475
29.	Offering a New Look: Women Rabbis and Jewish Spirituality, RABBI MICHELE LENKE	483

Contents · xi

30.	El Na R'fah Na Lah, Heal Us Now, Rabbi Eric Weiss with Hilly Haber	493
31.	Kindling Change: Women Rabbis and Social Action, Rabbi Patricia Karlin-Neumann	501
32.	How Jewish Women Have Come to Read the Bible: The Creating of Midrash, Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, DMin	515
33.	140 Faces of Torah and Counting: Communal Transformation, Theological Evolution, and the Authority of Interpretation, Rabbi Elizabeth W. Goldstein, PhD	525
	Personal Reflection: A Rabbi Goes to the Mikveh, Rabbi Julie Wolkoff, DMin, CT	537
	Personal Reflection: A Rabbi in the Military— RABBI SARAH SCHECHTER, Chaplain (Major), United States Air Force Academy	541
	Personal Reflection: Born in the USSR: RABBI ELENA RUBINSTEIN	545
PAR	RT SIX • Congregational Culture and Community Life	549
34.	Weaving Webs of Sacred Connection: Women Rabbis and Congregational Culture, RABBI JUDITH SCHINDLER and CANTOR MARY THOMAS	553
35.	Forty Years—What Moses Might Have Learned (from His Women Colleagues), RABBI AMY M. SCHWARTZMAN	565
36.	Creating a New Model: From Rabbi and Rebbetzin to Co-Rabbis, Rabbi Linda Motzkin and Rabbi Jonathan Rubenstein	577
37.	Women Rabbis and the Gender Pay Gap: Lessons from the CCAR's 2012 Landmark Study and a Call to Action, MICHAEL J. GAN and JOSHUA SCHARFF	585

xii • THE SACRED CALLING

38.	Getting to the Gold Standard in Maternity Leave Clauses, Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf	599
39.	Figuring It All Out: The Parenting Balancing Act, Rabbi Rebecca Einstein Schorr	615
	Personal Reflection: Why I Almost Did Not Become a Rabbi, Rabbi Alysa Mendelson Graf	625
	Personal Reflection: Being a Public Person, Suffering a Private Loss, by Rabbi Rebecca Gutterman	629
	Personal Reflection: The "Part-Time" Rabbinate, RABBI SARA YELLEN SAPADIN	633
	Personal Reflection: Journeying to the Edge of the Known and Comprehended World—Becoming a Senior Rabbi, RABBI RUTH A. ZLOTNICK	637
	Personal Reflection: Leaning In, Leaning Out, and Just Managing to Stand Up: Notes from a Rabbinic Working Mother, RABBI HARA E. PERSON	641
PAR	RT SEVEN • Image	645
40.	The Rabbi As Symbolic Exemplar: A Feminist Critique, Rabbi Sara Mason-Barkin	649
41.	From Imagination to Reality: <i>Ima on the Bima</i> RABBI MINDY AVRA PORTNOY	661
42.	"Funny, You Don't Look Like a Rabbi": Transference and the Female Rabbi, Rabbi Ellen Jay Lewis, LP, NCPsyA	673
43.	The Public Image of the Woman Rabbi, Rabbi Wendy Spears	683
44.	A Mirror, a Prism, and a Telescope: Reimagining Role Models, Rabbi Leah Rachel Berkowitz	693

Contents · xiii

45.	Portraits of the Rabbi as a Young Woman, Wendy Zierler, PhD	707
46.	Searching for the Fictional Woman Rabbi on the Small and Large Screen, Rabbi David J. Zucker, PhD	721
	Personal Reflection: Rabbis in Red Lipstick, Dasi Fruchter	735
	Personal Reflection: Letter to Hollywood—I Don't Have a Beard or Side Curls and I Look Just Like You: American Judaism's Image Problem, RABBI JORDIE GERSON	741
	Personal Reflection: Dropping the "R-Bomb," RABBI ELIZABETH S. WOOD	743
	For Further Reading Contributors	747 753