



The Lehman Trilogy

Enrichment Guide

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Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre is proud to call Manitoba home. Royal MTC is located in Winnipeg on Treaty 1, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree and Dakota people, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. We are thankful for the benefits sharing this land has afforded us, acknowledge the responsibilities of the Treaties, and embrace the opportunity to partner with Indigenous communities in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

The Role of the Audience

Theatre needs its audience! We are happy to have you here. Every staff person, actor, and crew member backstage plays an important part in your experience, and you also have a role in the experience of cast, crew and the people around you.

Arrive Early: Please make sure you give yourself enough time to find your seat before the performance starts. Latecomers may not be admitted to a performance. We ask schools and other groups to arrive at least 20-30 minutes before the show.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices: Please **turn off** your cell phone/mp3 player /gaming system/camera/smart watch. Texting, surfing, and gaming during performances is very distracting for the performers and other audience members. Using cameras and recording devices during a performance is **never** allowed.

Talking During the Performance: Even when you whisper, you can be heard by performers and people around you. Unless it is a relaxed performance, disruptive patrons will be removed from the theatre. Please wait until after the performance to share your words with others.

Food/Drinks: Food and outside drinks are not allowed in the theatre. When there is an intermission, snacks and drinks may be available for purchase. There is complimentary water in the lobby.

Dress: There is no dress code at the Royal MTC, but we respectfully ask you not to wear hats in the theatre. We strive to be a scent-free environment and thank all patrons for their cooperation.

Leaving During the Performance: If you leave the theatre during a performance, you will be readmitted at the discretion of Front of House staff. If readmitted, you may be placed in an empty seat at the back of the auditorium instead of your original seat.

Being Asked to Leave: The theatre staff has, and will exercise, the right to ask any member of the audience to leave if that person is being inappropriate or disruptive including (but not limited to): talking, using devices that produce light or sound, and deliberately interfering with an actor or the performance (tripping, throwing items on or near the stage, etc.).

Talkbacks: A short question and answer period with the actors takes place after student matinees, first Tuesday evening shows, and some public matinees. While watching the show, make a mental note of questions to ask the actors about the production or life in the theatre. Our artists deserve to be treated with respect! It's okay to have a negative opinion, but this is your chance to ask questions and understand the performance or process, not to criticize. If you have a concern, see the house manager after the show and they will make sure your feedback gets to the appropriate Royal MTC staff.

Enjoy the show: Laugh, cry, gasp – responding to the performance is part of the nature of theatre! As you get involved in the story, try to balance your reactions with respecting the people around you. The curtain call is part of the performance too – it gives you a chance to thank all the artists for their hard work with applause, and for them to thank you for your attention. We all appreciate when you stay at your seat and join in the applause!

Playwright Biographies

Author

Stefano Massini is an Italian playwright based outside of Florence, Italy; the first Italian author to receive a Tony Award. He was raised Catholic but attended a Jewish school half time to learn English, and many of his works explore Jewish culture. Massini is known in Italy as a storyteller, not only writing plays and stories, but performing them as well. He is also appears regularly on Italian television shows, performing topical monologues about controversial current topics. He regularly contributes to the Italian newspaper La Repubblica, and served as artistic consultant at Piccolo Teatro di Milano – Teatro d'Europa. His works, including The Lehman Trilogy, have been translated into 30 languages, and his plays have been performed in more theatres around the world than those of any other living Italian writer – produced as far as Iran and Korea. Other select works: Intractable Woman, Ladies Football Club and 7 Minutes. He won many Italian and foreign awards, including the Premio Vittorio Tondelli, the Premio Ubu, the Tony Award, the Drama Guild Award and the Outer Critics Circle Award. The Lehman Trilogy won the Selezione Campiello Prize, the Super Mondello Prize, the De Sica Prize, the Prix Médicis Essai and the Prix Meilleur Livre Étranger. Massini recently finished a multi-part play about the history of the atomic bomb, Manhattan Project. His play based on Adolf Hitler's Mein Kampf will debut this year, about which Massini says "I felt that in this moment I need to look into the eyes of violence, the terrifying face of our world, and the origins — the birthing — of terror... This is the story of the book of violence, the book of war, and of the corrupt ideas of the human race."

Stage Adaptation

Ben Power is a writer for theatre and the screen. For the last 12 years he has worked at the National Theatre as associate director and deputy artistic director and was responsible for the temporary theatre The Shed. Work for the screen includes Munich: The Edge of War and The Hollow Crown (BAFTA nominations for Best Single Drama and Best Mini-Series). Work for the stage includes adaptations of DH Lawrence's Husbands & Sons, Euripides' Medea and Ibsen's Emperor & Galilean, all for the National; A Tender Thing for the RSC and Complicite's A Disappearing Number (Olivier and Evening Standard Awards). He was associate director of Headlong where he adapted Pirandello's Six Characters in Search of an Author and Marlowe's Faustus. He is currently creating a television series for Working Title and is published by Faber & Faber.

Related Resource Links: Read an [interview with Massini about his life and work](#) in the Financial Times. Find more about [Ben Power's role with the National Theatre in this article](#) from The Guardian.

See the entire creative team and cast for Royal MTC's production, including their biographies, [on our website](#), where you can also download the Ovation program.

Content Overview

Occasional strong language. Mentions of death, slavery, war, and suicide including non-graphic details. The argument has been made that certain content could reinforce antisemitic stereotypes; approach this piece – and all theatre – through the lens of critical thinking.

Plot Summary

The story of the company created by Henry, Emanuel and Mayer Lehman, in all its iterations between Henry's arrival in America in 1844 until its closure in 2008. It uses long form poetry in order to share the characters perspectives, relationships and interactions as it transforms and survives natural disasters, the American Civil War, the inception of the Stock Exchange, the Railway expansion, the Stock Market crash of 1929, the Second World War, global trading expansion, and computerization. The company goes under in the 2008 global recession.

Synopsis

This section contains spoilers.

Part One: Three Brothers

Prologue - New York, 2008: brothers on verge of bankruptcy awaiting news of federal government intervention. The office is empty except for a janitor. Henry enters.

1. The Traveler (1844). Henry recites a poem from the perspective of Heyum Lehmann, as he arrives in America.
2. The Shop (1847). Henry's clothing and fabric shop in Montgomery, Alabama. In a poem Henry tells how his shop serves the poorer local folks and is closed only on Shabbat. He has at least three more years to work until his debts are paid off. Emmanuel arrives.
3. The Arm and the Potato (1850). At the shop three years later. Emanuel has been tasked with painting the new sign. We are told that Henry is always right. A third brother arrived a month ago, Mayer, and he is also painting. Henry is the head of the family, Emanuel is the Arm, more of a worker, and Mayer is compared to a potato, insignificant and slow. Henry decides to expand the business to supplies for farming cotton. Mayer is on board, but Emanuel is not happy about it.
4. Hanukkah (1853) A fire takes out the surrounding plantations leaving nothing behind. It is a tragedy but also means supplies all must be bought again, on credit agreements. Mayer comes up with the idea for the credit to be paid with raw cotton that they will resell at their own price. Henry agrees it is a good opportunity.
5. Product (1854). The plan is in place and the customers have diversified to include both farmers paying in raw cotton and Northern industry owners who process the raw cotton. They sign a contract with a man for all their raw cotton. Emanuel accepts an invitation to see the factory in the North. Emanuel sees how efficient the factory is with its big machines and paid workers, and realizes how much more cotton they could sell if they had one. He proposes an idea to his brother to expand, but his brother is hesitant to take his ideas. Again, Mayer steps in to explain and resolve the conflict. They rebrand again to Lehman

Brothers Cotton, with a plan to use their savings to buy more cotton to resell for profit. Henry feels control pulling away from him.

6. Shiva (1855). Henry has died from Yellow Fever and Emanuel and Mayer honor him in their traditional way. The store closed for the longest it has been since it's opening, 7 days.
7. Kish Kish (1856). The brothers' business model is not working as well as they planned. They have not managed the price they want per wagon and are not making the profits they hoped, despite the increase in the number of wagons they sell a year. Emmanuel travels to other plantations to try to get their business, but is not very good at it and he doesn't make sales. Mayer is in love with Babette. While speaking with her father for permission to marry, Mayer is asked to explain their business - as middlemen - and convinces the father to let his daughter marry. Emanuel is surprised by Mayer's ability to convince Babette's dad, and enlists him to be negotiator. Their business has grown to be middlemen from 5 farms to 24 farms by the time Mayer gets married.
8. Something about New York (1860). Emanuel takes a trip to the New York Cotton Fair and decides to set up an office in the city. In part, because there are interested buyers, in part because he falls for a girl, Pauline. Although he is rejected by her family at first, he continues to sell cotton, determined to prove himself. Mayer comes to look at the office but hates the city and leaves. Emanuel keeps trading and visiting Pauline weekly to be rejected. It takes three months but eventually they are married. The industry folks from the north and the producers from the south attend the wedding, but there is a huge fight at the reception. The Civil War arrives.
9. Survival (1861). The brothers' business is caught up in the American Civil War. Factories are closed as workers become soldiers. Plantations crops are ruined and become battlefields. A fraction of the industry remains intact as the body count rises to 750,000. The brothers find ways to keep enough of their business alive but at the end of the war, things are different again.
10. The Puppeteer (1867). After the war in Alabama, Mayer tries to reconnect with his old farm contacts but those that aren't closed down completely are having to rebuild. Mayer goes to the Governor and convinces him to lend the Lehman's money to start a bank which will invest in the rebuilding of Alabama. In New York, Emanuel is prospering. His son Phillip is a prodigy, and his business is now in coffee. The brothers disagree about Mayer relocating to New York, but they are visited by a friend who speaks of Henry's dream of them ending up in New York and they go.

Part Two: Fathers and Sons

1. The Silent Brother (1878). Mayer hasn't settled into the New York busy-ness well, but the bank is established, and he and his family are New Yorkers. He realizes his youngest son was born there, and is not connected to either Germany or Alabama. He rarely talks, and this, as well as his appearance, causes folks to talk about him.
 2. Wall Street (1881). The stock exchange is established on Wall Street: a place where all commodities are traded without the commodities present. It's described as a place of words. Mayer recognizes that Emanuel's son Phillip will thrive there, as he never seems to work, only to talk, a master debater.
 3. Trains (1884). Wall Street is investing in trains, but Emanuel has a recurring nightmare about them and cannot invest in them. Phillip finally convinces him to investigate it and they travel to see a site. United Railways is ready to start construction as soon as they invest. Phillip takes over the meeting and insists on a minimum guaranteed profit after paying out his investors. Phillip bargains so well in front of his father, that his father passes on the leadership of the company to him, and his nightmares relent.
 4. The Card Player (1887). Under Phillip's focused leadership, the business grows, backing trains, oil, and cigarettes. We learn how Phillip's ability to strategize is a part of everything he does, including selecting a wife.
 5. Herbert (1887). Unlike Phillip, Herbert struggles with tradition and his faith. He wanted fairness in the unfair world and wouldn't stop questioning.
 6. A New Language (1891). Emanuel and Mayer are now figureheads that sign off on business, and they find themselves not understanding the new world they are working in. There is now a board that makes the decisions and when they propose investing in construction of houses for the growing working class, the board decides to build the Panama Canal to force transporters of goods to pay fees to them instead of travelling around South America.
 7. Shiva (1897). Emanuel holds Shiva for Mayer. The bank closes for 3 days instead of a week. Phillip's six-year-old son, Bobby, who Phillip has already determined will be a banker, imagines what his family back in Germany would look like. "All the Jews of Manhattan" line up to attend. Emanuel feels like he is the last one in New York who remembers Germany.
 8. Horses (1901). Bobby loves horses. Emanuel takes him to horse races and is perplexed that Bobby doesn't care who wins. He tries to explain how and why things cost what they do and are valued differently at different times. Phillip decides the business is too complex to be called a bank anymore and wants to change the name to Lehman Brothers Finance. Herbert doesn't like the idea of the bank turning in to a financier for stocks because that means they are inaccessible to folks who don't have lots of money, and the business he is involved in has a huge impact on workers' lives and jobs. Phillip wants to take risks and Herbert wants to be responsible. Phillip ultimately decides Herbert isn't cut out for business and solves the problem by making him the Governor of New York.
- B. Bobby. Bobby has now grown up in very wealthy circles. Due to Herbert leaving the board, Phillip offers Bobby a place. Bobby accepts, but has lots to say about what he has learned

going to Yale University about banks, industry and finance. He believes the next investments should be in entertainment, and that his father's way keeps them in the 1800s. This makes Phillip feel old.

9. Sukkot (1919). Phillip has a recurring nightmare of decorating a hut for Sukkot, in which more and more people keep coming to give him decorations, until it is about to collapse. His focus and strategy that allowed him to select winning investments is failing him. He rebrands the company Lehman Corporation, and moves to only finance.
10. The Acrobat (1929). On the eve of the stock market crash that begins the Great Depression, Phillip is still the president of Lehman Corporation. Bobby and Herbert speak to him on behalf of the board, which is concerned about the way he is running things. He dismisses their concerns.

Part Three: The Immortal

1. Radio (1929). Through imperfect reception, business owners across the country learn of the stock market crash.
2. Ruth (1929). Stockbrokers are selling and not reinvesting. One realizes what this means and kills himself. We see Bobby at a horse race and winning, with slight signs of nervousness. He meets Ruth who calls him on it. We hear of the decline Goldman Sachs, and a second man killing himself. We see Bobby at an art exhibition. He is with Ruth, and although he seems to be doing well, Ruth notices his hand shaking. He attributes it to being seen with a divorced woman. She suggests they get married. We hear of the 6 more brokers who kill themselves on Black Thursday. Everyone is selling and demanding their money out of the market but the money is gone, as the stock market isn't prepared for everyone to want their money at the same time. Bobby gets married. Ruth expresses that Bobby's workers love his father and not him. She wants to know the losses. He has lost millions but won't be specific. We hear of three stockbrokers who jump from the Stock Exchange building.
3. Black Skies (1929). Phillip is unsure how to go forward, but the banks have met and decided they must put on a brave face to help quell the panic the crash has caused. Bobby reports that 12 of their associates are bankrupt, everything is collapsing and the United States Bank is announcing bankruptcy. Bobby predicts that the government will blame the banks, factories will close and the company may fail. Bobby thinks that the first banks to fail will not get help and they shouldn't help them either, in order that those will be scapegoated as the ones that messed up. After, the government will need to back some banks to rebuild. But the banks will be regulated. Bobby thinks the system will take maybe 5 years to recover. Phillip asks how Bobby will save them.
4. The Flood (1930). The business owners are trying to weather the storm. Bobby still won't bring Ruth into the business, and she threatens divorce. He is alone and he feels he is saving the world. Herbert is in government also trying to save the world, and Bobby sees him as competition. Bobby's father is second-guessing him and comparing him to Herbert. Bobby is investing in television and movies. Ruth divorces him. Herbert is happily married. Bobby successfully diversifies the company, and they stay afloat.

5. A New Country (1939). Lehman Brothers has a new structure: ten shareholders, who put in the money to save the bank, and Bobby as the chairman. Lehman invests in the war, but Herbert is now Senator and is putting in many regulations. The idea of investing in trust is new and confusing to Bobby.
6. Shiva (1947). There is a Shiva for Phillip, though most of the European traditions have been lost. There is a distinction between those who are American and those who have recently escaped Europe - the Americans call themselves "Reformed Jews" and can't imagine shutting down business. They close for three minutes.
7. The Instinctive Act (1965). The Lehmans adopt the idea of Marketing, that when a consumer buys, they are winning and thriving. People don't only buy the things they need, they buy instinctively, and are willing to buy with money they don't have, increasing their use of banks. Everyone will need to borrow from the banks. Not only that, but it will also make Americans think they are superior, more free than the communists elsewhere in the world. Because everyone can buy, and borrow to buy, we are all equal.
8. Babel. Lehman is worldwide. Bobby now has nightmares of the business folks from all over the world stacking a tower of briefcases but being unable to communicate properly so the tower falls. Bobby has a meeting with two young people who sell him on computers through the idea of a universal language that will connect the world.
9. The Golden Calf (1963). Bobby has opened his company to younger and younger idea makers. Lew, the son of the Hungarian lamp maker comes to him proposing a trading division on phones and computers. Bobby accepts, and Glucksman starts the new office. The office looks like chaos to the older men, but before it can be closed, they post triple profits in the first month.
10. The Twist (1969). Bobby dances out his time with the bank and the trading office hating each other but making money. He is the last Lehman connected to the company.
11. Ping Pong (1983). Pete, the crying infant from the Nebraska diner, is now the President of the Company, with previous experience working under the Nixon Administration. He has a meeting with Lew. Lew pays out Pete to gain control of the whole company. Within a year the business is dismantled and resold, repeated a number of times. The president in the 1990s was an old trader from the original trading office. They do very well until 2008, when the phone rings and the bank dies.

Context and Related Resources

Plantation Era America

Plantation America created the wealth that established the country. The play begins during the last 20 years of legal slavery in America, and demonstrates the way the Lehman Brothers' first business models were created to help plantation owners finance their operations as middlemen to those processing cotton in factories in the north. The play details the ruination of the cotton fields in the South during the American Civil war and focuses on how the brothers survive the crisis by diversifying into other business when not enough cotton is being produced to keep their business model sustainable. It is important to note what is erased in this story: that while the Lehmans weathered this storm and came out stronger on the other side due to their business acumen and ability to adapt, their ability to build wealth starts with the wealth they had accumulated, and their ability to move in wealthy circles as they moved forward. Although slavery was ended as the Civil War concluded and some progress was made initially in providing land, rights and a path to financial independence to formerly enslaved people, this was later rescinded by President Johnson who pardoned the plantation owners, taking back much of the resources and land that had been put in place to assist Black Americans. Further, as supervision of the region by the federal government degraded, the amount of crime in the form of killings and property destruction became rampant, and many laws and policies were put into place to limit the upward mobility of Black residents.

Related Resource Links: In 2003, in order to keep working as contractors with the city of Chicago, Lehman Brothers filed an affidavit confirming that the firm profited from the slave trade. [Hear the story of the affidavit from NPR](#) (4 minutes) and go deeper into the topic in an [article that connects *The Lehman Trilogy* to the company and Wall Street's historical ties to slavery](#) or listening to a [podcast episode about slavery's national infrastructure](#) from Learning for Justice.

Industrialization

Between the Civil War and the Stock Market Crash, industrialization had several impacts on workers in America. In 1860, Agricultural workers still outnumbered non-agricultural workers, but over the following 60 years, the agricultural workers' numbers had stabilized in the 10-11 million range, where factory workers continued to climb to over 38 million workers in 1930. Over this same time period, America rose to be the number one producer of industrial goods globally, at 42%, which was 23% higher than the next highest producing country, Russia.

Wars and Wealth

This play spans many wars but makes note in particular of the American Civil War, and the First and Second World Wars. Little mention is made of them, but a few things are worth noting.

It is highlighted that the company often profits during war, and in particular how it profits in relation to rebuilding following wars, particularly following the Civil War. There is a longer piece in the section called "A New Country" in which the business specifically turns to the manufacture of arms and investing in the "Atomic Age" following the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These business ventures mirror how America itself came out of the Great Depression, with jobs

and employment due to war. This is a common thing that happens in the world, both historically and in present times, and is certainly not particular to this family. Following the Civil War, Mayer is invested in rebuilding the South to stay afloat and Emanuel is invested in the new opportunities in the North; morality of the war or slavery is not really discussed. During the Second World War the juxtaposition is between Bobby in business and Herbert in government, and nods to the two ways of viewing the world: Bobby's ability to see opportunity, and Herbert's ability to question the right thing to do.

The First World War is mentioned in relation to how America has taken on a lead role on the world stage following the end of the war. The play doesn't mention that Herbert served in World War One, with future president Franklin D. Roosevelt. He was discharged in 1919, and awarded the Army Distinguished Service Medal. His three children all served in the Second World War.

At Phillip's Shiva in 1947, we also briefly see how the Jews who had escaped the Holocaust are regarded as separate from those who are second or third generation. At this point the current Lehman generation family sees themselves as American and sees the later arrivals and their traditions as "over the top."

The Stock Market Crash and Great Depression

At the time of the Stock Market Crash in 1929, one third of the country's wealth belonged to 0.5% of its people. When the stock market crashed, they lost a lot of money, but left out in the play is that unemployment rose to 25% at its highest point, and stayed between 15% and 25% until the Second World War brought jobs back in the early 1940s. Unemployed folks couldn't pay their mortgages, so banks foreclosed, in turn leading to folks losing their savings.

The Civil Rights Movement

In the section titled "The Instinctive Act", we get a brief glimpse into the changes happening in America during the Civil Rights Movement. The protesters are clearly noted as "the great-grandchildren of the slaves/that once picked Lehman's cotton". We find out Bobby's head of marketing is a Black man who attended a segregated school in Mississippi, as Bobby wants to change with the times.

This section also presents the idea of equality for all as the idea that anyone can now borrow money to buy luxury items, the Head of Marketing suggesting that by convincing people that whenever they buy, they are winning, you are creating opportunity for all to live as the rich do. The section gets its name from the presentation, in which he states, "Our objective should be/ noting more or less/ than a planet/ upon which no one buys out of need./ They buy out of instinct./ They will give us money they don't have/ for things they don't need./ They will simply buy." And later, the board agrees, "That luxury is for everyone./ That the poor do not exist." It is a devastating turn of logic, especially for an audience living now, witnessing both the continued divide between the rich and poor, and the ongoing exploitation and exclusion many

Related Resource Links: The [Mapping History project](#) is a good source for detail and resources on many of the above topics. Read or listen to [A Brief History of Consumer Culture](#) by Kerryn Higgs for greater understanding of capitalism from the 1920s onwards.

people of colour around the world continue to face. This is complicated (compounded) by the idea being presented by the only explicitly Black person we hear from in the play.

Judaism and The Lehman Trilogy

By Elliot Lazar

Jewish Assimilation into American Society

“Here in America, everything changes, even your name.” Upon arriving at Ellis Island, many foreigners took or were given new names. Sometimes this was based on a misunderstanding between the immigrant and the immigration officer. Sometimes upon intake a simplified or anglicized version of a name would be substituted for the original. Sometimes people chose to adopt a more “American” sounding name in order to better assimilate.

Within the Jewish community, and I imagine within other minority groups as well, assimilation is a double-edged sword. Being accepted as a passing member of the general (i.e. white, Christian) public allowed Jews to be included in many more aspects of secular life. Assimilation was sometimes aspirational. It was seen as a way to prevent and combat antisemitic sentiment by showing the Gentiles that Jews were just like them. In the 1950s, European Jews, as well as Italians and Irish in America, began to be seen as “white”. Those who were upwardly mobile were moving into the suburbs. Jews in the performing arts were still taking less Jewish-sounding stage names. The risk of assimilation is the erasure of culture and the loss of tradition. It can be observed in the decline of the Yiddish language among Ashkenazi Jews which at one point had 11 million speakers around the world and now has less than 1 million. In *The Lehman Trilogy*, we see members of the Lehman family assimilating and observing less and less of the traditions they inherited. Conversely, we also see them falling further and further into the pitfalls of capitalistic greed. With every new generation, the children are further and further removed from their roots in Rimpar.

Shiva and Jewish Mourning Practices

Jewish mourning practices emphasize respect for the dead and comforting the mourners. While the traditions may seem rigorous, they reflect a certain pre-psychology understanding of the process of grief. The commandments around death, burial and mourning are generally rooted in aiding the psychological healing of those left behind.

“Shiva” (literally, “seven”) or “sitting shiva” is the first week after the burial of an immediate family member for the mourners. “During this period, the mourners are treated with the utmost care and respect. Their needs are met by the community - both their physical needs, such as meals, and their spiritual and emotional needs. During this time, mourners mostly remain at home and a service is held daily (often in the evening) at the home, so that the mourners may recite the *Kaddish*... The tradition is that the Mourner’s *Kaddish* is said in the presence of a *minyán*, [traditionally, a quorum of at least ten bar-mitzvahed Jews] to insure that the mourners do not grieve in isolation but rather surrounded by members of their community.” (My Jewish Learning: Timeline of Jewish Mourning).

“Sheloshim” (literally, “thirty”) is the next stage of the mourning process. A thirty-day period counted beginning from the day of the funeral. It is at this point that the mourners return to work, but it is still a gradual reentry into the world for them. It is customary for them to avoid parties, concerts, celebrations, et cetera.

Mourning practices as represented in *The Lehman Trilogy*: A Fact Check

*Disclaimer: There is a saying that goes something like, “Two Jews, Three Opinions”. The Jewish people, like any ethnic group, are not a monolith. In fact, our tradition embraces and values debate.

Sitting on little wooden benches: FACT

It is customary for mourners to sit low to the ground/on a low stool.

Not shaving during the mourning period: FACT

The idea is that mourners should not be concerned with their physical appearance during their time of grief. It is also customary to cover all the mirrors in the house during shiva for this same reason.

No leaving for a week: FACT

If the deceased is your parent, sibling, child or spouse you are expected to stay in the home.

No preparing food: FACT

The mourners are supposed to be provided for by the community. This includes not preparing food for themselves.

Rending garments: [MOSTLY] FACT

It is true that mourners should rend their garments, an act known as *Keriah*. Where the play diverges from reality is that this happens *prior* to the burial, not upon returning from the funeral. The tearing of one’s clothes is an outward expression of grief and represents the loss of a loved one. Mourners may baste the garment back together after shiva. That is, to repair the tear using large, loose, very visible stitches. It’s a visual metaphor for gradual healing and the permanence of grief. After sheloshim, the garment may be sewn completely.

Saying the *Kaddish* morning, noon and night: FACT

For observant, Orthodox Jews (which the Lehman’s would have been when they first arrived in America), there would be three prayer services per day. *Shacharit* in the morning, *Mincha* in the late afternoon and *Maariv* in the evening. The *Kaddish* would be included in each of these services.

A dark coffin without handles or decoration: [MOSTLY] FACT

Jewish burial emphasizes that all people are equal in death and that the body must return to the earth. This is evident in that all Jews are buried in the same, simple garment which contains no knots or ties (symbolizing ties to the world of the living). Jewish caskets must be simple, not ornate, and made entirely of biodegradable materials. No metal, no screws, no hinges (and therefore, no handles). Many even contain holes drilled into the bottom to allow dirt from the gravesite to enter the casket.

The only element from the play that isn't necessarily fact is that the coffin is dark. While possible, it is far more common for the casket to be light, unstained wood.

Jews and Finance

Excerpted from *My Jewish Learning: Jews and Finance*

“Jewish business and financial success has more often than not been a major driver of antisemitism. Shakespeare’s Shylock character, a money lender who extracts a pound of flesh from a debtor who defaulted, is among history’s best-known caricatures of the Jewish businessman. That caricature lent a sinister undertone of greed and exploitation to Jewish financial dealings that would be invoked to justify anti-Jewish measures for centuries to come. Supposed Jewish control of the global financial system — a feature of what some call economic antisemitism — was a major theme in Hitler’s war against European Jews, Father Coughlin’s antisemitic rants in the United States, and the czarist forgery *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.

Jews have been associated with moneylending for at least a millennia. The most common explanation for this has been the exclusion of European Jews in the Middle Ages from various guilds, their confinement to ghettos and restrictions preventing them from owning land. Additionally, medieval Christian theology held that charging interest was sinful, which kept many Christians from becoming financiers. The field thus came to be dominated by Jews... The fact that Christians regarded such occupations as incompatible with their religious principles fed the notion that Jews were morally deficient.

An alternative explanation holds that... with the destruction of the ancient temples in Jerusalem and the beginning of the Jewish Diaspora, Jewish continuity suddenly became dependent on widespread religious literacy. Those who educated themselves remained Jews, whereas those who did not assimilated or converted to other faiths. Over time, the Jewish community evolved into a uniquely educated population, which in turn incentivized Jews to abandon farming in favor of better-paying professions and businesses.

As moneylending evolved into institutionalized banking, Jews continued to occupy major positions in the financial world. Across Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, Jews built a number of influential banks, further feeding antisemitic conspiracy theories. With mass Jewish immigration to the United States beginning in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Jews assumed prominent positions in the growing financial center of New York. As a result, talk of “international bankers” is still widely regarded as a veiled form of antisemitism.

Not all invocations of Jewish financial prowess are malicious, and some are deeply admiring. In China, eagerness to mimic Jewish business success has driven a recent publishing trend purporting to reveal the secrets to wealth contained in ancient Jewish texts. In the West, however, talk of Jewish prominence in finance is more frequently pernicious. David Duke, the former KKK grand wizard, has repeatedly inveighed against Jewish “domination” of media and banking. Eustace Mullins, a Holocaust denier who died in 2010, argued in several published works that the Federal Reserve was created by three Jewish “enemy aliens” to take over the

American monetary system. The antisemitic website Jew Watch includes a page listing “International Banks & Jews Who Founded Them.”

Such ideas have also been internalized by the general public. According to studies conducted by the ADL... Even in the United States, where antisemitism is fairly low by global standards, some 18 percent of respondents said Jews have too much power in the business world.

Given that Jews are well represented in banking, how does one recognize the line between acknowledging this fact and dealing in pernicious antisemitic canards? After actor Seth MacFarlane drew criticism for joking at the Academy Awards that it’s best to be Jewish if you “want to continue to work in Hollywood,” journalist J.J. Goldberg offered one way to draw that line. As with the Jews and finance stereotype, MacFarlane’s bit was based in fact — by Goldberg’s count, more than 80 percent of top Hollywood studio chiefs are Jews. Such talk veers into antisemitism when one speaks of “the Jews” controlling movies — the implication being that a corporate entity known as “the Jews,” acting as an organized group, is conspiring to exert its authority. It’s undeniable that Jews are disproportionately among the wealthiest Americans and overrepresented in top positions in the financial world, but it’s antisemitic, according to Goldberg, to say that “the Jews” are.

The Lehman Trilogy: Is it Good for the Jews? – Elliot’s Perspective

A common question within the Jewish community is “Is it good for the Jews?” The events of the play are certainly truthful, but is its emphasis on the family’s Jewish identity defamatory? There has been a lot of discourse over whether or not *The Lehman Trilogy* is an antisemitic play. Given the global rise in antisemitism, it’s worth discussing. Included here are several excerpts from various articles and letters published on the topic. I’ve summarized them and added my own commentary below.

TL;DR: Dave Rich argues that the play over-accentuates the Jewishness of the characters and indeed the bank itself, playing into damaging antisemitic tropes about Jews, money and power. Kate Maltby points out that the events of the play are factual, and that there is a very intentional decrease in the family’s observance of Jewish custom over time as the business grows. In response, I believe it’s important to stress that Jews are an ethno-religious group, and that one’s Jewishness is not directly proportional to one’s observance of religious customs. This is true not only in the eyes of Jews but also in the eyes of antisemites. The Nazis weren’t after a religious group, they were after a race.

Ben Power feels this adaptation, created under the consultation of a Rabbi, represents the truth that the Lehmans were a Jewish family while not conflating their Jewishness with greed and corruption. Two representatives of Timeline Chicago’s production add that “generalizing from a story about one family to an entire group is exactly what antisemites do.” *The Lehman Trilogy* is about one Jewish family, not all Jewish people.

That said, I believe anyone from a minority group would understand that representation often leads to generalization. When Charles Stuart framed the murder of his wife on a Black man, it

affected all of Boston's Black population - though it was an allegation (and a false one at that) against one individual. The trial of yet another individual - Leo Frank (a Yankee Jew), who was (again, falsely) accused of the rape and murder of a young girl in Atlanta - similarly stoked anti-Jewish sentiment.

Dave Rich's (as well as Judith Miller's) argument that the play's Jewish content is "gratuitous and overwhelming" is not without merit. One example I found in reading, though admittedly minor, is the detail that while courting Pauline Sondheim, Emanuel Lehman kept his flowers in a vase, not wanting to spend the money on a new bouquet every time. This could simply be a character detail, illustrating either his frugality or stinginess, depending on how you look at it. But in the context of the play, wherein his Jewishness is so pronounced, it is hard to separate this tiny detail from the larger stereotype that Jews are stingy. I did some research to determine whether this anecdote was true, or something invented by Massini... I was unable to find any mention of it in the handful of biographies and family histories I consulted. To me, if it is in fact an act of "artistic license," is the kind of indirect, unintentional antisemitism that inadvertently supports stereotypes.

Ultimately, I find the text of the play to be subtly, albeit unintentionally antisemitic. I think it's a great springboard for discussion, and that what is important is that audiences are encouraged to notice and engage with the tropes represented and ask themselves why they are there.

- Elliot Lazar

A note from Artistic Director Kelly Thornton on the topic:

It must be noted that [original author] Massini, an Italian Catholic, by dipping his toes into the history of a nation not his own, wades sometimes imperfectly into complex issues of race, and religious dynamics that he may not be fully equipped to address. While he delves into the Civil War, slavery is merely a footnote in the story; and one could argue that the author's fixation with the Lehman's religious background serves to perpetuate antisemitic tropes. Regardless, the play is a remarkable achievement in storytelling, a sweeping swath of history, and I commend the diligence of our core team of artists who have dealt with this material with such sensitivity and care.

Related Resource Links: The articles that Elliot references are linked below: ["Antisemitic tropes are back on stage again"](#) by Dave Rich; ["Is The Lehman Trilogy antisemitic? Critics are right to ask, but in this case they're wrong"](#) by Kate Maltby; ["Playwright Ben Power on going beyond Jewish tropes in 'The Lehman Trilogy'"](#) from SoCal Jewish News; ["Greedy Jews!"](#) by Judith Miller; ["A Story About One Jewish Family"](#) from Timeline Chicago

Decades Timeline

Use this information to orient yourself within the timeline of the play. Listed are American historical and pop culture events as well as what was happening with Lehman Brothers at the time, with notes on USA population growth.

1840s

The telegraph and sewing machine are put into production; Fredrick Douglass's *Narrative of the life of Fredrick Douglass, an American Slave* is published; the American Medical Association is founded, the California Gold Rush begins; Ireland's "potato famine" means huge influx of Irish immigrants to America; the American Canadian border is finalized.

1844: Henry Lehman emigrates and opens his store in Montgomery.

Resident population 17, 063, 353, Population increase from last decade 32.7%

1850s

The Fugitive Slave Act is brought in; Republican Party founded; Walt Whitman publishes *Leaves of Grass*; the first elevator is installed; drilling completed in the first commercial oil well. Emanuel and Mayer join Henry, and their establishment becomes Lehman Brothers.

1858: they transform into a cotton business, open branch in New York City.

Resident population 23, 191, 876 Population increase 35.9%

1860s

The American Civil War, devastating the South's economy and cotton trade; the assassination of President Lincoln; Louisa May Alcott publishes *Little Women*; the transcontinental railroad is completed.

Resident population 35, 443, 321 Population increase 35.6%

1870s

Reconstruction era in the South; Great Chicago Fire; Ku Klux Klan Act passed; National League of Baseball founded; Battle of Little Bighorn; Edison demonstrates the phonograph.

Lehman Brothers helps found New York Cotton Exchange.

Resident population 38,558,371 Population increase 26.6%

1880s

Booker T. Washington opens Tuskegee University; Edison's Pearl Street station in New York begins producing electricity; Mark Twain publishes *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*; the Oklahoma Land Rush begins, in which approximately 50, 000 settlers vied for 1.92 million acres of indigenous land.

Lehman Brothers becomes member of New York Stock Exchange.

Resident Population 50, 189, 209 Population increase 26%

1890s

Jacob Rits publishes a book documenting the “horrible living conditions immigrants faced living in New York City’s tenements”; Ellis Island Immigrant station starts processing immigrants; the first American made car is tested; Philippine-American War begins.

Lehman Brothers takes on investment banking and issues its first public offering.

Resident Population 62, 979, 766 Population increase 25.5%

1900s

Panama Canal land originally leased; the first silent film debuts; the Wright brothers’ first flight; Susan B Anthony dies; NAACP founded.

Financial panic in 1907. Philip Lehman serves as head of Lehman Brothers.

Resident Population 76, 212, 168 Population increase 21%

1910s

Boy Scouts of America is founded; Titanic goes down; Panama Canal is open; America joins the first world war; Prohibition begins.

Federal Reserve Bank established. Philip Lehman serves as head of Lehman Brothers.

Resident Population 92, 228, 496 Population increase 21%

1920s

Some American women get the right to vote; the first regularly broadcasting radio station starts; Scopes’ trial begins; Stock Market Crash in October 1929, contributing to the Great Depression and global economic collapse.

Robert Lehman takes over leadership in 1925. Lehman Brothers forms the Lehman Corporation, a closed-end investment company.

Resident population 106, 021, 537 Population increase 15%

1930s

Scotch tape invented; Al Capone convicted; Amelia Earhart disappears over the Pacific Ocean; Superman debuts.

Congress passes an act to separate commercial banks from investment banks and establishes a commission to regulate the securities industry. Robert Lehman leads Lehman Brothers.

Resident population 123, 202, 624 Population increase 16.2%

1940s

Second World War; Mount Rushmore carving finished; Tupperware available at department stores; George Orwell’s 1984 published.

Robert Lehman leads Lehman Brothers.

Resident population 132, 164, 569 Population increase 7.3%

1950s

First colour television broadcast; spiral structure of DNA discovered and reported; Montgomery bus boycott; *The Twilight Zone* airs.

Post-war financial boom leads to popularity in investments.

Resident population 151,325,798 Population increase 14.5%

1960s

Vietnam War; Woodstock; Beatles come to the US; Martin Luther King Jr. assassinated.

Robert Lehman, the last Lehman family member to lead the company, dies.

Management is taken over by Frederick Ehrman.

Resident population 179,323, 175 Population increase 18.5%

1970s

Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries announces an embargo on oil exports to the United States on October 15, 1973; Nixon resigns as president; *Roots* airs; last Americans depart Vietnam.

The oil crisis increases prices significantly and weakens the American economy. Peter Peterson is CEO of Lehman Brothers. The firm merges with Kuhn, Loeb & Co. It expands global operations and mergers and acquisitions business.

Resident population 203,302,031 Population increase 13.4%

1980s

Apple Computer launches its first desktop; Space Shuttle challenger explosion; three Rambo movies come out.

Lew Glucksman is CEO of Lehman Brothers. The firm is acquired by the Shearson Division of American Express. October 19, 1987 is Black Monday – global financial markets plunge.

Resident Population 226,542,199 Population increase 11.4%

1990s

The Gulf War; Princess Diana dies; Celine Dion wins a Grammy; the Dow Jones Industrial Average closes above 10,000 for the first time.

Lehman Brothers is spun off from American Express into Lehman Brothers Holdings, Inc.

Richard Fuld becomes CEO. The act separating commercial and investment banks (1933) is repealed.

Resident population 248,709,873 Population increase 9.8%

2000s

iPod unveiled; space shuttle Columbia disaster; Hurricane Katrina; Obama elected; 9/11. The terrorist attacks on September 11 2001 affect global markets.

2000: Lehman Brothers buys five mortgage lenders, becomes invested in mortgage-backed securities. 2007: the financial crisis begins to unfold, with the sale of two hedge funds in mortgage-backed securities. 2008: Lehman Brothers files for bankruptcy. Continuing impact of the financial crisis causes economic decline in national and global markets that leads to the Great Recession.

Resident population 281,421,906 Population increase 13.1%

Related Resource Links: Harvard Business School has an [exhibition of Lehman Brothers History](#) and specific [Lehman Brothers Timeline](#); read more about the [global repercussions of the firm declaring bankruptcy](#). Investopedia has an [article connecting Lehman Brothers and its history to the Great Recession](#).

Watch a 5-minute History Lesson [video on the great depression](#) and [on the 2008 financial crisis](#) or this [video from History Channel about the Great Recession](#).

Glossary and Mentions

Ascension of David – David assumed leadership as King of Israel after the previous King Saul, died in battle. There were some who protested, feeling the crown should remain in the family of King Saul.

Bar Mitzvah – A religious initiation ceremony where a 13-year old Jew is called to the Torah and becomes an adult member of the community, able to fully participate in religious services.

Baruch atah adonai eloheinu melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik near shel Hanukkah – The blessing for lighting the Hanukkah candles. "Blessed are you, Our God, Ruler of the Universe, who makes us holy through Your commandments, and commands us to light the Hanukkah candles."

Baruch HaShem – A Hebrew expression praising/thanking God. HaShem means "The Name" and is used to refer to God in informal speech. Observant Jews generally restrict the use of God's true names to the context of prayer.

Beaverteen – heavy twill cotton.

Broker – a person who is hired to make stock or investment trades on behalf of someone else.

Chametz – Chametz - Foods with leavening agents (eg. yeast) that are forbidden during Passover. The night before Passover, bedikat chametz is the traditional process of ridding the home of all chametz in preparation for the holiday.

Chintz – a cotton fabric with printed designs on a light background.

Chopin, Shubert, Beethoven, Mozart, Johann Sebastian Bach – classical composers.

Chosen People – Commonly misunderstood, the belief that Jews are, as descendants of the ancient Israelites, chosen to be in a covenant with God. Often misconstrued as entitlement, it is a responsibility.

Chuppah – The wedding canopy.

Doeskin – cotton fabric.

Golden Calf –While the Israelites were wandering in the desert, Moses ascended Mount Sinai (where he would eventually receive the Ten Commandments from God). While he was away, the Israelites began worshipping a Golden Calf, constructed of their own earrings and ornaments. Upon his return, Moses became angry and threw down the two tablets of stone on which were written the Ten Commandments, breaking them.

Hannukah –The festival of lights. An eight-day holiday observed in the winter commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean revolt, and the miracle that the one day's worth of oil used to light the Temple's menorah managed to burn for eight days.

Hebrew School – Jewish education focusing on topics of Jewish history, learning the Hebrew language, and Torah.

Kaddish – specifically, The Mourner's Kaddish. An Aramaic prayer included in most if not all prayer services. Recited at every service for the eleven months after the death of a parent, and then annually on the anniversary of the death.

Le Havre – a port city in France.

The Maccabees – A group of Jewish rebel warriors who took control of Judea from the Greeks and founded the Hasmonean Dynasty. Their story is recounted during Hanukkah.

Mazel Tov – Hebrew, literally: “good luck,” but used as “congratulations.”

Mezuzah – A piece of parchment inscribed with specific Hebrew verses from the Torah, placed in a casing and fixed to the doorposts of a home.

Middleman – the worker who goes between the producer and the end buyer. In the case of the Lehman’s early business model, they were the middlemen between the plantation owners who grew the raw cotton, and the factory owners who processed the cotton.

Noah’s Ark – In the Book of Genesis, Noah is instructed by God to build an ark which will spare his family and pairs of all of the world’s animals from an impending flood intended to destroy civilization.

Overseer – a worker on a plantation whose job was to supervise and ensure the slaves were as productive as possible, often through cruel means.

Passover – A, eight-day holiday observed in the spring which commemorates the Hebrews’ freedom from bondage in Egypt.

Pinafore – a sleeveless dress or apron, meant to be worn over a blouse.

Prussia – a territory in the area we know now as Germany.

Purim – A holiday commemorating the saving of the Jewish people from annihilation in Persia at the hands of Haman, as told in the Book of Esther.

Rabbi – A Jewish scholar, teacher and religious leader.

Rabbi Judah Ben Tema – A scholar who likely lived around the middle of the 2nd Century C.E.

Reformed Jews – More commonly “Reform Jews” - this is a reference to the Reform movement of Judaism which began in mid-19th-Century Germany and is a liberal strand of Judaism which deemphasizes ritual and law and emphasizes values such as tikkun olam (“repairing the world”).

Rimpar, Bavaria, Germany – A small town in Germany where the founding Lehman Brothers immigrated from. While it used to have a Jewish population and synagogue, those who didn’t leave like the Lehman brothers were driven out or killed during the Holocaust.

Seersucker – a type of fabric in which the weave causes puckers in the threads.

Shabbat – The Sabbath. The Jewish day of rest observed from Friday at sundown until Saturday night when three stars are visible in the sky. During Shabbat, observant Jews are commanded to refrain from work.

Shavuot – Hebrew, meaning “weeks.” A holiday which marks the conclusion of the Counting of the Omer, a seven-week period which begins on the second day of Passover. It commemorates God giving the scriptures to the Jewish people and coincides with the wheat harvest in the biblical Land of Israel.

Sheloshim – Hebrew, meaning “thirty.” The extended mourning period which (including shiva) lasts for thirty days.

Shevat, Adar, Nissan, Iyyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Av, Elul – Eight out of the twelve months of the Hebrew calendar. Elul is the last and is followed by Tishrei, which begins with Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.

Shiva – Hebrew, meaning “seven.” The Jewish mourning ritual which begins right after burial and continues for seven days. Friends and relatives visit and comfort the family of the deceased.

Spats – protective covers that went over your shoes so that they wouldn’t get spattered with undesirable things on your travels.

Sukkot – A seven-day festival commemorating the Israelites’ annual pilgrimage to the Temple in Jerusalem. Jews construct a temporary dwelling called a sukkah, modeled after those which Israelite farmers would live in during the harvest, as well as those the people of Israel might have lived in during their forty years wandering in the desert after the Exodus from slavery in Egypt. According to Jewish law, you must be able to see the moon and stars through the roof of the sukkah, so it is interesting that in the play it is loaded so heavily.

Talmud – Hebrew, meaning “teaching.” The central text of Rabbinic Judaism comprised of two parts: the Mishnah (the text of the

Torah, known to Christians as the Old Testament) and the Gemara (analysis of and commentary on the Mishnah).

Teetotaler – a person who never drinks alcohol.

Temple – A synagogue. A Jewish house of worship.

Ten Plagues – Ten Plagues - In the story of Passover, God smites the Egyptians with ten plagues. Blood, frogs, lice, wild animals, cattle disease, boils, hail, locusts, darkness and the slaying of Egypt’s firstborn.

Tower of Babel – An origin myth from Genesis which explains why the world’s peoples speak different languages. A united human race endeavours to build a tower that will reach the heavens. God thwarts their plan by confounding their speech so they can’t understand one another and scatters them across the world.

Yiddish – The everyday language of Ashkenazi Jews. An amalgam of German and Hebrew, with elements of Aramaic, French, Russian and English mixed in. Today, Yiddish is primarily spoken within Hasidic and Haredi Jewish communities and university classrooms. Prior to the Holocaust, the global number of Yiddish speakers peaked at around 11 million, now less than 1 million remain.

Discussion Prompts

Pre-Show

- What is your current understanding or knowledge of the Lehman Brothers or their company? Are your associations positive or negative?
- Early in the play, Massini describes a “magical music box called America”, and in many productions, music plays as a fourth character. What are your thoughts on this metaphor? How does your idea of America fit with the image of a music box?

Post-Show:

- The play tells an iconic tale of America, a family who immigrates with nothing, works hard and rises to the top - the American Dream. Is this play on the side of this idealism? Does the play believe the brothers are American Heroes?
- Criticism has been made regarding the way slavery is discussed, or rather barely discussed, as a foundational part of the Lehman's success, as it is with much of the country's wealth. During the stock market crash of 1929, we are introduced to two more immigrant businessmen, a restaurant owner in Nebraska and a lamp maker in New York, and their sons, who take on important roles in the company's later years. All of the families make name changes a part of their assimilation to the American melting pot. Although the antisemitism present in America is not discussed, there is brief mention of the KKK and its activity in Nebraska. Why do you think racism and antisemitism are addressed so briefly? Is this beneficial or detrimental to the history being told? See the article entitled ““The Lehman Trilogy” and Wall Street's Debt to Slavery,” to explore this question further in relation to the erasure of Slavery.
- It has been suggested that the founding members of the company come off as heroes who trade in real products, and villains the later stages of capitalism which eventually ends the company, trading in numbers and ideas. How is morality addressed in the play? Are there heroes and villains?
- Consider the way the passing of the company from fathers to sons is treated - the indecisiveness, the nightmares, the moment when son becomes trusted to handle the business. What other parts are repeated in the themes over the history of the play? How does this repetition affect the storytelling?
- The play not only tells the story of the brothers' company, it tells of the development of capitalism in America, and its relationship to class. One instance is the idea that the way to create equality in society was to let everyone borrow money so that they could consume products they didn't need. The play even chooses to bring this idea forward during the Civil Rights Movement. Do you think that the capitalism presented in the play is an equalizing force? How do you think the founding Lehman's would feel about this idea?
- The original production in Italy featured twelve cast members to represent the characters, however, in the text there were no notes related to what the roles were or whether there were specific lines that should belong to specific characters. While developing this English version, it was decided to use three men for the entire production, playing all the roles. Do you think the small cast enhanced the storytelling? How would the show be different had there been more actors to spread the characters around? Watch the video “[NT Talks: Sam Mendes and Ben Power on The Lehman Trilogy](#)” to hear more about the adaptation process.
- Consider Bobby's obsession with immortality. Where do you think this comes from? Is it present in the previous generations? What are their motivations in growing the business? Do any of the generations achieve what they hope to have achieved?

Sources and Further Reading

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Chabad.org (www.chabad.org)

Jewish Virtual Library (www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org)

Aish (www.aish.com)

Jewish Encyclopedia (www.jewishencyclopedia.com)

Reform Judaism (www.reformjudaism.org)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_H._Lehman)

Website: An archived copy of the Lehman Brothers website, circa July 2008.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20080806054759/http://www.lehman.com/who/>

Article: "The Company that Nearly Bankrupted America" details in prose a brief history of the company. <https://www.saturdayeveningpost.com/2019/01/lehman-brothers-the-company-that-nearly-bankrupted-america/>

Movie: "The Wolf of Wall Street". Not about the Lehman's Trading Division, but shares the feel of the chaos, and is based on a true story that takes place over the same time period the Trading Division is operating.

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Enrichment Guide Creators

Tala Gammon is a dramatic so-and-so who lives, works and creates on Treaty One territory also known as Winnipeg's North End. Her Drama classes at St. John's High School work primarily in puppets and after-school-special style adaptations of classic literature. when she is not creating said adaptations for school or study guides for Royal MTC, she moms, knits, spins wool, and writes poems and the occasional fringe plays. tala loves live theatre and has too many favs to even count, but some that come to mind are *The Secret to Good Tea*, *Women of the Fur Trade*, *The 8 Tiny Reindeer of the Apocalypse*, and *Prairie Nurse*.

Elliot Lazar is a theatre artist and musician born and raised on Treaty One Territory in Winnipeg. He is currently touring the US and Canada as Paul Simon in *The Simon and Garfunkel Story*. Last season he appeared as Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (National Tour), Mark in *RENT* (Rainbow Stage) and U/S Papi & Telephone Guy in *The Band's Visit* (Huntington Theatre Co./Speakeasy Stage). Two plays Elliot recently saw and loved were Tom Stoppard's *Leopoldstadt* on Broadway, and James Ijames' *Fat Ham* at the Huntington Theatre Co. with the Front Porch Arts Collective.