

Joseph and His Family Connections - Trafford Publishing, 2003 - Hubistant, Elisabeth - 2003

Joseph and His Brothers is a novel of innumerable, complex delights, and yet there are also passages hereâ€”and who more than the translator should know thisâ€”that seem to defy many readersâ€™ sensibilities of what a novel should be. At times Mannâ€™s novel simply stops and ponders. Mannâ€”or at least this is my suspicionâ€”wanted to make sure he had readers worthy of him.Â During this peripatetic period of exile Mann and his family were exiled from Nazi Germany spending time as a professor at Princeton and settling in Switzerland. The four novels are Stories Jacob Told: The Young Joseph; Joseph in Egypt and Joseph the Provider. So he gathered together his big family and his great flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, and began the long trip. After Jacob and his family had been back in Caâ€™naan for a while, Rachel gave birth to another son. It happened when they were on a trip. Rachel had a hard time, and she finally died while giving birth. But the little baby boy was all right. Jacob named him Benjamin. We want to remember the names of the 12 sons of Jacob because the whole nation of Israel came from them. In fact, the 12 tribes of Israel are named after 10 sons of Jacob and two sons of Joseph. Isaac lived for many ye Joseph had two brothers and three sisters. His third sister, Dorothy, survived the rest, and was twice married.Â After receiving instruction, first at Salisbury, and then at Lichfield, (his connexion with which place forms a link, uniting him in a manner to the great lexicographer, who was born there,) he was removed to the Charterhouse, and there profited so much in Greek and Latin, that at fifteen he was not only, says Macaulay, "fit for the university, but carried thither a.Â He afterwards published a translation of that part of the "Fourth Book of the Georgics" referring to bees, on which Dryden, who had procured a preface to his own complete translation of the same poem from Addison, complimented him by sayingâ€”"After his bees, my later swarm is scarcely worth hiving."