### LOOSE LEAVES PUBLISHING PRESENTS

# The Kiss

# A novel by Scott E. Blumenthal

November, 1941. War and genocide have plunged Europe into darkness. Then, a ray of sunlight: whispers of Aron Beckman, an extraordinary young Jewish musician in Poland—barely twenty years old, they say—who plays the harp that belonged to King David himself.

They say that Aron has formed a trio with two fellow prodigies, and that the music is like nothing ever heard before. That it is powerful. That it moves people to do great things. That it can bring the dead back to life.

They say the musicians can lift the darkness. And that they are on their way.

The Kiss blends history and myth with timeless themes to create a new kind of Holocaust fiction—one rife with hope, optimism, even humor. The Kiss comes at exactly the right time, as the torch of remembrance is being passed to a new generation of writers and readers.

#### Advance Praise for The Kiss

"This breathtaking novel, a musical story set against the backdrop of the Holocaust...will stay with you long after you've read the last page. Scott Blumenthal, a remarkably talented craftsman, hits all the right notes."

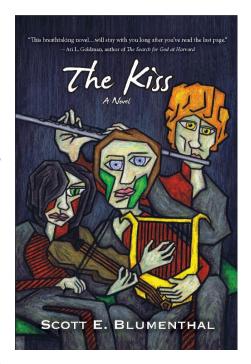
—Ari L. Goldman, former New York Times editor, author of The Search For God At Harvard, The Late Starters Orchestra

"Moving...powerful. Blumenthal's debut novel...keeps us asking the big questions."

—Katharine Weber, author of *The Music Lesson, Triangle, True Confections* 

"The Kiss is both brutal and breathtaking...in a way that is utterly fresh and altogether original. I couldn't put it down, and when the end came I couldn't bear to part with it. A stunning, heartbreaking page-turner."

—Elizabeth Volpe, two-time Pushcart Prize nominee, author of *Brewing in Eden* 



# **EDITIONS**

Soft cover, 6x9, 314 pages ISBN 978-1-624-32008-8 \$18.95 US

eBook ISBN 978-1-624-32009-5 \$3.99 US

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

Ingram
Baker & Taylor

#### MARKETING

Author appearances Blog tour Review copies Direct mailings

# APPEALS TO

Readers of literary fiction, Judaica, and historical fiction

## About the Author

Scott E. Blumenthal is an award-winning senior editor with an educational publisher and the author of numerous children's books, including the acclaimed *A Kid's Mensch Handbook* and *The Great Israel Scavenger Hunt* (Behrman House). Scott has lectured nationally at book, parenting, and education conferences. He lives in North Carolina with his wife and two children.



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