

“This foolish Dinah who runs about in the land” – Goethe
Vayishlach – 5768
Rabbi David Levin-Kruss

Breishit 34:1

Leah's daughter Dinah whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see some of the daughters of the land.	וַתֵּצֵא דִינָה בֵּת-לְיָאָה, אִשָּׁר יִלְדָה לְיַעֲקֹב, לְרֵאוֹת, בְּבָנוֹת הָאָרֶץ.
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What do you think of Dina's action?
 How do the following texts understand her behavior?

RSR Hirsch Breishit 34:1

She went forth to look about the daughters of the land, so that she might meet the foreign girls. She was a young girl, and therefore eager to see new things.

RSR Hirsch Breishit 34:1

She may well have brought it upon herself by going out from the close circle of the family and entering into the midst of strangers

Breishit 30:16

When Jacob came home from the field that evening, Leah went out to meet him. “You will come with me,” she said, “I have paid for your services with my son's mandrakes.” He slept with her that night.	וַיָּבֹא יַעֲקֹב מִן-הַשָּׂדֶה, בְּעֶרְבַּי, וַתֵּצֵא לְיָאָה לְקָרְאוֹתָו וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָי תָּבוֹא, כִּי שָׂכַרְתִּיךָ בְּדוּדָאֵי בָנִי; וַיִּשְׁכַּב עִמָּהּ, בַּלַּיְלָה הַהוּא.
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What word appears in both Breishit 34:1 and Breishit 30:16?
 How did Leah and Dina act similarly?

Rashi Breishit 34:1- on “Leah's daughter”

And not the daughter of Jacob? Because of her going out she was called the daughter of Leah, since Leah too was in the habit of going out...And concerning her, they devise the proverb: Like mother like daughter.	ולא בת יעקב, אלא על שם יציאתה נקראת: בת לאה, שאף היא יצאנית היתה...ועליה משלו המשל: כאמה כבתה
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Breishit Raba 80:1

There is no woman who is a truly a whore whose daughter is not also a whore. They said to him, "If so, was Leah our matriarch a whore?" He said to them, "And Leah went out to meet him" - she went out made up like a whore, and so, "And Dinah the daughter of Leah went out."	לית אתתא זניא עד דברתה זניא אמרו לה אם כן לאה אמנו זונה היתה אמר להם "ותצא לאה לקראתו וגו'" יצאת מקושטת כזונה לפיכך "ותצא דינה בת לאה".
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Breishit Raba 80:5

R. Berekiah said in R. Levi's name: This may be compared to one who was holding a pound of meat in his hand and as soon as he exposed it a bird swooped down and snatched it away. Similarly "And Dinah the daughter of Leah went out" and "And Shechem the son of Hamor saw her." R. Shmuel ben Nachman said: Her arm became exposed.	ר' ברכיה בשם ר' לוי אמר לאחד שהיה בידו ליטרא אחת של בשר וכיון שגלה אותה ירד העוף וחטפה ממנו כך "ותצא דינה בת לאה" מיד "וירא אותה שכם בן חמור" ר' מואל בר נחמן אמר שגלה בה דרועה.
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Breishit 28:8

Esau understood that the Canaanite daughters were displeasing to his father Isaac.	וַיֵּרָא יַעֲשׂוּ, כִּי רְעוּת בָּנוֹת כְּנָעַן, בְּעֵינָיו, יִצְחָק אָבִיו.
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Devarim 25:17-19

Remember what Amalek did to you on your way out of Egypt. When they encountered you on the way, and you were tired and exhausted, they cut off those lagging to your rear, and they did not fear G-d...You must obliterate the memory of Amalek...	זָכוֹר, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה לְךָ עַמְלֵק, בְּדַרְךְ, בְּצֵאתְכֶם מִמִּצְרָיִם. אֲשֶׁר קָרַךְ בְּדַרְךְ, וַיִּזְנֹב בְּךָ כָּל-הַנְּחָשִׁים אַחֲרֶיךָ--וְאֶתָּה, עֵיף וְיָגַע; וְלֹא יָרָא, אֶל־קִיָּם.... תִּמְחָה אֶת-זִכְרֵ עַמְלֵק...
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How are the Amalek/Dina stories similar?

What responsibility does the Jewish people/Dina's brothers hold for what happened in the respective stories?