Omer Sergi's *The Two Houses of Israel: State Formation and the Origins of Pan-Israelite Identity* is a brilliant contribution to the vibrant discourse on the emergence of polities in the Iron Age Levant. With meticulous attention to detail and a profound understanding of the subject matter, Sergi presents a thorough examination of archaeological evidence, combined with a comprehensive analysis of biblical texts, and offers readers an insightful exploration of the formative period in the history of the kingdom of Judah. The result is a genuine historical reconstruction that elaborates on issues such as state formation and the entanglement of political power and collective belonging in a clear and engaging manner that makes this book accessible to both scholars and students.

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