NONFICTION

Anders, Gigi. *Jubana! The Awkwardly True and Dazzling Adventures of a Jewish Cubana Goddess*. Rayo, 2005. Anders' story of her birth in Cuba, her childhood escape to the U.S., and her futile attempts to blend into the Jewish American culture, is filled with Spanglish dialogue and funny moments.

Appelfeld, Aharon. *The Story of a Life*. Translated by Aloma Halter. Schocken Books, 2004. This memoir of the author's life, covering his childhood as an orphan during the Holocaust, his move to Palestine as a teenager, and his adult life as one of Israel's most noted writers, is both exquisite and poignant.

Appelfeld, Aharon. *A Table for One: Under the Light of Jerusalem*. Paintings by Meir Appelfeld. Translated by Aloma Halter. Toby Press, 2005. This coffee-table book is filled with insights into the acclaimed author's creative process, with stunning paintings of Jerusalem by his son.

Berman, Rochel U. *Dignity Beyond Death: The Jewish Preparation for Burial.*Urim Publications, 2005. Berman's informative study of the little-known ritual of *tahara* sheds light on an ancient and significant aspect of Judaism.

Dershowitz, Alan. *The Case for Peace: How the Arab-Israeli Conflict Can be Resolved.* Wiley, 2005. As a follow up to his *Case for Israel*, Dershowitz identifies various geopolitical/hatred barriers and offers his solutions for peace between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Eisner, Will. *The Plot: the Secret Story of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion.* W.W. Norton, 2005. A final effort by the noted graphic novelist combines history, education and entertainment in a fictionalized discussion of the Protocols.

Feiler, Bruce. *Where God Was Born: A Journey by Land to the Roots of Religion.*William Morrow, 2005. Combining travelogue, commentary, and personal memoir, this third book in Feiler's Bible and Middle East series, opens with Joshua entering Canaan and follows the reigns of David and Solomon through the Babylonian captivity.

Freedman, Samuel G. *Who She Was: My Search for My Mother's Life.* Simon & Schuster, 2005. The author of *Jew vs. Jew* chronicles his search to discover everything he can about his mother, who died at age 50 of cancer.

Goodman, Hirsh. Let Me Create a Paradise, God Said to Himself. PublicAffairs, 2005. Goodman's memoir of his life in two divided nations, the South Africa of his childhood and modern-day Israel, sheds light on the problems and hopes that still exist for both countries.

Goodman, Matthew. *Jewish Food: The World at Table.* HarperCollins, 2005. Recipes from around the world, interspersed with engaging essays on different Jewish cultures.

Halkin, Hillel. *A Strange Death*. PublicAffairs, 2005. Intrigue and history intertwine in this story of the Zionist village of Zichron Ya'akov where, in 1917, spies passing information to the British are discovered and executed. Halkin smoothly moves the story from World War I to contemporary Israel, vividly portraying the easy and uneasy relations of settlers. native Arabs. Turks. and the British

loanid, Radu. The Ransom of the Jews: The Story of the Extraordinary Secret Bargain between Romania and Israel. Ivan R. Dee, 2005. This book unlocks the fascinating and little-known story of how Israel traded cash and agricultural products to bring Jews out of Romania. The author relied on archival documents and interviews with diplomats who were involved in the trade.

Kellman, Steven G. *Redemption: The Life of Henry Roth.* W.W. Norton, 2005. Focusing on the 60-year span between his first novel *Call it Sleep* and his second (4 volume) *Mercy of a Rude Stream,* this biography covers Roth's birth in Galicia, growing up in New York's Lower East side, and his last years in New Mexico.

Krall, Hanna. *The Woman from Hamburg and Other True Stories*. Translated by Madeline G. Levine. Other Press, 2005. Hanna Krall, a Polish journalist, describes how World War II survivors have been shaped by their past. These twelve haunting and poignant essays feel so much like fiction that readers will be amazed that they are indeed true stories.

Leff, Laurel. *Buried by the Times: the Holocaust and America's Most Important Newspaper.*Cambridge University Press, 2005. Required reading to learn how the New York Times controlled the flow of information about events in Europe during World War II.

Lelyveld, Joseph. *Omaha Blues: A Memory Loop*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. The memoir by the former New York Times executive editor and son of Cleveland rabbi Arthur Lelyveld movingly explores his family history.

Lipstadt, Deborah E. *History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving*. Ecco, 2005. In a followup to *Denying the Holocaust*, Lipstadt explores her successful legal defense against Holocaust denier David Irving.

Moriah, Avner. *The Moriah Haggadah*. Jewish Publication Society of America, 2005. With an asking price of \$150, Publishers Weekly calls this illuminated haggadah "well worth the cost." Moriah, a Jerusalem-born painter, recounts the Passover story in "striking image and vibrant hue."

Nuland, Sherwin. *Maimonides*. Schocken, 2005. This monograph, the second volume in the *Jewish Encounter* series, is an accessible account of the life and work of the dazzling torah scholar, physician, community leader, and philosopher.

Pinsky, Robert. *The Life of David.* Schocken, 2005. This exploration of the life and myth of King David by the former poet laureate marks the debut of Nextbook's *Jewish Encounter* series.

Rosenblatt, Naomi. *After the Apple: Women in the Bible: Timeless Stories of Love, Lust, and Longing.* Miramax Books, 2005.

Rubin, Derek, ed. *Who We Are: On Being (and Not Being) a Jewish American Writer*. Schocken Books, 2005. A stellar collection of essays that explores what it means to be a Jewish writer in America during the last fifty years.

Sachar, Howard M. *A History of the Jews in the Modern World*. Knopf, 2005. In this dense book, Jewish scholar Sachar covers the Jewish history of Europe, America, and the Middle East, and explores such topics as anti-Semitism, immigration, civil rights, Zionism, and the Holocaust.

Stavans, Ilan, ed. *The Schocken Book of Modern Sephardic Literature*. Schocken, 2005. This thorough collection of essays, poetry, and fiction provides a rich portrait of the "other Jews."

Steinsaltz, Adin. We Jews: Who Are We and What Should We Do? Translated by Yehuda Hanegbi and Rebecca Toueg. Jossey-Bass, 2005. Rabbi Steinsaltz explores the fundamental issues that concern Jews today. In answering such questions as "are we a nation or a religion?" and "what is our role in the world?" Steinsaltz serves as an inspiring tour quide to Jewish identity.

Wex, Michael. *Born to Kvetch: Yiddish Language and Culture in All Its Moods.* St. Martin's Press, 2005. Witty and informative, Wex's book explores the roots of Yiddish as a reflection of the poverty, religious life, and superstition in European Jewish culture.

FICTION

Arkin, Frieda. *Hedwig and Berti*. Thomas Dunne Books, 2005. The much-delayed second novel by an 87-year-old writer relates the tale of refugees fleeing Nazi Berlin and their subsequent life in England and the United States.

Feldman, Ellen. *The Boy Who Loved Anne Frank.* W.W. Norton, 2005. Imagine what might have happened to Peter if he had survived the war.

Furman, Andrew. *Alligators May Be Present*. University of Wisconisin Press, 2005. Matt Glassman, an academic with a shaky hold on mental health, takes a job as a book review editor at a Florida Jewish tabloid and spends healing time birding in the Everglades with a surrogate grandfather.

Goldreich, Gloria. *Walking Home.* Mira, 2005. A successful, attractive PR executive seems to "have it all," but when she tries to take time off to care for her dying parents, Holocaust survivors, she finds she needs to reevaluate her whole life.

Hamburger, Aaron. *Faith for Beginners*. Random House, 2005. Helen and her gay, rebellious son Jeremy confront personal issues during a trip to Israel and find their own spiritual connection to Judaism.

Jabotinsky, Vladimir. *The Five: A Novel of Jewish Life in Turn-of-the-Century Odessa*. Translated by Michael R. Katz. Cornell University Press, 2005. This autobiographical novel, first published in Russian in 1936, tells the story of a Jewish family in Odessa at the beginning of the twentieth century.

Kanon, Joseph. *Alibi*. Henry Holt, 2005. In this engrossing drama and brilliant evocation of postwar Venice, an Army war crimes investigator falls in love with a Jewish woman.

Krauss, Nicole. *The History of Love.* Norton, 2005. The lives and loves of three characters intertwine in this intriguing and, at times, poignant novel.

Langer, Adam. *The Washington Story.* Riverhead Books, 2005. Set during Harold Washington's career as Chicago's mayor, this sequel to *Crossing California* follows the further adventures of Muley, Jill, and their friends and families, as life takes them beyond their Jewish neighborhood.

Mandelman, Avner. *Talking to the Enemy*. Seven Stories Press, 2005. Mandelman received the Canadian Jewish Book Award for this contemporary collection of stories that portray the tensions of living in Israel today.

Neugeboren, Jay. *News from the New American Diaspora: And Other Tales of Exile.* University of Texas Press, 2005. Set in the Ukraine, Brooklyn, Florida, Massachusetts, and elsewhere, these evocative and well-crafted stories focus on the varieties of Jewish spiritual and physical dislocation and alienation.

Nissenson, Hugh. *Days of Awe.* Sourcebooks, 2005. The lives and beliefs of New Yorker Artie Rubin, 67, and his circle of friends and family are shaken by the events of September 11, 2001. Artie's increasing involvement in Jewish ritual worries his wife but brings him comfort.

Prose, Francine. *A Changed Man.* Harper Collins, 2005. A 32-year old-tattooed skinhead has a change of heart and arrives at the offices of the World Brotherhood Watch offering to help them "save quys like me from becoming quys like me."

Ragen, Naomi. *The Covenant.* St. Martin's Press, 2005. When Elise Margulies' husband and daughter are abducted by terrorists, Elise turns to her grandmother Leah, who contacts the three women who swore an oath of loyalty with her in Auschwitz. This tense, emotional thriller examines the price of facing down evil and finding the strength to continue.

Roth, Philip. *Philip Roth: Novels and Stories 1959-1962* and *Philip Roth: Novels 1967-1972*. Edited by Ross Miller. Library of America, 2005. Now available, the first two volumes of the Library of America's definitive Philip Roth edition include such groundbreaking novels as *Good-Bye Columbus, Portnoy's Complaint and Our Gang.*

Russell, Mary Doria. *A Thread of Grace*. Random House, 2005. This panoramic novel follows a group of Jews and Italian resistance fighters during the last three years of World War II.

Sfar, Joann. *The Rabbi's Cat.* Translated by Alexis Slegel and Anjali Singh. Pantheon Books, 2005. This richly-illustrated graphic novel tells the story of a widowed rabbi and his daughter in 1930's Algeria. Narrated by their talking cat, the book depicts a time when Arabs and Jews peacefully coexisted and learned from each other's differences.

Silva, Daniel. *Prince of Fire*. Putnam, 2005. In Silva's fifth outing featuring art restorer/Mossad operative Gabriel Allon, Allon's cover is blown and he is called home, only to become caught up in a vicious trap. Silva's series increases in popularity with each book.

Stern, Steve. *The Angel of Forgetfulness.* Viking, 2005. Three distinct intertwining narratives tell the tale of a raggedy angel residing on earth, his human son Nathan (a struggling writer), and an alienated 60s era student, Saul.

Wiesel, Elie. *Time of the Uprooted*. Translated by David Hapgood. Knopf, 2005. In this unsettling novel, Gamaliel Friedman, a Czech Jew and Holocaust survivor, faces his painful past and his life as a stateless refugee in New York City.

Widmer, Eleanor. *Up from Orchard Street*. Bantam Books, 2005. The sights and sounds of New York's legendary Lower East Side come alive in this autobiographical novel, published shortly after the author's death.

Wilson, Jonathan. An Ambulance is on the Way. Pantheon, 2005. Wilson's stories about men are funny and poignant.

Yellin, Tamar. *The Genizah at the House of Shepher*. Toby Press, 2005. Rich with historical detail, this exploration of a family's history through the tale of a mysterious book is a debut novel.

Zimler, Richard. *Guardian of the Dawn*. Delta, 2005. Zimler's follow-up to his popular *The Last Kabbalist of Lisbon* (1998) takes readers to India during the Inquisition, where Tiago Zarco and his father are arrested for their involvement with the "secret Jews."

VIDEOS

Bonjour, Monsieur Shlomi. Strand, 2004, DVD, Hebrew with English subtitles, 94 minutes. A 16year-old boy blessed with extraordinary cooking talents also happens to be the glue that holds together his slightly dysfunctional family in this coming-of-age comedy. Nominated for 12 Israeli Academy Awards.

Broken Wings. Sony, 2002, DVD, Hebrew with English subtitles, 84 minutes. An Israeli family tries to cope with the sudden loss of their father/husband as each family member takes on new demands and roles.

The Children of Chabannes. NewVideo, 2005, DVD, 93 minutes. The people in a tiny village in unoccupied France choose action over indifference to save the lives of 400 Jewish refugee children.

Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance after the Holocaust. First Run Films, 2004, DVD, 85 minutes. Part road trip, part scavenger hunt, and part philosophical inquiry, this film is the story of a Jewish father who journeys with his two Orthodox sons back to Poland to find the Christian farmers who hid their family from the Nazis.

James' Journey to Jerusalem. Zeitgeist Films, 2004, DVD, English, Hebrew, and Zulu with English subtitles, 87 minutes. James, a devout Christian, makes a pilgrimage from his African village to the Holy Land in this astute exploration of the economic, moral, and spiritual hypocrisies of Western society.

Monsieur Ibrahim. Sony, 2003, DVD, French with English, Spanish, and Portuguese subtitles, 95 minutes. Monsieur Ibrahim, an elderly Arab widower who owns a grocery store in a shabby, working-class section of Paris, befriends Momo, a lonely Jewish teenager. Their lives change as their relationship grows.

Return From India: A Story of Forbidden Love. Sisu, 2004, DVD, Hebrew with English subtitles, 96 minutes. Based on A.B. Yehoshua's best-selling novel, this movie is an intriguing tale of love, reincarnation, and fate.

Shanghai Ghetto. New Video, 2004, DVD, English and Hebrew subtitles, 95 minutes. Thousands of European Jews were shut out of one country after another while trying to escape the Holocaust. Shot at the site of the original Shanghai ghetto, this film uses interviews with survivors and historians, stock footage, still photographs, and an original score.

Walk on Water. Sony Pictures, 2005, DVD, Hebrew with English subtitles, 103 minutes. This award-winning film explores the motives, strengths, and ultimately the humanity of an Israeli assassin sent to rectify a wrong committed five decades earlier.

WEBSITES

www.maltzjewishmuseum.org The website of the new Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage in Beachwood. Ohio, includes links to local historical and Jewish institutions.

www.nextbook.org Nextbook is a gateway to Jewish literature, culture, and ideas, with plenty of good reading lists and book reviews.

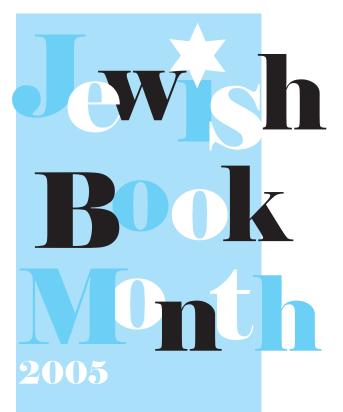
www.theisraelproject.org (TIP) is a new, international non-profit organization devoted to educating the press and the public about Israel while promoting security, freedom, and peace. The Israel Project provides journalists, leaders, and opinion-makers accurate information about Israel.

www.memri.org The Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI) explores the Middle East through the region's media, providing timely translations of Arabic, Farsi, and Hebrew media, as well as original analysis of political, ideological, intellectual, social, cultural, and religious trends in the Middle East.

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A Selected List of Recent Books, Videos and Websites for Adults