IN CELEBRATION OF JEWISH BOOK MONTH 2009

A Selected List of Recent Books
and DVDs
For Children and Teens

A Publication of the
Association of Jewish Libraries
Of Southern California

YOUNG CHILDREN

Cohen, Deborah Bodin and Shahar Kober, Illus. **Engineer Ari and the Rosh Hashanah Ride.** Kar-Ben, 2008. As Israel's first train ever chugs to Jerusalem the engineer forgets to apologize for boasting and fails to say good bye. He repents in a warm, charming story.

Cohen, Deborah Bodin and Jago, Illus. **Nachshon, Who was Afraid to Swim.** Kar-Ben, 2009. When the Israelites flee Egypt, Nachshon exhibits great courage by being the first to step into the Red Sea, even though he cannot swim.

Cutler, Jane and Emily Arnold McCully, Illus. **Guttersnipe.** Farrar Straus Giroux, 2009. In empathetic historical fiction, set in Canada in the early 20th century, the youngest son of Jewish immigrants decides to help the family by working for a hat maker.

Delval, Marie-Helene and Arno, Illus. **Psalms for Young Children.** Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2008. A new collection of Psalms, paraphrased for young readers, uses simple yet powerful imagery to help children express their feelings.

Feltquate, Barbara and Tom Post, Illus. **Kiddish Yiddish.** Bardolf, 2008. Short poems and gentle pictures describe Jewish words in Hebrew and Yiddish.

Goldeen, Bill and Ruth Goldeen, Photog. **Alef-Bet Yoga for Kids.** Kar-Ben, 2008. Adorable young children strike yoga positions to depict each Hebrew letter.

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar and Judith Hierstein, Illus. **Nathan's Hanukkah Bargain.** Pelican, 2008. Nathan's grandfather teaches him about bargaining in their search to purchase a menorah with the money Nathan saved.

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar and Doug Chayka, Illus. **The Secret Shofar of Barcelona.** Kar-Ben, 2009. Secret Jews in Spain daringly hide the shofar in plain sight and even play it.

Harow, Penny. **Festival of Lights.** Lamda, 2008. An entertaining pictorial work shows off more than 150 handmade chanukiot.

Heller, Esther Susan. **Menorah Under the Sea.** Kar Ben, 2009. Just how does a marine biologist in Antarctica celebrate Hanukkah? Find out!

Hirsh, Marilyn. **The Rabbi and the Twenty-nine Witches.** Marshall Cavendish, 1976, 2009. A wise rabbi finally rids the village of the witches that terrorize it every night when the moon is full in this ageless, charming classic.

Hoffman, Amalia. **The Klezmer Bunch.** Gefen, 2009. Laugh as a klezmer band finds a way to get from town to town to perform at a wedding.

Jules, Jacqueline and Natascia Ugliano, Illus. **Benjamin and the Silver Goblet.** KarBen, 2009. Read again, this time from young Benjamin's point of view, how the biblical brothers reunite with Joseph in Egypt.

Kimmel, Eric A and Katya Krenina, Illus. **The Mysterious Guests.** Holiday House, 2008. Three mysterious guests appear at the table of a generous, but poor man on Sukkot; they bless him while they curse his rich, selfish brother.

Kimmel, Eric, adapter. **Even Higher: A Rosh Hashanah Story** by I. L. Peretz. Holiday House, 2009. Humorous art and peppy dialog retell this holiday classic about charity.

Kogan, Manes and Marcelo Ferder, Illus. **Fables from the Jewish Tradition.** Mayapple, 2008. This collection of classic folktales and fables from Jewish tradition is sure to delight.

Koralek, Jenny and Grizelda Holderness, Illus. **The Story of Queen Esther.** Eerdmans, 2009. A sensual retelling of Esther's rise to Queen of Persia revels in art with Middle Eastern roots.

Lehman-Wilzig, Tami and Vicki Wehrman, Illus. **Hanukkah Around the World.** Kar Ben, 2009. Learn the different ways Hanukkah is celebrated in other countries.

Levine, Anna, and Ksenia Topaz, Illus. **Jodie's Hanukkah Dig.** Kar-Ben, 2008. Jodie dreams of becoming a famous archaeologist. When her father takes her to visit a dig in Modi'in, Israel, home of the Maccabees, she saves the day.

Michelson, Richard and Raul Colon, Illus. **As Good as Anybody.** Alfred A Knopf, 2008. The Sydney Taylor Award winning picture book recounts the friendship between Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and Martin Luther King Jr. and their shared passion for justice.

Ofanansky, Allison and Eliyahu Alpern, Photog. **Harvest of Light.** Kar-Ben, 2008. An Israeli family raises olives and uses some of the oil to light their Hanukkah menorah.

Podwal, Mark. **Built by Angels.** Harcourt, 2009. Podwal's signature art helps tell the story of how the Old-New Synagogue of Prague, said to house the Golem, was built.

Polacco, Patricia. **Someone for Mr. Sussman.** Philomel, 2008. Although she is the best matchmaker in the neighborhood, Jerome's bubbie has a hard time finding a match for the fussy Mr. Sussman.

Reid, Barbara. **Fox Walked Alone.** Albert Whitman, 2009. Where are all the animals running in pairs? Fox walks alone to find out in this imaginative Noah's Ark with three dimensional art.

Rouss, Sylvia A. and Katherine Janus Kahn, Illus. **Sammy Spider's First Day of School.** Kar-Ben, 2009. Sammy Spider goes to school for the first time; he learns to be kind to animals.

Rubin, Susan Goldman and Bill Farnsworth, Illus. **The Anne Frank Case - Simon Wiesenthal's Search for the Truth.** Holiday House, 2009. Simon Wiesenthal spent five years searching for the Gestapo officer who found and arrested Anne Frank and her family.

Shapiro, Zachary and Jack E. Davis, Illus. **We're All in the Same Boat.** G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2008. Humorous pictures track progress on the cramped ark as different animals, when fussy and when helpful, stand for each letter of the alphabet.

Wayland, April Halprin and Stephane Jorisch, Illus. **New Year at the Pier.** Dial, 2009. Izzy's apologies arrive with humor, ritual and heart when he performs the Rosh Hashanah ceremony of Taschlich.

Weber, Elka and Adam Gustavson, Illus. **The Yankee at the Seder.** Tricycle, 2009. A Yankee Jewish soldier arrives on the doorstep of a Confederate Virginia family the day after the Civil War ends. Young Jacob will not surrender and does not want him at Seder.

Wigden, Susan and Iosi Salem, Illus. **A Mitzva for Zelda.** Pitspopany, 2008. In a story in rhyme a lady knits kippot for the men in town until she gets too old.

Winter, Jonah and Andre Carrilho, Illus. **You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?!** Random House, 2009. Sophisticated art and energetic conversation propel this fresh biography of the great Jewish American baseball player.

Yasgur, Abigail and Joseph Lipner; Barbara Mendes, Illus. **Max Said Yes!** Change the Universe Press, 2009. Mark the 40th anniversary of Woodstock with this delightful memoir of the Jewish farmer, Max Yasgur, who hosted the famous rock concert.

Yolen, Jane and Jim Burke, Illus. **Naming Liberty.** Philomel, 2008. In parallel stories a Ukrainian Jewish family emigrates to the U.S. in the late 1800s as Frederic Auguste Bartholdi designs, funds and builds the Statue of Liberty to honor the U.S. centennial.

Ziefert, Harriet and Karla Gudeon, Illus. **Hanukkah Haiku.** Blue Apple, 2008. Enjoy this collection of eight Haikus, one for each night of Hanukkah.

MIDDLE GRADES

Bial, Raymond. **Ellis Island.** Houghton Mifflin, 2009. Striking photographs and interesting text introduce the history of Ellis Island Immigration Station.

Drucker, Malka and Elizabeth Rosen, Illus. **Portraits of Jewish-American Heroes.** Dutton, 2008. The collection, profiling 21 Jewish Americans who enriched our country, boasts unusual portrait art.

Frankel, Ellen. Editor, and Avi Katz, Illus. **JPS Illustrated Children's Bible.** Jewish Publication Society, 2009. This is a modern, appealing retelling of selected Bible stories.

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar and Robert Hunt, Illus, Susan McAliley, Vignettes. **Meet Rebecca.** American Girl, 2009. Six novels follow the life of a Jewish immigrant girl growing up in New York in the early 1900's. Rebecca Rubin is the newcomer to this popular series.

Hesse, Karen. **Brooklyn Bridge.** Feiwel, 2008. Set in 1903 Brooklyn, the Sydney Taylor Award winner for older readers follows the life of a 14-year-old Jewish immigrant boy, his dreams, his family and the stuffed teddy bear they make.

Metselaar, Menno and Ruud Van Der Rol. **The Life of Anne Frank.** MacMillan, 2008. A serious volume answers the most often asked questions about Anne Frank's life and times through photographs and analysis.

O'Connell, Rebecca and Majella Lue Sue, Illus. **Penina Levine is a Potato Pancake.** Roaring Brook, 2008. Penina returns for another adventure, this time at Hanukkah.

Pushker, Gloria Teles, Mel Tarman, and Emile F. Henriquez, Illus. **Toby Belfer Learns about Heroes and Martyrs.** Pelican, 2009. Concise, well-written, interesting vignettes present short biographies about Righteous Gentile heroes and martyrs of the Holocaust.

Ruelle, Karen Gray and Deborah Durland DeSaix, Illus. **The Grand Mosque of Paris.** Holiday House, 2009. Discover how Arabs in France rescued Jews during the Holocaust.

Sheinkin, Steve. **Rabbi Harvey Rides Again.** Jewish Lights, 2008. Enjoy more stories in graphic novel format about a Rabbi from New York who moves to Elk Spring, Colorado.

Siegal, Aranka. **Memories of Babi.** Farrar Straus, Giroux, 2008. The author shares personal stories of her childhood and her grandmother in Hungary before and during the Holocaust.

Sofer, Barbara. **Keeping Israel Safe.** Kar-Ben, 2008. Photographs and short text offer basic information about the Israel Defense Forces as four teenagers prepare to serve their country.

Weil, Sylvie. **Elvina's Mirror.** Jewish Publication Society, 2009. Elvina reaches out to a shunned family of German Jews in 11th century France (sequel to *My Guardian Angel*).

TEEN

Anton, Maggie. **Rashi's Daughter, Secret Scholar.** Jewish Publication Society, 2008. In this fictional account, one of Rashi's daughters, Joheved, learns Talmud despite prohibitions.

Blundell, Judy. **What I Saw and How I Lied.** Scholastic, 2008. In 1947, with her stepfather Joe back from the war, teenager Evie, smitten by the handsome young ex-GI who has a secret hold on Joe, finds herself caught in a complicated web of lies that changes her life.

Clark, Kathy. **Guardian Angel House.** Second Story, 2009. Two sisters survive the Holocaust by living in a Catholic convent in Hungary.

Cohen, Jeffrey M. **Torah for Teens.** Vallentine Mitchell, 2008. Here is age appropriate commentary on the weekly Torah portion.

Kacer, Kathy. **The Diary of Laura's Twin.** Second Story, 2008. Thirteen year-old Laura learns about a thirteen year old Jewish girl caught in the Warsaw Ghetto by the Holocaust.

Laskier, Rutka. **Rutka's Notebook.** Yad Vashem/Time, 2008. The diary reveals and analyzes a young Polish girl who died in Auschwitz during the Holocaust.

Levine, Anna. **Freefall.** Greenwillow, 2008. As war breaks out between Israel and Lebanon and her compulsory service in the Israeli army draws near, teenaged Aggie considers joining an elite female combat unit.

Levy, Marilyn. **Checkpoints.** Jewish Publication Society, 2008. The friendship of a teenage Israeli girl and a Palestinian Muslim girl changes after a 2002 suicide bombing in Netanya.

Lieurance, Suzanne. **The Locket.** Enslow Publishers, 2008. After 11-year-old Russian immigrant survives the terrible fire at the non-unionized Triangle Shirtwaist factory, when here sister does not, she fights for improved working conditions in New York City factories.

Little, Melanie. **The Apprentice's Masterpiece.** Annick, 2008. A converso family faces danger during the Inquisition in Spain.

Polak, Monique. **What World is Left.** Orca, 2008. A Dutch Jewish teenager, sent with her family to Theresienstadt Concentration Camp, tries to survive the Holocaust.

Sarna, Jonathan D. **A Time to Every Purpose.** Basic, 2008. A series of letters from a father to his children describes the Jewish calendar and various holidays.

Schram, Peninnah, Editor and Gianni De Conno, Illus. **The Hungry Clothes and other Jewish Folktales.** Sterling, 2008. A collection of classic Jewish folktales emphasizes values and moral lessons; each one is related to other Jewish teachings.

Silverberg, Selma Kritzer. **Naomi's Song.** Jewish Publication Society, 2009. The novel imagines the 12th century BCE life of Ruth's mother in law, Naomi, as she grows up, marries, moves from Judea to Moab and perseveres despite a drastic change of fortune.

Whitney, Kim Ablon. **The Other Half of Life.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2009. In 1939 teenager Thomas flees the Nazis on a German ship bound for Cuba. The more than 900 German Jews expecting to be granted safe haven in Cuba are not in this heartbreaking fictional saga.

Zenatti, Valerie. **A Bottle in the Gaza Sea.** Bloomsbury, 2008. The Sydney Taylor Award Winner for Teens presents an honest, hopeful story in the e-mails of an Israeli girl and a Palestinian boy searching for peace during the Intifada.

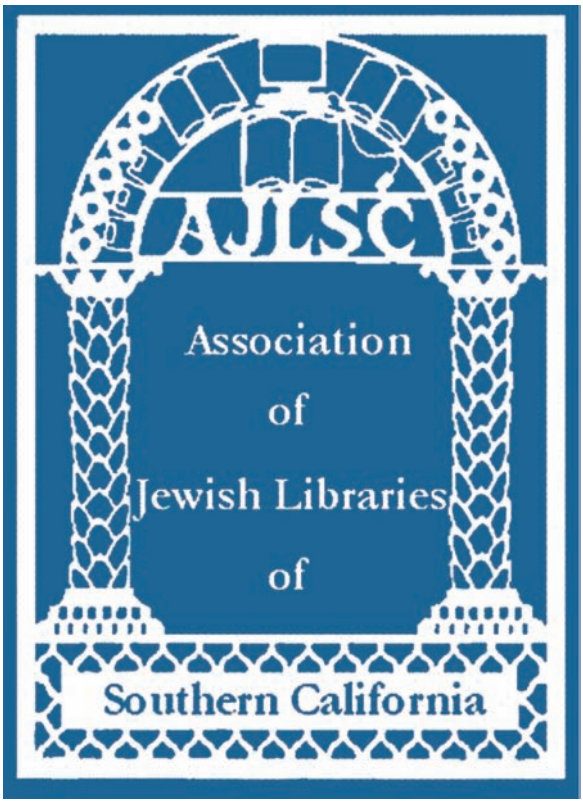
ONLINE LIBRARY CATALOGS

Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles
www.jclla.org

Sinai Temple Blumenthal Library
www.sinaitemple.org

Valley Beth Shalom Sheila Sporn Library
www.vbs.org/library

Simon Wiesenthal Library
www.wiesenthal.com/library



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