THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE BOOKS

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TRIED & TRUE "READ ALOUDS"

Baer, Julie. *I Only Like What I Like*. Peoria, IL: Bollix Books, 2003. ISBN: 1932188002. $15.99. Early Childhood-Grade 2.
Dewey Jackson Braintree-Berg only likes what he likes, but under some very special circumstances he might like something else.

Chapman, Carol. *The Tale of Meshka the Kvetch*. Illus. Arnold Lobel. New York: Dutton, 1980. ISBN: 0525407456. OUT OF PRINT. Early Childhood-Grade 1.
A woman who spends all her time complaining soon finds her complaints coming true. (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

Cohen, Barbara. *Molly's Pilgrim*. Illus. Michael J. Deraney. New York: Harper Collins, 1998 (revised edition). ISBN: 0688162797. $15.95; $3.99 (pbk.). Grades 2-5.
Told to make a doll like a Pilgrim for the Thanksgiving display at school, Molly's Jewish mother dresses the doll as she herself dressed before leaving Russia to seek religious freedom -- much to Molly's embarrassment. The sequel is *Make A Wish Molly* (1994) and both are also available on VHS. See also *A Guide for Using Molly's Pilgrim in the Classroom* by Susan Kilpatrick (1995).

Cooks, Roberta Goldshlag. *Gittel and the Bell*. Illus. Susan Martz. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1987. ISBN: 0930494687. OUT OF PRINT. Kindergarten-Grade 2.
Since everyone scolded eight-year-old Gittel in the past for ringing the town bell on unimportant occasions, she is not sure what to do when she finds their missing Torah. (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

✡ **Davis, Aubrey. *Bagels from Benny*. Illus. Dusan Petricic. Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2003. ISBN: 1553374177. $15.95. Grades 1-3.**
Benny loves to help out at his grandpa's bakery. And the customers love Grandpa's bagels. One day, Grandpa explains to Benny that God, not him, should be thanked for the wonderful bagels. Benny thinks it's a good idea. But how do you thank God? See also *Bone Button Borscht* (1995).

Epstein, Sylvia B. *How the Rosh Hashanah Challah Became Round*. Illus. Hagit Migron. Jerusalem: Gefen Publishing House, 1993. ISBN: 9652290955. $10.95. Early Childhood-Grade 2.
Yossi's terrible tumble turns out to be a terrific triumph . . . and a possible explanation for why Jews eat round *challot* on Rosh Hashanah!

Getzel. *The Stonecutter Who Wanted To Be Rich*. New York: C.I.S. Publishers, 1990. ISBN: 156062030. OUT OF PRINT. Early Childhood-Grade 1.
A simple illustration of the Pirkei Avot: "Who is rich? One who is satisfied with what he has." Combine with *Chicken Man* by Michelle Edwards (1991) and *I Wish I Were a Butterfly* by James Howe (1987) for a perfect lesson in being happy with who you are.

✡ **Gilman, Phoebe. *Something from Nothing*. Toronto: North Winds Press/Scholastic Canada, 1993. ISBN: 059073802X. $16.95. Early Childhood – Grade 2.**
In this retelling of a traditional Jewish folktale, Joseph's baby blanket is transformed into ever smaller items as he grows until there is nothing left--but then Joseph has an idea. Use with *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat* by Simms Taback (2000), *Bit by Bit* by Steve Sanfield (1995), and *'Til the Cows Come Home* by Jodi Icenoggle (2004) along with the song "I Had An Old Coat" by Sharon, Lois & Bram on the *Elephant Party* CD.

Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *A Mountain of Blintzes*. Illus. Anik McGrory. San Diego: Harcourt, 2001. ISBN: 0152019022. $16.00. PK-Grade 2.

A family works together to gather the necessary ingredients to make blintzes for Shavuot. See also: *Just Enough Is Plenty: A Hanukkah Tale* (1988), *The World's Birthday: A Rosh Hashanah Story* (Sydney Taylor Honor Award 1990), *Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1991), *The Magician's Visit: A Passover Tale* (1993), *Night Lights: A Sukkot Story* (1995, 2002), *While the Candles Burn: Eight Stories for Hanukkah* (1996), *Journeys With Elijah: Eight Tales of the Prophet* (Sydney Taylor Honor Award 1999), and *101 Jewish Read-Aloud Stories: Ten-Minute Readings from the World's Best-Loved Jewish Literature* (2001).

Greenfield, Karen. *Sister Yessa's Story*. Illus. Claire Ewart. New York: HarperCollins, 1992. ISBN: 0060202785. OUT OF PRINT. Grades 1-4.

Dark clouds gather as Yessa walks to her brother's place, telling a story as she goes about the early days of the earth; and the animals follow her two by two to listen. A great introduction to the concept of midrash. (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

Hirsh, Marilyn. *The Rabbi and the Twenty-Nine Witches*. New York: Scholastic Inc., 1986. ISBN: 059040735X. OUT OF PRINT. Kindergarten-Grade 3.

A wise old rabbi finally rids the village of witches that terrorize it every night that the moon is full. (check www.amazon.com for used copies) See also*: Could Anything Be Worse?* (1974), *The House on the Roof: A Sukkot Story* (1976), and *Joseph Who Loved the Sabbath* (1986).

Howland, Naomi. *Matzah Man*. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002. ISBN: 061811750. $15.00. Preschool – Grade 1.

"Hot from the oven I jumped and ran, so clever and quick, I'm the Matzah Man!" Sprightly illustrations show all of the action in this Passover version of "The Gingerbread Boy." *The Runaway Latkes* by Leslie Kimmelman (2000) is another cute Jewish "Gingerbread" story. See also *Latkes, Latkes, Good to Eat* (1999).

Jules, Jacqueline. *Once Upon a Shabbos*. Illus. Katherine Janus Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1998. ISBN: 1580130216. $6.95 (pbk.) Early Childhood-Grade 1.

A bear keeps taking the honey needed for the Shabbos kugel, until Grandma learns that he is lost and invited him to come to dinner.

Kimmel, Eric A. *Zigazak! A Magical Hanukkah Night*. Illus. Jon Goodell. New York: Doubleday Book for Young Readers, 2001. ISBN: 0385326521. $15.95. Kindergarten-Grade 3.

Two evil spirits wreck havoc on the town of Brisk's Hanukkah celebration, until the town's wise rabbi puts a stop to their mischief. See also: *The Chanukah Guest* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1988), *The Magic Dreidels* (1996), *When Mindy Saved Hanukkah* (1998), *The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm* (2000), and *A Cloak for the Moon* (Sydney Taylor Honor Winner 2001)

✱ Kimmel, Eric A. *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. Illus. Trina Schart Hyman. New York: Holiday House, 1989. ISBN: 0823407691. $16.95; $6.95 (pbk.) Kindergarten-Grade 3.

Relates how Hershel outwits the goblins that haunt the old synagogue and prevent the village people from celebrating Hanukkah.

✡ Kimmel, Eric A. *Gershon's Monster: A Story for the Jewish New Year*. Illus. Jon J. Muth. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN: 043910839X. $16.95. Grades 1-5.

When his sins threaten the lives of his beloved twin children, a Jewish man finally repents of his wicked ways.

Manushkin, Fran. *The Matzah That Papa Brought Home*. Illus. Ned Bittinger. New York: Scholastic Inc, 1995. ISBN: 0590471465. $5.99 (pbk.) Early Childhood – Grade 1.

A cummulative rhyme in the style of "The House That Jack Built" describes the traditions connected to a family's celebration of the Passover Seder. See also *Latkes and Applesauce: A Hanukkah Story* (1989), *Starlight and Candles: The Joys of the Sabbath* (1995), *Come, Let Us Be Joyful The Story of Hava Nagila* (2000), *Sophie and the Shofar: A New Year's Story* (2001), and *Hooray for Hanukkah!* (2001).

✡ **Oberman, Sheldon. *The Always Prayer Shawl*. Illus. Ted Lewin. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mill Press, 1994. ISBN: 1878093223. $15.95; $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 1-4.**

A prayer shawl is handed down from grandfather to grandson in this story of Jewish tradition and the passage of generations.

✱ **Prose, Francine. *You Never Know: A Legend of the Lamed-Vavniks*. Illus. by Mark Podwal. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1998. ISBN: 0688157580. OUT OF PRINT. Grades 2-5.**

Though mocked by the rest of the villagers, poor Schmuel the shoemaker turns out to be a very special person. See also *Dybbuk: A Story Made in Heaven* (Sydney Taylor Honor Award 1996), *The Angel's Mistake* (1997) and *The Demon's Mistake* (2000). (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

Renberg, Dalia Hardof. *King Solomon and the Bee*. Illus. Ruth Heller. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1994. ISBN: 0060558997. OUT OF PRINT. Early Childhood – Grade 1.

A retelling of the traditional tale about a bee that repays King Solomon's mercy by helping him solve the Queen of Sheba's riddle. (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

Roseman, Kenneth. *The Cardinal's Snuffbox*. New York: UAHC Press, 1982. ISBN: 0807400599. $8.95. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *Escape from the Holocaust*. New York: UAHC Press, 1985. ISBN: 0532291026. $8.95. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *Jeremiah's Promise: An Adventure in Modern Israel*. New York: UAHC Press, 2002. ISBN: 0807407879 . $8.95. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *The Melting Pot: An Adventure in New York*. New York: UAHC Press, 1984. ISBN: 0807402699. $8.95. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *The Other Side of the Hudson: A Jewish Immigrant Adventure*. New York: UAHC Press, 1993. ISBN: 080740506X. $8.95. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *The Tenth of Av*. New York: UAHC Press, 1988. ISBN: 0807403598. OUT OF PRINT. Grades 4-6.

Roseman, Kenneth. *Until the Messiah Comes*. New York: UAHC Press, 1999. ISBN: 0807407062. $8.95. Grades 4-6.

The Do-It-Yourself Jewish Adventure series lets the reader make decisions for the characters. Online discussion and activity guides are available at www.urj.org/press.

Rouss, Sylvia. *The Littlest Frog*. Illus Holly Hannon. New York: Pitspopany Press, 2001. ISBN: 1930143125. $14.95. Early Childhood – Grade 1.

Pharaoh doesn't want to let the Israelites go-- and no one can make him. At least that's what he thinks! See also *The Littlest Candlesticks* (2002).

Sasso, Sandy Eisenberg. *Cain and Abel: Finding the Fruits of Peace*. Illus. Joani Keller Rothenberg. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2001. ISBN: 1580231233. $16.95. Grades 2-6.

Retells the story of two brothers, who after years of sharing everything, become angry enough to lose control and bring violence into the world. See also: *God's Paintbrush* (1992), *In God's Name* (1994), *But God Remembered* (1995), *A Prayer for the Earth* (1996), *God in Between* (1998), *For Heaven's Sake* (1999), and *Adam and Eve's First Sunset* (2003).

Silverman, Erica. *Raisel's Riddle*. Illus. Susan Gaber. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999. ISBN: 0374361681. $16.00, $5.95 (pbk.) Kindergarten – Grade 3.

A Jewish version of the Cinderella story, in which a poor, but educated young woman captivates her "Prince Charming" a rabbi's son, at a Purim ball. Combine with *The Way Meat Loves Salt: A Cinderella Tale from the Jewish Tradition* by Nina Jaffe (1998). See also: *Gittel's Hands* (1996) and *When the Chickens Went on Strike* (Sydney Taylor Honor Winner 2003).

✱ **Taback, Simms. *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*. New York: Viking Children's Books, 2000. ISBN: 0670878553. $15.99; $6.99 (pbk.) Early Childhood – Grade 2.**

An old Eastern European folk song provides the basis for a tale about a peasant who devises clever uses for his worn-out overcoat. Use with *Something from Nothing* by Phoebe Gilman (1993), *Bit by Bit* by Steve Sanfield (1995), and *'Til the Cows Come Home* by Jodi Icenoggle (2004), along with the song "I Had An Old Coat" by Sharon, Lois & Bram on the *Elephant Party* CD.

Vorst, Rochel Groner. *The Sukkah That I Built*. Illus. Liz Victor-Elsby. Brooklyn, NY: Hachai Publishing, 2002. ISBN: 1929628072. $9.95. Early Childhood.
In this variation of "The House That Jack Built," a little boy smugly relates how he is doing all the building of the sukkah while his bemused family looks on.

Zemach, Margot. *It Could Always Be Worse*. New York: Sunburst; 1990. ISBN: 0374436363 (reissue). $5.95. Early Childhood-Grade 1.
A wise rabbi doles out surprising advice to a man complaining of overcrowded quarters in this Yiddish folktale; Zemach's exuberantly chaotic illustrations earned her a Caldecott Honor in 1978. Combine with *Could Anything Be Worse?* by Marilyn Hirsh (1974), *The Rabbi's Wisdom* by Erica Gordon (1991), *A Big Quiet House* by Heather Forest (1996) and *Terrible, Terrible!* by Robin Bernstein (1998).

PERFECT BOOKS FOR ONE-ON-ONE SHARING

da Costa, Deborah. *Snow in Jerusalem*. Illus.Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2001. ISBN: 0807575216. $15.95. Grades 1-4.
During a rare day of snow in Jerusalem, a Jewish boy and an Arab boy who live in the Old City experience a rare moment of friendship when they put aside their differences to help a stray cat. Ethereal watercolor and pencil drawings portray the earthly and the heavenly Jerusalem.

Deedy, Carmen Agra. *The Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark*. Illus. Henry Sorensen. Atlanta: Peachtree, 2000. ISBN: 1561452084. $16.95. Grades 3-5.
A beautifully illustrated tribute to the tolerance of the Danish people and their king, who took many risks on behalf of the Jewish population during the German occupation of World War II.

✱ Fagan, Cary. *The Market Wedding*. Illus. by Regolo Ricci. Plattsburgh, NY: Tundra Books of Northern New York, 2000. ISBN: 0887764924. $16.95. Grades 1-3.
A fishmonger falls in love with the milliner whose cart is across the street from his in the turn-of-the-century Kensington Market, and even though his plan for a fine wedding backfires, all ends well.

Hartt-Snowbell, Sarah. *Yesterday's Santa and the Chanukah Miracle*. Illus. Patty Gallinger. Toronto: Napoleon Publishing, 2002. ISBN: 0929141148. $10.95 (pbk.) Grades 1-3.
Annie can't believe her eyes! The Santa in the mall looks so much like her grandfather's friend, Simon. A Jewish Santa? Annie lines up to get a closer look. This is a holiday story of acceptance, religious freedom, and the act of giving.

Herman, Charlotte. *How Yussel Caught the Gefilte Fish*. Illus. Katya Krenina. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1999. ISBN: 0525454497. OUT OF PRINT. Kindergaten-Grade 2.
When he goes fishing with his father for the first time, a young boy hopes to catch the gefilte fish for his family's Shabbat dinner, but instead he catches a carp, a trout, and a pike. (check www.amazon.com for used copies)

✱ Hest, Amy. *When Jessie Came Across the Sea*. Illus. by P.J. Lynch. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1997. ISBN: 076361274X. $16.99; $6.99 (pbk.) Kindergarten-Grade 3.
A thirteen-year-old Jewish orphan reluctantly leaves her grandmother and immigrates to New York City, where she works for three years sewing lace and earning money to bring Grandmother to the United States, too. See also *Love You Soldier* (1991 and Sydney Taylor Honor Award 2000), *The Private Notebook of Katie Roberts, Age 11* (1995), *The Great Green Notebook of Katie Roberts Who Just Turned 12 on Monday* (1998), and *The Friday Nights of Nana* (2001).

Kimmelman, Leslie. *Dance, Sing, Remember*. Illus. Ora Eitan. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN: 0060277254. $18.95. Grades 1-4.
Explains eleven major Jewish holidays and how they are celebrated. The explanation of Yom Hashoah is particularly powerful and exceptionally well-written.

Kushner, Lawrence and Karen. *Because Nothing Looks Like God*. Illus. Dawn W. Majewski. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2000. ISBN: 158023092X. $16.95. Early Childhood – Grade 3.
Mixing sparks of curiosity and spiritual imagination, this wondrous book lights childrens creativity and shows how God is with us everyday, in every way. Also published as three board books: *What Does God Look Like?*, *How Does God Make Things Happen?*, and *Where Is God?*.

Lasky, Kathryn. *Marven of the Great North Woods*. Illus. Kevin Hawkes. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1997. ISBN: 0152001042. $16.00; $7.00 (pbk.) Grades 2-4.
When his Jewish parents send him to a Minnesota logging camp to escape the influenza epidemic of 1918, ten-year-old Marven finds a special friend.

✡ **Levine, Karen. *Hana's Suitcase*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 2003. ISBN: 0807531480. $15.95; $24.95 with CD. Grades 3-6.**
A biography of a Czech girl who died in the Holocaust, told in alternating chapters with an account of how the curator of a Japanese Holocaust center learned about her life after Hana's suitcase was sent to her.

Manushkin, Fran. *Miriam's Cup*. Illus. Bob Dacey. New York: Scholastic Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590677209. $15.95. Kindergarten-Grade 3.
A Jewish mother preparing for Passover tells her children the story of Miriam, the biblical woman who prophesied the birth of Moses. See also *Daughters of Fire: Heroines of the Bible* (2001).

McCann, Michelle. *Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen*. Illus. Ann Marshall. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press, 2003. ISBN: 1582460981. $16.95. Grades 3-5.
A biography of the Jewish heroine, Luba Tryszynska, who saved the lives of more than fifty Jewish children in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during the winter of 1944-1945.

❋ **Oberman, Sheldon. *The Wisdom Bird: A Tale of Solomon and Sheba*. Illus. by Neil Waldman. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2000. ISBN: 1563978164. $15.95. Grades 1-4.**
When the Queen of Sheba, the wisest woman in the world, comes to Jerusalem to present an unusual request to King Solomon, the wisest man in the world, the fate of every bird in the world is at stake.

✡ **Polacco, Patricia. *The Keeping Quilt*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1988. ISBN: 0689844476. $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 1-4.**
A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith. See also *Mrs. Katz and Tush* (1992), *The Bee Tree* (1993), *Tikvah Means Hope* (1994), *The Trees of the Dancing Goats* (1996), and *The Butterfly* (2000).

❋ **Propp, Vera. *When the Soldiers Were Gone*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1999. ISBN: 0698118812. $14.99; $4.99 (pbk.) Grades 3-5.**
After the German occupation of the Netherlands, Benjamin leaves the Christian family with whom he had been living and is reunited with his real Jewish parents who returned from hiding and whom Benjamin doesn't remember.

Rael, Elsa Okon. *What Zeesie Saw on Delaney Street*. Illus. Marjorie Priceman. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996. ISBN: 0689805497. $16.00; $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 1-5.
A young Jewish girl living on Manhattan's Lower East Side attends her first "package party" where she learns about the traditions of generosity, courage, and community among Jewish immigrants in the early 1900s. See also *When Zaydeh Danced on Eldridge Street* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1997) and *Rivka's First Thanksgiving* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 2001).

Rosen, Michael J. *Chanukah Lights Everywhere*. Illus. Melissa Iwai. San Diego: Harcourt, 2001. ISBN: 0152024476. $16.00. Early Childhood – Grade 2.
A young boy counts the candles on the family menorah and the lights he sees in the world around him on each night of Hanukkah. See also: *Elijah's Angel: A Story for Chanukah and Christmas* (1992), *A Thanksgiving Wish* (1998), and *Our Eight Nights of Hanukkah* (2000).

✡ **Schur, Maxine. *The Peddler's Gift*. Illus. Kimberly Bulcken Root. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0803719787. OUT OF PRINT. Kindergarten-Grade 2.**
A young boy in turn-of-the-century rural Russia learns that appearances are often deceiving after he steals and then tries to return a dreidel to the traveling peddler. See also *Day of Delight: A Jewish Sabbath in Ethiopia* (1994) and *When I Left My Village* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1996).

❋ Siegel, Bruce. *The Magic of Kol Nidre*. Illus. by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1998. ISBN: 158013002X. $6.95 (pbk.) Grades 1-4.
The magic of the Kol Nidre prayer, central to the Yom Kippur service, is explored from the viewpoint of three generations.

Taylor, Sydney. *All-Of-A-Kind Family*. New York: Yearling Books, 1980. ISBN: 0440400597 (reissue edition). $5.50 (pbk.) Grades 2-5
A heartwarming story of five Jewish girls living with their parents in New York City at the turn of the century. See also: *All of a Kind Family Downtown*, *More All of a Kind Family*, *All of a Kind Family Uptown*, and *Ella of All-Of-A-Kind Family*.

Wood, Douglas. *Grandad's Prayers of the Earth*. Illus. P.J. Lynch. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1999. ISBN: 076360660X. $16.99. Grades 1-5.
Because Grandad has explained how all things in the natural world pray and make a gift to the beauty of life, his grandson is comforted when Grandad dies. See also *Old Turtle* (1992) and *Making the World* (1998).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INDEPENDENT READING, CLASSROOM DISCUSSIONS & BOOK CLUBS

Bat Ami, Miriam. *Two Suns in the Sky*. Chicago: Cricket Books/Front Street, 1999. ISBN: 0812629000. $15.95; $6.99 (pbk.). Grades 7—10.
After being moved from Yugoslavia to a refugee camp in New York during World War II, one Jewish boy is befriended by a local girl, but when their special friendship turns to romance, their parents demand they end the relationship.

Bell, William. *Zack*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689825293. $4.99 (pbk.) Grades 7-10.
The son of a Jewish father and black mother, high school senior Zack has never been allowed to meet his mother's family, but after doing a research project on a former slave, he travels from his home in Canada to Natchez, Mississippi to find his grandfather.

Bennett, Cherie & Jeff Gottesfeld. *Anne Frank and Me*. New York: Putnam's, 2001. ISBN: 0698119738. $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 7-10.
After suffering a concussion while on a class trip to a Holocaust exhibit, Nicole finds herself living the life of a Jewish teenager in Paris during the Nazi occupation.

Blume, Judy. *Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret*. New York: Laurel Leaf, 1991. ISBN: 0440904196 (reissue edition). $5.50, Grades 5-8.
Everything is changing for Margaret Simon—she is dealing with adjusting to a new school, her religious identity, and puberty. See also *Starring Sally J. Freedman as Herself* (1977, 1986 reprint).

Cohen, Barbara. *Thank You, Jackie Robinson*. New York: Beech Tree Books, 1997. ISBN: 0688152937 (reprint edition). $4.99. Grades 3-5.
The story of a friendship between a young Jewish boy and an elderly black man; both share a love for the Brooklyn Dodgers and the first baseman Jackie Robinson. See also: *King of the Seventh Grade* (1982), *The Secret Grove* (1985), and *The Christmas Revolution* (1987).

❋ Feinstein, Edward. *Tough Questions Jews Ask: A Young Adult's Guide to Building A Jewish Life.* Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2003. ISBN: 158023139X. $14.95 (pbk.) Grades 5-8.
This conversational, engaging book leaves no question unasked and no curiosity unaddressed. Tackling topics as diverse as whether the stories in the Bible are actually true, to how it's possible that bad things happen in the world, Feinstein illuminates the wisdom of the Jewish tradition in a way that's informative, inspiring, and accessible to middle school and high school readers.

French, Jackie. *Hitler's Daughter*. New York: HarperCollins, 2003. ISBN: 0060086521. $15.99. Grades 4-6.
After hearing a fictional tale about Hitler's daughter, Mark, an Australian boy, wonders what it would be like if someone he loved and trusted turned out to be evil.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *Lily's Crossing*. New York: Delacorte, 1997. ISBN: 0440414539 (reprint edition). $5.50 (pbk.) Grades 4-6.
During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.

Hesse, Karen. *Witness*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2001. ISBN: 0439272009. $5.99 (pbk.) Grades 6-9.
A series of poems expresses the views of various people in a small Vermont town, including a young black girl and a young Jewish girl, during the early 1920s when the Ku Klux Klan is trying to infiltrate the town. See also *Letters from Rifka* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1992) and *A Time of Angels* (1995).

Konigsburg, E. L. *The View from Saturday*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1996. ISBN: 0689817215 (reprint edition). $5.99. Grades 5-8.
Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond when they represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

Kornblatt, Mark. *Understanding Buddy*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry/Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0668983215X. $16.95. Grades 5 – 7.
When a new classmate stops speaking because of the sudden death of his mother, fifth grader Sam tries to befriend him and risks destroying his relationship with his best friend Alex.

Levine, Anna. *Running on Eggs*. Chicago, IL: Cricket Books/Front Street, 1999. ISBN: 0812628756. $15.95. Grades 5—7.
A tentative friendship develops between an Israeli girl from a kibbutz and an Arab girl from a nearby village when both become members of a track team.

Levine, Gail Carson. *Dave at Night*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1999. ISBN: 0064407470. $5.99 (pbk.) Grades 4-7.
Eleven-year-old Dave is orphaned and placed in New York's Hebrew Home for Boys. Eager to run away, Dave takes nighttime sojourns into nearby Harlem, where he's befriended by an elderly fortune teller and a wealthy African-American girl.

❋ Mack, Tracy. *Birdland*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2003. ISBN: 0439535905. $16.95. Grades 7-10.
Fourteen-year-old, tongue-tied Jed spends winter break working on a school project filming a documentary about his East Village, New York City, neighborhood, where he is continually reminded of his older brother, Zeke, a promising poet who died the year before.

❋ Meyer, Carolyn. *Drummers of Jericho*. San Diego: Gulliver Books for Harcourt Brace, 1995. ISBN: 0152001905. $6.00 (pbk.) Grades 7-10.
A fourteen-year-old Jewish girl goes to live with her father and stepmother in a small town and soon finds herself the center of a civil rights battle when she objects to the high school band marching in the formation of a cross. See also *Gideon's People* (1996).

Napoli, Donna Jo. *Daughter of Venice*. New York: Delacorte Press, 2002. ISBN: 0440229286. $16.95; $5.50 (pbk.). Grades 7-10.
Frustrated with the restrictions her gender imposes on her life, fourteen-year-old Donata, disguised as a boy, sneaks out of her noble family's house to roam the streets of late sixteenth-century Venice and stumbles upon the Jewish Ghetoo. See also *Stones in Water* (Sydney Taylor Award Winner 1997).

Newman, Leslea. *Fat Chance*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1994. ISBN: 0399227601. $5.99. Grades 6-10.
In a series of diary entries, thirteen-year-old Judi recounts her struggles to lose weight, hide her bulimia from her mother, find a boyfriend, and decide on a profession.

Rifa'i, Amal, Odelia Ainbinder, Odelia, and Sylke Tempel. *We Just Want To Live Here*. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2003. ISBN: 0312318944. $11.95 (pbk.) Grades 8-12.
Palestinian Amal Rifa'i and Israeli Odelia Ainbinder met on a student exchange program to Switzerland. Two years later, Middle East correspondent Sylke Tempel encouraged Amal and Odelia to develop their friendship by facilitating an exchange of their deepest feelings through letters. In their letters, Amal and Odelia discuss the Intifada, their families, traditions, suicide bombers, and military service.

Rocklin, Joanne. *Strudel Stories*. New York: Delacorte Press, 1999. ISBN: 0385326025. $14.95; $4.50 (pbk.) Grades 3-5.
Seven generations of a Jewish family hear stories of their family history, all told while making apple strudel.

✡ **Rosen, Sybil. *Speed of Light*. New York: Anne Schwartz Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689841515. $16.00; $4.99 (pbk.) Grades 4-6.**
An eleven-year-old Jewish girl living in the South during the 1950s struggles with the antisemitism and racism which pervade her small community.

Sones, Sonya. *What My Mother Doesn't Know*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2001. ISBN: 0689855532. $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 7-10.
Sophie describes her relationships with a series of boys as she searches for Mr. Right.

Werlin, Nancy. *Black Mirror*. New York: Dial Books, 2001. ISBN: 0803726058. $16.99; $6.99 (pbk.) Grades 9-12.
Convinced her brother's death was murder rather than suicide, sixteen-year-old Frances begins her own investigation into suspicious student activities at her boarding school. See also *Are You Alone on Purpose?* (1994).

✡ **= Sydney Taylor Award Winner**
❋ **= Sydney Taylor Honor Winner**