Recommended Reads:
The Latest & Greatest in Jewish Fiction for Adults
Rachel Kamin
Rosalind Reisner
Judy Weidman
Association of Jewish Libraries Conference
June 2017

Award Winners

JBC Modern Jewish Literary Achievement Award
2017 Sophie Brody Award Winner
Andrew Carnegie Medal: Fiction Finalist

Moonglow
by Michael Chabon
HarperCollins, 2016
*paperback available 9/2017*

See also:
Telegraph Avenue (2012)
The Yiddish Policemen’s Union (2007)
Wonder Boys (1995)
The Mysteries of Pittsburgh (1988)
Award Winners
2016 National Jewish Book Award:
Book Club Award

And After the Fire
by Lauren Belfer
Harper, 2016
“paperback available”

Read-Alikes:
People of the Book
by Geraldine Brooks

Safekeeping
by Jessamyn Hope

The Secret of the Nightingale Palace
by Dana Sachs

The Muralist
by B.A. Shapiro

Award Winners
2016 National Jewish Book Award:
Book Club Finalist

Two She-Bears
by Meir Shalev
(translated by Stuart Schoffman)
Schocken Books, 2016

See Also:
My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner (2011)
A Pigeon and a Boy (2007)
Four Meals (2002)
The Loves of Judith (1999)
The Blue Mountain (1991)

Award Winners
2016 National Jewish Book Award:
Book Club Finalist

The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem
by Sarit Yishai-Levi
(translated by Anthony Berni)
Thomas Dunne/Randam House, 2016
“paperback available”

Read-Alikes:
Jerusalem Redeemed
by Toli Czerny

The Family Orchard
by Norma Eve

When I Lived in Modern Times
by Linda Grant
Award Winners
2016 National Jewish Book Award: Fiction Award

The Gustav Sonata
by Rose Tremain
W.W. Norton & Company, 2016
"paperback available 9/2017"

Read-Alikes:
The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes
The Girls by Emma Cline
Sunlight Night by Rebecca Dinerstein
Appassionata by Eva Hoffman
Out Stealing Horses by Per Petterson
Family Life by Akih Shimizu
My Name is Lucy Barton by Elizabeth Strout

Award Winners
2016 Edward Lewis Wallant Award: Runner-Up
2016 National Jewish Book Award: Debut Fiction Finalist

The Beautiful Possible
by Amy Gottlieb
Harper, 2016
"in paperback"

Award Winners
2017 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature Winner

Ways to Disappear
by Idra Novey
Little Brown & Company, 2016
"paperback available"

Choice Award:
The Last Flight of Pooj Weitby Daniel Torday (St. Martin's, 2015)

Finalists:
Inherited Disorders: Stories, Parables & Problems by Adam Ehrlich Sachs (Regan Arts, 2016)
The Bed Moved Stories by Rebecca Schiff (Knopf, 2016)
The Yid by Paul Goldberg (St. Martin's, 2016)
Dinner at the Center of the Earth
by Nathan Englander
(Penguin Random House, 9/2017)
See also:
What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank: Stories (2012)
The Ministry of Special Cases (2007)
For the Relief of Unbearable Urges: Stories (1999)

The Orphan's Tale
by Pam Jenoff
Mira Books, 2017 *paperback*
See also:
The Last Summer at Chelsea Beach (2015)
The Winter Guest (2014)
The Ambassador's Daughter (2013)
The Things We Cherish (2011)
The Hidden Affair (2010)
Almost Home (2009)
The Diplomat's Wife (2008)
The Kommandant's Girl (2007)
New Books by Favorite Authors

Forest Dark
by Nicole Krauss
HarperCollins, 9/2017

Read Alikes:
Great House (2010)
The History of Love (2005)
Man Walks into a Room (2002)

Read Alikes:
State of Wonder by Ann Patchett
The Way Things Were by Aatish Taseer
A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles
I Married You for Happiness and The Double Life of Lottie by Lily Tuck

New Books by Favorite Authors

The Black Widow
by Daniel Silva
HarperCollins, 2016

House of Spies
by Daniel Silva
HarperCollins, 7/2017

Read Alikes:
The first 15 books in the "Gabriel Allon" series

Read Alikes:
Novels by Olen Steinhauer and Joseph Kanon

More New Books by Favorite Authors

The Trust by Ronald Balson (St. Martin's, 9/2017)
Conviction (Rebekah Roberts #3) by Julia Dahl (Minotaur Books, 2017)
The Chateau by Paul Goldberg (Picador, 2/2018)
Eternal Life by Dara Horn (WW Norton, 1/2018)
Bone Box (2017) and Killing Season (10/2017) by Faye Kellerman
(William Morrow)
Short Stories

Bertrand Court
by Michelle Brafman
Prospect Park Books, 2016
"paperback available"

See also:
Washing the Dead (2015)

Short Stories

Have I Got a Story for You:
More Than a Century of Fiction from the Forward
edited by Ezra Glintner
(WW Norton, 2016)

Read Also:
Vilna My Vilna by Abraham Karpinowitz (Syracuse University Press, 2015), also a 2017 Sophie Brody Honorable Mention
Oedipus in Brooklyn and Other Stories by Blume Lempel
(Mandel Vilar Press, 2016)
**Short Stories**

*2015 Sami Rohr Prize Winner
2015 Edward Lewis Wallant Award Recipient*

**The Best Place on Earth: Stories**
by Ayelet Tsabari
(Random House, 2016)

*Read Alikes:*
Ask for a Convertible: Stories by Danit Brown
Henna House by Nomi Eue
The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit by Lucette Lagnado
New York I, Tel Aviv II: Stories by Shelly Oria

**Heirlooms: Stories**
by Rachel Hall
(Bkmk Pr/University of Missouri Kansas City, 2016)
*in paperback*

*Read Alikes:*
The Paris Architect by Charles Belfoure
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
A Hero of France by Alan Furst
The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
Suite Francaise by Irene Nemirovsky

**More New Short Story Collections**

Minyan: Ten Interwoven Stories by John Clayton (Paragon House, 2016)
In the Land of Armadillos: Stories by Helen Maryles Shankman
(Simon & Schuster, 2016), also a 2017 Sophie Brody Honorable Mention
They Were Like Family to Me: Stories by Helen Maryles Shankman (Scribner, 2016)
The Worlds We Think We Know by Dalia Rosenfeld (Milkweed Editions, 2017)
New from Israel

**The English Teacher**
by Yiftach Reicher Atir
(translated by Philip Simpson)
Penguin, 2016
"in paperback"

Read Alikes:
- Duet in Beirut
- Forbidden Love in St. Petersburg
- The Liar by Noam Levtzion
- "Tel Aviv Trilogy" by Edna Raviv
- Ten Thousand Lovers, Look for Me, and A Wall of Light
- "Gabriel Allon" series by Daniel Silva

New from Israel

**Waking Lions**
by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen
(translated by Sondra Silverston)
Little Brown, 2017

Read Alikes:
The Husband's Secret
by Liane Moriarty
Open Nearby by AJ Yehoshua
New from Israel

The Waiting Room
by Leah Kaminsky
Harper Perennial, 2016
“paperback available”

Read Alikes:
Sarah’s Key by Tatiana de Rosnay
Saturday by Ian McEwan

More New Books from/about Israel

The Man Who Never Stopped Sleeping by Aharon Appelfeld (Schocken, 2017)
Sonora by Hannah Lillith Assadi (Soho Press, 2017)
Three Floors Up by Nevo Eshkol (Other Press, 10/2017)
A Horse Walks into a Bar by David Grossman (Knopf, 2017)
Last Bullet Calls It by Amir Gutfreund (Amazon Crossing, 2017)
Judas by Amos Oz (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016)
Petty Business by Yirmi Pinkus (Syracuse University Press, 11/2017)
All the Rivers by Dorit Rabinyan (Random House, 2017)

Biographical Fiction
**Biographical Fiction**

*Enchanted Islands*
by Allison Amend
Doubleday, 2016
*paperback available 4/2017*

*See also:*
- A Nearly Perfect Copy (2013)
- Stations West (2016)

*Read Alikes:*
- The Manor Court by Jillian Cantor
- The One Man by Andrew Gross
- Leaving Berlin by Joseph Kanon

*Jerzy: A Novel*
by Jerome Charyn
Bellevue Literary Press, 2017
*in paperback*

*See also:*
- I Am Abraham: A Novel of Lincoln and the Civil War (2014)

*Read Alikes:*
- Lincoln in the Bardo by George Saunders

*Windy City Blues*
by Renee Rosen
Berkley Publishing, 2017
*in paperback*

*See also:*
- White Collar Girl (2016)
- What the Lady Wants: A Novel of Marshall Field and the Gilded Age (2014)
- City Heat (2013)
- Every Crooked Pot (2007)
More Biographical Fiction

- *The Last Woman Standing* by Thema Adams (Lake Union Publishing, 2016)
- *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict (Sourcebooks Landmark, 2016)
- *The Hours Count* by Jillian Cantor (Riverhead Books, 2015)
- *The Last Chair* by Gloria Goldreich (Sourcebooks Landmark, 2015)
- *Mrs. Houdini* by Victoria Kelly (Atria Books, 2016)

Historical Fiction

- *4 3 2 1: A Novel* by Paul Auster
  - Henry Holt, 2017
  - *paperback available 2/2018*

Read alike:
- *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson
- *The Lives of Others* by Neil Mukherjee
Historical Fiction

Modern Girls
by Jennifer Brown
Penguin, 2016
"in paperback"
Read-Alikes:
- A Week in Paris by Rachel Hore
- The Sacrifice of Tamar by Naomi Ragen
- Leaving Lucy Reedy by Ann Solomon
- From My Carolina Woods

As Close to Us As Breathing
by Elizabeth Poliner
Lee Boudreaux Books, 2016
"paperback available"
Read-Alikes:
- Invincible Summer by Alice Adams
- The Forever Summer by Jamie Brenner
- Crooked Heart by Lisa Evans
- Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng
- Commonwealth by Ann Patchett
- Modern Lovers by Emma Straub
- Amateur Marriage by Anne Tyler

Among the Living
by Jonathan Rabb
Other Press, 2016
Read-Alikes:
- The Man Who Never Stopped Sleeping by Aharon Appelfeld
- Margarita by Jillian Cantor
- Did You Ever Have a Family by Bill Clegg
- Jacob's Oath by Martin Fitcher
- And the Dark Sacred Night by Julia Glass
- Home in the Morning by Mary Glickman
- No. 4 Imperial Lane by Jonathan Weisman
More New Historical Fiction

- After Anatevka by Alexandra Silber (WW Norton, 2017)
- The Afterlife of Stars by Joseph Kertes (Little Brown, 2017)
- The Saturday Evening Girls Club by Jane Healey (Lake Union Publishing, 2017)
- Stolen Beauty by Laurie Lico Albanese (Atria Books, 2017)
- Helen by Anita Mishook (Berwick Court, 2017)
- Jews Queers Germans by Martin Duberman (Seven Stories Press, 2017)
- Beneath a Scarlet Sky by Mark T. Sullivan (Lake Union, 2017)
- The Good of Heart by Ursula Werner (Touchstone Books, 2017)
- We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter (Viking, 2017)

Split Screen: Historical/Contemporary

- The Lost Letter by Jillian Cantor
  Riverhead Books, 2017
  See Also:
  - Margot (2013)
  - The House of Copper (2015)
  - Sarah's Key by Tatiana de Rosnay
  - The Debt of a Tarot by Nicole Dewick
  - The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
Nine Folds Make a Paper Swan
by Ruth Gilligan
Tin House Books, 2017
*in paperback*

Read Alikes:
The Fortunes by Peter Ho Davies
Mothering Sunday by Graham Swift

The Patriots
by Sana Krasikov
Spiegel & Grau, 2017

Read Alikes:
One More Year: Stories (2008)
The Betrayers by David Bezmozgis
Hotel Moscow by Talia Cohn
The Imperial Wife by Nina Rezn

In the Shadow of Alabama
by Judy Reene Singer
(Kensington, 2017)

Read Alikes:
The Darkness Rolling by Winfred Blevins
In Sunlight and In Shadow by Mark Helprin
Underground Fugue
by Margot Singer
Melville House, 2017

See Also:
The Pale of Settlement Stories (2007)

Read-Alikes:
The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid
The Woman Upstairs by Claire Messud

More New “Split Screen” Novels

The Fortunate Ones by Ellen Umansky (William Morrow, 2017)
The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2017)
Heredity by Leonardo Padura (Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2017)
The Trick by Emanuel Bergmann (Atria Books, 9/2017)

Contemporary Fiction
Contemporary Fiction

*What to Do About the Solomons*
by Bethany Bell
Grove, 2017

Read Alikes:
*The Wangs vs. the World* by Jade Chang
*Rabbit Cake* by Annie Hartnett
*Beautiful Ruins* by Jess Walter

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Contemporary Fiction

*A Narrow Bridge*
by JJ Gesher
Prospect Park Books, 2017
*in paperback*

Read Alikes:
*All Who Go Do Not Return* by Shulem Deen
*Unorthodox* by Deborah Feldman
*I Am Forbidden* by Anouk Markovits

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Contemporary Fiction

*The Dead Man*
by Nora Gold
Inanna Publications, 2016
*in paperback*

See Also:
*Fields of Exile* (2014)
More New Contemporary Fiction

- Bed-Stuy is Burning by Brian Platzer (Atria, 7/2017)
- The Devil and Webster by Jean Hanff Korelitz (Grand Central, 2017)
- If the Creek Don't Rise by Leah Weiss (Sourcebooks Landmark, 2017)
- Left to Chance by Amy Sue Nathan (St. Martin's Griffin, 11/2017)
- Nuclear Family by Susanna Fogel (Henry Holt, 7/2017)
- Shtum by Jem Lester (Overlook, 2017)
- Tell Me How This Ends Well by David Levinson (Hogarth, 2017)
- The Matrimonial Flirtations of Emma Kaulfield by Anna Fishbeyn (Arcade, 2017)

Staying on Top of New Jewish Fiction

The Association of Jewish Libraries
www.jewishlibraries.org
- Newsletter, Reviews, Bibliographies, AJL Reads Book Club, annual Conference, new 2018 Jewish Fiction Award
- Jewish Review of Books
www.jewishreviewofbooks.com/
- Quarterly print publication with an active online presence for serious readers with Jewish interests.
  $39.95/year print or $19.95/year digital
- Jewish Book Council
www.jewishbookcouncil.org
- Weekly Book Recommendations, 5 Prosen People Digest
- Alpert Awards, Annual Literary Journal $25/year
- Booklist and Booklist Online
www.booklistonline.com
- 22 Booklist and 4 Book Links print issues, plus access to Booklist Online (one login per subscription) starting at $147.50/year.

https://jewishreviewofbooks.com/
Staying on Top of New Jewish Fiction

The New York Times Book Review
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Library Journal e-Newsletters
http://reviews.libraryjournal.com
PrePub Alert
Publishers Weekly e-Newsletters
www.publishersweekly.com
Religion BookLine (2x/month) and Tip Sheet (weekly)
GoodReads
www.goodreads.com
With 40 million members, 1.1 billion books added and 43 million reviews, Goodreads is the world’s largest site for readers and book recommendations.

And, don’t forget about subscribing to the e-mail newsletter from your local public library and local bookstores!

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