NEW FICTION FOR ADULT READERS:
A Presentation by the AJL Jewish Fiction Award Committee

Merrily Hart
Rachel Kamin
Rosalind Reisner
Sheryl Stahl
Yermiyahu Ahron Taub
Association of Jewish Libraries
Conference
June 2019

2019 AJL Jewish Fiction Award Winners

2019 AJL Jewish Fiction Award Winner

2019 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature Fellow
JQ Wingate Literary Prize 2019 Short List

Memento Park
by Mark Sarvas
Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2018
"paperback available"
See Also:
Harry, Revised (2008)
Read-Alikes:
Stolen Beauty by Laurie Lico Albanese
Moonglow by Michael Chabon
Pictures at an Exhibition by Sara Houghteling
Forest Dark by Nicole Krauss
The Fortunate Ones by Ellen Umansky
2019 AJL Jewish Fiction Honor Award

The Cloister
by James Carroll
Nan A. Talese, 2018
*paperback available*

See Also:
Warburg in Rome (2014)
Secret Father (2003)
Constantine’s Sword: The Church and the Jews (2001)

Read-Alikes:
From Sand and Ash by Amy Harmon
The Weight of Ink by Rachel Kadish
Among the Living by Jonathan Rabb

2019 AJL Jewish Fiction Honor Award

The Fourth Corner of the World
by Scott Nadelson
Engine Books, 2018
*in paperback*

See Also:
Between You and Me (2015)
Aftermath: Stories (2011)
The Cantor’s Daughter: Stories (2006)

Read-Alikes:
Many Seconds into the Future by John J. Clayton
Fabulous Small Jews by Joseph Epstein

New Books by Favorite Authors
New Books by Favorite Authors

Kaddish.com
by Nathan Englander
Knopf, 2019
See also:
- Dinner at the Center of the Earth (2017)
- 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)
Read-Alikes:
- Moonglow by Michael Chabon
- Eternal Life by Dara Horn
- Mother India by Tova Reich

House of Gold
by Natasha Solomons
Penguin, 2018
*paperback 8/2019*
See also:
- The Song of Hartgrove Hall (2015)
- The Gallery of Vanished Husbands (2013)
- The House at Tyneford (2011)
- Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English (2010)
Read-Alikes:
- A Bend in the Stars by Rachel Barenbaum
- We Were the Lucky Ones by Georgia Hunter
- Sisi by Allison Pataki

The World That We Knew
by Alice Hoffman
Simon & Schuster, 9/2019
See also:
- Faithful (2017)
- Marriage of Opposites (2015)
- The Dovekeepers (2011)
Read-Alikes:
- All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
## New Books by Favorite Authors

**The Flight Portfolio**  
by Julie Orringer  
Penguin Random House/Knopf, 2019  

See also:  
The Invisible Bridge (2010)  

Read-Alikes:  
Stolen Beauty by Laurie Lico Albanese  
The Bridal Chair by Gloria Goldreich  
The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah  
The Quiet American: Secret War of Varian Fry  
by Andy Marino  
Warlight by Michael Ondaatje  
Lisette's List by Susan Vreeland

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## More New Books by Favorite Authors

The Girl from Berlin by Ronald Balson (St. Martin's, 2018)  
The Lost Family by Jenna Blum (Harper, 2018)  
Lake on Fire by Rosellen Brown (Sarabande Books, 2018)  
Eternal Life by Dara Horn (WW Norton, 2018)  
Lake Success by Gary Shteyngart (Random House, 2018)  
Mrs. Everything by Jennifer Weiner (Atria Books, 2019)
Contemporary Fiction

An Unorthodox Match
by Naomi Ragen
St. Martin's Press, 9/2019

See also:
The Devil in Jerusalem (2015)
The Sisters Weiss (2013)
The Tenth Song (2010)
The Saturday Wife (2007)
The Covenant (2004)
and more!

Contemporary Fiction

On Division
by Goldie Goldbloom
Farrar Straus & Giroux, 9/2019

See Also:
Gwen: A Novel (2017)
The Paperbark Shoe (2011)

Contemporary Fiction

Bombay Brides
by Esther David
Harper Collins, 2019

See Also:
Shalom India Housing Society (2009)
Book of Rachel (2007)
The Walled City (2002)

Read-Alikes:
Dropped from Heaven: Stories by Sophie Judah
Contemporary Fiction

The Hotel Neversink
by Adam O'Fallon Price
Tin House Books, 8/2019
"in paperback"

See also:
The Grand Tour (2016)

More New Contemporary Fiction

The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin (G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2018)
A Terrible Country by Keith Gessen (Viking, 2018)
Willa & Hesper by Amy Feltman (Grand Central, 2019)
We Are Gathered by Jamie Weisman (Houghton Mifflin, 2018)
The Emperor of Shoes by Spencer Wise (HarperCollins, 2018)

Historical Fiction
### Historical Fiction

**The Guest Book**  
by Sarah Blake  
Macmillan/Flatiron Books, 2019  

See also:  
The Postmistress (2010)  

Read-Alikes:  
The Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin  
As Close to Us as Breathing by Elizabeth Poliner

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**The Wartime Sisters**  
by Lynda Cohen Loigman  
St. Martin's, 2019  
"Paperback 3/2020"  

See also:  
The Two-Family House (2016)  

Read-Alikes:  
The Lost Family by Jenna Blum  
The Button Man by Andrew Gross  
Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly  
As Close to Us as Breathing by Elizabeth Poliner

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**Not Our Kind**  
by Kitty Zeldis  
HarperCollins, 2018  
"Paperback available"  

Read-Alikes:  
The Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin  
The Inn at Lake Devine by Eleanor Lipman  
As Close to Us as Breathing by Elizabeth Poliner
Historical Fiction

The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted by Robert Hillman
Putnam, 2019

Read Alikes:
Those Who Save Us by Jenna Blum
The History of Love by Nicole Krauss
The Book of Dirt by Bram Presser

Annelies by David Gillham
Penguin Random House/Viking Press, 2019

See also:
City of Women (2012)

Read Alikes:
Hope: a Tragedy by Shalom Auslander
Margot by Jillian Cantor
Annedox by Sharon Dogar
The Boy Who Loved Anne Frank by Ellen Feldman
The Ghost Writer by Philip Roth

More New Historical Fiction

A Bend in the Stars by Rachel Barenbaum (Grand Central, 2019)
The Mandela Plot by Kenneth Bonert (Houghton Mifflin, 2018)
In Another Time by Jillian Cantor (HarperCollins/Harper Perennial, 2019)
Promised Land: A Novel of Israel by Martin Fletcher (Thomas Dunne, 2018)
Nothing is Forgotten by Peter Golden (Aria Books, 2018)
Eva Salomon’s War by Gabriella Guigier (Bedazzled Ink Publishing, 2018)
Button Man by Andrew Gross (St. Martin’s, 2018)
Another Side of Paradise by Sally Koslow (Harper, 2018)
The Last Watchman of Old Cairo by Michael David Lukas (Spiegel & Grau, 2018)
The Song of the Jade Lily by Kirsty Manning (William Morrow, 2019)
Gateway to the Moon by Mary Morris (Knopf Doubleday, 2018)
The Magnificent Esme Wells by Adrienne Sharp (HarperCollins, 2018)
Secrets and Shadows by Roberta Silman (Campden Hill Books, 2018)
The Girl They Left Behind by Roxanne Veletzos (Aria, 2018)
Genre Fiction

Biblical Fiction

Naamah: A Novel
by Sarah Blake
Riverhead Books, 2019

Read Alikes:
The Red Tent by Anita Diamant
Sinners and the Sea: The Untold Story of Noah’s Wife
by Rebecca Kanner
After Abel and Other Stories by Michal Lemberger
Novels by India Edghill, Eva Etzioni-Halevy and Marek Halter

Fantasy Fiction

Spinning Silver
by Naomi Novik
Penguin Random House/Del Rey, 2018
*paperback available*

See Also:
Uprooted (2015)

Read Alikes:
Enchantress by Maggie Anton
The Sisters of the Winter Wood by Rena Rossner
**Historical Fantasy**

*The Sisters of the Winter Wood*
by Rena Rossner
Hachette/Redhook, 2018
"paperback available"

**Read-Alikes:**
The Angel of Losses by Stephanie Feldman
The Museum of Extraordinary Things by Alice Hoffman
Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith by Gina Nahai
Spinning Silver by Naomi Novik
The Golem and the Ginni by Helene Wecker

**Science Fiction**

*Zion's Fiction: A Treasury of Israeli Speculative Literature*
Edited by Sheldon Teitelbaum and Emanuel Lottem
Mandel Vilar Press, 2018
"in paperback"

**Read-Alikes:**
An Unexpected Afterlife by Dan Sofer
Jews versus Zombies and Jews versus Aliens edited by Lavie Tidhar

**Coming Soon . . .**

All This Could Be Yours by Jami Attenberg (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 10/2019)
The Third Daughter by Talia Carner (HarperCollins/William Morrow, 9/2019)
The Last Train to London by Meg Waite Clayton (Harper Perennial, 9/2019)
Live A Little by Howard Jacobson (Hogarth Press, 9/2019)
Cilia's Journey by Heather Morris (St. Martin's, 10/2019)
The Iron Season (The Golem and the Jinni #2) by Helene Wecker (Harper, 2020)
Staying on Top of New Jewish Fiction

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