

# THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES

## SYDNEY TAYLOR BOOK AWARDS

The **Sydney Taylor Book Award** was established by Ralph Taylor in honor of his wife Sydney Taylor, the author of the classic *All-of-a-Kind Family* series, to encourage the publication of outstanding books of positive Jewish content for children. The Award continues to be funded by the Taylors' daughter, Jo Taylor Marshall, and winners are selected by a committee within the Association of Jewish Libraries. Recognition is awarded annually to the authors and illustrators of the most distinguished contributions to Jewish children's literature published in the preceding year. The first **Sydney Taylor Book Award** was given in 1968. Since 1981, awards have been given in two categories, one for younger readers and one for older readers. Beginning in 2007, books for teens have also been recognized. Honor books and Notables are also cited. **Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work Awards** have been granted periodically since 1971. As of 2018, the Body-of-Work Award is granted biennially.

### Sydney Taylor Book Award Winners, Honors, and Notables

#### 2023

**Stiefel, Chana. *The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt Her Town in Stories and Photographs*. Illustrations by Susan Gal. New York: Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., 2022. ISBN: 9781338225891.**

Thirty-five years after Nazis destroyed her beloved shtetl of Eishyshok, Poland, Yaffe Eliach recovered thousands of precious photographs preserved by relatives and survivors to recreate her community at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. Susan Gal's expressive illustrations bring to life this true story of love and remembrance. (Picture Book Winner)

**Lowe, Mari. *Aviva vs. the Dybbuk*. Hoboken: Published by Arthur A. Levine, an imprint of Levine Querido, 2022. ISBN: 9781646141258.**

Aviva and her widowed mother live next door to their synagogue in rooms above the mikvah, rumored to be haunted by a dybbuk only Aviva can see. This inside look at a close-knit Orthodox community explores changing friendships, antisemitic vandalism, and the many ways of dealing with grief. (Middle Grade Winner)

**Lamb, Sacha. *When the Angels Left the Old Country*. Hoboken: Published by Arthur A. Levine, an imprint of Levine Querido, 2022. ISBN: 9781646141760.**

Uriel the Angel and Little Ash the demon have been Talmud study partners for centuries. When a shtetl girl goes missing, they journey to America to find her. Brimming with Yiddishkeit, this brilliant, queer historical fantasy novel richly depicts the immigrant experience and tells an ageless tale of love, justice, and friendship. (Young Adult Winner)

**Cohen, Paula. *Big Dreams, Small Fish*. Illustrations by Paula Cohen. Hoboken: Published by Arthur A. Levine, an imprint of Levine Querido, 2022. ISBN: 9781646141265.**

Shirley has many ideas for her family's new store, but they think she's too young to help. Left alone one day, her "free with purchase" deal has the diverse clientele finally clamoring for her mother's gefilte fish. Vibrant, comical illustrations expand the story. Delicious. Yiddish glossary and recipe are included. (Picture Book Honor)

**Nambi, Shoshana. *The Very Best Sukkah: A Story from Uganda*. Illustrations by Moran Yogev. Moosic, PA: Kalanot Books, an imprint of Endless Mountains Publishing Company, 2022. ISBN: 9781735087580.** Each year, the Ugandan Abayudaya community has a sukkah decorating contest. Competitive Shoshi hopes her family will win. After a storm wrecks one sukkah, all the neighbors help rebuild it, and Shoshi learns the value of people coming together. Illustrations are in bold folk-art colors and patterns. Informative backmatter included. (Picture Book Honor)

**Silver, Erin. *Sitting Shiva*. Illustrations by Michelle Theodore. Victoria, BC, Canada: Orca Book Publishers, 2022. ISBN: 9781459827721.**

This beautiful, age-appropriate picture book about the loss of a girl's mother teaches readers about the meaningful act of sitting Shiva and the importance of family and friends supporting each other through grief. Soft illustrations complement the text and the book includes informative back matter about Jewish mourning practices. (Picture Book Honor)

**Drazin, Meira. *Honey and Me*. New York: Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., 2022. ISBN: 9781338155433.**

When outgoing, confident Honey enters the Modern Orthodox school attended by quiet, thoughtful Milla during their bat mitzvah year, their best friendship shifts along with other changes in their lives. Milla must learn to recognize her own qualities and talents, while learning to appreciate more in the people around her. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Pasternack, Sofiya. *Black Bird, Blue Road*. New York: Versify, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2022. ISBN: 9780358572039.**

Ziva will stop at nothing to keep her gravely ill brother alive, even if that means teaming up with a half-sheyd to outrun the Angel of Death. Racing across a folkloric ancient Khazaria to a city where it is said Death cannot enter, the companions must confront their greatest fears. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Sass, A. J. *Ellen Outside the Lines*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, a division of Hachette Book Group, Inc., 2022. ISBN: 9780759556270.**

Ellen thrives on planning, knowing what's going to happen, and strict categories. When she must confront sudden changes during a school trip to Barcelona, including distance from her best friend, a new non-binary classmate, and a scavenger hunt through the city, Ellen must learn to think outside the lines. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Cohen, Jennieke. *My Fine Fellow: A Delicious Entanglement*. New York: HarperTeen, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2022. ISBN: 9780063047532.**

Bossy Helena Higgins and her Culinarian classmate, Penelope Pickering, attempt to turn a Covent Garden peddler, Elijah Little, into a gentlemen chef. This clever epicurean riff on *My Fair Lady*, set in 19th century England, spotlights prejudices of the time, especially against Jewish Elijah. (Young Adult Honor)

**Littman, Sarah Darer. *Some Kind of Hate*. New York: Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., 2022. ISBN: 9781338746815.**

In this gut-wrenching novel, told in dual perspectives, we meet Declan as he gets radicalized online by white supremacists, to the horror of his Jewish best friend, Jake. With an intense but hopeful ending, this book peels back the curtain on the terrifying reality of extremists and antisemitism. (Young Adult Honor)

**Reynolds, Hannah. *Eight Nights of Flirting*. New York: Razorbill, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2022. ISBN: 9780593349755.**

Shira wants to date Isaac, but she's a disaster at flirting. After a night snowed in with her nemesis Tyler, they strike a bargain: flirting lessons in exchange for connecting Tyler to her family's business empire. Set during Hanukkah, this story is full of love, light, family, and romantic twists. (Young Adult Honor)

**Behar, Ruth. *Tia Fortuna's New Home: A Jewish Cuban Journey*. Illustrations by Devon Holzwarth. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House LLC, 2022. ISBN: 9780593172414.**

Estrella's Tia Fortuna is about to leave another home. Having emigrated from Cuba to Miami years before, she is now entering an assisted living facility. Tia Fortuna's loving memories comfort Estrella and show her that difficult changes can be accepted with grace. Colorful illustrations include Sephardic imagery. (Picture Book Notable)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Madame Alexander: The Creator of the Iconic American Doll*. Illustrations by Sarah Dvojack. New York: Feiwel and Friends, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Group LLC, 2022. ISBN: 9781250138590.**

This picture book brings to life the creator of the Madame Alexander doll company with illustrations as elegant as the iconic dolls. Repairing dolls with her father, Beatrice Alexander learns to use her talents to bring joy and comfort to other children. Accompanying backmatter further illuminates her life and work. (Picture Book Notable)

**Sassoon, Sarah. *Shoham's Bangle*. Illustrations by Noa Kelner. Minneapolis, Kar-Ben Publishing, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2022. ISBN: 9781728438962.**

Sad because she can't take her gold bangle bracelet, Shoham is entrusted to carry Nana Aziza's homemade pita bread when her family leaves Iraq. Arriving in Israel, Shoham finds a welcome memento of her homeland. Kelner's art lovingly depicts the refugee families during the 1951 Operation Ezra & Nehemiah airlifts. (Picture Book Notable)

**Stein, Joel Edward. *Raquela's Seder*. Illustrations by Sara Ugolotti. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben Publishing, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2022. ISBN: 9781728424293.**

Although Raquela's family must keep their Jewish faith a secret during the Spanish Inquisition, her clever father, a fisherman, finds a way for the family to have a Passover seder. Lovely illustrations, rich with ocean and sky blues, accompany the story of "a night different from all other nights." (Picture Book Notable)

**Hood, Susan, with Dawson, Greg. *Alias Anna: A True Story of Outwitting the Nazis*. New York: Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2022. ISBN: 9780063083899.**

"I don't care what you do. Just live," implores their father while marching to the killing fields of Drobitsky Yar, prompting Zhanna and her sister to procure false papers and become part of a troupe entertaining Nazi officers. This taut, true story-in-verse includes quotes from Zhanna and comprehensive back matter. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Moss, Marissa. *The Woman Who Split the Atom: The Life of Lise Meitner*. Illustrations by Marissa Moss. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, an imprint of ABRAMS, 2022. ISBN: 9781419758539.**

Mixing prose with comic panels, this biography tells the often-neglected story of Lise Meitner, whose work identifying nuclear fission would change the world forever. A Jewish woman working in Europe amidst the rise of Nazism, Meitner's resilience and moral compass proves a stark contrast to her too-complacent colleagues. Extensive backmatter included. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Nockowitz, Stacy. *The Prince of Steel Pier*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben Publishing, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2022. ISBN: 9781728430331.**

Joey's boisterous family has run a senior resort for decades, but casino development is changing Atlantic City in 1975. A run-in with a mob boss sets Joey off to a summer of new experiences, squiring an older teen girl around town as he tries to avoid getting into serious trouble. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Krasner, Barbara. *Ethel's Song: Ethel Rosenberg's Life in Poems*. New York: Calkins Creek, an imprint of Astra Books for Young Readers, 2022. ISBN: 9781635926255.**

Ethel Rosenberg, who loved to sing, is given voice in this heartfelt and unsettling biographical novel-in-verse. She rises above difficulties through hard work and idealism, but is tragically and wrongfully labeled a spy and betrayed by the judicial system, the FBI, and her family. Includes extensive notes and bibliography. (Young Adult Notable)

**Romero, R.M. *The Ghosts of Rose Hill*. Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Teen, an imprint of Peachtree Publishing, Inc., 2022. ISBN: 9781682633380.**

Sixteen-year-old budding violinist Ilana visits Prague, where she encounters ghosts and a river monster (vodnik) while tending the graves in an abandoned Jewish cemetery. This suspenseful novel-in-verse combines elements of Judaic tradition with magical realism and is divided into movements, resembling the classical music Ilana plays. (Young Adult Notable)

## 2022

**Kusel, Susan. *The Passover Guest*. Illustrations by Sean Rubin. New York: Neal Porter Books, an imprint of Holiday House, 2021. ISBN: 9780823445622**

In Washington, D.C. during the Great Depression, Muriel invites a ragged juggler to celebrate Passover with her family. When he arrives, they are stunned to discover a magnificent feast to share with their neighbors. Based on I. L. Peretz's "The Magician" with illustrations influenced by Marc Chagall, Kusel's debut picture book will resonate with readers young and old. (Picture Book Award Winner)

**Hiranandani, Veera. *How to Find What You're Not Looking For*. New York: Kokila, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2021. ISBN: 9780525555032**

It's 1967, and Ariel Goldberg is trying to cope with her older sister's elopement with a man from India and estrangement from the family, the financial troubles of their family-owned bakery, and her own struggles at school. Narrated in the second person, Hiranandani perfectly captures this turbulent period in history through the lens of a sympathetic and compelling preteen Jewish girl. (Middle Grade Winner)

**Polydoros, Aden. *The City Beautiful*. Toronto, Ontario, Canada: Inkyard Press, 2021. ISBN: 9781335402509**

Romanian immigrant Alter Rosen embraces his Jewish identity while trying to adapt to American life. When a friend is murdered, Alter is inhabited by a dybbuk and must find the killer before it consumes him. Masterfully combining fantasy, mystery, LGBTQ romance, and historical fiction, this gripping story is set against the sparkling and lurid façade of the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. (Young Adult Winner)

**Churnin, Nancy. *Dear Mr. Dickens*. Illustrations by Bethany Stancliffe. Chicago, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2021. ISBN: 9780807515303**

Eliza Davis writes to Charles Dickens expressing her concern about the villainous Fagin. She eventually convinces Dickens that his portrayal of Jewish characters emboldens "a vile prejudice," resulting in revisions to *Oliver Twist* and the famous writer's subsequent support of England's Jewish community. Charming illustrations accompany this graceful testament to speaking out against injustice. (Picture Book Honor)

**Gottesfeld, Jeff. *The Christmas Mitzvah*. Illustrations by Michelle Laurentia Agatha. Berkeley, CA: Creston Books LLC, 2021. ISBN: 9781939547941**

One Christmas Eve, Al Rosen takes over a Christian friend's job. For the next 30-plus years, Al repeats this holiday mitzvah, starting a tradition of helping people of other faiths. Based on a true story, this feel-good narrative, with bright, humorous illustrations, shows how one person's actions can inspire others to perform good deeds. (Picture Book Honor)

**Sís, Peter. *Nicky & Vera: A Quiet Hero of the Holocaust and the Children He Rescued*. New York: Norton Young Readers, an imprint of W.W. Norton & Company, 2021. ISBN: 9781324015741**

Realizing that Nazis would soon invade Czechoslovakia, British banker Nicky Winton sponsors eight trains in 1939 that rescue 669 children from Prague, including 10-year-old Vera Diamantova. With creatively placed texts and intricate art that includes unique perspectives, fanciful figures, and personified countries, Sís reminds readers that even humble men can accomplish acts of heroism. (Picture Book Honor)

**Korman, Gordon. *Linked*. New York: Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, 2021. ISBN: 9781338629118**

When a swastika appears in a small-town middle school, the students counter antisemitism by creating a paper chain in memory of the six million Jews killed in the Holocaust. A social media instigator stirs up trouble, one boy learns about his Jewish ancestry, and archaeologists digging nearby make a startling discovery. Told from multiple perspectives, this book is entertaining and insightful. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Yelchin, Eugene. *The Genius Under the Table: Growing Up Behind the Iron Curtain*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2021. ISBN: 9781536215526**

Yelchin recounts his 1960s Leningrad childhood, when his entire family lived in a small room next to a KGB informer. Eugene finds comfort in drawing on the underside of Grandma's table in this humorous, yet understated narrative that combines Soviet and Cold War history, droll black-and-white sketches, and a vivid depiction of life for Soviet Jews. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Lockhart, E. Illustrations by Manuel Preitano. *Whistle: A New Gotham City Hero*. Burbank, CA: DC Comics, 2021. ISBN: 9781401293222 PBK**

In this graphic novel, Jewish teen Willow Zimmerman accepts a job from an old family friend to pay for her mother's cancer treatments. The back-alley position leads to a run-in with villain Killer Croc, after which Willow acquires dog-like superpowers that she uses to battle an enemy who is trying to destroy her neighborhood. (Young Adult Honor)

**Reynolds, Hannah. *The Summer of Lost Letters*. New York: Razorbill, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 2021. ISBN: 9780593349724**

When Abby inherits a box of love letters written to her grandmother from a mysterious stranger, she decides to spend the summer on Nantucket looking for clues. There, she uncovers the truth about O'ma's Holocaust history and her secret lost love, while finding unexpected romance herself. (Young Adult Honor)

**Scheier, Leah. *The Last Words We Said*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing Division, 2021. ISBN: 9781534469396**

Nine months after their friend Danny disappears, Modern Orthodox teens Ellie, Deenie, and Rae are coping in wildly different ways. Chapters alternate between past and present, revealing secrets and exploring the depths to which guilt can drive a person's actions. (Young Adult Honor)

**Churnin, Nancy. *A Queen to the Rescue: The Story of Henrietta Szold, Founder of Hadassah*. Illustrated by Yevgenia Nayberg. Berkeley, CA: Creston Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781939547958**

Queen Esther's courage to act and save her people inspired Henrietta Szold to aid American immigrants and ensure healthcare to millions by founding Hadassah. Read about Szold's incredible drive to help others throughout her life in this outstanding picture book biography. (Notable Picture Book)

**Levinson, Cynthia. *The People's Painter: How Ben Shahn Fought for Justice with Art*. Illustrated by Evan Turk. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, an imprint of ABRAMS, 2021. ISBN: 9781419741302**

Illustrated in a style paying homage to Ben Shahn, this biography of the Lithuanian-born, American artist tells the story of a determined man who experienced and observed oppression and pain, and used his art as a way to help people in their search for justice and peace. (Notable Picture Book)

**Wind, Lee. *Red and Green and Blue and White*. Illustrations by Paul O. Zelinsky. Montclair, NJ: Levine Querido, 2021. ISBN: 9781646140879**

In a neighborhood of houses decorated Red and Green, Isaac's shines Blue and White. After someone throws a stone through their window, the family continues to light their menorah and is gratified to see the community take a stand against bigotry. Zelinsky's digital art features cheerful, light-filled interiors set against dark backgrounds. Based on an actual incident. (Notable Picture Book)

**Baron, Chris. *The Magical Imperfect*. New York: Feiwel and Friends, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Company, 2021. ISBN: 9781250767820**

Ethan - traumatized after his mother leaves - is unable to speak, his new friend Malia suffers from debilitating eczema, and his father and grandfather argue about observing the High Holy Days during the World Series. Set in a multicultural community in 1989, this story in verse weaves elements of history and magical realism in a memorable tale of families, friendship, and faith. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Levy, Joanne. *Sorry for Your Loss*. Victoria, BC, Canada: Orca Book Publishers, 2021. ISBN: 9781459827073 PBK**

Evie, whose parents own and run a Jewish funeral home, is thrust into a relationship with Oren, who is struggling to cope after surviving the car crash that killed his parents. Issues of how to support mourners and handle death with dignity are sensitively handled in this beautiful story of loss, guilt, and the power of friendship. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Marks, Allison & Wayne. *Benny Feldman's All-Star Klezmer Band*. Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England: Green Bean Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781784385552, PBK**

In an effort to finally recover from a bad stage experience, sixth grader Benny signs up his klezmer band for the middle school talent show. The problem is, he doesn't actually *have* a band - yet. The search for musicians brings about new friendships and a lot of appreciation of this very Jewish style of music. (Middle Grade Notable)

**Batalion, Judy. *The Light of Days: The Untold Story of Women Resistance Fighters in Hitler's Ghettos (Young Readers' Edition)*. New York: Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2021. ISBN: 9780063037694**

Read about Renia Kukielka and other brave Jewish women who fought Nazi oppression and genocide during World War II. Follow these young people on their inspiring journeys as they smuggle weapons, deliver messages, and trick the Gestapo in this true account of heroism against seemingly unbeatable odds. (Notable Young Adult)

**Jones, Kimberly and Segal, Gilly. *Why We Fly*. Naperville, IL: Sourcebooks Fire, an imprint of Sourcebooks, 2021. ISBN: 9781492678922**

Overachieving and privileged high school seniors and cheerleaders, Eleanor (Jewish) and Chanel (African American), lead the radical choice to “take a knee” at the season’s first football game. This timely page-turner highlights the complexities of being woke and the role of Jews in the anti-racist movement. (Notable Young Adult)

**Pransky, Judith. *The Seventh Handmaiden*. Barnsley, South Yorkshire, England: Green Bean Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781784385897 PBK**

Darya can’t remember her life before enslavement, but she finds kindness and dignity when assigned to Lady Esther, in the court of the Persian king. As their stories entwine, their fates, and those of the Jewish people, are at stake. A fascinating and satisfying schpiel on an ancient tale. Winner of the 2018 Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award. (Notable Young Adult)

**Waisman, Robbie and McClelland, Susan. *Boy From Buchenwald*. New York: Bloomsbury Children’s Books, part of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, 2021. ISBN: 9781547606009**

This autobiographical post-Holocaust story features Romek Wajsman, a Polish teen and comrade of Elie Wiesel, as he spends time in a home for recovery in France. The story stands out among survivor narratives because of its focus on personal relationships with his peers, mentors, and teachers as Romek learns how put his life back together. (Notable Young Adult)

## **2021**

**Newman, Lesléa. *Welcoming Elijah: A Passover Tale with a Tail* Illustrations by Susan Gal. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2020. ISBN: 9781580898829**

This warmly illustrated, poetic book parallels the experiences of a young boy at a Passover seder and a small white kitten outdoors. When the boy opens the door to welcome the prophet Elijah, he finds a furry friend instead. Simple text, diverse characters, and a timeless feel make this a story to be treasured. (Picture Book Award Winner)

**Wolkenstein, M. Evan. *Turtle Boy*. New York: Delacorte Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780593121573**

Will’s bar mitzvah service project helps him face challenges in his own life in this engaging story by a debut author. Bullied at school and a loner, turtle-loving Will completes a bucket list of milestone activities for a terminally ill boy and gains the strength to face his own upcoming surgery. (Middle Grade Award Winner)

**Feder, Tyler. *Dancing at the Pity Party*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780525553021**

This debut memoir in graphic form is a funny, sad, confidently illustrated meditation on grief. It’s both a tribute to Tyler’s wonderful mom, who died of breast cancer at the age of 47, and a guide to Jewish mourning practices. A singular achievement. (Young Adult Award Winner)

**Copeland, Mychal. *I Am the Tree of Life: My Jewish Yoga Book*. Illustrated by André Ceolin. Millburn, NJ: Apples and Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House, 2020. ISBN: 9781681155524**

Clear instructions on how to do different yoga poses are complemented by brief, boldly illustrated stories from the Bible. Back matter includes reflection on yoga practice and a discussion of “What’s Jewish about yoga?” (Picture Book Honor)

**Yolen, Jane. *Miriam at the River*. Illustrated by Khoa Le. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, 2020. ISBN: 9781541544000**

The poetic tale of young Miriam placing baby Moses in the river is strikingly and vividly illustrated in palettes of blues, oranges, and purples. (Picture Book Honor)

**Cohen, Tziporah. *No Vacancy*. Toronto, ON: Groundwood Books, 2020. ISBN: 9781773064109**

Miriam and her new friend Kate concoct a “miracle” in order to attract visitors to Miriam’s family’s small town motel in this story about community, interfaith understanding, making a home, and keeping up Jewish traditions. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Pasternack, Sofiya. *Anya and The Nightingale*. New York: Versify, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2020. ISBN: 9780358006022**

In this sequel to her 2020 Sydney Taylor Honor book, *Anya and the Dragon*, Anya and her friends travel to Kiev and encounter the mythical Nightingale. Vivid descriptions of tenth-century Russia, a memorable Shabbat dinner, and an exciting rescue highlight this wonderful fantasy. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Blankman, Anne. *The Blackbird Girls*. New York: Puffin Books, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9781984837356**

In 1986, Valentina and Oksana flee the meltdown of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. In 1941, Rifka finds refuge while escaping the Nazis. Blankman masterfully merges the timelines of these two stories in this compelling work of historical fiction. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Hesse, Monica. *They Went Left*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Hachette Book Group, 2020. ISBN: 9780316490573**

A historical mystery with an unreliable narrator, this post-war page-turner is set primarily in a displaced persons camp. It tells the story of Zofia, desperately searching for her little brother Abek...and the possibility of a life after trauma. (Young Adult Honor)

**Kimmelman, Leslie. *The Eight Knights of Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Galia Bernstein. New York: Holiday House, 2020. ISBN: 9780823439584**

The eight knights of Hanukkah are charged by Lady Sadie to go out and perform “deeds of awesome kindness and stupendous bravery” before the Hanukkah celebration that evening. A little silly and very sweet, this punny title is a wonderful story of performing mitzvot for others and celebrating Hanukkah. (Notable Picture Book)

**Marshall, Linda Elovitz. *The Polio Pioneer: Dr. Jonas Salk and the Polio Vaccine*. Illustrated by Lisa Anchin. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780525646518**

Brightly illustrated, this is the timely true story of a young Jewish boy who grew up to be a chemist who helped eradicate polio. Author’s note and sources included. (Notable Picture Book)

**Perl, Erica S. *The Ninth Night of Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Shahar Kober. New York: Sterling Children’s Books, an imprint of Sterling Publishing, 2020. ISBN: 9781454940883**

Max and Rachel have just moved to a new apartment, but they can’t find any of their Hanukkah stuff. With help from their new neighbors, they do their best to celebrate, even though “it didn’t feel quite like Hanukkah.” On the ninth night, they decide to celebrate “shamash night,” thanking all the helpers in their building. (Notable Picture Book)



**Stein, Tammar. *Beni's War*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishers, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, 2020. ISBN: 9781541578869**

A follow-up to the Sydney Taylor Honor book *Six-Day Hero*, this tense narrative describes the 1973 Yom Kippur War from the point of view of a twelve-year old boy living in the Golan. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Hopkinson, Deborah. *We Had to Be Brave: Escaping the Nazis on the Kindertransport*. New York: Scholastic Focus, an imprint of Scholastic, 2020. ISBN: 9781338255720**

Hopkinson weaves together primary sources — memoirs, interviews, and photographs — to piece together the accounts of 21 children and teens who were saved from the Nazis via the Kindertransport in this meticulously researched World War II nonfiction book. Back matter includes a timeline, additional resources, source notes, and an index. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Faruqi, Saadia and Laura Shovan. *A Place at the Table*. New York: Clarion Books, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2020. ISBN: 9780358116684**

Pakistani Muslim Sara and British-Jewish Elizabeth meet in a school cooking class where they gradually navigate friendship, family problems, and fitting in. A delicious blend of serious themes (racism, mental illness, financial insecurity) and classic sixth-grade angst, told in vivid alternating voices. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Behar, Ruth. *Letters from Cuba*. New York: Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780525516477**

On the eve of WWII, Esther describes her journey from Poland to Cuba, where everything from the people to the climate are foreign to her. A heartwarming and satisfying immigrant narrative that brings a lesser known Jewish community to light. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Solomon, Rachel Lynn. *Today Tonight Tomorrow*. New York: Simon Pulse, an imprint of Simon and Schuster Publishing, 2020. ISBN: 9781534440241**

In one wild 24-hour period, high school rivals Rowan and Neil go on a scavenger hunt throughout Seattle and (spoiler alert) fall in love. A sweet, funny, Jewishly inflected romp. (Notable Young Adult)

**Eli, Adam. *The New Queer Conscience*. New York: Penguin Workshop, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers Group, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780593093689**

A guide to queer activism and collective responsibility, Eli's clear and concise call to action is filled with autobiographical Jewish reflections and teachings. (Notable Young Adult)

**Savit, Gavriel. *The Way Back*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9781984894625**

A dark and spooky journey from the world of the shtetl into the underworld of Jewish demons...and back again. (Notable Young Adult)

**Wiemer, Liza *The Assignment*. New York: Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House, 2020. ISBN: 9780593123164**

Based on a true incident, a high school teacher assigns students to argue in favor of the Final Solution. Two students fight back, and the resulting schism rocks the school and community. (Notable Young Adult)

## **2020**

**Macy, Sue. *The Book Rescuer: How a Mensch from Massachusetts Saved Yiddish Literature for Generations to Come*. Illustrations by Stacy Innerst. New York: Paula Wiseman Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, 2019. ISBN: 9781481472203**

*The Book Rescuer* celebrates the power of an individual to preserve history and culture, while also exploring timely themes of identity and immigration. In a folksy voice, this biography tells the story of Yiddish Book Center founder Aaron Lansky's commitment to rescuing Yiddish language books and ensuring that despite all odds, Yiddish language and culture will stay alive for future generations. (Picture Book Award Winner)

**Palacio, R.J. *White Bird: A Wonder Story*. Illustrated by the author. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Penguin Random House, 2019. ISBN: 9780525645535**

This beautifully illustrated graphic novel connects the Holocaust to familiar contemporary characters, as Julian from the Wonder series learns his grandmother's powerful story of rescue in Vichy-occupied France. (Middle Grade Award Winner)

**DeWoskin, Rachel. *Someday We Will Fly*. New York: Viking, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House, 2019. ISBN: 9780670014965**

In this lushly written historical novel, Lillia and her father and sister flee Warsaw during the Holocaust and take refuge in Shanghai. There, Lillia's need to support her family, her relationships with others, and her awareness of her privilege even as a refugee all contribute to her growth. (Young Adult Award Winner)

**Levy, Debbie. *The Key from Spain: Flory Jagoda and Her Music*. Illustrated by Sonja Wimmer. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2019. ISBN: 9781541522183**

This ethereally illustrated picture book spans generations and continents to show how the composer of "Ocho Kandelikas" came to share Ladino music. (Picture Book Honor)

**Newman, Lesléa. *Gittel's Journey: An Ellis Island Story*. Illustrated by Amy June Bates. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Abrams Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781419727474**

In this beautifully designed, lavishly illustrated picture storybook, young Jewish immigrant Gittel unexpectedly must complete the journey from "the Old County" to America on her own. Look closely at Bates's use of borders for references to the ocean waves and Gittel's beloved candlesticks. (Picture Book Honor)

**Maraniss, Andrew. *Games of Deception: The True Story of the First US Olympic Basketball Team at the 1936 Olympics in Hitler's Germany*. New York: Philomel Books, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House, 2019. ISBN: 9780525514633**

Maraniss weaves two stories, an Olympics charged with antisemitism, and the broader tale of basketball's history, to create this engaging, well-contextualized work of nonfiction. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Pasternack, Sofiya. *Anya and the Dragon*. Boston, MA: Versify, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019. ISBN: 9780358006077**

Heroine Anya's magical abilities are closely tied in with her Judaism in a tale set in tenth-century Russia and tinged with Russian folklore. (Middle Grade Honor)

**Moskowitz, Hannah. *Sick Kids in Love*. Fort Collins, CO: Entangled Teen, an imprint of Entangled Publishing, 2019. ISBN: 9781640637320**

This frank, compelling portrayal of life for two Jewish teens with chronic illnesses is funny, romantic, and thoughtful. (Young Adult Honor)

**Ortiz, Victoria. *Dissenter on the Bench*. New York: Clarion Books, an imprint of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019. ISBN: 9780544973640**

A portrait of Ruth Bader Ginsburg spotlights her experiences with Judaism and Jewish identity and shares stories of landmark cases in which she was involved. (Young Adult Honor)

**Blumenthal, Deborah. *Parrots, Pugs and Pixie Dust: A Book about Fashion Designer Judith Lieber*. Illustrated by Masha D'yans. New York: Little Bee Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781499808988**

Poetic text and sparkling illustrations tell the story of Lieber's journey from war-torn Europe to the world of designer handbags. (Notable Picture Book)

**Malaspina, Ann. *A Scarf for Keiko*. Illustrated by Merrilee Liddiard, Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishers, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2019. ISBN: 9781541521643**

In 1940s Los Angeles, a young Jewish boy realizes he has more in common with a Japanese neighbor than he'd thought. Distinctive illustrations lend this picture book a vintage feel. (Notable Picture Book)

**Rockliff, Mara. *Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope*. Illustrated by Zosia Dzierzawska, Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2019. ISBN: 9780763689155**

L. L. Zamenhoff, who faced suspicion for his Jewishness as a child in 1860s Eastern Europe, invented a universal language in the interest of bringing people together. Text and illustrations combine to give a sense of how Esperanto works. (Notable Picture Book)

**Kacer, Kathy. *Masters of Silence*. Toronto: Annick Press, 2019. ISBN: 9781773212623**

Jewish siblings Helen and Henry hide in a convent during the Holocaust. The theme of their need to keep silent about who they are is underscored by the help they receive from real-life mime Marcel Marceau. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Ravel, Edeet. *A Boy is Not a Bird*. Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781773061740**

Naive but evolving narrator Natt, growing up under Communism, tells a story not usually told about events during the Holocaust. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Wolff, Ferida. *Rachel's Roses*. Illustrated by Margeaux Lucas. New York: Holiday House, 2019. ISBN: 9780823443659**

Rachel, who lives on Manhattan's Lower East Side in the early twentieth century, tries to earn money for rose buttons in time for Rosh Hashanah in a middle-grade novel with a warm, classic feel. (Notable Middle Grade)

**Carlton, Susan Kaplan. *In the Neighborhood of True*. Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Young Readers, an imprint of Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, a division of Workman Publishing, 2019. ISBN: 9781616208608**

In the 1950s South, teenage Ruth is conflicted about whether to reveal her Jewish identity and where she fits in with the Civil Rights movement. A novel with a strong sense of place that urges readers to consider big questions. (Notable Young Adult)

**Marrin, Albert. *A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, and the Holocaust*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House, 2019. ISBN: 9781524701208**

Marrin's vivid narrative shares Korczak's heroism and dedication to caring for orphans during his lifetime, with diversions into the larger historical picture giving context to Korczak's life. (Notable Young Adult)

## **2019**

**Jenkins, Emily. *All-of-a-Kind Family Hanukkah*. Illustrations by Paul Zelinsky. New York: Schwartz &**

**Wade, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2018. ISBN: 9780399554193**

In this meticulously researched Hanukkah story based on the classic children's book *All-of-a-Kind Family*, poetic language and exuberant illustrations perfectly capture the emotions of each of the iconic sisters as they prepare latkes and celebrate the holiday in New York's Lower East Side in 1912. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Auxier, Jonathan. *Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster*. New York: Amulet Books, an imprint of Abrams, 2018. ISBN: 9781419731402**

Auxier masterfully weaves Jewish themes and characters into the story of Nan Sparrow, a chimney climbing girl in Victorian London, and her remarkable friendship with Charlie, the soot golem who saves her life. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Stamper, Vesper. *What the Night Sings*. Illustrated by the author. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781524700386**

This beautifully illustrated novel tells the story of teen Holocaust survivor Gerta as she struggles to reconcile her identity and desires in the wake of tragedy. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Rosenstock, Barb. *Through the Window: Views of Marc Chagall's Life*. Illustrated by Mary GrandPré. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781524717513**

Beautiful illustrations that evoke Chagall's style accompany this lyrical biography that chronicles the famous artist's life from humble beginnings to world renown. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *A Moon for Moe and Mo*. Illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2018. ISBN: 9781580897273**

When Moses Feldman and Mohammed Hassan are mistaken for brothers while out shopping, a friendship is born. Sharing date cookies and Rugelach, the boys and their families mark their respective holidays and share wishes for peace. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Perl, Erica. *All Three Stooges*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2018. ISBN: 9780399551758**

When Noah's best friend loses his father to suicide, comedy-buff Noah's responses call into question his readiness to become a bar mitzvah. Perl integrates details of modern Jewish life--and comedy--into this story of growth in a very difficult situation. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Weissman, Elissa Brent. *The Length of a String*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Young Readers, a division of Penguin Random House, 2018. ISBN: 9780735229471**

Imani's wonderings about her past and her adoption dovetail with the diary she discovers that belonged to her great-grandmother, an evacuee during the Holocaust. A thoughtful exploration of family and Jewish identity. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Solomon, Rachel Lynn. *You'll Miss Me When I'm Gone*. New York: Simon Pulse, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2018. ISBN: 9781481497732**

Twins Tovah and Adina are tested for Huntington's disease and receive opposite results. Their differing responses to the situation, and to their family's Jewish faith, make for an authentic portrayal of a family struggling against grief, with religion naturally integrated. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Churnin, Nancy. *Irving Berlin: The Immigrant Boy Who Made America Sing*. Illustrated by James Rey Sanchez. Berkeley, CA: Creston Books, 2018. ISBN: 9781939547446**

This picture book biography of Irving Berlin emphasizes the “God Bless America” composer’s immigrant background and his Jewish heritage--including the fascinating connection between that song and Judaism’s most important prayer. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmelman, Leslie. *Write On, Irving Berlin!* Illustrated by David C. Gardner. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, 2018. ISBN: 9781585363803**

Song by song, Kimmelman spins the story of Israel Baline, who grew up to be composer Irving Berlin. Gardner’s cheerful pastel illustrations swirl with musical notes. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Spielman, Gloria. *French Toast Sundays*. Illustrated by Inbal Gigi Bousidan. Millburn, NJ: Apples and Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House, 2018. ISBN: 9781681155296**

For Mina, Sundays and Grandma’s French toast go together...until they don’t. This sensitive picture book depicts Jewish traditions for dealing with death while it shows Mina’s quiet way of processing loss. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Zusman, Evelyn. *The Passover Parrot*. Illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, 2018. ISBN: 9781512428827**

With plenty of authentic Passover detail, a text slightly revised from the 1983 original combines with new illustrations full of warm nostalgia to tell the funny story of Hametz, a parrot who steals the afikomen. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Frank, Anne. *Anne Frank’s Diary: The Graphic Adaptation*. Adapted by Ari Folman. Illustrated by David Polonsky. New York: Pantheon Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2018. ISBN: 9781101871799**

This graphic adaptation brings Anne Frank and the other residents of the Secret Annex to life. Though it makes the fear inherent in their situation clear, it also conveys plenty of ordinary, even humorous moments, reminding readers just how real the people were. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Greenwald, Lisa. *12 Before 13*. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2018. ISBN: 9780062411778**

Arianna and her best friend Kaylan make a list of twelve goals to accomplish before their thirteenth birthdays - and Arianna’s bat mitzvah. A breezy, entertaining read, full of insight as Arianna’s personal relationship to Judaism develops. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Light the Menorah: A Hanukkah Handbook*. Illustrated by Kristina Swarner. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, 2018. ISBN: 9781512483697**

Beautifully illustrated, this handbook includes songs, activities, rituals, and reflections to help enhance Hanukkah for all families. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy. *The Sound of Freedom*. Toronto, CA: Annick Press, 2018. ISBN: 9781554519699**

As Hitler and the Nazis rise to power, Anna, the daughter of a prominent Polish clarinet player feels more and more unsafe. When she finds out that an orchestra is being formed in Palestine by musician Bronislaw Huberman, she pushes her father to audition. Though they encounter challenges, Anna and her family ultimately have hope for the future. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Nielsen, Jennifer. *Resistance*. New York: Scholastic, 2018. ISBN: 9781338148473**

When her family is upended in Nazi-occupied Poland, teenager Chaya Linder is determined to make a difference. Circumstances send her from being a courier, to raiding Nazi supplies, to finally the biggest mission of all, the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2018**

**Michelson, Richard. *The Language of Angels: A Story about the Reinvention of Hebrew*. Illustrations by Karla Gudeon. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2017. ISBN: 978-1580896368**

This beautiful picture book tells the story of how Hebrew became an everyday language in Israel, after being out of use for two thousand years. The folk art illustrations are an illuminating match. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Gratz, Alan. *Refugee*. New York: Scholastic, 2017. ISBN: 9780545880831**

The journeys of three different young refugees from Nazi Germany, 1990s Cuba and present-day Syria come together to form an emotional and timely narrative about the refugee experience. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Iturbe, Antonio. *The Librarian of Auschwitz*. Translated by Lilit Thwaites. New York: Godwin Books, an imprint of Henry Holt and Company, 2017. ISBN: 9781627796187**

This powerful story of Dita Kraus and her protection of a handful of books in the Auschwitz concentration camp shows the importance of hope in the darkest of times. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Gilani-Williams, Fawzia. *Yaffa and Fatima: Shalom, Salaam*. Illustrations by Chiara Fedele. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2017. ISBN: 9781467789387**

Jewish Yaffa and Arab Fatima are neighbors whose concern for each other during a date shortage provides a new twist on the "Brothers" legend. Burgundy and teal against neutral backgrounds provide striking illustrations for a story with a subtle, yet timely message. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Drop by Drop: A Story of Rabbi Akiva*. Illustrated by Yevgenia Nayberg. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2017. ISBN: 9781512420906**

Skeptical that he can start learning Torah at the age of forty, when illiterate shepherd Akiva sees the way water has worn down the rocks in the brook, he applies himself and becomes the great Rabbi Akiva, thanks in great part to his wife Rachel's devotion and trust. Colorful and folksy illustrations complement the text. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Krawitz, Susan. *Viva Rose!* New York: Holiday House, 2017. ISBN: 9780823437566**

Rose's brother Abraham joins Pancho Villa's army. When trying to get a letter to him, Rose is kidnapped and becomes the playmate of Dorotea First-person narrative and historic details of the late 19th century Mexican revolutionary enhance the story. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Rosenberg, Madelyn and Wendy Wan-Long Shang. *This Is Just a Test*. New York: Scholastic, 2017. ISBN: 9781338037722**

David Da-Wei Horowitz is preparing for his bar mitzvah and trying to appease both his Jewish and Chinese grandmothers, and digging a fallout shelter, and trying to balance his friends. Add a little 1980s David Hasselhoff and Betamax for a quirky and fast-paced read. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Stein, Tammar. *The Six-Day Hero*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2017. ISBN: 9781512458718**

Stein has penned an "intense read about family, love, identity and spirituality" that takes place on the eve of Israel's Six-Day War in 1967, with twelve-year-old Motti both idolizing and resenting his older brother Gideon, who will be a soldier in the war. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy with Jordana Lebowitz. *To Look a Nazi in the Eye: A Teen's Account of a War Criminal Trial*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781772600407**

Lebowitz attended the first week of the trial of Oskar Groening, known as "the bookkeeper of Auschwitz." She blogged about her experience, and as the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, went through a myriad of emotions. Kacer chronicles both her account and the trial testimony. She returned to Canada and closely followed the rest of the trial (Groening was found guilty of facilitating mass murder and sentenced to four years in prison, but he died before he began his sentence). Lebowitz is now a human rights advocate. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Kaurin, Marianne. *Almost Autumn*. Translated by Rosie Hedger. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, an imprint of Scholastic, 2017. ISBN: 9780545889650**

Ilse Stern's is stood up for what was to be her first date with her crush and neighbor Hermann Rod, and things get more complicated from there. Hermann joins the resistance and Ilse's family faces the anti-Semitism of Quisling's Norway during World War II. Will first love triumph? (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Locke, Katherine. *The Girl with the Red Balloon (The Balloon makers)*. Park Ridge, IL: Albert Whitman, 2017. ISBN: 9780807529379**

Time travel and a red balloon propel Ellie Baum to 1988 East Berlin, where she must fight the evils of dark magic that are trying to change history. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Adler, David A. *Yom Kippur Shortstop*. Illustrations by Andre Ceolin. Millburn, NJ: Apples & Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House, 2017. ISBN: 9781681155210**

Inspired by Sandy Koufax's legendary dilemma, Jacob must decide whether to play the championship Little League game or sit it out on the holiest day in the Jewish calendar. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Herman, Michael. *Under the Sabbath Lamp*. Illustrations by Alida Massari. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2017. ISBN: 9781512408416**

Instead of Sabbath candles, Izzy and Olivia Bloom have an interesting Sabbath lamp that burns olive oil. Their neighbors learn that its history is also interesting, traveling from the shtetl to America one piece at a time with each family member that immigrated. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *Big Sam: A Rosh Hashanah Tall Tale*. Illustrations by Jim Starr. Millburn, NJ: Apples & Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House, 2017. ISBN: 9781681155258**

How big is Big Sam? So big that in order to make his challahs for the New Year, he digs out the Grand Canyon for a mixing bowl and bakes it in Mount St. Helens. Then, it being the time of year for repentance, he cleans up the mess he made in his preparation and shares his Rosh Hashanah foods with friends. Beautiful illustrations of the American West amplify the text. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Oppenheim, Joanne. *The Knish War on Rivington Street*. Illustrations by Jon Davis. Park Ridge, IL: Albert Whitman, 2017. ISBN: 9780807541821**

Square or round? A price war ensues, but either way, everyone loves knishes, so there will be plenty of business for both Benny's family store and the Tisch's new store across the street. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Winter, Jonah. *Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of R.B.G. vs. Inequality*. Illustrations by Stacy Innerst.**

**New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2017. ISBN: 9781419725593**

How many injustices did Ruth Bader Ginsburg suffer before becoming a Supreme Court Justice (and a hipster idol)? The case presented to the reader includes the biases against Jews, women, and working mothers in both academia and the work world. The gouache, ink and Photostop illustrations add humor, while the author's note supplies the details of the decimation Ginsberg faced throughout her career. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bisson, Michelle. *Hedy's Journey: The True Story of a Hungarian Girl Fleeing the Holocaust* (Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books). Illustrations by El Primo Ramón. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781515782223**

Hedy leaves Hungary in 1941, and she must way her way to America alone. Her journey is fraught with both fortune and misfortune, and both happiness and sadness. Based on the author's mother's experiences. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Golabek, Mona and Lee Cohen. *The Children of Willesden Lane: A True Story of Hope and Survival during World War II: Young Readers Edition*. Adapted by Emil Sher. New York: Little Brown Books for Young Readers, a division of Hachette Book Group, 2017. ISBN: 9780316554886**

Adapted from the original (Grand Central Publishing, 2003), Golabek's mother leaves her idyllic life in Vienna, and travels on the *Kindertransport* to her new home in an orphanage outside London. Worried about family and old friends, her new friends bolster her as she fulfills her potential as a musical prodigy and eventually attends the Royal Academy of Music on a scholarship. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Pearl, Sydelle. *Wordwings*. Montreal: Guernica Editions, 2017. ISBN: 9781771831963**

Emanuel Ringelblum organized an archive and collected diaries and documents to chronicle life in the Warsaw Ghetto. Twelve-year-old Rivka Rosenfeld writes her thoughts between the pages of a Hans Christian Andersen book, which is also hidden in a milk can for posterity. (Notable Books for Older Readers)

**Romero, R. M. *The Dollmaker of Krakow*. New York: Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2017. ISBN: 9781524715397**

Fairy tale and harsh reality intertwine as Karolina the doll, is brought by a "kind wind" to the shop of Cyryl the dollmaker. They try to help violinist Josef and his daughter Rena escape the Krakow ghetto and avoid extermination by the Nazis. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Frankl, Viktor E. *Man's Search for Meaning: Young Reader Edition*. Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2017. ISBN: 9780807067994**

Frankl's best-selling work has been abridged, with much of the discussion of scientific and philosophical references left out and more focus on the meaning of life and the meaning of suffering John Boyne (*Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* (David Fickling Books, 2006), wrote the Foreword which describes his introduction to Frankl's book and its "profound effect" on him. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Laskin, Pamela L. *Ronit & Jamil*. New York: Katherine Tegen Books, an imprint of HarperCollins, 2017. ISBN: 9780062458544**

Much like Romeo and Juliet, Israeli Ronit and Palestinian Jamil are star-crossed lovers whose families are against their relationship. Their story is told with quotes from Shakespeare and Arab poets and use of the ghazal (the rhyme is repeated in the even lines) form of poetry. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Schulman, L. B. *Stolen Secrets*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, a division of Highlights, 2017. ISBN: 9781629797229**



Livvy's grandmother Adelle, whom Livvy had thought was dead, suffers from Alzheimer's Disease. As Livvy gets to know her grandmother and reads her journal entries, she learns that Adelle was in a concentration camp and may have a connection to Anne Frank. Things go awry when Livvy's mother ends up back in rehab, and Livvy and friend Franklin D. must protect Adelle. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2017**

**Levy, Debbie. *I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark*. Illustrations by Elizabeth Baddeley. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2016. ISBN: 978-1481465595**

This delightful biography of the Supreme Court Justice teaches children that dissent does not make a person disagreeable, and can even help change the world. The grab-your-attention illustrations help explain the text. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Gidwitz, Adam. *The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog*. Illustrations by Hatem Aly. New York: Dutton Children's Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0525426165**

Part fantasy and part adventure, this is the tale of strangers who become friends while on a quest to save thousands of volumes of Talmud. The beautiful illuminations reflect the medieval flavor of the book. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Savit, Gavriel. *Anna and the Swallow Man*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0553513349**

Anna is left alone in 1939 Krakow when the Nazis take her father away. She meets the mysterious Swallow Man who is able to speak "bird," and travels with him in the forests of Poland, where they spend four years hiding and eluding capture. This is a haunting story that may be allegory or folktale or perhaps both. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Edwards, Michelle. *A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: A Story About Knitting and Love*. Illustrations by G. Brian Karas. New York: Schwartz and Wade Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0553497106**

Kind Mrs. Goldman, assisted by her young next-door neighbor Sophia, knits hats for everyone in their neighborhood. But who will knit a hat for Mrs. Goldman? Sophia tries, and the result is much appreciated (if not perfectly executed). A warm intergenerational and intercultural friendship story. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Michelson, Richard. *Fascinating: The Life of Leonard Nimoy*. Illustrations by Edel Rodriguez. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-1101933305**

Michelson, longtime friend and gallerist for the Star Trek actor and photographer, presents a personal and heartfelt picture-book biography of the late Leonard Nimoy, from Nimoy's observant Jewish upbringing to his childhood interest in photography to his iconic television role. Groovy, out-of-this-world illustrations reflect the time period. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Ben Izzy, Joel. *Dreidels on the Brain*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0803740976**

In this semi-autobiographical story set during Hanukkah 1971, twelve-year-old Joel describes his family and life in the L.A. suburbs. His observations are frequently hilarious, even as his family faces serious events (his father spends much of that week in the hospital). (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *A Poem for Peter: The Story of Ezra Jack Keats and the Creation of The Snowy Day*. Illustrations by Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher. New York: Viking Children's Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0425287682**

This gorgeously illustrated ode to the author of the iconic picture book *The Snowy Day* focuses on Keats's background as a child of Polish immigrants, his early artwork, and his attention to discrimination and social justice. The lyrical text is addressed to Peter, Keats's most well-known and beloved character. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**N.B.: In the Teen category, there were no Honor or Notable books.**

**Bietz, Barbara. *The Sundown Kid: A Southwestern Shabbat*. Illustrations by John Kanzler. Atlanta, GA: August House Publishing, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-93916-094-2**

In this unique Southwestern-set frontier tale, the young narrator's family introduces Shabbat foods and customs to its new community, making someplace far away from extended family feel more like home. An author's note tells more about Jews in the "Wild West" and about *hachnasat orchim* ("the act of welcoming guests"). (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Glaser, Linda. *On One Foot*. Illustrations by Nuria Balaguer. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-4677-7842-8**

A young Torah scholar asks: "Can you teach me the whole Torah while standing on one foot?" He's repeatedly rebuffed ("That's preposterous!" "Ha! Not even the great Rabbi Hillel can do that!"), before finally meeting that learned man himself and fulfilling his quest. Mixed-media illustrations cleverly incorporate papers with Hebrew writing. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gottesfeld, Jeff. *The Tree in the Courtyard: Looking Through Anne Frank's Window*. Illustrated by Peter McCarty. New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House, 2016. ISBN: 9780385753975**

Lyrical text and dramatic brown-ink illustrations on creamy paper depict the story of the Frank family from the third-person perspective of the tree that stood outside Anne's window of the attic annex. An afterword tells more: "Saplings and seedpods from Anne Frank's tree have been planted around the world." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric. *Gabriel's Horn*. Illustrations by Maria Surducan. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-4677-8936-3**

On Erev Rosh Hashanah, a soldier knocks on Gabriel's family's door, owners of an antique shop. About to deploy, the soldier entrusts his French horn to them. Good fortune follows the family as they perform other good deeds, shown in luminous illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Mayer, Pamela. *Chicken Soup, Chicken Soup*. Illustrations by Deborah Melmon. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-4677-8934-9**

"Two grandmas. Two soup pots. Two family traditions" leads to "the first ever Jewish Chinese Kreplach Wonton Chicken Soup!" prepared by young Sophie, which pleases both her bubbe and her nai nai (Chinese for grandmother). (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Steinberg, Jessica. *Not This Turkey!* Illustrations by Amanda Pike. Park Ridge, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 2016. ISBN: 978-0-8075-7908-4**

Papa wins a Thanksgiving turkey at work. The only problem is... it's a live turkey. Papa takes the turkey home with him on the subway. Mama's reaction: "A turkey doesn't belong in a fourth-floor walk-up!" The humorous tale is based on a true story. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Arato, Rona. *The Ship to Nowhere: On Board the Exodus*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-7726-0018-6**

In this work of historical fiction set in 1947 and based on actual events, eleven-year-old Rachel, her sister, and their mother are Jewish refugees aboard the Exodus taking them to Palestine. In view of land, the ship is detained by British warships and prevented from docking. The refugees' plight gained international attention and aid from caring individuals. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Mazzeo, Tilar J. *Irena's Children: Young Readers Edition: A True Story of Courage*. Adapted by Mary Cronk Farrell. New York, NY: Margaret K. McElderry Books, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-4814-4991-5**

The Young Readers Edition of Irene's Children: A True Story of Courage about Irena Sendler, a brave Christian Polish woman who rescued thousands of Jewish children during World War II. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *The Bicycle Spy*. New York, NY: Scholastic Books, 2016. ISBN: 978-0-545-85095-7**

In a French village in 1942, twelve-year-old Marcel joins the Resistance and delivers messages via bicycle to help his Jewish friends evade capture. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Meyer, Susan Lynn. *Skating with the Statue of Liberty*. New York: Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House, 2016. ISBN: 978-0-385-74155-2**

This sequel to *Black Radishes* (a 2011 Honor Book) finds Gustave's family in New York, having escaped Occupied France. Gustav's friendship with September Rose, a young African American girl, helps him adjust to his family's new life as American immigrants. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **2016**

**Newman, Lesléa. *Ketzel the Cat who Composed*. Illustrations by Amy June Bates. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0763665555**

Inspired by a true story, this picture book tells the story of Moshe, a young composer who takes in a stray cat. Together, the two manage to create music in the most interesting way. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Appelfeld, Aharon. *Adam and Thomas*. Translated by Jeffrey M. Green. Illustrations by Phillippe Dumas. New York: Seven Stories Press, 2015. ISBN: 9781609806347**

Adam and Thomas are two nine-year-old boys who must fend for themselves in the forest during WWII. With only minimal help, the boys live under harsh conditions, fighting for survival and experience small miracles. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Schlitz, Laura Amy. *The Hired Girl*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2015. ISBN: 9780763678180**

After running away from her father who forbids education and burns her beloved books, fourteen-year-old Joan heads to Baltimore where she is hired as a maid for a Jewish family. Set in the early 1900s and told first person via diary entries, Joan dreams of love, learning and the future. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Hyde, Heidi Smith. *Shanghai Sukkah*. Illustrations by Jing Jing Tsong. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2015. ISBN: 978-1467734745**

To escape the war, Marcus and his family move from Berlin to China. With his new friend Liang, Marcus learns to celebrate Sukkot while embracing his new surroundings and Chinese customs. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmelman, Leslie. *Everybody Says Shalom*. Illustrations by Talitha Shipman. New York: Random House, 2015. ISBN: 978-0385383363**

With colorful pictures and a helpful historical guide in the back, this rhyming picture book is a child-friendly tour guide of Israel. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Deutsch, Barry. *Hereville: How Mirka Caught a Fish*. New York: Amulet Books, and imprint of Abrams Books, 2015. ISBN:978-1419708008**

The third installment in the Hereville series, this graphic novel continues the whimsical saga of Mirka, a spunky time-traveling Jewish girl. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy. *Stones on a Grave*. Victoria, BC: Orca Book Publishers, 2015. ISBN: 978-1459806597**

It's 1964 and eighteen-year-old Sara, an orphan from Ontario, treks to Germany to unravel the truth about her Jewish parentage. This book is part of the Secrets series. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Nelson, Suzanne. *Serendipity's Footsteps*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House, 2015. ISBN: 978-0385392129**

Linked by a pair of shoes, this book chronicles the lives of three different girls throughout time and distance. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Adler, David A. *Hanukkah Cookies with Sprinkles*. Illustrations by Jeffrey Ebbeler. Millburn, NJ: Apples & Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman House & Gefen Publishing House, 2015. ISBN: 978-1681155005**

As Hanukkah approaches, Sarah learns the importance of tzedakah, helping those in need, friendship and kindness and Jewish tradition. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Korngold, Jamie. *Sadie and Ori and the Blue Blanket*. Illustrations by Julie Fortenberry. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2015. ISBN: 978-1467711920**

Through the connection of a hand-knit blanket, this is a sweet story depicting the relationship between a grandmother and her two grandchildren throughout time. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Singer, Isaac Bashevis. *The Parakeet Named Dreidel*. Illustrations by Suzanne Raphael Berkson. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2015. ISBN: 978-0374300944**

Unable to find its owners, David and his family are delighted to take in a Yiddish speaking parakeet they name Dreidel. Many years later, David connects to Dreidel's past in the most unexpected way. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cerrito, Angela. *The Safest Lie*. New York: Holiday House, 2015. ISBN: 978-0823433100**

Nine-year-old Anna struggles to conceal and relinquish her Jewish heritage when she must pose as a Catholic girl in order to escape the Warsaw Ghetto. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen-Janka, Irene. *Mr. Doctor: Janusz Korczak and the Orphans of the Warsaw Ghetto*. Illustrations by Maurizio A. C. Quarello. Toronto: Annick Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-1554517152**

Based on a true story, this illustrated book is about Janusz Korczak, a Polish doctor who cared for and housed and ultimately refused to abandon a group of Jewish children in the Warsaw Ghetto. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levinson, Cynthia. *Watch Out for Flying Kids: How Two Circuses, Two Countries, and Nine Kids Confront Conflict and Build Community*. Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Publishers, 2015. ISBN: 978-1561458219**

This non-fiction book takes readers behind the scenes of two traveling kid circuses. Unique social aspects are highlighted as the circuses include kids from a variety of different cultures, religions and races. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Patrick Lewis, J. *The Wren and the Sparrow*. Illustrations by Yevgenia Nayberg. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, 2015. ISBN: 978-1467719513**

Forced to surrender their musical instruments to the Nazis, this lyrical story based on true events focuses on the story of a musician, his clever student and the miraculous preservation of a beloved hurdy-gurdy that withstands the war and sees through generations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sharenow, Rob. *The Girl in the Torch*. New York: Balzer + Bray, an imprint of Harper Collins Publishers, 2015. ISBN: 978-0062227959**

After being denied entry at Ellis Island, twelve-year-old Sarah makes the brave decision to jump ship and make a home for herself inside the Statue of Liberty. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Franklin, Emily. *Last Night at the Circle Cinema*. Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Lab, 2015. ISBN: 978-1467774895**

On the eve of high school graduation, three best friends decide to spend the night in the Circle Cinema, an abandoned movie theater where they unravel secrets, cope with past struggles and triumphs and ultimately face their futures. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Hopkinson, Deborah. *Courage and Defiance: Stories of Spies, Saboteurs, and Survivors in World War II Denmark*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0545592208**

This book chronicles the true stories of the brave people behind the Nazi resistance efforts and the countless lives they saved during the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Solomon, Carol. *Imagining Katherine*. Tova Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0692486481**

Through high-schooler Katherine's eyes, the novel tackles topics such as racism, segregation, the civil rights movement and Jewish identity in the cultural climate of 1960s Baltimore. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Thor, Annika. *Deep Sea*. New York: Delacorte Press, 2015. ISBN: 978-0385743853**

Three years earlier, Jewish sisters Stephanie and Nellie were sent to live with foster families on a Swedish island. Now sixteen-years-old, Stephanie deals with “typical” teen issues such as school and friends while grappling with the fact that her parents remain in an Austrian concentration camp. This is the third book about the Steiner Sisters. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2015**

**Aylesworth, Jim. *My Grandfather's Coat*. Illustrated by Barbara McClintock. New York: Scholastic Press, 2014. ISBN: 9780439925457**

A delightful retelling of the Yiddish folksong “I Had a Little Overcoat,” in which, the main character is a Jewish immigrant to the United States who works as a tailor. The descriptive illustrations expand on the narrative and weave their own tale of the man’s life cycle events. (Award Winner for Younger Readers).

**Dauvillier, Loïc. *Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust*. Illustrated by Marc Lizano. Color by Greg Salsedo. Translated by Alexis Siege. New York: First Second, 2014. ISBN: 9781596438736**

In graphic novel format, a grandmother recounts to her granddaughter her experiences as a hidden Jewish child in Nazi-occupied France during the Holocaust. The grey and brown-tinted illustrations portray a dark and scary time. However, the text and images provide a gentle introduction to the Holocaust for elementary grade and middle grade readers. (Award Winner for Older Readers).

**Napoli, Donna Jo. *Storm*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2014. ISBN: 9781481403023**

A novel based on the Bible Story Noah’s Ark told through the viewpoint of Sebah, a sixteen-year-old woman, who is a stowaway on the Ark. Sebah describes the severe conditions of the flood which took the lives of her family. Also, she shares her observations of the turmoil on the Ark between Noah and his family members as well as amongst the animals. (Award Winner for Teen Readers).

**Krasner, Barbara. *Goldie Takes a Stand*. Illustrated by Kelsey Garrity-Rile. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., 2014. ISBN: 9781467712019**

A young Golda Meir is the president of the American Young Sisters Society where she uses her leadership skills to raise money to purchase books for immigrant students. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Never Say a Mean Word Again: A Tale from Medieval Spain*. Illustrated by Durga Yael Bernhard. Bloomington, IN: Wisdom Tales, 2014. ISBN: 9781937786205**

A universal story of friendship and cross-cultural understanding based on a Spanish legend. Samuel’s father, a Jewish vizier, advises Samuel after offends his friend Hamza and Hamza (son of the tax collector) responds with anger. Samuel’s father says, "make sure Hamza never says a mean word to you again." As a result, Samuel and Hamsa begin to enjoy activities together, and their friendship grows in spite of their challenging beginnings. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Gephart, Donna. *Death by Toilet Paper*. New York: Delacorte Press for Young Readers, 2014. ISBN: 9780385743990**

Benjamin Epstein faces many challenges since his father’s death, most significantly, being evicted from his home. Benjamin does his best to help out his mom, by entering contests, including one for a toilet paper company slogan. When his aging grandfather moves in trouble escalates for Ben. Realistic, deeply touching, with just the right balance of kid friendly humor. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Elygren, Jennifer. *Whispering Town*. Illustrations by Fabio Santomauro Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., 2014. ISBN: 9781467711944**

A picture book for older readers set in 1943 Nazi-occupied Denmark. In a small fishing village Anett and her parents hide a Jewish mother and son in their cellar until they can travel safely to Sweden. Evocative illustrations add depth to the story. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Perl, Lila. *Isabel’s War*. Brooklyn: New York: Lizzie Skurnick Books, an imprint of IG Publishing, 2014. ISBN: 978-1939601278**

Isabel is a self-centered American girl who is not happy about having to spend her summer vacation in a resort with her parents. She is even more unhappy when she finds out she will have to share her room with Helga, a

beautiful German girl. Gradually, Isabel learns what is happening to the Jews in Europe, that Helga was saved by the *Kindertransport*, and tries to learn the terrible secret Helga is keeping. The story integrates factual material about World War II, the status of refugees, attitudes of Americans towards the German refugees and some the experiences of the Kindertransport children. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**LaMarche, Una. *Like No Other*. New York: Razor Bill, an imprint of Penguin Group, 2014. ISBN: 9781595146748**

The story of a Hasidic girl, Devorah, who has a chance meeting in a hospital elevator, during a power out, with a young black teen named Jaxon. Contrary to Devorah's stereotype of black boys, Jaxon is respectful and tries to help them escape from the dark elevator. An unlikely friendship develops. Although they would both like their friendship to develop into something more, Devorah realizes that she does not want to give up her relationship with her family and her community, and they each must go on with their individual lives. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Snyder, Elaine. *Anna & Solomon*. Illustrations by Harry Bliss. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2014. ISBN: 978-0374-303624**

Anna and Solomon were Russian Jews in the 1890's. They had only enough money for one ticket to America. Solomon sailed alone. He worked hard to save money for Anna to join him. As each of three ships dock in New York, various members of Anna's family disembark without Anna. Finally, Anna made the journey. The story is based on the author's grandparents' immigration experience. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Newman, Lesléa. *Here is the World*. Illustrations by Susan Gal. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2014. ISBN:78-1-419-71**

*Here is* a book of simple rhymes for each Jewish holiday (and a baby naming). *Here is* a custom to make the holiday come alive. *Here are* recipes or crafts to enrich the celebrations *Here is* a description of each holiday. *Here is* the repetition of the rhyme that will keep young children reading along with the text. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosner, Jennifer. *The Mitten String*. Illustrations by Kristina Swarner. New York: Random House Books for Young Readers, 2014. ISBN:978-0-385-37118-6**

This is an original folktale about a girl who knits, a deaf woman, and a piece of blue yarn. Ruthie's family raise sheep and young Ruthie loves to knit mittens from the wool. Her family invites a deaf woman and her baby to spend the night. Ruthie wonders how the mother will hear the child during the night. Her discovery leads to an invention for not losing mittens. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**McGinty, Alice B. *Rabbi Benjamin's Buttons*. Illustrations by Jennifer Black Reinhardt. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, 2014. ISBN: 978-1-580-89432-6**

Rabbi's Benjamin's Congregation give him a beautiful vest to wear on Jewish holidays. As he eats and eats the special foods (recipes included), the 4 silver buttons pop off. Over the summer, he loses the extra weight by helping his friends with physically active holiday preparations. Charming and colorful illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric. *Simon and The Bear*. Illustrations by Matthew Trueman. New York: Disney-Hyperion, 2014. ISBN:978-1-423-14355-0**

A zany and fun Hanukkah tale of Simon, a Russian boy on his way to America. After a shipwreck he is stranded on an iceberg. Simon is saved by a polar bear that shares his latkes, enjoys his songs, goes fishing for him and keeps him warm at night. Simon experiences miracle after miracle during his journey. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Adler, David. *The Story of Passover*. Illustrations by Jill Weber. New York: Holiday House, 2014. ISBN: 978-0-823-42902-8**

A beautifully illustrated and accurate retelling of the children of Israel's journey from slavery in Egypt to freedom. Many of the "gruesome" parts of the story are included, such as the death of the firstborn child and the Egyptians drowning in the Red Sea. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rocklin, Joanne. *Fleabrain Loves Franny*. New York: Harry N. Abrams/Amulet Books, 2014. ISBN: 9781419710681**

In 1952 Pittsburgh, a young Jewish girl convalescing from polio is befriended by an erudite flea with supernatural powers. The book is both an engaging work of historical fiction and a highly imaginative animal fantasy. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Agnon, S. Y. *From Foe to Friend & Other Stories: A Graphic Novel*. Illustrated by Shay Charka. English language edition adapted by Jeffrey Saks. New Milford, CT: The Toby Press, 2014. ISBN: 9781592643950**

Charka's witty, approachable panel-art illustrations capture the essence of three tales by Nobel Prize laureate Agnon, who died in 1970. Themes include kindness, persistence, creativity, and Jewish mysticism. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Agosín, Margorie. *I Lived on Butterfly Hill*. Illustrated by Lee White. Translated from the Spanish by E. M. O'Connor. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2014. ISBN: 9781416953449**

Eleven-year-old Celeste idyllic life in Valparaíso—where her *abuela* settled after fleeing the Nazis—is violently upended with Chile's bloody coup d'état (here fictionalized). Agosin's lyrical writing—her sensory descriptions of Chile and sensitive portrayal of one girl's coming-of-age—is pure poetry. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Finkelstein, Norman H. *Schools of Hope: How Julius Rosenwald Helped Change African American Education*. Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2014. ISBN: 9781590788417**

Inspired by Booker T. Washington, the president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, Julius Rosenwald, helped build over 5300 schools for African Americans in the segregated South. A well-researched account of one man's act of *tzedakah*, on a grand scale. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Freedom Summer: The 1964 Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*. New York: Holiday House, 2014. ISBN: 9780823429202**

Rubin commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of "Freedom Summer" with an informative look at events, including the tragic murders of three young civil rights workers. Her firsthand interviews bring immediacy and intimacy to history. (Notable Book for Teens)

**Becker, Helaine. *Gottika*. Illustrated by Alexander Griggs-Burr. Toronto: Dancing Cat Books, 2014. ISBN: 9781770863910**

In a futuristic society, "Stoons"—a learned and peaceful people—are persecuted by the Nazi-like Gottikan rulers. Dany's father conjures a "gol" to protect their people. Dramatic interspersed panel illustrations help set the pace for this gripping tale. (Notable Book for Teens)

**Zail, Suzy. *Playing for the Commandant*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2014. ISBN: 9780763664039**

In Auschwitz, young pianist Hanna must perform for the Nazis to keep her mother and sister alive. She falls in love with the commandant's son, Karl, whose kindness in the face of horror helps sustain her. (Notable Book for Teens)



**Blankman, Anne. *Prisoner of Night and Fog*. New York: Balzer + Bray, 2014. ISBN: 9780062278814**

In 1923 Munich, seventeen-year-old Gretchen, a favorite of “Uncle Dolph,” has her eyes opened to the coming atrocities by a courageous young Jewish reporter. Taut mystery, engaging historical fiction, and romantic love story. (Notable Book for Teens)

**Sanders, Shelly. *Rachel’s Hope*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2014. ISBN: 9781927583425**

This conclusion to the Rachel Trilogy, based on true events, finds the protagonist settling into life in early 1900s San Francisco. Alternating chapters describe Sergei’s flight from Siberian exile. The book’s ending is cathartic, if heartbreaking. (Notable Book for Teens)

## **2014**

**Snyder, Laurel. *The Longest Night: A Passover Story*. Illustrations by Catia Chien. New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2013. ISBN: 9780375969423**

Written in gentle verse, the tumultuous days leading up to the Jews’ flight from Egypt are described from the perspective of an unnamed slave girl in this beautifully illustrated story. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Polacco, Patricia. *The Blessing Cup*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2013. ISBN: 9781442450479**

The miraculous journey from the shtetl to America of the remaining teacup from a china tea set, deliberately left behind when her Jewish ancestors were forced to leave Czarist Russia, will strike an emotional chord with readers. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Bascomb, Neal. *The Nazi Hunters: How a Team of Spies and Survivors Captured the World’s Most Notorious Nazi*. New York: Arthur A. Levine Books, 2013. ISBN: 9780545430999**

A stunning account of the mission to capture Adolf Eichmann by an elite team of Israeli spies is dramatically brought to life by Neal Bascomb. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Perlov, Betty Rosenberg. *Rifka Takes a Bow*. Illustrations by Cosei Kawa. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2013. ISBN: 9780761381273**

A young girl shares her experiences being the daughter of performers in the Yiddish theater during the 1920’s in New York City. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Londner, Renee. *Stones for Grandpa*. Illustrations by Martha Avilés. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2013. ISBN: 9780761374954**

The Jewish custom of placing stones on a gravestone is gently explained to young children, through the eyes of a young boy as he remembers his grandfather. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Leyson, Leon with Marilyn J. Harran and Elisabeth B. Leyson. *The Boy on the Wooden Box: How the Impossible Became Possible...on Schindler’s list*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2013. ISBN: 9781442497818**

The late Leon Leyson has created an inspiring memoir about his experiences during the Holocaust. He was one of the youngest children on Oskar Schindler’s list. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Dear Canada: Pieces of the Past: The Holocaust Diary of Rose Rabinowitz, Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1948*. Scholastic Canada, 2013. ISBN: 9781443113076**

Rose’s fictional diary depicts her struggle to adjust to a new life as an orphan in Canada after WWII and shares her horrific experiences during the war. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Bavati, Robyn. *Dancing in the Dark*. Woodbury: Flux, 2013. ISBN: 9780738734774**

Ditty Cohen, an orthodox teen, is forced to keep her passion and talent for ballet dancing hidden from her family. She studies ballet in secret, but ultimately must choose between a life on the stage as a dancer and her family. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Sax, Aline. *The War Within These Walls*. Illustrated by Caryl Strzelecki. Translated by Laura Watkinson. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2013. ISBN: 978-0802854285**

The appalling conditions of the Warsaw Ghetto are shown in this unforgettable illustrated novel. A teenage Jewish boy narrates his story beginning with the invasion of Poland and dramatically showing the role he plays in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Lumer, Marc. *Benny's Mitzvah Notes*. Brooklyn: Hachai Publishing, 2013. ISBN: 9781929628698** Benny, a young Orthodox Jewish boy, loves the mitzvah notes his parents make for him. Benny grows up and writes a touching mitzvah note of his own. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Markel, Michelle. *Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909*. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. New York: Balzer & Bray/HarperCollins Publishers, 2013. ISBN: 9780061804427**

In 1909, Clara Lemlich and her fellow garment workers ban together to create better conditions. With resilience and courage, young Clara stands up for what she believes. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Stampler, Ann Redisch. *The Cats on Ben Yehuda Street*. Illustrated by Francesca Carabelli. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, a division of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., 2013. ISBN: 9780761381235**

Cranky fish shop owner Mr. Modiano and his neighbor Mrs. Spiegel are brought together in the most unlikely of ways with the help of two mischievous cats. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Brown, Barbara. *Hanukkah in Alaska*. Illustrated by Stacey Schuett. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2013. ISBN: 9780805097481**

A girl living in Alaska is frustrated when a moose won't leave her backyard, threatening to chomp down the tree holding up her beloved swing. Even the celebration of Hanukkah doesn't distract her. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Marshall, Linda Elovitz. *The Passover Lamb*. Illustrated by Tatjana Mai-Wyss. New York: Random House Children's Books, 2013. ISBN: 9780307931771**

On the morning of Passover, Miriam discovers one of the sheep on her family's farm has given birth to triplets! Miriam has a clever plan to attend the seder and celebrate Passover with the help of a baby lamb. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cohen, Chava. *Our Special New Baby*. Illustrated by Rivkie Braverman. Nanuet, NY: Feldheim Publishers, 2013. ISBN: 9781598269604**

Racheli's father explains that her new baby brother is very special. He was born with Down syndrome. Racheli and her siblings learn about understanding, acceptance, and love. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Boyd, Shoshana Gelfand. *The Barefoot Book of Jewish Tales*. Illustrated by Amanda Hall. Story CD narrated by Debra Messing. Cambridge, MA: Barefoot Books Inc., 2013. ISBN: 9781846868849**

A charming collection of eight different stories, each tale highlights a Jewish value depicted in a child-friendly manner. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Yolen, Jane and Adam Stemple. *B.U.G. (Big Ugly Guy)*. New York: Dutton's Children Books/Penguin, 2013. ISBN: 9780525422389**

Tired of being bullied, Sammy decides to build a golem out of clay for protection. The golem even becomes drummer in his band. But when the golem takes on a life of its own, Sammy must rethink his plan. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Macdonald, Maryann. *Odette's Secrets*. New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2013. ISBN: 9781599907505**

After the Nazis invade Paris, Odette is sent to live with a Catholic family in the countryside. In order to stay safe, she must shed her Jewish identity. Based on a true story and told in free verse poetry, Macdonald tells the story of a young girl burdened by loss and secrets. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Watts, Irene N. *Touched by Fire*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2013. ISBN: 9781770495241**

An enthralling story of perseverance and strength, Watts depicts the chronology of Miriam and her family from 1905 when they flee the pogroms of Russia to their journey to reach Ellis Island and the tragedy of the Triangle Shirt Waist Fire. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Karwoski, Gail Langer. *When Hurricane Katrina Hit Home*. Illustrated by Julia Marshall. Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2013. ISBN: 9781626190832**

Although they come from two very different backgrounds, Chazz and Lyric are both affected when Hurricane Katrina roars through New Orleans. Told in alternating points of view, the children realize what is important in the aftermath of a storm that has changed their lives. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Weiss, Helga. *Helga's Diary: A Young Girl's Account of Life in a Concentration Camp*. Translated by Neil Bermel. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013. ISBN: 9780393077971**

Cemented in a brick wall and miraculously retrieved after the war, Helga's real-life diary depicts her experiences in Terezin. With updated with family photos, footnotes, recollections, Helga's childhood drawings, journal entries, and diagrams, the bravery of a young girl during such a perilous time is illuminated. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Lieberman, Leanne. *Lauren Yanofsky Hates the Holocaust*. Olympia, WA: Orca Book Publishers, 2013. ISBN: 9781459801097**

Seventeen-year-old Lauren doesn't want to be Jewish anymore. She is tired of Holocaust memoirs and Jewish summer camps. She believes Judaism is all about sadness, persecution, and loss. But when her friends start playing Nazi War games, Lauren realizes that her heritage is more important than she realized. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## 2013

**Glaser, Linda. *Hannah's Way*. Illustrated by Adam Gustavson. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2012. ISBN: 978-0761351382**

When Hannah's teacher tries to arrange carpools for a Saturday class picnic, she is in a quandary. She cannot ride on the Sabbath, but she neither wants to miss the picnic nor draw attention to her Jewish heritage. Well researched illustrations with details of rural northern Minnesota during the Depression Era complement the story of how a child does not have to give up his or her heritage in order to fit in, a message that serves contemporary populations as well. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Borden, Louise. *His Name Was Raoul Wallenberg*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2012. ISBN: 978-0618507559**

Borden's biography of the Swedish hero of Hungarian Jewry during World War II has all the hallmarks of excellent non-fiction: extensive research, lists of sources, and prose and visual materials that make a complicated chapter of history easily accessible. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Heiligman, Deborah. *Intentions*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, a division of Random House, 2012. ISBN: 978-0375868610**

When Rachel overhears an encounter between her rabbi and a female congregant in the synagogue sanctuary, her world starts unraveling as she questions whom she can trust. She evaluates her relationships with parents, friends, and the rabbi, and learns about her own motivations in the process. Well-developed characters and authentic voice emphasize the many nuances of the title. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Sinykin, Sheri. *Zayde Comes to Live*. Illustrated by Kristina Swarner. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, 2012. ISBN: 978-1561456314**

A "poignant, powerful, sweet" story of a girl and her grandfather that deals with death and the afterlife from a Jewish perspective. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Strauss, Linda Leopold. *The Elijah Door: A Passover Tale*. Illustrated by Alexi Natchev. New York, Holiday House, 2012. ISBN: 978-0823419111**

Next door neighbors Rachel Galinsky and David Lipka are in love, but their families are feuding. With spring in the air, Passover preparations and some help from the rabbi, "it takes a village" to bring the couple together. The shtetl is brought to life with vibrant woodcuts and a definite Yiddish cadence to the text. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Stampler, Anne Redisch. *The Wooden Sword: A Jewish Folktale from Afghanistan*. Illustrated by Carol Liddiment. Park Ridge, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 2012. ISBN: 978-0807592014**

A shoemaker's faith that everything will turn out as it should is tested by the Afghan shah, who forces him to work as a water carrier, woodcutter and soldier. But when the shoemaker is asked to do a beheading, his own cleverness saves the day. Colorful, detailed illustrations lend a strong sense of place. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Rappaport, Doreen. *Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2012. ISBN: 978-0763629762**

The author presents "a sampling of actions, efforts, and heroism with the hope that [she] can play a role in helping to correct the damaging and persistent belief that Jews 'went like sheep to the slaughter.'" Five years of research results in an important informational book, with back matter that includes a pronunciation guide, chronology, source notes, detailed bibliography, and an index. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Speak Up, Tommy!* Illustrated by Debbi Melmon. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2012. ISBN: 9780761374978**

Inspired by real events, Tommy's classmates stop teasing him about his Israeli accent when he helps the policeman manage his Israeli-trained dog. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Korngold, Jamie. *Sadie and the Big Mountain*. Illustrated by Julie Fortenberry. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2012. ISBN: 9780761364948**

Sadie's synagogue preschool is spending the week preparing for Shavuot, the culmination of which will be a mountain hike similar to Moshe ascending Mount Sinai. Sadie does not like hiking, and she imagines getting sick with different ailments so she won't have to go. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Newman, Lesléa. *A Sweet Passover*. Illustrated by David Slonim. New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN: 9780810997370**

By the last day of Passover, Miriam has had her fill of *matzah*. But as the family recounts why Jews eat *matzah* on Passover, she is convinced and tries her grandfather's *matzah brei*. Recipe included. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenberg, Madelyn. *The Schmutzy Family*. Illustrated by Paul Meisel. New York: Holiday House, 2012. ISBN: 9780823423712**

All week the family discovers new ways to get dirty and the mother is never flustered. But when Shabbat comes, it's time to clean up. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Simpson, Lesley. *A Song for My Sister*. Illustrated by Tatjana Mai-Wyss. New York: Random House Books for Young Readers, 2012. ISBN: 9781582464275**

Mira longed for a little sister, but she didn't realize how much noise a baby could make, or the big changes to family life. When the baby cries the day of her *simchat bat* (baby naming), Mira calms her with a song. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Deutsch, Barry. *Hereville: How Mirka Met a Meteorite*. New York: Amulet Books/Abrams, 2012. ISBN: 9781419703980**

That plucky, knitting, Sabbath-observing heroine is back with another adventure that involves a meteorite, an evil twin, and a witch. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levy, Joanne. *Small Medium at Large*. New York: Bloomsbury USA Children, 2012. ISBN: 9781599908366**

At her mother's wedding reception, Lilah is struck by lightning, which enables her to communicate with the dead. With the help of her grandmother and various other spirits, Lilah is able to overcome her shyness and help others. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rosenthal, Betsy R. *Looking for Me*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2012. ISBN: 9780547610849**

Written in free verse about the author's mother, who grew up as the fourth child of twelve in Baltimore during the 1930's, this book explores her challenges of being her own person while getting along with her siblings. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gleitzman, Morris. *Now*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2012. ISBN: 9780805093780**

Felix is now a retired doctor and grandfather in the final book of this award-winning trilogy (*Once* and *Then*, Honor Books in 2011 and 2012, respectively). It is narrated by his granddaughter, Zelda, who deals with the absence of working parents, bullying, and raging fires in Australia. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Sanders, Shelly. *Rachel's Secret*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2012. ISBN: 9780926920375**

The Kishiniev riots of 1903 are the basis for a story of love and friendship as Rachel and Sergei grow closer amid the tension and anti-Semitism of pre-Revolutionary Russia. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Wiseman, Eva. *The Last Song*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2012. ISBN: 9780887769795**

Isabel dislikes her intended husband, but her parents hope to protect her from the dangers of the Inquisition by marrying her off to the scion of an important Catholic family. As Isabel discovers her Jewish roots, she rights to save her family in this historical fiction. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2012**

**Rosen, Michael J. *Chanukah Lights*. Artwork by Robert Sabuda. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7636-5533-4**

Simple text combines with amazing pop-ups to tell the story of Chanukah from its origins in the Temple throughout history and the world. A page for each night, including depictions of a ship and a skyscraper, will delight readers of all ages. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Music Was It: Young Leonard Bernstein*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-5808-9344-2**

A chronicle of the pianist/composer/conductor's early life – from his childhood in Boston to his conducting debut at Carnegie Hall, is full of photographs, direct quotes, and interesting anecdotes. The excellent back matter includes biographies of famous associates, a discography, bibliography, and an index. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Sharenow, Robert. *The Berlin Boxing Club*. New York: Harper Teen, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-0615-7968-4**

Karl Stern, an assimilated fourteen-year-old Jew living in 1930s Berlin, becomes the unlikely student of boxing champion and source of German pride, Max Schmeling. A coming of age novel that entwines Karl's personal struggles with the historical ones of the period including "degenerate" art and the Nazi menace, well-developed characters and a tense plot propel this page turner. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Naamah and the Ark at Night*. Illustrations by Holly Meade. Somerville MA: Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7636-4242-6**

Using an extremely disciplined poetry form, Bartoletti crafts a lullaby about Naamah, Noah's wife, calming the animals at night with her singing. Meade's lush, dramatic artwork brings the inhabitants of the ark to life. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Bernhard, Durga Yael. *Around the World in One Shabbat*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-5802-3433-7**

Starting Friday afternoon in the Jerusalem marketplace, author/illustrator Bernhard circles the globe through Argentina, Australia, Turkey, Russia, France, America, Ethiopia, Germany, Canada, Morocco, Thailand, and India to explore the different customs and rituals of the Sabbath. Havdalah is recited in a home near the Kotel, as the trip around the world is complete. Colorful ovals of activity accompany the descriptive narrative. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Robbins, Trina. *Lily Renee, Escape Artist: from Holocaust Survivor to Comic Book Pioneer*. Illustrations by Anne Timmons and Mo Oh. Minneapolis, MN: Graphic Universe, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, Inc., 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7613-8114-3**

Not only did Lily Wilhelm survive, she triumphed over circumstances that forced her from a loving home in pre-war Vienna, on a *Kindertransport* to England, to the United States and through a variety of jobs and situations to become a comic book illustrator. Timmons and Oh's vibrant graphic format, and the back matter with photographs, a glossary and historical descriptions, make for an exciting and educational biography. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Sommer, Shelley. *Hammerin' Hank Greenberg: Baseball Pioneer*. Honesdale, Pennsylvania: Calkins Creek, an imprint of Boyds Mills Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-5907-8452-5**

Sommer's biography follows Greenberg's achievements on and off the baseball field, including the challenges of anti-Semitism and parental disapproval of professional sports. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Vaughan, Marcia. *Irena's Jars of Secrets*. Illustrated by Ron Mazellan. New York: Lee & Low Books, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-6006-0439-3**

Polish social worker (and Righteous Gentile) Irena Sender rescued over 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto. The story of her bravery and quiet heroism is complemented by Mazellan's somber-toned, expressive illustrations. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Gleitzman, Morris. *Then*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-8050-9027-7**

Continuing where 2011 Honor Book *Once* left off, Felix tells how he and Zelda find refuge in a Polish farm village but must still use quick thinking and imagination to survive the degradations of the Holocaust. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Vernick, Shirley Reva. *The Blood Lie*. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-9336-9384-2**

Inspired by a real blood libel that took place in upstate New York in 1928, Jack Pool's promising career as a cellist is jeopardized when a young girl disappears in the woods and he is accused of murdering her for a Jewish blood ritual. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Picnic at Camp Shalom*. Illustrated by Debbi Melmon. Minneapolis, MN: KarBen/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761366614**

Carly and Sara become fast friends during activity-filled days of camp, but there is also a lesson to be learned about dealing with friends and trying to make things right after a misunderstanding. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *The Golem's Latkes*. Illustrated by Aaron Jansinski. Tarrytown, New York: Marshall Cavendish Children's Books, 2011. ISBN: 9780761459040**

Hanukkah is a busy time for Rabbi Judah Loew and his household. The housemaid tasks the Maharal's Golem to keep making potato pancakes until she returns. When she loses track of time and the streets start to overflow, it turns into a latke party for the whole city. Acrylic on wood illustrations gives dimension to the man of clay and Prague. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Erica A. *Joseph and the Sabbath Fish*. Illustrated by Martina Peluso. Minneapolis, MN: KarBen/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761359081**

Joseph is a poor man who spends his meager budget to honor the Sabbath by welcoming guests and serving delicacies. His neighbor, a wealthy merchant, is worried that Joseph will gain his riches. The merchant converts his holdings into one large gem, which ends up in the water. When local fishermen net a large beautiful fish, they know Joseph will buy it. When Joseph cuts it open, he finds the neighbor's jewel, and both learn the lesson from the Talmud (Shabbat 119a): if someone provides money for the benefit of the Sabbath, the Sabbath will more than repay him. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Korngold, Jamie. *Sadie's Sukkah Breakfast*. Illustrated by Julie Fortenberry. Minneapolis, MN: KarBen/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761356479**

Sadie and her sister Ori wake up early and decide to eat in the sukkah. After schlepping all the food and utensils outside, they decide breakfast would be nicer with guests, so they bring out their stuffed animals. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Meltzer, Amy. *The Shabbat Princess*. Illustrated by Martha Aviles. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761351429**

While Sabbath is often referred to as a "queen," Rosie channels her obsession with princesses to make sure her family's Shabbat is worthy of royalty. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Michelson, Richard. *Lipman Pike: America's First Home Run King*. Illustrated by Zachary Pullen. Ann Arbor, MI: Sleeping Bear Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781585364657**

What's a nice Jewish boy doing playing baseball? This picture-book biography follows Pike from his father's store in Brooklyn through his rise to fame as the first paid baseball player in America. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenstock, Barb. *The Littlest Mountain*. Illustrated by Melanie Hall. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761344957**

God determines that the world needs rules, and He decides to "speak" from a mountain. But which mountain should it be? Mount Carmel is beautiful, Mount Hermon has three peaks, Mount Tabor is majestic, and Mount Gilboa has flower-filled meadows. According to the *Midrash Rabbah (Bereshit 99:1)*, God chooses little Mount Sinai because its unassuming and humble bearing is deemed the perfect spot. Hall's vibrant color illustrations give each mountain a distinct "personality." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Russo, Marisabina. *I Will Come Back to You: A Family in Hiding during World War II*. New York: Schwartz & Wade Books/Random House, 2011. ISBN: 9780375966958**

A grandmother's (Nonna) charm bracelet tells the story of life in Italy before World War II and subsequent events that led to Nonna's immigration to America. A donkey, a piano, a bicycle, and piglets all play a part. Gouache-painted illustrations and vintage photographs on the endpapers add visual context. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Spielman, Gloria. *Marcel Marceau: Master of Mime*. Illustrated by Manon Gauthier. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2011. ISBN: 9780761339618**

This beautiful picture book details the famous mime's lifelong love of performing, as well as his Jewish heritage and role in the French resistance during World War II. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Weber, Elka. *One Little Chicken*. Illustrated by Elisa Kleven. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press, 2011. ISBN: 9781582463742**

Leora is thrilled to find a chicken in her yard. Her mother reminds her that "finders aren't keepers," even if the result is caring for a yard full of livestock until the owner can be found. Vibrant colors and varied page layouts illustrate the story based on Talmudic discussions of returning lost items. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Biderman, Rabbi Avrohom. *The Mishkan: Its Structure and Its Sacred Vessels*. Brooklyn, NY: Artscroll/Mesorah Publications, 2011. ISBN: 9781422610749**

The intricacies and significance of the Tabernacle are "now vividly brought to life in a masterpiece of imagery, insight, and detail." (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Marrin, Albert. *Flesh & Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and Its Legacy*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, 2011. ISBN: 9780375868894**



One hundred years after the tragedy, Marrin uses the event as a focal point to discuss immigration, unions, and life in early 20th century New York City. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *The Cats in the Doll Shop*. Illustrated by Heather Maione. New York: Viking/Penguin, 2011. ISBN: 9780670012794**

The Breittlemann sisters, who were introduced in *The Doll Shop Downstairs* (Viking, 2009), have new adventures when their cousin Tania immigrates from Russia and they help some stray cats that are being mistreated. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Perl, Erica S. *When Life Gives You O.J.* New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2011. ISBN: 978037585923**

Zelly Fried desperately wants a dog. Her grandfather, Ace, suggests that Zelly shows how responsible she can be by taking care of a practice dog -- an empty orange juice container. In the process, Zelly learns a lot about loyalty, friendship, and being true to herself. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Irena Sendler and the Children of the Warsaw Ghetto*. Illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. New York: Holiday House, 2011. ISBN: 9780823422517**

The story of the Polish woman who defied the Nazis and risked her life to save Jewish children is brought to life with detailed narrative and expressive, colorful paintings. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Thomson, Ruth. *Terezin: Voices from the Holocaust*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763649630**

Using present-day and archival photographs, pictures of daily life created by internees, and artifacts, a chronological history of the infamous concentration camp captures both the eye and the reader's interest. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Janeczko, Paul B. *Requiem: Poems of the Terezin Ghetto*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780763647378**

"Solemn songs to the memory of the people who died within the walls of Theresienstadt" is how the author describes his works of sparse, yet powerful poetry. The book includes art created in the concentration camp, as well as historical notes and related resources. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Dominy, Amy Fellner. *OyMG*. New York: Walker & Company, 2011. ISBN: 9780802721778**

Ellie Taylor hopes her debating skills will get her a scholarship to a prestigious Christian-affiliated private school. She attends summer speech camp and falls for Devon, a cute shaygetz whose grandmother happens to be the anti-Semitic sponsor of the scholarship. With some nudging from her zaydeh, Ellie faces her toughest argument as she must decide between the scholarship and her Jewish identity. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2011**

**Schwartz, Howard. *Gathering Sparks*. Illustrations by Kristina Swarner. New York: Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2010. ISBN: 9781596432802**

Dreamy, nature-filled watercolor, gouache, and pastel paintings beautifully illustrate the Jewish concept of Tikkun Olam, or repairing the world, through an intimate dialogue between a grandchild and grandfather. While based on the ancient mystical teaching of the famous sixteenth century Rabbi Isaac Luria, the gentle, inspiring text and soothing illustrations are accessible to readers of all faiths. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Deutsch, Barry. *Hereville: How Mirka Got Her Sword*. New York: Amulet Books, an imprint of**

**Abrams, 2010. ISBN: 9780810984226**

Eleven-year-old Mirka, living in a contemporary Orthodox community, has more on her mind than learning the “womanly arts” her stepmother insists she acquire. She is on a quest to find a sword and slay a dragon, when she encounters witches, trolls, a vicious pig, and a ghost along the way. Computer generated illustrations in a muted palette create an amusing and refreshing graphic novel adventure. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Reinhardt, Dana. *The Things a Brother Knows*. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780375844553**

When Levi’s older brother Boaz makes an uncharacteristic decision to join the Marines, his Israeli-American family is shocked. He returns safely but hardly speaks to anyone and barely leaves his room. When Boaz claims he is going on a hiking trip, Levi follows him on a journey from Boston to Washington, DC on foot and comes to understand the depth of his brother’s pain, and his love and loyalty for his family. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Gershman, Sarah. *Modeh Ani: A Good Morning Book*. Illustrations by Kristina Swarner. Oakland, CA: EKS Publishing, 2010. ISBN: 9780939144648**

A lyrical interpretation of a selection of Morning Blessings taken from the “Birchot HaShachar” and written with a simplicity and elegance that can be understood by young listeners and readers. The illustrations are full of emotion, expressing the mystery of the dawn, the innocence of a child, the warmth of family, and the excitement and awe of facing each new day. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Glaser, Linda. *Emma's Poem: The Voice of the Statue of Liberty*. Illustrations by Claire A. Nivola. New York: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2010. ISBN: 9780547171845**

This beautiful blending of words and pictures explores the life of Emma Lazarus and her work as a writer and humanitarian, focusing on her inspiring words of poetry in “The New Colossus” which would become the permanent inscription for the Statue of Liberty. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale*. Illustrations by Jaime Zollars. New York: Marshall Cavendish Children, 2010. ISBN: 9780761457015**

Young, blind Hershel wishes he could help his widowed mother more. When an angel appears in his dream, Hershel finds that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother bake for the Jewish holiday of Purim. Rich, full-spread illustrations in collage and acrylic paint warmly depict the Eastern European shtetl setting with expression and dimension in this update of the 1991 classic. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Jablonski, Carla. *Resistance*. Illustrations by Leland Purvis. New York: First Second, an imprint of Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group, 2010. ISBN: 9781596432918**

Paul must help his family run their hotel while his father is being held by the Nazi authorities. But when his best friend Henri, who is Jewish, escapes a roundup and is left behind, Paul and his sister decide to hide him and help him escape with the French Resistance. A graphic novel that provides a cinematic story of prejudice, fear, courage, and bold ingenuity. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Krieger, Evelyn. *One Is Not a Lonely Number*. Sharon, MA: YM Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780984162420**

As an only child, Talia is an anomaly at her Jewish day school, where large families are the norm. When a young woman stays for an extended visit, Talia is forced to share her family and her home. Talia's journey toward understanding herself, her parents, and her friends is guided by her Jewish morals and values providing a positive and authentic portrayal of the contemporary Orthodox community for readers of all backgrounds. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Meyer, Susan Lynn. *Black Radishes*. New York: Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books, 2010. ISBN: 9780385738811**

Shortly before France is invaded, Gustave and his parents flee Paris for the countryside. Lonely for the friends he left behind, Gustave also faces anti-Semitism at school and an uncertain future while the family waits for visas to immigrate to America. Action, tension, and well-developed characters coupled with compelling details and beautifully crafted prose create a detailed picture of life for Jewish families in France during World War II. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Chayil, Eishes. *Hush*. New York: Walker & Company, a division of Bloomsbury Publishing, 2010. ISBN: 9780802720887**

Eight years after her best friend hangs herself, Gittel breaks her silence and risks her own reputation, and that of her family, to come forward to the police with the real reason that led to the suicide. Written anonymously by a former member of a Chassidic sect in Brooklyn, the story painfully and vividly reveals the ongoing effects of incest and molestation on the victim, as well as on friends, family, and the community. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Gleitzman, Morris. *Once*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2010. ISBN: 9780805090260**

The brutality and devastation of the Holocaust is shown through a Polish orphan named Felix and his experiences after he runs away from the orphanage where he lived for almost four years. Believing that his parents might still be alive, he tries to find them at their family-owned bookstore only to discover that his town no longer has any Jews still living in it and all the books in his family shop are gone. (Honor Book Winner for Teen Readers)

**Littman, Sarah Darer. *Life, After*. New York: Scholastic Press, an imprint of Scholastic, Inc., 2010. ISBN: 9780375844553**

Daniella Bensimon's comfortable world in Buenos Aires, Argentina is slipping away after the country spirals into an economic meltdown. Faced with increasing economic distress and personal loss, the family makes the difficult decision to emigrate and struggles to adjust to their new life in New York. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Engineer Ari and the Sukkah Express*. Illustrated by Shahar Kober. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780761351269**

Engineer Ari, the first conductor of the new train from Jaffa to Jerusalem, builds a Sukkah using leftover wood and other materials gathered from friends along his route. When the Sukkah is complete, Ari and his friends figure out how to share it with everyone who contributed -- by turning one of the train cars into the Sukkah Express! (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hyde, Heidi Smith. *Feivel's Flying Horses*. Illustrated by Johanna van der Sterre. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780761339571**

A wood carver of synagogue arks and Torah scrolls uses his talents to create magnificent carousel horses on Coney Island. By the time the carousel is complete, he has earned enough money to bring his family to America. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Miriam in the Desert*. Illustrated by Natascia Ugliano. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780761344940**

Bezalel, the artist chosen by God to build the Holy Ark, is represented here as Miriam's grandson, who plays a crucial role in developing a new spiritual future for the Jews. Miriam offers encouragement and guidance to the

wearry Israelites as they continue their journey through the desert after they escape slavery in Egypt. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmelman, Leslie. *The Little Red Hen and the Passover Matzah*. Illustrated by Paul Meisel. New York: Holiday House, 2010. ISBN: 9780823419524**

The Little Red Hen wants to make *matzah* for Passover and hopes her friends will help. Just like in the familiar story, Sheep, Horse, and Dog flatly refuse. But, remembering the words from the Haggadah, "Let all who are hungry come and eat," Little Red Hen welcomes her friends to her Seder. And after the meal, guess who does the dishes? (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Lakritz, Deborah. *Say Hello, Lily*. Illustrated by Martha Aviles. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780761345114**

Although shy at first, Lily becomes a regular volunteer at the Shalom House, a "place for older people to live if they need extra help," and performs a *mitzvah* when she chooses to celebrate her birthday with the residents. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Pinkwater, Daniel. *Beautiful Yetta, the Yiddish Chicken*. Illustrated by Jill Pinkwater. New York: Feiwel and Friends/Macmillan, 2010. ISBN: 9780312558246**

In a tri-lingual story, utilizing English, Yiddish, and Spanish, a brave and clever fowl is determined not to become Friday night's dinner. But poor, Yiddish speaking Yetta is homesick and lonely in Brooklyn, New York, until she gains new friends and a family among the Spanish speaking parrots on the telephone wires. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Portnoy, Mindy Avra. *A Tale of Two Seders*. Illustrated by Valeria Cis. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780882599074**

A young girl describes the six Passover meals that she has shared with her divorced parents over the last three years when the *charoset*, the traditional dish of apples, nuts, cinnamon, and wine, never tastes quite right. When her parents surprise her by joining together at the synagogue's community Seder, the girl realizes that her family is special in its own way. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Robinson, Sharon. *Jackie's Gift*. Illustrated by E. B. Lewis. New York: The Viking Press/Penguin, 2010. ISBN: 9780670011629**

Steve Satlow is shocked when his favorite baseball hero, Jackie Robinson, moves onto his street. When Jackie discovers that Steve's family does not have a Christmas tree, he decides to surprise the family with one, not realizing they are Jewish. The author, Robinson's daughter, wrote the story in the hopes that it will "inspire families for generations to come to look beyond race and religion and into people's hearts." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rubenstein, Robert. *Zishe the Strong Man*. Illustrated by Woody Miller. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780761339588**

A picture book biography that recounts the true-life story of Siegmund Breitbart, or Zishe, a young Polish Jew, who went from a tiny village to touring the world demonstrating great feats of physical strength including hauling a wagonload of ten men with his teeth for a half a mile down Fifth Avenue. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Simhaee, Rebeka. *Sara Finds a Mitzva*. Illustrated by Michael Weber. Brooklyn, New York: Hachai Publishing, 2010. ISBN: 9781929628469**

When Sara finds a lost stuffed toy, her grandmother helps her perform the *mitzva* of returning lost articles. A series of clues, including a candy wrapper, a receipt, and a birthday hat, lead Sara to the toy's owner. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Snyder, Laurel. *Baxter, the Pig Who Wanted to be Kosher*. Illustrated by David Goldin. New York: Tricycle Press/Crown Trade Group/Random House, 2010. ISBN: 9781582463155**

Baxter desperately wants to experience Shabbat dinner, but is devastated when he learns that, according to Jewish law, pork is a forbidden food. He stuffs his face with kosher pickles and raisin challah, hoping to become kosher and even tries to become a cow. When a kind rabbi sets him straight, inviting him to spend Shabbat with her, Baxter realizes that it is much better to be a guest than an item on the menu. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Stampler, Ann Redisch. *The Rooster Prince of Breslov*. Illustrated by Eugene Yelchin. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010. ISBN: 9780618989744**

When the prince rips off his clothes and insists on crouching naked on the floor, crowing like a rooster, the king and queen offer a bag of gold to anyone who can cure him. The doctor, the magicians, and the sorcerers all fail. Yet a frail old man with a very peculiar plan turns the rooster prince into a real mensch, full of compassion and ready to become a wise and benevolent king. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Weber, Doba Rivka. *Dear Tree*. Illustrated by Phyllis Saroff. Brooklyn, New York: Hachai Publishing, 2010. ISBN: 9781929628483**

On Tu B'Shvat, the birthday of the trees, a young boy simply and sweetly states his wishes for the trees in the coming year including rain, blossoms, and fruit. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Chapman, Fern Schumer. *Is It Night or Day?* New York: Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, 2010. ISBN: 9780374177447**

Based on the author's mother's experiences, this is an honest and moving account of a twelve-year-old girl who leaves her parents behind to travel to America with the assistance of the One Thousand Children Project, a group whose goal was to rescue German children during the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Coulter, Laurie. *Kings and Carpenters: One Hundred Bible Land Jobs You Might Have Praised or Panned*. Illustrated by Mary Newbigging. Toronto: Annick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9781554512263**

Offering a wealth of information about life in biblical times, this book focuses on jobs and the people who performed them in a fun and friendly format, peppered with illustrations and interesting graphics. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Deutsch, Stacia and Rhody Cohon. *Hot Pursuit: Murder in Mississippi*. Illustrated by Craig Orback. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2020. ISBN: 9780761339557**

The authors offer an age-appropriate account of Mikey Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and James Chauncey, three young civil rights activists, who were murdered in Mississippi in the summer of 1964. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Dublin, Anne. *The Orphan Rescue*. Illustrated by Qin Leng. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2010. ISBN: 9781897187814**

In 1937, after the death of their parents, Miriam and David live with their grandparents in Poland. Unable to care for them, David is brought to the Jewish Orphanage of Sosnowiec and Miriam is forced to quit school to help support the family. But when David is sold to a cruel man who puts him to work in a factory, it is up to Miriam to rescue him and reveal the truth about the orphanage director. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levy, Debbie. *The Year of Goodbyes*. New York: Hyperion Books/Disney, 2010. ISBN: 9781423129011**

Jutta Salzberg is a typical German teen who shares her thoughts and feelings with her friends in their special albums, called *poesiealbums*. Through real entries, drawings and personal messages, coupled with emotive verse, readers see the events of Hitler's reign and the impact it had on families and communities. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Marx, Trisha. *Sharing Our Homeland: Palestinian and Jewish Children at Summer Peace Camp*.**

**Photographs by Cindy Karp. New York: Lee & Low Books, 2010. ISBN: 9781584302605**

This photographic essay presents the experiences of a group of Palestinian and Jewish children attending a summer peace camp together in Israel through the eyes of Alya, a Palestinian girl and Yuval, a Jewish boy. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rouss, Sylvia. *Mitzvah the Mutt*. Illustrated by Martha Rast. St. Paul: Yaldah Publishing, 2010.**

**ISBN: 9781592871803**

Mitzvah the Mutt narrates his experiences celebrating Shabbat, Hanukkah, and Passover with his adoptive Jewish family. He mistakes a *matzah* ball for a tennis ball, accidentally eats horseradish, and shakes water all over Bubbie to share his bath. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Alphin, Elaine Marie. *An Unspeakable Crime: The Prosecution and Persecution of Leo Frank*.**

**Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Books/Lerner, 2010. ISBN: 9780822589440**

Utilizing primary sources such as newspaper articles, photographs and excerpts from letters, the author recounts the story of Leo Frank, who was unjustly accused and tried for the murder of thirteen-year-old Mary Phagan in 1913 Atlanta, and was ultimately lynched. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Dogar, Sharon. *Annexed*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2010. ISBN: 9780547501956**

While Anne Frank's story is well known, what about Peter Van Pels, the teenage boy who hid with her? This fictionalized account begins in the Mauthausen concentration camp as Peter reflects back on his life in the Annex and his romantic relationship with the iconic diarist. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Gelbwasser, Margie. *Inconvenient*. Woodbury, MN: Flux/Llewellyn Worldwide, 2010. ISBN:**

**9780738721484**

Russian-Jewish culture in America is the backdrop for an emotional story of how fifteen-year-old Alyssa copes with her mother's alcohol addiction while dealing with typical teenage issues such as friendship, underage drinking, and first love. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Jacobson, Sid and Ernie Colon. *Anne Frank: The Anne Frank House Authorized Graphic Biography*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2010. ISBN: 9780809026852**

This graphic novel offers a new perspective on Anne Frank's life and legacy beginning with her parents' childhoods and marriage and concluding with the publication of her diary and the effects it has had on the world. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Meyerhoff, Jenny. *Queen of Secrets*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, 2010. ISBN:**

**9780374326289**

Loosely based on the story of Queen Esther, contemporary Essie is poised to have an amazing sophomore year when she makes the cheerleading squad and captures the attention of Austin, the captain of the football team. But things get complicated when her religious cousin Micah moves back to town and becomes a target of anti-Semitism, bullying and hazing by members of the football team. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Molnar, Haya Leah. *Under a Red Sky: Memoir of a Childhood in Communist Romania*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux/Macmillan, 2010. ISBN: 9780374318406**

A child's perspective of growing up in post-World War II Romania is lovingly shared in this memoir. Each chapter is a beautiful vignette about Eva, a young girl, discovering her Jewish identity, her family's experiences during the war, and their dramatic journey to Israel. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Oron, Judie. *Cry of the Giraffe*. Toronto: Annick Press, 2010. ISBN: 9781554512713**

Wuditu, a young Ethiopian Jewish girl, and a group of fifteen family members set out on a dangerous journey on foot to reach a refugee camp in the Sudan with the hopes of being secretly airlifted to Israel. Based on a true story. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2010**

**Wayland, April Halprin. *New Year at the Pier: A Rosh Hashanah Story*. Illustrated by Stéphane Jorsch. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers/Penguin, 2009. ISBN: 9780803732797** The author employs her own memories of community *tashlich* at the beach in this loving, charmingly illustrated depiction of Izzy and his family and friends as they gently apologize for misdeeds, grant forgiveness, and toss breadcrumbs into the sea as part of their Rosh Hashanah observance. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Friedman, Robin. *The Importance of Wings*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 978158893305**

The title of this coming-of-age novel refers to both the layered hairstyle Roxanne wants but cannot achieve with her straight locks, and what happens when an Israeli teen who wants to be more American discovers her inner beauty and self confidence with the help of a friend. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Engle, Margarita. *Tropical Secrets: Holocaust Refugees in Cuba*. New York: Henry Holt Books for Young Readers/Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, 2009. ISBN: 9780805089363**

Newbery Honor Winner Engle continues to illuminate the lesser known history of Cuba -- the challenge of German refugees seeking a new home after Kristallnacht. Free verse in the voices of a German boy, a Cuban girl, and a Russian immigrant, paint different perspectives of a complicated political and historical era. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Nachshon, Who Was Afraid to Swim: A Passover Story*. Illustrated by Jago. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2009. ISBN: 9780822587651**

Nachshon is not afraid of anything, except swimming. As the Jews leave Egypt, he realizes that in order to reach freedom he must face his fears and step into the water of the Red Sea. Imaginative artwork complements this story based on the Midrash. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Benjamin and the Silver Goblet*. Illustrated by Natascia Ugliano. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, an imprint of Lerner Publishing Group, 2009. ISBN: 9780822587583**

Benjamin, the youngest of Jacob's sons, must accompany his brothers to Egypt and meet the governor (Joseph). This young boy's perspective of events remains true to the biblical narration while making it accessible to younger readers. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Weber, Elka. *Yankee at the Seder*. Illustrated by Adam Gustavson. Berkeley, California: Tricycle Press, 2009. ISBN: 9781582462561**

Based on a true tale, this beautifully illustrated story recounts the participation of a “Yankee Jew,” Myer Levy, as a guest at a Virginia Passover Seder shortly after the end of the Civil War. Ten-year-old Jacob sees the words of the Haggadah ring true, as all who are hungry are welcome at the table. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Winter, Jonah. *You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?* Illustrated by André Carrilho. New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, an imprint of Random House Children’s Books, 2009. ISBN: 9780375837388**  
Koufax's rise from a Jewish boy in Brooklyn to one of the all-time greats of baseball as a Los Angeles Dodger is told in conversational style by an imagined teammate. A lenticular cover and magnificent artwork brings the left-hander’s style to life. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Metselaar, Menno and Ruud van der Rol. *Anne Frank: Her Life in Words and Pictures from the Archives of the Anne Frank House.* Translated by Arnold J. Pomerans. New York: Roaring Brook Press/Flash Point/Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group, 2009. ISBN: 9781596435469**  
Archival photographs of Anne and her family, her actual writing and diary, and the annex are powerful and instrumental in bringing her life into context. The text details world events as well as Anne’s life. (Honor Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Thor, Annika. *A Faraway Island.* Translated by Linda Schenck. New York: Delacorte Books for Young Readers/Random House Children’s Books, 2009. ISBN: 9780385736176**  
Stephie and Ellie Steiner are sent from Vienna to Sweden to escape the Nazi threat and must adjust to life on a small island off the mainland. Stephie comes of age as she meets the challenge of a new culture, a strict foster mother, and the worries about family in Austria. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Davies, Jacqueline. *Lost.* Tarrytown, New York: Marshall Cavendish, 2009. ISBN: 9780761455356**  
The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire provides the backdrop for this historical novel about friendship and loss. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Silverberg, Selma Kritzer. *Naomi’s Song.* Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2009. ISBN: 9780827608863**  
Following the biblical Book of Ruth, Naomi's Song imagines the life experiences of Naomi, taking her from girlhood when she is orphaned to when Ruth marries and gives birth to Naomi’s grandson. (Honor Book Winner for Teen Readers)

**Abraham, Michelle Shapiro. *Where Is Grandpa Dennis?* Illustrated by Janice Fried. New York: URJ Press, 2009. ISBN: 9780807410837**  
Gentle and wise, Devorah's mother (Grandpa Dennis' daughter) allows her to come up with her own answers and also helps her daughter feel a special closeness to her lost loved one by explaining some of the Jewish modes of remembrance. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Berman, Seryl. *Around the Shabbos Table.* Illustrated by Ari Binus. Brooklyn, New York: Hachai Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 9781929628445**  
"In any seat, no matter where, in any spot, in any chair, whether it is here or there, I'll be happy anywhere!" is Tova Leiba's refrain as she gladly switches seats to accommodate her siblings. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *The Secret Shofar of Barcelona.* Illustrated by Douglas Chyka. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2009. ISBN: 9780822599449**



A concert with "New World" instruments provides the opportunity for Conversos (hidden Jews) to blow the *shofar* on Rosh Hashanah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Heller, Esther Susan. *Menorah Under the Sea*. Photographs by David Ginsberg. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2009. ISBN: 9780822573869**

A beautifully photographed story shares the adventures of marine biologist David Ginsberg as he creates an underwater menorah out of starfish and sea urchins. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Heller, Linda. *Today Is the Birthday of the World*. Illustrations by Allison Jay. New York: Dutton Children's Books/Penguin, 2009. ISBN: 9780525479055**

Drawn from the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah, God is happy when his helpers are the best that they can be because "then the world is the best place that it can be, and there is no better birthday present." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Levy, Leah Braunstein. *The Waiting Wall*. Illustrations by Avi Katz. Brooklyn, New York: Hachai Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 9781929628490**

As two children visit the Western Wall in Jerusalem, they notice the details of their surroundings: the many steps to get there, the whiteness of the stone and its golden reflection of the sun, the shapes of the stones, and the special feeling of holiness that permeates this most holy site to Judaism. Amazing illustrations chronicle their path, providing both perspective and depth. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ofanasky, Allison. *Sukkot Treasure Hunt*. Photographs by Eliyahu Alpern. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2009. ISBN: 9780822587637**

A family collects the four species needed to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles in the area surrounding their home in Tsfat, Israel. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Reid, Barbara. *Fox Walked Alone*. Park Ridge, Illinois: Albert Whitman & Company, 2009. ISBN: 9780807525487**

Fox follows the pairs of animals he sees, and eventually comes to Noah's Ark. Plasticine is the medium used to create vibrant, three-dimensional art for this story in rhyme. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bogacki, Tomek. *The Champion of Children: The Story of Janusz Korczak*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Younger Readers/Frances Foster Books/ Macmillan, 2009. ISBN: 9780374341367**

A warm, moral, true story, with beautiful illustrations, about a Holocaust hero -- Dr. Janusz Korczak -- who loved children and cared to Jewish orphans until they and he perished in the gas chambers. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Clark, Kathy. *Guardian Angel House (A Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers)*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2009. ISBN: 9781897187586**

Based on the experiences of the author's mother and aunt, this fictionalized story of more than 100 girls hidden in a Budapest convent from 1944 until the liberation of Hungary emphasizes the relationships between the nuns and the Jewish children they sheltered. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Rebecca Series (American Girl Collection)*. Illustrated by Robert Hunt. Middleton, Wisconsin: American Girl, 2009. ISBN: Various.**

The latest historical character in the American Girl Collection lives on the Lower East Side in 1914, hopes to be an actress, and tries to balance an American way of life with traditional Jewish values. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hoberman, Mary Ann. *Strawberry Hill*. Illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin. New York: Little Brown Books for Young Readers, 2009 ISBN: 9780316041362**

When her family moves from New Haven to Stamford, Allie Sherman has to adjust to making new friends, juggle alliances, and handle the disappointment that her new street, Strawberry Hill, is not the bucolic, strawberry-laden lane she had envisioned. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Martin, Russell and Lydia Nibley. *The Mysteries of Beethoven's Hair*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 9781570917141**

There is considerable Jewish content in this excellent and highly readable account of Beethoven's life, the posthumous travels of a lock of his hair, and the search for clues to his illnesses via sophisticated scientific testing in the 20th century. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vogel, Carol Garbuny and Yossi Leshem. *The Man Who Flies with Birds*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2009. ISBN: 9780822576433**

Readers will learn about different kinds of birds, how they fly, and how the weather and wind affect their migration. Israeli ornithologist Leshem's work has encouraged cooperation between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and is helping with environmental concerns, which are recounted in a narrative accompanied by spectacular pictures of birds and clear maps and illustrations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Watts, Irene N. *Clay Man: The Golem of Prague*. Illustrated by Kathryn E. Shoemaker. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009. ISBN: 9780887768804**

There are many legends of the man of mud created by Rabbi Yehudah Loew to help the Jews of Prague during the precarious times of the late 1500's. This retelling by the Maharal's imagined young son works well to illustrate the wonder at this strange and mighty creature. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Weil, Sylvia. *Elvina's Mirror*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2009. ISBN: 9780827608856**

In this sequel to *Guardian Angel* (Scholastic, 2004), Elvina still talks to Mazal, her Guardian Angel, for help with two challenges: a family from Germany shunned by the community; and a handsome knight who befriends her. Rashi's granddaughter uses her thirst for knowledge and her compassion for others to handle both situations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Astaire, Libi. *The Disappearing Dowry: An Ezra Melamed Mystery*. Brooklyn, New York: Zahav Press/Targum, 2009. ISBN: 9781568715019**

A mystery with Jewish practices and values embedded: the narrator, a Jewish girl in 1810 London, tells the "megillah" of her wealthy, observant family's plans for her sister Hannah's wedding, which are suddenly interrupted by the loss of the family fortune through bank failures and theft. (Notable book for Teen Readers)

**Heuvel, Eric. *A Family Secret/The Search*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux Books for Younger Readers/Macmillan, 2009. ISBN: 978037432271/9780374365172**

The situation in the Netherlands during World War II is explored in these graphic novels. In *A Family Secret*, Helena tells her grandson Jeroen about her experiences during the German occupation and how she lost both her father and her best friend Esther at the hands of the Nazis. In *The Search*, Esther remembers her own experience during the Holocaust as a Jewish girl living in Amsterdam, and recounts to her grandson Daniel and his friend Jeroen how she survived by going into hiding in the countryside. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Ostow, Micol. *So Punk Rock (and Other Ways to Disappoint Your Mother)*. Illustrated by David Ostow. Woodbury, MN: Flux, 2009. ISBN: 9780738714714**

The Ostows combine graphic novel vignettes filled with sarcastic commentary with a coming-of-age novel in which Ari Abramson is struggling to find his true calling and identity while also trying to fit in, hoping that playing in a band will win him popularity and the girl of his dreams. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Tal, Eve Goldberg. *Cursing Columbus*. El Paso: Cinco Puntos Press, 2009. ISBN: 9781933693590**

Told in the dual voices of Raizel and Lemmel in alternating chapters and scenarios, Tal crafts a realistic and poignant picture of an immigrant family's struggles in the early 20th century in this sequel to *Double Crossing* (2005). (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Wiseman, Eva. *Puppet*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009. ISBN: 9780887768286**

A servant girl disappears from her Hungarian village in the spring of 1882, and the Jews of the community are blamed in this fictionalized account of "the last blood libel trial in Europe." Narrated by Julie, another servant girl with her own challenges, the ills of religious superstition, prejudice, and false accusations come to bear in this emotionally charged novel. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Whitney, Kim Ablon. *The Other Half of Life*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, 2009. ISBN: 9780375852190**

Thomas, a fifteen-year-old boy forced to leave his parents in Nazi Germany, experiences many emotions aboard a ship destined for Cuba. This historical fiction is based on the story of the MS *St. Louis*. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Frankel, Ellen. *JPS Illustrated Children's Bible*. Illustrated by Avi Katz. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2009. ISBN: 9780827608917**

Fifty-three uniquely chosen Bible legends capture the language and cadence of the Hebrew bible. Frankel succeeds in creating an age-appropriate interpretation of the most intriguing and familiar stories that allow families to glean the essence of Jewish teachings, ethics, and history. (Notable Book for All Ages)

## **2009**

**Michelson, Richard. *As Good As Anybody: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel's Amazing March Toward Freedom*. Illustrated by Raul Colon. New York: Alfred A. Knopf/Random House Children's Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780375833359**

This fictionalized parallel biography of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, presents a beautiful and inspiring tribute to a little known alliance in American history. Colon's stunning illustrations with subtle coloring bring the text, and the message of persistence, justice, and brotherhood, to life. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Hesse, Karen. *Brooklyn Bridge*. New York: Feiwel & Friends/Macmillan, 2008. ISBN: 9780312378868**

While his family left the anti-Semitism of Russia to build the American dream, Joey Michtom's dream is to visit the glittering Coney Island. Crafting a story from the spark of a true event, the invention of the Teddy Bear in 1903, Hesse masterfully weaves multiple themes of hard-work, survival, homelessness, and familial dedication. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Zenatti, Valerie. *A Bottle in the Gaza Sea*. New York: Bloomsbury, 2008. ISBN: 9781599902005**

This honest yet hopeful story about the relationship between an Israeli girl and a Palestinian boy via e-mail and instant messaging conveys the confusion, anger, exhaustion, and depression felt by many young people during the 2003 Intifada. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Engineer Ari and the Rosh Hashanah Ride*. Illustrated by Shahar Kober. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822586487**

Ari is selected to engineer the first train between Jaffa and Jerusalem. Filled with pride, he boasts to his friends and neglects to say good-bye before he sets off. As the train stops to collect the necessary items to celebrate the Jewish New Year, Ari is reminded of the true meaning of the holiday. Charming, colorful illustrations give the reader a sense of what Israel's countryside might have looked like in 1892. (Honor Award for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Sarah Laughs*. Illustrated by Natascia Ugliano. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822599340**

The story of Sarah, the biblical matriarch, is told beginning with her childhood in Ur and continuing through her marriage to Abraham, their journey to Canaan, and the eventual birth of Isaac. Vibrant illustrations show her sweet, generous and loving personality, as well as the starry nights and windswept deserts on the way to Canaan. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Michelson, Richard. *A is for Abraham: A Jewish Family Alphabet*. Illustrated by Ron Mazellan. Chelsea, MI: Sleeping Bear Press/Gale, 2008. ISBN: 9781585363223**

From A for Abraham to Z for Zayde, this alphabet book, illustrated by fluid, realistic paintings, provides a wealth of information about Jewish culture, history, personalities, holidays, customs, and ceremonies. (Honor Award for Younger Readers)

**Yolen, Jane. *Naming Liberty*. Illustrated by Jim Burke. New York: Philomel Books/Penguin, 2008. ISBN: 9780399242502**

Parallel stories tell the arrival of two young ladies to the United States - Gitl, the daughter of a Russian family, who decide to emigrate to avoid the pogroms and persecution of Czarist Russia and the Statue of Liberty, conceived and developed by the young French artist Frederic Auguste Bartholdi as a commemoration for America's centennial birthday. Illustrations in counterpart oil paint panels reflect the 19th century Eastern European village against the more modern cities of Paris and New York. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Siegal, Aranka. *Memories of Babi*. New York: Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2008. ISBN: 9780374399788**

Eight short episodic stories reflect the author's childhood in a small village in Hungary and incorporate Jewish values of kindness, generosity, honesty, help for the less fortunate, and special moments filled with a little adventure, amusing escapades, and lots of love. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Levine, Anna. *Freefall*. New York: Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins, 2008. ISBN: 9780061576546**

Aggie Jacobs, a typical eighteen-year-old Israeli girl, decides to try out for an elite female combat unit in the Israeli army. Realistic dialogue and a first-person narrative provide a genuine look at the realities of Israeli military life through the eyes of a young woman. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric. *Mysterious Guests: A Sukkot Story*. Illustrations by Katya Krenina. New York: Holiday House, 2008. ISBN: 9780823418930**

During the festival of Sukkot, Eben builds a fancy sukkah, but he makes the poor stand in the corner and eat leftovers. His brother Ezra's sukkah is plain, but he welcomes all who come with a full heart. When the *ushpizin*

visit they bestow an identical blessing -- may this sukkah's outside be like its inside -- with very different results. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Levine, Anna. *Jodie's Hanukkah Dig*. Illustrated by Knesia Topaz. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822573913**

Jodie wants to be an archaeologist in Israeli like her father. When they visit a dig in Modi'in, she finds a way to help out and makes an important discovery related to the history of Hanukkah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ofanansky, Allison. *Harvest of Light*. Photographs by Eliyahu Alpern. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822573890**

From the first spring blossoms to the harvesting of green olives before Sukkot, an Israeli family works together throughout the year, culminating in the celebration of Hanukkah with flickering wicks floating in the precious oil they have produced together. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rouss, Sylvia. *Sammy Spider's First Shavuot*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822572244**

Continuing the popular series, Sammy Spider learns about Shavuot, first with the traditional blintz and fruit recipes, then with the holiday's significance, and finally with a little experimentation of his own. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schreiber, Elisheva. *My Tzitzis Book*. Illustrated by Batsheva Ravad; translated by Sherie Gross. New York: Feldheim Publishers, 2008. ISBN: 9781598261154**

This informative explanation of the meaning of wearing a four-cornered garment with *tzitzis* is augmented with creative clay figures of scenes of boys and men wearing their *tallis katan* beneath their everyday clothing. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ziefert, Harriet. *Hanukkah Haiku*. Illustrated by Karla Gudeon. Maplewood, NJ: Blue Apple Books, 2008. ISBN: 9781934706336**

Eight haikus reflect on specific aspects of the Hanukkah such as candle lighting, dreidel spinning, and latke frying. The simple poetry is embellished with rich and deeply colored paintings and graduated paper size is used to uncover each new candle. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *The Boy Who Dared: A Novel Based on the True Story of a Hitler Youth*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780439680134**

A powerful work of historical fiction portraying key moments in the life of a real German teenager during World War II. As he waits in prison, Helmuth Hubener reflects on events that led to the day of his execution for the crimes of listening to foreign newscasts, creating and distributing pamphlets, and for his resistance to the Nazi Party. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Durango, Julie. *The Walls of Cartagena*. Illustrated by Tom Pohrt. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416941026**

Because of his intelligence and facility with languages, thirteen-year-old Calepino escapes the usual fate of slaves delivered by ship from Africa to Cartagena (Columbia) and grows up to become a protégé of a kind Jesuit priest, an interpreter, and a helper in the leper colony where he befriends a Jewish doctor, a convert to Christianity. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Feinstein, Edward M. *Capturing the Moon*. Springfield, New Jersey: Behrman House, 2008. ISBN:**

**9780874418408**

Each story in this collection includes a short description of the value presented and follow-up discussion questions. Stories are grouped into six categories: "What Really Matters in Life?" "Doing What's Right," "It's Up to You," "Teachers and Friends," "Hidden Truths," and "The Miracle of Jewish Life." (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Fitzgerald, Stephanie. *Kristallnacht, the Night of Broken Glass: Igniting the Nazi War Against Jews*. Minneapolis, MN: Compass Point Books, 2008. ISBN: 9780756534899**

Created for school research, this well-designed book includes clear, accurate information, historic photographs with informative captions, a glossary, bibliography, source notes, and timeline. Personal reflections and memories by eyewitnesses add to the impact of the account, which directly confronts Nazi lies about the Jews. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Herman, Charlotte. *My Chocolate Year*. Illustrated by LeUyen Pham. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Younger Readers, 2008. ISBN: 9781416933410**

Fifth grader Dorrie Meyers embarks on an exciting school year with a favorite teacher and the Sweet Semester dessert and essay contest. World War II has just ended, and when her cousin Victor, the sole Holocaust survivor of the family come to live with her family, he shares a recipe from his family's bakery to help her with the contest. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Morpurgo, Michael. *The Mozart Question*. Illustrated by Michael Forman. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2008. ISBN: 1406306484**

Paolo Levi, a fictional Italian violin prodigy, tells the secret tale of his parents' experience as musicians in a concentration camp orchestra. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Nobleman, Marc Tyler. *Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman*. Illustrated by Ross McDonald. New York: Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, 2008. ISBN: 9780375838026**

A picture book biography of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, two shy, nerdy, bespectacled Jewish teens from Cleveland who succeed in creating an American icon of bravery, super strength, and altruistic invincibility. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Shahak, Bat-Chen. *The Bat-Chen Diaries: Selected Writings*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822588078**

This is the published diary, including poems, letters, and eulogies, of an Israeli girl who was murdered by a suicide bomber in Tel Aviv's Disengoff Center at Purim on her fifteenth birthday. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sofer, Barbara. *Keeping Israel Safe: Serving in the Israel Defense Forces*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2008. ISBN: 9780822572213**

Four different experiences told through the voices of individual Israeli teenagers, two girls and two boys, preparing to enter Israeli military service recount the history and many levels and opportunities available for youth reaching the required draft age. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Stuchner, Joan Betty. *Honey Cake*. Illustrated by Cynthia Nugent. New York: Stepping Stone/Random House, 2008. ISBN: 9780675851896**

This easy chapter book gently introduces readers to World War II and the Danish resistance through the story of ten-year-old David, who lives in Copenhagen during the German occupation. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Friedman, Robin. *Nothing*. Woodbury, MN: Flux, 2008. ISBN: 9780738713045**

In alternating chapters, Parker Rabinowitz and his younger sister Danielle gradually reveal the terrible secret -- a serious eating disorder -- that hides behind Parker's good looks, great grades, ambitious college resume, premed plans, and success with girls. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Laskier, Rutka. *Rutka's Notebook: A Voice from the Holocaust*. New York: Time, Inc. Home Entertainment, 2008. ISBN: 9781603200196**

A Jewish girl's diary, describing her life in the days before her family was sent to Auschwitz, was hidden under Polish floorboards in 1943, retrieved in 1945, and miraculously rediscovered in 2006, allowing Zahava Laskier Scherz to explore the brief life of the half-sister she never knew. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Lieberman, Leanne. *Gravity*. Toronto, ON: Orca Book Publishers, 2008. ISBN: 9781554690497**

When Elisheva, a nature-loving sophomore in an all-girls Jewish high school, feels a sexual attraction to Lindsay, a girl she meets during a summer by the lake, all of her Orthodox upbringing and observances come into question. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *The Freak*. Toronto, ON: Key Porter Books, 2008. ISBN: 9781552639304**

When fifteen-year-old Jade awakens from a life-threatening illness and finds she can see the future, her life takes some very strange turns. This is the first book in a series, which continues with *Visions* and *Far*. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Takac, Esther. *Genesis -- The Book with Seventy Faces: A Guide for the Family*. Illustrated by Anna Pignataro. New York: Pitspopany Press, 2008. ISBN: 9781932687927**

This beautifully designed guide, filled with watercolor, pen and ink, and crayon drawings illuminates the twelve *parshiot* of the book of Genesis and provides a wonderful resource to learn, study, and interpret from the perspective of the sages, modern scholars, *midrash*, legends, and kabbalah. (Notable Book for All Ages)

**Ruzansky, Rebecca Edid. *Celebrating with Jewish Crafts*. Photographs by Roberto Zeballos-Peralta. Rebecca Edid Ruzansky, 2008. ISBN: 9780615171142**

Crafts for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, Hanukkah, Purim, Passover, and Shavuot are presented with explicit instructions, clear color photographs and tips on techniques and supplies. A Jewish crafter's dream! (Notable Book for All Ages)

## **2008**

**Gershman, Sarah. *The Bedtime Sh'ma*. Illustrated by Kristina Swarner. Oakland, CA: EKS Publishing, 2007. ISBN: 0939144557**

With accessible language, this book helps young children understand the meaning and concepts of the Sh'ma prayers. A CD is included creating a soft sound for falling asleep or learning the Hebrew of the nighttime prayers. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Fleischman, Sid. *The Entertainer and the Dybbuk*. New York: HarperCollins Children's Books, 2007. ISBN: 0061344451**

When the spirit of a 12-year old Jewish boy, murdered by the Nazis, possesses the body of an American GI traveling through Europe as a second-rate ventriloquist, the pair is able to unmask the Nazi responsible. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *Strange Relations*. New York: Knopf/Random House Children's Books, 2007.**

**ISBN: 0375837515**

Fifteen-year-old Marne decides to spend the summer with her Aunt Carole in Hawaii. But Aunt Carole is now Aunt Chaya, married to a Chabad Rabbi with seven children. What Marne anticipates will be a relaxing summer of jogging on the beach, surfing, sun tanning, and shopping turns out to be a summer of exploration, spirituality, and growth. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Heller, Linda. *The Castle on Hester Street*. Illustrated by Boris Kulikov. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2007. ISBN: 0689874340**

A young girl visiting her grandparents learns the story of their immigration to the United States, their life on the Lower East Side of New York City, and how they met in this newly illustrated edition, winner of the Sydney Taylor Book Award when it was first released in 1982. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Lamstein, Sarah Marwil. *Letter on the Wind: A Chanukah Tale*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2007. ISBN: 1932425748**

When his village suffers a drought and there will be no olives oil for the Chanukah menorahs, Hayim, a poor and humble man, writes a letter to the Almighty to request enough oil for the entire village. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Light*. New York: Dutton Children's Books/Penguin Young Readers Group, 2007. ISBN: 0525478272**

The concepts of *tikkun olam* and making the world a better place are explained simply yet lyrically in this gorgeously illustrated volume inspired by a 16<sup>th</sup>-century Midrash. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Wood, Angela Gluck and Dan Stone. *Holocaust: The Events and Their Impact on Real People*. New York: DK Publishing, 2007. ISBN: 0756625351**

This comprehensive, readable, impressively visual history of the Holocaust ranges across the years from the origins of Jews, life in Europe, and the history of anti-Semitism to the post-war period, including the survivors, Nazi trials, stolen property, and concentration camps and present-day memorials. The book is supplemented by a DVD of personal testimonies from the archive of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Taylor, Peter Lane and Christos Nicola. *The Secret of Priest's Grotto: A Holocaust Survival Story*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2007. ISBN: 1580132618**

The amazing story of how a group of thirty-eight Jews managed to survive during World War II for nearly a year in the underground caves of the Western Ukraine is told with captivating narratives and descriptions, sharp full-color photographs, and an attractive lay-out and design. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Pressler, Mirjam. *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie*. Translated by Erik J. Macki. Honesdale, PA: Front Street, 2007. ISBN: 1932425845**

Seventeen-year-old Johanna Riemenschneider's idyllic, privileged childhood comes to an abrupt end when she travels to Israel with her German classmates to meet Jewish alumni of their high school who fled the town during World War II. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Abraham, Michelle Shapiro. *My Cousin Tamar Lives in Israel*. Illustrated by Ann D. Koffsky. New York: URJ Press, 2007. ISBN: 0807409898**

A young North American boy compares his observances of the Jewish holidays to those of his cousin Tamar who lives in Israel. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)



**Baker, Sharon Reiss. *A Nickel, a Trolley, a Treasure House*. Illustrated by Beth Peck. New York: Viking Children's Books/Penguin, 2007. ISBN: 9780670059829**

Young Lionel loves to draw, a hobby not much appreciated by his immigrant parents. When his teacher sees his drawings, she arranges to take him, by trolley, to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Benjamin-Farren, Joan. *Shuli and Me: From Slavery to Freedom*. Sharon, MA: Black Jasmine, 2007. ISBN: 097888020X**

Accompanied by the text for counting the Omer in Hebrew and English, a young girl narrates what happens to the Children of Israel from their first Passover until the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Papa Jethro*. Illustrations by Jane Dippold. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 9781580135803**

A young girl asks her grandfather why she goes to synagogue and he goes to church. He explains that she is Jewish and he is Christian and retells the biblical story of Jethro, the Midianite father-in-law of Moses. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**da Costa, Deborah. *Hanukkah Moon*. Illustrated by Gosia Mosz. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 9781580132442**

Isobel spends the first three nights of Hanukkah with her Aunt Luisa, who has just emigrated from Mexico. She learns how to take pictures with her new camera, creates a bird scrapbook, bakes dreidel-shaped cookies while singing "I Have a Little Dreidel" in English and Spanish, and observes Rosh Chodesh, the celebration of the new moon. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Passover with Matzah, Maror and Memories (Holidays Around the World)*. Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2007. ISBN: 9781426300189**

----- ***Celebrate Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur with Honey, Prayers, and the Shofar (Holidays Around the World)*. Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2007. ISBN: 9781426300769**

Full-color photographs and an attractive layout combine with an informative text to create a wonderful introduction to the Jewish holidays of Passover, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur. The photographs include contemporary Jews in the United States, Peru, Portugal, Morocco, Ukraine, Thailand, Israel, Zimbabwe, Yemen, Uganda, and China. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Horowitz, Dave. *Five Little Gefiltes*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin, 2007. ISBN: 9780399246081**

Instead of ducklings, it's five little gefilte fish balls wearing black bowler hats who daily wander away from their worried mother as they set out to see the sights of New York. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hyde, Heidi Smith. *Mendel's Accordion*. Illustrated by Johanna Van Der Sterre. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 9781580132121**

Mendel plays the accordion in his small village, but when things become difficult for the Jews of Eastern Europe, Mendel takes his accordion to America. When his great-grandson discovers the old accordion in the attic, he repairs it and pledges to learn to play. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Abraham's Search for God*. Illustrated by Natascia Ugliano. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 978580132435**

Based on *midrashim*, this is the story of how Abraham came to believe in only one God when everyone around him worshipped idols. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Meltzer, Amy. *A Mezuzah on the Door*. Illustrated by Janice Fried. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 9781580132497**

When Noah's family moves from an apartment in the city to a house in the suburbs, his family plans a *Hanukkat Habayit* party to put up the *mezuzot* and celebrate their new home. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Topek, Susan Remick. *Ten Good Rules: A Counting Book*. Photographs by Tod Cohen. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 9781580132091**

With the same simple, child-friendly text as the original 1991 edition, this new version features full-color photographs of contemporary children illustrating the Ten Commandments. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Grimberg, Tina. *Out of Line: Growing Up Soviet*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780887768033**

Tina Grimberg's memoir of growing up in the Soviet Union in the 1960's and 1970's provides the detailed descriptions of family, school and home that bring history to life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *A Picture for Marc*. Illustrated by Matthew Trueman. New York: Random House Children's Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780375832536**

Very loosely based on the life of Marc Chagall, this highly fictionalized, light-hearted biography focuses on the beginning of the artist's experience with drawing. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kramer, Ann. *Anne Frank: The Young Writer Who Told the World Her Story* (World History Biographies). Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2007. ISBN: 9781426300042**

Presented in simple language and enhanced by a wealth of photos, maps, timelines, and information boxes, this well-designed book nicely combines the Frank family's experiences with events in Europe before and during World War II. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Leeds, Constance. *The Silver Cup*. New York: Viking Children's Books/Penguin, 2007. ISBN: 9780670061570**

The Crusades, as well as the superstitions and bleakness of Germany in 1096, are the backdrop for the story of Anna, a young girl who befriends Leah, the lone Jewish survivor of the massacre of the Worms Ghetto. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lehman-Wilzig, Tami. *Passover Around the World*. Illustrated by Elizabeth Wolf. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 1580132138**

The customs and observances of Passover are described in this colorful book that includes stories, recipes, and a brief history and description of the Jewish communities of the United States, Gibraltar, Turkey, Ethiopia, India, Israel, Iran, and Morocco. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Whirlwind*. Victoria, Canada: Orca Book Publishers, 2007. ISBN: 9781551437033**

Fifteen-year-old Ben immigrates to Seattle in 1942 with his family. He quickly befriends John, a Japanese-American classmate, as both boys endure taunting from their peers because of their origins. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**O'Connell, Rebecca. *Penina Levine Is a Hard-Boiled Egg*. Illustrated by Majella Lue Sue. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781596431409**

Penina Levine is one of only two Jewish children in her sixth grade class. When her teacher gives the class an assignment -- writing a letter as the Easter Bunny -- Penina balks. Is she standing up for a meaningful principle, or is it okay to willingly participate in someone else's culture? (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Yavin, T. S. *All-Star Season*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2007. ISBN: 978580132114**

Brothers Reuven and Avi are the best pitcher and catcher duo in the league. But, when only one player from each team makes the All-Stars, which brother will be selected? (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Elkeles, Simone. *How to Ruin My Teenage Life*. Woodbury, MN: Flux, 2007. ISBN: 9780738710198**

Continuing her adventures from *How to Ruin a Summer Vacation*, Amy Nelson-Barak is now living with her Israeli father in Chicago and spending her senior year at the Chicago Academy while she waits for the summer so she can return to Israel to see her family and her "non-boyfriend" Avi again. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Rabb, Margo. *Cures for Heartbreak*. New York: Delacorte Press/Random House, 2007. ISBN: 9780385734028**

Mia Pearlman's mother dies just days after being diagnosed with melanoma, leaving Mia, her older sister Alex, and her father bereft. Mia and Alex's lives become further complicated when their father has a heart attack only month later. A poignant and insightful study of grief and life in one Jewish family. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**DeSaix, Deborah Durlan and Karen Gray Ruelle. *Hidden on the Mountain: Stories of Children Sheltered from the Nazis in Le Chambon*. New York: Holiday House, 2007. ISBN: 9780823419289**

A small, Protestant town in the plateau region of South Central France became an example of faith and courage during World War II when the citizens sheltered thousands of refugees, most of them Jewish, and protected them from the Nazis. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Wolfman, Marv. *Homeland: The Illustrated History of the State of Israel*. Illustrated by Mario Ruiz. Skokie, IL: Nachshon Press, 2007. ISBN: 9780977150717**

This over-sized graphic non-fiction volume begins with Biblical Israel, proceeds through Jewish history, the creation of the modern state of Israel, the wars, the Intifada, Arab terrorism, efforts toward peace, and includes the broad contemporary accomplishments of Israelis in various fields. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2007**

**Krensky, Stephen. *Hanukkah at Valley Forge*. Illustrated by Greg Harlin. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 2006. ISBN: 0525477381**

During the grim winter at Valley Forge, a Polish-born soldier tells General Washington about Hanukkah, who draws a parallel between the Macabbee's war against their foes with the American war against the British oppressors. Beautiful watercolor illustrations add immeasurably to a delightful and inspirational account of this legendary encounter. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Ferber, Brenda A. *Julia's Kitchen*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2006. ISBN: 0374399328**

When Cara Segal loses her mother and younger sister in a house fire, she questions her belief in God, struggles with her relationship with her father, and tries to find ways to hold onto the memories of her family in this deeply moving novel that will touch the hearts of all readers. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006. ISBN: 0375831002**

Death narrates the story of Leisl Meminger, a Lutheran girl in Nazi Germany who sustains herself and those close to her with her love of books and reading. An engaging story that resonates with the full spectrum of human emotions and experiences. (Award Winner for Teen Readers)

**Gerstein, Mordicai. *The White Ram: A Story of Abraham and Isaac*. New York: Holiday House, 2006. ISBN: 0823418979**

This beautifully illustrated book adds another dimension to the biblical account of when God commanded Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Although “the Evil One” seeks to deter him from his mission, the ram is able to complete it, and his sacrifice provides a rich inheritance for the Jewish people, including the foundations of Jerusalem, and the strings of David’s harp. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Landmann, Bimba. *I Am Marc Chagall*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2006. ISBN 0802853056**

With text loosely based on Marc Chagall’s autobiography, this picture book features detailed, intricate threedimensional mixed media illustrations that are a collage of fabrics, metals, woods, papers, clay, photographs, and objects from nature. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Stampler, Ann Redisch. *Shlemazel and the Remarkable Spoon of Pohost*. Illustrated by Jacqueline M. Cohen. New York: Clarion Books, 2006. ISBN 0618369597**

Bright, colorful, animated illustrations enhance this delightfully entertaining story of Shlemazel who is so convinced that he is the most unlucky person in the world that he is afraid to get off his front porch. But when he believes that he has the amazing, remarkable spoon of Pohost, Shlemazel learns the pleasure of a good day’s work, finds a wife, and discovers that he doesn’t need luck to be happy. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Sugarman, Brynn Olenberg. *Rebecca’s Journey Home*. Illustrated by Michelle Shapiro. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben Publishing, Inc., 2006. ISBN: 1580131573**

The story of a Jewish-American family who adopts a child from Vietnam is recounted with warmth and sensitivity from the adoption procedure and the trip to Asia to the baby’s first Shabbat with her new family and her conversion and naming ceremony. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Codell, Esme Raji. *Vive La Paris*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2006. ISBN: 0786851244**

Fifth-grader Paris McCray reveals what she has discovered about life in the process of taking piano lessons from Mrs. Rosen, a Holocaust survivor with a sense of humor. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Oberman, Sheldon. *Solomon and the Ant and Other Jewish Folktales*. Introduction and Commentary by Peninnah Schram. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2006. ISBN 1590783077**

From simple stories, to valuable lessons, to an idea of what life was like in Rambam’s time or how a holiday was celebrated in Russia, these folktales are brilliant in their simplicity. They can be read straight through, compared and contrasted, embellished upon, or edited for educational purposes. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Roy, Jennifer. *Yellow Star*. Tarrytown, NY: Marshall Cavendish, 2006. ISBN 076145277X**

Told in verse, this is the story of Sylvia Perlmutter, one of twelve surviving children, who hid in the Lodz Ghetto with her family. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Wulf, Linda Press. *The Night of the Burning: Devorah’s Story*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2006. ISBN: 0374364192**

This first-person narrative is an insightful exploration of the effects of traumatic experiences, and an ultimately hopeful portrait of a young Jewish girl who survives a brutal pogrom in Russia, and journeys to an orphanage and a new life in South Africa. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Hoffman, Alice. *Incantation*. New York: Little, Brown and Company, 2006. ISBN 0316010197**

Amidst book burnings, trials, and murders, sixteen-year-old Estrella DeMadrigal, living in Spain in 1500, learns that her family is part of a secret community of Jews who converted to Catholicism to avoid persecution. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Reinhardt, Dana. *A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life*. New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2006. ISBN: 0385746989**

In this poignant story, Simone Turner meets Rivka, her biological mother, and learns about the circumstances of her adoption – how Rivka, a Hasidic Jew, became pregnant at sixteen and was shunned by her family, became a photographer and moved to Cape Cod, and now suffers from terminal cancer. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Baum, Maxie. *I Have a Little Dreidel*. Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. New York: Scholastic Press, 2006. ISBN: 0439649978**

The familiar dreidel song is embellished with new verses detailing a contemporary family's celebration of Hanukkah. Besides playing dreidel, the family makes potato latkes, lights the menorah, and enjoys a delicious dinner together. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Celenza, Anna Harwell. *Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue*. Illustrated by JoAnn E. Kitchel. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2006. ISBN: 1570915563**

A fictionalized account of the creation of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" details how the composer was inspired by the rhythm of a train ride, the klezmer band at his brother's Bar Mitzvah, and the harmonies of nightclub dance music, ragtime and the blues. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cleary, Brian P. *Eight Wild Nights: A Family Hanukkah Tale*. Illustrated by David Udovic. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2006. ISBN: 1580131522**

This rhyming story depicts a family celebration that includes: cleaning the house, inviting friends and neighbors, spills, a new method of winning *gelt*, the miracle of toilet paper, a broken VCR, a scary side dish, presents that were not on the wish list, donuts, singing, and finally quiet and calm. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Fishman, Cathy Goldberg. *On Sukkot and Simchat Torah*. Illustrated by Melanie Hall. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2006. ISBN: 1580131654**

A young girl narrates her family's celebration of Sukkot and Simchat Torah: building and decorating the sukkah, inviting the *ushpizin*, eating and sitting in the sukkah, blessing the *lulav* and *etrog*, going to the synagogue for Shemini Atzeret, marching and dancing on Simchat Torah, and listening to her mother chant from the Torah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gordon, Rabbi Julie K., editor. *With All Your Heart: A Shabbat and Festival Companion*. Minneapolis, MN: Minneapolis Jewish Day School, 2006. ISBN: 1580132634**

With adorable color illustrations by students and Hebrew, English and transliterations for all of the prayers and readings, this is a great resource for families and schools and will encourage all levels of participation in the Jewish holidays and Shabbat. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Heiligman, Deborah. *Celebrate Hanukkah with Light, Lakes and Dreidels* (Holidays Around the World**

**Series). Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2006. ISBN: 0792259246**

Full-color photographs from Israel, India, Peru, Uganda, Poland, Los Angeles, Ghana, and Rome combine with an interesting, informative text to create a stunning introduction to Hanukkah focusing on light, Jewish identity, freedom, and the celebration of miracles. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kosofsky, Chaim. *Much, Much Better*. Illustrated by Jessica Schiffman. Brooklyn, NY: Hachai Publishing, 2006. ISBN: 1929628226**

Each week Shlomo and Miriam tidy up their house and prepare for Shabbat. When a strange guest visits, he is so appreciative of their hospitality that he offers them a blessing. It is not until Shlomo and Miriam welcome the birth of their baby boy that they fully understand the visitor's blessing and his true identity as Elijah the Prophet. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kropf, Latifa Berry. *It's Shofar Time!* Photographs by Tod Cohen. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2006. ISBN: 1580131581**

In this installment of the photo essay series by Kropf and Cohen, children blow the shofar, create New Year's cards, bake round challah, dip apples in honey, see the Torah dressed in white, and perform *tashlich*. Instructions for making a shofar craft project are included along with a brief note about Rosh Hashanah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Littlesugar, Amy. *Willy & Max: A Holocaust Story*. Illustrated by William Low. New York: Philomel Books, 2006. ISBN: 0399234837**

This heartwarming tale of kindness, truth, honesty, and friendship during the Holocaust also introduces readers to the widespread theft and looting by the Nazis of artwork belonging to European Jews. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *Hammerin' Hank: The Life of Hank Greenberg*. Illustrated by Malcah Zeldis. New York: Walker & Company, 2006. ISBN: 0802789978**

This picture book biography details Hank Greenberg's childhood and his college basketball and professional baseball career, as well as the anti-Semitism that he faced from fans and players and his encounter with Jackie Robinson. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Michelson, Richard. *Across the Alley*. Illustrated by E. B. Lewis. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2006. ISBN: 0399239707**

Willie, an African-American, and Abe, a Jew, become friends as they look out their bedroom windows in post-World War II Brooklyn, New York. They form a unique bond and bash stereotype as Abe plays baseball and Willie gives a violin concert in the synagogue. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenbaum, Andria Warmflash. *A Grandma Like Yours/A Grandpa Like Yours*. Illustrated by Barb Bjornson. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2006. ISBN: 1580131674**

In this two-in-one "flip book," animal grandmothers and grandfathers have great fun with their grandchildren baking challah, delivering Purim treats, planting trees for Tu B'Shvat, and making matzah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Souhami, Jessica. *The Little, Little House*. London: Frances Lincoln Limited, 2006. ISBN: 1845071085**

Joseph can no longer tolerate being "jammed and crammed, so squashed and squeezed," so he goes to Auntie Bella, who suggests he brings the chickens, rooster, cow and goat into the house. When she finally tells him to put the animals back in the yard, Joseph and his family enjoy the quiet and spaciousness of their house at a Shabbat meal. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Abrams, Judith Z. *The Secret World of Kabbalah*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2006.**

**ISBN: 15801322403**

Short chapters, text boxes, illustrations and diagrams dissect the complicated subject matter of Kabbalah, mysticism, Kabbalistic texts and more in this highly readable, succinct and fascinating introduction. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Fleischman, Sid. *Escape! The Story of the Great Houdini*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 2006.**

**ISBN: 0060850949**

Full of colorful language, this biography of Houdini is infused with the showman's Jewish side, recalling his birth as Ehrich Weiss to an impoverished but scholarly rabbi in a Budapest ghetto, his self-invention and brashness as an immigrant, the effects of anti-Semitism, and his lifelong love of learning. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Friedman, D. Dina. *Escaping into the Night*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006. ISBN: 1416902589**

When her mother and others do not come back from work, Halina is forced to deal with her absence and escape from the ghetto to save her own life. She joins the partisans in the woods, and survives World War II by using her wits and inner strength. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Glatshsteyn, Yankev. *Emil and Karl*. Translated by Jeffrey Shandler. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2006. ISBN: 1696431199**

This story of two boys left alone in Vienna after their parents have been arrested by the Nazis is particularly significant because it was the first book written for children about the Holocaust. It was published in the United States in Yiddish in 1940 before the full horrors of World War II had unfolded. Shandler's seamless translation now makes the story accessible to contemporary readers. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy. *Hiding Edith: A True Story*. (Holocaust Remembrance Series) Toronto, ON: Second Story Press, 2006. ISBN: 1897187068**

Through the story of Edith Schwalb Gelbard, who survived the Holocaust by continually moving and hiding, the reader can relate to the situation in Europe before World War II, the plight of the Jews, the virtue of righteous gentiles who helped them, and the courage and strength it took to survive. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Pinsker, Marlee. *In the Days of Sand and Stars*. Illustrated by François Thisdale. Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2006. ISBN: 0887767249**

A compilation of stories, in the tradition of *Midrash*, about the everyday lives and personalities of the biblical women Eve, Naamah, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah, Rachel, Dina and Yocheved. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman with Ela Weissberger. *The Cat with the Yellow Star: Coming of Age in Terezin*. New York: Holiday House, 2006. ISBN: 0823418316**

This impressively researched photographic memoir tells of a young girl from Czechoslovakia who studied with Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and participated in the children's opera *Brundibar* at the Terezin concentration camp during World War II. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwabach, Karen. *A Pickpocket's Tale*. New York: Random House, 2006. ISBN: 037583379X**

In 1730, Molly is a ten-year-old orphan who is convicted of pick-pocketing in London and deported to America. When a Jewish family purchases her to be their indentured servant, Molly learns to follow and respect the

Jewish traditions and also learns about the importance of family, forgiveness, and faith. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwartz, Ellen. *Stealing Home*. Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2006. ISBN: 0887767656**

Nine-year-old Joey Sexton, living in the Bronx in 1947, is orphaned after the death of his mother. When his aunt welcomes him into her home, the rest of the family and their neighbors aren't as accepting of Joey's biracial heritage. Inspired by Jackie Robinson, Joey learns how to shake off the taunts of the neighborhood bullies, gains an appreciation for his Jewish heritage, and builds a loving and respectful relationship with his grandfather. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Lilith's Ark: Teenage Tales of Biblical Women*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2006. ISBN: 0827608330**

This collection of stories about Jewish matriarchs and other women associated with the book of Genesis includes Lilith, Eve, Sarah, Hagar, Rebekah, Rachel, Leah, Dinah, Tamar, and Asenath. The discussion guide for each chapter consists of themes, questions, and a mother-daughter dialogue. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Sonnenblick, Jordan. *Notes from the Midnight Driver*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2006 ISBN: 0439757797**

Alex Gregory gets drunk, takes his mother's car, and crashes into a lawn gnome. He must pay his debt to society by doing 100 hours of community service in a nursing home attending to Sol Lewis, a cantankerous resident who suffers from emphysema. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Welsh, T. K. *The Unresolved*. New York: Dutton Books, 2006. ISBN: 0525477314**

The spirit of Mallory Meer, a teenage girl who died on the General Slocum, haunts those involved with the 1904 disaster. While history records that a fire started and spread quickly, this work of fiction explores what might have happened when two love struck teenagers steal a moment together below deck and another vents his jealousy by causing the blaze and blaming his nemesis. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2006**

**Silverman, Erica. *Sholom's Treasure: How Sholom Aleichem Became a Writer*. Illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 0374380554**

Chronicles Sholom Aleichem's childhood, revealing the influences that turned him into the great Yiddish writer who would give us the story that became *Fiddler on the Roof*. This is a vital, engaging, living-and-breathing portrait of one of modern Jewish culture's most famous and beloved champions. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Littman, Sarah. *Confessions of a Closet Catholic*. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 2005. ISBN: 0525473653**

Justine Silver struggles to balance her family's expectations that she should be Jewish "but not too Jewish." Frustrated, she follows a Catholic friend's example by giving up Judaism for Lent, and thus begins a search for identity and belonging that will resonate with readers of all religions. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Borden, Louise. *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*. Illustrated by Allan Drummond. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618339248**



This delightfully written story tells how Margret and H.A. Rey escaped from Nazi-occupied France in 1940, carrying in their bicycle baskets the manuscripts that would become their beloved picture books about Curious George, the little monkey. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Marzollo, Jean. *Ruth and Naomi: A Bible Story*. New York: Little, Brown, 2005. ISBN: 0316741396**

In all of her biblical retellings, this author condenses details while preserving the stories' spirit and meaning. This one exemplifies *chesed* (loving-kindness), shown by Ruth and Naomi's caring for one another and by the kindness extended to them by Boaz. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Olswanger, Anna. *Shlemiel Crooks*. Illus. by Paula Goodman Koz. Montgomery, AL: Junebug Books, 2005. ISBN: 158838165X**

Told with Yiddish inflected English, sprinkled with familiar Jewish curses and words, Anna Olswanger elaborates on the true story of the attempted robbery of her great-grandfather's saloon in St. Louis in 1919. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Taback, Simms. *Kibitzers and Fools: Tales My Zayda Told Me*. New York: Viking, 2005. ISBN: 0670059552**

Brimming with humor and bursting with life, this dynamically illustrated collection of anecdotes and short stories about *kibitzers*, *schlemiels*, *noodniks*, *meshuganers* and other Yiddish types is reminiscent of Raback's award winning *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Krinitz, Esther Nisenthal and Bernice Steinhardt. *Memories of Survival*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786851260**

Esther Nisenthal Krinitz retells the story of her childhood in a small Polish village through a series of handstitched embroidered panels. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Napoli, Donna Jo. *The King of Mulberry Street*. New York: Wendy Lamb Books/Random House, 2005. ISBN: 0385746539**

This powerful historical novel about an Italian-Jewish immigrant child reveals to readers that just 100 years ago, children as young as eight came to this country alone, with nothing but their wits and good luck to help them survive. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Rahlens, Holly-Jane. *Prince William, Maximilian Minsky, and Me*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2005. ISBN: 0763627046**

Nelly Sue Edelmeister learns to play basketball, copes with a major crush on Prince William, makes a true friend, and finds meaning in becoming a bat mitzvah in this funny and touching novel that takes place in modern Berlin. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Shulevitz, Uri. *The Travels of Benjamin of Tudela: Through Three Continents in the Twelfth Century*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 0374377545**

Known only from the book he wrote about his travels, Benjamin left Spain in 1159 and spent fourteen years traveling. This beautifully illustrated chronicle describes and shows a 12<sup>th</sup> century world as it might have been experienced by Benjamin of Tudela, complete with muddy roads, searing deserts, walled cities and might seas. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Baer, Julie. *Love Me Later*. Peoria, IL: Bollix Books, 2005. ISBN: 1932188037**

A tender slice of life story that reveals family love and the wonders of childhood for a boy who just happens to be Jewish. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Codell, Esme Raji. *Hanukkah, Shmanukkah!* Illustrated by LeUyen Pham. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786851791**

An adaptation of Dickens' Christmas Carol with protagonist old Scroogenmacher visited by three ghostly rabbis who take him back in time to the Maccabees, to present day tenements (early 20th century) and then on to the future. Will he get the message? (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cohen, Deborah Bodin. *Seventh Day: A Shabbat Story*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2005. ISBN: 158013125**

The story of creation with God as potter, painter and musician. After much hard work, there is a joyous "whole world" celebration of Shabbat. Beautiful mixed media illustrations enhance this metaphorical version of the creation myth. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jacobs, Laurie. *A Box of Candles*. Illustrated by Shelly Ephraim. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2005. ISBN: 1590781694**

Seven-year-old Ruthie learns about the annual Jewish cycle of Sabbaths and holidays when her grandmother gives her a candlestick and a box of candles. She also learns about accepting others as Grandma Gussie and Mr. Adler begin spending a lot of time together. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kropf, Latifa Berry. *It's Purim Time!* Photographs by Tod Cohen. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2005. ISBN: 1580131530**

Another in the holiday series, this photo essay depicts the history and customs of the holiday including crafts (*graggers* and costumes), snacks and a reading of the story of Queen Esther. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kushner, Lawrence and Gary Schmidt. *In God's Hands*. Illustrated by Matthew J. Baek. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 1580232248**

A delightful retelling of the legend of the loaves in the synagogue Torah ark, beautifully illustrated. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Markel, Michelle. *Dreamer from the Village: The Story of Marc Chagall*. Illustrated by Emily Lisker. New York: Henry Holt, 2005. ISBN: 0805063730**

Introduces young readers to the life of Marc Chagall beginning with his birth in a small Russian village, his childhood, his family's observances of the Jewish holidays, and the development of his artistic talent, despite being discouraged and unappreciated by his family. Lisker's Chagall inspired illustrations beautifully depict the places and characters of Chagall's life. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Podwal, Mark H. *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents*. New York: Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 038574689X**

A poetic evocation of the sky over the world's most beloved city shows that the love borne by Jews, Christians, and Muslims for Jerusalem can be something that brings us together instead of tearing us apart. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Reinhart, Matthew. *The Ark*. New York: Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 0689859090**

Stunning and intricate three-dimensional pop-ups bring the story of Noah's Ark to life. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard. *Before You Were Born*. Illustrated by Kristina Swarner. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN: 1596430281**

With sophisticated, lyrical prose, noted storyteller Howard Schwartz retells the midrash of the angel Lailah. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Shulman, Lisa. *The Matzoh Ball Boy*. Illustrated by Rosanne Litzinger. New York: Penguin Group, 2005. ISBN: 0525471693**

A new take of "The Gingerbread Boy" as Bubbe's matzoh ball is off to see the world with an interesting twist at the end. Glossary included. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Zolkower, Edie Stoltz. *It's Tu B'Shevat*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2005. ISBN: 1580131271**

The simply, rhyming text of this board book begins with "Grab a shovel. Pick a spot. Plant a tree, it's Tu B'Shevat!" and continues as a young boy and his family plant a tree, say a blessing, enjoy the shade, the fruit, and the birds, and watch the tree grow. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Adelman, Penina, Ali Feldman and Shulamit Reinharz. *The JGirls' Guide: The Young Jewish Woman's Handbook for Coming of Age*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2005. ISBN: 1580232159** For the teen or preteen girl who asks "Where do I fit in?," this includes lessons based on mitzvot, interpretations of text, diary entries, and the views of young girls on contemporary issues. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Avrech, Robert J. *The Hebrew Kid and the Apache Maiden*. Los Angeles: Seraphic Press, 2005. ISBN: 0975438212**

In the years following the Civil War, twelve-year-old Ariel Isaacson and his family, Jewish immigrants from Russia, are kicked out of their Arizona town by an anti-Semitic mayor and townspeople, and are forced to embark on a difficult and dangerous journey through the unsettled Arizona territory. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2005. ISBN: 0439353793**

This well-researched, large format book describes the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, and World War II and its aftermath, through the eyes of twelve ordinary young people in Germany including those who participated in the Hitler Youth movement and those who resisted. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Ben-Zvi, Rebecca Tova. *Four Sides, Eight Nights: A New Spin on Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Susanna Natti. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN: 1596430591**

A delightful exploration of the science, traditions, customs, and meaning of Hanukkah, with the dreidel used as a sort of road map. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Delano, Marfe Ferguson. *Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein*. Washington, DC: National Geographic Children's Books, 2005. ISBN: 0792295447**

Meet the 20th century's most important scientist in this very attractive book and learn that the man with the big brain also had a big heart. Delano achieves a stunning balance between words and sepia-toned photos. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Glaser, Linda. *Bridge to America*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2005. ISBN: 0618563016**

Young Fivel and his family endure hunger, cold, fear and poverty in a Polish shtetl while waiting to hear from his father in America. Once in America, Fivel must adjust to Minnesota and learn to appreciate his past. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Greenfeld, Howard. *A Promise Fulfilled: Theodor Herzl, Chaim Weitzmann, and David Ben-Gurion, and the Creation of the State of Israel*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 2005. ISBN: 006051504X**

An engrossing account of three very different men who were central to the founding of modern Israel. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lasky, Kathryn. *Broken Soup*. New York: Viking, 2005. ISBN: 0670059315**

A historical novel set in the Russian Pale of Settlement in the late 1800s shows the conditions that led to massive Jewish emigration from Russia. A companion to Lasky's 1981 award-winning book *The Night Journey*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Millman, Isaac. *Hidden Child*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 0374330719**

This unique, large format personal narrative beautifully tells the story of the author's experience as a hidden child in Nazi-occupied France during World War II. Well-captioned black and white photographs along with double-spread full-color composite paintings accompany the first-person narration. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Nislick, June Levitt. *Zayda Was a Cowboy*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2005. ISBN: 0817608179**

When their grandfather moves in with them, Bill and Danny are off put by his habits, but are then fascinated by his stories of immigration from Russia and work as a cowboy in Texas. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Poole, Josephine. *Anne Frank*. Illustrated by Angela Barrett. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. ISBN: 0375832424**

Depicts the life of Anne Frank as a young girl in Frankfurt, Germany and in Amsterdam, her experiences in school, her friends, and her life in hiding. The illustrations are beautiful and haunting -- with intricate detail they show how Anne changes, grows and matures into a young woman. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rappaport, Doreen. *The Secret Seder*. Illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786807776**

Jacques, a young French boy whose family lives as Catholics during World War II, attends a secret Seder with his father in a secluded cabin, where despite the danger and meager menu, the participants are inspired and hopeful. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *The Flag with Fifty-Six Stars*. Illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. New York: Holiday House, 2005. ISBN: 0823416534**

Through extensive research, eyewitness accounts and personal interviews, Goldman tells the inspiring, moving, and hopeful story of a group of prisoners in the Mauthausen concentration camp who secretly created an American flag to present to the liberating forces. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Russo, Marisabina. *Always Remember Me: How One Family Survived World War II*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0689869207**

Russo relates the experiences of her own family, and how love helped them survive the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sachs, Marilyn. *Lost in America*. Brookfield, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN: 1596430400** Thirty-two years after the publication of *A Pocket Full of Seeds* (1973), Marilyn Sachs continues the story of Nicole Nieman focusing on the end of World War II and Nicole's experiences as a new immigrant in America. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Stein, Tammar. *Light Years*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf/Random House, 2005. ISBN: 0375830235** Twenty-year-old Maya Laor is on her way to meet her boyfriend Dov to tell him that she has decided to leave Israel to study at the University of Virginia when he is killed by a suicide bomber. In alternating chapters between Virginia and Israel, Tammar Stein pieces together Maya and Dov's relationship, Maya's life in Israel, her army service, and her family. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Tal, Eve. *Double Crossing: A Jewish Immigration Story*. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press, 2005. ISBN: 0938317946**

Raizel and her father face rejection at Ellis Island, but with a change in attitude and the help of kindly fellow passengers, their second attempt at immigration is successful. Based on a true story. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zenatti, Valerie. *When I Was a Soldier: A Memoir*. Translated by Adriana Hunter. New York: Bloomsbury USA, 2005. ISBN: 1582349789**

The memoir of an Israeli girl thrust from her typical teenage life into compulsory military service, where she learns to adapt to the physical rigors and emotional challenges. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**2005 - *Dating system changed this year to reflect year in which award is announced instead of year of publication. Award-giving did NOT skip a year.***

## **2004**

**N.B.: In the Younger Reader category, there was no award winner.**

**Kass, Pnina Moed. *Real Time*. New York: Clarion Books, October 2004. ISBN: 0618442030**

In this powerful and compelling young adult novel, the lives of sixteen different characters, spanning several countries and continents, intersect over the course of six days preceding and following a bus bombing in present day Jerusalem. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Marzollo, Jean. *Daniel in the Lions' Den*. New York: Little, Brown, 2003. ISBN: 0316741329** A simple retelling of the Biblical tale about faith, courage, and heroism introduces the Bible story while a column of ants at the bottom of each page comments on events. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Chotjewitz, David. *Daniel, Half-Human*. Translated by Doris Orgel. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2004. ISBN: 0689857470**

In 1933, best friends Daniel and Armin admire Hitler, but as anti-Semitism buoys Hitler to power, Daniel learns he is half Jewish, threatening the friendship even as life in their beloved Hamburg, Germany, is becoming nightmarish. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Dublin, Anne. *Bobbie Rosenfeld: The Olympian Who Could Do Everything*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2004. ISBN: 1896764827**

With clear, concise writing, an easy, conversational tone, relevant and helpful text boxes, and interesting photographs and illustrations, Anne Dublin not only tells the story of Bobbie Rosenfeld but provides an

impressive history of Canadian women's sports. She also puts Bobbie's life in perspective by providing background information about Canadian and world history and culture, and supplies details about Bobbie's Jewish background and identity. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Hesse, Karen. *The Cats in Krasinski Square*. Illustrated by Wendy Watson. New York: Scholastic Press, 2004. ISBN: 0439435404**

Two Jewish sisters, escapees of the infamous Warsaw ghetto, devise a plan to thwart an attempt by the Gestapo to intercept food bound for starving people behind the dark Wall. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric. *Wonders and Miracles: A Passover Companion*. New York: Scholastic Inc., 2004. ISBN: 0439071755**

Presents the steps performed in a traditional Passover Seder, plus stories, songs, poetry, and art that spans 3,000 years, four continents, and fifteen countries – a book for the whole family to read before and during the holiday. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Weil, Sylvie. *My Guardian Angel*. Translated by Gillian Rosner. New York: Scholastic Inc., 2004. ISBN: 0439576814**

In 11th century Troyes, France, Elvina, the unusual granddaughter of renowned Jewish rabbi Solomon ben Isaac (Rashi), who prefers studying and writing to activities considered respectable for girls, takes a great risk by helping a young boy who has run away from a group of Christian Crusaders. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Adelson, Leone. *The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Naomi Howland. New York: Clarion, 2004. ISBN: 0618337253**

A young bear is mistaken for a costumed reveler when he wakes up from his winter sleep and follows the wonderful smells coming from a cottage where the townspeople are celebrating Purim. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Edwards, Michelle. *Papa's Latkes*. Illustrated by Stacey Schuett. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2004. ISBN: 0763607797**

A sad, sweet and unsentimental story that takes place at Hanukkah, the first a father and his two daughters have observed since Mama died. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Glaser, Linda. *Mrs. Greenberg's Messy Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Nancy Cote. Chicago: Albert Whitman, 2004. ISBN: 1930143877**

Instead of going with her parents to do errands on the first night of Hanukkah, Rachel visits Mrs. Greenberg next door and proceeds to mess up her immaculate kitchen while making potato latkes. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hoffman, Lawrence A. and Ron Wolfson. *What You Will See Inside a Synagogue*. Illustrated by Bill Aron. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2004. ISBN: 2895074127.**

A short introduction to the Jewish religion precedes many photographs that show what goes on in Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist synagogues in North America, such as prayer, life cycle events, and holidays. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Koralek, Jenny. *The Coat of Many Colors*. Illustrated by Pauline Baynes. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004. ISBN: 0802852777**

A simple retelling of the biblical story of Joseph, boldly illustrated. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kropf, Latifa Berry. *It's Sukkah Time! Photographs by Tod Cohen.* Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580130844**

Photographs of preschoolers decorating a sukkah and celebrating the holiday make this book a delight. Don't miss Kropf's other 2004 holiday books, *It's Seder Time!* and *It's Hanukkah Time!* (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Marzollo, Jean. *David and Goliath.* New York: Little Brown, 2004. ISBN: 0316471388**

A simple retelling of the biblical story of David and Goliath, with talking lambs at the bottom of each page. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Marzollo, Jean. *Jonah and the Whale (and the Worm).* New York: Little Brown, 2004. ISBN: 0316471345**

The biblical story of Jonah is told with the help of a worm and the octopus at the bottom of each page. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Marzollo, Jean. *Miriam and Her Brother Moses.* New York: Little Brown, 2003. ISBN: 0316741310**

The biblical story of Moses' adoption has fish giving commentary at the bottom of each page. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Musleah, Rahel. *Apples and Pomegranates: A Family Seder for Rosh Hashanah.* Illustrated by Judy Jarrett. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580131239 pbk.**

Musleah gives us a complete Seder for the Rosh Hashanah holiday, including background information, stories, and songs, all centered upon special foods from different Jewish communities around the world. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Portnoy, Mindy Avra. *Where Do People Go When They Die?* Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 158013081X**

A variety of answers to the title question, "where do people go when they die?" are offered appropriately for young children. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Adler, David A. *The Kids' Catalog of Hanukkah.* Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2004. ISBN: 0827608055 pbk**

Another title in the *Kids' Catalog* series, focusing on Hanukkah and filled with facts, stories, songs, games, recipes, and crafts. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Allon, Hagit and Lena Zehavi. *The Mystery of the Dead Sea Scrolls.* Illustrated by Yossi Abulafia. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2004. ISBN: 0152163913 pbk**

In this over-sized illustrated chapter book, readers follow the adventures of Daniel, an eleven-year-old boy living in contemporary Jerusalem, as he works on a project for school about the Dead Sea Scrolls. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Feiler, Bruce. *Walking the Bible: An Illustrated Journey for Kids.* Illustrated by Sasha Meret. New York: HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060511176**

Feiler, accompanied by Israeli archaeologist Avner Goren, visits places in the Middle East where biblical stories may have taken place including the Creation story, Garden of Eden, Noah's Ark, Exodus, and the receiving of the Ten Commandments. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Goldman Rubin, Susan *L'Chaim: to Jewish life in America.* New York: New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2004 ISBN-10:0810950359**

Historical exploration of the history Jews in America through the experiences of individuals. Photographs, maps, and other resources provided. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Goldstein, Margaret J. *Israel in Pictures*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580130887**

This revised overview of Israel, which is part of the Visual Geography series, focuses on the geography and history of both ancient and modern Israel. It includes a timeline, suggested websites, and an index. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Grossman, David. *Duel*. Translated by Betsy Rosenberg. New York: Bloomsbury, 2004. ISBN: 1582349304**

David attempts to unravel the mystery between two elderly men who he meets in the Hebrew Home for the Aged while doing community service. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Johnston, Tony. *The Harmonica*. Illustrated by Ron Mazellan. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2004. ISBN: 1570915474**

A young boy survives in a concentration camp because he can play Shubert on his harmonica, which the commandant asks for every night. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy. *The Underground Reporters*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2004. ISBN: 1896764851 pbk.**

A group of Jewish children in a small town in Czechoslovakia publish a newspaper called Klepy or "gossip" in Czech, during World War II, until they are deported to concentration camps. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kaplan, Kathy Walden. *The Dog of Knots*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004. ISBN: 0802852599** A slice of life in Haifa, Israel during the time of the Yom Kippur War as told through the eyes of Mayim, a young Jewish girl. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Karwoski, Gail Langer. *Quake! Disaster in San Francisco, 1906*. Illustrated by Robert Papp. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, 2004. ISBN: 1561453102**

The 1906 San Francisco earthquake is the backdrop for a story of two thirteen-year-old boys -- one Jewish, one Chinese -- who have banded together along with a stray dog, in search of their respective families from whom they were separated. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Rosie in Los Angeles: Action!* New York: Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, 2004. ISBN: 0689857160**

Rosie finds adventure when her family moves to the foothills of Los Angeles to start their own film production company. This third book in the series follows *Rosie in New York: Gotcha!* And *Rosie in Chicago: Play Ball!* (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**McKay, Sharon E. *Esther*. Toronto, ON: Penguin Canada, 2004. ISBN: 0143312049 pbk.**

Esther, a young Jewish girl in 18th century France, must conceal her real identity to survive and disguises herself as a boy in order to become the first Jew to arrive in New France. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**McPherson, Stephanie. *Albert Einstein*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580130941**

An upbeat biography of Einstein using anecdotes and photographs. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Moscowitz, Moshe. *The Queen of Persia*. Illustrated by David Sokoloff. Chicago, IL: Shazak Productions, 2004. ISBN: 1930925093**

A lively "graphic novel" presentation of the story of Purim (Notable Book for Older Readers)



**Rabb, M.E. *Missing Persons: The Chocolate Lover*. New York: Speak/Penguin Putnam, 2004.**

**ISBN: 0142500429 pbk.**

Teenaged Jewish sisters Sam and Sophie Shattenberg change their identities as they flee from New York to a small town in Indiana and open a detective agency. *The Chocolate Lover* is full of Jewish flavor, but the focus is on the solving of mysteries. Don't miss the rest of the *Missing Persons* series: *The Rose Queen*, *The Venetian Policeman* and *The Unsuspecting Gourmet*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schroeder, Peter W. and Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand. *Six Million Paper Clips*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580131697**

One teacher's desire to teach about intolerance led to a three-year project in which the entire community of Whitwell, Tennessee participated, culminating in the building of a Holocaust memorial. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sherman, Josepha. *Your Travel Guide to Ancient Israel*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 0822530724**

Written as a time travel log back to an ancient culture, the reader can experience daily life in Ancient Israel. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sofer, Barbara. *Ilan Ramon: Israel's Space Hero*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580131158**

This basic biography covers Ilan Ramon's childhood, his Bar Mitzvah, his service in the Israeli Air Force, and his path to becoming the first Israeli astronaut, with details about his family, friends and colleagues. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Speregen, Devra Newberger. *Ilan Ramon: Jewish Star*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2004. ISBN: 0827607695 pbk.**

A well-written biography of Ilan Ramon concentrating on his military career and life as an astronaut. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Steinberg, Judy and Barbara Tabs. *Matzah Meals: A Passover Cookbook for Kids* (revised edition). Illustrated by Bill Hauser. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2004. ISBN: 1580130860 pbk.**

Good advice to young cooks plus suggestions and crafts for the Seder are the prelude to this collection of recipes that range from the no-cooking variety for young children to more complicated ones for teens. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **2003**

**Davis, Aubrey. *Bagels from Benny*. Illustrated by Dusan Petricic. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 2003. ISBN: 1553374177**

After accepting the compliments for the tasty bagels made at the family bakery, Benny's grandfather explains that God is really to thank for the delicious creations, causing Benny to begin leaving a bag of bagels for God every week at the synagogue as a demonstration of his gratitude. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Patz, Nancy. *Who Was The Woman Who Wore The Hat?* New York: Dutton, 2003. ISBN: 0525469990**

Offers a reflection on a woman's hat that was on display in the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam that questions who the woman might have been, what her life may have been like, and how she may have ended up a Holocaust victim. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Koralek, Jenny. *The Moses Basket*. Illustrated by Pauline Baynes. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003. ISBN: 0802852513**

A simple retelling of how Moses, who grew to lead the Hebrews out of captivity in Egypt, was saved when his mother and sister set him adrift in a water-tight basket where Pharaoh's daughter would find him. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Schuman, Burt E. *Chanukah on the Prairie*. Illustrated by Rosalind Charney Kaye. New York: UAHC Press (now URJ Press), 2003. ISBN: 080740814X**

After the Zalzman family immigrates to Grand Forks, North Dakota, they are welcomed by the local Jewish community and celebrate their first Chanukah on the prairie. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Silverman, Erica. *When the Chickens Went on Strike: A Rosh Hashanah Tale*. Illustrated by Matthew Trueman. New York: Dutton, 2003. ISBN: 0525468625**

A Jewish boy living in Russia learns a lesson from the village chickens at the time of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Broida, Marian. *Ancient Israelites and Their Neighbors: An Activity Guide*. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, Inc., 2003. ISBN: 1556524579 pbk.**

Examines the ancient cultures of the Israelites, the Philistines, and the Phoenicians, focusing on art, architecture, food, clothing, writing, history, religion, and work. Includes related activities. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Feinstein, Edward. *Tough Questions Jews Ask: A Young Adult's Guide to Building a Jewish Life*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2003. ISBN: 158023139X pbk.**

Provides questions and answers for some major concerns facing Jewish youths, and includes explanations about such issues as God, prayer, good and evil, and the afterlife. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Mack, Tracy. *Birdland*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2003. ISBN: 0439535905**

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. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Baer, Julie. *I Only Like What I Like*. Peoria, IL: Bollix Books, 2003. ISBN: 1932188002**

Vignettes about childhood likes and dislikes are strikingly illustrated with quilt-like designs whose images, lines, and colors evoke a small child's imaginative perception of his world. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Blanc, Esther Silverstein and Godeane Eagle. *Long Johns for a Small Chicken*. Illustrated by Tennessee Dixon. Volcano, CA: Volcano Press, 2003. ISBN 1884244238**

When a fierce Nebraska hailstorm batters a little chick, Mama makes him his own pair of long johns to keep him warm. The vintage setting, kindness, and humor of the story are captured in its illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Blumberg, Margie. *Avram's Gift*. Illustrated by Laurie McGaw. Bethesda, MD: MB Publishing, 2003. ISBN: 0962416622**

A well-illustrated chapter book that affirms the values of family, tradition, and continuity. The sounding of the shofar during the High Holidays is an important part of the plot. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Podwal, Mark. *A Sweet Year: A Taste of the Jewish Holidays*. New York: Doubleday, 2003.**

**ISBN: 0385746377**

A lyrically written and rather sophisticated look at the Jewish holidays through the food traditionally associated with each of them. Podwal's gouache and acrylic paintings are inspired. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenfeld, Dina. *Five Alive! My Yom Tov Five Senses*. Illustrated by Tova Leff. New York: Hachai Publishing, 2003. ISBN: 1029628064**

Through a simply rhyming story and cheerful illustrations, young children are encouraged to see, hear, smell, taste and touch some of the major Jewish holidays. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rouss, Sylvia. *Tali's Jerusalem Scrapbook*. Illustrated by Nancy Oppenheimer. New York: Pitspopany Press, 2003. ISBN: 1930143699**

An Israeli child's feelings about the conflict in her beloved city are explored in this illustrated story. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Seeger, Pete. *Turn, Turn, Turn*. Illustrated by Wendy Anderson Halperin. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2003. ISBN: 0689852355**

Readers will turn, turn, turn their heads to appreciate all of the details in the circular illustrations that complement passages from Ecclesiastes made into a song by Pete Seeger. An audio CD is included. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Sper, Emily. *The Passover Seder*. New York: Scholastic/Cartwheel, 2003. ISBN: 0439443121**

Lift the flaps, rub the textures, turn the wheels, and pull the tabs to learn about the Seder and a few Hebrew words. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Spinner, Stephanie. *It's a Miracle! A Hanukkah Storybook*. Illustrated by Jill McElmurry. New York: Atheneum, 2003. ISBN: 068984493X**

Those bedtime stories that Grandma Karen tells Owen during Hanukkah remind him of people he knows. At a family celebration on the eighth night, he finds out for sure that the story characters are his very own relatives! (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Stampler, Ann Redisch. *Something for Nothing*. Illustrated by Jacqueline M. Cohen. New York: Clarion, 2003. ISBN: 0618159827**

In a captivating trickster tale, a peace-loving dog foils three rowdy cats who terrorize the neighborhood by playing upon their greed. This wry look at the oft-disturbed peace of the Eastern European *shtetl* is beautifully illustrated. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ungar, Richard. *Rachel's Gift*. Plattsburgh, NY: Tundra Books, 2003. ISBN: 0887766161**

The prophet Elijah appears in many guises and only young Rachel realizes that he has visited her house and left a very precious gift. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Claybourne, Anna. *Golda Meir*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2003. ISBN: 1403408351**

The life of Golda Meir and the history of modern Israel are inseparably woven into this readable biography. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Geras, Adèle. *My Grandmother's Stories: A Collection of Jewish Folktales*. Illustrated by Anita Lobel. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003. ISBN: 0375922857**

Sparkling new illustrations grace this collection of Jewish folktales. An earlier edition illustrated by another artist won the Sydney Taylor Book Award in 1990. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hesse, Karen. *The Stone Lamp: Eight Stories of Hanukkah through History*. Illustrated by Brian Pinkney. New York: Hyperion Books, 2003. ISBN: 0786806192**

Narrative poems about times of crisis in Jewish history. Striking illustrations and very discussable! (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hopkinson, Deborah. *Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York: 1880-1924*. Orchard Books/Scholastic Press, 2003. ISBN: 0439375908**

Documentary photographs and the voices of five young immigrants transport readers into the teeming streets and crowded tenements of New York's Lower East Side. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kushner, Tony. *Brundibar*. Illustrated by Maurice Sendak. New York: Michael Di Capua Books/Hyperion, 2003. ISBN: 0786809043**

A sassy narrative style and splendid, multi-meaningful illustrations capture both the fairy tale charm and the underlying menace of a children's opera that was performed by prisoners in the Terezin concentration camp. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *Room in the Heart*. New York: Dutton, 2003. ISBN: 0525468714**

The German occupation of Denmark and its impact on a circle of middle-class families -- Jewish and nonJewish -- compel them to act on their beliefs. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Rosie in New York City: Gotcha!* New York: Aladdin/Simon & Schuster, 2003. ISBN: 0689857144**

It's 1909 and plucky Rosie becomes a labor organizer, participating in the making of the American Jewish community. The first in a series. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Miklowitz, Gloria D. *The Enemy Has a Face*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003. ISBN: 0802852432**

An Israeli teenager's disappearance propels this suspenseful story that reveals some of the tensions in IsraeliPalestinian relations. The Los Angeles setting brings the conflict home to American teens; the ending is painful. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rose, Or. *Abraham Joshua Heschel: Man of Spirit, Man of Action*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2003. ISBN: 082760758X**

The life and work of one of the 20th century's most important Jewish thinkers are introduced. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sonneborn, Liz. *Murder at the 1972 Olympics in Munich*. New York: Rosen Publishing, 2003. ISBN: 0823936546**

A detailed account of the Palestinian terrorist attack on a group of Israeli athletes and its aftermath. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Spinelli, Jerry. *Milkweed*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003. ISBN: 0375813748**

The horrors of the Warsaw Ghetto are plumbed in this powerful story about a homeless, orphan boy who survives by stealing food and whose first real experience of love is for a doomed Jewish family. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Stone, Tanya. *Ilan Ramon: Israel's First Astronaut*. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook Press, 2003. ISBN:**

**0761328882**

Israeli hero, role model and mensch -- Ilan Ramon fits all descriptions, as this poignant biography makes clear. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Tryszynska-Frederick, Luba. *Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen. As told to Michelle McCann. Illustrated by Ann Marshall. Berkeley, CA: Tricycle Press, 2003. ISBN: 1582460981***

Deeply colored, dramatic illustrations enhance this true story of a woman who rescued and risked her life to save a group of abandoned Jewish children in a Nazi concentration camp. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Welton, Jude. *Marc Chagall. Danbury, CT: Franklin Watts, 2003. ISBN: 0531166457***

The artist's long, productive and exciting life is documented with family photographs and handsome illustrations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **2002**

**Hershenhorn, Esther. *Chicken Soup by Heart. Illustrated by Rosanne Litzinger. New York: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2002. ISBN: 0689826656***

When Rudie's sitter gets the flu, he uses her recipe to make her a batch of special chicken soup, including the secret recipe of stories from the heart. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Levine, Karen. *Hana's Suitcase: A True Story. Toronto, ON: Second Story Press, 2002.***

**ISBN: 189676455X, Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2003. ISBN: 0807531480**

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. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Pinkney, Jerry. *Noah's Ark. New York: SeaStar/North-South Books, 2002. ISBN: 587172011.***

Retells the biblical story of the great flood and how Noah and his family faithfully responded to God's call to save animal life on earth. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Rouss, Sylvia. *Sammy Spider's First Trip to Israel: A Book about the Five Senses. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2002. ISBN: 1580130356 pbk.***

Sammy Spider joins the Shapiro family on a vacation, and he uses his five senses to experience Israel. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben Jane Breskin. *Pearl's Passover: A Family Celebration through Stories, Recipes, Crafts, And Songs. New York: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2002. ISBN: 0689814879***

As an extended family prepares for their Passover celebration, they explain the various customs and traditions related to this holiday. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Bunting, Eve. *One Candle. Illustrated by K. Wendy Popp. New York: Joanna Cotler Books/HarperCollins, 2002. ISBN: 0060281154.***

Every year a family celebrates Hanukkah by retelling the story of how Grandma and her sister managed to mark the day while in a German concentration camp. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Hautzig, Esther. *A Picture of Grandmother. Illustrated by Beth Peck. New York: Frances Foster/Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. ISBN: 0374359202***

A letter inviting Sara's mother and grandmother to come from Poland to America and mentioning a mysterious photograph arouses Sara's curiosity and leads her to discover a family secret. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Rogasky, Barbara. *Smoke and Ashes: The Story of the Holocaust, Revised and Expanded*. New York: Holiday House, 2002. ISBN: 0823416771 pbk.**

An account of the tragic fate of the six million Jews killed during the Holocaust is set against a chronicle of the roots of Nazi anti-Semitism, Hitler's rise to power, World War II, and the Nazi program of extermination. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Night Lights: A Sukkot Story*. Illustrated by Laura Sucher. New York: UAHC Press (now URJ Press), 2002. ISBN: 0807408034**

A little boy is scared to sleep outdoors in a sukkah but with his older sister for companionship, he comes to see the stars in the sky as night lights. The new illustrations for a story first published in 1995 are gentle and comforting. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Greene, Rhonda Gowler. *The Beautiful World That God Made*. Illustrated by Anne Wilson. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 2002. ISBN: 0802852130**

A free rendering of the Creation story is given by a short, rhyming verse that builds in cumulative detail. Adding drama to the narrative are outstanding ink and collage illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Howland, Naomi. *Matzah Man*. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002. ISBN; 061811750**

"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." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kropf, Latifa Berry. *It's Challah Time!* Photographs by Tod Rosen. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben/Lerner, 2002. ISBN: 1500130364**

Colorful photographs of adorable children in a real Jewish preschool are engaging companions to a simple text that captures the fun of making challah in preparation for Shabbat. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kuskin, Karla. *The Animals and the Ark*. Illustrated by Michael Grejniec. New York: Atheneum, 2002. ISBN: 0689830955**

A poem based on the Bible story of Noah's Ark, originally published in 1957, is enhanced with splashy, rollicking illustrations, a creative book design, and a typeface called "Kentucky Fried." (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Newman, Lesléa. *Runaway Dreidel*. Illustrated by Krysten Brooker. New York: Henry Holt, 2002. ISBN:0805062378**

"Twas the first night of Chanukah and on the fifth floor, there was holiday hustling and bustling galore" begins this engaging tale of a dreidel that leads a little boy, his family, and neighbors on a merry chase. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Vorst, Rochel Groner. *The Sukkah That I Built*. Illustrated by Elizabeth Victor-Elsby. New York: Hachai Publishing, 2002. ISBN: 1929628072**

A read-aloud story modeled on the classic nursery rhyme, "The House That Jack Built." As a little boy smugly relates how he is doing all the building of the sukkah, his bemused family looks on. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wilson, Anne. *Noah's Ark*. San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2002. ISBN: 0811835634**

Written in a sparse style and illustrated with flat, bright colors and simple lines, this faithful retelling of the biblical account of the flood celebrates obedience to God and the beauty of the world God made. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Burstein, Chaya. *The Kids' Cartoon Bible*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2002. ISBN: 0827607296**

In a rousing rendition of the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings, the dialogue is colloquial and the cartoon illustrations are often inspired. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Alexandra's Scroll: The Story of the First Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Stephen Fieser. New York: Henry Holt, 2002. ISBN: 0805063846**

A young female scribe records the political, social, and religious complexities of the Maccabean world in this believable portrait of a Judean family at war. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Angels Sweep the Desert Floor: Bible Legends about Moses in the Wilderness*. Illustrated by Alexander Koshkin. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002. ISBN: 0395978254**

A companion to the author's *Clouds of Glory* (2001), these stories draw on biblical text and Midrash to tell how Moses and the liberated Israelites were guided by angels. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cheng, Andrea. *Marika*. Ashville, NC: Front Street, 2002. ISBN: 1886910782**

A fifteen-year-old Hungarian girl, nominally Roman Catholic but with Jewish ancestry, seeks an identity and a way out after the Germans march into Budapest. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cooper, Ilene. *Jewish Holidays All Year Round: A Family Treasury*. Illustrated by Elivia Savadier. In Association with the Jewish Museum of New York. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2002. ISBN: 0810905507**

The history and message of each Jewish holiday are combined with stories, legends, photographs of objects from the Jewish Museum and delightful original illustrations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Finkelstein, Norman H. *Forged in Freedom: Shaping the Jewish-American Experience*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 2002. ISBN: 08276074827**

From the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam to the nomination of a Jew for Vice President, Finkelstein surveys trends and highlights events and personalities that shaped Jewish American history, especially in the 20th century. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gellman, Rabbi Marc. *And God Cried, Too: A Kid's Book About Healing and Hope*. Illustrated by Harry Bliss. New York: Harper Trophy/HarperCollins, 2002. ISBN: 0060098864**

Through a fictional dialogue between Mikey, an angel-in-training, and the chief angel, Gabe, the author gives readers honest yet hopeful answers to questions about injustice and evil. Inspired by the attacks of 9/11. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Giblin, James C. *The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler*. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002. ISBN: 0395903718**

This outstanding biography of the 20th century's greatest monster includes information about his legacy of hatred, carried on by neo-Nazis and skinheads. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lawton, Clive A. *Auschwitz: The Story of a Nazi Death Camp*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2002.**

**ISBN: 07636115951**

The author traces the history of Auschwitz from construction to liberation and comments on its post-war legacy in this visually powerful presentation. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lee, Carol Ann. *Anne Frank's Story: Her Life Retold for Children*. Mahwah, NJ: Troll Communications, 2002. ISBN: 0816774277**

The important events in Anne Frank's brief life and the essence of her personality are conveyed to readers of this accessible biography. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Sparks Fly Upward*. New York: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002. ISBN: 061859649** A Jewish immigrant girl in Winnipeg, Canada is sent to a foster home after the family farm burns down. Learning to stand up for herself and to make her own decisions doesn't come easy but Rebecca is a plucky heroine. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Michelson, Richard. *Too Young for Yiddish*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. Watertown, MA: Talewinds/Charlesbridge, 2002. ISBN: 0881061182**

Inspired by the work of Aaron Lansky, founder of the National Yiddish Book Center, this is the story of a boy who learns to love Yiddish from his grandfather, who has almost given up on it. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Roseman, Kenneth. *Jeremiah's Promise: An Adventure in Modern Israel*. New York: UAHC Press (now URJ Press), 2002. ISBN: 0807407879**

Readers are presented with choices...and consequences. Signing on here means learning a great deal about Israel, kibbutz life, archaeology, the religious divide, the role of women, diplomacy, and military exploits. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard. *Invisible Kingdoms: Jewish Tales of Angels, Spirits, and Demons*. Illustrated by Stephen Fieser. New York: HarperCollins, 2002. ISBN: 0060278552**

Folktales like these have been part of the Jewish oral tradition since biblical times. These tales are simply told but they treat profound human issues from an unaccustomed perspective. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vogiel, Eva. *Facing the Music*. Brooklyn, NY: Judaica Press, 2002. ISBN: 1880582945**

In Vogiel's third novel set in an Orthodox girls' school in England in the late 1940's, a caring faculty helps a student adjust to the discovery that she has a twin sister. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Waldman, Neil. *The Promised Land: The Birth of the Jewish People*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2002. ISBN: 1563973324**

Why have Jews survived? The author presents his views, based on God's promise of Israel to the Jewish people. Evocative illustrations and an unusual book design add interest. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Watts, Irene N. *Finding Sophie: A Search for Belonging in Postwar Britain*. Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2002. ISBN: 0887766137**

Following *Good-bye Marianne* (1999) and *Remember Me* (2000), this riveting novel, set in London, completes the author's "Kindertransport Trilogy." (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**2001**

**Rael, Elsa Okon. *Rivka's First Thanksgiving*. Illus. by Maryann Kovalski. New York: Margaret K.**



**McElderry/Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0689839014**

Having heard about Thanksgiving in school, nine-year-old Rivka tries to convince her immigrant family and her Rabbi that it is a holiday for all Americans, Jews and non-Jews alike. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Reef, Catherine. *Sigmund Freud: Pioneer of the Mind*. New York: Clarion Books, 2001. ISBN: 0618017623**

A biography of Sigmund Freud explains the methods he used to treat the mentally ill which led to the birth of psychoanalysis, and explores his controversial theories connecting dreams, desires, and behavior. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Alexander, Sue. *Behold the Trees*. Illustrated by Leonid Gore. New York: Arthur A. Levine (Scholastic), 2001. ISBN: 0590762117**

Recalling the history of Eretz Yisrael from Canaanite times to the founding of the modern state, this beautifully designed book has splendid illustrations that mirror the rise, trials, and achievements of the Jewish people as reflected by Israel's trees. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Biers-Ariel, Matt. *Solomon and the Trees*. Illustrated by Esti Silverberg-Kiss. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 2001. ISBN: 0807407496**

Drawing from legends about King Solomon and Jewish teachings about humankind's responsibility to care for nature, this serious, dramatically illustrated story stresses personal responsibility. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Brichto, Mira Pollak. *The God around Us, Volume 2: The Valley of Blessings*. Illustrated by Selina Alko. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 2001. ISBN: 0807407380**

Prayers and blessings for many of the events that occur in the lives of young children are presented in Hebrew, transliteration, and English, accompanied by lively multicultural illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Burstein, Chaya. *Hanukkah Cat*. (Revised Edition) Illustrated by Judy Hanks-Henn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 2001. ISBN: 1580130291. pbk.**

Amusing new illustrations add sparkle to this appealing story of a little boy who finds a kitten at the start of Hanukkah. The story of the Maccabees and Lenny's adventures with the mischievous kitten are deftly interwoven. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**da Costa, Deborah. *Snow in Jerusalem*. Illustrated by Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2001. ISBN: 0807575216**

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 heavenly Jerusalem. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Dollinger, Renate. *The Rabbi Who Flew*. Los Angeles: Booksmythe, 2001. ISBN: 0945585209**

Colorful gouache paintings in the author-illustrator's primitive style decorate this story about a saintly rabbi with holes in his shoes. The plot expresses the mitzvah of Jew helping Jew within an idealized *shtetl* setting. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Fishman, Cathy Goldman. *On Shabbat*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2001. ISBN: 0689838948**

A holiday book, part of a series, that is both stylish and steeped in Jewish knowledge. The dreamy illustrations capture the spirit of the Sabbath. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *A Mountain of Blintzes*. Illustrated by Anik McGrory. San Diego, CA: Gulliver/Harcourt Books, 2001. ISBN: 0152019022**

In this humorous story of Jewish life in New York State's Catskill Mountains resort region in the 1920's, a poor family finds a way to celebrate Shavuot. The characters and action recall the traditional tales of Chelm. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hest, Amy. *The Friday Nights of Nana*. Illustrated by Claire Nivola. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2001. ISBN: 0763606588**

In this serene picture book, a little girl helps her grandmother prepare for Shabbat. The celebration of tradition provides an atmosphere of closeness and warmth, a contrast to the wintry world outside. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *The Hardest Word: A Yom Kippur Story*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 2001. ISBN: 1580130305**

The Ziz, a giant bird from Jewish legend, is a softy at heart. He confesses to accidentally doing wrong and God assigns him a penance: to find the hardest word. The quest is a joyful learning experience. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *Zigazak! A Magical Hanukkah Night*. Illustrated by Jon Goodell. New York: Doubleday/Random House, 2001. ISBN: 0385326521**

A pair of devils make mischief in the *shtetl* of Brisk, but the rabbi puts an end to their escapades. This jolly story transmits the traditional message that sparks of holiness can be found in unlikely places. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Sasso, Sandy. *Cain and Abel: Finding the Fruits of Peace*. Illustrated by Joani Keller Rothenberg. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 2001. ISBN: 1580231233**

Bold splashes of color illustrate this interpretation of a Bible story that emphasizes the destructive power of anger. Running through the narrative is the midrashic tradition of nature's mourning for Abel. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Simpson, Lesley. *The Shabbat Box*. Illustrated by Nicole in den Bosch. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 2001. ISBN: 1580130275. pbk.**

When Ira loses his class's treasured Shabbat box, he solves the problem by making a new one, all on his own. This empowering story portrays a loving family, a multicultural preschool class, and a child with imagination and perseverance. Instruction for making a Shabbat box are included. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Uhlberg, Myron. *Lemuel, the Fool*. Illustrated by Sonja Lamut. Atlanta, GA: Peachtree Publishers, 2001. ISBN: 1561452203**

Lemuel sails off in search of the city of his dreams, returns home without realizing it, and is astonished that all the people and places look so familiar! A droll, gentle story, beautifully illustrated. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ungar, Richard. *Rachel Captures the Moon*. Plattsburgh, NY: Tundra Books, 2001. ISBN: 088776505X**  
The foolish folk of Chelm, not content to wait for the moon to rise each evening, try to capture its luminescence

permanently. When neither a ladder, a net, nor delicious smelling soup can lure the moon down to earth, a little girl named Rachel captures its reflection in a barrel of water. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Attema, Martha. *Daughter of Light*. Custer, WA: Orca Book Publishers, 2001. ISBN: 1551431793** During the harsh winter of 1944, when food is scarce and electricity has been turned off, a nine-year-old Dutch girl whose mother is pregnant confronts the town's Nazi-collaborationist mayor to try to convince him to restore the electricity before the baby is born. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Axelrod, Toby. *Hans and Sophie Scholl: German Resisters of the White Rose*. (Holocaust Biography Series) New York: Rosen Publishing, 2001. ISBN: 0825933164**  
A factual account of a small group of courageous German students who resisted Hitler. Photographs, documents, a glossary, bibliography and index increase the book's value for research and reports. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Feder, Harriet. *Death on Sacred Ground*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publishing, 2001. ISBN: 0822507412**

She's back! Vivi Hartman, rabbi's daughter and teenage sleuth, uses Talmudic reasoning to solve a crime committed on the Seneca Reservation in New York State. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kacer, Kathy. *Clara's War*. Toronto, ON: Second Story Press, 2001. ISBN: 1896764428. pbk.**

Thirteen-year-old Clara and her family are deported from Prague to the concentration camp of Terezin. Through their experiences, the grimness and terror of the camp are shown in contrast to its rich cultural life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kanefield, Teri. *Rivka's Way*. Chicago, IL: Front Street/Cricket Books, 2001. ISBN: 0812628705**

Set in eighteenth century Prague, this tells of teenage Rivka's longing to leave the safety of the Jewish Quarter and venture into the larger world that fascinates her outside. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kornblatt, Mark. *Understanding Buddy*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry/Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0668983215X**

A fifth grader discovers that the withdrawn, silent new boy in class is grieving over the sudden death of his mother. Rebuffed by Buddy when he tries to be friendly, Sam searches for answers, including Jewish answers, to the disturbing questions that arise as he tries to understand Buddy. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Koss, Amy. *Stolen Words*. Middleton, WI: American Girl, 2001. ISBN: 1584853778**

Everything is going wrong on Robyn's vacation with her family in Austria! As recorded in her diary, Robyn's comments and observations are filled with both biting teenage wit and deep concern about her mother, who cannot get over the death of her sister. A colloquial style imparts a serious theme. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *Daughter of Fire: Heroines of the Bible*. Illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. San Diego, CA: Silver Whistle/Harcourt, 2001. ISBN: 0152018697**

Drawing on both the Bible and on legend, the author portrays heroines of passion and purpose, representing Jewish history from the period of the Patriarchs to the Persian era. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *The War Within*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0689829353**

After General Grant issues an order expelling all Jews from the territory under his control, teenaged Hannah Green, a Southern belle in the making, begins to question many of the values she took for granted, including slavery. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Miklowitz, Gloria. *Secrets in the House of Delgado*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmanns, 2001. ISBN: 0802852068**

In a gripping story about "New Christians" and the Inquisition, the author captures the terror of the times and the varying degrees of Jewish loyalty among members of one family. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Steiner, Connie. *Shoes for Amelie*. Illustrated by Denis Rodier. Montreal, QC: Lobster Press, 2001. ISBN: 1894222377**

The heroism of the people of the town of Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, France is portrayed through a story about one courageous and "ordinary" family who sheltered a Jewish child during the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vogiel, Eva. *Friend of Foe?* New York: Judaica Press, 2001. ISBN: 188058266X**

The headmistress of an Orthodox boarding school for girls in England is anxious to discover who, among the school's neighbors, seems to be trying to close it down. Likeable characters and an engrossing plot convey a theme of tolerance. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Warren, Andrea. *Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps*. New York: HarperCollins, 2001. ISBN: 0688174973**

An inspiring account of the Holocaust experiences of Jack Mandelbaum, who survived three years as a teen in several camps. His zest for life and ability to form friendships enabled him to begin a new life in the United States. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Weber, Ilse. *Mendel Rosenbusch: Tales for Jewish Children*. Translated by Ruth and Hans Fisher. New York: Herodias, 2001. ISBN: 1928746195**

Mendel is a good and wise man who has been granted the power to become invisible. He uses his gift to help the poor and right wrongs. These tales paint a knowing portrait of small town life and culture in pre-Holocaust Central Europe. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *The Magic Menorah: A Modern Chanukah Tale*. Illustrated by Donna Diamond. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0689822606**

An encounter with a Yiddish-spouting genie named Fishel changes Stanley's mind about Hanukkah and family traditions. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Greenfield, Howard. *After the Holocaust*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 2001. ISBN: 0688177552**

Focusing on eight Holocaust survivors now living in the United States, this powerful book shows the hardships faced by young survivors, many of whom were without homes, families, identities or hope. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Schmidt, Gary. *Mara's Stories: Glimmers in the Dark*. New York: Henry Holt, 2001 ISBN: 0805067949.**

In the night and fog of a concentration camp, women and children gather at night to listen to stories told by a prisoner named Mara, the daughter of a rabbi. The stories are adapted from Jewish lore; the listening is an act of resistance. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **2000**

**Kimmel, Eric A. *Gershon's Monster: A Story for The Jewish New Year*. Illustrated by Jon J. Muth. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN: 043910839X**

When his sins threaten the lives of his beloved twin children, a Jewish man finally repents of his wicked ways. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Vos, Ida. *The Key is Lost*. Translated from Dutch by Terese Edelstein. New York: Morrow/HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN: 0688162835**

Based on a true story, this historical fiction tells of two young sisters who get separated from their parents and are forced to live hidden away in the attics of Holland in order to escape from being caught by the Nazis. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Fagan, Cary. *The Market Wedding*. Illustrated by Regolo Ricci. Plattsburgh, NY: Tundra Books of Northern New York, 2000. ISBN: 0887764924**

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. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Oberman, Sheldon. *The Wisdom Bird: A Tale of Solomon and Sheba*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2000. ISBN: 1563978164**

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. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Hest, Amy. *Love You, Soldier*. Illustrated by Sonja Lamut. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2000. ISBN: 0763609439**

Katie, a Jewish girl living in New York City during World War II, sees many dynamic changes in her world as she ages from seven to ten waiting for her father to return from the war. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Fireflies in the Dark: The Story of Friedl Dicker-Brandeis and the Children of Terezin*. New York: Holiday House, 2000. ISBN: 082341681X pbk.**

Recounts how Friedl Dicker, a Jewish woman from Czechoslovakia, taught art to children at the Terezin Concentration Camp. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Altman, Linda Jacobs. *The Legend of Freedom Hill*. Illustrated by Conrelius Van Wright and Ting-Hwa Hu. New York: Lee and Low, 2000. ISBN: 1584300035**

California in the Gold Rush era is the setting for this heartwarming story of an inter-racial relationship. Two little girls, one Jewish and one African-American, find enough gold to ransom the runaways the slave catcher has in his clutches. Colorful, realistic illustrations reflect the setting, characters, and drama. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Fishman, Cathy Goldman. *On Purim*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2000. ISBN: 0689823924**

One of the best of the books on holidays created by Fishman and Hall, this combines evocative illustrations with a narrative that is sensitive to the paradoxes of a holiday in which God's name is never mentioned. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmelman, Leslie. *Dance, Sing, Remember*. Illustrated by Ora Eitan. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN: 0060277254**

A light-hearted writing style and child-like illustrations give panache to this cheerful holiday collection. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *Come, Let Us Be Joyful: The Story of Hava Nagila*. Illustrated by Rosalind Charney Kaye. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 2000. ISBN: 0807407313**

Children who have sung and danced to "Hava Nagila" will learn how it may have come to be transformed from a sad Yiddish melody to the musical embodiment of pioneering Zionism. An ebulliently written and illustrated story set in Israel before statehood. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Melmed, Laura Kraus. *Moishe's Miracle*. Illustrated by David Slonim. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN: 0688146821**

One the eve of Hanukkah, a poor man receives a magic frying pan that produces endless latkes. Moishe wants to feed the whole village but his wife, Baila, has other ideas... The deep, dusky pictures glow with magic. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Shollar, Leah. *Thread of Kindness: A Tzedaka Story*. Illustrated by Shoshana Mekibel. New York: HaChai Publishing, 2000. ISBN: 1929628013**

Goodness rewarded is the theme of this traditional story about a poor family who use the six years of plenty given to them by Elijah to help others. The message is conveyed gently and illustrated with soft pastels. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Carmi, Gabriella. *Samir and Yonatan*. Translated by Yael Lotan. New York: Arthur A. Levine (Scholastic), 2000. ISBN: 0439135044**

Frightened to be the only Palestinian in the children's ward of a hospital in Israel, Samir withdraws into himself. Gradually, Yonatan, the boy in the next bed, draws him into another world where Jews and Palestinians can be friends. A Mildred L. Batchelder Award Winner. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Deedy, Carmen Agra. *The Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark*. Illustrated by Henry Sorensen. Atlanta: Peachtree Publishers, 2000. ISBN: 1561452084**

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. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hirschfelder, Arlene B. *Photo Odyssey: Solomon Carvalho's Remarkable Western Adventure, 1853-1854*. New York: Clarion, 2000. ISBN: 0339589123X**

Carvalho, a Baltimore Jew of Sephardic ancestry, was a tenderfoot when he joined an expedition led by the explorer John Charles Fremont. This well-researched biography gives a stirring account of his adventure. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Isaacs, Ann. *Torn Thread*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN: 0590603639**

Based on the experiences of a Holocaust survivor, this is the story of two teenaged sisters who survive a Nazi slave labor camp where they were imprisoned for several years. Through a large cast of characters, the author touches on some central Holocaust issues. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Jaffe, Nina. *Tales for the Seventh Day*. Illustrated by Kelly Stribling Sutherland. New York: Scholastic Press, 2000. ISBN: 0590120549**

Seven tales follow a gracefully written introduction describing traditional observances that have maintained Jewish identity and continuity. The tales are adapted from Talmud, folk literature, and oral traditions. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm*. Illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. New York: Holiday House, 2000. ISBN: 0823414639**

Too delicious to be enjoyed only at Hanukkah, these effervescent tales show how the wisdom of fools might be the wisest kind of all! (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lester, Julius. *Pharaoh's Daughter*. San Diego, CA: Silver Whistle/Harcourt, 2000. ISBN: 0152018265**

A dazzling portrait of ancient Egypt and a provocative story of religious and cultural identity are created in this free interpretation of the youth of Moses and his older sister. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levine, Ellen. *Darkness over Denmark: The Danish Resistance and the Rescue of the Jews*. New York: Holiday House, 2000. ISBN: 0823414477**

Interviews with individuals involved in the Danish resistance, documentary photographs, and a lucid text combine to tell an inspiring true story. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Moss, Marissa. *Hannah's Journal: The Story of an Immigrant Girl*. (Young American Voices Series) San Diego, CA: Silver Whistle/Harcourt, 2000. ISBN: 0152021558**

The exciting story of Hannah's trip from Russia to America is told through her journal entries. The format, with lined pages, hand lettering, and Hannah's drawings and comments in the margins, is especially appealing. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Musleah, Rahel. *Why on This Night? A Passover Haggadah for Family Celebration*. Illustrated by Louise August. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2000. ISBN: 088776519X**

Intended to give children a central part in planning and participating in the Passover Seder, this includes every major part of the Haggadah in Hebrew, English and transliteration. And, as if that weren't enough, there are also superb illustrations, songs, games, crafts, recipes, and other ideas for making the Seder truly familycentered. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Polacco, Patricia. *The Butterfly*. New York: Philomel Books, 2000. ISBN: 0399231706**

During the Nazi occupation of France, a child discovers that her mother is hiding Jews. The "little ghost" who appears in her bedroom at night is one of them. Monique and Sevrine become friends, sharing hope for a brighter future symbolized by the butterfly. A poignant story whose illustrations (by the author) express its mood. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schanzer, Rosalind. *Escaping to America: A True Story*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN: 0688169899**

In the early twentieth century, a family of Polish Jews, headed by a determined father, leaves the Old Country. This book, vibrantly illustrated (by the author), expresses their thankfulness and pride in becoming Americans. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard. *The Day the Rabbi Disappeared: Jewish Holiday Tales of Magic*. Illustrated by Monique Passicot. New York: Viking, 2000. ISBN: 0670887331**

The magic in these tales -- of dreams, heavenly journeys, and secret names -- is used to protect and save the Jewish people. Several of the stories feature learned women and all 12 of them are associated with the major festivals, Rosh Chodesh, and Shabbat. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Smith, Frank Dabba. *My Secret Camera: Life in the Lodz Ghetto*. Photographs by Mendel Grossman. San Diego, CA: Gulliver/Harcourt, 2000. ISBN: 0152023062**

Mendel Grossman did not survive the Holocaust, but his photographs did. They are heartbreaking reminders of everyday life in a community destined for destruction. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Taylor, Marilyn. *Faraway Home*. Dublin, Ireland: O'Brien Press, 1999. ISBN: 0531145247**

An Austrian brother and sister are sent on the Kindertransport to Northern Ireland, where a farm for Jewish refugees from Hitler was established near Belfast. Actual events are integrated with sympathetic characters, believable relationships, well-paced action, and a portrayal of lives forever changed by war. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vogiel, Eva. *Invisible Chains*. New York: Judaica Press, 2000. ISBN: 1880582570**

An Orthodox boarding school in England is the setting for this story of two sisters. A wise headmistress and a concerned young teacher intervene to solve the girls' potentially destructive relationship. Traditional Judaism guides and supports all of them. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Watts, Irene. *Remember Me: A Search for Refuge in Wartime Britain*. Plattsburgh, NY: Tundra Books, 2000. ISBN: 088776519X**

Twelve-year-old Marianne, who was introduced in *Goodbye, Marianne* (Tunda, 1998), is sent on the Kindertransport to England. Missing her parents and yearning for the familiarity of Jewish family life, she struggles in a series of foster homes. A fascinating picture of war-time England -- of courage and narrow social attitudes -- is painted. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **1999**

**Schur, Maxine Rose. *The Peddler's Gift*. Illustrated by Kimberly Bulcken Root. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 080371987**

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 Shnook. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Rosen, Sybil. *Speed of Light*. New York: Anne Schwartz Book/Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689841515 pbk.**

An eleven-year-old Jewish girl living in the South during the 1950s struggles with the antisemitism and racism which pervade her small community. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Gerstein, Mordicai. *Noah and the Great Flood*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689813716**

A retelling of the biblical story of how Noah and his family were saved, along with two of every living creature, when God destroyed the wicked of the world with a devastating flood. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Taback, Simms. *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat*. New York: Viking Children's Books, 1999. ISBN: 0670878553**

An old Eastern European folk song provides the basis for a tale about a peasant who devises clever uses for his worn-out overcoat. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Wilkowski, Susan. *Baby's Bris*. Illustrated by Judith Friedman. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1999. ISBN: 1580130534 pbk.**



Sophie becomes a big sister and, during the first eight days of her brother's life, learns about the custom of *bris* (circumcision) and celebrates the event with her family and new brother Ben. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Journeys with Elijah*. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. San Diego, CA: Gulliver Books/Harcourt Brace & Company, 1999. ISBN: 0152004459**

Presents eight stories about the biblical prophet Elijah, set in a variety of time periods and in places all over the world where Jews have lived. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Lester, Julius. *When The Beginning Began: Stories About God, the Creatures and Us*. Illustrated by Emily Lisker. San Diego, CA: Silver Whistle/Harcourt Brace & Company, 1999. ISBN: 0152012389**

A collection of traditional and original Jewish tales interpreting the Biblical story of the creation of the world. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Propp, Vera. *When the Soldiers Were Gone*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1999. ISBN: 0698118812 pbk.**

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. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Anderson, Joel. *David and the Trash-Talkin' Giant: Mr. Grungy's Seek and Find Bible Stories*. Illustrated by Abe Goolsby. Nashville, TN: Tommy Nelson, 1999. ISBN: 0849959187**

The story of David and Goliath is retold in rhyme with clever illustrations of scrap creations that have been digitally photographed. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gerstein, Mordicai. *Queen Esther, the Morning Star*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2000. ISBN: 0689813724**

A highly sophisticated interpretation of tradition. A visual treat and atmospherically a Jewish *Arabian Nights*. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Herman, Charlotte. *How Yussel Caught the Gefilte Fish: A Shabbos Story*. Illustrated by Katya Krenina. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1999. ISBN: 0525454497**

When Yussel goes fishing with his father, it's both a bonding experience and an opportunity to bring home his favorite treat. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hildebrandt, Ziporah. *This Is Our Seder*. Illustrated by Robin Roraback. New York: Holiday House, 1999. ISBN: 0823414361**

This title, which is organized around the themes of continuity and extended family, presents events and symbolic activities associated with Passover. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hughes, Shirley. *The Lion and the Unicorn*. New York: DK Publishing, 1999. ISBN: 07899425556** When Lenny Levi is evacuated from World War II London to an aristocrat's estate, he must find the courage to conquer loneliness and the rejection that comes with being "different." Stirring illustrations of war and rural beauty. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Nerlove, Miriam. *The Ten Commandments for Jewish Children*. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 1999. ISBN: 0807577707**

A traditional approach in clear language. The author emphasizes the contemporary validity of these ancient teachings and suggests how they may be put into practice. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rocklin, Joanne. *The Very Best Hanukkah Gift*. Illustrated by Catherine O'Neil. New York: Delacorte Press, 1999. ISBN: 0385326564**

Daniel, an awkward eight-year-old middle child, anticipates Hanukkah with anxiety, but unexpected events bolster his self-esteem and his status within the family. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rothenberg, Joan. *Matzah Ball Soup*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 1999. ISBN: 0786821701**

The humble matzah ball is the vehicle of transmission of Jewish tradition from generation to generation. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Sasso, Sandy E. *For Heaven's Sake*. Illustrated by Karyn Kunz Finney. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights Publishing, 1999. ISBN: 1580230547**

A young boy grieving for this much-loved grandfather seeks to understand the concept of heaven. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Silverman, Erica. *Raisel's Riddle*. Illustrated by Susan Gaber. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1999. ISBN: 0374351681**

A Jewish orphan girl finds happiness with her "prince," a rabbi's son who appreciates her learning as well as her beauty. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wells, Rosemary. *Streets of Gold*. Illustrated by Dann Adreassen. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0803721498**

Based on Mary Antin's classic immigration memoir, *The Promised Land* (1912), this story describes a young girl's adaptation to American life and her love for her adopted country. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wiesel, Elie. *King Solomon and His Magic Ring*. Illustrated by Mark Podwal. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1999. ISBN: 0688169597**

A collection of wonder tales, based on Talmud and Midrash, featuring angels, demons, flying carpets, and conversations with animals. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Woodruff, Elvira. *The Memory Coat*. Illustrated by Michael Dooling. New York: Scholastic Press, 1999. ISBN: 0590677179**

Rachel saves the day when it appears that her cousin, Grisha, will fail the health examination at Ellis Island and be sent back to Russia. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Asher, Sandy, editor. *With All My Heart, With All My Mind: Thirteen Stories about Growing Up Jewish*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1999. ISBN: 0689820127**

Original stories dealing with teen identity crises by American-Jewish authors, followed by interviews. Varied and highly readable. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Bat Ami, Miriam. *Two Suns in the Sky*. Chicago, IL: Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999. ISBN:**

**081269000** In 1944, in wartime Oswego, New York, two teens, a Yugoslavian Jewish refugee boy and an American Roman Catholic girl from a strict family reach out to one another. Their relationship results in sorrow and growth. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Bitton-Jackson, Livia. *My Bridges of Hope: Searching for Life and Love after Auschwitz*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689820267**

This sequel to *I Have Lived a Thousand Years* (1997) takes Elli Friedman from liberation to her arrival in the United States six years later. As a survivor and displaced person, the heroine attempts to form relationships and continue her education, yet feels guilty for wanting a normal life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Giddens, Sandra. *Escape: Teens Who Escaped the Holocaust to Freedom*. (Teen Witnesses to the Holocaust Series) New York: Rosen Publishing Group, 1999. ISBN: 0823928438**

A well-written account of four teens who survived due to courage, luck, and the assistance of others. All went on to lead productive lives and build new families. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gormley, Beatrice. *Miriam*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0802851568**

Moses' sister, a strong and passionate woman, is portrayed as a prophetess and leader of her people, faced with all the temptations to assimilate that ancient Egypt had to offer. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levine, Anna. *Running on Eggs*. Chicago, IL: Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999. ISBN: 0812628756**

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. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *The Cure*. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1999. ISBN:**

**152018271** A stunning work that moves in time from a sterile future civilization to the rich but dangerous world of medieval Jewry and back. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Machlin, Mikki. *My Name Is Not Gussie*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1999. ISBN: 0395956463**

A high-spirited girl experiences the trials and joys of immigrant life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Maguire, Gregory. *The Good Liar*. New York: Clarion Books, 1999. ISBN: 0395906970**

To the dismay of their devout and gentle mother, three French brothers delight in telling outrageous lies. When Jews are hidden in their village after the fall of Paris, lying is no longer a game. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *In My Enemy's House*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1999. ISBN: 0689813546**

Marissa, a fifteen-year-old Jewish girl, poses as a Roman Catholic worker in wartime Germany. She makes her way in a world of random cruelty, a world that imposes terrible choices. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Metzger, Lois. *Missing Girls*. New York: Viking, 1999. ISBN: 0670877778**

After her mother's death, Carrie's father sends her to live with her Holocaust survivor grandmother. Slowly, the teenager begins to recapture her engagement with life and other people. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard, and Rush, Barbara, editors. *A Coat for the Moon and Other Jewish Tales*. Illustrated by Michael Iofin. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1999. ISBN: 082760596X**

A fine collection, often subtle. Beautifully illustrated. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Severance, John. *Einstein: Visionary Scientist*. New York: Clarion Books, 1999. ISBN: 0395931002**

A readable account for Einstein's momentous scientific discoveries and his often troubled personal life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Talbert, Marc. *Star of Luís*. New York: Clarion Books, 1999. ISBN: 039591423X**

A Hispanic boy, raised as a Roman Catholic, struggles to understand and to be reconciled with his newly discovered Iberian-Jewish ancestry. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **1998**

**Stillerman, Marci. *Nine Spoons*. Illustrated by Pesach Gerber. New York: HaChai Publishers, 1998. ISBN: 0922613842**

A few brave souls in a Nazi camp are determined to gather nine spoons to make a menorah for Chanukah. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Napoli, Donna Jo. *Stones in Water*. New York: Dutton Books, 1997. ISBN: 0141306009 pbk.**

After being taken by German soldiers from a local movie theater along with other Italian boys including his Jewish friend, Roberto is forced to work in Germany, escapes into the Ukrainian winter, before desperately trying to make his way back home to Venice. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Gelman, Rita Golden. *Queen Esther Saves Her People*. Illustrated by Frane Lessac. New York: Scholastic Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590470256**

Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Prose, Francine. *You Never Know: A Legend of the Lamed-Vavniks*. Illustrated by Mark Podwal. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1998. ISBN: 0688157580**

Though mocked by the rest of the villagers, poor Schmuel the shoemaker turns out to be a very special person. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Schrier, Jeffrey. *On the Wings of Eagles: An Ethiopian Boy's Story*. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook Press, 1998. ISBN: 076130004X**

A Jewish Ethiopian boy recounts the story of Israel's 1991 airlift rescue of his threatened people. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Siegel, Bruce. *The Magic of Kol Nidre*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1998. ISBN: 158013002X pbk.**

The magic of the Kol Nidre prayer, central to the Yom Kippur service, is explored from the viewpoint of three generations. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Ducharme, Dede Fox. *The Treasure in the Tiny Blue Tin*. Fort Worth, TX: Texas Christian University Press, 1998. ISBN: 0875651801 pbk.**

In the early 1900's in Texas, a twelve-year-old Jewish immigrant runs away to search for his father who he fears is sick, and he is joined on his dangerous journey by a prejudiced country boy. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *The Singing Mountain*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1998. ISBN: 068983523X pbk.**

While traveling in Israel for the summer, seventeen-year-old Mitch decides to stay and pursue a life of Jewish orthodoxy, forcing him to make some important decisions about the family and life he is leaving in southern California. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Lobel, Anita. *No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1998.**

**ISBN: 0380732858 pbk.**

The author describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and for years in Sweden afterwards. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Agnon, S. Y. *Agnon's Alef Bet: Poems by S. Y. Agnon*. Translated by Robert Friend. Illustrated by Arieh Zeldich. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1998. ISBN: 0827605994**

Playful illustrations match each of these poems inspired by the letters of the Hebrew alphabet and written by the Nobel Prize winning Israeli writer. The original Hebrew versions are included. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bierman, Carol, with Barbara Hehner. *Journey to Ellis Island: How My Father Came to America*. Illustrated by Laurie McGaw. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 1998. ISBN: 0786803770**

An effective combination of documentary photographs, postcards, and realistic sepia-tone illustrations highlight this engrossing true story, based on the experiences of the author's father. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jaffe, Nina. *The Way Meat Loves Salt*. Illustrated by Louise August. New York: Henry Holt, 1998. ISBN: 080504043845**

Charming to the eye and ear, this Jewish version of the Cinderella story is stunningly illustrated and perfect for shared reading. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Janisch, Heinz. *Noah's Ark*. Translated by Rosemary Lanning. Illustrated by Lisbeth Zwerger. New York: North-South Books, 1997. ISBN: 1558587845**

A new perspective on an oft-told tale is given by slightly surreal illustrations that show sunken towns from underwater and mythical as well as human figures scurrying for higher ground. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Once Upon a Shabbos*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1998. ISBN: 1580130208**

Whether or not readers are familiar with a variant of this story called "Sody Sallyratus," they are sure to be captivated by this Yiddish-flavored version, set in New York, featuring a lost bear and a resourceful *bubbe*. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kaplan, William, with Shelley Tanaka. *One More Border*. Illustrated by Stephen Taylor. Toronto, ON: Douglas & McIntyre, 1998. ISBN: 0888993323**

Fans of fiction and non-fiction will both enjoy this suspenseful memoir of a family's escape from war-ravaged Europe during World War II. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *When Mindy Saved Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Barbara McClintock. New York: Scholastic Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590371363**

New York's historic Eldridge Street *shul* is the setting for a winsome story about a family of little people, akin to the Borrowers, who live within its walls. Illustrations and book design impart Victorian charm. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *Miriam's Cup*. Illustrated by Bob Dacey. New York: Scholastic Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590677209**

Vivid illustrations enhance this story about Miriam, which draws on Biblical, *Midrashic*, and modern feminist sources. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Podwal, Mark. *The Menorah Story*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1998. ISBN: 0688157580** A clearly written account of the two menorahs of Jewish tradition, enhanced by deeply colored, symbolic illustrations (by the author). (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Stuchner, Joan Betty. *The Kugel Valley Klezmer Band*. Illustrated by Richard Row. Richmond Hill, ON: North Winds Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590038338**

In a Canadian village around the turn of the century, Shira learns to play the fiddle and realizes her dream of performing with the klezmer band. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Swartz, Nancy Sohn. *In Our Image: God's First Creatures*. Illustrated by Melanie Hall. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 1998. ISBN: 1879045990**

Each of the creatures that the Almighty created is asked to share its special gift with humankind, the last to be brought into the world. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Tarbescu, Edith. *Annushka's Voyage*. Illustrated by Lydia Dabovich. New York: Clarion Books, 1998. ISBN: 039564366X**

Two little girls leave their village in Russia to take an arduous and adventure-filled voyage aboard a steamship to join their papa in New York. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Clouds of Glory*. Illustrated by David Frampton. New York: Clarion Books, 1998. ISBN: 039574654X**

Vibrant woodcuts illustrate legends from the Bible based on traditional and modern *Midrash*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hurwitz, Johanna. *Faraway Summer*. Illustrated by Mary Azarian. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1998. ISBN: 0688153348**

In the summer of 1910, a Jewish girl from the teeming streets of New York City spends two weeks with a Vermont farm family -- an experience that changes all of them. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *A Hanukkah Treasury*. Illustrated by Emily Lisker. New York: Henry Holt, 1998. ISBN: 0805052933**

Information, stories, poetry, and sprightly illustrations distinguish this outstanding collection. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kurtz, Jane. *The Storyteller's Beads*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1998. ISBN: 0152010742** A blind Jewish girl and a Christian girl overcome prejudice and suspicion as they help one another on a hazardous exodus from Ethiopia to a refugee camp in the Sudan. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lasky, Kathryn. *Dreams of the Golden Country: The Diary of Zipporah Feldman, A Jewish Immigrant Girl*. New York: Scholastic Press, 1998. ISBN: 0590029738**

Part of the popular "Dear America" series, this engaging story captures the emotions, experiences, and aspirations of an immigrant girl as she records them in her diary. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Greater Than Angels*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1998. ISBN: 0689813538**

A courageous teenage heroine joins the righteous gentiles of Le Chambon sur Lignon, France in resisting the Nazis and smuggling her fellow Jews over the border to Switzerland. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Silverman, Maida. *Israel: The Founding of a Modern Nation*. Illustrated by Susan Avishai. New York: Dial Books, 1998. ISBN: 0805721558**

A very readable introduction to the people and events leading to the establishment, in 1948, of the State of Israel, after thousands of years of exile, struggle, and hope. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Waldman, Neil. *Masada*. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1998. ISBN: 0688144814**

Looming high above the Dead Sea, the ancient fortress of Masada possessed secrets that modern archaeology helped to reveal. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Baer, Edith. *Walk the Dark Streets*. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1998. ISBN: 0374382298**

A moving fictionalized chronicle of the deterioration of life for German Jews in the 1930s. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Fisher, Leonard Everett. *To Bigotry No Sanction: The Story of the Oldest Synagogue in America*. New York: Holiday House, 1998. ISBN: 0823414019**

The history of Newport, Rhode Island's Touro Synagogue sets the stage for a succinct examination of the odyssey of Sephardic Jews to North America and the development of religious liberty in the United States. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Miklowitz, Gloria. *Masada: The Last Fortress*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, 1998. ISBN: 0802851657**

Antagonists in the Roman siege of Masada, one a teenage zealot boy and the other the Roman general leading the attack, tell their stories as the conflict progresses to its tragic conclusion. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Rabinovici, Schoschana. *Thanks to My Mother*. Translated from German by James Skofield. New York: Dial Books, 1998. ISBN: 0803722354**

From the Vilna ghetto to the camps and a death march, young Susie's survival depended on her indomitable mother. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Winter, Kathryn. *Katarina*. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1998. ISBN: 0374339848**

Outcast and struggling, virtually alone, to survive in Slovakia during the Holocaust, Katarina is sustained by a child's blend of imagination, hope, and faith in Catholic saints. A remarkable story about identity and difference. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1997**

**Rael, Elsa Okon. *When Zaydeh Danced on Eldridge Street*. Illustrated by Marjorie Priceman. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689804512**

While staying with her grandparents in New York City in the mid-1930's, eight-year-old Zeesie joins in the celebration of Simchat Torah and sees a different side of her stern grandfather. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Jaffe, Nina. *The Mysterious Visitor: Stories of the Prophet Elijah*. Illustrated by Elivia Savadier. New York: Scholastic, 1997. ISBN: 0590484222**

A collection of folktales featuring the prophet Elijah, a messenger from heaven who comes to earth in many disguises. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Hest, Amy. *When Jessie Came Across the Sea*. Illustrated by P.J. Lynch. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1997. ISBN: 076361274X pbk.**

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. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Bitton-Jackson, Livia. *I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689823959 pbk.**

The author describes her experiences during World War II when she and her family were sent to the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Fishman, Cathy Goldberg. *On Passover*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689805284**

The symbols, customs, and meaning of Passover are explained from the point of view of a young child and enhanced with attractive illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Fishman, Cathy Goldberg. *On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689805268**

The spiritual significance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are experienced concretely by a little girl and expressed with reverence and sincerity. Winsome illustrations extend the simple story. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gerstein, Mordicai. *Jonah and the Two Great Fish*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689813732**

Strands of legend embellish a fancifully illustrated version of the Bible story. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Glaser, Linda. *The Borrowed Hanukkah Latkes*. Illustrated by Nancy Cote. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 1997. ISBN: 0807508411**

A little girl and her lonely neighbor are the focal point of this intergenerational story about kindness and sharing. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Kassirer, Sue. *Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors*. Illustrated by Danuta Jarecka. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689812272**

Beginning readers will enjoy reading this Bible story on their own. Colorful illustrations complement the story. (Notable Book for Young Readers)

**Lamstein, Sarah Marwil. *Annie's Shabbat*. Illustrated by Cecily Lang. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 1997. ISBN: 0807503762**

In six short, attractively illustrated chapters that begin with preparations for Shabbat and end with Havdalah, Annie and her family celebrate Shabbat at home, at synagogue, and with some stories from our past. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Lasky, Kathryn. *Marven of the Great North Woods*. Illustrated by Kevin Hawkes. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace, 1997. ISBN: 0152001042**

Large, evocative illustrations are a stunning backdrop to this story of a small Jewish boy and a bearish French-Canadian lumberjack who become friends in a logging camp during the influenza epidemic of 1918. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)



**Lewis, J. Patrick. *The Boat of Many Rooms*. Illustrated by Reg Cartwright. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689801181**

Each stylized, large-eyed figure, whether human or animal, is sharply defined and distinctively composed upon the pages of this somewhat unusual Noah story, written in several styles of verse. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Nivola, Claire. *Elisabeth*. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux, 1997. ISBN: 0374320853**

Years after fleeing from the Nazis, a young woman is reunited with the beloved doll she left behind in Germany. The writing style and illustrations are elegant, restrained, and moving. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Oberman, Sheldon. *By the Hanukkah Light*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 1997. ISBN: 1563976587**

Parallels between ancient and modern Jewish history are shown in a story celebrating religious freedom through the primary symbol of a family menorah that survived the Holocaust. A warm tone suffuses hope into cold history. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Prose, Francine. *The Angel's Mistake: Stories of Chelm*. Illustrated by Marc Podwal. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1997. ISBN: 0688149057**

In a charming marriage of words and pictures, this version of some of the Chelm stories, adapted successfully for a younger than usual audience, tells of how a botched mission by two angels created Chelm, the town of fools. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schotter, Roni. *Purim Play*. Illustrated by Marilyn Hafner. Boston, MA: Little Brown, 1997. ISBN: 0316775185**

By means of a play rehearsal, the story of Purim is filtered through the personalities and perspectives of several children and their reaction to an elderly neighbor asked to play Haman. Rollicking illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Sim, Dorrieth M. *In My Pocket*. Illustrated by Gerald Fitzgerald. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace, 1997. ISBN: 0152013571**

On a morning in July 1939, a young Jewish child sails from Holland to the safety of a new life in Scotland. A simply told, strikingly illustrated story of the Kindertransport. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Waldman, Neil. *The Never-Ending Greenness*. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1997. ISBN: 0688133799**

A Tu B'Shvat story set in Israel, this tenderly tells of building a new life and a new land through the mitzvah of planting trees. The pointillist-style illustrations are stunning. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Waldman, Neil. *The Two Brothers: A Legend of Jerusalem*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689319363**

A new version of a beloved Talmudic legend about loving-kindness, each page awash in softly colored, highly textured illustrations that are reminiscent of ancient frescoes. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wildsmith, Brian. *Joseph*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Publisher, 1997. ISBN: 0802851614**

No wonder the wandering Israelites longed for the fleshpots of Egypt if it looked as glorious as it does in Wildsmith's intensely colored and richly detailed illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Pearl's Marigolds for Grandpa*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689804482**

The pain of loss and the solace of memory are expressed in this warm story about the death of Pearl's grandpa. Small, delicate illustrations with floral motifs are appealing. (Notable Book for Young Readers)

**Batterman, Lee Cha'ah. *Two Cents and a Milk Bottle*. Illustrated by James Wattling. Los Angeles, CA: Alef Design, 1997. ISBN: 11881283178**

Strong Jewish identity and positive Jewish values underscore this nostalgic story of first generation Americans in a New York immigrant neighborhood set in the 1930s. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cooper, Ilene. *The Dead Sea Scrolls*. Illustrated by John Thompson. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1997. ISBN: 0688143008**

Few archaeological finds can match the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls for drama and controversy. These elements are treated thoroughly, accurately and fairly in this excellent account that includes reference aids. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Douglas, Kirk. *The Broken Mirror: A Novella*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689814933**

This short, absorbing novel deals with the loss of faith and its recovery in the aftermath of the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gold, Alison Leslie. *Memories of Anne Frank: Reflections of a Childhood Friend*. New York: Scholastic Books, 1997. ISBN: 0590907220**

The clipped style of this double Holocaust memoir, that of the famous Anne and her unknown friend, Hannah, will keep readers absorbed and eager to see what happens to Hannah as well as to learn more about Anne. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *While the Candles Burn: Eight Stories for Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Elaine Greenstein. New York: Viking, 1996. ISBN: 0670858757**

Each story in this refreshing collection represents a Hanukkah theme, with settings ranging from Biblical times to modern Israel. A few of the stories are original, but most are based on traditional sources. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kamen, Gloria. *Hidden Music: The Life of Fanny Mendelssohn*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1996. ISBN: 068931714X**

Sister of the more famous Felix, Fanny was a dutiful daughter, an adoring sister, and a talented musician in her own right. A well-crafted biography with a restrained but strong feminist thrust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Mark, Jan. *God's Story: How God Made Mankind*. Illustrated by David Parkin. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 1997. ISBN: 0763603767**

Following the narrative order of the Tanakh, Mark's retellings are strong, poetic, and subtly witty, capturing the Biblical meaning while sculpting each story into a spare shape that is reflected by the illustrations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *The Garden*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1997. ISBN: 0689803494**

Amidst an action-packed plot set in Israel on the eve of independence, this sequel to *After the War* (1996) deals with some of the themes implicit in the founding of the Jewish state. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Mochizuki, Ken. *Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story*. Illustrated by Dom Lee. New York: Lee and Low, 1997. ISBN: 1880000490**

Illustrated in sepia tones to resemble old photographs, this recalls a Japanese righteous person through the eyes and voice of a five-year-old boy who witnessed his diplomat father defy official orders and follow his own conscience. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schnur, Steven. *The Koufax Dilemma*. Illustrated by Meryl Treatner. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1997. ISBN: 0688142214**

Of course Danny will pitch the season's opening game. But what if it's on the first night of Passover? (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Silton, Faye. *Of Heroes, Hooks, and Heirlooms*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1997. ISBN: 082760582X**

Told in the first person by a preteen whose parents are Holocaust survivors, this sincere and deeply touching novel about a school project, peer relationships, and family memories will engross adolescent readers. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Wiseman, Eva. *A Place Not Home*. Buffalo, NY: Stoddard Kids, 1997. ISBN: 0773758348**

Thirteen-year-old Nellie tells the story of her family's harrowing flight from Hungary following the revolution of 1956, imbuing it with adventure, humor, and humanity as well as hardship. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Finkelstein, Norman H. *Heeding the Call: Jewish Voices in America's Civil Rights Struggle*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1997. ISBN: 0827605909**

An even-handed and accurate account of the conflicts and commonalities between American Jews and African Americans as they have been played out in the arena of civil rights. Includes reference aids. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Schur, Maxine Rose. *Sacred Shadows*. New York: Dials Books, 1997. ISBN: 0803722958**

The teen-aged heroine struggles with family duty, her own interests, and a foreboding sense that Jews have no place in a Europe succumbing to anti-Semitism and Nazi barbarism. Polished prose and a serious subject. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1996**

**Sofer, Barbara. *Shalom, Haver: Goodbye, Friend*. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1996. ISBN: 0929371976**

A photo essay in memory of Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister who was assassinated in 1995. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Schur, Maxine Rose Schur. *When I Left My Village*. Illustrated by Brian Pinkney. New York: Dial Books, 1996. ISBN: 0803715617**

An Ethiopian Jewish family leaves their oppressed mountain village to make a difficult and treacherous journey in the hope of reaching freedom in Israel. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Prose, Francine. *Dybbuk: A Story Made in Heaven*. Illustrated by Mark Podwal. New York: Greenwillow, 1996. ISBN: 0688143075**

Because forty days before a baby is born the angels in heaven decide whom it will marry, nothing prevents the wedding of Leah and Chonon from taking place. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Wolkstein, Diane. *Esther's Story*. Illustrated by Juan Wijngaard. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1996. ISBN: 0688121276**

Almost twenty-five centuries ago, a shy orphan girl was unexpectedly chosen as queen of Persia. Blessed with majesty and humanity, she risked the wrath of a king to save her people. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Bogot, Howard. *Becky and Benny Thank God*. Illustrated by Norman Gorbaty. New York: CCAR, 1996. ISBN: 0881230650**

Tiny tots can see, smell and feel creation in this lively, likable board book that mimics the Pat-the-Bunny format. Contents carefully attend to biblical detail; the quality packaging reflects concern for manipulation abilities. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Citron, Sterna. *Hirsh's Secret: A Baal Shem Tov Story*. Illustrated by Igor Eydel. Los Angeles, CA: Kerem, 1996. ISBN: 0881230650**

A heart-warming tale of the Baal Shem Tov delivers the concept of mitzvot. A well-developed plot and expressive art solve the mystery of why Hirsh, a *troger* in a Yiddish *shtetl*, is so poor when he has so much goat milk to sell. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Clement, Gary. *Just Stay Put*. Vancouver, BC: Douglas & McIntyre, 1995. ISBN: 0888992394**

Chelm's illogical logic arrives through outstandingly inventive art that captures the sly humor of the silly plot. Mendel unknowingly retraces his own steps, finds the "new" town just like home, and wonders why he ever left. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Davis, Aubrey. *Bone Button Borscht*. Illustrated by Dušan Petričić. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 1995 (1st US Edition, 1997). ISBN: 1550742248**

Based on the folktale "Stone Soup," this rollicking, snappy, humorous, ethnic redo serves a Jewish tale of *tzedakah* from the point of view of the beggar. The dialog bursts with Yiddish phrases. Superb art adds to the charm, irony and fun of this delicious book. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Paterson, Katherine. *The Angel and the Donkey*. Illustrated by Alexander Koshkin. New York: Clarion Books, 1996. ISBN: 039568969-4**

Dramatic story line, chipper dialogue and rich art combine in this entertaining version of Balaam's talking donkey. The well-paced text stresses God-fearing action and exploits everyone's greedy desires despite their regal positions. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Prenzlau, Sheryl. *The Jewish Children's Bible: Genesis*. Illustrated by Zely Smelkhov. Cedarhurst, NY: Pitsopany Press, 1996. ISBN: 0943706319**

This upbeat bible retells selected stories from Genesis with major personalities and details in proper Tanach order. Extra lines from *Midrash* suggest motives. The illustrations are not as good as the text. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gellman, Marc. *God's Mailbox: More Stories about Stories in the Bible*. Illustrated by Debbie Tilley. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1996. ISBN: 0688131697**

With feeling, humor and bite, Gellman interprets moral lessons in familiar bible stories and unfamiliar one line laws. His point of view is human, his *Midrash* modern. The stories are light hearted, but not light weight. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane. *Celebrating Hanukkah*. Photographs by Lawrence Migdale. New York: Holiday House, 1996. ISBN: 0823412520**

This personal photo essay presents Hanukkah from the joyous point of view of a fifth grade girl. Positive, loving explanations clearly deliver religion, history, tradition, symbols and the significance of all. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Ippisch, Hanneke. *Sky*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996. ISBN: 068980508X**

The memoir is an honest reflection on the author's life, her Holocaust resistance activities in Holland, imprisonment, and the character of her Dutch compatriots. Poetic language describes pre-war innocence and war time fear. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kirsch, Sharon. *Fitting In*. Toronto, ON: Second Story Press, 1995. ISBN: 0929005740**

A peer protagonist shares the tribulations of being different in an age-appropriate initiation into the world where religious identity is baggage. Set in 1960s Canada before ethnic roots were chic, intrinsically Jewish, this delightful read for pre-puberty girls boasts careful plotting, appealing characters, amusing dialogue and genuine emotions. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Perl, Lila, and Lazan, Marion Blumenthal. *Four Perfect Pebbles: A Holocaust Story*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1996. ISBN: 068814294X**

An innocent hopeful memoir plots the fate of German Jews in Dutch concentration camps. Third person narration recalls a young girl's life metamorphosed from refugee to prisoner to DP to immigrant to positive survivor. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rabinovich, Abraham. *Teddy Kollek: Builder of Jerusalem*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1996. ISBN: 0827605617**

Details about the famous mayor of Jerusalem include his days as a Zionist pioneer, gun runner and rescuer of Nazi victims. JPS adds a star to its biography series with this exciting read about a likeable man who liked his life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rogasky, Barbara. *The Golem*. Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. New York: Holiday House, 1996. ISBN: 0823409643**

Rogasky retells the traditional sci-fi legend of medieval Prague's clay giant in riveting fashion, shrinking not from violence or gore. Sophisticated art frames a strong test for seekers of the dark, dramatic and Gothic. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard, and Rush Barbara, editors. *The Wonder Child and Other Jewish Fairy Tales*. Illustrated by Stephen Fieser. New York: HarperCollins, 1996. ISBN: 0060235179**

The charmed lives of kings and queens, the eerie ones of demons and werewolves involve Jews in this collection of eight fairy tales from various countries. They introduce readers to lore and escapades with Jewish references. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Segal, Sheila. *Women of Valor: Stories of Great Jewish Women Who Helped Shape the Twentieth Century*. West Orange, NJ: Behrman House, 1996. ISBN: 0874416124**

Focus on gender, time and mission carries this delightful collection of eight female lives. Each bio is set in a brief world history. The common thread, principle over fame, unites disparate women whose deeds affect us now. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Stern, Ellen. *Elie Wiesel: A Voice for Humanity*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1996. ISBN: 0827605749**

Evocative words and photographs propel a quiet biography of a famous Holocaust survivor. The author absorbs youngsters in a significant Jewish personality with a dangerous, active youth, but a passive, reflective adulthood. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Waysman, Dvora. *Back of Beyond: A Bar Mitzvah Journey*. New York: Pitspopany, 1996. ISBN: 0943706548**

A Jewish boy on a trip to Australia is kidnapped by an Aborigine on his walkabout. Manhood ceremonies drive and solve the plot of this page turner. Jewish identity is a source of personal satisfaction to a realistic teen hero. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Wisniewski, David. *Golem*. New York: Clarion Books, 1996. ISBN: 0395726182**

Glorious art (by the author) supports a violent retelling of the legendary Prague Golem. The text turns a medieval thriller into a modern warning against uncontrolled violence. The Caldecott Award winning, multilayered, three-dimensional paper cuts are fascinating. Illustrations capture light, set an eerie local and propel a giant through mist, flame and smoke. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Unfinished Dreams*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996. ISBN: 0689800339**

The "tread carefully" main topics of terminal illness and death are sensitively handled for children. A sixth grade Jewish boy, determined to be a champion violent, loses his adored elementary school principal and chief supporter to AIDS. Jewish characters are assimilated Americans. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Andryszewski, Tricia. *The Amazing Life of Moe Berg: Catcher, Scholar, Spy*. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook Press, 1996. ISBN: 1562946102**

This well-paced biography presents a genuine eccentric, a famous Jew who as all the subtitle declares. The text, based on letters and clippings, contains, many quotes and delivers the brewing World War II as well as the man. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Grey, Vivian. *Moe Berg: The Spy Behind Home Plate*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1996. ISBN: 0827605862**

This is a very detailed biography of an observant Jew who becomes a professional athlete and atomic spy. His wild character stands out despite a worshipful tone. His life will attract non-sports fans to the man and world politics. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Hausman, Gerald. *Night Flight*. New York: Philomel Books, 1996. ISBN: 039922758X**

Jewish identity, anti-Semitism, self-awareness and self-worth combine in a plot to discover who poisoned the town dogs. The preteen protagonist sifts moral choices in a scary summer vignette that molds and matures him. A boy's story, the spare autobiographical novel is a dark read for boys and girls. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Irwin, Hadley. *Sarah with an H*. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books (Simon & Schuster), 1996. ISBN: 0689804942**

The plot of "new Jewish girl in town triggers prejudice" arrives through female athletes and an unusual point of view. The focus is on anguished reaction to anti-Semitism by the perpetrator, rather than the recipient. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *After the War*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1996. ISBN: 0689803508**

This likeable historical novel covers the immediate post war period in short chapters at a fast pace. Fictional characters personalize the drama of Polish Holocaust survivors who escape to Palestine and succeed at illegal entry. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Meyer, Carolyn. *Gideon's People*. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace, 1996. ISBN: 0152003037**

Rebellion sparks a compelling story of two preteen boys from immigrant families struggling to keep closed tradition in an alluring open society. A peddler's wagon accident plots groups you wouldn't think of comparing: Orthodox Jews and strict Amish. The theme, "know another to know thyself," moves readers to evaluate friends and heritage. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Williams, Laura E. *Behind the Bedroom Wall*. Minneapolis, MN: Milkweed Editions, 1996. ISBN: 157131606X**

A teenager converts from *Bund Deutscher Madel* to Jewish protector after stumbling onto her family's secret -- Jews her parents hide behind her bedroom wall. The decision to report or support them propels a suspenseful plot from the righteous gentile's point of view. The fiction highlights the pivotal importance of parental attitude in creating tolerance. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1995**

**Hoestlandt, Jo. *Star of Fear, Star of Hope*. Illustrated by Johanna Kang. Translated from French by Mark Polizzotti. New York: Walker and Company, 1995. ISBN: 0802775888 pbk.**

Nine-year-old Helen is confused by the disappearance of her Jewish friend during the German occupation of Paris. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Vos, Ida. *Dancing on the Bridge of Avignon*. Translated from Dutch by Terese Edelstein and Inez Smidt. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1995. ISBN: 0395720397**

Relates the experiences of a young Jewish girl and her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Cohn, Janice. *The Christmas Menorahs: How a Town Fought Hate*. Illustrated by Bill Farnsworth. Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman, 1995. ISBN: 0807511536 pbk.**

Describes how people in Billings, Montana joined together to fight a series of hate crimes against a Jewish family. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Meyer, Carolyn. *Drummers of Jericho*. San Diego: Gulliver Books for Harcourt Brace, 1995. ISBN: 0152001905 pbk.**

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. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Adler, David. *One Yellow Daffodil*. Illustrated by Lloyd Bloom. San Diego, CA: Gulliver Books, 1995. ISBN: 0152005374**

Two children help a survivor reconnect to his religious tradition when their family includes him in Hanukkah celebrations. He introduces the youngsters to the Holocaust. The art is dark; the text is polite and moving. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Feinberg, Miriam. *A Yom Kippur Think*. Illustrated by Karen Ostrove. New York: United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism Commission on Jewish Education, 1994.**

Simple language and engaging pictures state the values of Yom Kippur for Conservative and Reform Jews. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Night Lights: A Sukkot Story*. Illustrated by Louise August. San Diego, CA: Gulliver Books, 1995. ISBN: 0152005366**

In a clever slant for a Sukkot story, a little boy overcomes his fear of the dark. He finds security by considering starts as night lights when he sleeps with his sister in the sukkah. The art is refreshing and expressive. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Liss-Levinson, Nechama. *When a Grandparent Dies*. Woodstock, VT: Jewish Lights, 1995. ISBN: 1879045443**

Part journal, part lesson, all heart, this sensitive, useful book guides a youngster through *shiva* and the year after, supporting memory, grief and other feelings. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**MacGill-Callahan, Sheila. *When Solomon Was King*. Illustrated by Stephen T. Johnson. New York: Dial Books for Younger Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0803715897**

Solomon's ability to speak to animals underlies an apocryphal basis of why Jews don't hunt. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *The Matzah That Papa Brought Home*. Illustrated by Ned Bittinger. New York: Scholastic Books, 1995. ISBN: 0590471465**

A cumulative "House That Jack Built"-type rhyme captures the traditions and history of the Seder. Family and Passover bask in humor and fond memory through text and misty art. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *Starlight and Candles*. Illustrated by Jacqueline Chwast. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0689802749**

Delightful art delivers a warm story about three generations of a modern family as they prepare for and celebrate Shabbat at home and in the synagogue. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Sanfield, Steve. *Strudel, Strudel, Strudel*. Illustrated by Emily Lisker. New York: Orchard Books, 1995. ISBN: 053106879X**

Superb, stylized art delivers Sanfield's version of the Chelm story about the couple who roll down the hill in a trunk. The text is upbeat, fun, silliness laced with logic and human frailty. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schnur, Steven. *The Tie Man's Miracle: A Chanukkah Tale*. Illustrated by Stephen Johnson. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1995. ISBN: 0688134627**

A young boy hears about the Holocaust for the first time from a salesman who joins the family Chanukkah. The old man recounts the power of the last night's candles; the boy makes a poignant wish for him. The art is realistic. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)



**Schotter, Roni. *Passover Magic*. Illustrated by Marilyn Hafner. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1995. ISBN: 0316774685**

Passover brings an energetic family together; even though the magician uncle is outdone by the wonders of Seder preparation in observance. Words and art reflect warmth, humor and happy Judaism at a manic pace. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Waldman, Neil. *The Golden City: Jerusalem's 3000 Years*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0689800800**

This chronological reflection on Jerusalem's history sets a text focusing on competitors for the city in glorious art (by the author) which captures landmarks in glowing light. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Adler, David. *Child of the Warsaw Ghetto*. Illustrated by Karen Ritz. New York: Holiday House, 1995. ISBN: 0823411605**

This slim, grim volume chronologically details the Ghetto's graphic history through a surviving child. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cone, Molly, *Listen to the Trees*. Illustrated by Roy Doty. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1995. ISBN: 0807405361**

A Tu B'Shvat resource tool recounts the ancient and continuing nexus between Judaism and ecology. Stories, cartoons and quotes of uneven quality mix in a well-organized format. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Engel, Dean and Freedman, Florence. *Ezra Jack Keats: A Biography with Illustrations*. New York: Silver Moon Press, 1995. ISBN: 1881889653**

Surprise! A beloved children's author-illustrator is Jewish, not black, as everyone deduces from his famous pictures. His life provides a lesson on anti-Semitism in secular careers; he hid his Judaism to succeed, not survive. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gellman, Marc, and Hartman, Thomas. *How Do You Spell God?: Answers to the Big Questions from Around the World*. Illustrated by Joseph A. Smith. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1995. ISBN: 0688130410**

A thoughtful, clever volume explains major world religions according to the meaningful questions they answer, and compares them through their different answers. The authors sport "with it" voice and humorous drawings. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Bat Mitzvah*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. New York: Viking, 1995. ISBN: 0670860344**

Bat Mitzvah from the point of view of an outsider who wants to understand. The focus is history and changing ancient tradition in our century, in our country. The tone is feminist/didactic. Illustrations are charming. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol*. Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. New York: Holiday House, 1995. ISBN: 08234322105**

Ten classic stories about poor, but clever Hershel of Ostropol abound in humorous Yiddish culture. A separate chapter quotes his witty epigrams. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *Bar Mitzvah*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. New York: Viking, 1995. ISBN: 0670855405**  
Bar Mitzvah from the point of view of the participant who performs as expected and wishes he knew more. The

focus is memory and meaning. The tone is warm and sharing. The illustrations are charming. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**McPherson, Stephanie. *Ordinary Genius: The Story of Albert Einstein*. Minneapolis, MN: Carolrhoda Books, 1995. ISBN: 0876147880**

Clear prose and great photographs advance a chronological narration of Einstein's life, theories of space and time, eccentric habits and fame. His is proud of his Jewish identity and connects its teachings to his acts. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Perl, Lila. *Isaac Bashevis Singer: The Life of a Storyteller*. Illustrated by Donna Ruff. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1994. ISBN: 0827605129**

This laudatory life of Singer gains charm from facts about his Polish youth and full-page sketches. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Podwal, Mark. *Golem: A Giant Made of Mud*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1995. ISBN: 068813811X**

Imaginative, historically detailed paintings by the author adorn this remarkable retelling of the classic Golem in Prague folklore including Rabbi Loew and the emperor's fascination with alchemy. Lovely art is striking in a scary story. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rochman, Hazel, and McCampbell, Darlene Z, editors. *Bearing Witness: Stories of the Holocaust*. New York: Orchard Books, 1995. ISBN: 053109488X**

Carefully selected, brilliantly pared and well-arranged literary excerpts from long works create a comprehensive chronological Holocaust history which builds in tension, interest and emotion. Superb for classroom use. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rose, Deborah Lee. *The Rose Horse*. Illustrated by Greg Shed. San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1996. ISBN: 0152000682**

The information is fresh: Yiddish immigrants carving carousel horses, Coney Island side show incubators saving premature babies, the counting of the Omer. Local color is turn of the century. Pencil sketches fit the tone. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Semel, Nava. *Flying Lessons*. Translated from Hebrew by Hillel Halkin. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0689801610**

A bittersweet story romanticizes the time when Israel was a new state through a humorous teen narrator stuck in a provincial town. A sensitive shoemaker teaches her to balance dreams and reality through his Holocaust experience which is portrayed in original symbols. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Speregen, Devra. *Yoni Netanyahu: Commando at Entebbe*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1995. ISBN: 0827605234**

An Israeli hero is a role model in this reprise of the stirring 1976 raid on Entebbe he led. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Stewart, Gail B. *Life in the Warsaw Ghetto*. San Diego, CA: Lucent Books, 1995. ISBN: 1560060751**

All the ugly details of the Warsaw Ghetto and the Jews who suffered there are documented in this emotionally tough book. The photographs are incredible. The lesson is clear: it never should have happened. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Xu, Xin with Beverly Friend. *Legends of the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng*. Illustrated by Ting Cheng. Hoboken, NJ: KTAV, 1995. ISBN: 0881255289**

Oral legends chronologically detail the curious history of 1000 years of Judaism in Kaifeng, China. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Yolen, Jane. *And Twelve Chinese Acrobats*. Illustrated by Jean Gralley. New York: Philomel Books, 1995. ISBN: 0399226915**

Spirited language and pictures mesh in this brisk biographical tale of the idolized, mischievous older brother sent away to military school. It is rich in humor and Russian-Jewish rituals and tradition. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Almagor, Gila. *Under the Domim Tree*. Translated from Hebrew by Hillel Schenker. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0671890204**

Three teens in an Israeli youth village after the Holocaust deal with tough emotions sharpened by German war reparations in Israel. They search for lost parents and confront survivor guilt in this autobiographical novel. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Ayer, Elanor, et al. *Parallel Journeys*. New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1995. ISBN: 0689318308**

Holocaust experiences from both sides simultaneously! A Jewish girl and a Nazi boy alternate voice revealing what happened, confessing how it felt, and deducing moral lessons. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Banks, Lynne Reid. *Broken Bridge*. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1995. ISBN: 0688135951**

A sensitive look at the Israel-Palestinian Arab conflict opens with the murder of an American teen in Israel. In this sequel (25 years later) to *One More River*, the extended family faces the consequences along with relevant politics, minimum violence and romance. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Krantz, Hazel. *Look to the Hills*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1995. ISBN: 0827605528**

Local color fills this romance set in late 19th century Colorado which details a thriving Reform Jewish community and the origin of the Jewish Hospital. A chart explains real and imagined characters. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Laird, Christa. *But Can the Phoenix Sing?* New York: Greenwillow Books, 1995. ISBN: 0688136125**

An angry teen discovers the incredible details of his stern stepfather's partisan career during World War II in a wide-ranging story that contains heroic information scantily covered in YA fiction. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Morin, Isobel V. *Days of Judgment: The World War II War Crimes Trials*. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook, 1995. ISBN: 1562944428**

This is a clear, concise evaluation of the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials. Photographs and no-frills vocabulary combine to weigh facts, sift results, recall prevailing passions and establish contemporary relevance. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Newman, Lesléa. *Fat Chance*. New York: G.P. Putnam's, 1994. ISBN: 0399227601**

Through diary entries, a teen recounts her struggles to lose weight, hide her bulimia from her mother, find a boyfriend and a career. It's a mainstream novel with a comfortably Jewish heroine, humorous and moving. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Orlev, Uri. *The Lady with the Hat*. Translated from Hebrew by Hillel Halkin. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1995. ISBN: 0395699576**

A teen survivor in Poland joins a group of young people headed for a Palestine kibbutz unaware that his sole living relative, now an English citizen, is looking for him. Readers follow an exciting man hunt. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1994**

**Oberman, Sheldon. *The Always Prayer Shawl*. Illustrated Ted Lewin. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mill Press, 1994. ISBN: 0140561579 pbk.**

A prayer shawl is handed down from grandfather to grandson in this story of Jewish tradition and the passage of generations. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Schnur, Steven. *The Shadow Children*. Illustrated by Herbert Tauss. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1994. ISBN: 0688138314**

While spending the summer on his grandfather's farm in the French countryside, eleven-year-old Etienne discovers a secret dating back to World War II and encounters the ghosts of Jewish children who suffered a dreadful fate under the Nazis. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Schur, Maxine. *Day of Delight: A Jewish Sabbath in Ethiopia*. Illustrated by Brian Pickney. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1994. ISBN: 0803714149**

Depicts a young Ethiopian Jewish boy and his family, including their typical daily routine followed by preparation for and celebration of the Sabbath. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *One Foot Ashore*. New York: Walker and Company, 1994. ISBN: 0802776019 pbk.**

Arriving alone and destitute in Amsterdam in the spring of 1654, sixteen-year-old Maria Ben Lazar finds refuge and friendship in the household of the artist Rembrandt and continues to search for her parents and her younger sister. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Conway, Diana. *Northern Lights: A Hanukkah Story*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1994. ISBN: 0929371798**

Sara is grounded in a remote Eskimo village by a storm. She shares an unusual Hanukkah celebration interwoven with Eskimo customs. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Geisert, Arthur. *After the Flood*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1994. ISBN: 0395666612**

Imaginative and visually appealing to the youngest child, this is a hopeful account of Noah's family life after the ark was left on Mount Ararat. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Lakin, Patricia. *Don't Forget*. Illustrated by Ted Rand. New York: Tambourine Books, 1994. ISBN: 0688120768**

Little Sarah, wanting to bake a surprise birthday cake for her mother, learns that one must remember "bad things" so they won't happen again. The book can be shared with a child who may be too young to ask about the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Polacco, Patricia. *Tikvah Means Hope*. New York: Delacorte Press, 1994. ISBN: 0385320590**

With focus on the environment and concern for living creatures, this colorful, pastel-crayoned story interweaves Succot and Thanksgiving. Placed during the terrible Oakland fire, the cat named Tikvah symbolizes a rebirth and rebuilding of the community. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Portnoy, Mindy Avra. *Matzah Ball*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1994. ISBN: 0929371682**

An original Passover story, especially for boys, based on the Elijah legend. The book has an entertaining baseball theme with a moral about Jewish dietary restrictions. It will appeal to second and third graders. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Renberg, Dalia Hardof (adapter). *King Solomon and the Bee*. Illustrated by Ruth Heller. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1994. ISBN: 0060229020**

This is an adaptation of a traditional Jewish legend written decades ago by Hayyim Nahman Bialik. It is the story of a small bee who repays King Solomon for his mercy, presented with finely detailed, gloriously colorful illustrations suitable for story hour. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ackerman, Karen. *The Night Crossing*. Illustrated by Elizabeth Sayles. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994. ISBN: 067983169X**

Mama's Sabbath candlesticks become the focal point of the suspenseful 1938 escape from Austria. Written for second and third graders, with large print and wonderful black and white pencil drawings, it is an excellent introduction to the events of the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Adler, David A. *Hilde and Eli: Children of the Holocaust*. Illustrated by Karen Ritz. New York: Holiday House, 1994. ISBN: 3823410919**

A moving introduction to the Holocaust through an account of the short lives of two young victims. Hilde's life in Frankfurt and Eli's in rural Czechoslovakia under the Nazi onslaught are depicted through straightforward text and subtly toned illustrations. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Bachrach, Susan D. *Tell Them We Remember: The Story of the Holocaust*. Boston, MA: Little Brown and Company, 1994. ISBN: 031669264**

A photo and textbook of many individual lives drawn from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. Collection of artifacts, photos, maps, and histories. The book presents powerfully documented stories of people who did and did not survive. Complete with bibliography, glossary and index. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Boraks-Nemetz, Lillian. *The Old Brown Suitcase*. Port Angeles, WA: BenSimon Publications, 1994. ISBN: 0914539108**

Documentary fiction written by a Polish Holocaust survivor who made it to Canada with her parents in 1947. The story works on the problems of adjustment and resettlement for a teenaged girl who must deal with her trauma of the war years. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen, Barbara. *Make a Wish Molly*. Illustrated by Jan Naimo Jones. New York: Doubleday Books for Young Readers, 1994. ISBN: 038531079X**

A Passover sequel to *Molly's Pilgrim* (published posthumously) this story is about the alienation of a Jewish child in a strange, new land, compounded by the restrictions of Jewish dietary laws. This elementary school level story highlights realistic childhood experiences and feelings and will be excellent for classroom discussion. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cytron, Barry and Phyllis. *Myriam Mendilow, Mother of Jerusalem*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 1994. ISBN: 0822549190**

The life of Myriam Mendilow is a monument to the values of persistent hard work and creative imagination. Written for grades five and up, it is about the founder of Jerusalem's Lifeline for the Old projects, a modern day Jewish heroine. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Drucker, Malka. *The Family Treasury of Jewish Holidays*. Illustrated by Nancy Patz. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1994. ISBN: 0316193437**

This is a beautifully presented collection of favorite, previously published stories, poems and songs assembled to help parents and teachers share ideas and values crucial to each Jewish holiday, with children of all ages. The book includes chapters of Tu B'Shvat, Yom HaShoah and Yom HaAtzma'ut. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *The Passover Journey: A Seder Companion*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. New York: Penguim Group, 1994. ISBN: 0670824216**

Explained as an annual journey, the Seder, both ancient and current, is made meaningful for children in the third grade and older. The artwork is exquisite, creating a treasured volume of information. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Jules, Jacqueline. *Grey Striped Shirt: How Grandma and Grandpa Survived the Holocaust*. Illustrations by Michael Cressy. Los Angeles, CA: Alef Design Group, 1994. ISBN: 1881283062**

A large print, comparatively gentle Holocaust story, told for third and fourth graders, brings out the thoughts and feelings of survivors. It underlines the message "we will not forget." (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *Escape from Egypt*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1994. ISBN:**

**0316522732** An exciting, imaginative retelling of the Exodus expanded and embroidered with drama, love and serious discussion of religious belief. It is well written with finely developed fictional as well as historical characters, suitable both for young and more mature adults. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## 1993

**Jaffe, Nina. *The Uninvited Guest*. Illustrated by Elivia Savadier. New York: Scholastic, 1993. ISBN: 0590446533**

Includes background information and retellings of traditional tales from Jewish folklore and legend related to major holidays, such as Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hanukkah, and Purim. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Sworn Enemies*. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1993. ISBN: 0533083260** In nineteenth-century Russia, betrayed by a fellow Jew, sixteen-year-old Aaron is taken by officers of the Czar and forced into military service. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Dolphin, Laurie. *Neve Shalom Wahat Al-Salam: Oasis of Peace*. Photographs by Ben Dolphin. New York: Scholastic, 1993. ISBN: 0590457993**

Text and photos present the lives of two boys, one Jewish and one Arab, who attend school in a unique community near Jerusalem where Jews and Arabs live together in peace. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Techner, David and Judith Techner. *A Candle for Grandpa*. Illustrated by Joel Iskowitz. New York: UAHC Press, 1993. ISBN: 0807405078**

A young boy describes the events surrounding the death of his grandfather including his and his family's feelings of grief and the Jewish funeral service that they participate in. Also includes answers to frequently asked questions regarding death and funerals. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Linnea, Sharon. *Raoul Wallenberg: The Man Who Stopped Death*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1993. ISBN: 0827604483 pbk.**

Traces the life of the Swedish diplomat who saved Hungarian Jews during World War II and then mysteriously disappeared after the Russians occupied Budapest. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Aroner, Miriam. *The Kingdom of the Singing Birds*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1993. ISBN: 0929371437**

A beautifully illustrated story of Rabbi Zusya, wise in the ways of nature, and of a young king who did not understand that birds must be free in order to sing. A Hasidic tale teaching honesty and courage. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Brodmann, Aliana. *The Gift*. Illustrated by Anthony Carnabuci. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1993. ISBN: 0671751107**

Through tender, muted illustrations and carefully chosen descriptive text, the joy of giving tzedakah is beautifully taught for first through third grades. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Edwards, Michelle. *Blessed Are You*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1993. ISBN: 068810759** A collection of colorfully illustrated Jewish blessings that express joy, grief, and praise. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Fisher, Leonard. *David and Goliath*. New York: Holiday House, 1993. ISBN: 082340997**

Well-detailed, sensitively handled text of this dramatic confrontation. Suitable for both Jewish and non-Jewish children of a very young age. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *The Magician's Visit*. Illustrated by Robert Andrew Parker. New York: Viking, 1993. ISBN: 067084840**

An artistic version of a well-known Peretz tale. Simple text harmoniously united with Chagall-like illustrations about Elijah's visit to a poor *shtetl* couple at Passover. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Snyder, Carol. *God Must Like Cookies, Too*. Illustrated by Beth Glick. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1993. ISBN: 08277604238**

A little girl spends an entire Friday with her grandmother. It is a sweet account of a Reform Sabbath service for very young children. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Tobias, Tobi. *Pot Luck*. Illustrated by Nola Langer Malone. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1993. ISBN: 0152208704**

Grandmother spends a day with granddaughter Rachel, preparing a "pot luck" dinner for a life-long friend from Poland. The flashback illustrations and those of shopping, cleaning, baking and cooking are a large part of the pleasure in this book. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Waldman, Sarah. *Light: The First Seven Days*. Illustrated by Neil Waldman. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1993. ISBN: 0152208704**

The six days of Creation unfold in simple, well-chosen words and a mosaic of colorful paintings. It is an excellent book for sharing in front of a group of small children. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wax, Wendy, compiler. *Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah*. Illustrated by John Speirs. New York: Bantam Books, 1993. ISBN: 053309551X**

A scrapbook of how-to information covering holiday history, food, games, prayers, stories, songs, poetry, and four wonderful memoirs geared for the modern family. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Weiss, Nicki. *Stone Men*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1993. ISBN: 0688110169**

A tale of a mute Jewish peddler who finds a unique way to save a *shtetl* from attack. The story has fine, descriptive vocabulary suitable for storytelling. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Drucker, Malka, and Halperin, Michael. *Jacob's Rescue*. New York: Doubleday, 1993. ISBN: 05330897605**

Based on a real-life situation, it is a story about the Jews and their Polish protectors during the Holocaust. Proper honor is paid to the Righteous Gentiles in this story. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *The Golem and the Dragon Girl*. New York: Dial Books, 1993. ISBN: 0806712812** A teenage daughter of Chinese immigrants meets Jonathan, a Jewish teenager living with his mom and a new stepfather. Two cultures come together comfortably in a series of ghostly happenings: a serious accident and a reconciliation of dilemmas. A book for fun and acquiring unusual information for teenage boys and girls. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Levinson, Nancy Smiler. *Sweet Notes, Sour Notes*. New York: Lodestar Books, 1993. ISBN: 0525673792** David's close relationship with his *Zayde* and their shared love of music provide a nostalgic look at life in the 1920's. Positive values are given without preaching. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Orlevi, Uri. *Lydia, Queen of Palestine*. Translated from Hebrew by Hillel Haklin. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1993. ISBN: 0395656605**

Lydia is bright, talented and exasperating. This is her adventure from Romania to life on an Israeli kibbutz. It is fast-paced and humorous for readers ten to fourteen. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Siegel, Danny. *Tell Me a Mitzvah*. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1993. ISBN: 092937178X** A collection of inspiring vignettes about performing mitzvot. Included is a "What Can I Do?" series, consisting of pages of ideas so that parents and children can make a difference. Only available in soft cover. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Toll, Nelly S. *Behind the Secret Window*. New York: Dial Books, 1993. ISBN: 0803713622**

A personal Holocaust account, told in breathless chronology from 1941 through 1944. The story is enriched by remarkable watercolor artwork done behind the secret window. This is a fine companion piece to *The Diary of Anne Frank*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Van der Rol, Rudd, and Verhoeven, Rian. *Anne Frank: Beyond the Diary*. Translated from Dutch by Tony Langham and Plym Peters. New York: Viking Children's Books, 1993. ISBN: 0670849324**

This photo-biography presents Anne's life through the family's photo album, in addition to selections from the famous diary. This book can serve well as supplementary text for a beginning Holocaust study. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vos, Ida. *Anna is Still Here*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1993. ISBN: 0395653681**



Set in northern Holland, this is a deeply disturbing account of a traumatized 13-year-old girl. The deep meaning of the Sabbath celebration and Anna's love of books offset the uncomfortable feelings young teens may experience when reading this compelling story. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zeinert, Karen. *The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising*. Brookfield, CT: Millbrook Press, 1993. ISBN:1562942824**

This is an excellent basic text for the study of Jewish resistance during World War II. Written in simple language, it is so carefully researched that it is suitable for upper high school grades and college level. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## 1992

**Gilman, Phoebe. *Something from Nothing*. Toronto, ON: North Winds Press/Scholastic Canada, 1992. ISBN: 059073802X**

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. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Hesse, Karen. *Letters from Rifka*. New York: Henry Holt, 1992. ISBN: 0140363912 pbk.**

In letters to her cousin, a young Jewish girl chronicles her family's flight from Russia in 1919 and her own experiences when she must be left in Belgium for a while when the others emigrate to America. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Gellman, Ellie. *Jeremy's Dreidel*. Illustrated by Judith Friedman. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1992. ISBN: 092937133X**

Jeremy signs up for a Hanukkah workshop to make unusual dreidels and creates a clay dreidel with braille dots for his dad, who is blind. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Hautzig, Esther. *Riches*. Illustrated by Donna Diamond. New York: Harper Collins, 1992. ISBN: 006022259**

This finalist for the 1993 Jewish Book Award tells of an old man and woman in a little Eastern European village who are given some surprising advice from a wise rabbi. They have worked hard, raised a family, and given generously to the poor, but they come to realize what is missing from their lives--and where their riches really lie. – Ingram, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric A. *The Spotted Pony: A Collection of Hanukkah Stories*. Illustrated by Leonard Everett Fisher. New York: Holiday House, 1992. ISBN: 0823409368**

Eight traditional *shammes* stories--about King Solomon and his magic ring, a mysterious spotted pony, Benayahu ben Yehoyada, and other heroes, demons, and fools--help celebrate the Festival of Lights. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenblum, Richard. *Journey to the Golden Land*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1992. ISBN: 082760405X**

Having left oppressive czarist Russia in search of better living conditions, Benjamin and his family endure the difficult journey and land at Ellis Island to start a new life in America. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard and Barbara Rush. *The Sabbath Lion: A Jewish Folktale from Algeria*. Illustrated by Stephen Fieser. New York: Harper Collins, 1992. ISBN: 0060208538**

Because of Yosef's devotion to honoring the Sabbath, he is given special protection by a great lion during a dangerous journey through the desert. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Cormier, Robert. *Tunes for Bears to Dance to*. New York: Delacorte Press, 1992. ISBN: 0440219035 pbk.** Eleven-year-old Henry escapes his family's problems by watching the woodcarving of Mr. Levine, an elderly Holocaust survivor, but when Henry is manipulated into betraying his friend he comes to know true evil. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Eisler, Colin T. *David's Songs: His Psalms and Their Story*. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney. New York: Dial Books, 1992. ISBN: 0803710585**

In a most beautifully illustrated book, the author has presented to young readers a selection of Psalms so wellchosen and so skillfully arranged and translated, that they will be read and enjoyed by youngsters of all faiths who have an interest in history, poetry, and art. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Jaffe, Mira. *In the Month of Kislev: A Story of Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Louise August. New York: Viking, 1992. ISBN: 0670828637**

This is a very beautifully illustrated Hanukkah tale in which a wealthy and nasty head of a family learn an important lesson. The result is that he welcomes a poor family into the midst of his own family so that they all can celebrate together. Through this lovely story, children will learn Hanukkah customs as well as the mitzvah of sharing with the poor. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Polacco, Patricia. *Mrs. Katz and Tush*. New York: Bantam, 1992. ISBN: 0553081225**

In Ms. Polacco's tradition of excellence, this is a very beautifully illustrated and sensitively written book about an old Jewish widow's growing friendship with her African American neighbor's son, Larnel. The closeness is woven through another "friend," an uninvited kitten adopted by Mrs. Katz, who named it *tush* (Yiddish for bottom) because the cat doesn't have a tail. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosen, Michael J. *Elijah's Angel: A Story for Chanukah and Christmas*. Illustrated by Aminah Brenda Lynn Robinson. San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992. ISBN: 0152253947**

Elijah is a barber and woodcarver. Michael, a young Jewish boy, is befriended by him. Michael admires Elijah for his wonderful creativity, but he is well aware of the important differences between their faiths, and does not know whether his parents will accept this friendship. Hopefully the book will become an example of how we can live together, learn from one another, and yet remain proud and knowledgeable of our differences. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Segal, Sheila F. *Joshua's Dream*. Illustrated by Joel Iskowitz. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1992. ISBN: 0807404764**

What a refreshing little book! Just when we were told that Zionism was dead, UAHC re-issues and updates a beautiful book for young children about the essence of Zionism -- love for the land of Israel. Little Joshua learns about a family member who was a pioneer when he arrives for this first to Israel. Just as he plants a seedling in the desert, so his love for the land is gently sown to grow and flourish to maturity. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Dillon, Eilis. *Children of Bach*. New York: Macmillan, 1992. ISBN: 0684194406**

This is a sensitively written book about the escape of one part of a Hungarian family from the onslaught of the Nazis toward the end of World War II. Cowardice, bravery and all the feelings in between surface as the group of six escapees live in very close quarters. Though this group never totally lost its human dignity, many situations occurred in which they were tested to the extreme. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Lehrman, Robert. *The Store That Mama Built*. New York: Macmillan, 1992. ISBN: 0027546322**

A lovely book that tells the story of a large immigrant family's adjustment to life in America, the move from New York City to a small Pennsylvania town, the loss of a father and the struggle of the mother of six to keep a grocery store going and thus make a living for her brood. There are many Yiddish words and expressions used throughout the book. Attempts are made to include Jewish traditions and to explain Jewish customs. Some of the social problems of the era are exposed. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Nixon, Joan Lowery. *Ellis Island: Land of Hope*. New York: Bantam Books, 1992. ISBN: 0553081101**  
This is one of several books written recently on the subject of Jewish immigration from Eastern Europe to the United States. Many feelings are explored in these books: the pains of separation from loved ones and from the familiar; the fear of the new; and the difficult trip by land and sea and then the possibility of not being allowed into the United States through Ellis Island. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Rossel, Seymour. *The Holocaust: The World and the Jews, 1933-1945*. West Orange, New Jersey: Behrman House, 1992. ISBN: 0874415292**  
A very well-done text for teaching the Holocaust. The use of photographs, official documents, memoirs, diaries and journals, and the clear arrangement of these materials is superb. Teachers and students alike will benefit greatly from this book. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Shalant, Phyllis. *Shalom, Geneva Peace*. New York: Dutton, 1992. ISBN: 0525448683**  
A story about the pains and difficulties of growing up: loneliness, the need for friendships, peer pressure, alienation from parents, the search for attention, and mainly about learning to care, to love and to understand. Andi and Geneva, both 15 years old, change in the course of the novel. The author is certainly in touch with adolescent feelings and behavior. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **1991**

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Cakes and Miracles: A Purim Tale*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. New York: Viking, 1991. ISBN: 067083047X**  
Young, blind Hershel finds that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother during the Jewish holiday of Purim. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Lanton, Sandy. *Daddy's Chair*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1991. ISBN: 0929371526 pbk.**  
When Michael's father dies his family sits shiva, observing the Jewish week of mourning, and remembers the good things about him. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Schwartz, Howard and Barbara Rush. *The Diamond Tree: Jewish Tales from Around the World*. Illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. New York: Harper Collins, 1991. ISBN: 0064406954 pbk.**  
A collection of Jewish traditional nursery tales from many different countries. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Aleichem, Sholem. *Around the Table: Family Stories of Sholom Aleichem*. Selected and translated by Aliza Shevrin. Illustrated by Toby Gowing. New York: Charles Scribner & Sons, 1991. ISBN: 0684192373**  
These familiar stories, recalling a long-gone era and describing holidays in the bosom of families in an Eastern European *shtetl*, are masterpieces of charms and wisdom, as well as a faithful mirror of Jewish life, tradition and values. The translator managed to convey the flavor of Jewish life and preserve many of the Yiddish idioms; it hardly seems a translation at all. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Edwards, Michelle. *A Baker's Portrait*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1991. ISBN: 068809712X**  
The same funny, colorful illustrations that delighted readers in *Chicken Man* now create a story that entertains on several different levels. Michelin is an artist who is compelled to draw only what she sees and finds herself in the uncomfortable position of having to reconcile her honesty with the reality of her subjects. Even young children unfamiliar with the concept of metaphors can appreciate Michelin's brilliant solution. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Feinberg, Miriam. *Just Enough Room*. Illustrated by Marlene L. Ruthen. New York: United Synagogue of America, Commission on Jewish Education, 1991. ISBN: 0838107354**

In this lovely story for young children, the tiny, dark house of an older couple expands and grows cheerful on Shabbat as more and more guests arrive for dinner. There is always "just enough room." The magic of Shabbat and the joy of hospitality is attractively demonstrated and aided by Ms. Ruthen's graphic illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Levine, Arthur A. *All the Lights of the Night*. Illustrated by James Ransome. New York: Tambourine Press, 1991. ISBN: 0688101070**

A charming addition to the extensive picture book literature on Hanukkah. It is the tale of two boys who travel from Russia to Palestine with tickets sent by their older brother. The family's Hanukkah lamp becomes their own private miracle lamp. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Oppenheim, Shulamith Levey. *Appleblossom*. Illustrated by Joanna Yardley. San Diego, CA: Harcourt, Brace, Javonovich, 1991. ISBN: 0152037500**

A delightful new Passover story about a talking cat who is well versed in Jewish customs and traditions. Appleblossom utilizes her extensive knowledge of Jewish holiday lore to serve her "cat-ty" needs, and those of the little boy who loves her. The large-size, gentle and colorful illustrations suit the subject and age level well. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Pushker, Gloria Teles. *Toby Belfer Never Had a Christmas Tree*. Illustrated by Judith Hierstein. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 1991. ISBN: 0882898558**

A charming memoir by a little Louisiana girl who joined her friends at their homes to celebrate Christmas; at Hanukkah they joined her to light the candles, eat latkes, play dreidel, and hear the story of Hanukkah. This sharing prevented Toby from feeling that she was being denied an attractive celebration. The language is simple and the illustrations particularly lovely. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ross, Lillian Hammer. *Buba Leah and Her Paper Children*. Illustrated by Mary Morgan. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1991. ISBN: 0827603754**

The author manages to sensitively portray the isolation of the immigrant family. This separation from the colorful yet difficult life of the shtetl left a void in their lives, and in the lives of those left behind as well. The story explores the balance achieved between successful settlement in the New World and the cost of this newfound happiness. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Wild, Margaret. *Let the Celebrations Begin!* Illustrated by Julie Vivas. New York: Orchard, 1991. ISBN: 0531059375**

This moving book tells the story of making toys for child survivors of the Belsen concentration camp. The illustrations realistically depict the conditions of the inmates while preserving their humanity. The accompanying text allows the book to be enjoyed by an older age group than the picture book format might suggest. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bober, Natalie S. *Marc Chagall, Painter of Dreams*. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1991. ISBN: 0827603797**

The painter Marc Chagall is transformed into the man Marc Chagall in this skillfully executed "JPS Young Biography." The warm family life he experienced while growing up and his warm relationship with his first wife, Bella, help the reader to understand the themes of many of his works. The tale of his odyssey from Vitebsk to New York is an especially intriguing section of the book. Rosenberry's illustrations complement the text well. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kaye, Marilyn. *The Atonement of Mindy Wise*. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1991. ISBN: 0152004025**

Yom Kippur services let Mindy reflect on the sins she has committed during her thirteenth year, when she was desperately anxious to get into a popular crowd at her new middle school. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Marpugo, Michael. *Waiting for Anya*. New York, Viking, 1991. ISBN: 0670837350**

This is a realistic World War II novel set in Vichy, France at the time of the German occupation. A teenaged boy, Jo, participates in a courageous plan to save Jewish children despite the obvious danger. The suspense and human drama -- a father hopes to find his daughter in each new group of rescued children -- provides exciting and interesting reading. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Orlev, Uri. *The Man from the Other Side*. Translated from the Hebrew by Hillel Halkin. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1991. ISBN: 0395538084**

Another fine work on the Shoah, this book tells of a Polish boy who lived in Warsaw during the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. The realistic presentation of his experiences will give readers insight into the many underlying facets of life under both normal and trying circumstances. (Mildred L. Batchelder Award for Most Outstanding Children's Book in Translation, 1992) (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sanfield, Steve. *The Feather Merchants and Other Tales of the Fools of Chelm*. Illustrated by Mikhail Magaril. New York: Orchard Books, 1991. ISBN: 0531059588**

This version of the well-known Chelm stories is rich with "tam" and punctuated with the customs of the Jews of Central Europe. This is not just a book of humorous tales, but is a valuable resource for librarians and teachers; the afterword alone is a notable treasure. Sanfield states, "a simple research trip became a journey of the soul...", and indeed his text accomplishes the same. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Vos, Ida. *Hide and Seek*. Translated by Terese Edelstein and Inez Smidt. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1991. ISBN: 0395564700**

Based on the author's life as a child, this documentary fiction takes place during the German occupation of Holland during World War II. Through a child's eyes we experience the terror of the German invasion of the Netherlands, the sadness of relinquishing a favorite bicycle, and the constant fear of discovery while hiding in the home of Christian friends. The book is the author's tribute to those courageous friends who helped her and other survive. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *The Fortuneteller in 5B*. New York: Henry Holt, 1991. ISBN: 080501537X** 11-year-old Alexandria Pilaf is grieving over the recent death of her father when a mysterious new neighbor arrives. While pursuing the mystery, she experiences a painful revelation that leads to personal growth and an acceptance of her unique neighbor. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **1990**

**Kimmel, Eric. *The Chanukkah Guest*. Illustrated by Giora Carmi. New York: Holiday House, 1990. ISBN: 0823409783 pbk.**

On the first night of Chanukkah, Old Bear wanders into Bubba Brayna's house and receives a delicious helping of potato *latkes* when she mistakes him for the rabbi. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Geras, Adèle. *My Grandmother's Stories*. Illustrated by Jael Jordan. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990. ISBN: 0679809104**

As a young girl spends time at her grandmother's apartment, she is treated to traditional Jewish tales, including "Bavsi's Feast," "The Golden Shoes," "The Garden of Talking Flowers," and "A Phantom at the Wedding." See the 2003 reprint edition with new color illustrations by Anita Lobel. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Feder, Harriet. *Judah Who Always Said "No."* Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. Rockville, MD: KarBen Copies, 1990. ISBN: 0929371143 pbk.**

Brave Judah, a leader in the resistance to the changes a Greek king tries to force upon the Jews of Jerusalem, takes part in a stunning victory celebrated today as Hanukkah. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *The World's Birthday: A Rosh Hashana Story*. Illustrated by Jeanette Winter. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1990. ISBN: 0152000453 pbk.**

Daniel is determined to have a birthday party for the world to celebrate Rosh Hashanah. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Laird, Christa. *Shadow of the Wall*. New York: Greenwillow, 1990. ISBN: 0688152910 pbk.**

Living with his mother and two sisters in the Warsaw Ghetto, Misha is befriended by the director of the orphanage, Dr. Korczak, and finds a purpose to his life when he joins a resistance organization. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Mayerson, Evelyn Wilde. *The Cat Who Escaped from Steerage*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1990. ISBN: 0684192098**

As nine-year-old Chanah and her family journey from their native Poland to seek a new life in America, Chanah worries about the possible fates of her deaf-mute cousin Yaacov and of Pitsel, the cat she had rescued in Marseilles and smuggled aboard ship. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Grode, Phyllis. *Sophie's Name*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, Maryland: Kar-Ben Copies, 1990. ISBN: 0929371186**

Sophie Davida Finkle-Cohen thinks her name is too long and begs her family to call her "Sue," but as she learns about her namesakes, "Sue" begins to change her mind. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hest, Amy. *Fancy Aunt Jess*. Illustrated by Amy Schwartz. New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1990. ISBN: 0688080960**

Becky loves to spend weekends in Brooklyn with her ebullient, vibrant Aunt Jess and is delighted that she helps Aunt Jess find the perfect man at Shabbat services. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hest, Amy. *The Ring and the Window Seat*. Illustrated by Deborah Haeffele. New York: Scholastic, 1990. ISBN: 0590413503**

Although she has been saving for a ring, Stella gives her sock full of nickels to a Jewish carpenter who is trying to rescue his little girl from Nazi-controlled Europe. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Manushkin, Fran. *Latkes and Applesauce*. Illustrated by Robin Spowart. New York: Scholastic, 1990. ISBN: 0590422618**

When a blizzard leaves a farm family housebound for Hanukkah, they share what little they have with some starving animals who later return the favor, allowing the family to celebrate with *latkes* and applesauce on the eighth night. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Morris, Ann. *When Will the Fighting Stop?: A Child's View of Jerusalem*. Photographs by Lilly Rivlin. New York: Atheneum, 1990. ISBN: 0689315082**

A young Jewish boy living in Jerusalem observes all the different people living in the city and wonders why they can't all be friends. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ross, Lillian Hammer. *The Little Old Man and His Dreams*. Illustrated by Deborah Healy. New York: Harper & Row, 1990. ISBN: 0060250941**

God comes to an old man in his dreams and allow him to attend his granddaughter's wedding, but in return the old man must come to live with God. A sophisticated picture book for the older child. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Happy Passover, Rosie and Leo and Blossom's Sukkah*. New York: Henry Holt, 1990. ISBN: 0805012214; 0805012265**

Two charming small picture book holiday tales of a family of bears and their celebrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Barrie, Barbara. *Lone Star*. New York: Delacorte Press, 1990. ISBN: 0385301561**

Actress Barrie's first book relates the story of a young Jewish girl forced to move with her family from their comfortable life in Chicago to Corpus Christi, Texas. As she adjusts to her new surroundings, her Orthodox grandfather is repelled by this assimilated lifestyle. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Menorahs, Mezuzas, and Other Jewish Symbols*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. New York: Clarion, 1990. ISBN: 0899198562**

Explains the history and significance of many Jewish symbols such as the Star of David, Menorah, *mezuzza*, and holiday symbols and rituals. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gold, Sharlya and Caspi, Mishael Maswari. *The Answered Prayer and Other Yemenite Folktales*. Illustrated by Marjory Wunsch. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1990. ISBN: 0827603541**

Interesting rich folktale collection perfect for the storyteller or reader. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Herman, Charlotte. *The House on Walenska Street*. Illustrated by Susan Avishai. New York: Dutton, 1990. ISBN: 0525445196**

An easy-to-read chapter book about eight-year-old Leah, her two younger sisters, and their widowed mother living in a small Russian *shtetl* in 1913. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Code Name Kris*. New York: Scribner's, 1990. ISBN: 068419208X**

After the Nazi occupation of Denmark forces his Jewish friends to flee the country, 17-year-old Jesper continues his work with the underground resistance movement; sequel to *Lisa's War*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Sherman, Eileen Bluestone. *Independence Avenue*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1990. ISBN: 0827603673**

Elias, a 14-year-old Russian immigrant, arrives alone in Kansas City in 1907, finding new employment and friends, but also receiving bad news about his family back in Russia. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Strom, Yale. *A Tree Stands Still: Jewish Youth in Eastern Europe Today*. New York: Philomel Books, 1990. ISBN: 0399221549**

A collection of interviews in which young people from Eastern Europe tell what life is like as a descendant of Holocaust survivors. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Treseder, Terry Walton. *Hear O Israel: A Story of the Warsaw Ghetto*. Illustrated by Lloyd Bloom. New York: Atheneum, 1990. ISBN: 0689314566**

A boy describes life in the Warsaw Ghetto and his family's ultimate transference to and decimation at Treblinka. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Weissenberg, Fran. *The Streets Are Paved with Gold*. Tuscon, AZ: Harbinger House, 1990. ISBN: 0943173515**

14-year-old Debbie Gold and her school and family life in Brooklyn during the 1920's is the subject of this novel, the winner of the 1988 Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

## **1989**

**Blanc, Esther Silverstein. *Berchick*. Illustrated by Tennessee Dixon. Volcano, CA: Volcano Press, 1989. ISBN: 0912078812**

Homesteading in Wyoming in the early 1900's, a Jewish mother develops an unusual relationship with a colt she adopts named Berchick. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Lowry, Lois. *Number the Stars*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1989. ISBN: 0440227534 reissue pbk.**

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Karkowsky, Nancy. *Grandma's Soup*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1989. ISBN: 0930494997 pbk.**

A young girl confronts her grandmother's growing confusion and disability from Alzheimer's disease. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Kimmel, Eric. *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*. Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman. New York: Holiday House, 1989. ISBN: 0823411311 pbk.**

Relates how Hershel outwits the goblins that haunt the old synagogue and prevent the village people from celebrating Hanukkah. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenbloom, Richard. *The Old Synagogue*. Philadelphia, PA: The Jewish Publication Society, 1989. ISBN: 0827603223**

A once-beautiful synagogue on a crowded street in a big city is abandoned and becomes a factory when the original neighborhood inhabitants become more prosperous and move away; but as time goes by young Jewish families rediscover the area, move in, and restore to beauty the old synagogue. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)



**Wolf, Ferida. *Pink Slippers, Bat Mitzvah Blues*. Philadelphia, PA: The Jewish Publication Society, 1989. ISBN: 0827605315 pbk.**

Thirteen-year-old Alyssa tries to balance the conflicting demands of ballet training with finding her place as a Jew in today's world. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *Silver Days*. New York: Atheneum, 1989. ISBN: 0689715706 pbk.**

In this sequel to *Journey to America*, the reunited Platt family works hard at settling in to America, but the spectre of the war in Europe continues to affect their lives. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Matas, Carol. *Lisa's War*. New York: Scholastic, 1989. ISBN: 0590435175 pbk.**

During the Nazi occupation of Denmark, Lisa and other teenage Jews become involved in an underground resistance movement and eventually must flee for their lives. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Adler, David A. *Malke's Secret Recipe: A Chanukah Story from Chelm*. Illustrated by Joan Halpern. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1989. ISBN: 0930494881**

In the town of Chelm, Berel, the shoemaker, tries to duplicate Malke's recipe for *latkes*, but his wife's interference makes the plan go awry in a typically Chelm-like way in a tale illustrated with sprightly black and white drawings. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Ehrlich, Amy. *The Story of Hanukkah*. Illustrated by Ori Sherman. New York: Dial Books, 1989. ISBN: 0803706154**

Noteworthy because of the magnificent illustrations by Ori Sherman, this story of Hanukkah is suitable for all ages. Also stunningly designed and illustrated by Sherman is *Four Questions* by Lynne Sharon Schwartz. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Feder, Harriet. *Not Yet, Elijah*. Illustrated by Joan Halpern. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1989. ISBN: 0930494946**

Mirroring the impatience of a child to get to his part in the Passover Seder, an increasingly agitated Elijah waits at the door until it is time for him to enter. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Mayers, Florence Cassen. *ABC: The Alef-Bet Book, The Israel Museum, Jerusalem*. New York: Abrams, 1989. ISBN: 0810918854**

This unique alef-bet book features breathtaking photographs of artifacts for each letter of the Hebrew alphabet. For all ages. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Portnoy, Mindy Avra. *Mommy Never Went to Hebrew School*. Illustrated by Shelly O. Haas. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1989. ISBN: 0930494962**

While looking at some old photographs, David, aged 8, discovers that his mother was not born a Jew and in this sensitive book learns the story of his mother's childhood, his parents' courtship, and her conversion. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Singer, Marilyn. *Minnie's Yom Kippur Birthday*. Illustrated by Ruth Rosner. New York: Harper & Row, 1989. ISBN: 0060258462**

When Minnie's fifth birthday falls on Yom Kippur, she wonders what the special events of the day will be as the ritual of the holiday unfolds. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Adler, David A. *We Remember the Holocaust*. New York: Henry Holt, 1989. ISBN: 0805004343** First hand interviews with Holocaust survivors and numerous photographs help history come alive in this powerful account of Hitler's campaign against the Jews. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Feathers in the Wind*. Illustrated by Denise Saldutti. New York: Harper & Row, 1989. ISBN: 0060211628**

This latest story about Yossi, a young Yeshiva student, teaches that what is learned from the Torah is applicable to our lives today in this reworking of an old rabbinic tale. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Fisher, Leonard Everett. *The Wailing Wall*. New York: Macmillan, 1989. ISBN: 0027353109**

Survey of the history of the Jewish people in Palestine and their activities around the First and Second Temples the site of which is now marked by the Western or Wailing Wall, with an emphasis on events before 70 A.D. is marked by Fisher's dramatic gray and white pictures of the Western Wall. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gellman, Marc. *Does God Have a Big Toe?* Illustrated by Oscar de Mejo. New York: Harper Junior Books, 1989. ISBN: 0060224320**

Both lively and reverent, this collection of modern *Midrashim* about familiar Bible stories demonstrates the warm relationship between God and man. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Earth to Andrew O. Blechman*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1989. ISBN: 0374319162**

When fourth grader Andrew agrees to tutor ex-vaudevillian Mr. Pearlstein in Hebrew, the stage is set for many jokes and the story of a well-depicted, close-knit family. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Bernheim, Mark. *Father of the Orphans: The Story of Janusz Korczak*. New York: Dutton (Lodestar), 1989. ISBN: 0525672656**

A moving biography of the assimilated Polish Jewish doctor and promoter of children's rights who chose death in Treblinka with his orphans over the freedom offered him. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Finkelstein, Norman. *The Other 1492: Jewish Settlement in the New World*. New York: Scribner, 1989. ISBN: 0684189135**

This competently researched book, illustrated with many reproductions of original documents, focuses on the expulsion in 1492 of the Jews from Spain. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Hoffman, Yair. *The World of the Bible for Young Readers*. New York: Viking-Kestrel, 1989. ISBN: 0670817392**

This colorful and approachable history of the Bible, both Jewish and Christian, is told from a Jewish historical perspective and is highlighted by more than 300 reproductions of documents, manuscripts and artifacts. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Melnikoff, Pamela. *Plots and Players*. New York: Bedrick/Blackie. ISBN: 0872264068**

Robin, Philip and Frances, young Jews in 16th century England, fight against the poison of prejudice while trying to save the life of Queen Elizabeth's Jewish doctor. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Sacks, Margaret. *Beyond Safe Boundaries*. New York: Dutton (Lodestar), 1989. ISBN: 0525672818**

Jewish values abound in this novel of South Africa in the 1950s and 1960s in which Elizabeth becomes increasingly aware of the injustice in her society. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Sevela, Efraim. *We Were Not Like Other People*. New York: Harper & Row, 1989. ISBN: 0060255072**  
Spanning six years and Russian terrain from Siberia to Germany, this is the story of a 12-year-old Jewish boy, separated from his Red Army parents by World War II, and his survival against all odds. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1988**

**Polacco, Patricia. *The Keeping Quilt*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1988. ISBN: 0689844476 pbk.** A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Yolen, Jane. *The Devil's Arithmetic*. New York: Viking-Kestrel, 1988. ISBN: 0142401099 reissue pbk.** Hannah resents the traditions of her Jewish heritage until time travel places her in the middle of a small Jewish village in Nazi-occupied Poland. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Ganz, Yaffa. *From Head to Toe: A Book About You*. Illustrated by Harvey Kliman. New York: Feldheim, 1988. ISBN: 0873064461.**

Describes the main parts of the human body, how they work, and how Jewish people employ all parts of their bodies in the service of God. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Geisert, Arthur. *The Ark*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1988. ISBN: 0618006087 pbk.**

Retells the familiar Bible story, using etchings as illustrations, and vividly depicting life inside the ark. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Beni's First Chanukah*. New York: Henry Holt, 1988. ISBN: 0805004793 pbk.** On the first morning of Chanukah, Beni the bear eagerly prepares for the evening's festivities. Then he and his squirrel friends spend a wonderful evening filled with love and joy. (Honor Book for Younger Readers)

**Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Out of Many Waters*. New York: Walker, 1988. ISBN: 0802774016 pbk.** Kidnapped from their parents during the Portuguese Inquisition and sent to work as slaves at a monastery in Brazil, two Jewish sisters attempt to make their way back to Europe to find their parents, but instead one becomes part of a group founding the first Jewish settlement in the United States. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Provost, Gary and Gail. *David and Max*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1988. ISBN: 0827603924 pbk.**

When twelve-year-old David spends the summer with his grandfather Max, he helps him search for a friend who perished during the Holocaust, and learns about Max's life during World War II. (Honor Book for Older Readers)

**Meltzer, Milton. *Rescue: The Story of How Gentiles Saved Jews in the Holocaust*. New York: Harper and Row, 1988. ISBN: 0064461173 pbk.**

Detailing an often neglected side of the Holocaust, this study examines the courage and human decency of ordinary people who risked their lives to rescue Jews from Nazi extermination. (Honor Book for Teen Readers)

**Bayer, Steven and Ilene. *Rachel and Mischa*. Illustrated by Marlene Lobell Ruthen; Photographs by Joanne Strauss. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1988. ISBN: 0930494776**

This photo essay contrasts the lives of two Jewish children, one American and one Russian, and how they practice their religion. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Carmi, Giora. *And Shira Imagined*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1988. ISBN: 082760288X**

Dramatic pictures from young Shira's imagination interpret the actual places that Shira and her family visit in Israel. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Cohen, Barbara. *The Donkey's Story: A Bible Story*. Illustrated by Susan Jeanne Cohen. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1988. ISBN: 0688041043**

This humorous retelling of the Bible tale in which the prophet Bilaam is asked to curse the Jewish people emphasizes the wise donkey's point of view. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Gellman, Ellie. *Justin's Hebrew Name*. Illustrated by Barbara Gellner. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1988. ISBN: 0930494784**

Justin begins Hebrew school without a Hebrew name. With the help of his classmates and an understanding rabbi, Justin acquires a name that is just right for him. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Just Enough Is Plenty: A Hanukkah Tale*. Illustrated by Seymour Chwast. New York: Viking-Kestrel, 1988. ISBN: 0670818526**

Although money is scarce this Chanukah time, the generous family welcomes the mysterious peddler who leaves behind gifts and clues to his real identity. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Burstein, Chaya. *A Kid's Catalog of Israel*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1988. ISBN: 0827602634**

This mini-encyclopedia about Israel contains geography, history, stories, recipes, projects, songs, vocabulary and lots more. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Burstein, Chaya. *The Mystery of the Coins*. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1988. ISBN: 807403504**

Two children and their grandmother discover some old coins which lead them through a study of Jewish history from ancient times to today. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Friends Forever*. Illustrated by Richard Egielski. New York: Harper & Row, 1988. ISBN: 0807403504**

Set against the background of World War II, this latest in the stories of Molly and her friends, focuses on Molly's school experiences and her struggles to grow up. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cytron, Barry. *Fire! The Library Is Burning*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 1988. ISBN: 0822505258**

This well-organized book brings to life the disastrous fire and the rescue of thousands of books burned at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1966. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Elias, Miriam. *And Then There Were Four*. Nanuet, NY: Feldheim, 1988. ISBN: 0873064429.**

Four girls, all students at a girls' Jewish day school, share laughter and tears, friendship and fears, as they become fast friends. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Hurwitz, Johanna. *Anne Frank: Life in Hiding*. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1988. ISBN: 0827603118**

This is a simple, straightforward retelling of the Anne Frank story with a chronology and index. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Brownstone, David M. *The Jewish American Heritage*. New York: Facts on File Publications, 1988. ISBN: 0816016283**

A large number of period photographs and quotations enhance this basic overview of Jewish immigration to the United States. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Lefer, Diane. *Emma Lazarus*. New York: Chelsea House, 1988. ISBN: 1555466648**

In this clear, well-organized biography, both history and biography are entwined to give a complete picture of Emma Lazarus and her times. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Rogasky, Barbara. *Smoke and Ashes: The Story of the Holocaust*. New York: Holiday House, 1988. ISBN: 0823406970**

This well-organized, methodical and comprehensive study of the Holocaust is enhanced by numerous thoughtfully chosen photographs. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Roth-Hano, Renee. *Touch Wood: A Girlhood in Occupied France*. New York: Simon & Schuster (Four Winds), 1988. ISBN: 002777340X**

This autobiographical novel tells the story of how a family of Jewish girls survives the war in Occupied France by being sheltered in a Catholic women's residence. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1987**

**Adler, David. *The Number on My Grandfather's Arm*. Photographs by Rose Eichenbaum. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1987. ISBN: 0807403288**

A little girl questions a number printed on her grandfather's arm and he explains how he received it in a Nazi concentration camp during World War II. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Levitin, Sonia. *The Return*. New York: Atheneum, 1987. ISBN: 0449702804 reissue pbk.**

Desti and the other members of her Falasha family, Jews suffering from discrimination in Ethiopia, finally flee the country and attempt the dangerous journey to Israel. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Caseley, Judith. *Apple Pie and Onions*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1987. ISBN: 068806762X. A charming story of Rebecca and her Yiddish-speaking grandma, and the love and embarrassment she feels for her. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)**

**Cohen, Barbara. *Even Higher*. Illustrated by Anatoly Ivanov. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1987. ISBN: 0688064523**

A favorite story by I.L. Peretz is ably retold with bright, colorful illustrations. (Notable Book for Young Readers)

**Cooks, Roberta Goldshlag. *Gittel and the Bell*. Illustrated by Susan Martz. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1987. ISBN: 0930494687**

Impish Gittel's desire to ring the village bell gets her into trouble with the elders of her *shtetl*. (Notable Book for Young Readers)

**DePaola, Tomie. *Queen Esther*. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1987. ISBN: 0062555391**

Beautifully and simply told with bright simple pictures by the noted author-illustrator. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenblum, Richard. *My Sister's Wedding*. New York: William Morrow, 1987. ISBN: 0688059554**  
Marrying a soldier -- what could be more exciting? The author's charming sketches draw the young reader into the simple story of his sister's wartime wedding in 1943. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Esther*. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1987. ISBN: 0827602723**

Retells the Old Testament story of how the young Jewish girl, Esther, became queen of Persia and used her influence to stop the evil minister Haman from killing all the Jews. The feast of Purim commemorates this event. A finely crafted book with delicate line drawings. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Exodus*. Illustrated by Charles Mikolaycak. New York: Holiday House, 1987. ISBN: 0823406075**

Gloriously illustrated in full color with a poetic and complex text. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Yossi Tries to Help God*. Illustrated by Denise Saldutti. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. ISBN: 0060211970**

Inspired by his rabbi's teaching that doing a good deed makes an angel, Yossi follows a plan that backfires and almost costs him his two best friends. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Citrin, Paul J. *Joseph's Wardrobe*. Illustrated by Lindsey Aitken. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1987. ISBN: 0807403199**

This collection of five *Midrashim*, set within a tale of marriage and intrigue in King Solomon's court, should appeal to those who love adventure stories. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen, Barbara. *The Christmas Revolution*. Illustrated by Diane de Groat. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1987. ISBN: 0688068065**

An excellent, enjoyable, and much-needed book in which all the "December issues" are raised. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen, Barbara. *First Fast*. Illustrated by Martin Lemelman. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1987. ISBN: 0807403547**

A meaningful story of ten-year-old Harry's first Yom Kippur fast. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kuskin, Karla. *Jerusalem, Shining Still*. Woodcuts by David Frampton. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. ISBN: 0060235489**

Appealing to adults and children, the handsome tinted woodcuts and serious poetic words outline the history of Jerusalem from the time of King David until today. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schnur, Steven. *The Return of Morris Schumsky*. Illustrated by Victor Lazzaro. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1987. ISBN: 080740358X**

Delightful irrepressible Morris Schumsky adds a few unexpected guests to his granddaughter's wedding and provides a meaningful twist to a special day. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Wikler, Madeline and Groner, Judyth. *Miracle Meals: Eight Nights of Food 'n Fun for Chanukah*.**

**Illustrated by Chari Rudin. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1987. ISBN: 0930494717** Lots of fun and food in this new cookbook. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Gerber, Merrill Joah. *Also Known as Sadzia! The Belly Dancer!* New York: Harper & Row, 1987. ISBN: 0060221623**

Under pressure from her mother to lose weight in an exercise class, a sixteen-year-old Jewish girl rebels and joins a class in belly dancing where she finds independence, romance, and self-confidence--and an intriguing drummer named Sumir. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Drucker, Malka. *Eliezer Ben-Yehuda: The Father of Modern Hebrew.* (Jewish Biography Series) New York: Lodestar Books, 1987. ISBN: 0525671846**

A biography of the man who resurrected Hebrew, lost for 2000 years except for reading and writing, as an everyday language, thus uniting Jews of the modern world by providing a common tongue. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Gross, David. *A Justice for All the People: Louis D. Brandeis.* (Jewish Biography Series) New York: Lodestar Books, 1987. ISBN: 0525671943**

A biography of the lawyer, judge, popularizer of Zionist causes, and first Jew to serve on the Supreme Court, who helped end child labor in America, introduced the concepts of social security, minimum wage laws, and unemployment compensation, and, in short, devoted his life to social justice. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Krantz, Hazel. *Daughter of My People: Henrietta Szold and Hadassah.* (Jewish Biography Series) New York: Lodestar Books, 1987. ISBN: 0525672362**

Traces the life of the Hadassah women's organization's first president, who dedicated its activities to improving the living conditions of Jews in Palestine. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Kushner, Lawrence. *The Book of Miracles: A Young Person's Guide to Jewish Spirituality.* Illustrated by Devis Grebu. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1987. ISBN: 0807403237**

A carefully organized collection of Midrashim, retold and enhanced, with commentary by a leading theologian and masterful storyteller. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Shamir, Ilana, editor. *The Young Reader's Encyclopedia of Jewish History.* New York: Viking -Kestrel, 1987. ISBN: 0670817384**

An attractive, ambitious volume filled with beautiful and informative color photographs and useful maps. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Shteiner, Pu'ah. *Forever My Jerusalem.* Nanuet, New York: Feldheim, 1987. ISBN: 0873063945** This touching memoir of a young child's exile from Jerusalem and her triumphant return as an adult in 1967 has garnered much praise. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1986**

**Hirsh, Marilyn. *Joseph Who Loved the Sabbath.* Illustrated by Devis Grebu. New York: Viking Kestrel, 1986. ISBN: 0670811947 pbk.**

Despite his poverty, Joseph celebrated the seventh day with joy. A lovingly retold Talmudic tale, with finely detailed, full color drawings. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Pitt, Nancy. *Beyond the High White Wall*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1986. ISBN: 0684186632**  
Witnessing the murder of a peasant outside her small town in the Russian Ukraine in 1903, thirteen-year-old Libby triggers a wave of hate against her Jewish family, prompting them to consider emigrating to America. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Hutton, Warwick. *Moses in the Bulrushes*. New York : Atheneum, 1986. ISBN: 0689503938**  
Retold in simple, dignified, unemotional language with exquisite pastel pictures. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Portnoy, Mindy Avra. *Ima on the Bima: My Mommy is a Rabbi*. Illustrated by Steffi Karen Rubin. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1986. ISBN: 0930494555**  
A simple story of daily life with Rebecca and her mother the rabbi. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schramm, Pininnah. *The Big Sukkah*. Illustrated by Jacqueline Kahane. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1986. ISBN: 0930494563**  
Berel and his family have never had their many relatives to their small cottage to celebrate holidays, but one year at Sukkos, Berel has a brilliant idea for making a large space to entertain. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Schwartz, Amy. *Yossel Zissel and the Wisdom of Chelm*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1986. ISBN: 0827602588**  
The littlest listeners will love the whimsical pictures and the obvious foolishness of Yossel Zissel while slightly older listeners and readers will laugh at the elaborate but increasingly worthless exchanges Yossel arranges for his gold. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Bacon, Jacqueline. *Cooking the Israeli Way*. Photographs by Robert L. and Diane Wolfe. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 1986. ISBN: 0822509121**  
A delightful and clear cookbook for children and parents. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Aviva's Piano*. Illustrated by Yossi Abulafia. New York: Clarion, 1986. ISBN: 0899193676**  
This little story, with its pleasant, whimsical drawings, includes plenty of illustrations, details and incidents to provide a feel of children's life at Kibbutz Kfar Giladi on the Lebanese border. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Sound the Shofar: The Story and Meaning of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs. New York: Clarion, 1986. ISBN: 0899193730**  
The final volume in Chaikin's holiday series, Discusses the origin and development of Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur, their major symbols, and ways of observing them in the world today and in different times in history. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cowan, Paul. *A Torah is Written*. Photographed by Rachel Cowan. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Society, 1986. ISBN: 0827602707**  
A Beautifully written, beautifully photographed, beautifully designed book that communicates the love, spirit, care, and work that go into making a Torah scroll. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Livingston, Myra Cohn, editor. *Poems for Jewish Holidays*. Illustrated by Lloyd Bloom. New York: Holiday House, 1986. ISBN: 0823406067**



A small but delightful collection of poems with handsome substantial illustrations, this book will be enjoyed by children and parents together. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schnur, Steven. *The Narrowest Bar Mitzvah*. Illustrated by Victor Lazzaro. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1986. ISBN: 0807403164**

This easy-to-read account of Alex's big day includes a broken water main that floods the Temple but Grandpa's narrow old house becomes the ark that brings Alex's *parsha*, the story of Noah, to completion. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schnur, Maxine. *Hannah Szenes: A Song of Light*. Illustrated by Donna Ruff. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1986. ISBN: 0827602510**

A biography of the Jewish heroine whose mission to help rescue European Jews in World War II cost her her life. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Spector, Barbara. *The Great Jewish Quiz Book*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1986. ISBN: 0827602596**

A fun-filled, fact-filled quiz book that will entertain children and adults. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kushner, Donn. *Uncle Jacob's Ghost Story*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1986. ISBN: 003006502X**

A story filled with wonder, mysterious misdeeds, love, Polish-Jewish ghosts, and the Jewish immigrant experience. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Lager, Marilyn. *Sigmund Freud: Doctor of the Mind*. Illustrated by Eric Lager. Hillside, NJ: Enslow Publishing, 1986. ISBN: 0894901176**

A useful introduction to the life, studies and theories of Freud. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Levinson, Nancy Smiler. *I Lift My Lamp: Emma Lazarus and the Statue of Liberty*. New York: Dutton (Lodestar Books), 1986. ISBN: 0525671803**

A parallel story of the life of Emma Lazarus and the development of the statue. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Neimark, Anne E. *One Man's Valor: Leo Baeck and the Holocaust*. New York: Dutton (LodestarBooks), 1986. ISBN: 0525671757**

Includes the outline of Leo Baeck's life, actions, and philosophy with the focus on his heroic role in saving Jews during the Holocaust. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Sherman, Eileen Bluestone. *Monday in Odessa*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1986. ISBN: 0827602626**

A story of a modern "refusenik" family. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Zakon, Miriam Stark. *The Floating Minyan of Pirate's Cove*. Illustrated by Sigmund Forst. Brooklyn, NY: Judaica Press, 1986. ISBN: 0910818622**

On the way to the solution of this fact-paced mystery, young readers will learn more about Jewish practice, events in the Bible, and modern Jewish history. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**1985**

**Freedman, Florence B. *Brothers*. Illustrated by Robert Andrew Parker. New York: Harper & Row, 1985. ISBN: 0060218711**

Hard times on adjoining farms bring about parallel acts of kindness and a celebration of “how good it is for brothers to live together in friendship.” (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Snyder, Carol. *Ike and Mama and the Seven Surprises*. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard, 1985. ISBN: 0688037321**

Ike is very skeptical when his mother promises that he will have seven surprises in the month before his Bar Mitzvah, especially, with his father still hospitalized with tuberculosis and a newly-arrived, jobless cousin living in their small apartment. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

**Ganz, Yaffa. *The Story of Mimmy and Simmy*. Illustrated by Harvey Klineman. Nanuet, NY: Feldheim, 1985. ISBN: 0873063856**

Two girls are miserable being themselves until they trade places in a charming story that illustrates Pirke Avot 4:1. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Garfield, Leon. *The King in the Garden*. Illustrated by Michael Bragg. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard, 1985. ISBN: 068804106X.**

A young girl helps the king in this account of Nebuchadnezzar's dreams and madness, magnificently illustrated by Michael Bragg. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Hirsh, Marilyn. *I Love Passover*. New York: Holiday House, 1985. ISBN: 0823406962**

Simplified retelling of the story and rituals of Passover, including the Seder. Bright, cheerful illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Karlinsky, Ruth Schild. *My First Book of Mitzvos*. Nanuet, NY: Feldheim, 1985. ISBN: 0873063880** An Orthodox child performs mitzvot throughout the day. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Levinson, Riki. *Watch the Stars Come Out*. Illustrated by Diane Goode. New York: Dutton, 1985. ISBN: 0525442057**

Immigrant experience, not overtly Jewish but applicable. Wonderful pastel illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Phillips, Mildred. *The Sign in Mendel's Window*. Illustrated by Margot Zemach. New York: Macmillan, 1985. ISBN: 0027746003**

A newcomer's evil intentions are foiled by Mendel's *shtetl* friends, in a tale enhanced by the Caldecott Medalist's evocative illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Pomerantz, Barbara. *Who Will Lead the Kiddush?* Illustrated by Donna Ruff. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1985. ISBN: 0807403067**

A young girl adjusts to the changes brought about by the divorce of her parents. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenfeld, Diana Herman. *A Tree Full of Mitzvos*. Illustrated by Yoel Kenny. Brooklyn, NY: Merkoz L'Inyonei Chinuch, 1985. ISBN: 0826603637**

A tree tells young children about *mitzvot*. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rosenfeld, Diana Herman. *The Very Best Place for a Penny*. Illustrated by Leonid Pinchevsky and Eliyahu Meshchaninov. Brooklyn, NY: Merkoz L'Inyonei Chinuch, 1985. ISBN: 0826603629**  
Wonderful introduction to the concept of *tzedakah*, with illustrations that are witty depictions of the text. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Rounds, Glen. *Washday on Noah's Ark*. New York: Holiday House, 1985. ISBN: 0823405559**  
Delightful tall tale based on the biblical account, with humorous pastel illustrations. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Segal, Sheila. *Joshua's Dream*. Illustrated by Joel Iskowitz. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1985. ISBN: 0807404764**  
Joshua dreams of Israel, eventually planting his own tree there. (Notable Book for Younger Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Ask Another Question: The Story and Meaning of Passover*. Illustrated by Marvin Friedman. New York, Clarion 1985. ISBN: 0899192815**  
Discusses the history and importance of Passover, a celebration of freedom commemorating the exodus of Moses and the Israelites from Egypt, where they had long been slaves, maintain the high quality of the holiday series. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Chaikin, Miriam. *Yossi Asks the Angels for Help*. Illustrated by Petra Mathers. New York: HarperCollins, 1985. ISBN: 0060211962**  
Yossi is back, asking the angels to help him retrieve the money he needs to buy Chanukah presents. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Clifford, Eth. *The Remembering Box*. Illustrated by Donna Diamond. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1985. ISBN: 0395384761**  
Nine-year-old Joshua's weekly visits to his beloved grandmother on the Jewish Sabbath give him an understanding of love, family, and tradition, which helps him accept her death. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cohen, Barbara. *Secret Grove*. Illustrated by Michael J. Deraney. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1985. ISBN: 0807403016**  
Beni and Ahmed reach an understanding beyond their elders. A wise, sad story about people, prejudice and political reality. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Cushnir, Howard. *The Secret Spinner: Tales of Rav Gedalia*. Illustrated by Katherine Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben Copies, 1985. ISBN: 0930494474**  
Rav Gedalia gives modern lessons in ancient problems such as sharing and *tzedakah*. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Finkelstein, Norman. *Remember Not to Forget*. Illustrated by Lois and Lars Hokanson. London: Franklin Watts, 1985. ISBN: 0531048926**  
The book presents the origins and history of anti-Semitism, beginning with the year 70 A.D., when the Jews were forced out of Jerusalem, to the founding of the State of Israel in 1948. Finkelstein uses specific incidents from history to illustrate how anti-Semitism stripped Jews of their rights and dignity. Dramatic woodcuts accompany Finkelstein's text. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Herman, Erwin & Agnes. *The Yanov Torah*. Illustrated by Katherine Kahn. Rockville, MD: Kar- Ben Copies, 1985. ISBN: 0930494458**

Story of the smuggling of a Torah into the Yanov Nazi Labor Camp, its rescue after liberation, and its journey to American in the care of a Soviet émigré. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Innocenti, Roberto. *Rose Blanche*. Mankato, MN: Creative Education, 1985. ISBN: 1568461895**

Magnificently illustrated story of a young German girl who experiences the Holocaust without understanding it. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Kipper, Lenore C., and Gogot, Howard I. *The Alef-Bet of Jewish Values: Code Words of Jewish Life*. Illustrated by Jana Paiss. New York: UAHC (now URJ Press), 1985. ISBN: 0807402672**

Letters of the Hebrew alphabet are used to teach about Jewish values and to present important Hebrew words. Examines twenty-three values of Jewish life using stories, Hebraic words, and scriptures from the Torah. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Mark, Michael. *Toba at the Hands of a Thief*. New York: Macmillan, 1985. ISBN: 0027623106**

Presents eleven episodes from the life of a Polish teenager as she prepares to leave her Jewish family for a new life in America during the early 1900s. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Schur, Maxine. *Shnook the Peddler*. Illustrated by Dale Redpath. Minneapolis, MN: Dillon, 1985. ISBN: 0875182984**

An unworldly peddler and a young boy with a guilty conscience are the heroes in a tale appropriate for anukkah reading. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Waskow, Arthur, David and Shoshana. *Before There Was a Before*. Illustrated by Amnon Danziger. New York: Adama Books, 1985. ISBN: 0915361086**

Thoughtful modern interpretation of the story of creation. (Notable Book for Older Readers)

**Angell, Judie. *One Way to Ansonia*. New York: Bradbury Press, 1985. ISBN: 0027058603**

Story of Rose's difficult life on the Lower East Side and of her escape. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Atkinson, Linda. *In Kindling Flame: The Story of Hannah Senesh, 1921-1944*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1985. ISBN: 0688027148**

Biography of Hannah Senesh with political and historical background. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Evernden, Margery. *The Dream Keeper*. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard, 1985. ISBN: 068804638X**

Both life in the shtetl and the problems of the contemporary Jewish family are part of this novel about 13-year-old Becca. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Kaufman, Stephen. *Does Anyone Here Know the Way to Thirteen?* Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1985. ISBN: 0395359740**

The story of too smart, too fat, Myron's Bar Mitzvah year. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Ossowski, Leonie. *Star without a Sky*. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publishing, 1985. ISBN: 0822507714**

A group of German young people must decide the fate of a Jewish boy that they find days before the Russians invade their town. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

**Swartz, Sarah Silberstein. *Bar Mitzvah*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1985. ISBN: 0385198264**

An anthology for the Bar Mitzvah boy to browse in and return to again and again for further insights. (Notable Book for Teen Readers)

## **1984**

**Schwartz, Amy. *Mrs. Moskowitz and the Sabbath Candlesticks*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1984. ISBN: 082760372X pbk.**

Mrs. Moskowitz is unhappy in her new apartment until the discovery of her old Sabbath candlesticks prompt her into a series of activities that turn her new dwelling into a real home. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Orlev, Uri. *The Island on Bird Street*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1984. ISBN: 0395616239 reissue pbk.** During World War II a Jewish boy is left on his own for months in a ruined house in the Warsaw Ghetto, where he must learn all the tricks of survival under constantly life-threatening conditions. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

## **1983**

**Pomerantz, Barbara. *Bubby, Me, and Memories*. New York: UAHC Press, 1983. ISBN: 0807402532**

Depicts the loss felt by a young child after the death of her grandmother. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Zar, Rose. *In the Mouth of the Wolf*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1983. ISBN: 0827603827 pbk.**

The author describes her experiences in wartime Poland and how she survived the Holocaust by passing herself off as an Aryan. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

## **1982**

**Heller, Linda. *The Castle on Hester Street*. Philadelphia, PA: Jewish Publication Society, 1982. ISBN: 0827603231 pbk.**

Julie's grandmother deflates many of her husband's tall tales about their journey from Russia to America and their life on Hester Street. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Sachs, Marilyn. *Call Me Ruth*. New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1982. ISBN: 0688137377 pbk.** A young immigrant, newly arrived in Manhattan in 1908, has conflicting feelings about her mother's increasingly radical union involvement. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

## **1981**

**Cohen, Barbara. *Yussel's Prayer*. Illustrated by Michael J. Deraney. New York: Lothrop, Lee and Shepard, 1981. ISBN: 0688045812 pbk.**

A cowherd's simple but sincere Yom Kippur prayer is instrumental in ending the day's fast. (Award Winner for Younger Readers)

**Lasky, Kathryn. *The Night Journey*. New York: Penguin USA, 1981. ISBN: 0140320482 reissue pbk.**

A young girl ignores her parents' wishes and persuades her great-grandmother to relate the story of her escape from czarist Russia. (Award Winner for Older Readers)

## 1980

**Everett Fisher, Leonard. *A Russian Farewell*. New York: Four Winds Press, 1980. ISBN: 059007525X**  
Depicts the anti-Semitic terror that finally drives Benjamin Shapiro, his wife, and 11 children out of Czarist Russia to America at the beginning of the 20th century. (Award Winner)

## 1979

**Snyder, Carol. *Ike and Mama and the Block Wedding*. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1979. ISBN: 0698204611**

Rosie Weinstein is getting married on Sunday but not without a little help from the residents of East 136th Street. (Award Winner)

## 1978

**Orgel, Doris. *The Devil in Vienna*. New York: Penguin USA, 1978. ISBN: 014032500X reissue pbk.** A Jewish girl and the daughter of a Nazi have been best friends since they started school, but in 1938 the thirteen-year-olds find their close relationship difficult to maintain. (Award Winner)

## 1977

**Heyman, Anita. *Exit From Home*. New York: Random House, 1977. ISBN: 0517529033**

A Jewish youth, training to become a rabbi in oppressive turn-of-the-century Russia, becomes exposed to “worldly” ideas which change his attitude towards his religion and his country. (Award Winner)

## 1976

**Meltzer, Milton. *Never to Forget*. New York: Harper Collins Children’s Books, 1976. ISBN: 0064461181 reissue pbk.**

Describes Hitler's rise, the extermination of Europe’s Jews, and the slow emergence of resistance, and includes first-hand accounts of ghetto life and death-camp terror. (Award Winner)

## 1975

**Moskin, Marietta. *Waiting for Mama*. New York: Coward, McCann & Geoghegan, 1975. ISBN: 0698203194**

A Russian immigrant family living in New York in the early 1900's prepares for the long-awaited arrival of their mother and baby sister. (Award Winner)

## 1974

No Award

## 1973

**Suhl, Yuri. *Uncle Misha’s Partisans*. New York: Four Winds, 1973. ISBN: 0590072951**

During World War II in the Ukraine, an orphaned Jewish boy joins a band of partisans who give him an important assignment against the Nazis. (Award Winner)

## 1972

No Award (see Body-of Work Award)

## 1971

No Award (see Body-of Work Award)

## 1970

**Lange, Suzanne. *The Year*. S.G. Phillips, 1970. ISBN: 0875991734**

Eighteen-year-old Ann Sanger leaves the United States, despite the opposition of her parents, with a group of young American and Canadians to help with the work of an Israeli kibbutz near the Syrian border. (Award Winner)

## 1969

**Ish-Kishor, Sulamith. *Our Eddie*. New York: Pantheon, 1969. ISBN: 039481455X**

Teenaged Eddie tries to make up to his family for his father's lack of warmth and financial support, but seems doomed to tragedy at every turn. (Award Winner)

## 1968

**Hautzig, Esther. *The Endless Steppe*. New York: Harper Collins Children's Books, 1968.**

**ISBN: 006440577X reissue pbk.**

The author describes her experiences during World War II when she and her family were arrested by the Russians and sent to work in the Siberian gypsum mines. (Award Winner)

### *Sydney Taylor Body-of-Work Award Winners*

## 2022

**Jane Yolen** has published over 400 books for readers of all ages in a wide variety of genres. Dubbed “The Hans Christian Anderson of Children’s Literature” by Newsweek, her books have received much acclaim, including Sydney Taylor Honors for *Naming Liberty* in 2009 and *Miriam at the River* in 2021, and two Sydney Taylor Notables. Her middle grade novel, *The Devil’s Arithmetic*, won both the National Jewish Book Award and the 1988 Sydney Taylor Book Award.

## 2020

**Lesléa Newman** is the author of 70 books for all ages. She has helped broaden the scope of Jewish children’s books over her prolific career. She has received the 2016 Sydney Taylor Award for *Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed*, a 2020 Sydney Taylor Honor for *Gittel’s Journey: An Ellis Island Story*, and four Sydney Taylor Notables.

## 2018

**Harold Grinspoon and PJ Library**, a project of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, is a family engagement program that sends free books celebrating Jewish values and culture to families with children 6 months through 8 years old. This program has revolutionized the field of Jewish children’s literature by providing dramatically

improved access to Jewish books for families. It has also significantly increased the publication of children's books with Jewish content.

### **2004**

**Eric Kimmel**, author of over fifty children's books, has written more than twenty books of Jewish interest during his illustrious career, including *Wonders and Miracles: A Passover Companion*, winner of the National Jewish Book Award and a 2004 Sydney Taylor Honor Book. He won the Sydney Taylor Book Award in 2000 for *Gershon's Monster* and in 1990 for *The Chanukah Guest*.

### **2002**

**Judye Groner** and **Madeline Wikler**, founders of Kar-Ben Copies, publishers of 8 Sydney Taylor Award and Honor Winners: *Sammy Spider's First Trip to Israel*, *Baby's Bris*, *The Magic of Kol Nidre*, *Shalom, Haver*, *Jeremy's Dreidel*, *Daddy's Chair*, *Judah Who Always Said "No"* and *Grandma's Soup*, as well as numerous other quality children's books with positive Jewish content. For more information on Kar-Ben Copies, now a division of the Lerner Publishing Group, go to [www.kar-ben.com](http://www.kar-ben.com).

### **1997**

**Barbara Diamond Goldin**, author of 3 Sydney Taylor Award and Honor Winners: *Journeys with Elijah*, *Cakes and Miracles*, and *The World's Birthday*, as well as numerous other children's books with Jewish content like *Just Enough Is Plenty: A Hanukkah Tale* (1988), *The Magician's Visit* (1993), *Bat Mitzvah: A Jewish Girl's Coming of Age* (1995), *While the Candles Burn: Eight Stories for Hanukkah* (1996), *A Mountain of Blintzes* (2001), *One-Hundred-and-One Jewish Read-Aloud Stories: Ten-Minute Readings from the World's Best-Loved Jewish Literature* (2001), and *Night Lights: A Sukkot Story* (2002).

### **1989**

**Yaffa Ganz** is the author of forty Jewish children's books depicting the lives of modern-Orthodox American children including the "Savta Simcha" series and the "Mimmy & Simmy" books.

### **1984**

**Miriam Chaikin** was a long-time editor-in-chief of children's books in major New York houses. She has published over 30 books for children of all ages including *A Nightmare in History the Holocaust 1933-1945* (1987), *Menorahs, Mezuzas and Other Jewish Symbols* (1990), *Clouds of Glory: Legends and Stories About Bible Times* (1997), *Angels Sweep the Desert Floor: Bible Legends About Moses in the Wilderness* (2002), and *Alexandra's Scroll* (2002).

### **1981**

**Barbara Cohen**, author of the Sydney Taylor award winning book *Yussel's Prayer*, has also written over 20 children's books including *Thank You, Jackie Robinson* (1974), *Molly's Pilgrim* (1983), *The Secret Grove* (1985), *The Christmas Revolution* (1987), *Make a Wish, Molly* (1994), and *Here Come the Purim Players!* (1998).

### **1980**

**Sadie Rose Weilerstein** is best known for her series of books about the adventures of a thumb-sized boy named K'tonton, published between 1935 and 1993.



## **1979**

**Marilyn Hirsh**, author of the Sydney Taylor award winning book *Joseph Who Loved the Sabbath*, also adapted and illustrated many traditional Jewish folktales: *Could Anything Be Worse?* (1974) *Captain Jiri and Rabbi Jacob* (1976), *The Rabbi and the Twenty-Nine Witches* (1977), and *Deborah the Dybbuk* (1978).

## **1978**

**Sydney Taylor's** *All-of-a-Kind Family*, published by Follett in 1951, became the first commercially published, widely distributed children's book with a Jewish subject. She continued the adventures of the five Jewish sisters living in a 4 room apartment with their parents on New York's lower East Side in *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*. Sydney Taylor also wrote *A Papa Like Everyone Else* and *Danny Loves a Holiday*.

## **1972**

**Molly Cone** is the author of numerous books for children of all ages published between 1963 and 1999 including picture books, biographies, and young adult fiction.

## **1971**

**Isaac Bashevis Singer**, Polish-born American journalist, novelist, short-story writer, essayist, and recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1978, also wrote several books for children including *Why Noah Chose the Dove* (1973, illustrated by Eric Carle), *The Power of Light: Eight Stories for Hanukkah* (1980), *The Golem* (1982, illustrated by Uri Shulevitz), and several short story collections.

Some book descriptions are from the annotation, synopsis or card catalog description available from [www.btol.com](http://www.btol.com) , [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com), or [www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org).

Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee  
The Association of Jewish Libraries May  
2014

Some style notes for updating this list:

Before 2007, the ISBN consisted of 10 digits, not 13.

Pictures, drawings and art are referred to as "illustrated by." Photographs are noted as such. One exception is *Chanukah Lights* by Michael J. Rosen, where the artwork by Robert Sabuda is pop-up paper cuts.

Except as part of the title, the holiday is spelled Hanukkah in the annotations. Same for Haggadah, Tu B'Shvat, and *shtetl*.

Numbers below ten are spelled out; numbers above ten are written as numerals.

Decades are formatted as 1920's, 1990's, etc.