Coming Spring 2024 from Kalaniot Books

**The Blue Butterfly of Cochin**  
*By Ariana Mitzrahi with the Indian Jewish Heritage Center*  
*Illustrated by Siona Benjamin*  
*The Blue Butterfly of Cochin* is the story of the ancient Jewish Indian community’s mass immigration to Israel in the 1950s. We follow Leah as she struggles to come to terms with leaving her beloved India and moving to the newly-formed country of Israel. Accompanied by a magical butterfly and through dream-like illustrations, both Leah and the reader, are transported from the lush Indian coastline to the awesome beauty of the Israeli desert.

**A Bright Light in Buenos Aires**  
*By Santiago Nader*  
*Illustrated by Paula Wegman*  
Dani is just a regular kid living in Buenos Aires—except for the giant light that follows him everywhere he goes. He wishes he could be like the other kids, but he finds that sometimes you just have to let your own light shine through.

**The Hedgehog Who Said Who Cares?**  
*By Neri Aluma*  
*Illustrated by Amit Trainin*  
When Hedgehog builds his hut in the middle of the road, his neighbors, Rabbit and Mouse are upset that they are unable to pass. “Who cares?” says Hedgehog. But when there’s trouble, he realizes that everyone needs help at some point. Whether caring for your neighbor or the planet we all call home, there is much to learn from the ancient Jewish teachings on which this story is based.

**Why on this night? A Passover Haggadah for Family Celebration**  
*By Rahel Musleah*  
*Illustrated by Louise August*  
The rich traditions of Passover come alive in this contemporary family haggadah. Updated from the original 2000 edition, this holiday favorite is available again for families to treasure. As children and adults gather at the seder dinner to remember the Israelites’ journey from slavery to freedom, this creative, yet authentic haggadah will guide and engage them. Lushly illustrated, with blessings and text of every major section of the haggadah in Hebrew, English translation, and transliteration, the welcoming and accessible style of *Why On This Night?* will make it a treasured seder companion year after year.
Other books mentioned during the session:

**Out and About: A Tale About Giving**
*By Liza Wiemer*
*Illustrated by Margeaux Lucas*

In this inspiring story, we follow Daniel as he tries to find out where his parents are going and what’s inside the mysterious boxes they’re carrying. Daniel’s imagination runs wild—could there be a new baseball and glove inside? A giant birthday cake? A new toy car? As it turns out Daniel learns much more than what’s in those boxes—he learns the true meaning of giving. This universal message is a beautiful way to share Jewish traditions with all readers. A note explains the concept of tzedakah and addresses what it means to give and how to give in a way to respect those we want to help.

**How to Welcome and Alien**
*By Rebecca Klempner*
*Illustrated by Shirley Waisman*

When a friendly alien family’s spaceship lands in the Abrahams’ backyard, Dina welcomes them with traditional Jewish hospitality. While this story hints at the biblical origins of the tradition of welcoming a stranger, it’s the silly antics of these out-of-this-world visitors that will have readers laughing out loud. A note at the back pulls it all together and reminds us that a stranger can be anyone from an immigrant to a person who feels alone because they are different and all deserve our hospitality.

**Soosie: The Horse that Saved Shabbat**
*By Tami Lehman-Wilzig with illustrations by Menahem Halberstadt*

Every Shabbat Jacob and his horse Soosie set out to deliver Ezra and Esther’s delicious challahs to their Jerusalem neighbors. But what happens when Jacob is sick? Will everyone get their challah in time for Shabbat? This heart-warming story is inspired by the history of Angel Bakery, the oldest commercial bakery in Israel. Charming illustrations capture picturesque turn of the century Jerusalem and its eclectic group of residents.

*Kirkus Starred review*

An Association of Jewish Libraries’ Best Jewish Holiday Book for Spring 2021
An Association of Jewish Libraries’ Holiday Highlight Book

**The Candy Man Mystery**
*By Rabbi Kerry Olitzky with illustrations by Christina Mattison Ebert*

In a synagogue, everyone plays an important role: the rabbi, the cantor, the volunteers, and the congregation. But when Mr. Sharansky, the much-loved Candy Man goes missing, Josh and Becky get to work to uncover the mystery. In the end, the kids find the Candy Man—and so much more!

Notes at the back of the book include a glossary and an opportunity to explore the Shema prayer. English, Hebrew, and transliterations as well as American Sign Language.
diagrams are provided to help young people interact more fully in the synagogue experience.

*My Israel and Me* by Alice Blumenthal McGinty with illustrations by Rotem Teplow
Told in verse, the book introduces readers to the diversity of Israel’s people from a child’s perspective. Explanatory text sheds light on the varied cultures and traditions that inspire the special connection many feel with “their Israel.” Though coincidental, this book has arrived at a critical time and Kalaniot Books hopes it proves useful to parents and educators in starting thoughtful conversations and sharing their own insights about the complicated feelings surrounding modern day Israel.

*The Very Best Sukkah: A Story from Uganda*
Shoshana Nambi
Illustrated by Moran Yogev
Sukkot is Shoshi’s favorite Jewish holiday. She and her brothers love to decorate their sukkah, the hut where her family will celebrate. But who will win the Ugandan Abayudaya community’s annual sukkah contest? While only one sukkah can be the best, everybody wins when neighbors work together.

*An Association of Jewish Libraries’ Holiday Highlight Book*
A Sydney Taylor Picture Book Honor Winner
A National Jewish Book Award Winner

*Seven Good Years: A Yiddish Folktale*
By Shoham Smith
Illustrated by Eitan Eloa
Translated by Ilana Kurshan
A magician comes to the rescue of a very special family. Based on the Yiddish tale by Y. L. Peretz, this story will charm readers. Bright and colorful illustrations pair beautifully in this witty retelling.

*Ella KVELLephant and the Search for Bubbe’s Yiddish Treasure*
Written and illustrated by Jen Kostman
*Oy vey!* Bubbe has lost her special treasure --the Yiddish language she spoke as a girl. Never fear, her granddaughter, Ella, is great at finding lost things. Join the KVELLephants for a fun and colorful beach-day adventure.