



## Annotated List of New Books at The Kaufman Silverberg Library

November 2009

### Adult

#### Judaic Non Fiction

- Abraham: A journey to the heart of three faiths*, by Bruce Feiler. A biography that speaks to Abraham as the metaphor he is: the historically elusive man who embodies three religions.
- And From There you shall seek*, by Joseph B. Soloveitchik. Originally published in Hebrew as U-vikashtem mi-sham, this essay charts the individual's search for God.
- A Believing Humanism: Gleanings*, by Martin Buber. Explains the creed by which Buber lived his life, its relationship to his own particular creative endeavour and what of himself and his vast experience has gone into its formulation.
- The Book of God and Man: A study of Job*, by Robert Gordis. A scholarly, in-depth study of the Book of Job.
- Children of Abraham: An introduction to Judaism for Muslims*, by Reuven Firestone. Introduces Muslims to Judaism by showing theological and moral resemblance between Judaism and Islam and emphasizes issues of particular concern to Muslims.
- A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on Deuteronomy*, by S. R. Driver. A commentary of Deuteronomy, or D'varim, the fifth book of Torah.
- Days of Deliverance: Essays on Purim and Hanukkah*, by Joseph B. Soloveitchik. Rabbi Soloveitchik considers that Hanukkah and Purim stand at the nexus of faith and history, of human effort and divine intervention, and explores these ideas in this book of essays.
- The Death and Resurrection of the Beloved Son: The transformation of child sacrifice in Judaism and Christianity*, by Jon D. Levenson. An exploration of how the notion of child sacrifice constitutes an overlooked bond between Judaism and Christianity.
- Dignity beyond Death: The Jewish preparation for burial*, by Rochel U. Berman. Examines the rituals of preparing the dead for burial through personal interviews with the volunteers of community organization called "Chevra Kadisha", or the "Sacred Society". Includes chapters on the Holocaust and terrorism.
- The Earth Story in Genesis*, edited by Norman C. Habel and Shirley Wurst. A series of essays from scholars around the world who discuss story of Earth in Genesis in the light of ecology.
- Emet ve-emunah: Statement of principles of Conservative Judaism*. The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. This small book, published originally in 1988, provides a concise statement of the beliefs of Conservative Judaism.
- The Faces of God: Canaanite mythology as Hebrew theology*, by Jacob Rabinowitz. Reveals that Canaanite mythology is hidden in the Bible and makes an attempt to examine what it might mean and how it was used.
- Folktales of Israel*. Edited by Dov Noy. A selection of seventy-one religious and secular popular Jewish tales from different countries.
- From Jerusalem to the Edge of Heaven: Meditations on the soul of Israel*, by Ari Elon. Searches for meaning within the vast realm of Judaic heritage to bring a new perspective to both Jewish tradition and the current Israeli scene.
- Getting our Groove Back: How to energize American Jewry*, by Scott A. Shay. A call to action for North American Jews to revitalize Jewish communities.

*Guides for an Age of Confusion: Studies in the thinking of Avraham Y. Kook and Mordecai M. Kaplan*, by Jack J. Cohen. A comparison of the views of two great Jewish philosophers.

*The Hidden Book in the Bible*, restored, translated, and introduced by Richard Elliott Friedman. A biblical scholar puts forth his theory that one author wrote many of the most familiar stories in the Hebrew Bible as one unified text.

*In every Tongue: The racial and ethnic diversity of the Jewish People*, by Diane Kaufmann Tobin, Gary A. Tobin and Scott Rubin. Demonstrates the diversity of contemporary Jewish individual and group identities.

*Jewish Liturgy: A comprehensive history*, by Ismar Elbogen. A classic work, translated from German, which provides a detailed description of each service of the Jewish liturgy while explaining Torah reading, sermon, and poetic additions.

*Jewish Sisters in Sobriety: Jewish women's untold stories of alcoholism, drug addiction, co-dependence and recovery*. Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, New York. More than 70 women had the courage to break through the barrier of denial of alcohol and drug addiction and come forward with their stories.

*Jews and Christians, Getting our Stories Straight: The Exodus and the passion-resurrection*, by Michael Goldberg. Goldberg speaks to both Jews and Christians, describing the "master stories" of each religion, their relationship and fundamental divergence.

*Kingship of God*, by Martin Buber. A landmark book in biblical scholarship and in the dialogue between Judaism and Christianity.

*Peace, Justice, and Jews: Reclaiming our tradition*, edited by Murray Polner and Stefan Merken. A collection of contemporary Jewish thought drawn on the work of a wide variety of thinkers and activists in Israel and the US to explore questions of social justice and Israel.

*A Portion in Paradise and other Jewish Folktales*, compiled by H. M. Nahmad. Includes tales of Elijah, David, Solomon, the wisdom and folly of women, the righteous and the pious, wit and wisdom and the Golem.

*Religions of the World*, by Lewis M. Hopfe. Widely used as a textbook, this book provides a concise introduction to many major religions practised throughout the world.

*The Secular Bible: Why nonbelievers must take religion seriously*, by Jacques Berlinerblau. An intellectually challenging book which should be read by those interested in a secular approach to Scripture.

*Self, Struggle and Change: Family conflict stories in Genesis and their healing insights for our lives*, by Norman J. Cohen. Uses the practice of Midrash to read the Genesis stories with an eye toward extracting insight into contemporary family relationships.

*Shtetl Finder*, by Chester G. Cohen. Jewish communities in the 19th and early 20th centuries in the pale of settlement of Russia and Poland, and in Lithuania, Latvia, Galicia, and Bukovina, with names of residents.

*With Strength and Splendor: Jewish women as agents of change*, by Lisa V. Kogen. A collection of extraordinary women engaged with the wider world in a variety of pursuits, many of whom focused their energies on building communal infrastructures, initially the only socially acceptable forum for women in the public arena.

### **Judaic Fiction**

*Dancing Winds*, by James C. McCrae. In Hitler's Germany it was forbidden for a Jewish boy to fall in love with the daughter of an SS officer. But that's what handsome Sender Rosen did when he fell for Katrin Becker in the autumn of 1938.

### **General Non Fiction**

*Anatomy of the Sacred: An introduction to religion*, by James C. Livingston. A comprehensive introduction to the nature and variety of religious phenomena, belief, and practice.

*Jews, Christians, Muslims: A comparative introduction to monotheistic religions*, by John Corrigan ... [et al.] Compares and explores similarities and differences among Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

*Picturing God*, edited by Jean Holm. Examines the concept of God in several major world religions.

*Sailing with Noah: Stories from the world of zoos*, by Jeffrey P. Bonner. Through a variety of true stories, Bonner describes the changing role of zoos and argues that conservation is the shared responsibility of all mankind.

*Walking the Bible: A journey by land through the Five books of Moses*, by Bruce Feiler. The story of Bruce Feiler's 10,000-mile trek from Mount Ararat to Mount Nebo and the lessons he learned about the relationship between place and spirit.

*The World's Religions: Worldviews and contemporary issues*, by William A. Young. Establishes a framework for understanding religion in general.

### **General Fiction**

*Sharp Teeth*, by Toby Barlow. A horror story in verse that follows three packs of feral dogs in East L.A.

### **Books in Hebrew**

*Rodef ha-affonim*, by Khaled Hosseini; translated by Tzila Elazar.

### **Teacher Resource**

*Sex Smart for Teens: Birth control*. Injoy Birth and Parenting Education. This DVD presents facts and encourages teens to make smart decisions about sex without giving advice on morality.

*Understanding the Human Body: An introduction to anatomy and physiology*. Taught by Professor Anthony Goodman this series of lectures on 8 DVD's introduces anatomy and physiology covering the cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, digestive, endocrine, urinary, reproductive, musculoskeletal and immune systems.

### **Videos**

*Shir Eretz*. Ronit Ophir performs 32 traditional Hebrew songs while on tour in Israel.

### **CD's**

*L'Chaim, Songs for Jewish Celebrations*. Performed by Cindy Paley.

### **Books on CD**

*Arum vokzal*, by David Bergelson. Recorded in the original Yiddish.

*Der Tilim Yid*, by Sholem Asch. Recorded in the original Yiddish.

*Dray matones un andere dertseylungen*, by Isaac Leib Peretz. Recorded in the original Yiddish.

*Folkstimlekhe geshikhtn*, by Isaac Leib Peretz . Recorded in the original Yiddish.

*Riva Yosl Buntsyes*, by Der Nister. Recorded in the original Yiddish.

*Ven Poyln iz gefaln*, by Joseph Opatoshu. Recorded in the original Yiddish.

### **For Students and Younger Readers**

#### **Judaic Books for Young Readers**

*My First Chanukah*, by Tomie de Paola. Perfect for young toddlers who recognize the familiar objects of Chanukah.

#### **General Non Fiction**

*Magic for Dummies*, by David Pogue. Includes favorite tricks from 35 top professional magicians with 350 step-by-step photos.

*Volcano*, by Cynthia Pratt Nicolson. Amazing photos, fun activities and fascinating stories bring volcanoes to life.

#### **Middle Years Fiction**

*About the B'nai Bagels*, by E. L. Konigsburg. Mark thought he had enough aggravation studying for his Bar Mitzvah and losing his best friend but when his mother becomes the manager of his baseball team and his older brother becomes the coach, it's the last straw!

*Baseball Pals*, by Matt Christopher. When Jimmie is elected captain of his baseball team, his first decision is to appoint himself pitcher. When Jimmie's pitches fail to find their mark, his teammates want their old pitcher back, but will he be willing to return?

*City of Thieves*, by David Benioff. A writer visits his retired grandparents in Florida to document their experience during the infamous siege of Leningrad.

*Double Play at Short*, by Matt Christopher. Twelve-year-old Danny thinks that there is something very familiar about the girl who plays shortstop on the team he faces during the championship series, and his curiosity leads him to a surprising discovery about his own adoption.

*The Dragons of Babel*, by Michael Swanwick. Enslaved by a war-dragon of Babel, young Will evacuates to the Tower of Babel where he meets the confidence trickster, Nat Whilk, and becomes a hero to the homeless living in the tunnels under the city.

*Finding Nouf*, by Zoë Ferraris. A mysterious and award winning book that centers on Nouf ash-Shrawi, a 16-year-old girl who disappeared into the desert three days before her marriage and has been found dead, several weeks pregnant.

*Just after Sunset: Stories*, by Stephen King. A collection of 13 short stories and winner of the 2009 Alex Award from the Young Adult Library Services Association.

*The Kid who only Hit Homers*, by Matt Christopher. A boy becomes a phenomenal baseball player one summer when a mysterious stranger resembling Babe Ruth befriends him.

*The Million Dollar Shot*, by Dan Gutman. Eddie Ball has the chance of a lifetime: to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot. A million dollars would mean the end to his and his mother's problems.

*Mudbound*, by Hillary Jordan. An award winning young adult novel in which Laura and her two young children struggle to adjust to their new life in a cotton farm in the Mississippi Delta in 1946.

*Over and Under*, by Todd Tucker. A story of ruddy-faced, scheming, precocious boys who must navigate that hazy boundary between growing up and making the most of their last summer of innocence and freedom as they explore the wilds of rural Indiana.

*Return of the Home Run Kid*, by Matt Christopher. Sylvester Coddmyer III is having a dismal baseball season until he takes advice from a mysterious ex-ballplayer named Cheeko.

*Stolen*, by Charles Boocock. From super goo to homemade volcanoes, this year's science fair at Sir Frederick Banting Elementary is set to be the best ever.

### **Easy Readers**

--98, 99, 100, ready or not, here I come! by Teddy Slater. A math reader where three friends play hide-and-seek, varying the way they count to 100 in each game: by ones, fives, tens, and twenties. Includes related activities. A level 2 reader.

*Around the Town*, by Michelle Shalton. Helps young readers to get to know the buildings and people in their community.

*Penny visits Oak Hammock Marsh*, by Carol Szuminsky. Introduces young children to some common birds and animals that live at Oak Hammock Marsh.

### **Books in Hebrew**

*1000 Milim rishonot: Milon ivri angli mezuyar*, by Hedierr Eimarie.

*Eifo giv'eret zeret?* by Shula Modan.

*Felix hoker et kadur ha-aretz*, by Annette Langen.

*Ha-atlas ha-rishon sheli*, by Nickolas Harris.

*Ha-masa ha-gadol shel Kaspiyon*, by Paul Kor.

*Hatzav Shel Oren*, by Mira Meir.

*Kaspiyon be-sakana*, by Paul Kor.

*Kaspiyon ha-dag ha-katan*, by Paul Kor.

*Pinocchio*, retold by Asi Wientstein.

*Sheela le-inyan: Tshuvot maftiot le-sheelot me'an'yenot*, by M. Keynan.