



Annotated List of New Books at The Kaufman Silverberg Library

January 2012

Adult /High School

Judaic Non Fiction

- Jerusalem: the biography*, by Simon Sebag Montefiore. An immensely readable narrative of its rulers and citizens, heroes and villains, harlots and saints through 3000 years of history.
- The Jews in Canada*, edited by Robert J. Brym, William Shaffir, Morton Weinfeld. By examining the achievements of the community, and the challenge of its attempt to survive the exigencies of modern life, this book clarifies not only the evolution of Canada's Jewish community but also the evolution of ethnicity in Canadian society.
- The Oxford History of the Biblical World*, edited by Michael D. Coogan. Essays by prominent scholars explore the cultures of ancient Canaan, Israel, Judea, and Palestine from 10,000 B.C.E. to the rise of Islam.
- Tree of Souls: the mythology of Judaism*, by Howard Schwartz. Drawing from the Bible, from the Talmud and Midrash, and from kabalistic literature and medieval folklore, Schwartz explicates nearly 700 Jewish myths organized around broad themes such as myths of creation, heaven, and the Messiah.
- Voices of the Matriarchs: listening to the prayers of early modern Jewish women*, by Chava Weissler. A study of devotions, or tehinnas, that Yiddish speaking women in Europe created in order to participate in spirituality when formal study was not available to them.

Judaic Fiction

- The Emperor of Lies*, by Steve Sem-Sandberg. The history of the Lodz ghetto becomes a background to a multitude of vivid characters in this novel about heart-wrenching suffering and extraordinary evil.
- The North of God*, by Steve Stern. These seven stories portray zany Jewish family life ever so slightly haunted by demons. Steve Stern's fiction is grounded in Yiddish folklore and he has been called the successor to Isaac Bashevis Singer.
- Mr. Rosenblum Dreams in English*, by Natasha Solomons. After escaping Germany during WWII, Jack and Sadie Rosenblum, together with their baby daughter, settle into a life of acting "English." When no golf club will admit a Rosenblum, Jack hatches a wild idea: he'll build his own.
- The Prague Cemetery*, by Umberto Eco. From the Dreyfus Affair to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, the Jews are blamed for everything. One man connects each of these threads into a massive crazy-quilt conspiracy within conspiracies.
- There is no other*, by Jonathan Papernick. From the streets of modern Israel to the barrooms of Brooklyn to a suburban New England synagogue, the characters in these nine stories search for love and acceptance in a world scarred by loss and loneliness.
- The Vices*, by Lawrence Douglas. A gripping tale of fraud, compromise, and the inventive ways we survive the nightmare of history.
- Wherever You Go*, by Joan Leegant. This novel follows three Americans who long for definitive answers from their Jewish faith.

General Non Fiction

Champlain's Dream, by David Hackett Fischer. Traces the story of Quebec's founder while explaining his influential perspectives about peaceful colonialism, in a profile that also evaluates his contributions as a soldier, mariner, and cultural diplomat.

The Holy Land: yesterday and today: lithographs and diaries, by David Roberts. Presents lithographs taken from the sketches David Roberts made during his remarkable journey of exploration in the Holy Land in 1839.

General Fiction

Mao's Last Dancer, by Li Cunxin. This inspiring story of passion, resilience, and family captures the harsh reality of life in Mao's communist China and the exciting world of professional dance.

The Sisters Brothers, by Patrick deWitt. When a frontier baron known as the Commodore orders Charlie and Eli Sisters, his hired gunslingers, to track down and kill a prospector named Herman Kermit Warm, the brothers travel from Oregon to San Francisco.

The Tiger's Wife, by Téa Obreht. Remembering childhood stories her grandfather once told her, young physician Natalia stumbles across a clue that leads her to the extraordinary story of the tiger's wife.

DVD's

The Industrial Revolution. Just the Facts Learning Series. The Industrial Revolution brought better quality clothing, china, and mechanical devices on a much wider basis. However, it also brought with it a list of problems such as poor sanitation and a lack of labour laws.

Books in Spanish

Los comediantes, by Graham Greene.

El lápiz del carpintero, by Manuel Rivas.

Middle Years Students and Younger Readers

Judaic Books for Young Readers

Chanukah Lights, by Michael J. Rosen and Robert Sabuda. Each illustration in this pop-up book represents different places and times where Jews have celebrated the miracle of Chanukah.

General Non Fiction

Archaea: salt-lovers, methane-makers, thermophiles, and other archaea, by David M. Barker. Examines the diverse Archaea domain and the division of these organisms by their unusual biology.

Basketball's Top 10 Slam Dunkers, by Ken Rappoport. A collective biography of the top 10 slam dunkers, both past and present, including accounts of game action, career statistics, and more.

Changing Shorelines, by Traci Steckel Pedersen. Tells how shorelines, barrier islands and coral reefs are formed as well as the effects of pollution and how to stop it.

Cnidarians and Worms, by Jenny Karpelenia. Learn about cnidarians and worms from their characteristics and reproduction to diet and habitat.

Dealing with Stress: a how-to guide, by Lisa A. Wroble. Readers will learn about the causes of stress, how it affects the body, and how to manage it.

Dolphins! by Sharon Bokoske and Margaret Davidson. This easy reader provides insights into relationships and special friendships that have developed between these playful mammals and humans.

Dump Trucks, by Blaine Wiseman. Examines big and interesting dump trucks using photos and fascinating facts.

Far-out Guide to Neptune, by Mary Kay Carson. Presents information about Neptune, including fast facts, history, and technology used to study the planet.

Forces in Fluids, by Jenny Karpelenia. Describes the properties of water and explains how water pressure affects objects.

Gerbil, by Carol Koopmans. Provides the information owners need to care for gerbils.

Green Machines: eco-friendly rides, by Lynn Peppas. Introduces young readers to different kinds of environmentally friendly vehicles.

Haiti, by Jim Bartell. Developed by literacy experts for students in grades three through seven, this book introduces young readers to the geography and culture of Haiti.

Hiking, by Julie Lundgren. Discover why so many enjoy hiking in the outdoors and the necessary equipment that you will need.

How is Soil Made? by Heather L. Montgomery. Introduces children to the concepts of organic and inorganic parts of soil, the nutrient cycles of plants, and decomposition.

Infections, Infestations, and Diseases, by Shirley Duke. Explores the spread of contagious diseases and infestations and ways to combat them.

Iraq: the culture, by April Fast. Presents a look at this rapidly changing country. Includes chapters on religion, ethnic groups, holidays, music, dance, architecture and literature.

Is There a Future for Fossil Fuels? by Ellen Rodger. Explains how we can reduce pollution caused by burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas through developing alternative energy sources.

Kitchen Chemistry, by Jon Eben Field. Teaches kids to use a kitchen as their very own chemistry lab.

Looking at Nigeria, by Jillian Powell. Studies the weather, climate, food, lifestyles, and housing of Nigeria.

Meet my Neighbor, the paramedic, by Marc Crabtree. Roberta Scott has a very exciting job. She is a paramedic, responding to emergencies and helping people when they get hurt.

Re-greening the environment: careers in cleanup, remediation, and restoration, by Suzy Gazlay. Covers the multitude of ways that people can join the fight to renew and restore the environment.

Picasso: a soul on fire, by Rick Jacobson. An introduction to the life and career of the Spanish-born artist who lived and worked in France.

Pilotless Planes, by Carla Mooney. Offers interesting facts about Predators and other drones. Explains how and why pilotless planes are used.

Pushes & Pulls: why do people migrate, by Robert Walker. Explains how and why people have moved around and settled our planet since the dawn of human history.

Sharpen your Report Writing Skills, by Jennifer Rozines Roy. Learn what goes into a report, the correct order for your information, and the final touches that make your report look amazing.

Spotlight on the Philippines, by Bobbie Kalman. Learn about the daily lives of people in the Philippines and the country's unique culture festivals and dances.

Stanley Cup, by Blaine Wiseman. Provides information about the Stanley Cup, one of the most-recognized symbols of hockey.

Tools for Learning for Kids, Book 2, by Phyllis A. Arnold. Shows you how to gather information on your research topic including suggestions to start your research.

What is Shape? by Tea Benduhn. Introduces young artists to the element of shape so they may learn how shapes of all kinds, including geometric shapes and the organic shapes found in nature, can be used in art.

Middle Years Fiction

- Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*, Book 6, by Jeff Kinney. Greg Heffley is in big trouble. School property has been damaged, and Greg is the prime suspect. But the crazy thing is, he's innocent. Or at least sort of.
- Gemini Summer*, by Iain Lawrence. In 1965, Danny's grief over the death of his older brother, Beau, is eased when a stray puppy adopts him, but he soon realizes that Beau is somehow in the dog, and sets out to make his brother's dream of seeing a rocket launch at Cape Kennedy come true.
- Inside Out and Back Again*, by Thanhha Lai. Inspired by the author's own childhood experience of fleeing Vietnam as a refugee and immigrating to Alabama, this tween novel told in verse is sure to capture young readers' hearts and open their eyes.
- Lady Friday*: Book 5 in the series *The Keys to the Kingdom*, by Garth Nix. Young Arthur Penhaligon must weigh an offer from Lady Friday that is either a cunning trap for the Rightful Heir or a golden opportunity that he must seize.
- Mockingjay*: Book 3 in the series *The Hunger Games*, by Suzanne Collins. Katniss Everdeen's having survived the Hunter games twice makes her a target of the Capitol and President Snow, as well as a hero to the rebels who will succeed only if Katniss is willing to put aside her personal feelings and serve as their pawn.
- The Pumpkin Elf Mystery*: book 11 in the series *Ready, Freddy!* by Abby Klein. Join Freddy Thresher and the rest of his first-grade class as they follow clues to find a mysterious elf that comes to their classroom at night and plays tricks on everyone.
- War Horse*, by Micjael Morpurgo. Joey, the horse, recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master.

DVD's

- Monsters in the Sukkah. Shalom Sesame*. Volume 11. Starring Anneliese van der Pol. Avigail and Brosh are rebuilding a Sukkah with help from their friends.
- The Sticky Shofar*. Volume 10 in the series *Shalom Sesame*. It's Rosh Hashanah, and Avigail discovers that honey is sweet and very, very sticky! Grover, Avigail and Brosh learn a valuable lesson in friendship and forgiveness just in time to start the New Year right!

Easy Readers

- Amelia Bedelia's First Apple Pie*, by Herman Parish. While visiting her grandparents, literal-minded Amelia Bedelia finally learns, despite some mishaps, how to bake an apple pie.
- The Book Report from the Black Lagoon*, by Mike Thaler. Hubie has to do a report on a full book. Not a comic book. Not a picture book. A real book with chapters! How is he ever going to get through all those pages of words? Good thing there is the perfect book for every occasion.
- Daddy's Roommate*, by Michael Willhoite. A young boy discusses his divorced father's new living situation, in which the father and his gay roommate share eating, doing chores, playing, loving, and living.
- Heather has Two Mommies*, by Leslea Newman. When Heather goes to playgroup, at first she feels bad because she has two mothers and no father, but then she learns that there are lots of different kinds of families.

The Only One Club, by Jane Naliboff. Encourages children to look beyond race or culture for special qualities in others. Jennifer, who celebrates Hanukkah, realizes that each of her friends is also "the only one" at something.

A Terrible Thing Happened, by Margaret M. Holmes. After Sherman sees something terrible happen, he becomes anxious and then angry, but when a counselor helps him talk about these emotions he feels better.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz: a commemorative pop-up, by L. Frank Baum; art by Robert Sabuda. A shorter version of *The Wizard of Oz* with artwork in the style of W. W. Denslow. Features sparkling touches of colored foil and green Emerald City eyeglasses.