



THE INSTITUTE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF HEBREW LITERATURE

New Books For Children from Israel

FALL 2019

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For a complete list of publications for each author, see our website: www.ithl.org.il

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Odeh Bisharat

Pic

Don't Steal My Turn

Ben Shemen, Keter, 2019. 45 pp.

Age: 6-8

"At last it was Hala's turn. She was about to tell the grocer what she needed, but then her nasty cousin Samir pushed to the head of the line and without even glancing at her asked for bread and orange juice."

Hala wants to help at home. She and her parents decide that she should begin to do grocery shopping. But at the store she finds that people keep stealing her turn. Hala is not going to keep quiet about this. How can she make the grownups listen to what she has to say?



Odeh Bisharat was born in 1958 to a family originally from Ma'alul, a village destroyed in 1948, and now lives in Yafiah, in the Galilee, with his wife and three children. He has been involved in political and social activity all his life, first as head of National Committee of Arab-Israeli High School Students, later as head of the Arab Students' Organization at Haifa University. Bisharat has been active in various Jewish-Arab movements, and worked as editor of the youth newspaper *Al-Jad*. In the early 2000s, he was secretary general of the political party Hadash (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality), and is now an op-ed columnist writing for the newspaper *Al-Atikhad*.

Bisharat has published four books: *The Streets of Zatunia* (Arabic, 2007, 2010; Hebrew, 2010; Finnish, 2015); *Donia* (Arabic 2015; Hebrew, 2019); *The Late Tamam Makeboul* (Arabic, 2018). *Don't Steal My Turn* is his first children's book.

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PHOTO © IHAB HOSARI

Shira Geffen

Pic

The Golden Thread

Or Yehuda, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir, 2019. 36 pp.

Age: 3-6

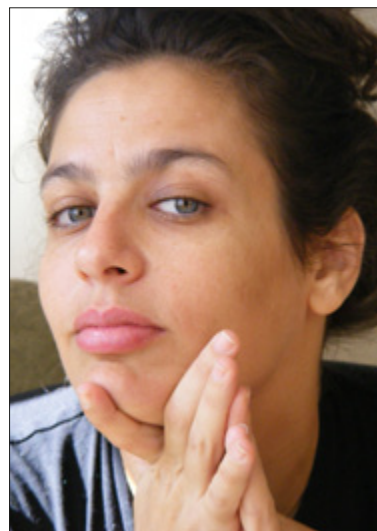
Maya jumped out of the rocking chair, went out of the house and started to run without noticing the spool of thread that was still in her hand. “Run fast so I won’t be late,” she told herself, a thought that blinded her to all the interesting sights she passed by. When at last she had no more breath and her feet felt like lead weights, Maya stopped running. She realized that she was now far away—from kindergarten, from Grandma’s house, from home.

With a delicate thread Shira Geffen, inspired by her own grandmother, has woven a gentle tale in rhyme of reality and dreams, of closeness and separation, of creation and memory.



Shira Geffen was born in Tel Aviv in 1971. A playwright, director, children’s author and actress, she studied at the Nissan Nativ Drama Studio and has performed at the Habima National Theater as well as at the Cameri and Khan Theaters. Geffen was awarded First Prize at the Haifa Children’s Theater Festival in 1998 and the Hadassah Prize in 2003. In 2007, Geffen and Etgar Keret won the Cannes Film Festival’s Camera d’Or Award for *Jellyfish*, for which she wrote the screenplay. The French Artists’ and Writers’ Guild also gave Geffen and Keret its Best Director Award (2007).

Her books, including one co-written with Etgar Keret, have been published in French (**Ed. De la Balle**), Spanish (**Fondo de Cultura, Lectra**), German (**Fischer**), Swedish (**Trasten/Tarnan**), Arabic (**Merkaz adab al-Atfal al-Arabi**), Polish (**WAB**) and English (**Green Bean Books**).



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Libby: What Happened to the Man with the Dog?

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz HaMeuchad, 2018. 110 pp.

Age: 8-10

Libby thinks that what goes on outside the window of her third grade class is way more interesting than the math class happening inside. One day she sees something upsetting through the window, and from then on the story unfolds.

This is a tale of a young girl with a big heart who does not like math. But when she is in the 'real' world, outside school, she searches for the truth and even manages to solve the mystery of the man-with-the-dog.

This book is the first in a series.

Hadas Leibovich was born in 1971 and lives in Tel Aviv. She holds a BA in Hebrew literature and an MA in child and youth culture studies from Tel Aviv University.

A former journalist, Leibovich wrote a popular column about parenthood in the 2000s in a weekly magazine. She is a children's book critic and also has developed a television series about work-life balance for an Israeli commercial TV channel.

Libby: What Happened to the Man with the Dog? was published in 2018 and immediately became a bestseller. It was chosen as a 'Best Early Readers Book, 2018' by the magazine *The Pinkas*.

Leibovich has written four books for children and a novel.



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