

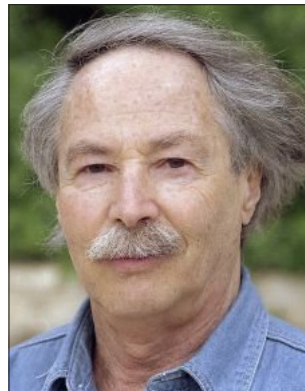
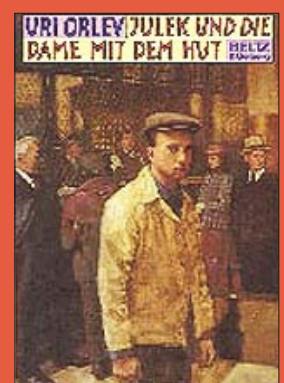
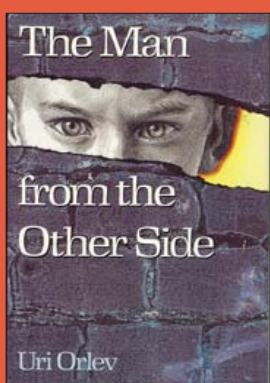


New Books for Children from Israel

Spring 2023



Cover illustration by Batia Kolton
From: Nurit Zarchi, *See You at the South Pole*
Kinneret/Zmora-Bitan/Dvir, 2005
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Uri Orlev 1929-2022

Uri Orlev was a leading, award-winning Israeli author who wrote books for children and youth. Many of his books deal with his experiences as a child during the Holocaust, or growing up in Israel. However, his dozens of books are not limited to this biographic line. In his work, Orlev mapped the complex and often overwhelming world of childhood, and accompanied generations of Israeli children as they embarked on the difficult task of allowing their eyes to gradually adapt to the darkness, as they gently tame the shapes that flicker in its depth. Orlev's legacy is a geography of imagination, in which every reader is invited to chart a unique, personal path.





New Books for Children from Israel

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Youth/Adult books



Middle Grade books



Picture books

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Orit Kuritsky

Illustrations: Rona Mor



Keter, 2019. 210 pp.

[AGE 8-10](#)

English translation sample available



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24 Magic Tricks and a Cake

Ola and Boaz want to save their city, which is being terrorized by two criminals. Fortunately, Boaz's uncle is a magician, and he introduces the two friends to a marvelous world of inventions. Somewhere between an adventure and rite of passage, Orit Kuritsky's protagonists experience an exhilarating period of growing up, during which they learn one of the most significant truths a person can grasp: magic exists. Young readers eagerly follow their progress as they are introduced to the wonders, and finish reading the story equipped with a whole new bag of tricks.

Author Etgar Keret: "*24 Magic Tricks and a Cake* is not only a book about magic, although it is teeming with it. With its clever and challenging structure, the enthralling tale is not just a mysterious detective adventure; it is also a coming-of-age story, that like any good magic trick transports the reader to a unique place of wonder."



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Hadas Leibovich

Illustrations: Danielle Peleg



Libby or: What Happened to the Man with the Dog?

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2018. 110 pp.

AGE 6-10

Full English translation available

MG



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Libby – Series of 4 books

Bestseller - 40,000 copies were sold in Hebrew and the book is being adapted into TV series

Libby thinks that what's happening outside the 3rd grade classroom window is much more interesting than the math lesson taking place inside. One day, she sees something disturbing through the window, and from there, things just get more complicated.

A story about a girl with a big heart, who doesn't like math. Yet in every book of the series she learns an important lesson, one that isn't taught at school. Libby strives to discover the truth, solves a mystery, and braves the adventures and challenges that lie in her path in an inspiring and thrilling way.

Libby or: What Happened on the Beach of Tel Aviv?

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2019.

88 pp.

AGE 6-10



Libby or: What Happened on the Worst Day of the Year?

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2021.

103 pp.

AGE 6-10



Libby or: What Happened at the Family Campsite?

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2022.

101 pp.

AGE 6-10



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Or Ben Atar



Tal-May, Yediot Sfarim, 2020. 136 pp.

[AGE 14+](#)



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Hail of Snakes

Michael has a hard time fitting in at school. He's in love with a girl who will never love him back and is trying to escape the future that society has destined for him. Every day is a struggle and every place he goes to becomes a battlefield. He writes to find refuge, but does not realize his talent with words. *Hail of Snakes* is a unique novel, inspired by the rhythm of hip-hop and the spoken word, dealing with the gap between our self-perception and society's expectations and teaching readers about the power of art to heal and deal with complexities magnified during adolescence. Or Ben Atar's unflinching gaze into the turmoil of growing up makes *Hail of Snakes* a stunning Bildungsroman—a small epic of self-initiation against a harsh background and a moving ode to the redemptive powers of words.



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Shira Geffen

Illustrations: David Polonsky



Am Oved, 2002. 24 pp.

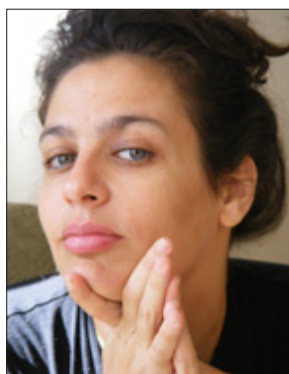
AGE 3-6

Full English Translation available



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English (**Green Bean Books**, UK); Spanish (**Leetra**, Mexico); Swedish (**Trasten**)



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The Heart-Shaped Leaf

Alona walks home through the garden at noon. The wind blows and a leaf falls from one of the trees. It lands on her head and stays there where ever she goes. Perhaps it was the leaf that kept her from getting wet when it started to rain? It is only when she reaches home that she discovers it was there all along. As she waits for the lentil soup, which her father prepared for lunch, to cool Alona sails between her thoughts. She stands at the window and blows the heart-shaped leaf, hoping it will find its place—leaving her with the lingering taste of life in its ever-expanding abundance.



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Shira Geffen and Etgar Keret *A Moonless Night*

Illustrations: David Polonsky

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This exquisitely illustrated book was on Israel's National Bestseller lists for 22 weeks.



Am Oved, 2006. 44 pp.

AGE 3-6

Full English translation available



FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD

German (**Fischer Verlag**); French (**De La Balle**); Spanish (**Fondo de Cultura**, Mexico), (**Fondo de Cultura**, Chile); Polish (**WAB**)

A Moonless Night was on Israel's National Bestseller lists for 22 weeks. It begins after Noga's bedtime story ends, her Dad kisses her to sleep and turns off the light. "You won't need this, tonight there is a full moon, he says. Noga is sad, she can't find the moon from her bedroom window. Without it, ships at sea lose their way, the jackals have nothing to howl at and she can't fall sleep. Throughout the night Noga goes on a quest to find the moon and learns the rhythm of its cycle—and the ever-changing quality of appearances.



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Nurit Zarchi

Illustrations: Batia Kolton



Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir, 2005. 37 pp.

AGE 4+

Full English Translation available

PB

FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD

French (**Actes Sud**); German (**Gerstenberg**);

Spanish (**Adriana Hidalgo**, Argentina)



PHOTO © DAN PORGES

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See You at the South Pole

An adventure story that begins with a surprise package and ends at the end of the world

Mr. Zoom receives a package. At first he isn't interested in finding out what was in it, since he is in a hurry to start yet another day of work at the office. But the package shakes in his hands when he holds it and makes strange and vague sounds he can't identify. So he decides to unwrap it and finds an egg. After three days, a baby penguin hatches and Mr. Zoom becomes "Daddy." The penguin wants to go to the South Pole. Mr. Zoom buys tickets and they fly together to the southern continent, starting a journey that will change Mr. Zoom forever.



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Nurit Zarchi

Illustrations: Odelia Lifshitz



Keter, 2009. 128 pp.

AGE 6+

English translation sample available

MG

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Tanina

Tanina is probably Nurit Zarchi's most beloved character. She is a witch, child or woman we don't know; like Lewis Carroll's Alice she grows and shrinks. There is magic all around her and everything she says comes true. Tanina leads her cat Bellybutton through incredible crises, brimming with wit and philosophical ideas, insisting on living life the way she sees fit. Tanina turns herself into a falling leaf, brings life to letters and numbers and drives her two little sisters, Gol and Yat, round the bend.



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Tamar Hochstadter

Illustrations: Tamar Hochstadter



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Cauliflora

Tamar Hochstadter's first children's book cleverly deals with the special connection that children have to their belongings and the deep meaning of their constant need to collect. *Cauliflora*, a clever and mischievous redheaded girl is awfully bored. Dreaming of saving money to buy herself a pony, a rubber snake, and a trampoline, she decides to sell something of hers on the sidewalk. After nostalgically rummaging through her belongings, Cauliflora at last finds something that isn't worth anything—an old duck that is falling to pieces. The ugly duckling does not become a beautiful swan, but she falls in love with her childhood toy all over again.

Matar, 2012. 36 pp.

AGE 4-8

Full English translation available



PHOTO © SNIR KATZIR



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Eshkol Nevo

Illustrations: David Hall



Kinneret Zmora-Bitan Dvir, 2022. 40 pp.

AGE 3-6

Full English Translation available



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Italian (Salani)



PHOTO © SNIR KATZIR

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Hold That Thought

Nimrod wanted to tell his mom something important, but when he came into the room she was on the phone.

“Can’t you see I’m in the middle of something?” she said. “Hold on to that thought for just a bit longer.”

How will Nimrod be able to hold his thoughts until his mom is free to listen? How will he manage to prevent them from running away? *Hold That Thought* is a wonderful tale of a boy who becomes friends with his own thoughts. He learns what they like to eat and discovers how long it takes them to change, while gradually getting to know himself better.



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Iris Argaman

Illustrations: Aviel Basil



Keter, 2021. 32 pp.

AGE 3-7

Full English translation available

PB



PHOTO © SNIR KATZIR

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Emilia and the Hat

Emilia heard a sudden sound and stepped outside to see from where it came. She opened the front door and saw a red hat peeking from behind the bush. Emilia did not know to whom it belonged to or what to do with it. Should she fill it up with fruit? Use it in the kitchen to cook? Hang it on the living room wall? As the story progresses Emilia begins to make hats, sew and color them herself and decides to renovate a store in which she sells them. The hats she makes are special, fitting her customers' secrets and dreams.



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Tamar Meir

Illustrations: Yael Albert



Keter, 2017. 32 pp.

AGE 5-8

Full English Translation available



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English (**Kar-Ben**, USA); Italian (**Galluci**);
Czech (**Prah**); Russian (**Knizhniki**)



PHOTO © SHAHAR TAMIR

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Francesco Tirelli's Ice Cream Shop

Francesco Tirelli's Ice Cream Shop is a memorable account of one person's humanity during the Holocaust, touching painful feelings, written in a way that is accessible for young readers. It tells the story of Peter, a Jewish boy who lives with his family in Budapest and Francesco Tirelli, an Italian who moved to Budapest and opened an ice cream shop. Peter regularly visited Francesco's shop, enjoying the taste, smell and colors of his ice cream. When the war began in Hungary and the Germans came, Peter and his family were in danger. Francesco, who has closed his shop, now uses it to hide them along with a few others. In the midst of the darkness, Peter finds a special way to celebrate Hanukkah, the festival of lights..





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