



# 2022 SPRING CATALOGUE



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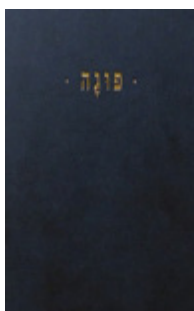
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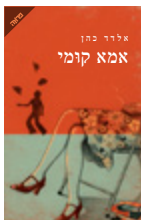
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## Lihi Lapid



A novel  
Keter, 2021. 300 pp.



PHOTO © JENIFFER BUKOVZA

## On Her Own

**BESTSELLER – 40,000 COPIES SOLD**

Nina, a young woman and an only child who lives with her mother in a remote village, flees during the night and hides in a stairway of an unfamiliar building. There she meets an old and demented widow that mistakes her for her granddaughter who she has not seen for many years. Nina does not correct the old lady and this mistake becomes a reality. She accepts her invitation and moves in with her, slowly taking on her granddaughter's identity. As the story unfolds readers learn that Nina witnessed a murder and is hiding to protect both her mother and herself. This fear underlines the connections and perspectives brought together in this book, evoking immense feelings of suspense used by Lapid as a means to discuss complex issues such as immigration, marginalization and detachment. As the plot advances these themes deepen, exposing readers to the alienation that lies at the core of the female experience, in youth and adulthood, as well as in the human condition as a whole. Lapid's surprising and enchanting book had a profound impact immediately upon its release and was named by critics as a spectacular portrait of contemporary Israeli society.

**Lihi Lapid** is a bestselling author, journalist, and a speaker with a finger on the pulse of contemporary women's issues. She has written a column for the *Yedioth Ahronoth* weekend edition for 15 years. She is the author of three bestselling novels: *Secrets from Within*; *Woman of Valor*; *I Can't Always Be wonderful*, and a bestselling book for children. Before becoming a writer, Lapid was a professional news photographer.

**“From its brutal, shocking opening and all the way to the last page, Lapid gives us a magnificent, virtuoso performance that uses brilliantly the delicate art of restraint.”** *Haaretz*

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## Eli Amir



Autobiographical novel  
Am Oved, 2019. 623 pp.

## *Bicycle Boy*

*The Bicycle Boy*, Eli Amir's new autobiographical novel, follows his earlier publications; *Scapegoat*, *The Dove Flyer* and *Jasmin*, novels that have established his status as one of Israel's most popular authors. In the opening of this book, which can be read as a story of self initiation, Nuri the main character leaves the kibbutz. His parents urge him to move to Jerusalem, finish school and fulfill his father's dream of greatness—perhaps against the bitter price he himself had to pay when he emigrated from Iraq to Israel. Nuri gradually finds his own path to liberation; undermining the economic, social and cultural powers positioning him in the margins of society, always striving beyond. *The Bicycle Boy* is a critical account of the emotional, existential and ethical price paid in order to gain social acceptance. Amir does not shy away from touching upon some of the most explosive questions on the agenda of both Israeli and Western society, as a society of immigrants in general, but he does so without, even for a moment, falling into the cohesive schemes of identity politics. Amir provides a tension filled portrait of Israel in the 1950s, described through Nuri's eyes. His magical wanderings through the alleys of Jerusalem in the early mornings distributing newspapers provide an unforgettable account of the city.



PHOTO © DAN PORGHES

**“Amir succeeds in delivering a wide scope of tastes, sounds, characters and persons... all the while remaining loyal to the complicated, painful truth.”** *Haaretz*

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## Miron C. Izakson



A novel  
Kinneret Zmora-Dvir, 2021. 255 pp.

## *Furthermore*

“He extends his arms as we approach the crane together and helps me climb, ‘Look up, just look at where we need to reach, don’t look down, don’t look at what we are leaving”.

Dodo is a sensitive and vulnerable boy who possesses surprising powers and a burning love for cranes. He is attached to his parents and mourns the deterioration of their relationship. He loves Daphne constantly wondering, almost philosophically, about the origins of his desire to embrace her. An extremely lucky and unplanned encounter with Eitan, an eccentric and visionary man, involves Dodo in a mysterious master plan to change the face of his city and society as a whole. Dodo, his sister and their parents are swept away into an adventure that transcends the boundaries of realism into the realm of imagination, fantasy and dream. *Furthermore* is an enigmatic and beautiful novella that explores the boundaries of sanity, family and loyalty, walking boldly on the verge of destruction and healing.

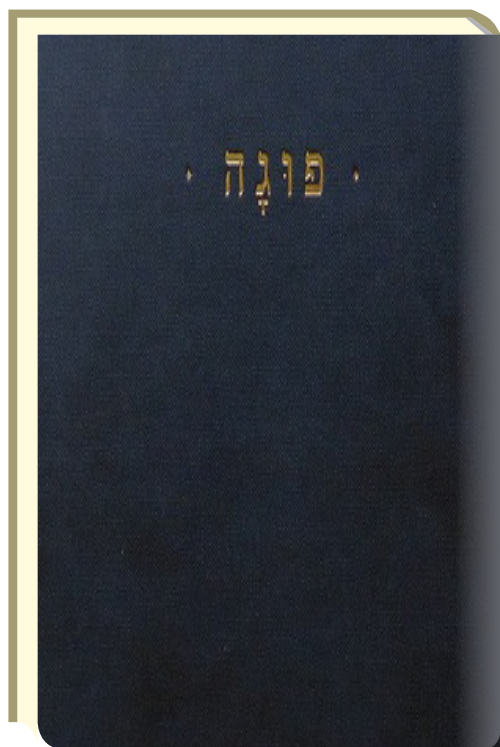
**Miron C. Izakson** was born in Israel in 1956. He is an author and poet. His first volume of poems, *Dawn of My Playing*, was published when he was 20 years old. Izakson has published 11 volumes of poetry and four novels. His poems frequently appear in literary magazines and his works have been included in anthologies in Hebrew and foreign languages.

“A heartfelt story of a disintegrating family, told by a master storyteller.” *Haaretz*



PHOTO © DINA GONA

## Adi Kaplan & Shahar Carmel



Graphic novel  
Lev Afor, 2021. 416 pp.

## *Fugue*

Sheila, a 19-year-old girl, travels to the divided and gloomy Berlin to study music. She plays in front of the admired Professor Pascal and he replies obscurely that she must “start from scratch.” On the whim of a moment she rents a cello and starts playing. At one point the story gives way to a novel by Thomas Tuck—perhaps Sheila’s future love—that takes place in 2023 in a divided and regulated Amsterdam. This story-within-a-story revolves around a barefooted man that rescues a woman from drowning, who suffers from what the doctors call a “Dissociative Fugue”. Three weeks earlier, during a routine morning run, her life story was completely erased. These different stories branch out and into each other manifesting a mesmerizing textual structure of a fugue. Represented through a variety of forms, they express the human urge to escape the tyranny of the biography and transcend the prison of the self. In “Fugue”, Adi Kaplan and Shahar Carmel succeeded in creating a unique, haunting combination between effective use of words and expressive paintings.



**Adi Kaplan & Shahar Carmel** are an artist-duo living and working in Tel Aviv. Graduates of ‘The Kalisher Academy of Painting’ in Tel Aviv (1992 - 1996), their projects include paintings, writings, and short films, sometimes combined into pictorial and musical performances, shows, and radio dramas. They have published 6 books, one of which, *The Diary of Lev Afor* was selected by the Swiss *Edition Patrick Frey* to be translated into English and published in Europe.

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## Sarit Yishai-Levi



A novel  
Modan, 2019. 470 pp.

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English (**Amazon Crossing**), German, (**Aufbau**)



PHOTO © MAYA BAUMEL

### *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem*

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD

Italian (**Sonzogno/RCS**), Turkish (**Koton**), German (**Aufbau**), English (**St. Martin's Press**, New York), Russian (**Knizhniki**), French, (**Charlston/Ledoc**)


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## *A Woman Beyond the Sea*

**BESTSELLER – 50,000 COPIES SOLD**

At the heart of the gripping novel *A Woman Beyond the Sea* there stand three women; a young woman whose husband leaves her in a cafe in Paris; a mother who disappears every day for long hours leaving her daughter wondering where she has gone and a mysterious woman who abandons her one-day-old baby on a snowy night at the entrance to a monastery in Jerusalem. Between the alleys of the Latin Quarter in Paris and Tel Aviv of the 1970s, between Mandatory Jerusalem and a picturesque town in England, three women search for their identities and trace their obscured past. Sarit Yishai-Levi, author of the best-selling book *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem*, weaves these stories in tones of love and hate, scarring heartbreak and a grasping hope.

*A Woman Beyond the Sea* tells the story of three generations of female power, whose heroines survive the lives they have been trapped in with much strength and pain.

**Sarit Yishai-Levi** was born in Jerusalem in 1947. Her first book, *The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem*, was published after a long and successful career in journalism. The book received critical acclaim and won prestigious prizes. It was also adapted into a TV series, which won the Israeli TV best drama series award.

**“A gripping tale about the impossibility—yet absolute necessity—of forgiveness. I swallowed its nearly 500 pages in three days”** *Otsar Milim*



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## Yishai Sarid



A novel

Am Oved, 2020. 195 pp.

Full English translation available

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English (**Restless Books**), German (**Kein & Aber**), Italian (**E/O**), Spanish (**Editorial Siglio**), Catalan (**Club Editor**), French (**Actes Sud**)


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## Victorious

A daring quest into the psyche of Israeli society by the author of *The Memory Monster* described as a “notable Book” by *the New York Times Book Review* in 2020. Abigail, a psychologist who has served in the military for many years and who developed an expertise in the workings of soldier:s minds in combat, has always seen herself as part of the fighting forces. She has never hesitated to join the troops, even during actual operations. Among her duties, Abigail provides therapy for soldiers suffering from the trauma of warfare and, contrary to the accepted rules, she forms close personal ties with her patients. When Abigail’s son Shauli, whom she has raised as a single mother, is drafted into the army and volunteers for the paratroops, her life’s mission, her professional beliefs, and her loyalty to the service, are put to a dramatic challenge. Confronted by the act of killing, she experiences impulses whose intensity she has never imagined.

**Yishai Sarid** was born in Tel Aviv in 1965.

He studied law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and received a graduate degree in public administration from Harvard University. Sarid has worked in the State Attorney’s office as prosecutor for criminal cases; he now works as an attorney in the private sector. He also contributes articles to the Hebrew press.

“Victorious is a bitter novel with a radical main character, and that is what makes it so fascinating... it questions the price a country is willing to pay for freedom and security.”

*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*

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## Agur Schiff



A novel

Achuzat Bayit, forthcoming

English translation available

**FOREIGN RIGHTS SOLD**

English (**New Vessel Press**)

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## *Professor Schiff's Guilt*

“Yes, it’s true. My great-great grandfather’s grandfather was a slave trader,” Professor Schiff confesses at the beginning of his trial. He is appearing before a special tribunal set up to apply the law for the prosecution of slave traders, their abettors, heirs and those who enjoy their profits. A world-precedent setting legislation was enacted in an unnamed African republic shortly before the professor arrived there from Israel. Now, he is the first and only prisoner to be prosecuted under the new law.

Imprisoned in a villa surrounded by a tropical garden, the irresolute professor is forced to contemplate not only the primal guilt of his forefather, but also his own, 21st century guilt. *Professor Schiff's Guilt* is a daring and brilliant book that breaks through the familiar boundaries of Israeli literature.

**Agur Schiff** was born in Tel Aviv in 1955. He studied at St. Martin’s School of Art in London and at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam. Schiff is a professor of dramatic writing and cinematic thinking at the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAND

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## Sami Berdugo



A novel  
Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2019. 264 pp.

French translation sample available

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## Donkey

Ruslan Isakov, an immigrant from Azerbaijan in his fifties, hides a donkey in his ramshackle backyard. Five months ago, while wandering around in his village, Ruslan bumped into a few police officers who asked him to hold on to their donkey for them, saying someone would come to pick it up. But no one came and the donkey has lived with him ever since. In parallel to this, Berdugo daringly describes the sexual encounters between Ruslan and his only friend, an American named Steve, pioneering new grounds in Hebrew literature. This book tells the tale of eight days during June, lived by Ruslan, filled with care and heart-melting beauty.

*Donkey* is a remarkable achievement in Hebrew literature. Berdugo has invented a language of subversive prose that broadens our perceptions and rattles our conventional forms of speech.

**Sami Berdugo** was born in 1970. He studied comparative literature and history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He teaches creative writing at Tel Aviv University and the Bezalel Academy of Art and Design.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

**“A great book, in its glorious language, in its two plot lines that together spin a super-Israeli story, and in the enigma that lies between them.”**

*Haaretz*

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## Ofir Touché Gafla



A novel  
Keter, 2016.368 pp.

Full English translation available  
Detailed English synopsis available



PHOTO © YANAL YEHIEL

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## *The Guests*

It happened five years ago.

All over the world people began waking up in the morning to find a box of shoes on their doorstep. Each person got a different pair of shoes and no one could resist the temptation to try them on for they were exactly what they all desired.

And then it began.

The Metamorphosis. Like no other.

*The Guests*, Ofir Touché Gafla's sixth novel, is a suspenseful and poetic novel which explores human interactions in the wake of a devastating disaster. A mix of genres, it describes a world different to ours and yet, quite similar, confronting wide themes such as identity, memory, loss and love.

**Ofir Touché Gafla** was born in 1968 in Israel. His work has been awarded prizes and translated into several languages. Touché Gafla is a creative writing lecturer at Sam Spiegel School of Film & TV in Jerusalem. He is a bibliophile, an ailurophile, and a melomaniac.

*“Ofir Touché Gafla’s magic realism makes his novel a riveting, enjoyable and thought-provoking work, which succeeds in posing questions about ‘I’ and ‘The Other’, memory and writing, past and future.” Haaretz*

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## Roy Chen



A novel

Keter, 2020, 325 pp.

Partial English translation available  
Full Italian translation available

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Italian (**Giuntina**), Russian (**Phantom**)


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## *Souls*

Grisha is a 40-year-old chain-smoker who lives with his mother in Israel. He doesn't look too good and doesn't smell great either. Even though this is how he is now, in former times he was a loveable little Polish boy, an impressive Venetian teenager and a gorgeous Moroccan woman. Grisha's delicate soul has been transmigrating for four centuries from one body to another in the search for one other soul that will understand him.

Masterfully written and based on years of research, Roy Chen's novel takes us on a journey that begins in the 17th century and passes through Poland, Italy, Morocco, Germany and Russia, ending in Israel today. *Souls* was shortlisted for the 2020 Sapir Prize and nominated for the 2021 Geffen Prize.

**Roy Chen**, writer, playwright and translator, was born in Tel Aviv in 1980. His father's forefathers settled in the Land of Israel after the Jews were expelled from Spain in 1492, and his mother's family immigrated from Morocco in the late 1940s. An autodidact, Chen taught himself English, Russian, French, and Italian. He has translated into Hebrew classical works of Russian literature as well as over 40 plays from English, Russian and French.

**"Why the hell didn't I think of this story? Perhaps I will in my next incarnation."**

*Author Meir Shalev*

**"Overflowing with literary tricks and kaleidoscopic games that present a different picture and new characters at every twist."**

*Makor Rishon*

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## Emilie Moatti



A novel

Tchelet, 2018. 244 pp

English translation sample in progress  
Film adaptation in progress


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## *Bruises*

A young woman travels to Paris to escape her life on the margins of Israeli society. All Iris desires is to start her life anew, using a new language, in a place where no one knows her. With a good job and a rented apartment, her dream seems to have a chance of coming true. But just as she begins to believe she has achieved her goal, fate seems to have a different plan in store. Her life's tale walks through a tortuous path culminating in catastrophe and is described through powerful memories told from behind a prison wall. Moatti skillfully paints a portrait of a remarkable heroine who has rejected the rules of society even at the price of her freedom.

**Emilie Moatti** is a politician and novelist. She was born in 1980 and grew up in Netanya in a religious family of Tunisian Jewish descent. The oldest of six siblings, she dropped out of high school to go to work. Moatti was extensively involved in two left-wing peace projects: the Geneva Initiative and the Israel Regional Initiative. Since 2014, she has been a member of the board of WePower, a feminist NGO whose goal is to integrate women into the municipal and national political spectrum.

*“Bruises bestows a voice upon a voiceless character without reverberating with a sense of triumph or being intoxicated by itself. It has an open-eyed, even audacious intensity... It leaves its mark on you.” Haaretz*

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## Eldad Cohen



A novel

Yedioth Ahronoth, 2019. 327 pp.

Full English translation available

Detailed French synopsis available



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## Wake Up Mom

Yuda, a 12-year-old boy, lives with his mother in a small apartment overlooking the Machaneh Yehuda market in Jerusalem. He has always thought that his father was dead. “So now think for half an hour that he is alive”, his mother tells him one morning. At once, Yuda sets out on an absurd journey, full of trials and tribulations, to find his father. A succession of unlikely characters appear, among them: Yuda’s good friend Captain Avot, who suffers from PTSD; another friend, Ronit, who has to eat before she can get ideas; his mother, both the prettiest woman in the market and a math teacher who worships Julio Iglesias; and even Yuda himself, curious and naïve, funny and touching. This is an enchanting tale about the inner world of a boy, set in Jerusalem and Israel of the early 1980s. Through poetic, distinctive language, Yuda opens his heart to us to reveal a sensitive and humorous view of the world in which he lives.

**Eldad Cohen** was born and grew up in Jerusalem. He has an MA in clinical psychology from Tel Aviv University. He lives and works as a psychologist in Tel Aviv. His military service as a combat soldier (1983-86), deeply affected him and found its way into some of his short stories.

“An Israeli novel infused with nostalgia for the Jerusalem of the 1980s.” *Makor Rishon*

“A book with smells and sounds... heart wrenching and funny.” *Otzar Milim blog*

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## Nurith Gertz



Biographical novel  
Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir, 2020.  
224 pp.

Full English translation available

[CLICK HERE](#)

## *What Was Lost to Time*

*What Was Lost to Time* is a biographical novel about two friends, Nurith Gertz and Amos Oz, who talk about what the passing of time has taken away from them: life itself, family, love, places, loyalty and even betrayal, while discussing art and death and the possible connections between them. The conversation carries on for decades: through times of war and of peace; at family gatherings in Kibbutz Hulda; during work meetings; in letters that cross oceans; and in the many phone conversations the two held when Oz was on his deathbed. Oz left an intriguing literary legacy in Nurith Gertz's hands represented in this book, traditionally written in a biographical-documentary style personally and originally created by Gertz in her books *Not From Here* (1997); *Unrepentant* (2008), and *An Ocean Between Us* (2015), earning critical acclaims from reviewers and tens of thousands of devoted readers.

**Nurith Gertz** is Professor Emerita of Hebrew literature and film at the Open University of Israel. She has also taught at Tel Aviv University, UC Berkeley, Brandeis University and University of Paris-VIII.



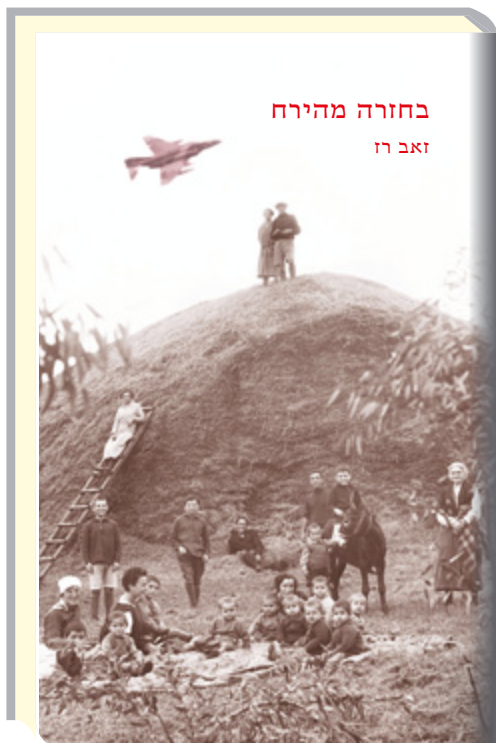
PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

**“Through her superb prose Nurith Gertz illuminates the genre of biography in a new and complex light.” *Haaretz***



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## Ze'ev Raz



Short stories

Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2020. 238 pp.

English translation sample in progress

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## *Back from the Moon*

This book tells a tale of childhood taking place in the Valley of Jezreel in a kibbutz that was still as a kibbutz once was; it is filled with memories of a founding Zionist family described through pictures from the grandparents' and parents' homes, where a terrible sense of loss permeated, crowded with the spirits of dead relatives and friends who were always there just beneath the surface. It is a story of a dual way of life lived by a combat pilot in an air force squadron; the military on one hand and civilian life on the other. It is filled with memories woven together encompassing historic events such as the day Neil Armstrong returned from the moon or the bomb raid that destroyed Iraq's nuclear reactor, and much, much more. In his first book, Ze'ev Raz combines the plots of his narratives using surprising transitions between time and place, reality and imagination, moving freely between reportage writing and pure poetry.

**Ze'ev Raz** was born in 1947, in Kibbutz Geva, a grandson to two of the founders of the settlement. He was a combat pilot in the Israeli air force, a squadron leader, and head of the force's flight school.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

*“Back from the Moon is not just another pilot's memoir. It's a wonderful and wonderful book; an enthralling mixture of truth and fiction; solid fact commingled with flights of the imagination.”*  
*Israel Hayom*

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## Shira Carmi



A novel

Achuzat Bayit, 2021. 216 pp.

English translation sample available

[CLICK HERE](#)

## *Diana and David*

Diana is a 43-year-old real estate agent from upscale North Tel Aviv, living a bourgeois life with David, her psychologist older husband, and their teenaged son. One evening, David's phone rings as they are eating dinner. He quickly gets up and answers the phone moving away from Diana's earshot. She begins to suspect David. Although he is a good and considerate husband he might be having an affair. Under a compulsion to find out if her suspicion is unfounded paranoia or a valid truth, Diana launches into a reckless search for the truth.

*David and Diana* tells an enjoyable, multi-layered and mischievous story that plunges deep into an ostensibly normal marriage. It describes the nooks and crannies of the soul of a woman who is trying to free herself of the shackles that she has locked herself into.

**Shira Carmi** was born in Ra'anana in 1976, and grew up in the rural community Olesh and in Tel Aviv. She is a graduate of the film and television department of Tel Aviv University.



PHOTO © DAN MILLER

**“A riveting book, sensual, and as tricky as a hall of mirrors. I gulped it all down in one morning, and the questions it aroused echoed long after I finished it.”** *Author Eshkol Nevo*

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## Carmit Sahar



A novel

Keter, 2020. 423 pp.

English translation sample in progress



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## Set Theory

This book, written over more than a decade, describes the story of Alex, a teenager growing up rather slowly. He is the second child of the Hoffman London family and a constant source of disappointment to his parents. His brother Mark is a brilliant mathematician; his older sister and younger brother are gifted pianists who travel the world to perform. Alex, however, mostly gets into trouble. To his parents' relief, each summer Alex and Mark are sent to Israel for a long vacation with their aunt. While in Israel, Alex meets Arkady and they become soulmates while fighting each other with a desperate violence that continues throughout their adolescence. *Set Theory* is a coming-of-age novel that follows Alex's wondrous and painful path to adulthood. With great sensitivity Sahar portrays a life of a boy, a late bloomer with a huge tempestuous soul, bursting through every hurdle he encounters determined to achieve two often incompatible goals: to be loved and to be true to himself.

**Carmit Sahar** was born in Rishon LeZion in 1967. During her childhood, she lived in several different countries where her father worked. Today she lives in Tel Aviv with her husband and their four children. She has acquired a large number of patents in technological fields and for several years has taught at the Holon Institute of Technology. In addition, she serves as a consultant for the European Union's Horizon 2020 program for research and innovation.

*“Carmit Sahar creates a layered and glittering literary world centering around the violent and passion-saturated story of the coming of age of two teenagers. In this book she has revealed herself to be a mature, charismatic and daring author.”* *Haaretz*

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## Odeh Bisharat



A novel

Am Oved, 2019. 297 pp.

English translation sample available

German translation sample available

Full Arabic version available

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## Donia

In a small Arab town in northern Israel a dreamy young woman disappears one day. Her name is Donia which in Arabic means “world.” Donia’s disappearance shocks the town and locals begin searching for her, though their efforts are fruitless leaving them to only discover a new civil volunteering spirit. This book unfolds readers into a life mosaic of three generations of Arab families living in Israel: Their dreams and aspirations, their search for love, freedom, a decent possibility of living in the shadow of the national destruction of the 1948 war. Bisharat writes the stories of the people who lost everything and now are left to imagine their fragments into existence in order to live.

**Odeh Bisharat** was born in 1958 to a displaced family originally from Ma’alul, an Arab village destroyed in Israel’s 1948-49 War of Independence. He lives in Yafiah, in the Galilee, with his wife and three children.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

“In his book, Bisharat lays bare the depths of the soul of the Palestinian person, with its feelings, hopes and aspirations.” *Al-Hiwar Al-Mutamaddin*

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## Amir Ziv



A novel

Am Oved, 2019. 254 pp.

English translation sample available

[CLICK HERE](#)

## Oxygen

A teenage boy and girl shut themselves into a parked ambulance and no-one knows they are there. What happens between them before their shift as first responder assistants will determine the fate of their families. An hour before it began, the boy's grandfather, an extremely wealthy and power-hungry industrialist, celebrated his 70th birthday with an extravagant party. But then everything went wrong.

In an unusual plot structure, which tells the tale from the end to the beginning, *Oxygen* describes 72 dramatic hours in the life of an influential family, culminating in a crash that no one anticipated. It is only in the final chapter that we grasp the entire chain of events in its devastating force.

Journalist and writer **Amir Ziv** was born in 1968 in Israel. He holds a law degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After working briefly as a lawyer, he changed direction and begun a new career in journalism. Since 2007 he is deputy-editor-in-chief of *Calcalist*, Israel's leading business and financial daily.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

“Riveting, interesting and pacey. Amir Ziv raises important and challenging ideas disguised in a narrative form.” *Kan 11*

“This new novel opens with breath-taking momentum and enchantment... There are few writers who know how to depict the agonies and the pleasures of untamed adolescence with such overwhelming strength and energy.” *Haaretz*

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## Esty G. Hayim



Three novellas  
Achuzat Bayit, 2020. 280 pp.

English translation sample available  
Italian translation sample available

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## *Plastered Walls*

The characters in all three stories of *Plastered Walls* struggle to live the lives they deserve in the face of an arbitrary fate and a world without compassion. In *Hidden Memory* a young woman is trying to free herself of the devastating aftereffects of trauma. In *Happy Birthday*, a woman who finds it hard to come to terms with her ageing celebrates her 69th birthday in a surprising way; and in *Plastered Walls*, an elderly man desperately seeks the love of a female relative, settling for only a few crumbs of her attention.

These stories express a linguistic and psychological peak reached by Esty G. Hayim, who touches upon the finest and most exposed veins of her characters. *Plastered Walls* is a thought-provoking collection of three novellas offering an unusual view of the lives of refugees, of aging and belonging.

Born in Jaffa in 1963, to Holocaust-survivor parents, **Esty G. Hayim** grew up in Haifa. After completing her military service, she studied dance and theatre at Tel Aviv University. She performed on stage at several Israeli theatres.



PHOTO © IDO BERLAD

**“The impactful novellas by Esty G. Hayim deal with various aspects of womanhood. Even when they are victims, the heroines take responsibility for their lives and are triumphant.”** *Maariv*

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## Alice Bialsky



A novel  
Afik, 2014. 344 pp.

English translation sample available  
Detailed English synopsis available  
German translation sample available  
Full Russian translation available with  
foreword by Lyudmila Ulitskaya

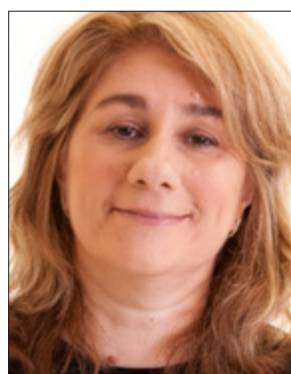


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## *The Crown Not Heavy*

Alisa, an 18-year-old young Jewish girl from Moscow wants two things more than anything else: to be a music journalist and to once and for all lose her virginity and become a woman. She drops out of university against her parents' wishes, wears extravagant clothes and a wild hairstyle, growing great aspirations inside her and displaying captivating innocence. In the looming era of the Soviet Union break-up, Alisa finds herself involved with Moscow's fringe art and punk scene, surrounded by members of anarchist and other anti-establishment circles. Blazing her path through crazy times Alisa struggles to find her voice while growing into adulthood.

**Alice Bialsky** was born in Moscow to Jewish dissident parents in 1968, the year that Soviet tanks crushed the Prague Spring. She immigrated to Israel in 1990 and studied cinema and television at Tel Aviv University. She has directed several documentaries that have been aired in Israel and abroad.

*“Alice Bialsky, an Israeli author writing in Russian, has created a minor masterpiece, something between a crazy Satyricon in the last Pompeii-like days of the Soviet Union and a punk version of Alice in Wonderland.” Prof. Dan Miron*

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## Eran Horowitz



A novel in three stories  
Pardes, 2019. 193 pp.

English translation sample in progress  
German translation sample available



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## Lior Rubin

*Lior Rubin* describes in an ingenious narrative structure three stages in the life of a millennial from Israel. In the first novella, which has the same title as the book, Lior Rubin is drafted into the military, taking part in a program that allows him to complete his university studies before beginning active service. He leaves his parents' home in Tel Aviv and rents a seedy apartment in Haifa, where he studies. The intimate account of his relationship with his mother, father and grandfather paints a textured family portrait and captures the zeitgeist of a searching generation. The second novella, *Exit*, tells the story of Lior Rubin's military service and his eventual discharge for mental health reasons. The third novella, *The Small Political Poem*, is about a hip 30-year-old Tel Aviv teacher desperately trying to maneuver between creativity and lust. The narratives intertwine to reveal the intricate personality of a contemporary young man who gradually realizes that fate has dealt him a handful of pain.

**Eran Horowitz** was born in Israel in 1994. He is an author, a translator from German and French into Hebrew, and a film director. He is writing a doctoral thesis in comparative literature and among other occupations is a guest researcher at the Sorbonne.

“Eran Horowitz, aged 25, has created a world with a beat and a momentum, in almost musical prose, like the symphonies that the hero likes listening to.” *Time Out, Tel Aviv*





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## Shay K. Azoulay



A novel  
Pardes, 2019. 233 pp.

Full English version available

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## Lazaretto

“Citizens of Tel Aviv, there is no cause for alarm, we are aware of the situation and making the utmost effort to resolve it as quickly as possible. Soldiers have been positioned around the city for your protection. Do not attempt to leave the city.”

It's a stormy winter night in Tel Aviv, the highway is flooded and all of the bridges leading into the city collapse. Within 24 hours a barrier wall is erected along Tel Aviv's southern border and the heart of the city is cut off from the rest of Israel. Residents thrust into a state of radical uncertainty forcing them out of their typical nonchalant attitude into the understanding they must take matters into their own hands.

**Shay K. Azoulay** was born in Tel Aviv in 1979 and grew up in Israel and the USA. Following his military service in the IDF, he studied English literature and communications at Tel Aviv University, and received a MA in creative writing from the City College of New York.



PHOTO © DAN PORGHES

“An ambitious, high-tension novel seeped in paranoia. *Lazaretto* is a disturbing and stirring dystopia which haunted me while I was reading it and even after I'd finished.” *Haaretz*

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## Yehonatan Herbelin



A novel

Kinneret Zmora-Dvir, 2020. 272 pp.

English translation sample available



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## *I Was There*

### Based Upon Real Events

On the not very comfortable sofa of his mandated psychiatrist's office, Yaar, a 21-year-old former soldier in an IDF's special unit, returns to horrific moments he experienced as a soldier at war. Through his almost naïve eyes, Yaar reveals the birth of his trauma, its hurtful effects and surprising generative powers.

Divided into three parallel timelines, the book takes readers back and forth between Yaar's therapeutic sessions, memories of his military service (the training, the arrests of Palestinian civilians in their homes, urban warfare), and his big cycling journey through South America, where he deals with his fears, guilt, pain and forced loneliness.

Moving back and forth in time readers follow traces of pain and fear. *I Was There* is a truthful and evocative novel about the struggle to come to terms with trauma, guilt and grief.

**Yehonatan Herbelin** was born in Israel in 1993. He is a student of literature and history at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he currently resides. An educator by profession, he makes a living by teaching high-school history, and he intends to work in the world of education in the future, as well as to continue to write and develop his literary career.

“The book will be familiar to those who ‘were there’ and, at the same time, introduce readers who were not, to the world of a posttraumatic victim as a whole human being, one whose life did not begin with the ‘incident’ and does not end in some kind of therapy.” *Makor Rishon*

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