New Books for Children from Israel Spring 2018

THE INSTITUTE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF HEBREW LITERATURE





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Nava Semel (1954-2017) was born in Tel Aviv and had an MA in art history. She worked as a journalist, art critic, and TV, radio and recording producer. Semel published novels, short stories, poetry, plays, children's books and TV scripts.

Many of her stories have been adapted for radio, film, TV and the stage in Israel, Europe and the USA. Her novel, *And the Rat Laughed*, has been made into an opera. It will also be a feature film, directed by David Fisher. Semel was on the board of governors of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum.

Among Semel's many literary prizes: the Women Writers of the Mediterranean Award (1994), the Austrian Best Radio Drama Award (1996), the Rosenblum Prize for Stage Arts (2005), and Tel Aviv's Literary Woman of the Year (2007). Her y/a book, *Love for Beginners*, received the One of the Best Seven Prize awarded by Radio Germany (2010) as well as the Educators and Scientists Association Award (Germany, 2010). Rights to Semel's books have been sold abroad in 11 languages.

CLICK HERE FOR A COMPLETE LISTING ON THE ITHL WEBSITE.

Nava Semel

Our Candlesticks

Tel Aviv, Yedioth Ahronoth, 2018. 32 pp. AGE: 7-10

or little Sheindel, the world was full of beauty. She loved picking flowers, skating on the frozen river in winter and gazing at the clouds changing their shapes in the sky. Sheindel and her family lived in a little village, a Jewish *shtetl*, in Europe. For hours on end she would watch her father the blacksmith at work, as he made different tools out of molten metal. One day he made a pair of candlesticks that came out all crooked. He wanted to scrap them, but Sheindel stopped him and said that she thought they were lovely. She lit candles in them every Sabbath eve, and never parted from them, even when she grew up, got married and had a daughter named Rochele. The candles in the crooked candlesticks lit up the little cradle and Sheindel hoped that her daughter would also learn to like things with flaws. Then there came days of darkness and evil. The Jews were driven away and herded together into a ghetto. There were no candles to light, but Sheindel and Rochele kept on blessing the light although darkness covered the earth.

Nava Semel's story is one of memory and continuity and the need to seek out beauty in a world where there is so much ugliness. Sheindel's great-granddaughter, Nava, didn't know her, but the candlesticks survived and when Nava lit them and prayed that the darkness won't return, she imagined the little girl in the *shtetl* waving at her.

Illustrations: Gilad Seliktar

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



PHOTO © NIZAN LOTEN



Tami Shem-Tov was born in Kiryat Ono, Israel, in 1969, and lives in Tel Aviv. After working as a journalist for a number of years, she now teaches creative writing at the University of Haifa and holds meetings with children. Shem-Tov has written several books for children and youth and a children's play. Her first book, Just for Milli, was awarded the Ze'ev Prize (1999); her second, Matti's Orange Revolution, has been adapted for the stage. Letters from Nowhere received the Yad Vashem Prize (2007), the Ze'ev Prize (2008) and the German Children's Literature Award (2010). She also received the Prime Minister's Prize (2011). Shem-Tov's latest book for youth, I'm not a Thief, was awarded the DafDaf Prize (2012), the Lea Goldberg Prize (2013), an Andersen Honor Citation (2014) the Public Libraries Award (2014) and the Bialik Prize (2014). Her books have been translated into eight languages.

CLICK HERE FOR A COMPLETE LISTING ON THE ITHL WEBSITE.

Tami Shem-Tov

Grandpa Sabich

Or Yehuda, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2017. 40 pp. AGE: 4-7

randpa, why did your parents named you after a dish?" twins Keren and Or ask their Grandpa Sabich. Join them on a journey that begins in Iraq and ends in a small kiosk in Ramat Gan, and you will discover the answer as well.

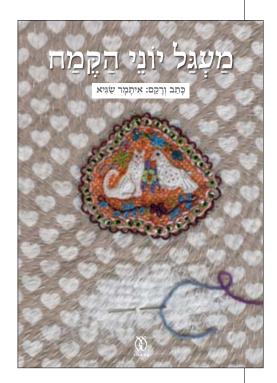
Sabich is a sandwich made from fried eggplants, hard-boiled egg and tabini. This story goes back to the roots of this dish where we discover that the word sabich comes from the name of the man who brought the Iraqi dish to Israel and sold it from his kiosk. At first, customers used to say, "Sabich, give me a plate", but soon it changed to "give me a plate of sabich", and so the name of the man became the name of the dish. The book tells this personal, but also very public story, and shows how food becomes intertwined in our lives through characters, immigration, chance and appetite.

Tami Shem-Tov, whose children and youth books have won numerous prizes and have been translated into several languages, dedicated this book to her father, Sabich. Her story, about a family, interweaves the colorful texture of Israeli society. Through it, the readers learn about the *Aliya* and the absorption of immigrants in the early days of the State of Israel.

Illustrations: Shimrit Elkanati



PHOTO © EMILIE QUZEN



Itamar Sagi was born in Israel in 1966, second of five brothers, son of an artist and a farmer, second generation after the Holocaust. He studied textile design at Shenkar College of Engineering and Design. As a textile artist, Sagi has developed a new embroidery language. His work is exhibited in galleries and museums. *The Flour Dove Circle* is his first book.

Itamar Sagi

The Flour Dove Circle

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2018. 32 pp. AGE: 6-10

his unusual rhyming tale is written and illustrated by textile artist Itamar Sagi.

One day, as the narrator works at his embroidery with his cat keeping him company, a dove enters silently through the window. The hovering, white, bride-like creature is too big a temptation for the cat, whose primeval instincts are awakened. Thinking himself a tiger, he leaps up to try and catch the dove. The orderly room quickly becomes a scene of chaos and drama. The narrator eventually steps in to save the bird and restore order, leaving a cross cat, spilt coffee, a shattered cup and some scattered fur and feathers.

Sagi's exquisite embroidery, combining arts and crafts, traditional and contemporary art, illustrates a seemingly simple story. The book opens with descriptions of the flour mill outside and of the narrator's atelier, which is crammed with his carefully arranged materials. Each detail is meticulously sewn into colorful, embroidered illustrations that will fascinate and delight young and old alike.



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Uri Levron is an advertising executive, author and screenwriter. Writing has always been an essential part of his life and work. Today, he divides his time between writing and serving as a strategic consultant for some of Israel's biggest advertisers, including Google Israel, as well as for political campaigns in Israel and abroad.

Two novels by Levron have been published by Keter – *Half Proof*, which became a bestseller and was critically acclaimed, and *The Wrong Child*, which became a best seller immediately after it appeared – as well as three children's books – *The King who Forgot bow to Smile*, *Clementine at the Sky's End*, *Why Cats Aren't Nice*. In addition, Levron was the creator and scriptwriter for the Hebrew TV series *Hamidrasha*, an English-language version of which, entitled *Mossad 101*, was sold to Netflix and the Turner Latin America network.

Uri Levron

Why Aren't Cats Nice?

Jerusalem, Keter, 2017, 32 pp. AGE: 4-7

o why aren't cats nice?

Maybe because someone wasn't nice to them? Maybe someone didn't feed them on time? Or left them outside?

In this captivating story, Uri Levron and Michal Shalev try to solve the long-standing riddle of why cats are not nice to us, and why, despite their uncaring behavior, we still love them so much. Who knows, maybe they are nice really, but in their own way?

With the help of charming and amusing illustrations, the book touches on some important questions, not just about cats but also about coping with someone who is different. Someone who sees the world in another way, who we may never understand. With empathy, curiousity and courage, Levron delves into the heart of this difference, and discovers true love and friendship. The book examines the meaning of the word "nice," and shows how it is not always obvious, and how one can love someone, even if he is not nice in the usual sense that a child knows.

Illustrations: Michal Shalev

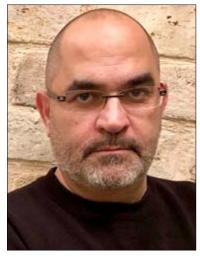


PHOTO © URI LEVRON

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Edna Mazya was born in Tel Aviv in 1949. A playwright and author, she studied theater and philosophy, and received her MA from Tel Aviv University where she later taught dramatic writing. Several of Mazya's plays have been performed abroad. She has also published two successful novels and four children's books. Mazya was awarded the Margalit Prize twice, for her plays Family Story and The Rebels (1997; 1999). For The Rebels, she also received the Lea Goldberg Prize (1997) and was nominated Playwright of the Year (1998). A film based on a script of hers received the Israel Academy's Best TV Film Award for the year 2003

Mazya's novels have been translated into four languages.

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Edna Mazya

Again, Granny, Again!

Tel Aviv, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2010; board book: 2016.

AGE: 3-6

ry is visiting his granny in Tel Aviv for a day of fun. In the morning they go to a playground, and Ory tries to persuade granny to climb to the top of the slide and to slide down with him. Granny gets over her fears, holds tight onto Ory, shuts her eyes and the two slide down to the bottom. "Again, Granny," says Ory, with his magic smile, and granny does it. Before lunch, they take a stroll along an avenue. Ory rides on his push car and granny runs along with him. "Again, Granny," says Ory when he reaches the end of the path. "No, no," puffs granny, but once again Ory smiles that magic smile, and adds a hug to it. How could she say no to such a cute grandchild? In the evening, granny gallops on all fours around the living room, neighing like a horse, with Ory riding on her back like a cowboy. And again, the boy does his magic and persuades granny to do what he wants, and again she gallops around. But, it looks like it's not only Ory who's enjoying himself, but granny is too. "Granny, I love you," Ory whispers his magic words, as the two sit by the Tel Aviv seaside and watch the sunset.

In her first children's book, Edna Mazya lovingly and amusingly describes the balance of power between little ones and grown-ups, and the magic webs that grandchildren spin around their grandparents.

Illustrations: Orna Smorgonsky

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



PHOTO © VARDI KAHANA

Shula Modan

BESTSELLER



Shula Modan was born in 1944 in Tel Aviv. She studied Hebrew literature, French culture and social work at Tel Aviv University, and then trained as a psychotherapist. She works as a psychotherapist and is also an editor for Modan Publishing House. Shula Modan has published many books for children, cookbooks and a novel. Her cookbook, *Bishula*, and her children's book, *Where, Oh Where Is Miss Pinky?* are national bestsellers.

Modan's books have been published in English, Portuguese and Korean

Where, Oh Where Is Miss Pinky?

Tel Aviv, Modan, 2001; 2002. 20 pp. AGE: 2-5

"Mister Thumb missed Miss Pinky a lot.

He met Miss Index, a lady with a bundle in her hair.

- Hello, Miss Index.
- Greetings, Mister Thumb.
- Do you know where Miss Pinky is?

Miss Index looked up,

Miss Index looked down,

and then she answered:

- No, no, no!

I don't know.

...

Mister Thumb cried a lot.

- I miss Miss Pinky so much!

Where, oh where can she be?"

A wonderful, simple tale of searching and finding, including a real, "live", finger game. Children will find endless fun in this lighthearted, intimate story.

Illustrations: Alona Frankel

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



PHOTO © JONATHAN BLOOM

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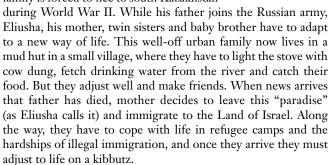
Uri Orlev

WINNER OF THE HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD (1996)

Homeward from the Steppes of the Sun

Jerusalem, Keter, 2010. 163. pp AGE: 8 UP

he fascinating story of Eliusha, age five, from Kostopol (Ukraine) whose family is forced to flee to south Kazakhstan



Inspired by the true story of Eli Paz-Poznik, the experiences in this book will be new to most readers.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Salani) and French (Flammarion/Père Castor), Japanese (Iwanami) and Czech (Práh).



Thoughts of Thirst

1968; Ramat Hasharon, Zeltner,

2013. 40 pp.

AGE: 9 UP

You know," he said, "I am in love with this girl."

I was taken aback. After all, we'd almost never talked before.

He went on: "You know, she drinks lemonade with her eyes closed and thinks thoughts of thirst."

I closed my eyes and thought to myself that I'd like to meet a girl like that. I'd ask her: 'Are you thinking thoughts of thirst?' Then we would both travel from opposite ends of the world to meet up in a certain place, and consumed by our longing, we would drink with our eyes shut.

The boy in this tale is like his friends but also different. Clear, flowing water stirs his imagination and he enjoys drinking it. Unlike his friends, he is able to think thoughts of thirst, and now he discovers that he is not the only one to think such thoughts. But what are thoughts of thirst, what does water symbolize? And how is all this connected to love?

This subtle and poetic story was written in 1952 when Uri Orlev was 21 and living in a kibbutz. It was included in an anthology of his stories that came out in 1968. Now for the first time, it has been published as a book, and although 60 years have passed since it was written, it has retained all its freshness and charm.

Illustrations: Inbal Leitner

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

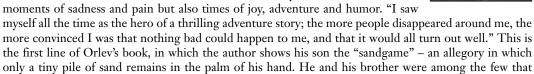
Published in Japanese (Komine Shoten; Mitsumura Tesho). Forthcoming in Korean (Woongjin Think Big).

The Sandgame

Jerusalem, Keter, 1996. 50 pp.

AGE: 10-15

his autobiography by writer Uri Orlev tells the fascinating story of a Jewish boy who lived through the Holocaust and became a writer. But it is not a horror story portraying a traumatic childhood, in spite of the terrible things the child is forced to see. Instead, Orlev describes a relatively normal childhood, with



Published in English (The Ghetto Fighters' House [Israel]; Vikas [India]), German (Elefanten; Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Salani), Dutch (Fontein), Spanish (SM [Mexico]) and Japanese (Iwasaki Shoten).



remained.

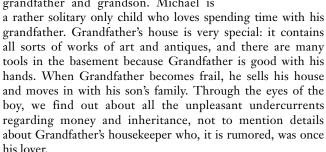
Uri Orlev

WINNER OF THE HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD (1996)

The Song of the Whales

Jerusalem, Keter, 1997. 90 pp. AGE: 8 UP

This unique story deals with the special relationship between grandfather and grandson. Michael is



The bond between Michael and his grandfather veers to the mystical when the elderly man starts taking his grandson along with him at night in his dreams. The two fly off together, sharing strange, wonderful and sometimes frightening experiences. In one dream, two grandfathers appear and Michael does not know who to turn to. Later, Grandfather explains that one is his good side and the other his bad side. Michael is clearly shaken by this dream.

When Grandfather dies, he leaves Michael a mystical legacy which will bind the two forever.

Illustrations: Michel Kishka

Published in French (Gallimard), Italian (Feltrinelli), Spanish (Playco), Dutch (Fontein), English (Houghton Mifflin, USA), Serbian (Book & Marco), Japanese (Iwanami) and Chinese (Jiangsu Children's, China).



BESTSELLER

Run, Boy, Run Jerusalem, Keter, 2001. 200 pp.

AGE: 10 UP

his extraordinary, life-affirming book tells the story of Srulik Freedman. Srulik, a Polish Jewish boy, is five years old when World War II breaks out. After losing his family, he escapes the Warsaw ghetto, surviving in the woods and villages of Poland.



How does a young boy alone get through the war? How does he keep up his will to live in spite of all the hardships? An encounter helps answer this question: one night, as he is fleeing German soldiers, Srulik comes face to face with his father. During the few moments they share, his father gives him this advice: "You must stay alive. You must find someone who will teach you how to behave among the gentiles, how to cross yourself and pray." These words guide Srulik through the war. Over the next months, Srulik bands together with other Jewish boys in the woods. When he loses these friends, he wanders from farm to farm, searching for work in exchange for food and shelter. Eventually the war ends and Srulik is brought back to Judaism. The reader is left to appreciate the important things that we take for granted – having a family, a home, food, freedom and, most of all: life.

Illustrations: Michel Kichka

Published in English (Houghton Mifflin, USA), French (Flammarion), German (Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Salani; Sansoni/RCS), Swedish (Raben & Sjorgen), Spanish (Alfaguara), Portuguese (Ambar), Japanese (Iwanami Shoten), Korean (Prunsoop), Catalan (Alfaguara), Czech (Práh), Chinese (Eastern, Taipei), Chinese (Guangzhou Bright Book, China), Serbian (Zmaj), Russian (Text), Polish (WAB), Croatian (SysPrint). Forthcoming in Turkish (Cizmeli Kedi).

The Lead Soldiers

Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 1956; Jerusalem, Keter, 1987. 211 pp. AGE: 14 UP

his story is set during World War II and is based on fact. But those who balk at what sounds like another Holocaust novel should note that the war is only a backdrop for young Yorik's life. Through Yorik's close, almost photographic impressions, we follow the tightening of the German net around the Polish Jews in Warsaw. After their mother's death, Yorik and his younger brother are cared for by their irrepressible aunt until they are all caught by the Nazis and sent to



10

Bergen-Belsen. The 22 months in the camp are harsh but the boys find relief, as they have all along, in their war games. At the end of the war, the boys are sent to pre-state Israel. Yorik knows that in order to survive, he must persevere and create a new life for himself.

Published in English (Peter Owen; Taplinger), German (Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Fabbri; RCS/Bur Ragazzi), Spanish (Bruno) and Dutch (Fontein). Forthcoming in Albanian (Toena), Turkish (Cizmeli Kedi) and Chinese (Guangzhou Bright Book).

Uri Orlev

WINNER OF THE HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD (1996)

The Thing in the Dark

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1976. 58 pp. AGE: 8-10

ho hasn't been afraid of the dark? There is a "Thing" living under the young narrator's bed and it terrifies

him. It shrinks in the daytime, but when his mother turns off the light at night, the Thing grows enormous. One frightening time, the boy begins to talk to the Thing, and it becomes his best friend, his protector, his scapegoat and his confessor. Then tragedy strikes and the boy's father is killed in the war. The boy can't talk to his father any more, but he can send the Thing to where his father is. When Shlomo, his father's friend, becomes a permanent presence in the house, Thing travels to Daddy for the most important advice the boy gets: Daddy is happy that Shlomo can care for the family because Shlomo is a good man.

Illustrations: Milka Cizik

PARTIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (Elefanten; Ravensburger; Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Salani), Spanish (SM, Castillo, Mexico), Portuguese (SM), Dutch (Fontein), Korean (Bir), Slovenian (Mladinska Knjiga) and Albanian (Toena). Forthcoming in Turkish (Cizmeli Kedi).



The Dragon's Crown

Jerusalem, Keter, 1989. 194 pp. AGE: 13 UP

ri Orlev asks moral questions in a fantasy tale that is a parable of good and evil.

Princess Mayalila will inherit all she



sees, and as far as the eye can see everything belongs to the Eastern Kingdom. This is a land of Good where there are no bad actions or words, no killing, and no death. Peace ends when Prince Akraton, from the evil Western Kingdom, shows the people that there is beauty in evil, and in this way he gains a following. The problem becomes even more complicated when Princess Mayalila is kidnapped by the Silent Ones. The only way to appease the Silent Ones is to offer them a dragon's crown, and there is only one man who knows how to hunt a dragon: the Black Prince Akraton. And so the king makes a pact with the devil to get his daughter back. Akraton pursues Mayalila, and what follows is a love story in which Uri Orlev expresses his own vision of optimism.

Illustrations: Avner Katz

Published in German (Elefanten; Ravensburger), Dutch (Fontein) and Italian (Salani). Forthcoming in Turkish (Cizmeli Kedi) and Czech (Práh).

It's Hard to Be a Lion

1979; Tel Aviv, Zmora Bitan, 2002. 143 pp. AGE: 6-9



dog turns his master into a lion, but he still has a human mind. The lion becomes famous in Jerusalem, then goes to New York to realize the American dream. He gets rich, is kidnapped by a scientist and finally goes to Africa to live in the wild. One day, a beautiful Israeli student turns up and our hero rescues her from the jaws of a leopard. Instantly, he regains his human form, and the two return to Israel and get married.

Published in Italian (Salani, Giralibro, Petrini) and Russian (Text). Forthcoming in Czech (Práh) and Chinese (Shanghai 99).

Granny Knits Pic



Tel Aviv, Massada, 1981. 40 pp. ALL AGES

his is a poignant, insightful book about prejudice. Granny comes to a town with only a bundle of wool and knitting needles in her bag. She sits down on a tree trunk and knits herself some slippers, a bed, a kettle, a house and finally, a boy and a girl-her grandchildren.



When it's time for them to go to school, she finds out that knitted children are not accepted. So Granny declares war. She pickets the council and writes to the mayor, but her actions boomerang. The knitted house is a great tourist attraction, but those knitted children will never be admitted to school. Granny has only one means of revenge: she picks at her house and unravels the lot. Then Granny moves on to find another town where she can bring her beloved children back to life.

Illustrations: Ora Eitan.

Granny Knits has been published in English [India], Assamiya, Bangla, Gujarati, Marathi, Malayalam, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Urdu and Kannada (National Book Trust), French (Pierrot; Flammarion), German (Atlantis), Italian (Feltrinelli), Spanish (Fondo de Cultura Económica), Dutch (Querido; Fontein), Japanese (Komichi-Shobo) Korean (Munhakdongue), Romanian (Hasefer), Oriya, Kashmeri, Konkani, Manipuri, Nepali (National Book Trust, India) and Vietnamese (Kim Dong).

Nava Semel

Love for Beginners

Tel Aviv, Yedioth Ahronoth, 2006. 97 pp. AGE 12-16

hese are bittersweet stories of young love, first kisses and secret dreams.

A young Israeli girl falls in love with Mikey from the USA, an Elvis Presley fan.

She hides her love and makes fun of him, but he is not ashamed to admit he loves her.

In the 1930s, a British paratrooper lands in a Jewish settlement and is injured. Seventeen-year-old Tamara takes care of him. Although he is an "enemy," Tamara falls in love with him and imagines herself a princess.

When Orik's father suddenly dies, his friend Arik goes to his home during the seven-day mourning period. That week, the first man lands on the moon and Orik and Arik imagine they're the astronauts going into space.

These stories take place at different times – only love is something that never changes.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Love for Beginners has been published in German (Jacoby & Stuart), Italian (Sonda), Czech (Albatros) and Slovak (Q111).

The Girl in the Gong

Tel Aviv, Dani Sfarim, 2015. 78 pp. AGE: 8-11

onnie is flying to Beijing with her father, a diplomat. But China is so far away, and she's scared that her friends in Israel will forget her. To distract her, her father gives her a little Chinese gong, and



it tells her a magical story inspired by an ancient Chinese folktale. Kuan-Yu is the most famous gong maker in China, assisted by his daughter Qong-Gey. But the Empress is terribly jealous and she hatches a plot: the Emperor will order Kuan-Yu to cast a gong with the most beautiful sound ever heard. If he fails, he will be executed. After Kuan-Yu's first two tries fail, Qong-Gey seeks advice from the Fire Goddess, who tells her that human blood must be added to the metal. As the gong maker prepares the precious metals for his third attempt, Qong-Gey jumps into the furnace and a perfect sound floats out. However, Connie can't accept this sad ending: she intervenes and changes it, bringing Qong-Gey back to life. Thus the little Israeli girl rescues the Chinese girl!

An enchanting, moving story that brings two cultures together.

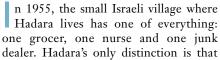
Illustrations: Zagny Ormut-Durbin

Rights to Semel's books have been sold in 11 languages.

Flying Lessons

גאוה סמל איך מתחילים אהבו

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1990. 103 pp. AGE 13 UP





she's the one child without a mother. Her father is a citrus grower, and he loves his trees as though they were his children. Hadara decides that it's time to distinguish herself and escape from loneliness. Monsieur Maurice, the village shoemaker, has a mysterious past and he sparks Hadara's imagination by telling her about Jews in his homeland who could fly. Hadara cajoles Monsieur Maurice into giving her flying lessons. He tells her to study the birds and practice jumping, and then one day she will fly above the village. But as her lessons go on, Hadara learns that she can't escape from the loneliness of not having a mother. *Flying Lessons* is a poignant coming-of-age story which explores the importance of dreams and reality, and the delicate balance between them.

Flying Lessons has been published in English (Simon & Schuster; Gefen), German (Elefanten; Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Mondadori), Spanish (Loguez), Dutch (Fontein), Czech (Albatros), Serbian (Book & Marso) and Chinese (Jiangsu Children's Press).

Becoming Gershona

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1988. 118 pp. AGE 12 UP



ut of the blue, they told me Grandpa was coming the next day, and I never even knew I had a grandfather." This is how a young girl's

life changes when she starts to discover her family's long-guarded secrets. Life in Tel Aviv in 1958 is full of mysteries for 12-year-old Gershona, beginning with the meaning of her unusual name, and the reason why her grandfather fled to America 35 years before. Gershona spends the hot Israeli summer puzzling out the past, and discovers the lingering impact that the Holocaust has had on her family, in fact on everyone in her community. She soon understands that the Holocaust explains the blue numbers tattooed on her mother's forearm, why she has only two grandparents, and why her grandfather deserted his wife and infant son. Although many of the truths she uncovers are unpleasant, her spirit and vitality make this book hopeful and uplifting.

Becoming Gershona has been published in English (Viking/Penguin; Puffin Books), German (Alibaba; Fischer), Italian (La Casa Usher; Mondadori), Dutch (Fontein), and Romanian (Fiat Lux).

Nava Semel

Taking Wing (Mercurium Trilogy, 1)

[under the name: Huan B. Landi]

a fantasy novel Tel Aviv, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2016. 318 pp.

AGE: 13 UP

rlinda can't sleep: tomorrow her childhood will be over and she'll be a Flyer. She'll leave the nest where she's been raised with her age group; new winglets on her ankles will enable her to fly, and she'll know what her mission is.

Erlinda lives on the planet Mercurium, to which her human fore-fathers migrated from Earth. They set up a colony, protected by a special dome, and have developed the ability to fly. But not all the migrants joined the colony: outside the dome live the Grounders, those humans who refused to develop winglets and are ground-bound. The Flyers see them as enemies and stay away from them, but they need a spy to go into enemy territory. This is Erlinda's mission.

Erlinda has always known that she's different—there's a rumor that her parents were traitors, and she doesn't know what happened to them. Now she discovers that only she can be a spy, because she can make her winglets invisible. So, after training, she sets out for the unknown, leaving behind her beloved Omine. Yet Omine, a graduate of a military academy, will lead the attack against the Grounders. Nobody knows about his doubts, or his love and fear for Erlinda.

Although *Taking Wing* takes place in a distant, imaginary galaxy, this clever and gripping novel deals with issues that concern us in the here and now.

Huan B. Landi is the pseudonym that Nava Semel has chosen for her new trilogy.

COMPLETE ENGLISH TRANSLATION IN PROGRESS

BESTSELLER

Eshkol Nevo

Amalia's

Dad Goes to

Australia

a's Foes to Pic mora-Bitan,

אָשְׁכוּל נְבּוּ אַבָּא שׁל עמל

Tel Aviv, Zmora-Bitan, 2010. 33 pp.

AGE: 3-6

מעופפת

malia is very sad when her Dad goes to Australia. She doesn't feel like doing anything. Then there's a knock on the door, and in comes an amazing creature called Whipped Cream Man. And he is only one of many strange characters to come round in the next few days, like the Kissing Queen and Jumpy Kangaroo. They all share happy moments and make Amalia forget her sadness for a bit. And after a week, her Dad comes back with the scooter he'd promised her!

David Hall's illustrations are amazing. And if you look carefully at the last picture, you'll see who's behind all the strange visitors. For in that picture, you see the kangaroo tail still glued to Amalia's Mum's behind!

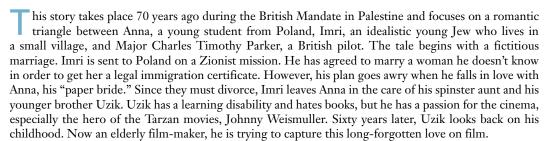
Illustrations: David Hall

Forthcoming in Italian (Salani).



Bride on Paper

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1996. 197 pp. AGE 14 UP



ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Bride on Paper has been published in German (**Beltz & Gelberg**), Italian (**Mondadori**), English (**Hybrid**, Austr.) and Romanian (**Pandora**). Forthcoming in Turkish (**Cizmeli kedi**) and Italian (**EUM Edizioni**).



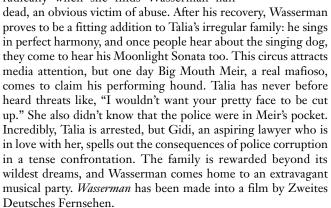
13

Yoram Kaniuk

Wasserman

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1988. 112 pp. AGE: 12 UP

his story centers around a dog called Wasserman and a girl called Talia, who has both humor and integrity. Talia's life changes radically when she finds Wasserman half-



Published in French (Gallimard), German (Alibaba; dtv junior), Italian (Mondadori; Salani), Norwegian (Aschehoug), Swedish (Forum), Danish (Gyldendal), Greek (Psichogios), Spanish (Fondo de Cultura Económica; Siruela) and Serbian (Ruzno).



Yovi, Pebble and the Elephant

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1993. 95 pp.

AGE: 10 UP

exhausted, has won.

ovi, age 14, is a modern Hannibal – he leads an elephant across the desert to

When his mother buys a new fridge, Yovi sells the old one to a junk dealer who happens to have an elephant on his truck. The elephant locks eyes with Yovi and it's true love. Yovi acquires Polly (as he calls her), but what can you do with an elephant in Tel Aviv? On the advice of his new friend Pebble, Yovi decides that Polly must go back to Africa. The army is called out. His parents, the chief-of-staff and the prime minister appeal to him over the radio to come home, but Yovi is now on a crusade. The trek is exhausting: extreme heat, thirst and hostile Bedouins nearly break him. Finally, when environmentalists offer to take Polly to Kenya on a boat, he accepts. It is all over; but Yovi,

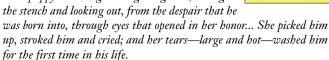


Published in German (Alibaba), Italian (Mondadori) and Chinese (China Juvenile & Children Pub.).

Pierre

Tel Aviv, Yedioth Ahronoth, 2013. 76 pp. AGE: 9 UP

ur Pierre wasn't born. He begat himself in a garbage can in Ramat Gan. My daughter found him. He was about a month old. A greyblack puppy shivering in the garbage can, sitting in



Kaniuk wrote this moving novella about his dog Pierre, who enjoyed twenty good years of life. It is a love story—the tale of his love for his best friend, like family, and who knew how to return love as only a dog can. Pierre was no thoroughbred, not the kind of dog you buy in a pet store, yet children loved him and even people who hated dogs loved him. He was wise and amusing, without a single drop of nastiness. But he was also adventurous and didn't like playing up to people. Kaniuk draws a portrait of his dead dog with humor and sadness.

Pierre is a literary gem, suitable for adults and youngsters.

Illustrations: Keren Lee Vendriger

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in Italian (Giuntina).



The House Where the Cockroaches Live to a Ripe Old Age

1981; Yedioth Ahronoth, 2005. 38 pp. ALL AGES

rimming with life and humor, this madcap tale is populated with fleabag cats, donkeys, dogs, a horse called Andromeda, a porcupine and cockroaches who think they're in paradise.

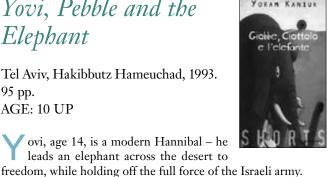
A week after Naomi was born, Ivanov sat in her crib purring. At three, she got Tempo, her first donkey. Then Abraham the dog arrived, Ivanov miaowed, little Ivanovs arrived, Tempo brayed and Father left for the first time. By the time he returned, Naomi had an aquarium too. Then the cockroaches came and Father left again. Add two dogs, a horse, a turtle, a pigeon... and Father's hair turns gray. One day, a TV crew comes to film them and Father speaks lovingly about all the animals under his roof. The audience love it and Father becomes a media personality!

Yoram Kaniuk received the Ze'ev Prize for this story.

Illustrations: Ruth Gwily

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in English (Scholastic, India), German (Alibaba), Italian (Mondadori), Chinese (China Juvenile & Children Pub.) and Hindi (Scholastic).



Hous des Dichters

הדבי של פרו

Shifra Horn

A Feather of Love Pic



Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2016. 23 pp. AGE: 5-7



tale of love in springtime, featuring a vain peacock and a wise peahen, unfolds before the eyes of all the farm animals—from the tiny barn mouse to the big, bossy bull. The story is also about beautiful tail feathers that open into a fabulous fan, until one by one they are plucked out, teaching an arrogant bird a lesson in humility. But above all, this is a story about giving that is filled with love.

This is how it begins:

"It all started in the springtime, When Peter Peacock met Paula the gray Peahen, And thought that she was very beautiful.

He was so excited that he spread his tail feathers into a fan, Shook them with pride, puffed up his chest, and shouted as loud as he could,

'I am Peter Peacock! I am King of the Birds, because I am the most handsome bird in the world!'

'I don't like show-offs!'

Squawked Paula the Peahen, and she turned her back and looked away."

Illustrations: Liora Grossman

Published in German and French (Zurich, Kiriat Yearim). Forthcoming in Spanish (Obelisco).

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

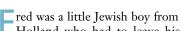
Iris Argaman

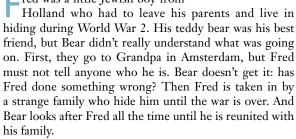
Bear and Fred Pic



Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2016. 43 pp.

AGE: 6-8





This is the true story of Fred Lessing. After the war, he and his family moved to the USA, but he never gave his bear away. Many years later, he gave him to the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem, so that other children could learn about their story.

Published in Italian (Gallucci) and French (Chandeigne). Forthcoming in Spanish (Santillana).

Hanoch Piven

Glove Story Pic



Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2017. 38 pp. AGE: 3-6

here's nothing scarier than getting lost and being alone. And that's

what happened to one pink glove that fell out of the pocket of a little girl who was on her way to pre-school. The artist Hanoch Piven helps the pink glove, and shows us that the plain old world around us is full of opportunities for creativity, if we only know how to look and to pay attention. So, the glove complies with the wishes of different animals: The duck wants her to be a cockscomb, so he can masquerade as a rooster, a buck with only one antler wants her to be his other one, and she even helps a cow to suckle her calf. But the glove still misses her twin and the little girl who lost her. Full of energy and confidence in her own abilities, she decides to set out on a journey to find them.

Illustrations: Hanoch Piven

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Hanoch Piven

Purple Feather Pic



Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2000. 32 pp. AGE 4 UP

n this unusual picture book, a magical purple feather takes readers on an



imaginative journey. As the feather travels through the pages of the book, it becomes a whisker for a cat, a quill for a porcupine, and a tail for a dog. A real purple feather inserted in the back of the book makes the ending especially surprising and fun. Created out of everyday objects such as pickles, forks, buttons, and ice-cream cones, Piven's illustrations will amaze readers young and old.

Published in English (Boston, Megan Tingley/Little, Brown); Spanish (Leetra) and Korean (Neungyule Education Inc).

Gil-Ly Alon Curiel

Shusha Pic



Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2016. 30 pp. AGE: 4-7

rincess Shusha is an unusual, wild and mischievous princess, and she loves to draw. Before her birthday, her room has to be decorated so Shusha is sent to her grandmother's. She returns with a wonderful new box of paints. When she goes to her room, she sees that the walls are white and bare, so she starts painting all over them! Footsteps approach and she hides. But when the palace officials see the colorful scene, they are delighted. Then the King and Queen come, and they too praise the paintings. Shusha comes out of hiding, and everyone applauds her.

Gil-ly Alon Curiel's book encourages creativity and individualism.

> **ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE** (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY).

Dror Burstein

My Cup of Tea Pic



Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2011. 49 pp. AGE: 4 up



ror Burstein's first children's book is about a boy who likes asking questions. "One day in winter I was sick, my throat hurt and I had a fever," he starts as he lies in bed. Then in comes Dad with some tea with honey and lemon, and while the boy drinks it, questions pop up in his mind. Where does the tea go after I drink it? Is it in my stomach? And if I'm thinking about it, maybe it's just in my thoughts. Yes, this curious boy asks philosophical questions. After he's finished his tea, he wonders what it's made of. Where did the honey come from? From bees, of course. And how was it made? And for there to be flowers, there have to be other things. Like water and sunlight. And where does the water come from? From under the ground and from the rain. And for that, there have to be clouds. The flower, the bee, the sun and the cloud don't know the boy, but they work together to help him, because they make the cup of tea. And it's the same with Dad. For him to make the tea, he had to be born, and for that he needed Grandpa and Grandma, and so on. The boy isn't sad anymore. He knows that the whole world is in his

Illustrations: Meir Appelfeld

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY).

Published in Spanish (Leetra).

Tamar Meir

Francesco Tirelli's Ice Cream Store

Tel Aviv, Keter, 2017. 32 pp. AGE: 5-8



s a boy in Italy, Francesco Tirelli loved ice cream, especially from his favorite uncle's ice cream wagon. When Francesco grew up he moved to Budapest, Hungary, and decided to open an Italian ice cream store there. Little Peter came to the store every day—he loved the ice cream. When World War2 started, the Germans invaded Hungary and Peter's family was in danger because they were Jewish. So Francesco decided to hide them and other Jews in his store until the war was over. Through his courage, he saved many people, including Peter.

Illustrations: Yael Albert

Published in Italian (Gallucci) and Czech (Práh). Forthcoming in English (Kar-Ben).

Dan Huppert

The Princess and the Real Loaf of Bread

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2013. 48 pp. AGE 4-8



nce upon a time there was a kingdom whose subjects absolutely loved bread. It was ruled by King Baguette III and his daughter, Princess Ciabatta. King Baguette was very enlightened and attentive to the needs of his subjects, but his daughter was a spoiled, capricious and haughty girl. King Baguette was upset by his selfish daughter, and he was also afraid that she wouldn't be a good ruler when he was gone. He decided to test her: he told her to bring him "a real loaf of bread."

The princess set off on her quest. First, she went to a chef who gave her a loaf that he'd bought at a bakery. But when she took it to her father, he looked at her hands and said: "This is not a real loaf of bread." So the princess went to a witch, and the witch gave her grains of wheat. The princess planted them and after 120 days she harvested the wheat, ground it into flour and baked a loaf of bread. She also gave the wheat that was left over to the baker's son. When she'd finished, the princess was tired, her hands were red, and her back hurt, but her heart was full of happiness. The king declared that this time his daughter had brought him a real loaf of bread. He praised her and told her that she was worthy to rule after him.

This delightful modern fairytale is full of insights, and is also a journey of self-discovery.

Illustrations: Sharon Alpert

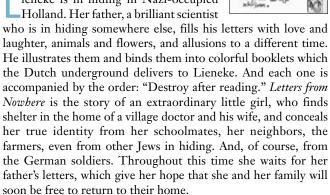
ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY).

Tami Shem-Tov

Letters from Nowhere

Tel Aviv, Dvir, 2007. 274 pp. CROSSOVER

ieneke is in hiding in Nazi-occupied



Tami Shem-Tov based this book on the real story of Jacqueline van der Hoeden, using the original illustrated letters. A moving and amazing document.

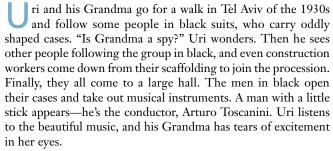
ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

This prize winning book has been published in Spanish (Planeta; Emece), Catalan (Columna), Dutch (Sirene; MM Boeken); German (Fischer), Italian (Piemme) and Japanese (Iwanami).

Tami Shem-Tov [with Rachella Sandbank]

A Concert in the Sand Pic

Jerusalem, Keter, 2013. 32 pp. AGE 4-8



The mystery is solved: it is the first concert of the new Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, made up of refugee musicians from Europe just before the start of World War 2.

Illustrations: Avi Ofer

Published in English (Kar-Ben) and Spanish (PJ Library).



Tami Shem-Tov [with Rachella Sandbank]

Coming Home Pic

Tel Aviv, Keter, 2017. 31 pp. AGE: 4-8



t the end of World War 2 ended, thousands of Jewish refugees set sail for Palestine to find a home. But the British who ruled Palestine didn't let them land, and sent them to a detention camp in Cyprus. Little Rosa and her father spent almost a year there. Before, Rosa had had a voice like a bell, but in the camp she could no longer sing. One day, however, a famous singer called Shoshana Damari came to sing for the detainees. She sang "Habayta" - "Homeward," her voice was like a bell and she had black curls, just like Rosa. Then a miracle happened: Rosa started singing along with her, and the audience all joined in as well.

Illustrations: Yael Albert

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Tami Shem-Tov [with Rachella Sandbank]

Malka, a Queen in Jerusalem Pic



Jerusalem, Keter, 2015. 36 pp. AGE: 4-8

n Jerusalem, a little girl called Malka-"queen" in Hebrewdreams of dressing up as Queen Esther for the festival of Purim. But her mother has no time to make her a costume. However, she meets Boris Schatz, an artist, who makes her dream come true. In his workshops weavers make her a beautiful robe, metal workers craft her a crown and scepter, and makeup artists paint her face. Then Boris tells Malka about Bezalel, the first art school in the Land of Israel, which he founded in Jerusalem.

The second book in the series Pioneers of Culture, about the sculptor-painter Boris Schatz who founded what is now the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design.

Published in English (Kar-Ben).

BESTSELLER

Lea Goldberg

A Flat to Let [Room for Rent]

Sifriat Poalim, 1959; new ed. 1970 AGE 5-8



This delightful tale describes the residents of a 5-storey building: a fat hen, a cuckoo, a pampered black cat, a voracious squirrel. The fifth floor used to belong to Mr. Mouse, but he disappears, so they put up a sign: "Flat to Let." Many animals come to see it, but they all object to one of the residents. The worst is a racist pig, who feels too clean and white to share with a black cat. The neighbors howl and reject him. Finally there comes a dove who likes the neighbors as well as the house. So she moves in, and she hums and coos nearly all the time. The animals have finally found someone as tolerant as themselves.

Based on an East European folk tale, this rhyming fable is a perennial favorite with Israeli children.

Illustrations: Shmuel Katz

Published in English: (Ward & Ritchie; National Book Trust; Gefen) Korean (Joongang M&B) Gujarati, Telugu, Tamil (National Book Trust) German (Ariella Verlag) Russian (Text), Portuguese (Leya) and Spanish (Leetra). Forthcoming in Uzbek (Text), 12 Indian languages (National Book Trust), Chinese (TBP Media) and French (Albin Michel).

Lea Goldberg

A Cricket with a Ticket

1950; Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 2016. 28 pp. AGE: 4-7



n adventurous cricket gets lost in the country and can't find his way home. He asks the help of all kinds of creatures that he meets. First is Mrs. Lizard, but she doesn't even reply and slithers away between the rocks. What bad manners, thinks the cricket, but he doesn't give up and asks a light-green chameleon. She changes color, but also doesn't bother to reply. Frustrated, the cricket turns to a sparrow perched in an olive tree and asks politely: Perhaps you, from your tree-top, can see my home? But the sparrow doesn't answer either, and flies off. Evening comes, and out of the dark a firefly appears. Despairing, our cricket asks for her help, and the kindly firefly switches on her light and escorts the cricket to town, all the way to his home.

In this lovely tale, Lea Goldberg sparks hope in the hearts of her readers: Even when all seems lost, and the world seems dark, someone will come to our rescue.

Illustrations: Naama Benziman

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY)

Ruthie Vital Gilad

Fear of Driving in the Fast Lane

Tel Aviv, Keren Pubs, 2014. 102 pp. AGE: 11 UP



ichal and Alma, friends at high school, set themselves two goals for the summer vacation: to find boyfriends—a priority—and jobs. Michal finds a boyfriend easily, but Alma has neither boyfriend nor job, only arguments with her Mom and the letters her father left her. For it is only now, two years after he died, that Alma finally reads them. And then, after she thought this would be the least fun vacation ever, things change. She meets an extraordinary woman called Metullah, who has shining eyes, owns a café and can always guess what her customers want. Alma starts working in the café, and aside from learning how to chop vegetables, she also discovers how to get to know people—for example Miri, an energetic woman who is scared to drive. "If I could, I'd introduce you to my son Yoav," says Miri, and Alma thinks that perhaps she has found a boyfriend too. With sensitivity and humor, Vital Gilad writes about a young girl coping with the loss of her father and learning to move ahead without fear.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Alex Paz-Goldman

The Lost Spy and the Green Dress

Tel Aviv, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2011. 288 pp. AGE: 9-13



hen Motti and Reuven, age 12, discover that a mysterious stranger has infiltrated their neighborhood, they're sure that he's a cunning, cruel spy and they don't hesitate. They call on their detective skills acquired from adventure books that they love, and together with Aviva, Reuben's pretty sister, they set out to stop the dangerous enemy. But the mission becomes more and more complicated.

The story takes place in Israel in the mid-1960s, when espionage affairs were rocking the country and setting people's imaginations afire. A number of Holocaust survivors live in the neighborhood, and Motti himself is the son of a couple who lived through the Nazi era in Europe. His talkative father wants to talk about his experiences in the concentration camps, but his mother remains silent, bent over her sewing machine all the time. Surprisingly, the youngsters' adventure deepens awareness of Motti's family story and how the past affects life in the present.

The Lost Spy and the Green Dress is the first book in a series.

Illustrations: Michel Kichka

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY) PARTIAL TRANSLATIONS IN FRENCH AND RUSSIAN.

Orit Uziel

We'll Meet Again

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, Sifriat Poalim, 2010. 219 pp. AGE: 12 up

n 1935, soon after the Nuremberg Laws were passed, Paul, the son of a German Christian father and a Jewish mother, decides to leave Germany. He travels to



Switzerland and there he meets Elsa, a young Jewish refugee. Together, the two cross the border and eventually reach Paris. They face many hardships, but in the meantime the friendship between them blossoms into love. In July 1936, the Spanish Civil War breaks out. Paul, who feels he cannot stand by and watch another democracy trampled by tyranny, joins a group of volunteers from various countries and sets off to fight in Spain. Once there, he also meets volunteers from Palestine. In the meantime, Elsa, who realizes that Paul will not be coming back any time soon, sails to Palestine and settles in Tel Aviv.

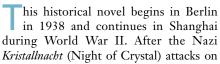
When the foreign volunteers are evacuated from the Spanish front, Paul leaves Europe and also makes his way to Palestine, where Elsa is waiting for him.

A moving story about two youngsters who are willing to fight for their ideals and true love.

Alone in Shanghai

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad/ Sifriat Poalim, 2014. 189 pp.

AGE: 11-16





German Jewry, 17-year-old Erica and her brother Theo flee their home and sail alone to Shanghai, a safe haven for Jewish refugees. Their mother and grandmother hope to join them later. The two reach the Hongkew slum, filled with poor Chinese and penniless refugees, and move in with Gustav and Charlotte, a Dutch Jewish couple whose two daughters have stayed behind with relatives. Shanghai then was a lively, bustling city with an "international colony" where well-off expats lived—among them Max, a young German Jew. A romance blooms between him and Erica.

Uziel catches the atmosphere of the time and place superbly, weaving historical events into the plot. Her characters experience love and disappointment, hardship, constant anxiety for those left behind, but also courage and friendship. After the war, Erica and Theo learn that their mother and grandmother have not survived. They and Max decide to leave Shanghai and build their future in Palestine.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Abd al-Rahman, the Wandering Prince

Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 1994. 148 pp. AGE: 11-14



n these two novellas about harmony between Jews and Arabs in medieval Spain, Uziel recreates the exotic caliphates

of the time with their luxuriant courts, bustling bazaars, and desert bandits. Prince Abd al-Rahman, the heir to the murdered Umayyad Caliph, must flee for his life. Crossing the desert on a camel, he rescues Jewish Rahia and her blind brother. The three become friends, and together they outwit the prince's pursuers and survive the desert. Finally, in a stunning campaign, Abd al-Rahman's brains and bravery lead him from the gallows to the seat of the caliphate he had lost. Seventy years later, the Umayyad dynasty has flowered again and is based in Cordoba, the commercial and intellectual center of the day. Yehuda, a rabbinical student, goes to study there and is mesmerized. He eventually becomes a fine physician instead of a rabbi. Well-respected among Jews and Muslims, he saves the Caliph's son from a rare disease, and becomes famous throughout the Muslim empire.

Young Love in Jerusalem

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1993. 94 pp.

AGE: 12 UP



rit Uziel has taken the age-old theme of love between a poor boy and a rich girl and set it in the Sephardi community

in Jerusalem under Ottoman rule. Fleeing a stingy and cruel uncle, Abramo and his younger brother sail from Istanbul to the Land of Israel. From Jaffa port, they then walk to Jerusalem, to the home of Bolisa Mazal, their mother's elder sister. The two are good, hard-working youths, and Abramo soon gets a job in a grocer's store. Girls too notice the handsome boy. There is only one problem: he is not a good match for a nice Jewish girl because he has not a cent to his name. But beautiful Blanca falls in love with him anyway. Blanca's mother, however, has more ambitious plans for her daughter and tries to match her up with a rich, middle-aged merchant. Fortunately, Blanca's father stops the match in time and Blanca marries her love. Finally, Abramo is not so poor after all: the grocer leaves him half his store.

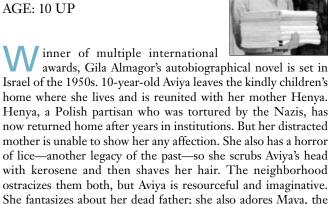
A fascinating and colorful tale.

Illustrations: Avi Katz

Gila Almagor

Aviya's Summer

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1986. 92 pp. AGE: 10 UP



beautiful young dancing teacher for whom her mother does

laundry. But there are few moments of harmony. Every promise

of friendship, warmth or success is poisoned by her mother's

illness-playing the piano ends in violence; happiness ends in

Published in English (Collins), French (Nathan), German (Alibaba; dtv junior), Italian (Mondadori), Spanish (Loguez), Dutch (Elzenga), Danish (Forum), Russian (Aliya), Serbian (Bonart), Arabic (Kul-Shee), Spanish (Loguez), Greek (Kedros) and Chinese (Shanghai Juvenile & Children). Forthcoming in Italian (Tiqqun).

Yona Tepper

shame. Henya's love brings no salvation.

Who Is Passing By? Pic

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2004. 32 pp. AGES 3-5



urious, alert Yael peeps out from her balcony and sees everything happening in the street. She notices with joy how each object, animal or person comes into view for a while and then disappears. Eventually, Yael spies her father among the people in the street below and joins him for a walk around town.

Yael is surprised at each passerby and tries to guess where they're coming from and where they're going. Grown ups will also enjoy the fine details that shape local town life in the illustrations.

Illustrations: Gil-Ly Alon Curiel

Published in English (Kane & Miller).

Gila Almagor

Alex Lerner, Daphna and Me

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2002. 178 pp. AGE: 12 UP



his is a beautiful story of friendship, love and loss, told by 12-year-old Avner, whose best friend Alex dies of cancer. Life hasn't been kind to Avner. There is growing tension between his parents who eventually split up, and when he follows his father who is often away from home, he discovers he's having an affair. At the same time, Avner tells us about his secret love for Daphna, his classmate. When Alex, an accomplished new immigrant from Russia, joins the class and attracts Daphna's attention, Avner is jealous. But he eventually overcomes his envy, Alex becomes his best friend, and together with Daphna they become a threesome. The bond between them intensifies when Alex is suddenly diagnosed with cancer and has to have painful chemotherapy. Avner's emotional crisis, both at home and with his friend, lies at the heart of this fine book. Inevitably, the final parting leaves him with an emptiness inside.

Published in German (Carl Hanser).

Mishka Ben-David

The Tale of Squirrel and Mouse Pic

Jerusalem, Keter, 2015. 28 pp. AGE: 4-6



here's a family that lives in a little house in a little town. And in the branches of the oak tree in their yard lives Sunny the Squirrel. The children love him, feed him and stroke his fur. But Barry the mouse lives deep down in the cellar with his parents, and although he longs to go out and play with the kids, he isn't allowed to. "People don't like mice," his mother tells him. The next day, Barry slips out and meets Sunny anyway, and the two try to understand why people like squirrels but are afraid of mice. After a long discussion they decide that it's because of the tail. So Sunny suggests an experiment – to swap tails. And yes, when the kids see Barry the mouse with a squirrel's tail, they stroke him happily, but when Sunny the squirrel turns up with a mouse's tail, they scream with fear.

An entertaining fable on prejudice and the similarity between humans and animals.

Illustrations: Michel Kichka

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY).

Forthcoming in Korean (Booklight).

Amalia Rosenblum

The Sheep with a Black Spot

Tel Aviv, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2014. 284 pp. AGE: 12 UP



ily is gifted at maths, she's interested in astronomy, literature, art, and is in love with her teacher. But when her parents announce that they are separating, she is deeply distressed. So she adopts an old sheep with a black spot on its forehead; she believes that it understands her and gives her advice. With its help, Lily hopes to get her parents back together and also to impress her teacher. But looking after a sheep becomes complicated, and Lily turns to Zohar, a shifty street kid and tattoo artist, who has secrets of his own. Lily's life turns downward. She gets caught up in secrets and lies, but her parents are too busy with their own crisis to notice. How far will Lily go with her cover-ups and fantasies before someone notices what is wrong? A brilliant book, full of humor, that tackles the difficulties of adolescence and the problems of outsiders.

PARTIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Forthcoming in German (Beltz & Gelberg).

Galila Ron-Feder-Amit

To Myself

Zion Series; Nir Sharoni Series; Batya Series (30 books)

Tel Aviv, Milo, 1976-2002.

AGE: 11-14



fter his parents abandoned him, teenage Tsion grew up with his grandmother in a poor neighborhood and started going round with young delinquents. Now he's been placed in foster-care with the Sharoni family, and he tells his story. At first, Tsion behaves badly. He finds the Sharoni's middle-class life strange, and he sneers at their studious, musical son Nir. But slowly he grows to like and admire their cultivated life. A visit home sets him back, because his old friends make fun of him. Finally, he runs away and meets Batya, a free spirit who offers him comfort and friendship.

The screen adaptation of *To Myself* won first prize at both the Frankfurt and Vienna Children's Film Festivals.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in English (Adama), French (Flammarion), German (Beltz & Gelberg), Italian (Piemme), Spanish (SM), Chinese (China Juvenile & Children), Japanese (Ca et La) and Korean (Kyelim) and Serbian (Book & Marco).

Amalia Rosenblum

Where the Village Road Ends

Jerusalem, Keter, 2006. 118 pp.

AGE: 12 UP



If your best friend went to live far away, you'd be sad! Goni, a mongrel, is miserable because his golden retriever friend Arthur has left the village with his owners. But a new family come to live in their house, with a dog called Choco. Slowly, Goni and Choco become friends. Together they hatch a plan that leads to the arrest of wild boar hunters, and become village stars. They also learn about the pit bull's good side, the power of friendship, and the dangerous pride that comes with success. Cats and dogs, jackals and squirrels all live in the village too, and the author tells us about their thoughts with loads of wit and humor. The dogs are interested in haiku, write some poems, and read newspapers. An unforgettable story of friendship and solidarity, and of doggie thoughts on humans who have so little imagination, compared to them!

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (Beltz & Gelberg) and Italian (Salani; La Scuola). Forthcoming in Chinese (Jiangsu Children's Press).

Galila Ron-Feder-Amit

Living on the Edge

Tel Aviv, Adam, 1994. 151 pp.

AGE: 8-14



his novel portrays the Arab-Israeli conflict during the Oslo peace process from a teenager's point of view.

Yair and Dotan are best friends and are training together for a youth marathon. One day Yair is stabbed to death by an Arab. Dotan responds by turning from a contented teenager into a delinquent. He begins going to demonstrations of the far right, where the most extreme anti-Arab and anti-Rabin slogans are heard; he also participates in a raid on a neighboring Arab village. Although Dotan does little more than assist an old Arab woman who falls to the ground, the police arrest the entire gang. Dotan is released, but only his grandmother believes him, and she helps him progress from revenge to a desire for peace and security.

Published in French (**Flammarion**) and German (**Beltz & Gelberg**).

Tamar Bergman

Sunbirds at My Window

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1999. 74 pp. AGE: 8-11



The life of birds is fascinating and beautiful. This is what young Alon learns from his elderly neighbor, Ina, who has turned her kitchen window into a bird feeding station. Alon, who is particularly fond of the colorful sunbirds, invites his classmates to visit the feeding station and hopes that Galit will be interested in the birds, because he really likes her. Perhaps Galit's interest will influence her father who wants the feeding station removed from the building because the birds dirty his lawn. The children in the class are very excited, and Galit offers to help Alon care for the birds. It looks as if everything has worked out well and Galit's father isn't in a bad mood anymore, but then Ina suddenly falls ill and dies. However, Alon is comforted by her request that he take over the feeding station. Together, Alon and Galit care for birds that come to feed.

Illustrations: Christina Kadmon

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in Japanese (Fuzambo).

Tamar Bergman

The Boy from Over There

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1983. 130 pp. AGE: 9-13



The hero of this story is a boy called Avramik, who has spent World War II hiding in a European village with his sick mother. When the Allies liberate Europe, his mother is taken to hospital, and although she never returns, Avramik cannot accept that she's dead.

The book opens with Avramik's first day at the kibbutz to which his uncle has brought him. The boy from "over there" slowly integrates into kibbutz life, but he stubbornly guards his secret – his belief that his mother will come back one day. The only person he is close to is Rina, whose father died serving in the Jewish Brigade in Italy and who, like Avramik, cannot accept his death. When the War of Independence starts in 1948, the kibbutz is shelled and all the children have to be evacuated under heavy fire. At the end of the dangerous journey, Avramik finds an answer to the question that has haunted him.

Published in English (**Houghton Mifflin**), German (**Alibaba**; **Rowohlt**), Italian (**Bompiani**), Japanese (**Michitani**) and Chinese (**Jiangsu Children's Press**).

Tamar Bergman Along the Tracks

Tel Aviv, Schocken, 1987. 223 pp. AGE: 12-16



The frightfulness of war is vividly dramatized in this novel about a Polish boy in World War II. Yankele's family escapes from Lodz before the ghetto is closed off and flees east towards Asia. When their train is bombed, Yankele is separated from his mother, and begins years of wandering in search of his family. Almost unaware of the dangers, he gets through the snowy steppes of central Asia to reach Kazakhastan, Bokhara, Tashkent and Uzbekistan. Yasha, as he is now known, teams up with Bokharan street children, befriends prostitutes and helps a young Uzbek girl who has been raped. By the time he is reunited with his family, he is no longer the same boy. Beyond Yankele's own story of survival, Tamar Bergman has drawn the picture of an entire continent on the move.

Along the Tracks was awarded the Ze'ev Prize, nominated a "Notable Children's Trade Book" by the U.S. Children's Book Council and was included in the 1991 Bulletin Blue Ribbon list.

Published in English (**Houghton Mifflin**), German (**Alibaba**; **S. Fischer**) and Japanese (**Michitani**).

Neri Aluma

What Would I Do Without Bruno?

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2010. 157 pp. AGE: 11 UP



his is an entertaining and moving story about the love of a 12-year-old boy for a calf. Dor lives with his family in a moshav—a farming village—and he isn't very good at school. Whenever he can, he plays hooky and goes to his father's dairy farm, where he enjoys taking care of the cows and calves. He is especially attached to one new-born calf which he saves and calls Bruno. In sub-plots that are delicately woven into the main story line, we also find out about other family members and villagers. Among these is Jamus, a warm man with a sense of humor, but a lonely man. He sends Dor and a friend to look for old graffiti in the village, and the two boys learn of Jamus' tragic past love. Then they discover other stories of the past that make up the village's unique mythology. One is about Dor's great-grandmother, who also raised a calf when she was a girl. The calf followed her around like a shadow, until it was led off to slaughter.

Will this also be Bruno's fate? With great resourcefulness, Dor manages to rescue the young bull; his success bolsters his self confidence and uncovers his hidden talents.

Illustrations: Danny Kerman

BESTSELLER

Daniella Carmi

Samir and Yonatan on Planet Mars

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1994. 124 pp. AGE: 10-14



uring the Intifada, Samir, an Arab child, is taken to an Israeli hospital for a special operation. He arrives grieving for his dead brother and traumatized by the disintegration of his family life. Too shy to speak, he watches the four children in his ward: Razia, emotionally disturbed, is being stitched up after her father's last drunken binge; Ludmilla, a Russian girl, is catatonically withdrawn; Yonatan is fascinated by the planets; and Tzakhi frightens him. It is Yonatan who calms Samir, offers him friendship and tells him about the world of the stars and planets. Eventually there is also an unexpected bond between Samir and Tzakhi who go on a spree through the hospital. When Samir returns home, he knows he has seen the impossible happen: he has made friends with the enemy.

Samir and Yonatan on Planet Mars won prizes in Germany, USA and Italy. Published in English (Scholastic/Arthur Levine), French (Hachette Jeunesse), German (Carl Hanser; dtv), Italian (Mondadori; Salani), Spanish (Loguez; Castillo), Portuguese (Ambar), Greek (Kastaniotis), Dutch (Fontein), Chinese (Eastern Pub., Taipei), Japanese (Ca et La), Slovenian (Ucila), Serbian (Zmaj), Korean (Yewon Media), Thai (Bliss), Turkish (Pena) and Arabic (Kul Shee). Forthcoming in Chinese (Jiangsu Children's Press, China) and Azeri (Alatoran).

Daniella Carmi

The Explosion on Ahalan Street

Jerusalem, Keter, 1987. 135 pp. AGE: 10-14



Who caused the explosion in Ahalan Street? The police have no clues and no witnesses. The newspapers have some theories but nothing to justify the daily discussions in the press. This is the bleak story of 12-yearold Natasha Marouan, whose Jewish mother and Arab father struggle to protect the love and unity that keep their small family together in the face of social prejudice and bigotry.

With Samir Marouan in jail after the explosion, the family's world is torn apart. Natasha's mother is rejected by one lawyer after another and Natasha herself is snubbed by her neighbors. When Samir Marouan is finally released, Natasha understands that justice won't easily mend the broken pieces of her home. Natasha describes her father's imprisonment with a puzzled innocence that is heartbreaking. In fact, Natasha is Daniella Carmi's greatest success in this book, and her voice continues to sound long after readers have put the book down.

Published in French (**Hachette Jeunesse**), German (**Alibaba**; **dtv junior**), Spanish (**Loguez**) and Turkish (**Pena**).

Daniella Carmi

To Be the Daughter of a Gypsy

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1996. 143 pp. AGE: 10-14



mid the harsh reality of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a warm and affectionate relationship starts up between two Israeli girls and a young Palestinian man. The narrator of this extraordinary story is Taliah, a problem girl who is sent to a home for special children. The children she meets there are a collection of misfits, but many of them have brilliant fantasies. By far the greatest dreamer is Becky, a strong-willed girl whose fiery imagination charms narrator and readers alike. Becky's ambition is to have a "permanent father," and when she hears gypsy music coming from Kami's ice-cream van, she latches onto the young Arab man from the Gaza Strip. Becky imagines that Kami will rescue her but he himself is lonely and trapped, sleeping in the locked van at night, far from his family and home.

The girls lose Kami twice: first when he says goodbye and returns to Gaza, and then when he is killed in a terrorist incident.

Illustrations: Hilla Havkin

Published in French (Gallimard), German (Carl Hanser), Italian (Mondadori) and Dutch (Fontein).

Ran Cohen Harounoff

Hanneke and Fiet

Jerusalem, Keter, 2013. 67 pp. AGE: 6-9



msterdam, World War II: Hanneke, age three, is separated from her parents and sent into hiding. At first she is moved from place to place and is frightened. But when she comes to the home of Fiet, a little Dutch girl, she finds a friend and gets the warmth she missed so much. Fiet's parents treat Hanneke like their own and promise that when the war is over her parents will come and get her.

Around them the war rages on, and they see soldiers through the windows. But inside the house, Fiet plays with Hanneke and tells her stories so she won't be scared. Finally, three years later, Hanneke's parents come and fetch her.

This is a story about good, brave people, and about friendship in the midst of misery. Hanneke is actually the writer's mother, and he tells the story of her survival with love and sensitivity.

Illustrations: Vali Mintzi

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

חבר אוחבר

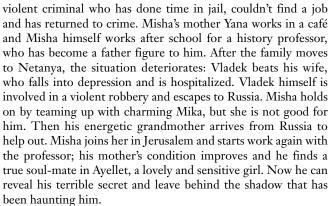
Dorit Orgad

Under a Dark Shadow

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2014. 423 pp.

AGE: 11 UP

isha, a talented 14-year-old boy, has a dark secret: his father Vladek, a



The more one gets into this surprising, moving book, the more one identifies with and admires Misha.

Dorit Orgad's books have been published abroad in 11 languages.

The Day of the Grasshopper and Other Days

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2001. 151 pp.

AGE: 10-15



תחת צל אפל

t's hard to be an immigrant in a new country, harder still for an immigrant who is black and may face hostility and prejudice because of the color of his/her skin. Osnat comes to Israel from Ethiopia. Her parents often quarrel because her father can't find suitable work, and they eventually get divorced. While out for a walk one day, Osnat catches a grasshopper and gives it to a friendly boy who wants it for his collection. But from her classmates, Osnat only gets hostility. The adults, too, are unfriendly towards her and there are even some violent incidents. But the situation slowly begins to improve. Osnat's mother finds a male friend, and Osnat takes the entrance exam to a boarding school for gifted children. There, she meets the boy to whom she gave the grasshopper when she was still a newcomer.

Illustrations: Nurit Zarfaty

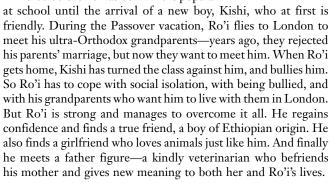
ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Forthcoming in Chinese (Jiangsu Children's Press).

A Friend Not a Friend

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2013. 247 pp. AGE: 9-12

o'i lives with his mother—his father died before he was born. He is popular



Illustrations: Avi Katz

The Teenager from Bordeaux

Jerusalem, Shazar Center, 2010. 157 pp.

AGE: 11-16



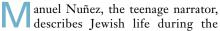
acques, the son of an art dealer in Bordeaux, discovers that his family had to flee Spain. His father considers himself a Christian, but his uncle's family observe Jewish customs in secret. When his uncle and aunt set sail for Brazil, Jacques, who came to see them off, becomes a stowaway. The journey is filled with breathtaking adventures. Muslim pirates seize the vessel, Jacques is wounded, loses his memory and later joins the ship's crew. Then Corsican pirates attack and take over after a bloody battle. Jacques is sold into slavery and ends up on the island of Malta, where he becomes a groom in a knightly order. And here he meets up with a Jewish girl, and when he sees her lighting Sabbath candles, his memory returns. Now he knows who he is, who his parents are, and what people he belongs to.

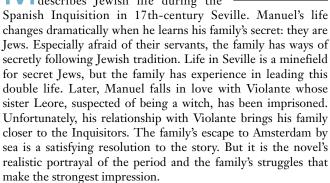
Illustrations: Avi Katz

Dorit Orgad

The Boy from Seville

Jerusalem, Zalman Shazar Center, 1984. 151 pp. AGE: 11-16





The book was awarded the Ze'ev Prize in 1987.

Illustrations: Avi Katz

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in English (Kar-Ben), French (Hachette Jeunesse), German (Alibaba; dtv junior), Italian (Mondadori), Spanish (Loguez), Russian (Aliya) and Serbian (Book & Marco).

Edna Kaplan-Hagler

Didi Is a Temporary Name

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2012. 103 pp. AGE: 8-12

A heart-warming tale of love between dog and man, and of the bond between dogs and wild foxes.

An injured dog is brought to an animal shelter, and Dalia and Yoram, who look after the animals, call her Didi. Of course, all the animals there have relationships, just like people. And each dog has its own personality, but they all long for the same thing—to find a warm and loving home.

Now Didi wants to find out where she comes from. With the help of tough, pessimistic Jerry and naïve, optimistic Muki, she steals out one night to the hills where she meets a fox. As she replies to its wails, something stirs inside her. So she joins the pack of foxes, and they all set out to search for her family—who are delighted to find her alive! Finally, with Jerry and Muki and a whole escort of foxes, Didi goes home and all three dogs get a loving family.

Illustrations: Zagny Ormut-Durbin

PARTIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

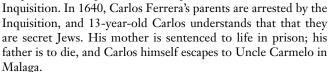


Dorit Orgad

Leaving Cordoba

Jerusalem, Zalman Shazar Center, 1991. 231 pp. AGE: 12 UP

eaving Cordoba follows a Jewish boy's perilous escape from the Spanish



Uncle and nephew decide to risk the dangerous flight to Antwerp, which has become a haven for secret Jews fleeing from the Inquisition. After experiencing a rotting, leaky boat, brutal pirates and life-threatening storms, the crew that arrives in Antwerp is destitute. But Carlos cannot give up the absurd idea of rescuing his mother. Using his recently discovered artistic talent to his advantage, he brings a famous French art collector to Bordeaux, not far from the Spanish border. He reaches the fortress where his mother is imprisoned and, in a hair-raising climax, the two escape Cordoba for good.

Dorit Orgad has produced a powerful evocation of time and place.

Illustrations: Avi Katz

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in Japanese (Ca et La Shobo).

Edna Kaplan-Hagler

Nama's Adventures

Tel Aviv, Kinneret, 2009. 150 pp. AGE: 7 UP



ama the ant is 11 years old and all her friends in the ant colony come to celebrate her birthday. For them, this party is just like any other, but to Nama it means that she is finally old enough to solve the mystery of her parents' disappearance. In the famine after the Great Flood, Nama's father volunteered to join a group that set out to search for food, and when he didn't return her mother went to find him. But no one never returned. The rest of the colony were sure they had drowned or been captured by the Yellow Ants, but Nama never lost faith.

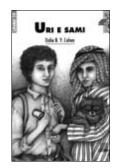
With courage, resourcefulness and a kind heart too, Nama manages to infiltrate the Yellow Kingdom and find her exhausted parents. She learns that peace is possible even between the fiercest enemies, that in times of need enemies sometimes turn out to be real friends. And that, however small, she can play an important part in changing the course of history.

Illustrations: David Gerstein

PARTIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Dalya B. Cohen *Uri and Sami*

Tel Aviv, Massada, 1981. 89 pp.



ri is a dreamer. On a class trip to the mountains he lies back in a warm, sunny spot and dreams until he loses his class. He finds a cave to shelter him from the heavy rain, until he can find his way back. During the stormy night Uri is joined by a strange, shy waif named Sami who knows how to survive the elements. Sami is an Arab from nearby. The two boys' fear decreases when they realize that they have more in common than separates them. And their connection grows when they join forces to avoid the soldiers who are searching for Uri – because Uri wants to stay a bit longer with his new friend.

Again and again, the boys' growing friendship is threatened by their deep-rooted mistrust but they overcome it. When Uri is attacked by a wolf, Sami carries his bleeding friend across the border into an enemy Arab country where his own family nurses Uri back to health.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in French (Hachette Jeunesse), German (Alibaba; dtv junior), Japanese (Yugaku-Sha) and Italian (Giunti).

Ruth Almog The Silver Ball

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1986. 79 pp. AGE: 8-12



Pnina lives in a small Jewish town in the 1940s, under the British Mandate. The story of the silver ball begins when Pnina changes her name to Julie and her scary old neighbor, Daylight, refuses to use it. Conflict ensues, and when Pnina finds a beautiful silver ball – made of tin foil – in the orchard, she suspects that Daylight wants her to be accused of stealing. At the same time, Pnina-Julie meets Rivka, a mute pianist who plays Chopin waltzes beautifully. Even though Rivka snubs her, Pnina still hangs around her door, hoping to catch a few notes.

One day, Daylight calls Pnina to his house. Inside, she finds the weakest, palest boy she has ever seen – Yariv, Daylight's grandson. When Yariv and his grandfather disappear for over a week, she realizes that Yariv has died. At that crucial moment, Rivka hands Pnina a second silver ball. The kindness reaches her through her shock and Pnina begins to sob.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (**St. Gabriel**; **Beltz**), Italian (**Mondadori**), Dutch (**Ploegsma**) and Chinese (**China Juvenile & Children**).

Tsruya Lahav

André's Wooden Clogs

Tel Aviv, Kinneret, 2002. 239 pp. AGE: 12 UP



Based on the memories of Arie Ben-Peli

ndré is six years old in 1942 when his family is endangered by Nazi persecution. Separated from his parents and his little brother, he is taken in by a farming family who look after him devotedly for two years as if he were their own child. Unexpectedly for a novel of this sort, the chapters overflow with joie de vivre as we watch the city child's adjustment to village life, his warm relationship with the family, his love of animals and the way he adapts to farmwork. During this time, the dramatic separation from his parents heals. At the end of the war André's parents, survivors, return to take their child and André again experiences the pain of separation. It will take time – all the family is reunited, but he will never forget his Dutch father, mother, brother and sister.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in Dutch (van Waveren), Italian (El) and Chinese (Jiangsu Children's Press).

Ruth Almog

My Journey with Alex

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1999. 105 pp. AGE: 11-16



The story of brothers Erwin and Alex is similar to that of many children who lost their parents during the Holocaust and wandered from place to place, hiding all the time and suffering in body and soul. This story is told by Erwin, who lived in the German city, Worms. His physician father is taken away by the Nazis, and his mother decides to send her two sons alone by train to their uncle Marcus in Strasbourg where he lives as a Christian. The children are warned not to reveal their Jewish identity. When the Germans invade Strasbourg, Marcus and his wife take Alex and flee to Montpellier. Erwin is sent to stay with a French peasant family. After the war, Erwin returns to Montpellier to look after his brother, as he had promised his mother. He and Alex emigrate to the Land of Israel, where his mother's sister lives in a cooperative village. Alex gradually overcomes the trauma of those years and finds comfort in horses.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (**Sauerlander**), Serbian (**Book & Marco**) and Chinese (**Jiangsu Children's Press**).

Eli Amir

Scapegoat

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1983. 203 pp. AGE: 13 UP



ave you ever been in a culture different from the one you came from? This colorful story, based on the author's own life, tells of 13-year-old Nuri, originally from Iraq, and a group of immigrant youngsters from Iraq, Romania, Morocco and Poland who came to Israel in the 1950s. Living and studying in a kibbutz, their shocking encounters with this new way of life cause a conflict between two cultures, East and West. We follow Nuri's experiences and see the lives of the other youngsters, who respond to the new reality each in his or her own way. Nuri is torn between his old world and the charms of the new. But although he longs to be part of Israeli society, he doesn't want to become estranged from his family and the culture that bred him. Readers who have moved from one country or society to another, or have ever felt like outsiders, will find themselves in this novel

A bestseller in Israel, *Scapegoat* has received the Youth Aliya Prize (Israel) and the Jewish World Literature Prize (Mexico).

Published in English (Weidenfeld & Nicholson; Am Oved), German (Alibaba), Russian (Am Oved), Turkish (Apollon), Azeri (Alatoran), Italian (Giuntina) and Macedonian (Goten).

Judith Rotem

Until Father Comes Back

Tel Aviv, Kinneret Zmora-Bitan, 2015. 251 pp. AGE: 9-14



t is 1942, and 8-year-old Robby Kastner is looking down at the street from a high window in his home in Bratislava, Slovakia, which has been invaded by the German army. All of a sudden, his slice of cake slips out of his hand and falls onto a Nazi soldier's helmet. The scary events that follow change the lives of Robby's whole family. During the journey of survival that follows, he moves from town to town, country to country and from one family to another. And in each of his hiding places he has to get used to a different name, to learn new rules to save himself, and to forget everything he knew before. Robby is also separated from mother, brother and sister when he is smuggled with a group of children from Budapest to the Land of Israel. There, his uncle and aunt take him in and want to adopt him, but he refuses, still hoping that his father will come back. At age 14 Robby becomes virtually homeless. Must be forget his father in order to survive, or Vera, the girl he met on his journey and liked

Until Father Comes Back is based on the true story of Judith Rotem's partner, the author Moshe Bar-Yuda and commemorates the generation of children who survived the Holocaust.

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE (FOR PUBLISHERS ONLY)

Jonathan Yavin

Anti

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2010. 247 pp. AGE: 12-15



ror, nicknamed Anti, is a rebellious 14-year-old going through a personal crisis – he's aggressive towards adults, doesn't study, and feels that no one understands him. Until, at a music store, he meets Arad and Lisa, who started "Rapture," a teenage rap group. They bring him into the group – he's very talented – and this helps him escape his worries. He also falls in love with Lisa.

But all is not well: Arad, the charismatic leader, is a tyrant and forces everyone to shoplift. Dror decides to rebel: he does battle-raps with some of the others and eventually leaves the group with Lisa. The two start a new group and prepare for the national rap contest. We follow the contest with bated breath, and the results are very surprising.

Anti is a quick, angry and touching book for young adults. It is uniquely written in rap rhythm, and is narrated in Dror's very honest voice. Rap music saves him – he learns to love and is inspired to make his way as a young artist.

Forthcoming in Japanese (Iwanami Shoten).

Yael Roseman

Strange Girl with Earrings

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1968. 124 pp. AGE: 11-13



or Marianna Huberman and her father, arriving from Eastern Europe, Israel is not the promised land they had hoped. They are housed in an unwelcoming immigrant project, where Marianna's appearance marks her out as an oddity: "She had two thick black braids wrapped around her head like a basket" and she clutches a teddy bear with glass eyes. The children watching her couldn't know that this bear was all she had to remind her of her mother. Or that years ago, Marianna's sick mother was sent to Israel, because of the warmer climate, but that since then, she has been missing.

Dr. Huberman and his daughter follow up every clue relating to Marianna's mother, every small lead. Her father despairs, but Marianna does not give up.

This book has become a classic about the immigrant experience, with Marianna as the resilient newcomer. It has been serialized on Israel TV.

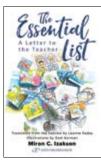
Published in German (Alibaba; pb Rowohlt).

Miron C. Izakson

Priorities – Letter to a Teacher

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2013.

AGE: 9 UP



vi's homeroom teacher has asked all the kids to list the things that they are interested in, in order of priority, and to write them in the form of a letter—like in the olden days. So 12-year-old Avi writes to his teacher, telling her his thoughts and what is important to him, like his search for identity, his relationship with his Mom and Dad and his feelings for Nili, who's in his class and thinks he's a little weird. He also writes about the dreams that he has at night, and his fears, about the nature of time, the role of numbers in the world, and the pleasure of writing. Through Avi's letter, the book explores questions that people often think about, from the vantage point of an intelligent, sensitive adolescent with a sense of humor, who looks at the world around and tries to understand his innermost thoughts and feelings.

Illustrations: Danny Kerman

Published in English (Gefen) and Chinese (Harbin Pub, Nanjang). His books of poetry and fiction have been published in French, English, Norwegian and Russian.

Nira Harel

One Too Many

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1993. 83 pp. AGE: 13-15



eray, a girl from an average Israeli family with three children, tells us about her family's adoption of Ronnie, an abandoned baby girl with Down's Syndrome. When Mother decides to bring Ronnie home, a wave of hostile reactions surges through the family. Merav hates the idea, but can't stop wondering: "If I'd been born retarded, would they have taken me home or not?" Eventually, Merav learns to accept the change and Ronnie becomes part of the family. "I used to think," Merav muses, "that parents love a problem child less. But in our family it's the other way round. Ronnie is the center of everything."

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (Alibaba; Omnibus) and Chinese (China Juvenile & Children Pub.).

Nira Harel

Frontal Collision

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1989. 133 pp. AGE: 12-14



ifteen-year-old Anat comes from a good home. Her journalist mother is a strong, warm, modern woman. Her father, a university lecturer, provides well for his family, but he doesn't have much time and accepts his family as a given. The story centers around a serious road accident in which Anat's mother is injured. The book does not deal with the accident itself but rather with its effect on the family, their mutual relationships, the changes that occur as a result of the accident, and on adolescent Anat in particular. The collision between the two cars in the accident is only one of several collisions that occur in the family during the time of Anat's sexual and mental development.

PARTIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

Published in German (Alibaba; Rowohlt).

Nira Harel

A New Hat

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 1990. 111 pp. AGE: 10-12



randpa Ze'ev is ill in hospital, but Noam, age 13, doesn't really know why. He is used to not being told anything and gets most of his information by eavesdropping.

When Noam finally convinces his mother to take him to visit, Grandpa Ze'ev's weakness is painful to see. He asks Noam to take home his new hat so that it won't get damaged. Grandpa Ze'ev's ex-wife - Noam's Grandma - arrives from America and Noam understands that his grandpa is very ill. Although he sees his father cry for the first time, no one actually tells him anything and they don't tell him when Grandpa Ze'ev dies. But Noam is given Grandpa Ze'ev's new hat and he clutches it as a symbol of new times. He has encountered mortality and learned that there are problems that have no solution.

Illustrations: Avner Katz

Published in German (Alibaba).

Nurit Zarchi

A Feel for Business

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1998. 43 pp. AGE: 8-10



a'ayan is not one of those sweet little girls who spend their time playing with dolls. She is practical, and she thinks young girls have a role to play in the adult world. Ma'ayan is proud of the business sense she has inherited from her father. Recently, her father has been having financial problems. "How can I help him?" Ma'ayan wonders. Then she comes up with an original plan. She'll sell their most valuable possession, her younger sister, who everyone likes so much... No need to worry, the potential buyers are family friends but no one can believe that Ma'ayan is serious. In the meantime, her mother also thinks of a plan. She will sell all the antiques that her grandmother brought to Israel from Germany. But Ma'ayan's "business sense" tells her to save a small chest, and in one of the drawers she finds a book, listing all of the family members and their birth dates. Ma'ayan understands that family members are not to be sold.

Published in French (**L'Ecole des Loisirs**), Spanish (**SM** Spain; **SM** Peru) and Portuguese (**SM**, Brazil).

Nurit Zarchi

Wolfinea Momi Bloom

Tel Aviv, Massada, 1986. 68 pp. AGE: 9-11



he story is told through the letters that 10-year-old Momi writes to his elderly neighbor, Aliza Sahaf. Momi walks Aliza's dog for her while she is in America. He also waters her plants, guards a nest of goslings and helps to birth puppies. When Momi starts growing orchids, he puts them in Aliza's bathtub, and it his prize bloom that gives the book its title. Momi and Aliza become close through their letters and, in between daily news, Momi tells her about his divorced parents – his mother's irritable boyfriend and his father's greedy fiancée. Momi's deadpan descriptions poke fun at the absurdity of adults and make for sparkling amusement.

Illustrations: Avi Katz

Published in Spanish (Sudamericana).

Nurit Zarchi

Don't Banish Nanny

Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 1979. 93 pp. AGE: 8-11



fter Dori's parents get divorced, the family dog, Nanny, becomes even more precious to her. And when her mother brings her "new man" home, Nanny is the one constant factor in a changing household. Gabi, the new man, dislikes dogs, especially the ones that chew shoes and can't be taught to be good. Nanny's future is uncertain, and Dori is made responsible for the dog's behavior. Perhaps Gabi won't tolerate little girls either?

Dori is resentful and afraid for Nanny, despite the adults' efforts to win her round. Gabi will have to prove that he accepts the dog before Dori can relax and feel secure. And prove it he does. When Nanny is injured in a car accident, it is the new man who is sensitive and encouraging, and his honest concern for the dog wins Dori's trust.

Don't Banish Namny received an Andersen Citation and the 1979 Bernstein Prize for Children's Literature.

Illustrations: Avner Katz

Published in German (Loewes) and Spanish (Loguez).

Ronit Matalon

A Story that Begins with a Snake's Funeral

Tel Aviv, Dvir, 1979; 1994. 168 pp. AGE: 12 UP



his lovely story has three spirited and entertaining heroes. First, there is Benjamin, who saves his schoolmate from a poisonous snake and becomes a legend in his small town. He also jumps off the water tower and makes a four-person bicycle. Then, his 11-year-old sister Margalit who is tempestuous and writes rhapsodies to her cousin signed "your loving and everloyal cousin." And finally, there is their grandmother, Madame Rachelle, who is the star of this story. It is largely to her – the way she gives her hand to be kissed when she meets a gentleman at an ice-cream parlor, and the North-African French she speaks – that the book owes its piquant Mediterranean charm. With her endless store of aphorisms and stories, Madame Rachelle is ready for any challenge, and her grandchildren's escapades show that they take after her. From her they learn to deal with loss and how imagination can turn any dilemma into an adventure.

Illustrations: Ruth Tzarfati

Published in German (Hanser).