

Jewish Children's Books Too Good To Miss: Selected List of 1987 Titles
Association of Jewish Libraries, Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee

I. Picture Books For the Youngest (K-3)

**Adler, David. *The Number on My Grandfather's Arm*. Photos by Rose Eichenbaum. UAHC (Union of American Hebrew Congregations).

The large clear photos and simple, direct language make this publication a moving introduction to the Holocaust.

Caseley, Judith. *Apple Pie and Onions*. Greenwillow Books.

A charming story of Rebecca and her Yiddish-speaking grandma, and the love and embarrassment she feels for her.

Cohen, Barbara. *Even Higher*. Illus. by Anatoly Ivanov. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard.

A popular story by I. L. Peretz is ably retold with bright, colorful illustrations.

Cooks, Roberta Goldschlag. *Gittel and the Bell*. Illus. by Susan Martz. Kar-Ben Copies.

Impish Gittel's desire to ring the village bell gets her into trouble with the elders of her shtetl.

DePaola, Tomie. *Queen Esther*. Harper & Row. Beautifully and simply told with bright simple pictures by the noted author-illustrator.

Rosenblum, Richard. *My Sister's Wedding*. Morrow.

Marrying a soldier—what could be more exciting! The author's charming sketches draw the young reader into the simple story of his sister's wartime wedding in 1943.

II. Books For Young Readers (Grades 3-6)

Chaikin, Miriam. *Esther*. Illus. by Vera Rosenberry. Jewish Publication Society.

A finely crafted book with delicate line drawings.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Exodus*. Illus. by Charles Mikolaycak. Holiday House.

Gloriously illustrated in full color with a poetic and complex text.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Yossi Tries to Help God*. Illus. by Denise Saldutti. Harper & Row.

The third delightful book about Yossi.

Citrin, Paul J. *Joseph's Wardrobe*. Illus. by Lindsey Aitken. UAHC.

This collection of five midrashim, set within a tale of marriage and intrigue in King Solomon's court, should appeal to those who love adventure stories.

Cohen, Barbara. *The Christmas Revolution*. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard.

An excellent, enjoyable, and much-needed book in which all "December issues" are raised.

Cohen, Barbara. *First Fast*. Illus. by Martin Lemelman. UAHC.

A meaningful story of ten-year-old Harry's first Yom Kippur fast.

Kuskin, Karla. *Jerusalem, Shining Still*. Woodcuts by David Frampton. Harper & Row.

Appealing to adults and children, the handsome tinted woodcuts and serious poetic words outline the history of Jerusalem from the time of King David until today.

Schnur, Steven. *The Return of Morris Schumsky*. Illus. by Victor Lazzaro. UAHC.

Delightful, irrepressible Morris Schumsky adds a few unexpected guests to his granddaughter's wedding and provides a meaningful twist to a special day.

Wikler, Madeline; Groner, Judyth. *Miracle Meals: Eight Nights of Food 'n Fun for Chanukah*. Illus. by Chari Radin. Kar-Ben Copies.

Lots of fun and food in this new cookbook.

III. Books For Young Adults (Grades 5-8)

Fiction

Gerber, Merrill Joan. *Also Known as Sadzia! the Belly Dancer!* Harper & Row.

Twelve-year-old girls will love this delightfully upbeat "growing-up" story.

**Levitin, Sonia. *The Return*. Atheneum.

Teenage Desta tells her story of the exodus from Ethiopia to modern Israel.

Nonfiction

Drucker, Malka. *Eliezer Ben-Yehuda: The Father of Modern Hebrew*. Lodestar Books.

Gross, David. *A Justice For All the People: Louis D. Brandeis*. Lodestar Books.

Krantz, Hazel. *Daughter of My People: Henrietta Szold and Hadassah*. Lodestar Books.

Three new titles from Lodestar's Jewish Biography Series; short but thorough biographies of important Jewish figures.

Kushner, Lawrence. *The Book of Miracles*. UAHC.

A carefully organized collection of midrashim, retold and enhanced with commentary by a leading theologian and masterful story-teller.

Shamir, Ilana, editor. *The Young Reader's Encyclopedia of Jewish History*. Viking-Kestrel.

An attractive, ambitious volume filled with beautiful and informative color photographs and useful maps.

Shteiner, Puah. *Forever My Jerusalem*. Feldheim.

This touching memoir of a young child's exile from Jerusalem, and her triumphant return as an adult in 1967, has garnered much praise.

**Sydney Taylor Book Award winners