

New Titles May 2026

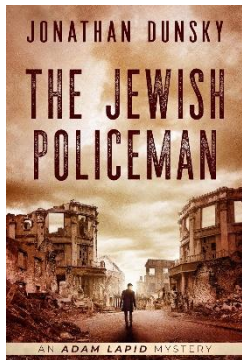
FICTION

The last woman of Warsaw by Judy Batalion



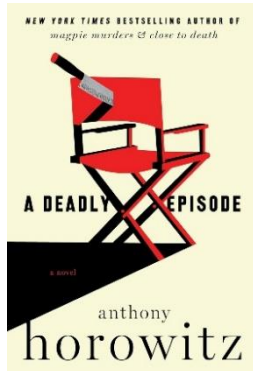
The debut novel by the critically acclaimed New York Times bestselling author of *The Light of Days*, following two very different Jewish women in Warsaw in the late 1930s as they unexpectedly come together in their search for love, meaning, and a sense of home, and as they grapple with the storm clouds gathering around them. 1938: Fanny Zelshinsky is a sophisticated, modern daughter of the city's Jewish elite who wants nothing more than to be recognized as a legitimate artist by her family, her radical professor whom she idolizes, and the world at large. And all while she wonders if she is really going to go through with her wedding. Meanwhile, Zosia Dror has left behind her small northeastern shtetl and religious family in the wake of violence. Part of a budding youth movement that believes in social equality and creating a Jewish homeland, all she wants is to not get distracted by the glitz and hubbub of the city—or by the keen eyes of a certain tall, handsome comrade. When legendary artist Wanda Petrovsky—both a member of Zosia's movement leadership and Fanny's beloved photography professor—goes missing, the two young women are thrown together in the pursuit of the elusive firebrand. Is Wanda simply hiding, or is her disappearance connected to the rise in antisemitic laws and university practices? Fanny and Zosia may be the most unlikely of allies, but they must bridge their differences to help someone they both care for—and dodge the danger mounting around them in the process.

The Jewish Policeman by Jonathan Dunskey (Adam Lapid Mysteries)



Germany 1945 - Former police detective Adam Lapid survived Auschwitz. Now he lives in a displaced persons camp for Holocaust survivors. Consumed by a desire for vengeance, Adam dreams of hunting Nazis and making them pay for their crimes. But when another crime strikes closer to home, Adam will need to set aside the role of the avenger and become a detective once more.

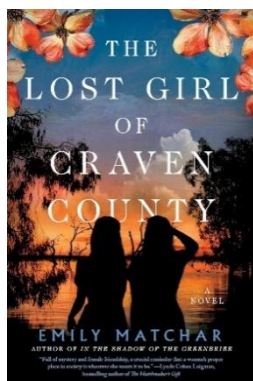
A deadly episode by Anthony Horowitz (Hawthorne and Horowitz Mysteries)



Ex-Detective Inspector Daniel Hawthorne is dead. Or, rather, the actor playing him in the film adaptation of *The Word Is Murder* is. Rising star David Caine has been stabbed and it seems that everyone on the set had a motive. Caine had just fired his PA. He had fallen out with his director, slept with the screenwriter, humiliated his co-star and dropped his agent days before he was about to sign a multi-million-dollar deal to appear in the next Spider-Man movie. But what if Caine's murderer had made a mistake? What if it was the real Hawthorne who was the intended victim? For it turns out that the brilliant detective may have got it wrong ten years earlier. An innocent man has died in jail. And perhaps someone has

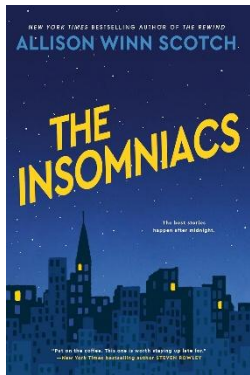
decided that Hawthorne must pay the price. From the film set on the south coast of England, the story moves to Reeth, in Yorkshire, the village where Hawthorne grew up. A burned-down school, a car accident that isn't what it seems, blackmail and murder in an Elizabethan country house . . . somehow, they combine to unlock the secret of what has happened in Hastings. For once, the local police are helpful. DS Sarah Milnes gives Hawthorne carte blanche to investigate and there may even be a hint of romance in the air. Which leaves his hapless sidekick, Horowitz, on his own, stumbling his way to the truth. A riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma, *A Deadly Episode* is an intriguing page-turner that once again demonstrates why Anthony Horowitz is the reigning king of the modern whodunit.

The lost girl of Craven County by Emily Matchar



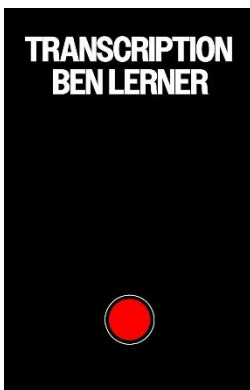
A decade into the Great Depression, Millicent Green is a twenty-five-year-old "old maid" living with her marriage-obsessed mother and domineering older brother in the stiflingly small Jewish community of New Bern, North Carolina. Smart and prickly, she's struggling to find her place in the world following the loss of her beloved younger brother, and with him, her dreams for the future. One humid August day, Millie is sent to run an errand and discovers a young woman unconscious on the ground. This mystery woman, mute and without identification, will upend Millie's life. Together, they set out on a quest that will lay bare some of the twentieth century's most shameful episodes.

The insomniacs by Allison Winn Scotch



In the city that never sleeps, it's not always easy to share what's on your mind with the people who know you best. Huddled in an all-night diner over coffee and pancakes, a lonely middle-aged mom, an injured baseball pro, an elusive retiree, and a young waitress examine the thoughts that plague them in the middle of the night. Empty-nester Sybil does what she does best: rolls up her sleeves and spearheads the efforts to turn this group of strangers into friends. Aimless after an injury threatens to ruin his career, Zeke finds genuine connection among the unlikely group. Tight-lipped Julian, who's seemingly adrift in retirement and attempting to rebuild a relationship with his daughter, expands their circle when he takes their cagey diner waitress, Betty, under his wing. Betty, cautious about strangers and uncertain about strokes of good luck, entertains the trio in an attempt to resolve her own problems, which she keeps close to the vest. Within a few restless months, the group of strangers have become a fragile family. And when one of them goes missing in the dead of night, they're thrust into a propulsive mystery pulled straight from the true-crime podcasts Sybil obsesses over. Though ill-prepared and unequipped for the job, they begin to piece together the clues left behind. In chasing down answers, they uncover a reason for their friend's disappearance, and are forced to wrestle with the question of how well you can really know anyone—and once you do, how much are you willing to risk to save them? And in doing so, save yourself?

Transcription by Ben Lerner



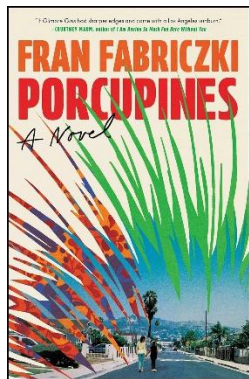
From the "most talented writer of his generation" (The New York Times), a lightning flash of a novel that is at once a gripping emotional drama and a brilliant examination of the devices, digital and literary, we use to store-or to erase-our memories. The narrator of Ben Lerner's new novel has traveled to Providence, Rhode Island, where he is to conduct what will be the final published interview with Thomas, his ninety-year-old mentor and the father of his college friend, Max. Thomas is a giant in the arts who seems to hail "from the future and the past simultaneously" and who "reenchants the air" when he speaks. But the narrator drops his smartphone in the hotel sink. He arrives at Thomas's house with no recording device, a fact he is mysteriously unable to confess. What unfolds from this dreamlike circumstance is both the unforgettable story of the triangle formed by Thomas, Max, and the narrator, and a brilliant meditation on those technologies that enrich or impoverish our connection to one another, that store or obliterate memory. Haunted by Kafka (there are echoes of "The Judgement" and "A Hunger Artist"), but utterly contemporary, Lerner combines trenchant insight with lyric mystery. Ultimately, Transcription demonstrates what only a work of fiction can record.

Odessa by Gabrielle Sher



Yetta is a bright, quick teenage girl with a wild, searching spirit. Stifled by her mother's anxiety, her father's rules, and the path that's been laid out for her, she craves freedom, the edges of which she doesn't know. But her family has reason to be cautious and restrictive. Fear has wrapped itself around their shtetl. Jews are mysteriously disappearing, and there are whispers of an impending attack. When violence comes to their door, Yetta is killed. Her father, in his grief, fumbles through his nascent knowledge of ancient texts and old magic to bring her back. By some miracle, Yetta is returned—but although she looks the same, she is not the girl she once was. Yetta senses there is a secret her family is keeping from her. The answer resides, in part, in the creature lurking in the woods beyond the shtetl—something that may be of her father's making, and a being that has plans of its own.

Porcupines by Fran Fabriczki



Sonia is a Hungarian immigrant who is raising her daughter, Mila—her beloved Milosh—on her own in sunny Los Angeles. Her days are a blur of not-quite-illegal business activities, dodging PTA moms, and baking birthday cakes laced with rum—minor mistakes that nevertheless continually remind her of everything she doesn't understand about America and parenthood. Mila, meanwhile, is juggling violin and swimming lessons and navigating the treacherous social politics of school with the help of a less-than-helpful guidebook on how to be cool in the sixth grade—all the while trying to get her secretive mother to share something, anything, about her past. Sonia is sure that their bond, stitched from drive-through dinners, extracurricular activities, and a lot of exasperated affection for each other—will be enough to satisfy her daughter. But her guarded lifestyle has left Mila lonely, isolated, and ready to write herself into a bigger story. When she stumbles across emails between her mother and a man she's never met, Mila decides to take matters into her own hands and forms a plan that will implode their carefully constructed lives. Moving between Budapest before the fall of the Berlin Wall; Washington, DC, in the tense years of the Cold War; and the bright sunshine of early aughts Los Angeles, *Porcupines* is an irresistible novel about mothers and daughters, secrecy and loneliness, belonging and reinvention—and what happens when the truth can't be held back any longer.

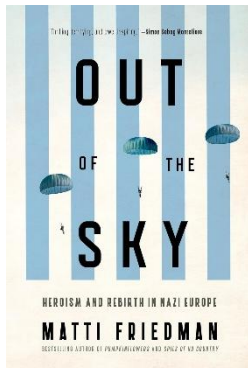
NON-FICTION

When we see you again by Rachel Goldberg-Polin



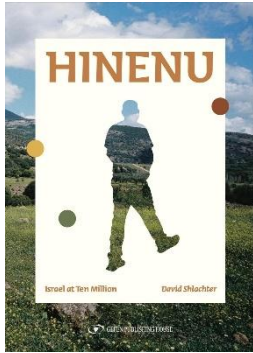
On the morning of October 7th, 2023, Rachel Goldberg-Polin's beloved twenty-three-year-old son, Hersh, was stolen from a music festival billed as a celebration of unity and love—and, in that moment, her life was forever separated into The Before and The After. Over the next eleven months, she and her husband, Jon, would work tirelessly—in public and behind the scenes—to secure the hostages' release, to breathe some humanity into the situation while they were experiencing relentless emotional and psychological torment. The power of her raw and fervent pleas soon made her the face of the hostage crisis. And when Hersh and five other captives were executed after surviving 328 days of violence and cruelty, she would also become the face of its ultimate cost. In *When We See You Again*, Rachel pours her pain, love, and longing onto paper, giving voice to the broken among us, and reminding us that even when the world feels choked with darkness, light exists in a different way. How do we find it? Her own experience has been extreme, but at its essence, this is a universal story of trying to live with grief. It is a story of how we remember and how we persevere, of how we suffer and how we love.

Out of the sky: Heroism and rebirth in Nazi Europe by Marri Friedman



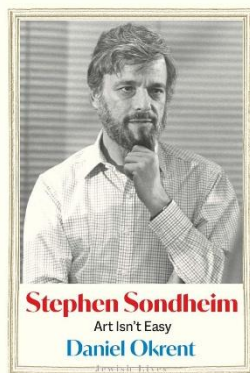
In *Out of the Sky*, Matti Friedman unravels one of the strangest episodes of World War II: In 1944, a team of young women and men who had escaped the Holocaust made the inconceivable choice to parachute back into Nazi-occupied Europe under the cover of a British military operation. Yet by the end of the mission, not a single Nazi was harmed and not a single Jew was saved, and many of the parachutists died in the process. Even so, some of their names would become legendary, especially that of twenty-three-year-old Hannah Senesh, the author of the beloved Hebrew song “Eli, Eli.” Their story would become one of the young state of Israel's founding myths—but what exactly was the mission, and what had the parachutists actually accomplished? What made them heroes?

Hinenu: Israel at ten million by David Shlachter



Israel has reached a population of 10 million. Though the country is the subject of global fascination, few have a firm grasp of the incredibly diverse set of humans who call Israel home. This project used the most recent population census to guide the selection of 100 people who collectively match the demographics of the country by age, gender, religion/ethnicity, location of residence, and place of origin. The goal is to present each participant in full dignity as they share the truth of their lived experiences. My hope is that after digesting their stories, readers will grow slightly less certain and slightly more curious, expanding their capacity for empathy.

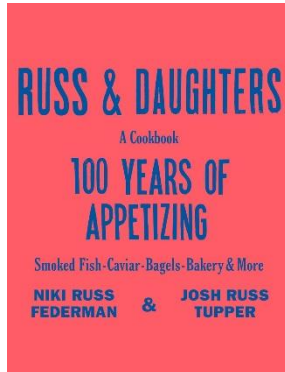
Stephen Sondheim: Art isn't easy by Daniel Okrent (Jewish Lives series)



Stephen Sondheim (1930–2021) was a towering figure in American musical theater. Celebrated for such iconic Broadway shows as *Company*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Into the Woods*, his accolades include eight Tony Awards, multiple Grammy Awards, an Academy Award, and a Pulitzer Prize. In this intimate biography, Daniel Okrent follows Sondheim through the tumult of his upbringing and his parents' divorce, his life-changing relationship with Oscar Hammerstein II and subsequent immersion in musical theater, and his rise to fame as both a lyricist and composer. Okrent shines new light on Sondheim's complicated emotional life, wavering self-confidence, and alcoholism, drawing on the artist's intimate correspondence with such notable figures as Hal Prince, Leonard Bernstein, and Arthur Laurents; exclusive interviews with his close friends and collaborators, including James Lapine and John Weidman; and Sondheim's own oral history, which remained closed until his death. He also reveals a previously unknown (and crucial) aspect of the infamous letter from Sondheim's mother that made him believe she regretted his birth. As Okrent explores the ways Sondheim's music and lyrics express the inner man, he shows us a life that was defined by two parallel arcs: the movement from alienation to connection, and from ambivalence to resolution.

COOKBOOKS

Russ & Daughters: 100 years of appetizing by Niki Russ Federman and Josh Russ Tupper



In 1907, a Jewish immigrant named Joel Russ landed in New York City, where he took a pushcart of herring and built a legacy that would pass down through fathers and daughters (and sons and husbands and wives) for more than a hundred years. Four generations later, the ancestral heart of Russ & Daughters continues to bustle on the Lower East Side, with three more locations throughout the city. Over the course of a century, Russ & Daughters has fed hundreds of thousands of customers, many considering a visit to the original shop on East Houston a family tradition, weekly ritual, or New York experience. Now, for the first time, Russ & Daughters brings its world-famous institution into readers' homes. Its rich history is told through insider anecdotes from the family and characters on both sides of the counter; illuminating guides to its most famed offerings—smoked salmon, sable, sturgeon, herring, and caviar; and more than 100 cherished recipes for favorite foods like latkes, matzo ball soup, babka, and bagels, among many others. Nothing can ever replace the experience of taking a number, kibbitzing with a slicer, waiting in line, and ordering your whitefish or belly lox. Yet this book captures some of that infectious Russ & Daughters appetizing spirit, and most importantly, brings families and friends together around the table.

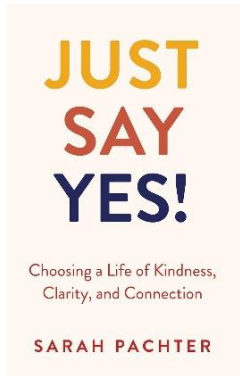
The Ketubah renaissance: The artful modern revival of the Jewish marriage contract by Michael Shapiro

KETUBAH RENAISSANCE The Artful Modern Revival of the Jewish Marriage Contract



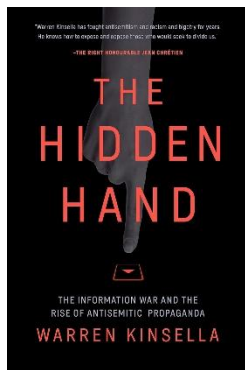
Illuminating the contemporary revival of the Jewish marriage contract, *Ketubah Renaissance* relays the storied history of this beloved document (known in Hebrew as a ketubah) through the present day and showcases sixty of the most innovative and beautiful ketubot of the last half century. Originally created 2,500 years ago as a unilateral marriage contract stating what a groom would provide for his bride, the ketubah evolved from the tenth century onward into a richly decorated expression of love and commitment. Starting in the late 1960s a modern sensibility took root. Influenced by Jewish life and North American society at large, hundreds of artists and calligraphers began to imprint their unique aesthetic onto each ketubah design--a movement Judaica scholar Shalom Sabar calls "a veritable renaissance of the illuminated ketubbah"--while also updating the original Aramaic text to express contemporary values. Couples and families with upcoming weddings as well as officiating clergy, educators, aficionados of Jewish culture, scholars, and others will discover the evolving history of the ketubah in all its facets: its artforms, texts, scripts, iconography, production processes, and technological innovations. A curated, chronological ketubah gallery brings readers up close to sixty influential ketubot and the artists who created them--a colorful cornucopia of breakthroughs that epitomize the ketubah renaissance.

Just say yes!: Choosing a life of kindness, clarity, and connection by Sarah Pachter



In a world of constant overstimulation, where feeling overwhelmed has become the new normal, *Just Say Yes!* offers a refreshing and practical guide to finding inner balance. Many people struggle to navigate life's three foundational relationships: with themselves, with others, and with their Creator. Learning how to nurture these relationships and knowing when to say yes to what truly matters is essential to living a meaningful and fulfilling life. Grounded in timeless Jewish wisdom and real-life insight, this book guides readers through personal growth, spiritual clarity, and deeper connection. Each section of this book focuses on a different aspect of that growth.

The hidden hand: The information war and the rise of antisemitic propaganda by Warren Kinsella

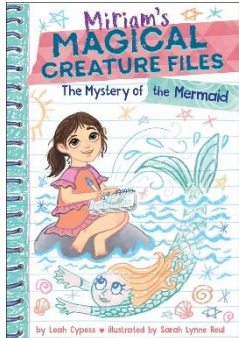


October 7th, 2023 was a truly horrific day—a day in which Israeli men, women, and children were slaughtered or kidnapped, in the most barbaric fashion possible by the Iran-backed, Gaza-based terrorist group Hamas. The attack set off a bloody war, with profound consequences for both Israelis and Palestinians. That much is well known. Less known is the propaganda campaign—the narrative war—that also began on that day. Like Hamas' war on Israel, the narrative war had been in the works for a long time. It took, and continues to take, planning, organization, and lots of money. Paid protestors. Professional organizers. Top-notch lobby efforts. NGOs, unions, and associations working together like a well-oiled machine. And, of course, messages designed to capture the support of legislators, voters, and the media.

There is little, if anything, organic about this campaign, even if some of its own participants aren't quite aware of it. Interestingly, Canada has become ground zero for this international effort, a result of shifting demographics, porous online and physical borders when it comes to foreign interference, lack of political will, and failure to enforce laws that could help prevent the spread of this type of hate. The numbers themselves are astounding, reflecting a growing tide of antisemitism, anti-Zionism, and general intolerance with a brazenness that has not been witnessed before. A country known for its historic support for the Jewish homeland and for Jews in general has become, since October 7th, a place where Jews live in fear, with skyrocketing incidents of vandalism, violence, threats, and intimidation. A highly successful political strategist, and legal advocate for victims of hate, Warren Kinsella deconstructs the inner workings of this campaign of hate, and pulls no punches as to what is at stake here: the further spread of antisemitism within society—especially amongst the younger generations but certainly not limited to that demographic—and how to offset it.

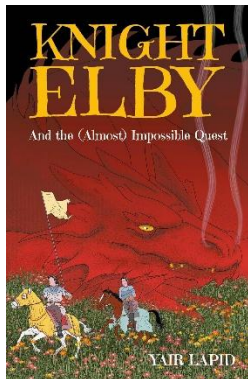
YOUNG READER

Miriam's magical creature files: The mystery of the mermaid by Lean Cypess



Miriam is the youngest, but that doesn't mean she doesn't know things. She's not as gullible as her parents or older siblings think, and she is too old for ridiculous stories that make no sense. So, using her superior detective skills, she sets out to find the truth about all of the fantastical things that people tell gullible kids. It's finally summer vacation, and that means one thing: Miriam and her family are headed to Mermaid Lake! Legend has it the lake was named after the mermaid who swims beneath its waters, but as an experienced magical mystery detective, Miriam is determined to find out the truth. She has the perfect trap in mind . . . if she can get up the courage to climb the big waterslide. This could be her most challenging case yet, but Miriam's determined to find the mermaid—if she even exists.

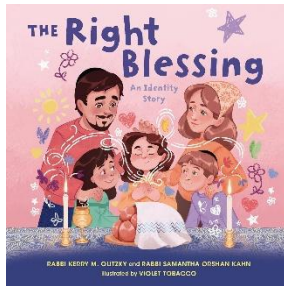
Knight Elby and the (almost) impossible quest by Yahi Lapid



A hilarious adventure with a thrilling dragon-sized quest, featuring Knight Elby and his friends, with short chapters ideal for reading aloud at bedtime. Meet Elby, a young and hopelessly heroic knight whose valiant heart is matched only by his knack for losing his sword at the worst possible moments. With the help of his friends, Elby is determined to rescue the enchanting Princess Eleni from the clutches of the menacing Queen Concenta Cylmus. Knight Elby the Brave is a laugh-out-loud, edge-of-your-seat tale packed with thrilling scrapes, bizarre twists, and the kind of mental gymnastics that might make your head spin. From narrow escapes in crumbling castles to outsmarting riddling trolls, Elby's quest is a whirlwind of action and hilarity. But beneath the sword-swiping (when he can find it) and dragon-ducking, Elby's story reveals the true courage of friendship, determination, and believing in yourself—even when you trip over your own armor. This uproariously funny, action-packed rollercoaster is a must-read for adventure lovers, laugh-seekers, and anyone who's ever felt like they've misplaced something important... like a sword. Highly recommended for knights of all ages! An undiscovered classic now translated into English for the first time, this Hebrew bestseller by a former Israeli Prime Minister was first published in Israel in 1998 almost 30 years ago.

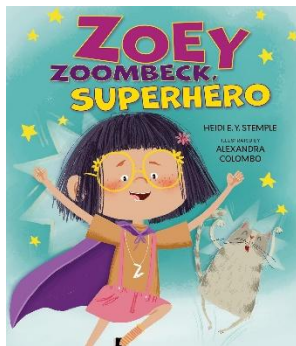
JUVENILE

The right blessing: An identity story by Kerry Olitzky



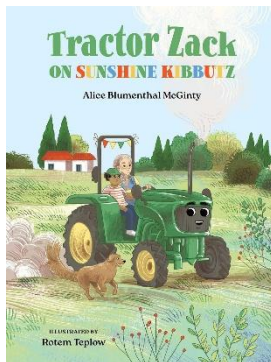
Joey has always felt different, especially when playing with friends like Adam or sitting with the girls at recess. By age nine, she knows she's not a boy, but telling her family is terrifying. One Shabbat evening, Joey's anxiety builds during the family blessing. Unable to bear being called a boy any longer, she stops the ceremony and shares, "I'm not really a boy." Her parents listen closely and, after a heartfelt conversation, offer unconditional love. They agree to use "she" and "her" for Joey. Though they make mistakes, they do their best, and Joey finally feels seen. At the next Shabbat dinner, she receives the blessing she's always wanted.

Zoey Zoombeck, superhero by Heidi E.Y Stemple



From stopping avalanches to rescuing runaway trains, Zoey faces danger with her cape and a little imagination . . . until she discovers that she can find her courage even without it. A humorous story of imagination

Tractor Zach on sunshine kibbutz by Alice Blumenthal McGinty



Tractor Zack has always been a hardworking helper on Sunshine Kibbutz. But when his tires go flat and his engine slows down, he starts to wonder if he's too old to be useful. As the kibbutz prepares for the joyful Shavuot holiday, Zack searches for a new job—and a renewed sense of purpose. With help from young Ben and a little creativity, Zack discovers that being useful doesn't always mean doing what you used to do. Set on a modern Israeli kibbutz, Tractor Zack is a heartwarming tale of resilience, reinvention, and belonging, with gentle humor and a celebration of Jewish culture and community.