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SPRING 2024

Books Like Sapphires

From the Library of Congress Judaica Collection

Ann Brener

Illustrated highlights from the Judaica Collection of the Library of Congress.

Books Like Sapphires showcases a wide range of Hebraic treasures from the storied collection at the Library of Congress, many of them for the first time. Tracing the history of Judaica collecting in the twentieth-century United States, the book illuminates varied works, telling their stories alongside vibrant color images. These include a unique manuscript about a betrothal scandal in Renaissance Crete, an illustrated Esther Scroll, a poem from 1477 celebrating the new technology of printing; amusing rhymed couplets in 16th-century Padua; and the Washington Haggadah.

This book also tells the story of the patrons and collectors, first among them Jacob Schiff, as well as archivists and curators, who made the storied Judaica archive at the Library of Congress the precious resource that it is today.

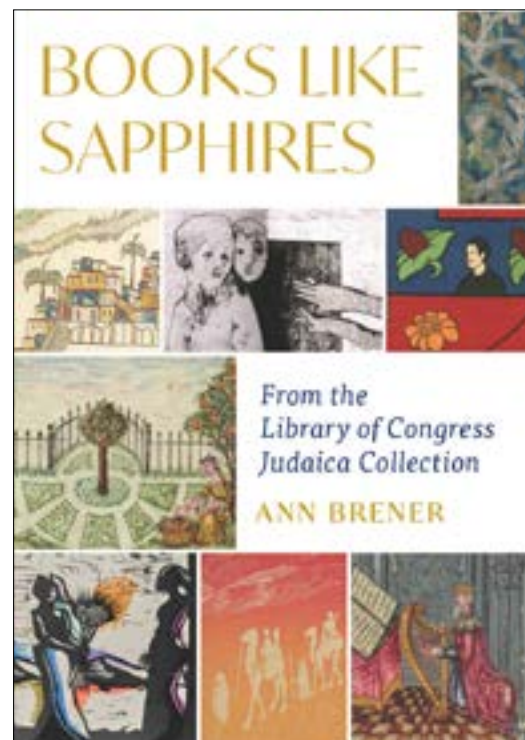
Ann Brener served as the Hebraic Specialist at the Library of Congress from 2009-2022. Prior to that she taught Medieval Hebrew Poetry at Ben-Gurion University in Israel and published two books on the subject, *Judah Halevi and His Circle of Hebrew Poets in Granada* and *Isaac ibn Khalfun: A Wandering Hebrew Poet of the Eleventh Century*. She lives in Columbia, South Carolina.



Figure 5.2. Ruth and Naomi in the fields of Bethlehem from *Megillat Ruth*, a limited artist's edition of the Scroll of Ruth.



Figure 20.3. A balance used for making calculations from *Sefer Evronot* (Eastern or Central Europe ca. 1593-1604).



MAY

272 p. 9 x 11

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ART / JEWISH HISTORY

"An introduction to the field through the lens of a particular collection, exceptionally readable and well-presented. A book that is fresh and compelling, a total pleasure to read."

— Marc Michael Epstein, Vassar College, author of *Skies of Parchment, Seas of Ink: Jewish Illuminated Manuscripts*

"A well written and interesting view on a selection of Hebraic rara. A beautiful and highly useful means of communicating the treasures that are known only to a few scholars to a wide, interested public." — Katrin Kogman-Appel, University of Münster, author of *Illuminated Haggadot from Medieval Spain: Biblical Imagery and the Passover Holiday*

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Chaim Weizmann

A Biography

Jehuda Reinharz & Motti Golani

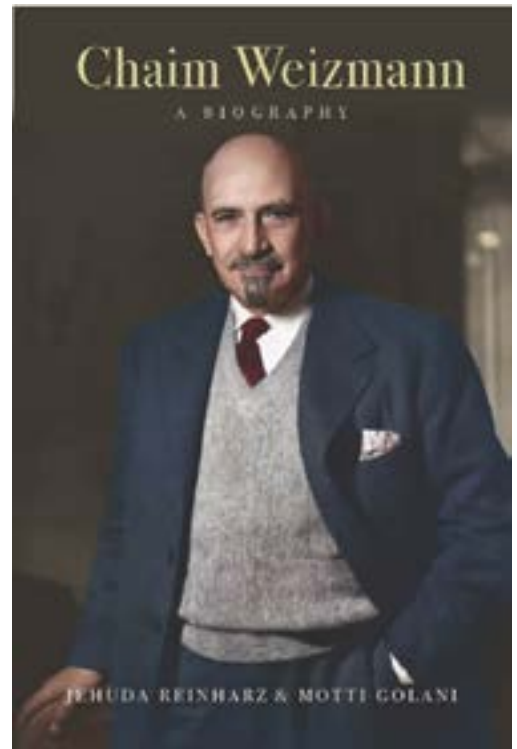
A magisterial biography of Israel's first president.

In *Chaim Weizmann: A Biography*, Jehuda Reinharz and Motti Golani show how Weizmann, a leader of the World Zionist Organization who became the first president of Israel, advocated for a Jewish state by gaining the support of influential politicians and statesmen as well as Jews around the world. Beginning with his childhood in Belorussia and concluding with his tenure as president, Reinharz and Golani describe how a Russian Jew, who immigrated to the United Kingdom in the early twentieth century, was able to advance the goals of Theodor Herzl, the founder of the Zionist Organization. Weizmann is also shown as a man of human foibles – his infatuations, political machinations and elitism – as well as a man of admirable qualities – intelligence, wit, charisma, and dedication.

Weizmann, who came to the UK to work as a chemist, was in regular communication with British political figures, including prime ministers Arthur James Balfour, David Lloyd George, Winston Churchill, and Ramsay MacDonald. He also met presidents of the United States from Woodrow Wilson to Harry Truman. His success in earning the support of British political figures helped lead to the Balfour Declaration, which advocated for a “national home” for the Jewish people in Palestine.

As the authors show in this authoritative account of Weizmann's life, Weizmann was guided by the belief that “Zion shall be redeemed in justice,” a phrase that recurs often in his writings.

Jehuda Reinharz is the Richard Koret Professor of Modern Jewish History at Brandeis University, where he served as President for seventeen years. He is the author and coauthor of more than thirty books in Jewish studies, including *The Road to September 1939: Polish Jews, Zionists, and the Yishuv on the Eve of World War II* and *Zionism and the Creation of a New Society*. He is the president and chief executive officer of the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Foundation. **Motti Golani** is Ruhama Rosenberg Professor for Jewish History and heads the Chaim Weizmann Institute for the Study of Zionism and Israel at Tel Aviv University. He has authored and coauthored over a dozen books, including *Palestine Between Politics and Terror, 1945–1947* and *Two Sides of the Coin: Independence and Nakba 1948, Two Narratives of the 1948 War and its Outcome*.



The Tauber Institute Series for the Study of European Jewry

MAY

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ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-196-2

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JEWISH STUDIES / BIOGRAPHY

“This exquisitely detailed and rich biography makes a huge contribution not only in bringing to life this extraordinary and complex figure, but also in animating the difficult challenges of the Zionist movement.” — A.B. Yehoshua, Israel Prize Laureate

“Eminently readable and as riveting as a work of fiction.” — *Ha'aretz*

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Mazaltob

A Novel

Written by **Blanche Bendahan**

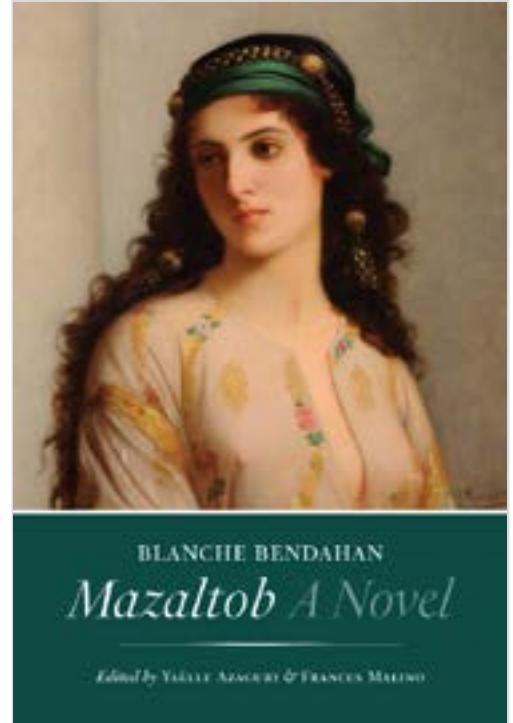
Edited by **Yaëlle Azagury & Frances Malino**

A first-ever English translation of a compelling work by a forerunner of modern Sephardi feminist literature.

Raised in the Judería or Jewish quarter of Tetouan, Morocco, at the turn of the 20th-century, sixteen-year-old Mazaltob finds herself betrothed to José, an uncouth man from her own community who has returned from Argentina to take a wife. Mazaltob, however, is in love with Jean, who is French, half-Jewish, and a free spirit. In this classic of North African Jewish fiction, Blanche Bendahan evokes the two compelling forces tearing Mazaltob apart in her body and soul: her loyalty to the Judería and her powerful desire to follow her own voice and find true love.

Bendahan's nuanced and moving novel is a masterly exploration of the language, religion, and quotidian customs constraining North African Jewish women on the cusp of emancipation and decolonization. Yaëlle Azagury and Frances Malino provide the first English translation of this modern coming-of-age tale, awarded a prize by the Académie Française in 1930, and analyze the ways in which *Mazaltob*, with its disconcerting blend of ethnographic details and modernist experimentation, is the first of its genre—that of the feminist Sephardi novel. A historical introduction, a literary analysis, and annotations elucidate historical and cultural terms for readers, supplementing the author's original notes.

Blanche Bendahan (1893–1975) was born in Algeria to a Jewish family of Moroccan descent and moved to France shortly after she was born. She was a writer of poetry as well as fiction. *Mazaltob*, which won an award from the Académie Française, was her first novel. **Yaëlle Azagury** is a writer, literary scholar, and critic. She was a lecturer in French and Francophone studies at Barnard College and a lecturer in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. She is a native of Tangier, Morocco. **Frances Malino** is the Sophia Moses Robison Professor of Jewish Studies and History Emerita at Wellesley College. In 2012 she was named Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques by the French Ministry of Education.



The Tauber Institute Series for the Study of European Jewry

JUNE

192 p. 6 x 9

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-206-8

Cloth \$120.00

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-205-1

Paper \$29.95

LITERATURE

"*Mazaltob* is a fascinating portrait of a young Moroccan Sephardi woman as she navigates the ever-shifting ground between tradition and modernity, East and West, self and other, obligation and desire. Stylistically bold, culturally rich, by turns comic and wrenching, this polyphonic novel is both historically important and, in its new translation, a gift for our current times." Elizabeth Graver, author of *Kantika*

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New Edition

The Soiling of Old Glory

The Story of a Photograph That Shocked America

Louis P. Masur

The history of a disturbing image, now iconic, that expressed the turmoil of the 1970s and race relations in the United States, with a new preface by the author and a foreword by Ted Landsmark.

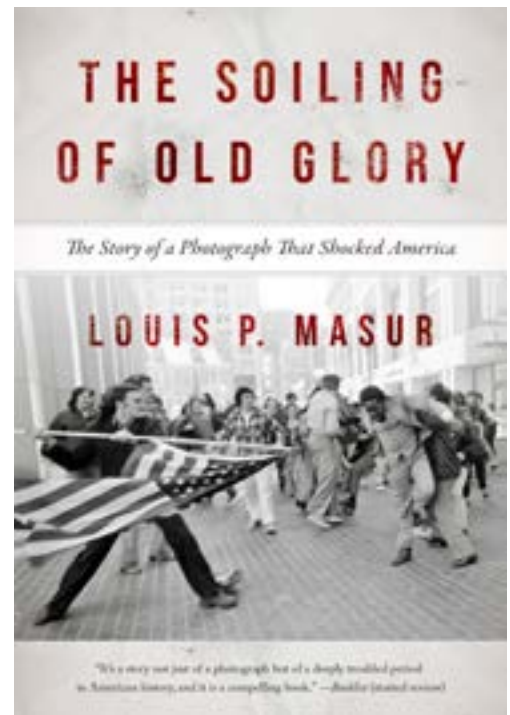
In 1976, Boston was bitterly divided over a court order to desegregate its public schools. Plans to bus students between predominantly white and Black neighborhoods stoked backlash and heated protests. Photojournalist Stanley Forman was covering one such demonstration at City Hall when he captured an indelible image: a white protester attacking a Black attorney with the American flag. A second white man grabs at the victim, appearing to assist the assailant.

The photo appeared in newspapers across the nation and went on to win the Pulitzer Prize. In *The Soiling of Old Glory*, esteemed historian Louis P. Masur reveals what happened the day of the assault and the ways these events reverberated long afterward. He interviews the men involved: Forman, who took the photo; Ted Landsmark, a Black, Yale-educated attorney and an activist; Joseph Rakes, the white protester lunging with the flag, a disaffected student; and Jim Kelly, a local politician who opposed busing, but who helped Landsmark to his feet after protesters knocked him to the ground. The photo, Masur discovers, holds more complexities than initially meet the eye. The flag never made contact with the victim, for example, and Kelly was attempting to protect Landsmark, not hurt him.

Masur delves into the history behind Boston's efforts to desegregate the schools and the anti-busing protests that shook the city. He examines photography's power to move, inform, and persuade us, as well the assumptions we each bring to an image as viewers. And he delves into the flag to explore how other artists and photographers have shaped, bolstered, or challenged its patriotic significance.

Gripping and deeply researched, *The Soiling of Old Glory* shows how a disturbing event, frozen on a film, impacted Boston and the nation. In an age of renewed calls for visual literacy and disagreements about the flag's meaning, Masur's history, now updated with a new foreword by Ted Landsmark and a new preface by the author, is as relevant as ever.

Louis P. Masur is Board of Governors Professor of American Studies and History at Rutgers University. He is the author of many books including *The Sum of Our Dreams: A Concise History of America*, *Lincoln's Last Speech: Wartime Reconstruction and the Crisis of Reunion*, *Lincoln's Hundred Days: The Emancipation Proclamation and the War for the Union*, and *The Civil War: A Concise History*.



APRIL

224 p. 5.75 x 8.5

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-217-4

Paper \$29.95

HISTORY

"A gem of a book... Masur is superb when deconstructing the photo, pointing out the elements of its composition that infused it with meaning, while at the same time asking provocative questions that illuminate how the interpretation of a photograph can affect our perception of an event. Equally compelling is Masur's discussion of the shifting and potent historical symbolism of the American flag, which stands at the metaphorical center of the photo." — *Publishers Weekly Starred Review*

"It's the story not just of a photograph but of a deeply troubled period of American history and it is a compelling book." — *Booklist*

"The disparity between actual event and photographic appearance is what makes (this book) read at times like a mystery story, as we wait to hear that over time the truth of the image has silted out into our cultural consciousness." — *The American Scholar*

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New Edition

Freshwater Fish of the Northeast

Written by David A. Patterson

Illustrated by Matt Patterson

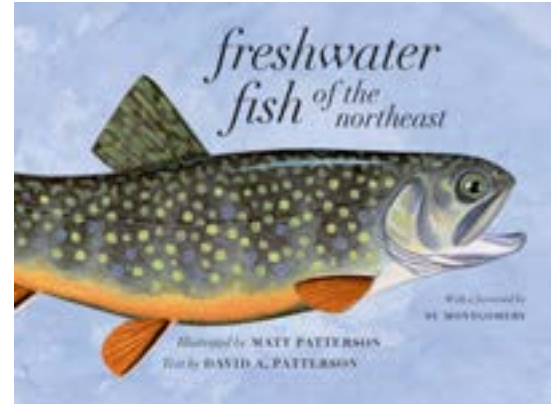
New foreword by Sy Montgomery

An award-winning guide, written and illustrated by a father-son duo, now available in a new paperback edition.

Most anglers are well aware of the popular game fish that inhabit the Northeast, including the largemouth bass, the rainbow trout, and the yellow perch. But the region's inland waters boast a much broader array of fish than first meets the eye (or hook). The father-and-son team of David and Matt Patterson has pursued both game fish and bait fish in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York. In *Freshwater Fish of the Northeast*, they describe more than sixty different species, from the well-known to the obscure, including the redfin pickerel, the blueback trout, and the slimy sculpin. This colorful and helpful guide includes detailed information on habits, habitats, history, and more. To best capture the look and appeal of these fish in their native waters, most of the images are based on the authors' own live catches. The pencil-and-acrylic illustrations render each species in lifelike detail, with close attention given to unique physical characteristics. Both art book and guidebook, this volume will stir some fond memories of fish caught—and a few of those that got away.

This new edition features an introduction by Matt Patterson, whose career as a wildlife illustrator has flourished since the book was first published in 2010. Other updates include a practical flexcover cover, French flaps, and a foreword by naturalist and writer Sy Montgomery.

David A. Patterson taught high school biology for thirty-four years in Billerica, Massachusetts. **Matt Patterson** is a professional illustrator who trained at the Art Institute of Boston. He illustrated *The Snake and the Salamander* by Alvin R. Breisch; and *The Book of Turtles* and *Of Time and Turtles*, both by Sy Montgomery.



APRIL

144 p. 10 x 7

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-216-7

Paper \$29.95

NATURE

"What a job Matt Patterson did with the illustrations. He knows his fish and he knows his art. The illustrations are absolutely splendid: accurately rendered and artistically striking. Moreover, the book's designer created a handsome blend of art and text, and in places, even creates the appearance of fish migrating through the book. If you're a serious fisher in the Northeast, or if serious anglers come to visit, this is a book you'll want lying on the coffee table."
— *National Outdoor Book Awards*

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Updated Second Edition

Birdwatching in Maine

The Complete Site Guide

Edited by Derek J. Lovitch

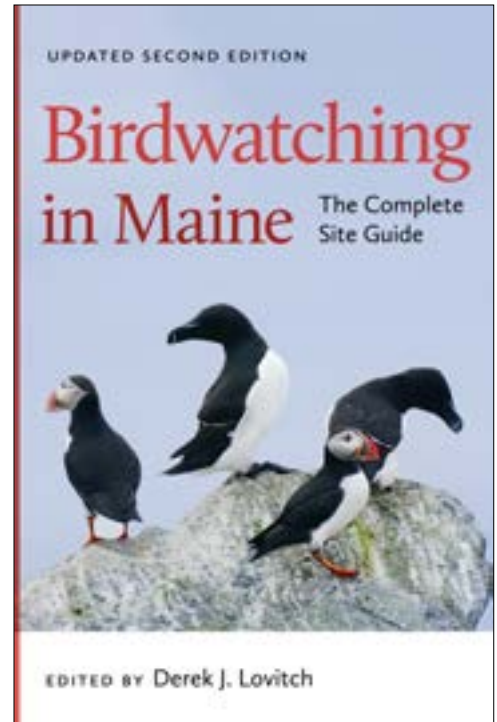
An invaluable site guide for New England birders in a new updated edition with new sites and maps.

With over 470 species of birds recorded, Maine offers an abundance of birding opportunities for people of all levels of interest and experience, from those looking beyond their backyards for the first time to knowledgeable visitors looking to plug a hole in their list of sightings. The state's wealth of undeveloped land and its extensive coastline, countless islands, and varied habitat combine to host an impressive diversity of birds at all times of the year. Birders travel to Maine from near and far to seek hard-to-find species, from the only Atlantic puffins breeding in the United States on offshore islands to Bicknell's thrushes high in the mountains.

This book fills an important niche for the birdwatching community by offering comprehensive entries detailing the best locations for finding birds throughout the state for enthusiasts of all levels of skill and interest. It contains descriptions of 202 birding sites in Maine, with explicit directions on how to get there, for all sixteen of the state's counties, several as large as other New England states! Each chapter features a county map, a brief overview by Derek J. Lovitch, numerous specific site guides, and a list of rarities. The book also contains a detailed and useful species accounts guide for finding the most sought-after birds.

Lavishly illustrated in color throughout, *Birdwatching in Maine* is the best available resource for finding birds in the largest of the New England states. This updated edition features a new introduction, as well as new birding sites and maps.

Derek J. Lovitch is the author of *How to Be a Better Birder* and a former department editor of *Birding*, the American Birding Association's flagship magazine. He and his wife, Jeannette, own and operate Freeport Wild Bird Supply, an independent bird-feeding and birding specialty shop that serves as a vehicle for promoting birding and bird conservation. Lovitch acts as a guide for clients throughout the state.



MARCH

480 p. 6 x 9

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-199-3

Paper \$35.00

NATURE

"Whether an experienced Maine birder or visitor, or even just a mildly interested bird enthusiast who likes to explore, this book ... is a must-have for your personal library, although it may spend more time in the car and in your hands than on the shelf!"

— *Boothbay Register*

"Derek Lovitch's new birding guide, *Birdwatching in Maine*, is a must-have for all who love Maine's birds. The book is comprehensive, covering all the state's best bird watching places." — *Bangor Daily News*

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Environmental Futures

An International Literary Anthology

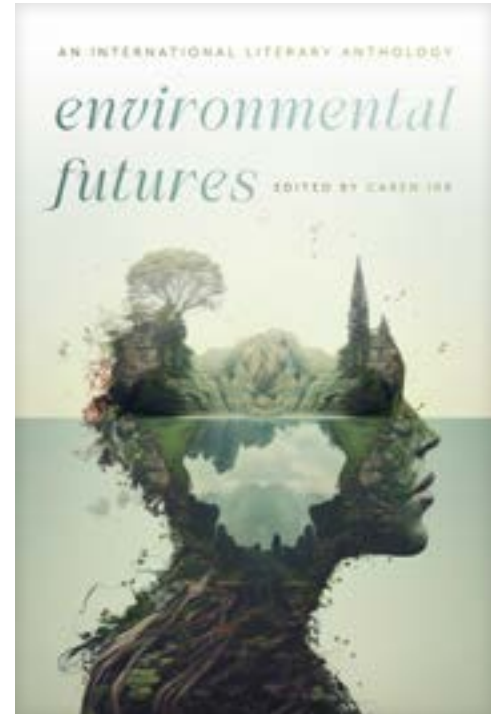
Edited by Caren Irr

A global anthology, curated by experts from around the world, draws on fiction and poetry to examine environmental challenges and their implications for communities.

Featuring short stories, poetry, drama, and creative nonfiction from around the world, this anthology showcases contemporary literature that envisions the future of the environment. While environmental literature written in English has been dominated by English and American men who make solo explorations into an unspoiled natural world, *Environmental Futures* emphasizes local and indigenous writers contending with global landscapes that are far from pristine. Their work opens up decolonial perspectives from Anglophone Africa, South Asia, India, and China, South America, the peripheries of Europe, and BIPOC North America. Introducing many writers who will be unfamiliar to English-speaking readers, this collection explores resistance to the oil economy; the impact of storms and natural disasters; extinction; and relations between humans and animals, among other themes.

The pieces are organized by geographical area in five sections: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North America. Expert scholars and translators—Kurt Cavender, Roberto Fornis-Broggi, Cajetan Iheka, Upamanyu (Pablo) Mukherjee, Irina Sadovina, and Shaobo Xie—selected the works and provided critical introductions for each section.

Caren Irr is professor of English and Key and Hortense Kaiserman Professor of Humanities at Brandeis University. She is the author or editor of five previous books, among them *Toward the Geopolitical Novel: U.S. Fiction in the Twenty-First Century* and *The Suburb of Dissent: Cultural Politics in the United States and Canada during the 1930s*.



JUNE

360 p. 6 x 9

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-211-2

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ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-212-9

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NATURE / ENVIRONMENT / LITERATURE

"This book is a winner. There's nothing like it currently available for readers and instructors – nothing even close. It provides a range of texts never before available in English and puts these in dialogue with ones which have been available." - Imre Szeman, Director of the Institute for Environment, Conservation and Sustainability, University of Toronto Scarborough

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Unlocking Learning

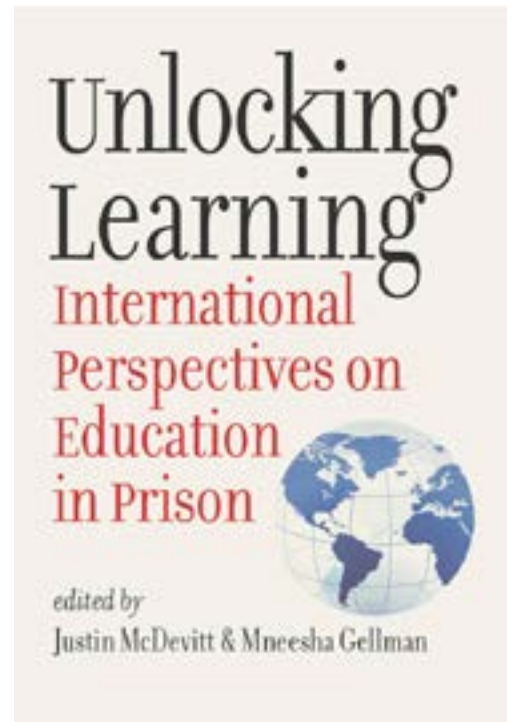
International Perspectives on Education in Prison

Edited by Justin McDevitt and Mneesha Gellman

Contributors from many countries share their insights about effective educational programs for people in prison, and show what the United States can learn from the models and struggles beyond its borders.

Countries around the world have disparate experiences with education in prison. For decades, the United States has been locked in a pattern of exceptionally high mass incarceration. Though education has proven to be an impactful intervention, its role and the level of support it receives varies widely. As a result, effective opportunities for incarcerated people to reroute their lives during and after incarceration remain diffuse and inefficient. This volume showcases unique contributions from the field of education in prison globally. In this volume academics and practitioners highlight new approaches and interesting findings from carceral interventions across twelve countries. From a college degree granting program in Mexico, to educational best practices in Norway and Belgium that support successful reentry, innovations in education are being developed in prison spaces around the world. As contributors share their insights about providing effective educational programs to incarcerated people, the United States can learn from the models and struggles beyond its borders.

Justin McDevitt is the director of the Women's College Partnership, a collaboration between the Notre Dame Programs for Education in Prison at the University of Notre Dame, Marian University, and the Bard Prison Initiative. He also served as assistant director for alumni affairs and reentry for the Moreau College Initiative, an NDPEP program run in partnership with Holy Cross College. He is the cofounder and executive director of Life Outside, a not-for-profit reentry organization based in South Bend, Indiana. **Mneesha Gellman** is the founder and director of the Emerson Prison Initiative, which brings an Emerson College bachelor's degree pathway to incarcerated students at the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Concord. Gellman is an associate professor of political science at the Marlboro Institute for Liberal Arts and Interdisciplinary Studies at Emerson College.



FEBRUARY

307 p. 5.75 x 8.5

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ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-192-4

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EDUCATION

"An essential practical, theoretical and evidence-informed resource about the question of education in prison. This book offers hope to those jurisdictions mired in high rates of incarceration or challenging environments in prison that other visions for both education and other models of the penal system are not only possible, but already exist."— Professor Aislinn O'Donnell, Maynooth University

"This important volume brings a much-needed international perspective to the study and practice of higher education in prisons. Practitioners will find a wealth of information to validate, inform, and inspire their own work here, but it is often what goes unsaid or is assumed in the countries represented in this volume that shows us glimpses of the possible—what education in prison can and should be." —Kurtis Tanaka, Justice Initiatives

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Holy Rebellion

Religious Feminism and the Transformation of Judaism and Women's Rights in Israel

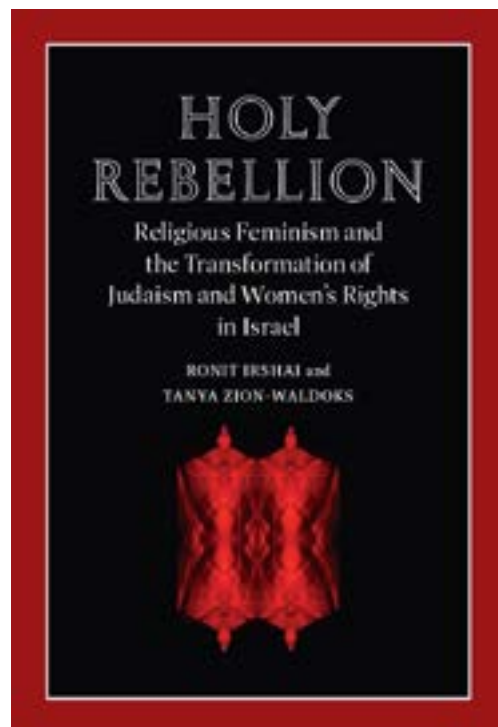
Ronit Irshai & Tanya Zion-Waldoks

An in-depth study of Jewish religion and law in Israel from a gendered perspective.

In *Holy Rebellion*, Ronit Irshai and Tanya Zion-Waldoks examine social change in Israel through a rigorous analysis of the shifting entanglements of religion, gender, and law in times of cultural transformation. They explore theological, halakhic, political, and sociological processes and show how they interact with one another in ways that advance women's rights, as well as how they are met with a conservative backlash in the discourses and actions of the rabbinic establishment. Irshai and Zion-Waldoks build on legal philosopher Robert Cover's 1982 paper "Nomos and Narrative," which explained how cultural narratives and legal norms are reciprocally enforced or transformed. Expanding on this notion, Irshai and Zion-Waldoks propose a "narrative ripeness test," an analytic tool that evaluates the relationship between culture and law to assess how and when change within a minority cultural community may be accelerated or hindered by state intervention.

Religious feminisms are emerging around the world, not solely in Israel, and this book helps elucidate how they create enduring and radical change. Many liberal states are also confronting an illiberal backlash and question the multicultural framework's ability to serve the needs of minorities within minorities. Therefore, the theoretical framework offered by Irshai and Zion-Waldoks is applicable beyond the Israeli case, even as it offers deeper insights into an Israeli society in turmoil.

Ronit Irshai is an associate professor and the head of the Gender Studies Program at Bar Ilan University, and a research fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. **Tanya Zion-Waldoks** is an assistant professor in the Seymour Fox School of Education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



Brandeis Series on Gender, Culture, Religion, and Law

JUNE

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JEWISH STUDIES

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The Second Conversation

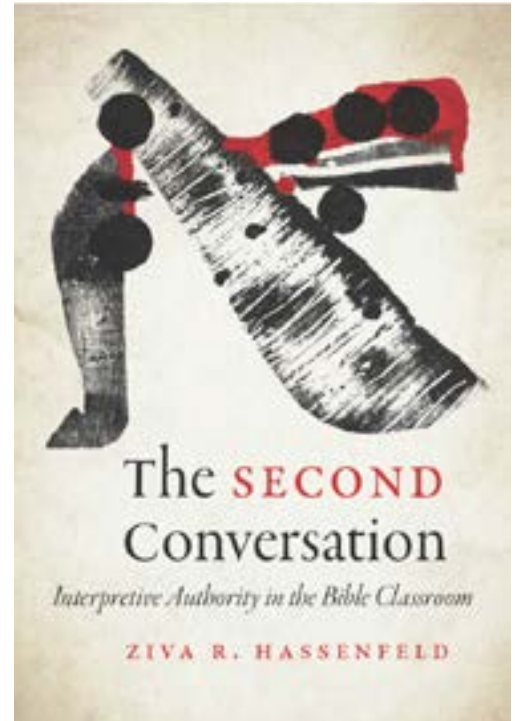
Interpretive Authority in the Bible Classroom

Ziva R. Hassenfeld

A teacher reflects on her teaching practice, bringing literacy scholarship into the arena of Jewish education.

In *The Second Conversation*, university professor Ziva R. Hassenfeld returns to the middle school classroom to study her own 7th grade Bible class. The book explores dilemmas of practice she encountered around interpretive authority in the classroom. She analyzes the questions that came up in her teaching within the context of the most influential religious education scholarship, literacy scholarship, sociocultural theory and literary theory. She highlights the importance of two conversations about interpretive rules within the classroom, the first about the text's meaning, and the second about competing conventions for determining its meaning. Instructors of any type of literature will benefit from Hassenfeld's study, which offers rich ideas about when and how teachers enforce a classroom's way of reading or follow a student's line of inquiry toward more flexible interpretation.

Ziva R. Hassenfeld is the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Assistant Professor in Jewish Education at Brandeis University and Assistant Director of Research for the Mandel Center.



Mandel-Brandeis Series in Jewish Education

MARCH

166 p. 6 x 9

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EDUCATION / JEWISH STUDIES

"The time for this book is now—a time in history when conversations in classrooms—religious and secular alike—are being restricted and debated. Playing at the intersections of theory and practice, Hassenfeld draws readers in from the very first words; this should be essential reading for literacy teachers and researchers alike." - Lara J. Handsfield, School of Teaching & Learning, Illinois State University

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Teaching Israel

Studies of Pedagogy from the Field

Edited by **Sivan Zakai and Matt**

Reingold

An edited volume that grapples with the complex issues and conflicts that face those who teach about Israel.

Jewish Americans are divided in their views on Israel. While scholars have outlined philosophical principles to guide educators who teach about Israel, there has been less scholarship focused on the pedagogy surrounding the country. This book re-situates teaching—the questions, dilemmas, and decision-making that teachers face—as central to both Israel studies and Israel education. Contributors illuminate how educators from differing pedagogical orientations, who teach in a range of educational settings learn, understand, undertake, and ultimately improve the work of teaching Israel. The volume also looks at the professional support and learning opportunities teachers may need to engage with these pedagogical questions.

Sivan Zakai is the Sara S. Lee Associate Professor of Jewish Education at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's Los Angeles campus. She directs the Children's Learning About Israel Project and codirects Project ORLIE: Research and Leadership in Israel Education. She is the author of *My Second Favorite Country: How American Jewish Children Think About Israel*, winner of the 2022 National Jewish Book Award in Education and Jewish Identity. **Matt Reingold** is a practitioner-researcher of Israel Education. He teaches and serves as the cohead of the Jewish History Department at TanenbaumCHAT in Toronto, Canada. He is the author of *Gender and Sexuality in Israeli Graphic Novels: Contested Masculinity and Independent Femininity*, *Reenvisioning Israel Through Political Cartoons: Visual Discourses During the 2018-2021 Electoral Crisis*, *Jewish Comics and Graphic Narrative*, and *The Comics of Asaf Hanuka: Telling Particular and Universal Stories*.



MAY

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EDUCATION / JEWISH STUDIES

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