Fireside Reads
for Chilly Days!

A Moment fall & winter digital book guide

This selection of books offers something for every reader – biography, fiction, non-fiction and just simply funny. Here’s to a happy, lazy summer of reading!
KEEP READING TO LEARN ABOUT ALL THESE BOOKS!
HONEY ON THE PAGE: A TREASURY OF YIDDISH CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

“There are many gems in this collection...Highly recommended for both children and adults.” — Jewish Book Council

Miriam Udel has crafted an exquisite collection: Honey on the Page offers a feast of beguiling original translations of stories and poems for children. Complemented by whimsical, humorous illustrations by Paula Cohen, Udel’s evocative translations of Yiddish stories and poetry will delight young and older readers alike.

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CONSPIRACY U: A CASE STUDY

Conspiracy U: A Case Study, written by Scott A. Shay exposes how conspiracy theories drawn from far-right and far-left ideologies masquerade as scholarship at many universities, endangering our norms and conceptions of morality and truth. He explains why Zionism, the movement for Jewish national self-determination, has become the focal point for both far-right and far-left conspiracy theories. His keen analysis reveals why Jews serve as the canary in the coal mine.

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This unique book is a kind of ethical cookbook, encouraging parents and children to enjoy the favorite foods of 28 of the author’s role models, including Mother Teresa, Mister Rodgers, M.L. King, Elie Wiesel, while discussing moral courage, forgiveness, righteousness, justice, empathy and compassion. A great gift! Now on sale for $20 including postage. One dollar from every sale is contributed to the American Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, or the American Jewish World Service.

A Jewish community in prewar Eastern Europe comes alive in this story of a childhood interrupted by the Holocaust, a memoir by Yiddish actor Pinchas Blitt. When life in young Pinchas’s beloved village is upended by the Nazis, Pinchas and his family flee to the marshes and forests, where he comes face to face with his own mortality and wavering faith. An evocative and wryly told story of loss, survival and, ultimately, love for community, language and Jewish culture.
THINKING ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL

“Allen believes it’s important to understand Jewish philosophical thought about good and evil in order to better realize the importance of what he calls the ‘two quintessential Jewish values: justice and goodness.’ He challenges readers to see where they agree or disagree with each philosopher, which may help them to devise their own personal theology . . . Anyone interested in the subject of good and evil should enjoy this interesting and provocative work.”
—Rabbi Rachel Esserman, Reporter

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A Powerful Romance with a Purpose: to expose how the Torah and Talmud have been interpreted unfavorably toward women. The award-winning author of Rashi’s Daughters, Maggie Anton, has written a wholly transformative novel that takes characters inspired by Chaim Potok and ages them into young adults in Brooklyn in the 1950s. When Hannah Eisin, a successful journalist, interviews Talmud professor Nathan Mandel, she persuades him to teach her the text forbidden to women. Secret meetings and lively discussions bring the two to the edge of a line neither dares to cross, as their relationships with each other and Judaism are tested.

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This first English translation of Sholom Aleichem’s rediscovered novel, *Moshkeleh the Thief*, has a riveting plot, an unusual love story, and a keenly observed portrayal of an underclass Jew replete with characters never before been seen in Yiddish literature.

“This almost-forgotten novel by one of the greatest Jewish writers of all time is revelatory, vividly depicting an all-too-rarely-seen side of Yiddish literature and Jewish life.”
—Jeremy Dauber, Columbia University

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**THE JEWISH FAMILY ETHICS TEXTBOOK**

“In this thoughtful and thorough work, Rabbi Scheindlin brings traditional Jewish texts directly into conversation with contemporary Jewish voices, managing to both honor the tradition and the values of our day. . . . This guide speaks directly to our most difficult questions. It is an extraordinarily useful resource for all those who seek to teach the tradition—whether in a synagogue, school, or home—and all those who seek to live an ethical life rooted in Jewish tradition and responsive to contemporary life.”—Rabbi Rachel Timoner

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**MOSHKELEH THE THIEF**

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**THE JEWISH FAMILY ETHICS TEXTBOOK**

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**MOSHKELEH THE THIEF**

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**THE JEWISH FAMILY ETHICS TEXTBOOK**
**SANCTIFIED SEX**

“This treasure trove of sources and insights from the full spectrum of a four-thousand-year-old tradition, uncensored, from the Bible and Talmud down to modern liberal rabbis and feminists, might be called *The Art of Halachic Loving* because it is not just a static anthology; it is shaped to guide and enhance the pleasure of sex and the depth of development of intimacy, communication and relationship. This is a book to be read, savored, reflected on, discussed, and applied to life.”

—Blu Greenberg and Yitz Greenberg

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**ONCE WE WERE SLAVES**

Blanche Moses, descendent of one of the most prominent Jewish families since the American Revolution, believed her maternal ancestors were Sephardic grandees. *Once We Were Slaves* overturns the reclusive heiress’s assumptions, exploring the lives of her grandmother and great-uncle, Sarah and Isaac Brandon, who began their lives as poor Christian slaves of African descent in Barbados. Tracing the siblings’ extraordinary journey through Barbados, Suriname, London, Philadelphia, and, finally, New York, author Laura Arnold Leibman shows how Sarah and Isaac were able to transform themselves and their lives, becoming free, wealthy, Jewish, and — at times — white.

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THE BOOK OF LOST NAMES

Inspired by an astonishing true story from World War II, a young woman with a talent for forgery helps hundreds of Jewish children flee the Nazis in this “sweeping and magnificent” (Fiona Davis, bestselling author of The Lions of Fifth Avenue) historical novel from the #1 international best-selling author of The Winemaker’s Wife.

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FLORENCE ADLER SWIMS AGAIN

“The perfect summer read” (USA TODAY) begins with a shocking tragedy that results in three generations of the Adler family grappling with heartbreak, romance, and the weight of family secrets over the course of one summer.

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Genocide and terrorism: can they ever be stopped? This book says Yes. The key lies in getting the causation analysis right. Conventional wisdom emphasizes ancient hatreds, poverty, and the legacy of Western colonialism as drivers of mass violence. But far more important is the inciting power of mass, ideological hate propaganda, which activates the drive to commit mass atrocities and creates the multitude of perpetrators needed to commit such violence. Ending the carnage requires shutting down the incitement – especially in the Middle East, where a tsunami of hate propaganda drives an epidemic of terrorism. Available at Amazon.

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**THE COAT**

“An intelligently conceived meditation on the curative powers of storytelling.” —Kirkus Reviews

Seth Feinberg, in spite of being an atheist, has always seen life through a Jewish lens. Inheriting a Nazi officer’s full-length leather coat from his Holocaust-survivor grandfather motivates him to research and write fictional stories about his grandparents’ and the coat’s possible history. Ultimately, he is able to define his personal relationship with the coat, his Judaism, and the world.

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BECOMING AMERICAN

The 2020 Discovery Awards Winner — Politics and Current Events

“A well-written memoir chronicling the intriguing life and influences of a post-war Jewish child who becomes an American lawyer and activist.” – Sublime Book Review

Becoming American is the inspiring story of the author’s transformation from a child of Holocaust survivors in post-war Europe to an American lawyer, academic, and activist associated with such famed political leaders as Robert Kennedy, George McGovern, Jerry Brown, and Tom Hayden.

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ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

ELIE WIESEL: AN EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY

“This book of reflections is a fitting tribute to the legacy of Elie Wiesel. In its pages and through the words of its contributors, you will feel a promise, not just to the souls who perished, but also to Elie and all those who survived Europe’s darkest night.” — Rabbi Jonathan Sacks


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“Can Robots Be Jewish? is a celebration of the ongoing vitality of the Jewish encounter with modernity, of the shared religious language that persists across denominations, of the spiritual power of machloket l’shem Shamayim, argument for the sake of Heaven. No matter where you position yourself on the Jewish spectrum, this book is a gift.” —Yossi Klein Halevi

Edited by Amy E. Schwartz. Foreword by Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg. Afterword by Rabbi Shira Stutman.

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From noted Israeli historian Dvora Hacohen, the authoritative biography of Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah — a remarkable leader who fought for women’s rights and the poor. Long before anyone had heard of intersectionality, Henrietta Szold maintained that her many political commitments were inseparable. She fought relentlessly for women’s place in Judaism and for health and educational networks in Mandate Palestine. As a global citizen, she championed American pacifism. To Repair a Broken World provides a wide-ranging portrait of a woman who devoted herself to helping the disadvantaged and building a future free of need.

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Theodore Bikel, the beloved late movie actor, folk singer, musician, composer, unionist, and political activist, poignantly recounts moments from his childhood in Vienna, when he experienced and witnessed anti-Semitism as Nazi influence grew—and dreamed of a Jewish superhero, Judah Maccabee who could rescue the Jews. The book is based on a story commissioned by Moment Editor-in-Chief Nadine Epstein that was published in the magazine and read aloud on NPR’s Hanukkah Lights program in 2014.

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MAHJONG: A CHINESE GAME AND THE MAKING OF MODERN AMERICAN CULTURE

Click-click-click. The sound of mahjong tiles connects American expatriates in Shanghai, Jazz Age white Americans, urban Chinese Americans in the 1930s, incarcerated Japanese Americans in wartime, Jewish American suburban mothers, and Air Force officers' wives in the postwar era.

Mahjong: A Chinese Game and the Making of Modern American Culture illustrates how the spaces between tiles and the moments between games have fostered distinct social cultures in the United States. Drawing on photographs, advertising, popular media, and dozens of oral histories, Annelise Heinz’s rich and colorful account offers the first history of the wildly popular game.

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