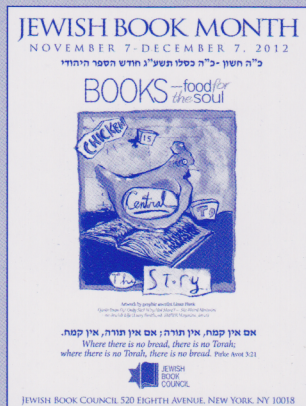


JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL

presents

JEWISH BOOK MONTH 2012/5773



Adult Fiction

The Book of Mischief: New and Collected Stories. Steve Stern. Graywolf Press, 2012. A collection of 25 years' worth of writing by Steve Stern, winner of a National Jewish Book Award.

By Blood. Ellen Ullman. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. A disgraced professor in 1970s San Francisco begins to eavesdrop on the psychotherapy sessions of a woman adopted into a Catholic family during World War II and takes on the search for her origins himself.

Flatscreen. Adam Wilson. Harper Perennial/Harper Collins, 2012. Loser par excellence Eli Schwartz and former TV star Seymour J. Kahn begin a dangerous friendship, one that distracts from their circumstances but speeds their descent into utter debasement.

HHhH. Laurent Binet. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. The most dangerous man in Hitler's cabinet, Reinhard Heydrich was known as the "Butcher of Prague." Heydrich seemed indestructible—until two men, a Slovak and a Czech recruited by the British secret service, killed him in broad daylight on a bustling street in Prague, and thus changed the course of history.

The Innocents. Francesca Segal. Voice/Hyperion, 2012. Inspired by Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*: Newly-engaged Adam Newman is forced to re-examine his life's path when his fiancée's cousin returns to London with rumors of scandal swirling around her.

The Middlesteins. Jami Attenberg. Grand Central Publishing, 2012. Grandiose Edie Middlestein is obsessed with food—thinking about it, eating it—and if she doesn't stop, she won't have much longer to live. When her husband of over 30 years leaves her, it's up to the next generation to take control.

No One Is Here Except All of Us. Ramona Ausubel. Riverhead Books, 2012. At the suggestion of an eleven-year-old girl and a mysterious stranger who has washed up on the riverbank, a Romanian village decides to reinvent the world: deny any relationship with the known and start over from scratch.

The People of Forever Are Not Afraid. Shani Boianjiu. Hogarth, 2012. Three childhood friends from a small Israeli village are conscripted into military service: Yael trains marksmen, Avishag stands guard at the border, and Lea is posted at a checkpoint. Their lives change in unpredictable ways, influencing the women they become and the friendship that they struggle to sustain.

The Street Sweeper. Elliot Perlman. Riverhead Books, 2012. A recent ex-convict strikes up an unlikely friendship with a Holocaust survivor; a few blocks uptown, an untutored professor of history finds a promising research topic that might just save his professional and personal lives.

Unterzakhn. Leela Corman. Schocken Books, 2012. A graphic novel about two sisters in New York's Lower East Side circa 1910: two wide-eyed little girls absorbing the sights and sounds of a neighborhood of struggling immigrants; two teenagers taking their own tentative steps into the wider world; and two adults battling for their own piece of the "Golden Land."

What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank. Nathan Englander. Knopf, 2012. Eight new stories grappling with the great concerns of modern life, stories that pose difficult questions—dilemmas requiring Solomonic wisdom to resolve—and don't let anyone off the hook.

The World Without You. Joshua Henkin. Pantheon, 2012. It's July 4, 2005, and the Frankel family descends upon their beloved summer home in the Berkshires to memorialize Leo, the youngest of the four siblings, an intrepid journalist and adventurer who was killed the year before while on assignment in Iraq.

Adult Non-Fiction

The Aleppo Codex: The True Story of Obsession, Faith, and the Pursuit of an Ancient Bible. Matti Friedman. Algonquin Books, 2012. How did one of the world's most precious manuscripts get from a Syrian grotto to Jerusalem? Who is responsible for the 200 missing pages of the codex and where are they now?

Alice's Piano: The Life of Alice Herz-Sommer. Alice Herz-Sommer, Melissa Muller, Reinhard Piechoki. St. Martin's Press, 2012. Alice Herz-Sommer, a talented pianist from a very early age, kept hope alive in the Theresienstadt concentration camp performing over 100 concerts for her fellow prisoners. At 107 years old, she continues to play her piano in London and bring hope to many.

Crossing the Borders of Time: A True Story of War, Exile, and Love Reclaimed. Leslie Maitland. Other Press, 2012. The daring fulfillment of a vow of love made in a world torn by persecution and war, set against a historical portrait of Jewish life in Germany, Occupied France; Cuba, and New York.

The Fish That Ate the Whale: The Life and Times of America's Banana King. Leslie Maitland. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2012. A biography of Samuel Zemurray, a little-known anti-hero who overthrew two Central American governments, created the basic CIA template, bested and took over United Fruit, and went to war with Huey Long.

Holy War in Judaism: The Fall and Rise of a Controversial Idea. Reuven Firestone. Oxford University Press, 2012. How the concept of "holy war" disappeared from Jewish thought for almost 2,000 years, only to reemerge with renewed vigor in modern times.

The Lady in Gold: The Extraordinary Tale of the Gustav Klimt Masterpiece, Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer. Anne-Marie O'Connor, Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. A book about the restitution of Gustav Klimt's portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer, an intellectual Jewish woman and patroness of modernism in turn-of-the-century Vienna.

Legacy: A Genetic History of the Jewish People. Harry Ostrer. Oxford University Press, 2012. A fascinating introduction to the wider debates surrounding population genetics and the role of genetic legacy in determining individual and group identities.

The Philosophy of Hebrew Scripture. Yoram Hazony. Cambridge University Press, 2012. Proposing a new framework for reading the Bible, *The Philosophy of Hebrew Scripture* shows how biblical authors used narrative and prophetic oratory to advance universal arguments about ethics, political philosophy, and metaphysics.

The Poetry of Kabbalah: Mystical Verse from the Jewish Tradition. Peter Cole. Yale University Press, 2012. A luminous collection of poetry that emerges directly from the sublime and often startling world of Jewish mysticism, in English translation.

When General Grant Expelled the Jews. Jonathan Sarna. Schocken Books/Nextbook Press, 2012. A study of General Ulysses S. Grant's decision in the middle of the Civil War to order the expulsion of all Jews from the territory under his command, and the reverberations of that decision on Grant's political career, on the nascent American Jewish community, and on the American political process.

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