

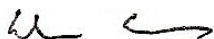


The Jewish
Publication Society
2023 CATALOG

As I look over these pages, I find myself filled with excitement. Whether it's new commentaries on the writings of earlier centuries, original books on topics such as history and ethics, or groundbreaking projects such as the forthcoming revision of our iconic Bible translation, *The JPS TANAKH: Gender-Sensitive Edition*, The Jewish Publication Society is proud to publish works that bring the diverse voices of the Jewish tradition, past and present, to conversations at the heart of contemporary life.

This is my first message as JPS Director: I spent the past decade at the University of Colorado Boulder, where I directed the Jewish Studies program. As thankful as I am for my time as a tenured professor and university administrator, I'm thrilled to now be part of JPS's work of allowing Jewish sources to speak in an ever-changing world. I welcome you to our community of learning, and I invite you to reach out to me at the number or email below so that we can build JPS's future together.

With best wishes,



Dr. Elias Sacks
Director, The Jewish Publication Society
esacks@jps.org
(215) 832-0607



JPS preserves the legacy of many of the twentieth century's greatest Jewish thinkers, including Abraham Joshua Heschel, Mordecai Kaplan, and Joseph Soloveitchik. To learn about how you can help in this effort by joining the JPS Heritage Circle, while acquiring a personalized JPS Legacy Library, please contact director Elias Sacks. To make a tax-deductible donation to JPS or to inquire about supporting a program or a book publication, please contact Elias Sacks or visit jps.org.

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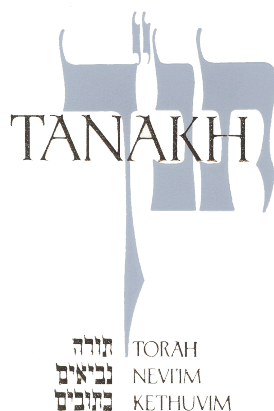


COMING FALL 2023:

The JPS TANAKH

Gender-Sensitive Edition

The Jewish Publication Society's iconic translation of the Bible now revised to reflect contemporary gender-appropriate language while maintaining utmost fidelity to the original Hebrew text



- Empowers readers to experience Scripture with all the authority and precision of the original Hebrew.
- Renews and revises the iconic JPS translation by using gender-inclusive language for persons and God, while also maintaining gendered language when that is called for historically and linguistically.
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\$TBA • hardcover • 978-0-8276-1559-5

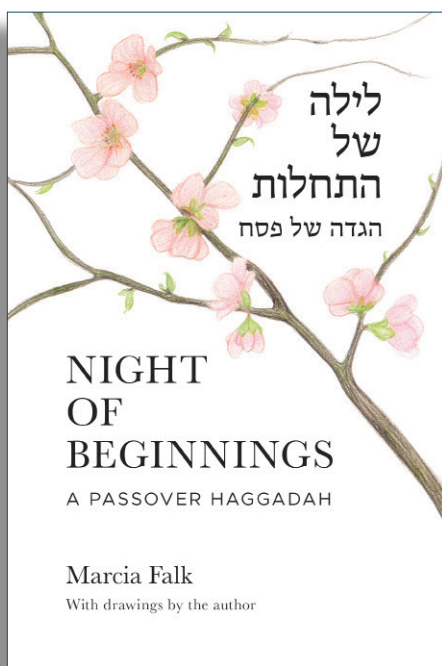
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“Marcia Falk’s presentation of and commentary on the Exodus story invite rich conversation about the meanings of freedom on personal, communal, and political levels. Those familiar with Falk’s transformational work on Jewish blessings will be delighted by her new blessings for all parts of the seder, while those who are not yet acquainted with her blessings will find them a revelation.”—Judith Plaskow, author of *Standing Again at Sinai* and coauthor, with Carol P. Christ, of *Goddess and God in the World*

“Offers an innovative adaptation of the Passover Haggadah . . . [that] encourages readers to break free from the traditional Haggadah text and explore retelling the Passover story in a bold new way.”
—Jewish Book Council

“A substantial work, worthy of close attention. . . . Falk’s poems, interpretations, and selections of additional material can enrich your Seder tremendously.”
—*The Forward*

AVAILABLE

232 pp. • 6 ½ x 9 ½ • Fully illustrated in color
\$19.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1551-9

Night of Beginnings

A Passover Haggadah

MARCIA FALK

A groundbreaking new haggadah for the Passover seder

Night of Beginnings is a groundbreaking new haggadah for the Passover seder from acclaimed poet, translator, and liturgist Marcia Falk, beautifully designed and illustrated with original color drawings by the author.

Unlike both traditional and new haggadahs, which do not contain a full recounting of the biblical story, *Night of Beginnings* presents the Exodus narrative in its entirety, providing a direct connection to the ancient origins of the holiday. This retelling highlights the actions of its female characters, including Moshe’s sister, Miriam; Pharaoh’s daughter, who adopts the baby Moshe; and the midwives Shifrah and Pu’ah, who save the Hebrew male infants. Falk’s revolutionary new blessings, in Hebrew and English, replace the traditional, patriarchal seder blessings, and her *kavanot*—meditative directions for prayer—introduce a genre new to the seder ritual. Poems, psalms, and songs are arranged to give structural coherence to the haggadah. A new commentary raises interpretive questions and invites us to bring personal reflections into the discussion.

Like the author’s widely acclaimed previous prayer books, *The Book of Blessings* and *The Days Between*, Falk’s poetic blessings for the seder envision the divine as a Greater Whole of which we are an inseparable part. The inclusive language of Falk’s blessings makes room for women to find and use their voices more full-throatedly than they were able to do with the male-centered prayers inherited from the early rabbis. Men, too, will encounter here a spiritually moving and thought-provoking experience.

Marcia Falk is a poet, translator, liturgist, and artist known widely for her groundbreaking prayer books *The Book of Blessings* and *The Days Between*, which re-create Hebrew and English prayer from an inclusive, nonpatriarchal perspective. Falk is also the creator of a volume combining her art and poetry, *Inner East: Illuminated Poems and Blessings*, and other books of poetry and translation, including a now-classic translation of the Song of Songs.



Open Judaism

A Guide for Believers, Atheists, and Agnostics

RABBI BARRY L. SCHWARTZ

Clarion call for a pluralistic, inclusive Judaism

Open Judaism offers a big-tent welcome to all Jews and Judaism. It is at once an invitation to the spiritually seeking Jew, a clarion call for a deeply pluralistic and inclusive Judaism, and a dynamic exploration of the remarkable array of thought within Judaism today.

In honest, engaging language Barry L. Schwartz, a practicing rabbi and writer, presents traditional, secular-humanistic, and liberal Jewish views on nine major topics—God, soul, Torah, halakhah, Jewish identity, inclusion, Israel, ethics, and prayer. Teachings from many of Judaism’s greatest thinkers organically reveal and embellish foundational ideas of Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist, Renewal, and Humanistic Judaism. The conclusion sets forth core statements of belief in Judaism for believers, atheists, and agnostics, thereby summarizing the full spectrum of thought and enabling readers to make and act on their own choices.

Rabbi Barry L. Schwartz is the director and editor in chief emeritus of The Jewish Publication Society and the spiritual leader of Congregation Adas Emuno in Leonia, New Jersey. He is the author of books for adults, teens, and children, including *Path of the Prophets: The Ethics-Driven Life* (JPS, 2018) and *Judaism’s Great Debates: Timeless Controversies from Abraham to Herzl* (JPS, 2012).

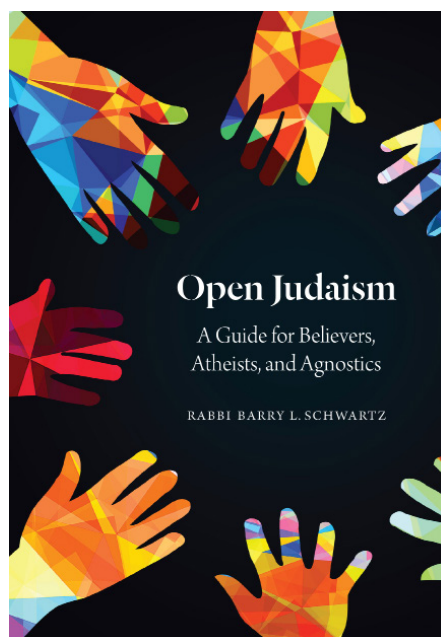
ALSO OF INTEREST

Thinking about God

Jewish Views

Rabbi Kari H. Tuling

\$32.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1301-0



“Rabbi Barry Schwartz guides the reader with wisdom, presence, and humor through the terrain of Jewish theology. *Open Judaism* is an absolute gem.”

—Alan Levenson, Schusterman/Josey Chair in Judaic History, University of Oklahoma

“Required reading!”—Rabbi Donniel Hartman, president, Shalom Hartman Institute

“Rabbi Barry Schwartz possesses the rare ability to synthesize vast amounts of traditional and modern materials in an easily approachable manner.”—Rabbi David Ellenson, chancellor emeritus, Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion

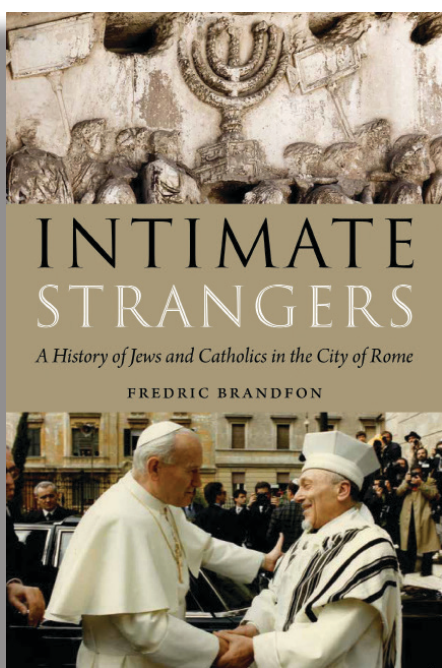
“This book should be read by everyone tasked with leading the Jewish community!”—Rabbi Kari H. Tuling, author of *Thinking about God: Jewish Views*

JULY

332 pp. • 6 x 9 • Index

\$24.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1524-3





"A fascinating story of the Jews' unique resilience and strength living in Rome without interruption for twenty-two centuries."—Riccardo Shemuel Di Segni, chief rabbi of Rome

"An absolutely new approach. . . . This is a well-written, well-documented, and well-argued book."—Gabriela Yael Franzone, coordinator of the Department of Heritage and Culture of the Jewish Community of Rome

Fredric Brandfon is the former chairman of the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Stockton University in New Jersey and founder of the Department of Religious Studies at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He has published numerous articles on Roman and Italian Jewish history.

MAY

384 pp. • 6 x 9 • 9 photographs,
3 illustrations, 1 map, index

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Intimate Strangers

*A History of Jews and Catholics
in the City of Rome*

FREDRIC BRANDFON

**Negotiating a necessary and paradoxical
relationship for two millennia**

The Jewish community of Rome is the oldest Jewish community in Europe. It is also the Jewish community with the longest continuous history, having avoided interruptions, expulsions, and annihilations since 139 BCE. For most of that time, Jewish Romans have lived in close contact with the largest continuously functioning international organization: the Roman Catholic Church. Given the church's origins in Judaism, Jews and Catholics have spent two thousand years negotiating a necessary and paradoxical relationship. With engaging stories that illuminate the history of Jews and Jewish-Catholic relations in Rome, *Intimate Strangers* investigates the unusual relationship between Jews and Catholics as it has developed from the first century CE to the present in the Eternal City.

Fredric Brandfon innovatively frames these relations through an anthropological lens: how the idea and language of family have shaped the self-understanding of both Roman Jews and Catholics. The familial relations are lopsided, the powerful family member often persecuting the weaker one; the church ghettoized the Jews of Rome longer than any other community in Europe. Yet respect and support are also part of the family dynamic—for instance, church members and institutions protected Rome's Jews during the Nazi occupation—and so the relationship continues.

Brandfon begins by examining the Arch of Titus and the Jewish catacombs as touchstones, painting a picture of a Jewish community remaining Jewish over centuries. Papal processions and the humiliating races at Carnival time exemplify Jewish interactions with the predominant Catholic powers in medieval and Renaissance Rome. The Roman Ghetto, the forcible conversion of Jews, emancipation from the ghetto in light of Italian nationalism, the horrors of fascism and the Nazi occupation in Rome, the Second Vatican Council proclamation absolving Jews of murdering Christ, and the celebration of Israel's birth at the Arch of Titus are interwoven with Jewish stories of daily life through the centuries. *Intimate Strangers* takes us on a compelling sweep of two thousand years of history through the present successes and dilemmas of Roman Jews in postwar Europe.



Biblical Women Speak

Hearing Their Voices through
New and Ancient Midrash

RABBI MARLA J. FELDMAN

Gives voice to biblical women who are often ignored or unnamed

What were biblical women thinking and doing when the men around them received all the attention and glory? How did Leah, Rachel, and their handmaids negotiate the complicated family dynamics of four women vying for Jacob's affections? What compelled Potiphar's wife to risk her high station to seduce Joseph, an enslaved foreigner? How did the midwives and Pharaoh's daughter conspire to rescue baby Moses, right under Pharaoh's nose?

Biblical Women Speak employs midrash (interpretative techniques) to discover ten biblical women's stories from a female point of view and provide insights beyond how ancient male scholars viewed them. Each chapter brings alive a different biblical woman, including non-Israelite characters and others who are neglected in classical rabbinic texts, such as Keturah (Abraham's last wife), Bat Shuah (Judah's wife), Shelomith (the infamous blasphemer's mother), and Noah (one of Zelophehad's brave daughters who demanded inheritance rights). After each featured text we hear a creative retelling of the woman's story in her own voice, followed by traditional midrash and medieval commentaries and the author's reflections on how these tales and interpretations are relevant for today.

Rabbi Marla J. Feldman's book is an engaging invitation to enter biblical narratives, challenge conventional wisdom, and recalibrate the stories and lessons through the lens of our own lives.

Rabbi Marla J. Feldman is the executive director of Women of Reform Judaism. She has published numerous articles about the role of women in Jewish life and social justice issues and her modern midrashim have appeared in several collections. She is the author of Reform Movement action manuals, including *Speak Truth to Power*.

ALSO OF INTEREST

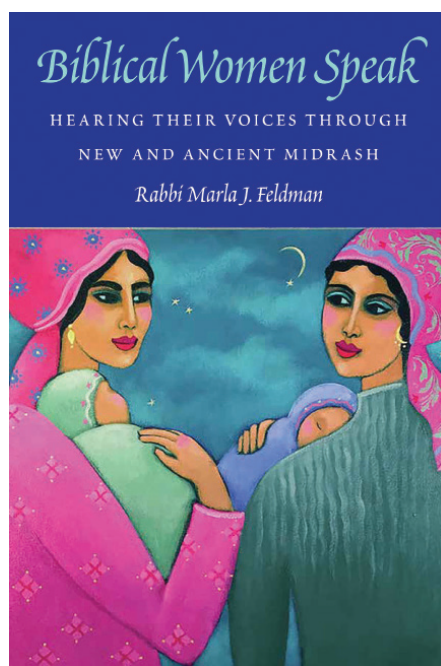
A Bride for One Night

Talmud Tales

Ruth Calderon

Translated by Ilana Kurshan

\$21.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1209-9



"Meeting these new role models of Jewish womanhood—some famous, others voiceless or infamous and nameless in the Torah—left me both enlightened and delighted. Reading the biblical text, rabbinic commentary, modern midrash, and Rabbi Feldman's contemporary commentary illuminated four dimensions of these remarkable women."—Maggie Anton, author of *Rashi's Daughters*

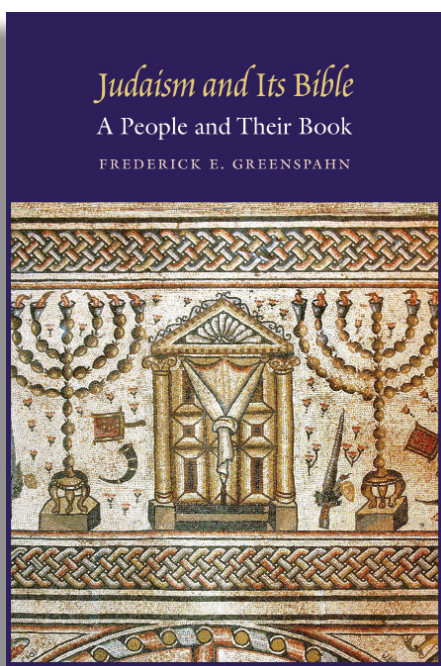
"Rabbi Marla J. Feldman is a marvelous teacher, and in *Biblical Women Speak* she proves to also be a weaver of ancient, modern, and original texts that give voice to women of the Bible who were often ignored or nameless, filling a void that has existed for centuries. Accessible for both beginner and advanced students, *Biblical Women Speak* should be required in any class of midrash."—Rabbi Ellen S. Wolintz-Fields, executive director, Women's League for Conservative Judaism

JULY

264 pp. • 6 x 9 • 1 appendix, 1 glossary

\$26.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1514-4





“Frederick Greenspahn brings us an abundance of gifts in this remarkable book: his expertise as a biblicist, his erudition in multiple areas of Jewish civilization, his formidable research skills, his experience as a popular university lecturer, and his skill as a writer.”—Ziony Zevit, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biblical Literature and Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures, American Jewish University

“I am astonished by the breadth and depth of learning on display. The book’s comprehensiveness makes it a tour de force.”—Alan Cooper, Elaine Ravich Professor of Jewish Studies, Jewish Theological Seminary

AUGUST

296 pp. • 6 x 9 • Index

\$29.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1510-6

Judaism and Its Bible

A People and Their Book

FREDERICK E. GREENSPAHN

The complex relationship between Judaism and the Hebrew Bible

Judaism and Its Bible explores the profoundly deep and complex relationship between Jews, Judaism, and the Hebrew Bible. The Hebrew Bible has been ubiquitous in Jewish life and thought: Jews read it, interpret it, and debate it. They translate the Bible even as they deem those translations inadequate, and they cite the Bible as the basis for observances that are not even mentioned in it. Jews quote the Bible as authority for their tradition’s preservation and innovation, as both the word of God and the language of humans, and as justification for both pro- and anti-rabbinic movements. Fascinating and comprehensive, *Judaism and Its Bible* describes the extraordinary two-and-a-half-millennia journey of a people and its book that has changed the world.

Frederick E. Greenspahn is the Gimelstob Eminent Scholar of Judaic Studies emeritus at Florida Atlantic University and former professor of religious and Judaic studies at the University of Denver. He has written and edited sixteen books, including *An Introduction to Aramaic*; *When Brothers Dwell Together*; *The Preeminence of Younger Siblings in the Hebrew Bible*; and *Hapax Legomena in Biblical Hebrew*. He is editor of the New York University Press series *Jewish Studies in the Twenty-First Century*.

ALSO OF INTEREST

The Book of Revolutions

The Battles of Priests, Prophets, and Kings That Birthed the Torah
Edward Feld

\$29.95 • paperback • 978-0-8276-1522-9



The JPS Bible Commentary: Psalms 120–150

THE TRADITIONAL
HEBREW TEXT WITH
THE JPS TRANSLATION
COMMENTARY BY
ADELE BERLIN
SIDEBARS ON RITUAL AND
LITURGICAL USES OF PSALMS
120–150 BY AVIGDOR SHINAN
AND BENJAMIN D. SOMMER
NEW JPS TRANSLATION (1985)

The best of traditional and modern scholarship on the Psalms

The Jewish Publication Society's highly acclaimed Bible Commentary series provides the Hebrew text of the Bible, the JPS English translation, and a line-by-line commentary. This volume presents commentary on Psalms 120–150, based on the most recent research on the language of the Bible, its literary forms, and the historical context that may have given rise to the psalms. The commentary pays special attention to the message of each psalm and to how the poetry shapes the message. At the same time, it draws on traditional Jewish interpretations of the meaning of the psalms.

Adele Berlin is Robert H. Smith Professor of Biblical Studies Emerita at the University of Maryland. She is the author of several books, including *Poetics and Interpretation of Biblical Narrative*, *The Dynamics of Biblical Parallelism*, and *The JPS Bible Commentary: Esther* (JPS, 2001). She is coeditor (with Marc Brettler) of *The Jewish Study Bible*. **Avigdor Shinan** is Yitzhak Becker Professor Emeritus of Jewish Studies at Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of numerous books, including (with Yair Zakovitch) *From Gods to God: How the Bible Debunked, Suppressed, or Changed Ancient Myths and Legends* (JPS, 2012). **Benjamin D. Sommer** is a professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic languages at Jewish Theological Seminary and senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute. He is the author of *Revelation and Authority: Sinai in Jewish Scripture and Tradition* and *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel*, among other works.

THE JPS BIBLE COMMENTARY PSALMS 120–150 תהילים



“In this exemplary work Adele Berlin combines her exceptional insight and creative interpretative gift for understanding poetry with her scholarly expertise in ancient Jewish history and Hebrew language in a remarkably clear and accessible way. Berlin leaves no stone unturned with respect to the current innovations in scholarship on the psalms. Both nonspecialists and specialists will benefit from this invaluable commentary.”—Hindy Najman, Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, Oriel College, University of Oxford

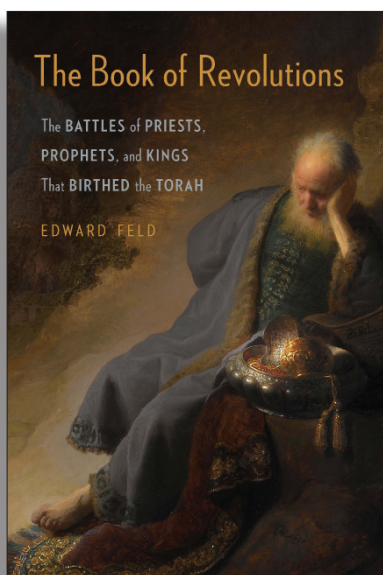
“Writing with unsurpassed lucidity, Adele Berlin, one of the leading authorities on biblical Hebrew poetry, guides us through the literary and religious nature of the psalms, explaining what each passage likely meant to its author and his contemporaries and to later readers experiencing the psalms in the context of their own times.”—Jeffrey Tigay, A. M. Ellis Professor of Hebrew and Semitic Languages and Literatures Emeritus, University of Pennsylvania

AUGUST

198 pp. • 8 x 10 • 3 tables

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The Book of Revolutions

The Battles of Priests, Prophets, and Kings That Birthed the Torah

EDWARD FELD

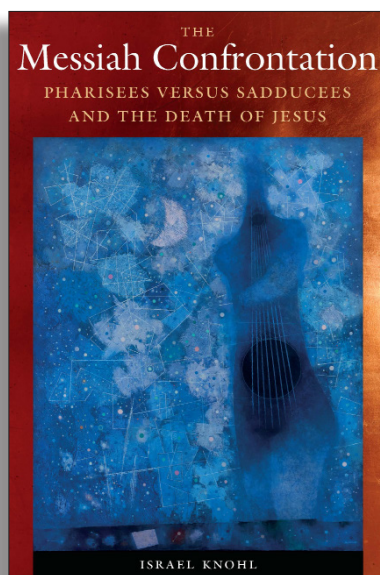
The Torah is truly the Book of Revolutions, born from a military coup, the aftermath of an assassination and regency, and a quiet but radical revolution effected by outsiders whose ideas proved persuasive. Three key legal codes emerged and in turn shaped the Bible, biblical Judaism, and ultimately the Judaism we know today. Edward Feld unveils the epic saga of ancient Israel as the visionary legacy of inspired authors in different times and places, and the Torah as an emblem of pluralistic belief.

“In highlighting the innovative development of codes within biblical material while revealing their afterlife and influence, this substantive and stunning work succeeds in introducing the Torah to a new generation of general readers, all the while delighting more advanced readers in its sophisticated reflections.”—Adriane Leveen, author of *Biblical Narratives of Israelites and Their Neighbors*

“A valuable addition to the bookshelves of lay readers and academics alike.”—Jonathan Fass, Jewish Book Council

320 pp. • 6 x 9 • 1 photograph, 1 map, 6 tables, index

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The Messiah Confrontation

Pharisees versus Sadducees and the Death of Jesus

ISRAEL KNOHL

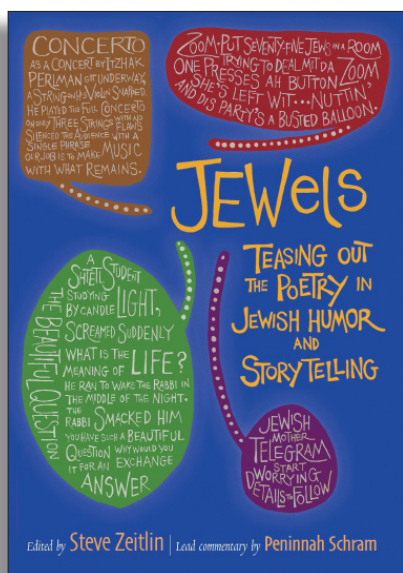
The Messiah Confrontation casts fascinating light on why Jesus was killed. Grounded in meticulous research, biblical scholar Israel Knohl argues that Jesus was not convicted and crucified because of a clash between Jewish and what would become Christian doctrine but because of a confrontation between two internal Jewish ideologies—expecting a Messiah or rejecting the Messiah idea—in which Jesus and the Pharisees (the majority of Jews, and forefathers of the rabbinic sages) were actually on the same side.

“For Christians, rejecting the theological anti-Jewishness of their own tradition and embracing the Jewishness of Jesus require radical revisions of basic understandings. *The Messiah Confrontation* moves this project forward by showing that the defining conflict leading to the death of Jesus took place within Judaism, not against it. Knohl’s bold analysis is compelling, illuminating, and important for Christian and Jewish readers alike.”
—James Carroll, author of *Constantine’s Sword*

224 pp. • 6 x 9 • 2 indexes

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JEWels

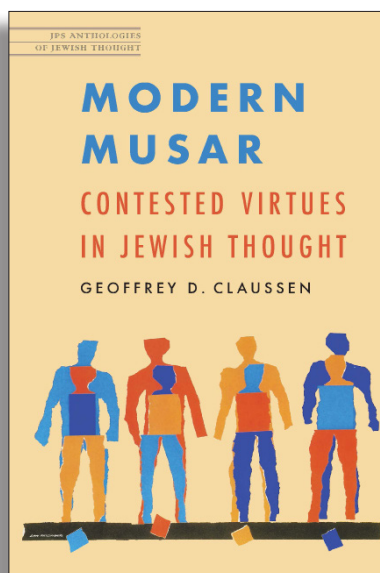
Teasing Out the Poetry in Jewish Humor and Storytelling

EDITED BY STEVE ZEITLIN
LEAD COMMENTARY BY
PENINNAH SCHRAM

JEWels is the first of its kind: the living tradition of Jewish stories and jokes transformed into poems, recording and reflecting on Jewish experience from ancient times through the present day, with running commentary and questions for discussion. Illuminated are jewels from journeys, from the Old Country, from Torah, shaped by the Holocaust, in glimpses of Jewish American lives, in Jewish foods, in conversations with God, and on the meaning of life. Storytellers, rabbis, poets, and scholars—including storyteller Peninnah Schram—chime in with interpretations, quips, related stories, and life experiences.

“Steve Zeitlin is a national treasure who celebrates the voices of everyday life. Wise, funny, and poignant, his book JEWels brings Judaism to life in short bursts of words that explode off the page and infuse our hearts with light and truth.”—Dave Isay, founder of StoryCorps

320 pp. • 7 x 10 • Index
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Modern Musar

Contested Virtues in Jewish Thought

GEOFFREY D. CLAUSSEN
FOREWORD BY LOUIS E. NEWMAN

Illuminating the diversity of modern Jewish moral thought, *Modern Musar* explores the many ways Jews understand ten virtues: honesty and love of truth; curiosity and inquisitiveness; humility; courage and valor; temperance and self-restraint; gratitude; forgiveness; love, kindness, and compassion; solidarity and social responsibility; and justice and righteousness. The juxtaposition of thinkers’ views, complemented by Geoffrey Claussen’s pointed analysis, allows us to see tensions with particular clarity—and sometimes to recognize multiple compelling ways of viewing the same virtue.

“By expanding musar literature to include not only the texts of the Musar movement and those influenced by them but also liberal and secular Jewish thinkers, Claussen forces the fields of modern Jewish thought and ethics to rethink their boundaries.”—Yonatan Y. Brafman, assistant professor of religion, Tufts University

“A major, illuminating contribution to contemporary musar literature.”—Rabbi Ira F. Stone, Rosh Yeshiva, Center for Contemporary Mussar

464 pp. • 6 x 9 • Index
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Tanakh

(See pp. 14–15)

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RABBI SHAI HELD

FOREWORD BY RABBI YITZ GREENBERG

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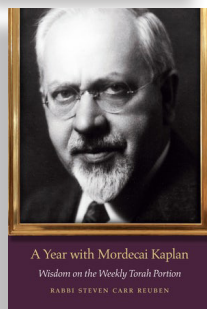
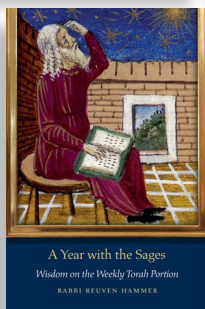
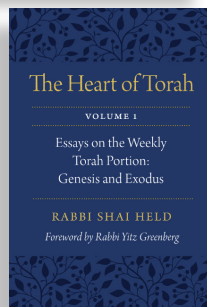
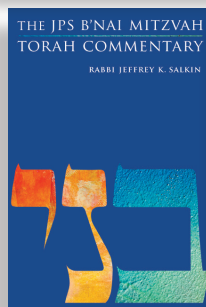
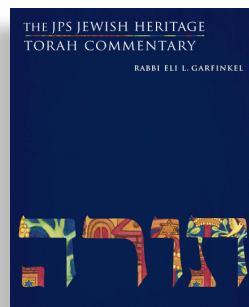
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FOREWORD BY RABBI DAVID A. TEUTSCH

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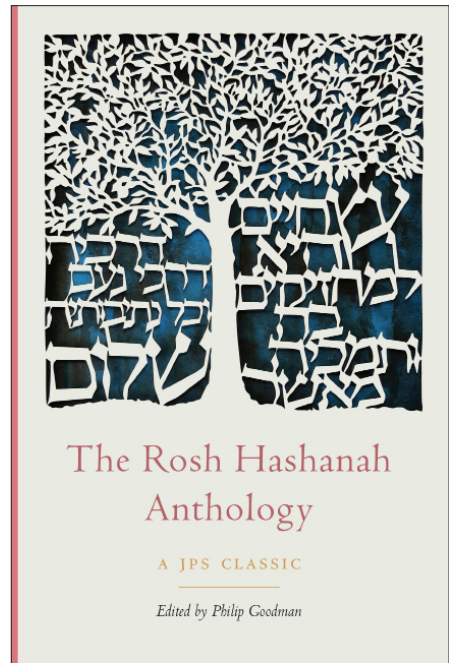
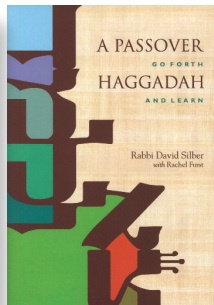
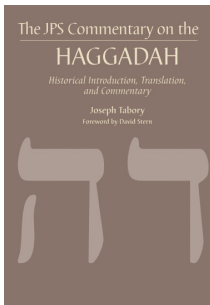
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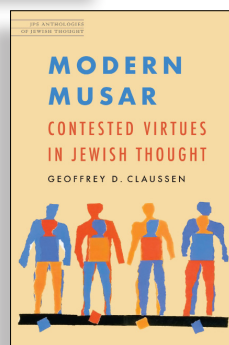
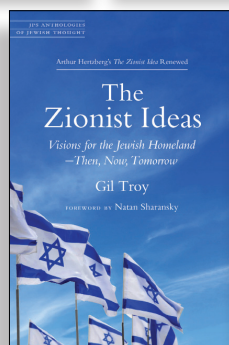
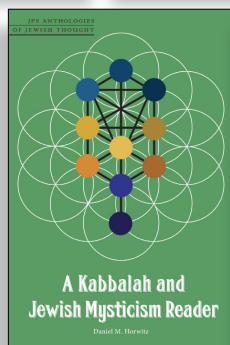
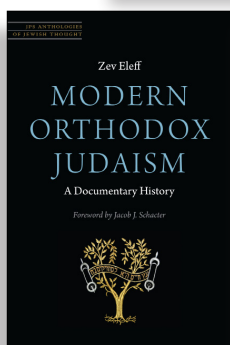
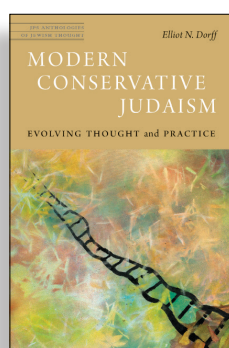
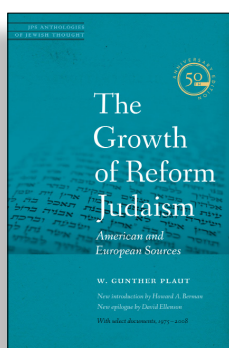
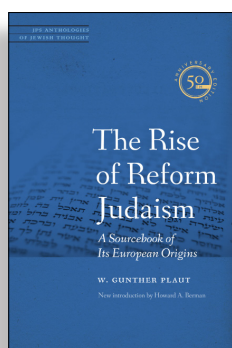
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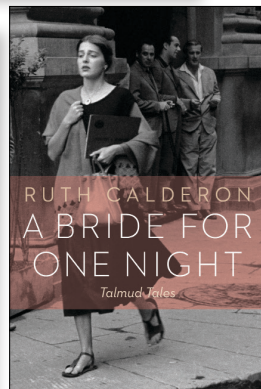
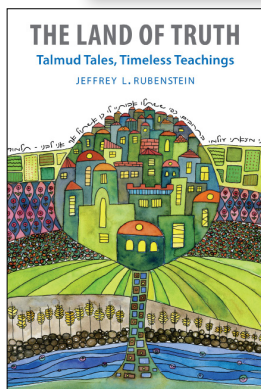
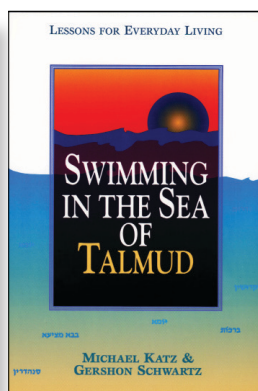
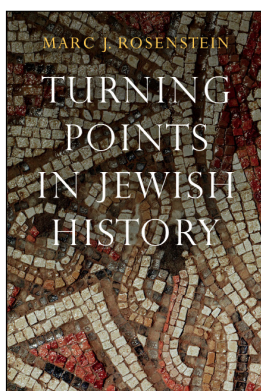
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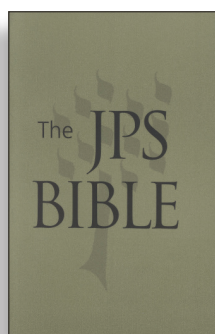
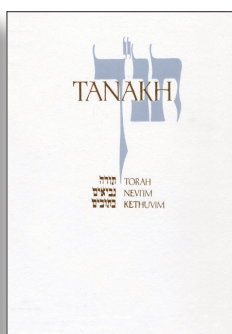
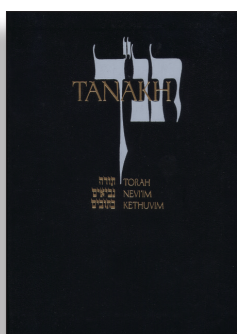
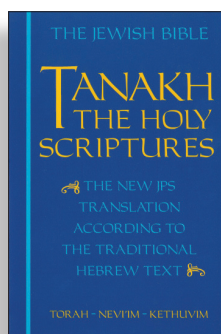
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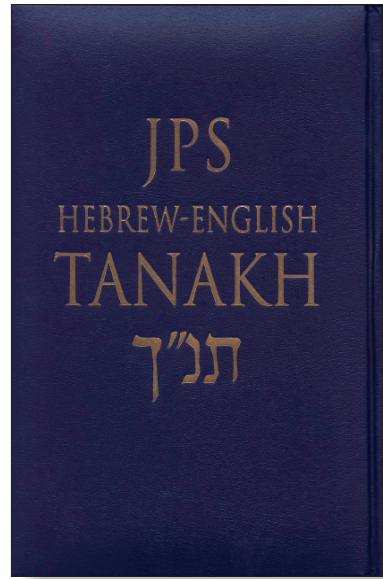


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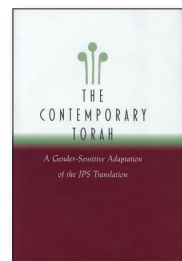
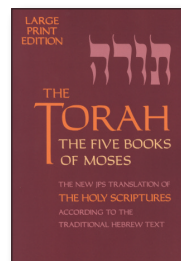
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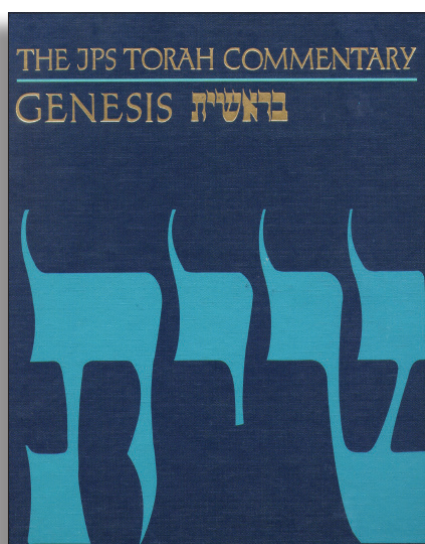
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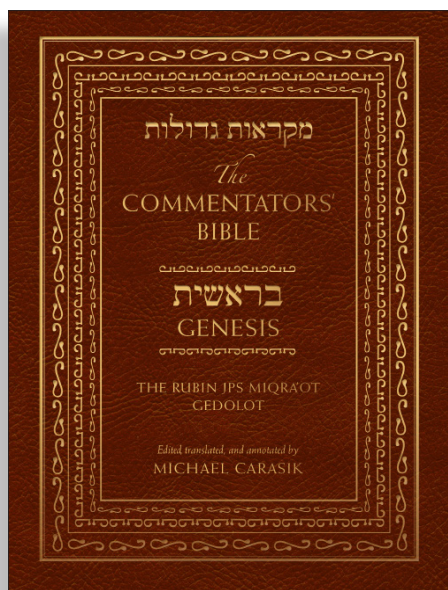
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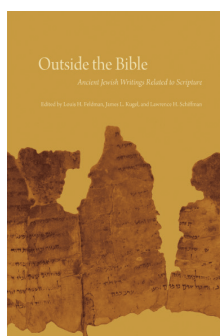
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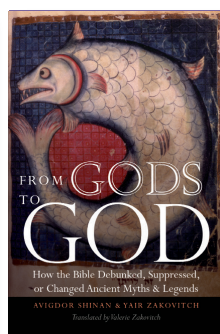
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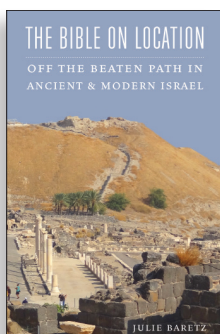
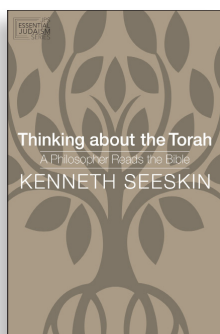
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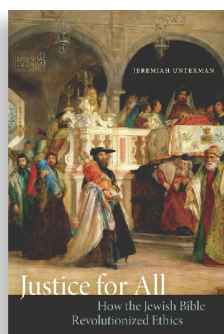
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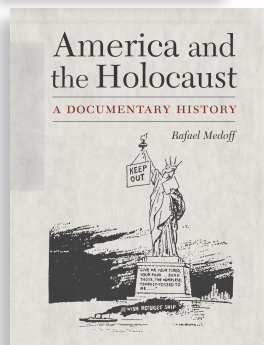
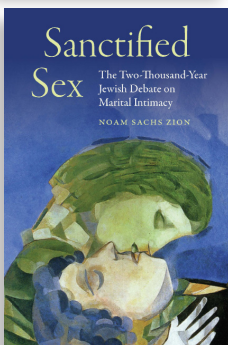
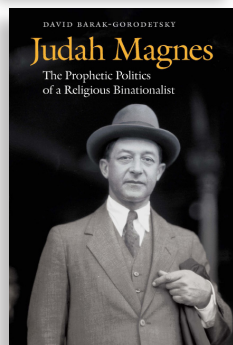
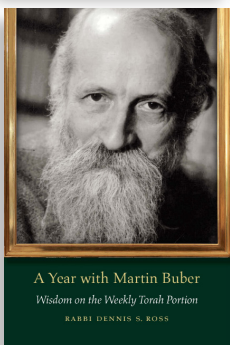
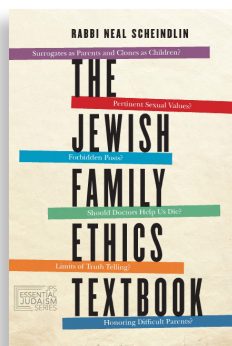
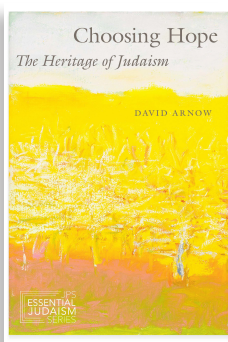
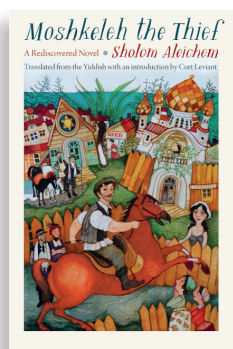
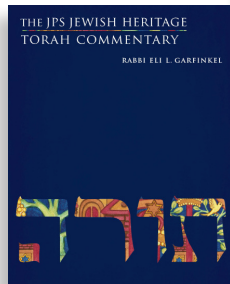
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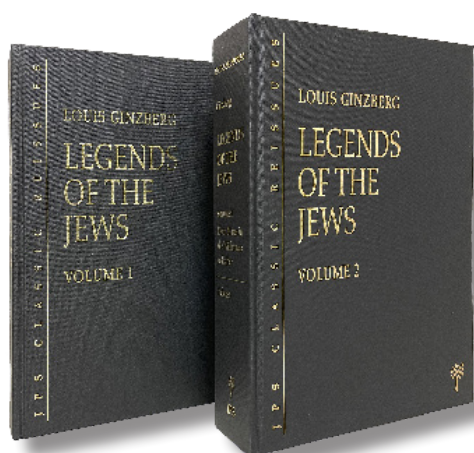
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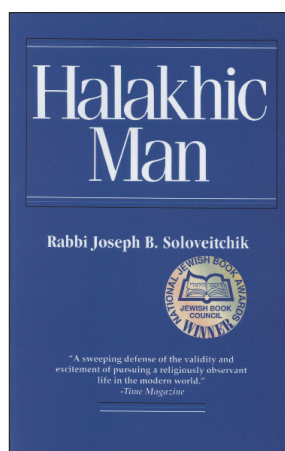
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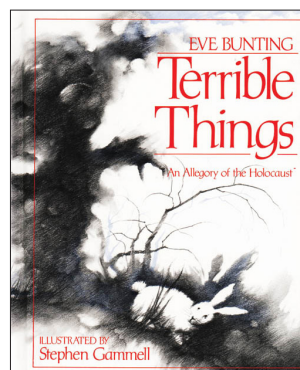
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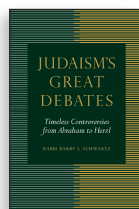
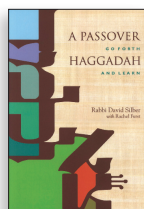
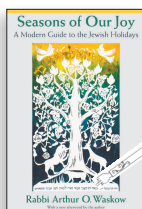
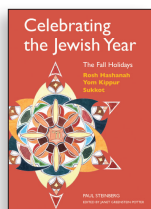
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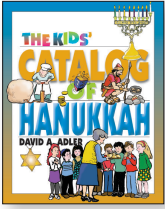
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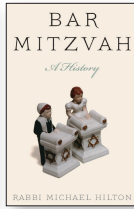
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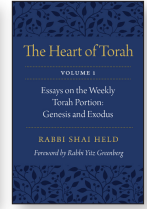
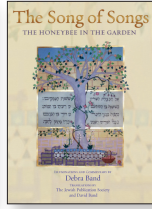
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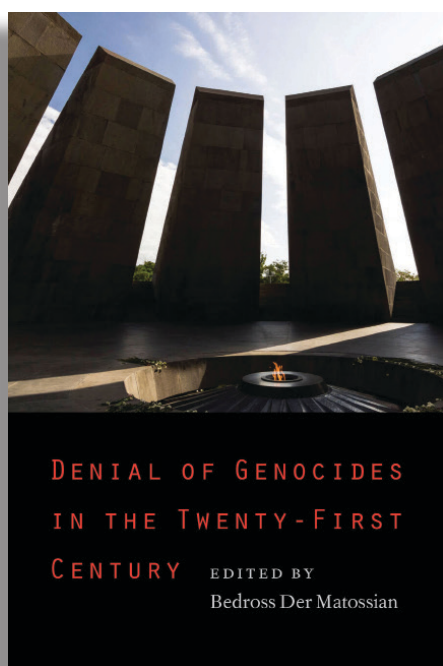
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Bedross Der Matossian is an associate professor of modern Middle East history and the Hymen Rosenberg Associate Professor in Judaic Studies at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. He is the author of *The Horrors of Adana: Revolution and Violence in the Early Twentieth Century* and *Shattered Dreams of Revolution: From Liberty to Violence in the Late Ottoman Empire*.

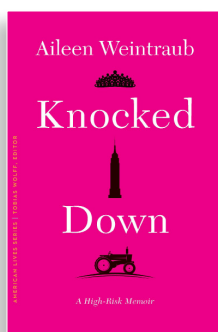
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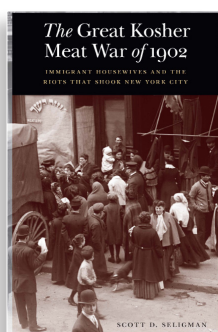
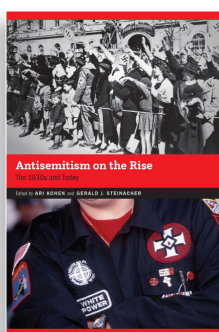
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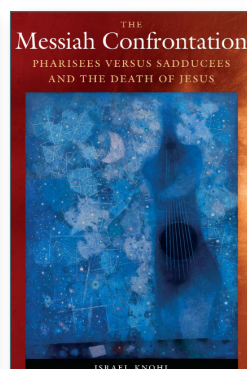
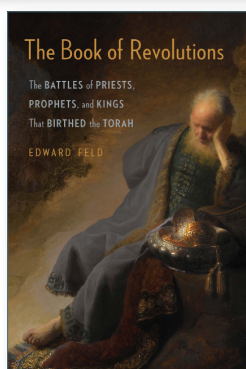
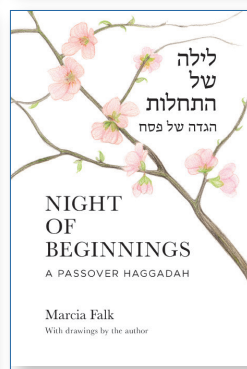
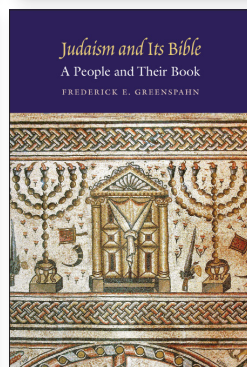
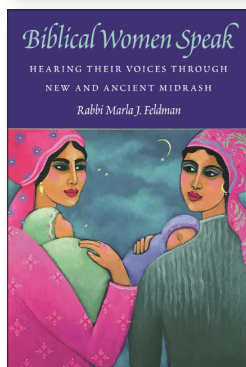
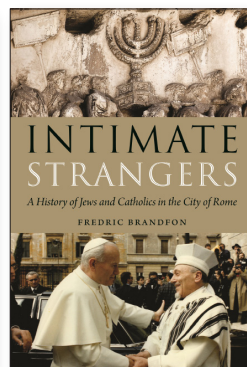
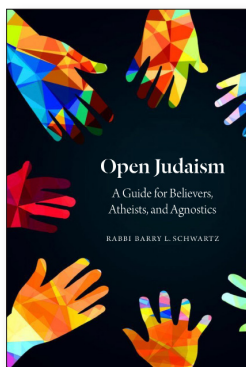
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