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Jewish Studies 2011

Passover 2011



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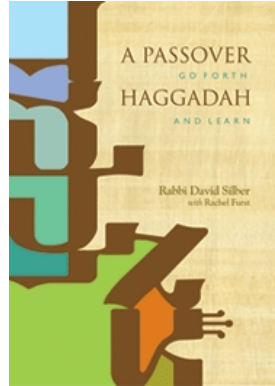
A PASSOVER HAGGADAH GO FORTH AND LEARN

Rabbi David Silber with Rachel Furst

Rabbi Silber has given us two books in one: the Haggadah itself, in English and Hebrew, with his seder commentary and a collection of essays that provide close readings of the classic biblical and rabbinic texts that inform Seder-night ritual and narration. Both parts work beautifully together to illuminate the central themes of Passover: Covenant, our relationship to ritual, God's presence in history, and other important issues that resonate with us all.

[Jewish Publication Society, March 2011](#)

[9780827609259, 22.50](#)



THE JPS COMMENTARY ON THE HAGGADAH HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION, TRANSLATION, AND COMMENTARY

Joseph Tabory

In this new volume in the JPS Commentary collection, Joseph Tabory, one of the world's leading authorities on the history of the haggadah, traces the development of the seder and the haggadah through the ages.

[Jewish Publication Society](#)

[9780827608580, cloth, \\$49.95](#)

CELEBRATING THE JEWISH YEAR

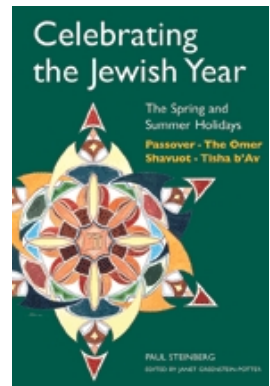
The Spring and Summer Holidays

Passover, Shavuot, The Omer, Tisha B'Av

Paul Steinberg (author), Janet Greenstein Potter (editor)

[Jewish Publication Society, 2009](#)

[9780827608504, paper, \\$27.50](#)



Biblical Studies

THE JPS BIBLE COMMENTARY: RUTH

Tamara Cohn Eskenazi and Tikva Frymer-Kensky

The authors provide a critical, line-by-line commentary of the biblical text, presented in its original Hebrew, complete with vocalization and cantillation marks, as well as the 1985 JPS English translation. The extensive introduction places the book within its historical, literary, and critical context, discusses contemporary interpretations of the story of Ruth, and examines its major motifs and themes, among them: family, marriage and levirate marriage in biblical and ancient Israel, redemption and inheritance, hesed, and the book's connection with the Jewish holiday of Shavuot.

[Jewish Publication Society, July 2011](#)

[9780827607446, cloth, \\$49.95](#)

THE COMMENTATOR'S BIBLE: THE JPS MIQRA'OT GEDOLOT: NUMBERS

Translated and Annotated by Michael Carasik

Each page of this third volume in The Commentators' Bible series contains several verses from the Book of Numbers, surrounded by both the 1917 and 1985 JPS translations, and by new contemporary English translations of the major commentators. The book also includes an introduction, a glossary of terms, a list of names used in the text, notes on source texts, a special topics list, and resources for further study. This large-format volume is beautifully designed for easy navigation among the many elements on each page, including explanatory notes and selected additional comments from the works of Bekhor Shor, Hizkuni, Abarbanel, Sforno, Gersonides, and others.

[Jewish Publication Society, August 2011](#)

[9780827609211, cloth, \\$93.75](#)

YANNAI ON GENESIS: AN INVITATION TO PIYYUT

Laura S. Lieber

Piyyutim are Hebrew or Aramaic poems composed for use in the Jewish liturgical context, either in place of or as adornments to the statutory prayers. Laura Lieber's seminal study uses the piyyutim of a single poet, Yannai (ca. sixth century CE), to introduce readers to this important but largely unfamiliar body of writings.

[Wayne State University Press, 2010, 9780878204649, cloth, \\$93.75](#)

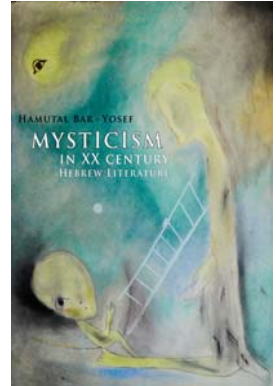
Hebrew Literature

MYSTICISM IN TWENTIETH CENTURY HEBREW LITERATURE

Hamutal Bar-Yosef

Challenging the notion that Jewish mysticism ceased to exist in the Hassidic enclaves of early nineteenth century Europe, Hamutal Bar-Yosef delves into the mystical elements of 20th century Israeli literature. Exploring themes such as unity, death, and sex, Bar-Yosef traces the influence and the trends towards secular mysticism found in Russian, Yiddish, and early Hebrew writers, and examines the impact of Zionism in creating a modern, living mystical literature. An exciting new text for anyone studying modern Hebrew literature.

Academic Studies Press, Nov. 2010
9781936235018, cloth, \$86.00

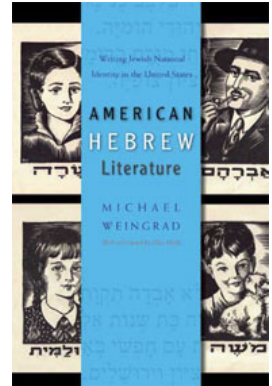


AMERICAN HEBREW LITERATURE

Michael Weingrad

In this book, Weingrad presents a counter-history of American Jewish culture, one that tells the story of literature written by a group whose core identity was neither American nor Jewish American. These writers were ardently and nationalistically Jewish and, despite adopting a new country, their linguistic and cultural allegiance was to the Hebrew language. Producing poetry, short fiction, novels, essays, and journals, writers such as Shimon Halkin, Hillel Bavli, and Gabriel Preil sought to express a Jewish cultural nationalism through literature.

Syracuse University Press, Dec, 2010
9780815632511, cloth, \$43.75



Memoir

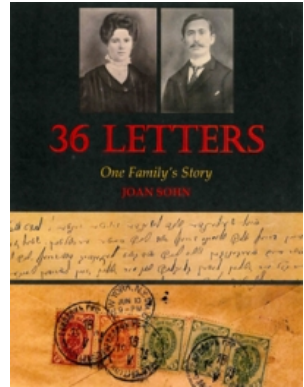
36 LETTERS: ONE FAMILY'S STORY

Joan Sohn

Joan Sohn, who has called Toronto home for 35 years, found her grandparents' 36 letters, tucked away for 65 years in a small brown paper bag. When she read them, her family's story came alive. Of course, there were missing pieces—many of them; and so she began a long labor of love, filling in the gaps. *36 Letters* is about separation, personal struggle, and achievement. Accompanied by over 100 stunning photographs, maps and illustrations, and, of course, the letters.

Jewish Publication Society, March 2011

9780827609266, paper, \$22.50



LIFE IN TRANSIT: JEWS IN POSTWAR LODZ, 1945-1950

Shimon Redlich

Life in Transit is the long-awaited sequel to Shimon Redlich's widely acclaimed *Together and Apart in Brzezany*, in which he discussed his childhood during the War and the Holocaust. *Life in Transit* tells the story of his adolescence in the city of Lodz in postwar Poland.

Redlich's personal memories are placed within the wider historical context of Jewish life in Poland and in Lodz during the immediate postwar years. Lodz in the years 1945-1950 was the second-largest city in the country and the major urban center of the Jewish population.

Redlich's research based on conventional sources and numerous interviews indicates that although the survivors still lived in the shadow of the Holocaust, postwar Jewish Lodz was permeated with a sense of vitality and hope.

Academic Studies Press, Nov. 2010

9781936235216, cloth, \$56.00

MEMOIR

ANNA'S SHTETL

Lawrence A. Coben

Anna Spector was born in 1905 in Korsun, a Ukrainian town on the Ros River, eighty miles south of Kiev. Held by Poland until 1768 and annexed by the Tsar in 1793 Korsun and its fluid ethnic population were characteristic of the Pale of Settlement in Eastern Europe: comprised of Ukrainians, Cossacks, Jews and other groups living uneasily together in relationships punctuated by violence. Anna's father left Korsun in 1912 to immigrate to America, and Anna left in 1919, having lived through the Great War, the Bolshevik Revolution, and part of the ensuing civil war, as well as several episodes of more or less organized pogroms.

[University of Alabama Press, 2011](#)
9780817356738, new in paper, \$33.50



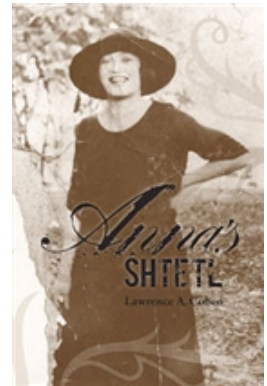
THE CHOOSING

A RABBI'S JOURNEY FROM SILENT NIGHTS TO HIGH HOLY DAYS

Andrea Myers

A young Lutheran girl grows up on Long Island, New York. She aspires to be a doctor, and is on the fast track to marriage and the conventional happily-ever-after. But, as the Yiddish saying goes, "Man plans, and God laughs." Meet Andrea Myers, whose coming-of-age at Brandeis, conversion to Judaism, and awakening sexual identity make for a rich and well-timed life in the rabbinate.

[Rutgers University Press, April 2011](#)
9780813549576, paper, \$24.95



Literature and Criticism

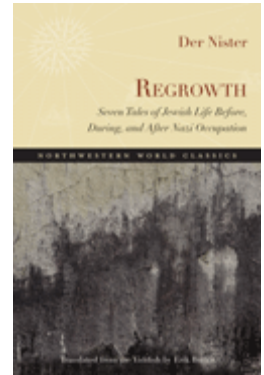
REGROWTH: SEVEN TALES OF JEWISH LIFE BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER NAZI OCCUPATION

Der Nister, Translated from the Yiddish by Erik Butler

The seven stories that compose *Regrowth* (Vidervuks) might shock readers familiar with accounts of the Holocaust marked by mournful and sentimental overtones. Although the outcome is often terrible, *Der Nister*'s characters refuse to accept the role of victim. Likewise, the monstrosity of the perpetrators is not at issue: the Nazis may be abominable, but they do not warrant attention for longer than a savage animal would.

Northwestern University Press, June 2011

9780810124364, paper, \$22.50



TWILIGHT OF A GOLDEN AGE

SELECTED POEMS OF ABRAHAM IBN EZRA

Edited and translated by Leon J. Weinberger

Abraham ibn Ezra was one of the most important scholars in Spain during the 12th century, and the author of many books on philosophy, biblical commentaries, astronomy, Hebrew grammar, and mathematics. He was also the first to realize the need to translate the theoretical works of Jewish scholars in Al-Andalus from Arabic to Hebrew. As a sage-teacher he wandered all over Spain, Italy, France, and England, where, according to certain researchers, he died. "Ibn Ezra is generally considered one of the most famous Jewish poets, his writing representing the Hebrew-Spanish culture in the Middle Ages .

University of Alabama Press, 2011

9780817356798, new in paper, \$54.00

THE THIRD PILLAR: ESSAYS IN JUDAIC STUDIES

Geoffrey Hartman

In *The Third Pillar* Hartman, one of the most influential scholars and teachers of English and Comparative Literature of recent decades, has brought together some of the most important and eloquent essays he has written since the 1980s on the major texts of the Jewish tradition. In three groupings, on Bible, Midrash, and education, Hartman clarifies the relevance of contemporary literary criticism to canonical texts.

University of Pennsylvania Press, April 2011

9780812243161, cloth, \$49.95



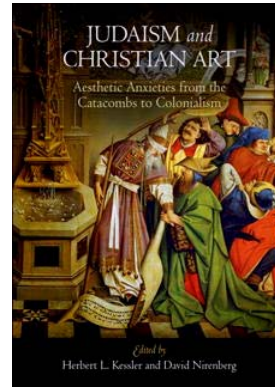
Art

JUDAISM AND CHRISTIAN ART AESTHETIC ANXIETIES FROM THE CATACOMBS TO COLONIALISM

Edited by **Herbert Kessler and David Nirenberg**

The thirteen essays in *Judaism and Christian Art* reveal that Christian art has always defined itself through the figures of Judaism that it produces. From its beginnings, Christianity confronted a host of questions about visual representation. Should Christians make art, or does attention to the beautiful works of human hands constitute a misplaced emphasis on the things of this world or, worse, a prohibited form of idolatry ("Thou shalt make no graven image")? And if art is allowed, upon what styles, motifs, and symbols should it draw? Christian artists, theologians, and philosophers answered these questions and many others by thinking about and representing the relationship of Christianity to Judaism.

University of Pennsylvania Press, Jan. 2011
9780812242850, cloth, \$87.50



SEEING ISRAELI AND JEWISH DANCE

Edited by **Judith Brin Ingber**

Choreographer, dancer, and dance scholar Judith Brin Ingber collects wide-ranging essays and many remarkable photographs to explore the evolution of Jewish dance through two thousand years of Diaspora, in communities of amazing variety and amid changing traditions. Ingber and other eminent scholars consider dancers individually and in community, defining Jewish dance broadly to encompass religious ritual, community folk dance, and choreographed performance.

Wayne State University Press, June 2011
9780814333303, cloth, \$43.50



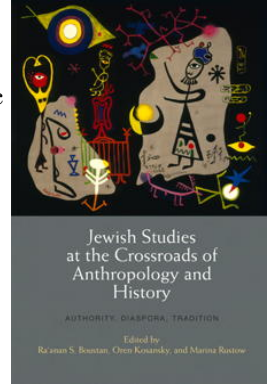
What are Jewish Studies?

JEWISH STUDIES AT THE CROSSROADS OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND HISTORY

Edited by Ra'anan S. Boustan, Oren Kosansky, and Marina Rustow

Over the past several decades, the field of Jewish studies has expanded to encompass an unprecedented range of research topics, historical periods, geographic regions, and analytical approaches. Yet there have been few systematic efforts to trace these developments, to consider their implications, and to generate new concepts appropriate to a more inclusive view of Jewish culture and society. *Jewish Studies at the Crossroads of Anthropology and History* brings together scholars in anthropology, history, religious studies, comparative literature, and other fields to chart new directions in Jewish studies across the disciplines

University of Pennsylvania Press, Mar. 2011
9780812243031, cloth, \$87.50

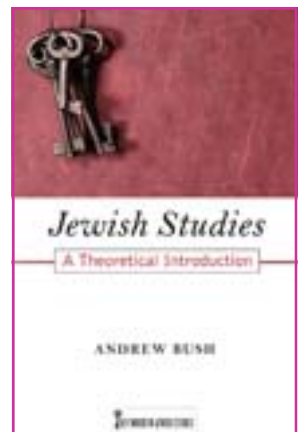


JEWISH STUDIES: A THEORETICAL INTRODUCTION

Andrew Bush

Jewish Studies, the first volume in a groundbreaking new series, *Key Words in Jewish Studies*, introduces the basic approach of the series by organizing discussion around essential concepts in the field that have emerged over the last two centuries, such as history and science, race and religion, self and community, identity and memory. The book is oriented by contemporary critical theory, especially feminist and postcolonial studies, and the multidisciplinary approaches of cultural studies.

Rutgers University Press, March 2011
9780813549545, cloth, \$49.95



Religious History

THE MIXED MULTITUDE: JACOB FRANK AND THE FRANKIST MOVEMENT, 1755-1816

Pawel Maciejko

In 1756, Jacob Frank, an Ottoman Jew who had returned to the Poland of his birth, was discovered leading a group of fellow travelers in a suspect religious service. At the request of the local rabbis, Polish authorities arrested the participants. Jewish authorities contacted the bishop in whose diocese the service had taken place and argued that since the rites of Frank's followers involved the practice of magic and immoral conduct, both Jews and Christians should condemn and burn them at the stake. The scheme backfired, as the Frankists took the opportunity to ally themselves with the Church, presenting themselves as Contra-Talmudists who believed in a triune God. As a Turkish subject, Frank was released and temporarily expelled to the Ottoman territories, but the others were found guilty of breaking numerous halakhic prohibitions and were subject to a Jewish ban of excommunication.

University of Pennsylvania Press, April 2011
9780812243154, cloth, \$81.00

BECOMING THE PEOPLE OF THE TALMUD ORAL TORAH AS WRITTEN TRADITION IN MEDIEVAL JEWISH CULTURES

Tayla Fishman

Talya Fishman examines ways in which circumstances of transmission have shaped the cultural meaning of Jewish traditions. Although the Talmud's preeminence in Jewish study, and its determining role in Jewish practice are generally taken for granted, Fishman contends that these roles were not solidified until the late eleventh- and early twelfth-centuries. The inscription of Talmud—which Sefardi Jews understand to have occurred quite early, and Ashkenazi Jews only later—precipitated these developments. The encounter with Oral Torah as a written corpus was transformative for both subcultures, and it shaped the roles that Talmud came to play in Jewish life.

University of Pennsylvania Press, May 2011
9780812243130, cloth, \$81.00

DEMONIC DESIRES

YETZER HARA AND THE PROBLEM OF EVIL IN LATE ANTIQUITY

Ishay Rosen-Zvi

Ishay Rosen-Zvi examines the concept of yetzer hara, or evil inclination, and its evolution in biblical and rabbinic literature. Contrary to existing scholarship, which reads the term under the rubric of destructive sexual desire, Rosen-Zvi contends that in late antiquity the yetzer represents a general tendency toward evil. Rather than the lower bodily part of a human, the rabbinic yetzer is a wicked, sophisticated inciter, attempting to snare humans to sin. The rabbinic yetzer should therefore not be read in the tradition of the Hellenistic quest for control over the lower parts of the psyche, writes Rosen-Zvi, but rather in the tradition of ancient Jewish and Christian demonology.

University of Pennsylvania Press, June 2011

9780812243390, cloth, \$87.50

THE CONVERGENCE OF JUDAISM AND ISLAM

RELIGIOUS, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL DIMENSIONS

Edited by Michael M. Laskier and Yaacov Lev

Eschewing a chronological approach and featuring contributions from European, Israeli, and North American scholars, including veterans and recent PhDs, the volume makes many fascinating and stimulating juxtapositions. To give one example, chapters on early Islam and the shaping of Jewish-Muslim relations in the Middle Ages shed light on the legal battles over the status of synagogues in twentieth-century Yemen or the execution of a fourteen-year-old girl in nineteenth-century Morocco. Sure to provoke controversy and discussion, this volume focuses on a period of free exchange between these two cultures that resulted in some of the most seminal breakthroughs in math, science, and medicine the world has known.

University Press of Florida, August 2011

97808130364986, cloth, \$93.75

Twentieth Century Diaspora

BREAD TO EAT AND CLOTHES TO WEAR LETTERS FROM JEWISH MIGRANTS IN THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY

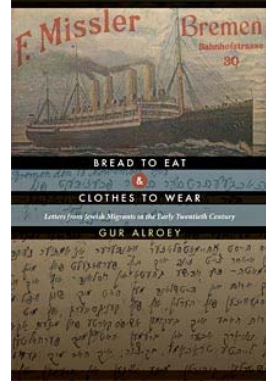
Gur Alroey

Between 1875 and 1924, more than 2.7 million Jews from Eastern Europe left their home countries in the hopes of escaping economic subjugation and religious persecution and creating better lives overseas. Although many studies have addressed how these millions of men, women, and children were absorbed into their destination countries, very little has been written on the process of deciding to migrate.

In *Bread to Eat and Clothes to Wear: Letters from Jewish Migrants in the Early Twentieth Century*, author Gur Alroey fills this gap by considering letters written by Eastern European Jews embarking on their migration.

Wayne State University Press, June 2011

9780814335192, paper, \$37.50



TWENTIETH CENTURY JEWS: FORGING IDENTITY IN THE LAND OF PROMISE AND IN THE PROMISED LAND

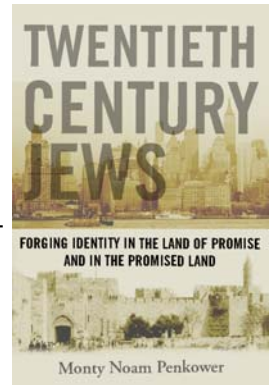
Monty Noam Penkower

This extensively researched collection of essays lucidly explores how members of the ever-beleaguered Jewish people grappled with their identities during the past century in the United States and in Eretz Israel, the new centers of Jewry's long historical experience. With the pivotal 1903 Kishinev pogrom setting the stage, the author proceeds to examine how the Land of Promise across the

Atlantic exerted different influences on Abraham Selmanovitz, Felix Frankfurter, the founders of the American Council for Judaism, and Arthur Hays Sulzberger. Professor Penkower then shows how the prospect of nationalism in the biblically covenanted Promised Land engendered other tensions and transformations, ranging from the plight of Hayim Nahman Bialik, to rivalry within the Orthodox Jewish camp, to on-going strife between the political Left and Right over the nature of the emerging Jewish state.

Academic Studies Press, Nov. 2010

9781936235209, cloth, \$81.25



Jewish Food

FROM THE JEWISH HEARTLAND TWO CENTURIES OF MIDWEST FOODWAYS

Ellen F. Steinberg and Jack H. Prost

From the Jewish Heartland: Two Centuries of Midwest Foodways reveals the distinctive flavor of Jewish foods in the Midwest and tracks regional culinary changes through time. Exploring Jewish culinary innovation in America's heartland from the 1800s to today, Ellen F. Steinberg and Jack H. Prost examine recipes from numerous midwestern sources, both kosher and nonkosher, including Jewish homemakers' handwritten manuscripts and notebooks, published journals and newspaper columns, and interviews with Jewish cooks, bakers, and delicatessen owners.

University of Illinois Press, 2011
9780252078132, paper, \$41.25



MATZOH BALL GUMBO CULINARY TALES OF THE JEWISH SOUTH **Marcie Cohen Ferris**

From the colonial era to the present, Marcie Cohen Ferris examines the expressive power of food throughout southern Jewish history. She demonstrates with delight and detail how southern Jews reinvented culinary traditions as they adapted to the customs, landscape, and racial codes of the American South. Richly illustrated, this culinary tour of the historic Jewish South is an evocative mixture of history and foodways, including more than thirty recipes to try at home.

University of North Carolina Press, new in paper, Sept. 2010
9780807871232, paper, \$27.50



Shoah

DISENCHANTMENT

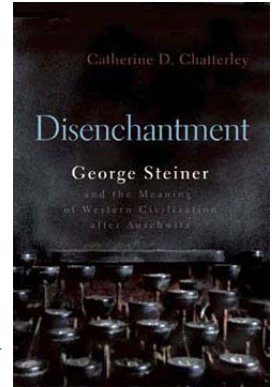
GEORGE STEINER AND THE MEANING OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION AFTER AUSCHWITZ

Catherine D. Chatterley, **founding director of the Canadian Institute for the study of Antisemitism and professor at the University of Manitoba**

Having escaped the Nazis as a child, Steiner vowed that his work as an intellectual would attempt to understand the tragedy of the Shoah. In *Disenchantment*, Chatterley focuses on Steiner's neglected writings on the Holocaust and antisemitism and places this work at the center of her analysis of his criticism. She clearly demonstrates how Steiner's family history and education, as well as the historical and cultural developments that surrounded him, are central to the evolution of his dominant intellectual concerns. It is during the 1950s and 1960s, in relation to unfolding discoveries about the Nazi murder of European Jewry, that Steiner begins to study the effects of the Holocaust on language and culture and then questions the very purpose and meaning of the humanities.

Syracuse University Press, March 2011

9780815609605, cloth, \$31.00



ICON OF LOSS

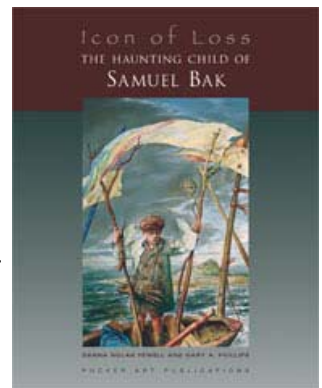
THE HAUNTING CHILD OF SAMUEL BAK

Dana Nolan Fewell and Gary A. Phillips

In this examination of Samuel Bak's most recent collection of paintings inspired by the little boy from the famous Stroop Report photo taken in the Warsaw Ghetto in April 1943. Gary A. Phillips and Danna Nolan Fewell consider the historical and visual implications of this iconic image and its contemporary evocations. A survivor of the Vilna liquidation and a child prodigy whose first exhibition was held in the Vilna Ghetto at age nine, Bak weaves together personal history and Jewish history to articulate an iconography of his Holocaust experience.

Syracuse University Press, 2010

9781879985216, cloth, \$62.50 100 pp colour illustrations.



Literature

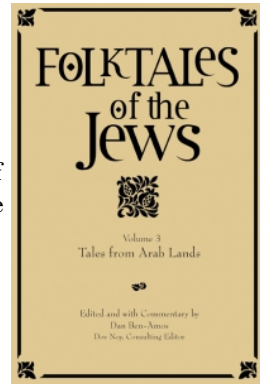
FOLKTALES OF THE JEWS: TALES FROM ARAB LANDS

Edited by **Dan Ben-Amos**

Tales from Arab Lands presents tales from North Africa, Yemen, and Iraq in the most important collection of Jewish folktales ever published. It is the third volume in Folktales of the Jews, the multi-volume series in the tradition of Louis Ginzberg's timeless classic, Legends of the Jews.

Jewish Publication Society, April 2011

9780827608719, cloth, \$93.75



NARRATING THE LAW

A POETICS OF TALMUDIC LEGAL STUDIES

Barry Scott Wimpfheimer

This way of considering law strongly resists the divide in traditional Jewish learning between legal literature (Halakhah) and nonlegal literature (Aggadah) by suggesting the possibility of a discourse broad enough to capture both. Narrating the Law activates this mode of reading by looking at the Talmud's legal stories, a set of texts that sits uncomfortably on the divide between Halakhah and Aggadah. After noticing that such stories invite an expansive definition of law that includes other cultural voices, Narrating the Law also mines the stories for the rich descriptions of rabbinic culture that they encapsulate.

University of Pennsylvania Press, Dec. 2010

9780812242997, cloth, \$74.95

Still in print:

Bociany

Chava Rosenfarb

Syracuse University Press,

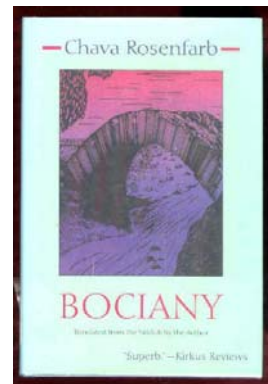
0-8156-0576-5, cloth, \$24.95

Of Lodz and Love

Chava Rosenfarb

Syracuse University Press

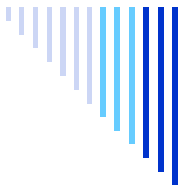
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