

SOURCES FOR JEWISH FOLKTALES & STORIES

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FOR ADULTS:

Sadeh, Pinhas. *Jewish Folktales.* Trans. Hillel Halkin. New York: Doubleday, 1989. ISBN: 0385195737

Drawing from both traditional Eastern European literary sources and the vast body of oral material from the Middle East, here is a remarkably diverse and immensely entertaining gathering of Jewish legends and tales.

Schram, Peninnah. *Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another.* Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson, 1987. ISBN: 0876689675

A collection of sixty-four delightful Jewish folktales retold and with introductions by Peninnah Schram. See also *Tales of Elijah the Prophet* (1991), *Chosen Tales: Stories Told by Jewish Storytellers* (1995), and *Stories Within Stories* (2000).

Schwartz, Howard. *Miriam's Tambourine: Jewish Folktales from Around the World.* Illus. Lloyd Bloom. New York: The Free Press, 1986. ISBN: 0029292603

An illustrated collection of fifty traditional Jewish tales from various parts of the world. See also *Gates to the New City: A Treasury of Modern Jewish Tales* (1983), *Lilith's Cave: Jewish Tales of the Supernatural* (1988), *Adam's Soul: The Collected Tales of Howard Schwartz* (1992), and *Gabriel's Palace: Jewish Mystical Tales* (1994)

Sherman, Josepha. *A Sampler of Jewish-American Folklore.* Illus. Jacqueline Chwast. Little Rock, AR: August House, 1992. ISBN: 0874831946

Gathers folk tales concerning love, marriage, birth, childhood, death, ghosts, and survivors, and includes a selection of proverbs and riddles.

Weinreich, Beatrice Silverman. *Yiddish Folktales.* Trans. Leonard Wolf. New York: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1988. ISBN: 0805210903

Over two hundred Yiddish tales gathered during the 1920s and 1930s by ethnographers in the small towns and villages of Eastern Europe.

Zeitlin, Steve. *Because God Loves Stories: An Anthology of Jewish Storytelling.* New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997. ISBN: 0684811758

An exciting treasury of Jewish stories and storytellers, from ancient tales and classics re-imagined to contemporary family stories, parables, and humor.

FOR CHILDREN:

Gellman, Marc. *Does God Have A Big Toe? Stories About Stories in the Bible.* Illus. Oscar de Mejo. New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1989. ISBN: 0060224339

A collection of humorous tales derived from Bible stories. See also *God's Mailbox: More Stories about Stories in the Bible* (1996).

Geras, Adèle. *My Grandmother's Stories: A Collection of Jewish Folk Tales.* Illus. Anita Lobel. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003. ISBN: 0375822852

As a young girl spends time at her grandmother's apartment, she is treated to traditional Jewish tales.

Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *One-Hundred-and-One Jewish Read-Aloud Stories: Ten-Minute Readings from the World's Best-Loved Jewish Literature.* New York: Black Dog & Leventhal Publishers, 2001. ISBN: 1579122124

A collection of Jewish tales, Bible stories, legends, and real life accounts from Jews from every generation and many lands. See also *A Child's Book of Midrash: 52 Jewish Stories from the Sages* (1990), *While the Candles Burn: Eight Stories for Hanukkah* (1996), and *Journeys with Elijah: Eight Tales of the Prophet* (1999).

Jaffe, Nina and Steven J. Zeitlin. *While Standing On One Foot: Puzzle Stories & Wisdom Tales from the Jewish Tradition.* Illus. John Segal. New York: Henry Holt, 1993. ISBN: 0805025944

Captures the wit, wisdom, and lore of Jewish tradition in a collection of folktales, legends, and literature. See also *The Uninvited Guest & Other Jewish Holiday Tales* (1993), *The Mysterious Visitor: Stories of the Prophet Elijah* (1997), *The Cow of No Color: Riddle Stories and Justice Tales from Around the World* (1998), and *Tales for the Seventh Day: A Collection of Sabbath Stories* (2000).

Kimmel, Eric A. *The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm.* Illus. Mordicai Gerstein. New York: Holiday House, 2000. ISBN: 0823414639

Drawing on traditional Jewish folklore, these Hanukkah stories relate the antics of the people of Chelm, thought - perhaps incorrectly-- to be a town of fools. See also *Mishka, Pishka, & Fishka and Other Galician Tales* (1976), *Days of Awe: Stories for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur* (1991), *The Spotted Pony: A Collection of Hanukkah Stories* (1992), *The Adventures of Hershel of Ostropol* (1995), and *Be Not Far from Me: The Oldest Love Story* (1998).

Sanfield, Steve. *The Feather Merchants & Other Tales of the Fools of Chelm.* New York: Orchard, 1991. ISBN: 0531059588

Thirteen traditional Eastern European Jewish tales of the town of Chelm and its silly citizens.

Schmidt, Gary D. *Mara's Stories: Glimmers in the Darkness.* New York: Henry Holt & Company, 2001. ISBN: 0805067949

Each evening, in one of the barracks of a Nazi death camp, a woman shares stories that push back the darkness, cold, and fear, bringing hope to the women and children who listen.

Schram, Peninnah. *Ten Classic Jewish Children's Stories.* Illus. Jeffrey Allon. New York: Pitspopany Press, 1998. ISBN: 0943706963

Schram retells ten well-known stories from the Torah and the Talmud in this anthology. See also *Ten Best Jewish Children's Stories* by Chana & Daniel Sperber (1995), *Ten Great Jewish Children's Stories* by Chaya Burstein (1995), *Ten Traditional Jewish Children's Stories* by Gloria Goldreich (1996), and *Ten Holiday Jewish Children's Stories* by Barbara Goldin (2000).

Schwartz, Howard and Barbara Rush, Barbara. *The Diamond Tree: Jewish Tales from Around the World.* Illus. Uri Shulevitz. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1991. ISBN: 006025243X

A collection of traditional Jewish tales from many different countries. See also *Next Year in Jerusalem: 3000 Years of Jewish Stories* (1996), *A Coat for the Moon and Other Jewish Tales* (1999), *A Journey to Paradise and Other Jewish Tales* (1999), *Ask the Bones: Scary Stories from Around the World* (1999), *The Day the Rabbi Disappeared: Jewish Holiday Tales of Magic* (2000), and *Invisible Kingdoms: Jewish Tales of Angels, Spirits, and Demons* (2002).

Sherman, Josepha. *Rachel the Clever and Other Jewish Folktales.* Little Rock, AR: August House, Inc, 1993. ISBN: 087483306X

The 46 stories in this collection are as varied as their origins -- Poland, Morocco, Yemen, and Spain, to name a few -- yet all possess a unifying element: a uniquely Jewish flavor and an emphasis on doing the right thing, on surviving by cleverness and kindness, and the need for keeping a good sense of humor.

AUDIO:

Jewish Short Stories from Eastern Europe and Beyond. Directed by Joan Micklin Silver. New York: National Yiddish Book Center, 1995.

A collection of Yiddish, Hebrew, Russian, and English stories (on 9 audio cassettes) narrated in English by Jeff Goldblum, Elliot Gould, Rhea Perlman, Jerry Stiller, Walter Mathau, Leonard Nimoy, Lauren Bacall, and others.

One People, Many Stories: Jewish Stories from Around the World. Hosted by Jerry Stiller. Los Angeles: Jewish Community Library, 2001.

Join this entertaining journey of Jewish stories from Poland to Algeria, Montana to Ethiopia and all points in between (on 6 CDs).