

EXPLORING JEWISHNESS READING LIST

CONVERSION / AFFILIATION

Diamant, Anita, *Choosing a Jewish Life, Revised and Updated: A Handbook for People Converting to Judaism and for Their Family and Friends*, Schocken

Dubner, Stephen, *Turbulent Souls: A Catholic Son's Return to His Jewish Family*, Avon Books

Lester, Julius, *Lovesong: Becoming a Jew*, Arcade

Reuben, Steven Carr, *Becoming Jewish: The Challenges, Rewards, and Paths to Conversion*, Xlibris

GENERAL INTRODUCTIONS

Alpert, Rebecca T., *Exploring Judaism: A Reconstructionist Approach*, The Reconstructionist Press

_____, *Whose Torah?: A Concise Guide to Progressive Judaism*, The New Press

Blue, Lionel, *To Heaven with Scribes and Pharisees* (available through abebooks.com or other used book sellers)

Diamant, Anita, *Living a Jewish Life, Updated and Revised Edition: Jewish Traditions, Customs, and Values for Today's Families*, Wm. Morrow

Hahn Tapper, Aaron J., *Judaisms: A Twenty-First-Century Introduction to Jews and Jewish Identities*, University of California Press

Holtz, Barry, *Back To The Sources: Reading the Classic Jewish Texts*, Simon & Schuster

Hurwitz, Sarah, *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life-in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*, Random House

Robinson, George, *Essential Judaism: Updated Edition: A Complete Guide to Beliefs, Customs & Rituals*, Atria Books

Satlow, Michael L., *Creating Judaism: History, Tradition, Practice*, Columbia University Press

Siegel, Richard, Michael Strassfeld, and Sharon Strassfeld, *The First Jewish Catalog: A Do-It-Yourself Kit*, Jewish Publication Society

FEMINISM AND GENDER

Adler, Rachel, *Engendering Judaism: An Inclusive Theology and Ethics*, Beacon Press

Alpert, Rebecca, *Like Bread on the Seder Plate: Jewish Lesbians and the Transformation of Tradition*, Columbia University Press

Dzmura, Noam, *Balancing on the Mechitza: Transgender in Jewish Community*, North Atlantic Books

Goldstein, Elyse, *New Jewish Feminism: Probing the Past, Forging the Future*, Jewish Lights

Ladin, Joy, *Through the Door of Life: A Jewish Journey Between Genders*, University of Wisconsin Press

Plaskow, Judith, *Standing Again at Sinai: Judaism from a Feminist Perspective*, HarperOne

Shneer, David and Caryn Aviv, eds., *Queer Jews*, Routledge

Sienna, Noam, ed., *A Rainbow Thread: An Anthology of Queer Jewish Texts from the First Century to 1969*, Print-O-Craft

FICTION

Broner, Esther, *A Weave of Women*, Indiana University Press (via used booksellers)

Diamant, Anita, *The Red Tent*, Picador

Hobson, Laura, *Gentleman's Agreement*, Cherokee Publishing

Horn, Dara, *All Other Nights*, W. W. Norton

Malamud, Bernard, *The Fixer*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Potok, Chaim, *The Chosen*, Fawcett

Roth, Henry, *Call It Sleep*, Picador

Stavans, Ilan, ed., *The Schocken Book of Modern Sephardic Literature*, Schocken

Sternberg, Milton, *As a Driven Leaf*, Behrman House

Yeziarska, Anzia, *Bread Givers*, Persea

HISTORY

Ben-Ur, Aviva, *Sephardic Jews in America: A Diasporic History*, NYU Press

Brenner, Michael, *A Short History of the Jews*, Princeton University Press

Gerber, Jane, *The Jews of Spain: A History of the Sephardic Experience*, Free Press

Goodman, Martin, *A History of Judaism*, Princeton University Press

Nadell, Pamela, *America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today*, W. W. Norton

Sarna, Jonathan, *American Judaism: A History*, Yale University Press

Schama, Simon, *The Story of the Jews Volume One: Finding the Words 1000 BC - 1492 AD*, Ecco

_____, *The Story of the Jews Volume Two: Belonging: 1492-1900*, Ecco

HOLIDAYS & LIFE CYCLE

Cardin, Nina Beth, *The Tapestry of Jewish Time: A Spiritual Guide to Holidays and Life-Cycle Events*, Behrman House

Strassfeld, Michael, *The Jewish Holidays*, Wm. Morrow

Waskow, Arthur, *Seasons of Our Joy: A Modern Guide to the Jewish Holidays*, Jewish Publication Society

ISRAEL

Adwan, Sami, Dan Bar-On, and Eyal Naveh, eds., *Side by Side: Parallel Histories of Israel-Palestine*, The New Press

Brenner, Michael, *Zionism, A Brief History*, Markus Wiener Publishers

Sarah Glidden, *How to Understand Israel in 60 Days or Less*, Drawn & Quarterly

Troy, Gil, *The Zionist Ideas: Visions for the Jewish Homeland—Then, Now, Tomorrow*, Jewish Publication Society

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Jacobs, Jill, *There Shall Be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice through Jewish Law and Tradition*, Jewish Lights

_____, *Where Justice Dwells: A Hands-On Guide to Doing Social Justice in Your Jewish Community*, Jewish Lights

Jaffe, David, *Changing the World from the Inside Out: A Jewish Approach to Personal and Social Change*, Trumpeter

Kaye, Kantrowitz, *The Colors of Jews: Racial Politics and Radical Diasporism*, Indiana University Press

Waskow, Arthur, *Torah of the Earth*, Jewish Lights

Yanklowitz, Shmuly, *The Soul of Jewish Social Justice*, Urim Publications

SPIRITUALITY

Balin, Carole, ed., *Jewish Theology in Our Time: A New Generation Explores the Foundations and Future of Jewish Belief*, Jewish Lights

Feinstein, Ed, *Tough Questions Jews Ask*, Jewish Lights

Fine, Lawrence, ed., *Jewish Mysticism and the Spiritual Life: Classical Texts, Contemporary Reflections*, Jewish Lights

Firestone, Tirzah, *The Receiving: Reclaiming Jewish Women's Wisdom*, HarperOne

Gefen, Nan Fink, *Discovering Jewish Meditation: Instruction & Guidance for Learning an Ancient Spiritual Practice*, Jewish Lights

Hammer, Jill and Taya Shere, *The Hebrew Priestess: Ancient and New Visions of Jewish Women's Spiritual Leadership*, Ben Yehuda Press

Hammer, Jill, *The Jewish Book of Days: A Companion for All Seasons*, Jewish Publication Society

Hammer, Reuven, *Entering Jewish Prayer: A Guide to Personal Devotion and the Worship Service*, Schocken

Heschel, Abraham Joshua, *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity: Essays*, Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Hoffman, Lawrence, *The Way Into Jewish Prayer*, Jewish Lights

Kushner, Lawrence, *Eyes Remade for Wonder*, Jewish Lights

_____, *The Book of Words*, Jewish Lights

Lew, Alan, *Be Still and Get Going: A Jewish Meditation Practice for Real Life*, Little, Brown & Co.

Matlins, Stuart, ed., *The Jewish Lights Spirituality Handbook: A Guide to Understanding, Exploring & Living a Spiritual Life*, Jewish Lights Publishing

Morinis, Alan, *Everyday Holiness: The Jewish Spiritual Path of Mussar*, Trumpeter

Stone, Ira, *A Responsible Life: The Spiritual Path of Mussar*, Wipf and Stock