

# Storytelling And Spirituality In Judaism

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*Jewish Spiritual Practices*  
Yitzhak Buxbaum 1994-04-01  
The Jewish mystic path and its practices to attain God-consciousness.

**The Soul of the Story** David Zeller 2006 Shares stories about the part each teacher played in integrating mind and heart, body and soul, psychology and religion, west and east, matter and spirit, theory and experience, and

how each teaching became the stepping stone to reclaiming his own spiritual tradition. \$15,000 first printing.

[The Shema in the Mezuzah](#)  
Sandy Eisenberg Sasso 2012  
Grandma tells Annie a story to explain how, a long time ago, a wise rabbi settled an argument between two groups of townspeople who could not agree on how to hang a mezuzah.

*Dancing on the Edge of the*

*World* Miriyam Glazer 2000  
What does it mean to be Jewish? What are the struggles and joys Jewish people face? Through personal memoirs, inspiring fictions, and moving fables, this collection of ancient and contemporary stories provides a sparkling glimpse into the Jewish spirit that has been "dancing on the edge of the world" for two thousand years.

**Amazing Chesed** Rami Shapiro 2012-11-01 Deepen your appreciation of Judaism as a way of living graciously. Reclaims grace as a core Jewish idea, presenting it as a key for unlocking the spiritual nature of all aspects of Judaism, looking at God, creation, covenant, faith and Jewish practice.

*Our Lives As Torah* Carol Ochs 2002-02-28 In this powerful book, Carol Ochs shows us how to develop a personal theology by examining our life stories, learning to recognize God at work in them, and bringing them into conversation with Torah. Using timeless biblical texts as lenses to see the present, she helps us

understand who we are and who God is for us by exploring the tightly interwoven basic elements of our lives--our love, suffering, work, bodies, prayer, community, and experiences of death. Through the process of seeing our experiences in relation to Biblical stories, we begin to recognize our lives as part of the ongoing story of the Jewish people--as Torah. This insight allows us to see these experiences as meaningful, not accidental, and opens us to recognizing God's power in and through all that happens to us. Rather than a collection of random events, our lives are part of the Jewish people's ongoing adventure. Armed with our personally shaped theology, we can face this adventure of living in the vanguard of history with awareness and confidence.

**Ethics of the Sages** Rami M. Shapiro 2006 An engaging introduction to the wisdom sayings of the rabbinic sages about matters in life and how to live it with dignity. Fresh, contemporary translation and provocative commentary distills Pirke Avot as a practical guide

to living ethically today.  
Hasidic Tales Rami M. Shapiro  
2004 Breathes new life into  
classic stories from people who  
so marvelously combined the  
mystical and the ordinary.  
Rabbi Rami serves as an expert  
guide to these wise and  
meaningful stories that can  
help further your own spiritual  
awakening.

*Nectar #10* Babaji Bob Kindler  
2003-01-31 Islam, Vedanta,  
Yoga, Zen, Tibetan Buddhism,  
Christianity, Judaism — one  
finds all these and more  
represented in *Nectar of  
Nondual Truth*. And never mind  
that there are points of  
difference with regard to  
practice and approach. You will  
find a nearly unanimous  
agreement around the Essence.  
On the cover, in the scriptural  
quote for this issue, we find the  
rishis of ancient India referring  
to this nondual Reality in terms  
of “something hidden.” It is  
indicated by religious traditions  
as the Pearl of Great Price, the  
White Dove Ascending, the  
Bourne of Freedom from Fear,  
the Ultimate Quest and other  
expressions which indicate both

the beauty of and the difficulty  
involved in finding this  
Treasure, and infer the huge  
amount of self-effort that will  
have to be undertaken to  
succeed in this most excellent  
endeavor. But purity, practice,  
patience and perseverance —  
what can stymie the aspiring  
soul who approaches Divine  
Reality with such resolve? If  
one wants to see patina exude  
from a copper penny, one  
places it in a damp atmosphere  
and watches for days, weeks,  
even months, until that green  
substance finally issues forth.  
What a huge amount of work  
and effort is involved in gaining  
a few drops sesame oil from  
hundreds of seeds! Reality is  
“hidden,” then. Nature is Its  
sporting-ground, the universe  
Its Cosmic Mind, thought-force  
is Its power to create, revealed  
scripture is Its revelation, and  
forms and objects are solid  
reminders of both Its power to  
create and Its transcendent and  
unlimited nature. Yet, all of  
these are reflections, are  
insentient material principles.  
The one Spirit, though It  
pervades them, is independent

of them, and they all get their existence and their ability to shine with reflected light from That. It is Svarupa, to quote the ancients, Essential Being, and everything, everyone else, is Svarupavishranti — always resting in this one essential Being.

**Amazing Chesed** Rami Shapiro 2012-11-01 The question isn't whether grace is there for you in Judaism. The question is, do you have the courage to accept it? "Chesed isn't a reward; it is reality. God's grace isn't limited to what we want to happen or might like to happen. God's grace is what is happening whether we like it or not. In short, God's grace is the giving of all to all." --from the Introduction Ask almost any Jew whether grace is a central concept in Judaism and an essential element in living Jewishly and, chances are, their answer will be "no." But that's the wrong answer. This fascinating foray into God's love freely given offers you-- regardless of your level of Jewish involvement--a way to

answer that question in the affirmative. Drawing from ancient and contemporary, traditional and non-traditional Jewish wisdom, this book reclaims the idea of grace in Judaism in three ways: It offers a view of God that helps you understand what grace is, why grace is, and how grace manifests in the world. It sets forth a reading of Judaism that is grace-filled: an understanding of creation, Shabbat and other Jewish practices from a grace-filled perspective. It challenges you to be embraced and transformed by grace, and to live life as a vehicle for God's grace, thereby fulfilling the promise of being created in God's image and likeness.

**The Healing Heart for Communities** Allison M. Cox 2009-03-01 The Healing Heart provides powerful examples of the use of stories and storytelling in encouraging resiliency, empathy, respect, and healing. These engaging books contain stories, and narratives about the use of the stories in activities with

different populations (children, teens, those with disabilities, seniors, inmates, etc.) or which address specific social or community problems (addictions, poverty, violence, racism, environmental degradation, homelessness, abuse). The books are a collective effort containing the expertise of more than 60 storytellers and health professionals who illustrate the power of story in moving others to commitment and action, in building self-esteem and mutual respect. *The Healing Heart ~ Families* focuses on families, dealing specifically with healing through story, health promotion, disease prevention, early childhood intervention, children with medical problems, adopting families, schools, sexual identities, grief, and spiritual healing. *The Healing Heart ~ Communities* focuses on community-building, with sections on youth, violence prevention, poverty, domestic violence, substance abuse and addiction, racism, elders, culture, environmental protection, homelessness, and

community development.

Allison Cox is a therapist and Prevention Specialist, in Tacoma, Washington, with 20 years experience as a professional storyteller, and is a founder of the Healing Story Alliance—part of the National Storytelling Network. David Albert is a storyteller, writer, and Senior Planner and Policy Analyst with the Washington State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, and a contributor to *Spinning Tales, Weaving Hope* (New Society, 2002).

*Three Times Chai* Laney Katz Becker 2007 For Jews everywhere, the number 18 resonates deeply: it signifies life, as does every multiple of 18. And the Hebrew word for life is Chai. In *Three Times Chai*, 54 rabbis introduce us to favorite stories that exemplify for them a Jewish ideal or principle: a triple helping of life's blessings in one unusual anthology. Here you will find stories that inspire, teach or simply amuse, each accompanied by a note discussing the lessons that can

be drawn from it and why it is a particular rabbi's favorite. Perfect for reading aloud or alone, *Three Times Chai* makes a wonderful gift, a valuable resource for sermons, and a singular tool for promoting thoughtful conversation in the classroom.

*Creating a Judaism Without Religion*

S. Daniel Breslauer

2001 This book examines how some modern and contemporary Jewish thinkers and writers have imagined a Judaism without the boundaries and restrictions that go by the name of "religion." The book offers scholarly insights into some Jewish thinkers-notably Martin Buber and Eugene Borowitz, some Jewish writers-in particular the poet Hayyim Nahman Bialik and the Yiddish author I.L. Peretz. The study also introduces more contemporary thinkers and writers such as the postmodernist Jacques Derrida, the contemporary Israeli novelist David Grossman, and the young Israeli poet Ilan Sheinfeld. While of scholarly interest, the ten chapter work

has more general appeal as a way of conceiving Jewish living outside the restrictions of religion. One third of the book suggests a way of looking at God and theology as part of the process of living rather than as fixed realities. Another third explores how Jewish culture can be liberated from the restrictions of nationalism and parochialism. The final third focuses on a postmodern ethics of the self that emerges from face to face meetings with others. The author contends that the future Judaism has created will be pluralistic, diverse, and oriented toward the future.

*Imagining Holiness* Justin Jaron

Lewis 2009 Hasidic tales are often read as charming expressions of Jewish spirituality. This title offers a radical reappraisal of how we think of Hasidic tales, calling into question received notions of authenticity. It focuses on the neglected Hasidic literature of the early 20th century - primarily the work of Israel Berger and Abraham Hayim Michelson.

## **The Art of Mystical**

**Narrative** Eitan P. Fishbane  
2018-11-22 In the study of Judaism, the Zohar has captivated the minds of interpreters for over seven centuries, and continues to entrance readers in contemporary times. Yet despite these centuries of study, very little attention has been devoted to the literary dimensions of the text, or to formal appreciation of its status as one of the great works of religious literature. The Art of Mystical Narrative offers a critical approach to the zoharic story, seeking to explore the interplay between fictional discourse and mystical exegesis. Eitan Fishbane argues that the narrative must be understood first and foremost as a work of the fictional imagination, a representation of a world and reality invented by the thirteenth-century authors of the text. He claims that the text functions as a kind of dramatic literature, one in which the power of revealing mystical secrets is demonstrated and performed

for the reading audience. The Art of Mystical Narrative offers a fresh, interdisciplinary perspective on the Zohar and on the intersections of literary and religious studies.

## **The Light and Fire of the Baal Shem Tov**

Yitzhak Buxbaum 2006-09-05 This is a life, in stories, of Rabbi Israel Baal Shem Tov (1700-1760), the founder of Hasidism. The Baal Shem Tov, or the Besht, as he is commonly called, led a revival in Judaism that put love and joy at the center of religious life and championed the piety of the common folk against the rabbinic establishment. He has been recognized as one of the greatest teachers in Jewish history, and much of what is alive and vibrant in Judaism today, in all denominations, derives from his inspiration. Abraham Joshua Heschel, who was descended from several illustrious Hasidic dynasties, wrote: "The Baal Shem Tov brought heaven to earth. He and his disciples, the Hasidim, banished melancholy from the soul and uncovered the

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ineffable delight of being a Jew.">

## **Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another**

Peninnah Schram 1996-05-01

Peninnah Schram, widely regarded as one of the great Jewish storytellers of our generation, has collected and retold sixty-four delightful Jewish folktales to create Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another. Ms. Schram, who believes that stories form "the link between the generations," helps forge that link with this book, ensuring that these stories will continue to live and breathe in the modern world. The life force animating these tales is almost tangible. The printed words seem to vibrate, as if the author possessed the voices of various tellers and lent their lilting tones and ripe inflections to the printed page. Furthermore, the laughter, sobs, and delighted cries of countless listeners also echo in these pages. Schram, who has written a thoughtful, informative introduction for each story, demonstrates on every page her belief that the

stories "connect to our lives."

And when the lifelike characters woven into Schram's magic tapestry suffer or enjoy the fates they most deserve, we rejoice, secure in their storybook world? a world where justice, however incomprehensible, is always done, and where we attain happiness by living in accordance with Jewish law and in harmony with the world's natural order. Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another abounds in a gentle wisdom that presses itself upon our complex and often self-contradictory lives, infusing us with patience, tolerance, and hope. We identify with the kings and princes, fools and beggars, heroes and leaders, villains and witches of yesteryear because, though our lives are vastly different from theirs, we share their moral choices and experience their dilemmas. Schram joins Jewish storytellers throughout the ages, linking past to present and preserving an invaluable legacy for generations yet unborn.

*Mitzvah Stories* Goldie Milgram  
2011-10-14 Dive into these sixty inspiring and provocative adult-level mitzvah stories crafted by leading Jewish storytellers, rabbis and authors from across the full spectrum of Jewish life. These juried, newly-minted tales reveal how each mitzvah, when carried out with understanding and creativity, becomes a rich source of spirituality and meaning. *Mitzvah Stories* cultivates respectful Jewish community and facilitates engaged Jewish living. Meant for reading and retelling across the generations, *Mitzvah Stories: Seeds for Inspiration and Learning* shows us that Judaism is a spiritual practice. Contributing authors: Yossi Alfi, Noa Baum, Joel Ben Izzy, Yisroel Bernath, Renee Brachfeld, Rosyln Bresnick-Perry, Barry Bub, Phil Cohen, Anita Diamant, Helen Engelhardt, Ed Feinstein, Ellen Frankel, Mark S. Golub, James Stone Goodman, Dan Gordon, Janie Grackin, Eva Grayzel, Bonnie Greenberg, Tina Grimberg, Dan Grossman, Miriam Grossman, Fred

Guttman, Sharona Halickman, Jill Hammer, Richard Joel, Amichai Lau-Lavie, Benji Levene, Herb Levine, Syd Lieberman, Doug Lipman, Cindy Rivka Marshall, Melvin Metelits, Goldie Milgram, Lynnne Mirvis, Nadia Grosser Nagarajan, Steve Nathan, Caren Neile, Leon Olenick, Yoel Perez, Peter Pitzele, Jack Riemer, Carol and Neal Rose, Gail Rosen, Barbara Rush, Sandy Sasso, Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, Peninnah Schram, Rebecca Schram-Zafrany, Howard Schwartz, Cherie Karo Schwartz, Rami Shapiro, Danny Siegel, Laura Simms, Corinne Stavish, Naomi Steinberg, Arthur Strimling, Carla Vogel, Shohama Harris Wiener, Diane Wolkstein, Debra Gordon Zaslow, Steve Zeitlin, Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff Includes a Bonus Section! The *Mitzvah Stories Driver's Manual*: \*Appreciating Mitzvah as the Core of Jewish Practice \*History and Development of Jewish Stories \*Creative Ways to Use Jewish Stories \*Guide to the Craft of Jewish Storytelling Foreword by Richard Joel, President Yeshiva University

## PRAISE FOR MITZVAH STORIES

"The power of mitzvah as a primary lens for meaningful Jewish living is revealed in this most stimulating volume where every branch of Judaism is represented with creativity, integrity and moral imagination." --Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, author, Jewish Literacy and Hillel: If Not Now, When? "The vision, voices, views and values of the full spectrum of the Jewish people are respectfully reflected in these spirited, challenging, re-tellable contemporary mitzvah stories. A rare, precious and inspiring opportunity for many ways into learning and living a meaningful Jewish life. The perfect gift for every Jewish occasion. --Arthur Kurzweil, author, From Generation to Generation "These stories, so varied in style and orientation, teach us that all worthwhile relationships are multi-layered; small details can carry large meanings; and that tales, whether simple or complex, have the capacity to evoke wonder." --Blu Greenberg, author of On Women and

Judaism and How to Run a Traditional Household Companion deck of 52 Mitzvah Cards also available. (<http://reclaimingjudaism.org/node/243>)

New Mitzvah Stories for the Whole Family Reclaiming Judaism 2014-07-18 Created by leading Jewish authors and storytellers for both youth and adult readers, these forty-three true and fictional stories excite the imagination and open the heart. Each tale poses challenges that highlight the life-enhancing effect of mitzvah-centered living throughout each waking day. NEW MITZVAH STORIES celebrates contemporary, inclusive Jewish values. A wide range of families and individuals will be able to find themselves in these compelling tales. Each story is followed by a Jewish Spiritual Education Study Guide with sections for reflection, discussion and action. Designed for reading and retelling across the generations. Contributing authors: Anne Andrew, Noa Baum, Janet Berenson, Randi

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Ya'el Chaikind, Mitchell Chefitz, Rachel Coles, Gerald Fierst, Rinah Galper, Yehudit Goldfarb, Dan Gordon, Leslie Gorin, Daniel T. Grossman, Jill Hammer, Nancy Handwerger, Alide Huyser-Frijda, Barbara Solomon Josselson, Jennifer Voigt Kaplan, Melissa Klein, Geri Kolesar, Arthur Kurzweil, Alex Lazarus-Klein, Janet Madden, Cindy Rivka Marshall, Goldie Milgram, Lynn Mirvis, Seth F. Oppenheimer, Marden David Paru, Gail Pasternack, Geela Rayzel Raphael, Jack Riemer, Barbara Rush, Cassandra Sagan, Peninnah Schram, Rebecca Schram-Zafrany, Sandor Schuman, Cherie Karo Schwartz, Howard Schwartz, Danny Siegel, Donna Jacobs Sife, Shoshana Silberman, Anna Sher Simon, Devorah Spilman, Susan Stone, Marc Young, Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff Praise for New Mitzvah Stories for the Whole Family "It's not so easy to know what is right or how to be a righteous person in this complicated world. If someone tells us how to live, we might not want to listen...but if they tell us a good story, we can

come to the truth for ourselves. New Mitzvah Stories for the Whole Family is a powerful, sweet and touching collection of teaching stories that help us to find our love and know our own truth." --Rabbi Shefa Gold, author of *The Magic of Hebrew Chant: Healing the Spirit, Transforming the Mind, Deepening Love* "These uplifting tales of magic and wonder reveal the power, heart, and soul of Jewish values. The study guide is also brilliantly conceived." --Rabbi Wayne Dosick, author of *Living Judaism and The Real Name of God* "A vibrant, inclusive new generation of Jewish folklore and fantasy" --Maggie Anton, author of the award-winning *Rashi's Daughters and Rav Hisda's Daughter* series "A wonderful collection of diverse new stories to spark the imagination!" --Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, author of *Midrash: Reading the Bible with Question Marks* "Sharing these tales is a sure-fire formula for raising a mensch!" --Rabbi Cherie Koller-Fox, President, NewCaje

*But God Remembered* Sandy Eisenberg Sasso 2008 Here are stories that might have happened, about four women of biblical tradition.

**The Book of Words** Lawrence Kushner 1993 In the incomparable manner of his award-winning "The Book of Letters: A Mystical Alphabet", Kushner now lifts up and shakes the dust off 30 primary religious words used to describe the spiritual dimension of our lives.

[The Way into Jewish Mystical Tradition](#) Lawrence Kushner 2004-04-01 An accessible introduction to the concepts of Jewish mysticism and how they relate to our lives. Allows us to experience mysticism's inexpressible reverence before the mystery of creation and celebrate the quest to transform ordinary reality into holiness.

*Elie Wiesel and the Art of Storytelling* Rosemary Horowitz 2014-11-01 Elie Wiesel is a master storyteller with the ability to use storytelling as a form of activism. From his landmark memoir *Night* to his

novels and numerous retellings of Hasidic legends, Wiesel's literature emphasizes storytelling, and he frequently refers to himself as a storyteller rather than an author or historian. In this work, essays examine Wiesel's roots in Jewish storytelling traditions; influences from religious, folk, and secular sources; education; Yiddish background; Holocaust experience; and writing style. Emphasized throughout is Wiesel's use of multiple sources in an effort to reach diverse audiences.

*From the Four Corners* Emunah Vered Murray 2020-12-10 Are you intrigued by stories of people who follow their hearts and souls in search of truth? People who have sacrificed everything to join the Jewish people? *From the Four Corners* is an inspiring, intimate, and eye-opening compilation of narratives from converts to Judaism. These courageous people, seeking authentic spirituality, eventually found fulfillment in becoming their true selves, many times at great personal cost.

## **Jewish Mothers Tell Their Stories**

Rachel J Siegel  
2014-06-03 Winner of the Women in Psychology Jewish Caucus Award for 2000! Jewish Mothers Tell Their Stories: Acts of Love and Courage contains touching and personal essays written by contemporary Jewish mothers from different parts of the globe. Their stories reveal the choices that Jewish mothers make in our post-Holocaust, non-Jewish world--the many ways of being Jewish, the acts of loving, of preserving and celebrating Jewish traditions and spirituality, and of transmitting them to their children and families. The firsthand stories in this compelling book raises questions and provides you with insight into a variety of topics, including: The 'Jewish mother' stereotype and its impact on real Jewish mothers ethnic/historical connections between mothers and daughters moving acts of love, courage, and sacrifice in response to illness, war, or conflicting ideologies motherhood as a catalyst for

personal evolutions of Jewish identity and values Orthodox to secular expressions of spirituality The impact of the 'Jewish motherhood imperative' positive experiences of conversion and interfaith families conveying Jewish history and tradition in a Christian world Jewish Mothers Tell Their Stories will draw you into an appreciation of the cultural, ethnic, and spiritual aspects of mothering. This remarkable collection explores the different meanings of today's concept of "Jewish mother" and "Jewish family."  
[Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality](#) Karen-Marie Yust  
2006 Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality: Perspectives from the World's Religious Traditions provides a forum for prominent religious scholars to examine the state of religious knowledge and theological reflection on spiritual development in childhood and adolescence. Featuring essays from thinkers representing the world's major religious traditions, the book introduces new voices,

challenges assumptions, raises new questions, and broadens the base of knowledge and investment in this important domain of life. It specifically and intentionally focuses on theological and philosophical perspectives from within religious traditions, creating space for the religious traditions to find their voices. *Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality* is firmly grounded in the language and priorities of religious studies, and helps stimulate explorations of whether and how religious communities are tapping their own wisdom and strengths in nurturing today's young people in a complex and changing world. *Nurturing Child and Adolescent Spirituality* will set the stage for new waves of scholarship and dialogue within and across traditions, disciplines, and cultures that will enrich understanding and strengthen how the world's religious traditions, and others, understand and cultivate the spiritual lives of children and adolescents around the globe.

[Jewish Tales of Holy Women](#)

Yitzhak Buxbaum 2002-11-08  
What is a "holy woman," or a holy man for that matter? According to the Jewish mystics, a holy person is someone who has not lost the holiness that every baby is born with. A holy person is someone who fulfills it. Stories about Jewish holy women have rarely been collected in such an engaging and entertaining form. The tales display a specifically female Jewish spirituality, giving us a peek into a world of devotional beauty that focuses on kindness. These stories of laughter and tears, humility and bravery, striving and trance, have an appeal spanning the denominational spectrum: they are spiritual nourishment for the soul. The rabbis say there are both male and female angels and angels are on earth as well as in heaven. These tales enhance our appreciation of the female angels on earth. *Children's Perceptions of the Role of Biblical Narratives in Their Spiritual Formation* Annie George 2017-02-28 In the Bible, storytelling is an important

means to pass on the revelation of God. God repeatedly commanded the people of Israel to tell his mighty acts to the next generation. Invariably churches follow this mandate and use biblical narratives as a means to transmit God's self-revelation to enable transformation. The author, Dr Annie George, listens to the voices of children in order to understand their perceptions of how storytelling of biblical narratives help them in their spiritual formation. Dr George's research highlights the importance of evaluating the impact of biblical narratives from a child's perspective as well as emphasising the need to give the same priority to the spiritual transformation of children as with other areas of study and ministry.

**Triumph** Nechemia Coopersmith 2006 Celebrate the power of the human spirit - true stories from Aish.com's popular website! Triumph features 27 personal accounts of people who meet - and conquer - their challenges with courage and determination. Top

Jewish educators and writers take us on their extraordinary journey of faith and spiritual growth. Brimming with humor, insight, and everyday acts of heroism - Triumph touches the heart and soul of everyone and is the ideal gift for every searching Jew.

**Jewish Spirituality** Lawrence Kushner 2001 In a book targeted to Christians, Rabbi Kushner explores Jewish spirituality and mysticism and explains some of the essential differences between Judaism and Christianity.

*Children, Adults, and Shared Responsibilities* Marcia J. Bunge 2012-09-27 This collection of essays by Jewish, Christian, and Muslim scholars underscores the significance of sustained and serious ethical, inter-religious, and interdisciplinary reflection on children. Essays in the first half of the volume discuss fundamental beliefs and practices within the religious traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam regarding children, adult obligations to them, and a child's own obligations to others. The

second half of the volume focuses on selected contemporary challenges regarding children and faithful responses to them. Marcia J. Bunge brings together scholars from various disciplines and diverse strands within these three religious traditions, representing several views on essential questions about the nature and status of children and adult-child relationships and responsibilities. The volume not only contributes to intellectual inquiry regarding children in the specific areas of ethics, religious studies, children's rights, and childhood studies, but also provides resources for child advocates, religious leaders, educators, and those engaged in inter-religious dialogue.

**Rabbinic Stories** Jeffrey L. Rubenstein 2002 Stories from the main works of classical rabbinic literature, which were produced by Jewish sages in either Hebrew or Aramaic, between 200 and 600 CE.

**The Life and Teachings of Hillel** Yitzhak Buxbaum 2008-09-10 The Life and

Teachings of Hillel provides the most comprehensive treatment ever published of one of the greatest figures in Jewish tradition. Yitzhak Buxbaum weaves together the various stories about Hillel along with his teachings and sayings to develop this ground-breaking portrait, shedding new light on Hillel's illustrious career, fascinating life, and profound teachings. Hillel is one of the most important and popular of the talmudic sages, yet he is mostly known only in the context of two or three popular stories told about him. Such stories as teaching the 'Golden Rule' of Torah 'while standing on one foot,' and his saying, 'If I am not for myself, who will be for me, and if I am for myself alone, who am I,' have eclipsed a more complete view of Hillel's influence and significance. In the rabbinic tradition, there is much debate between the teachings of the school of Hillel and that of his contemporary, Shammai. Hillel is often seen as the more tolerant, softer teacher, with his teachings representing what we consider

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'normative' Judaism. Often, the traditions passed down to modern times are a result of the rabbis' reconciliation of the two schools, so that Hillel's pure teachings have been lost. The Life and Teachings of Hillel separates out Hillel's teachings and looks at them independently of Shammai's. Studied on their own, it becomes evident that Hillel was actually much more radical and 'hasidic' than is commonly thought. While he is known for representing the gentler, more loving side of Judaism, in this work his pious radicalism is also apparent. Readers will be charmed and fascinated by Hillel's fiery gentleness. The Life and Teachings of Hillel offers new information about a radiant religious figure, and it also recovers a side of Jewish tradition that has been lost to most people.

Chosen Tales Peninnah Schram 1995-07-01 The storytellers represented in Chosen Tales are among the most active and talented Jewish storytellers in the world. This extraordinary collection of 68 stories is, in a

way, a Jewish storytelling festival, where storytellers gather to share stories, hear each other's stories, and get to know each other better through the stories that are told. Come and experience the magic of the oral tradition. Read and retell these stories again and again so that you too can shape the destiny of the timeless tradition of Jewish storytelling.

### **Storytelling and Spirituality in Judaism**

Yitzhak Buxbaum 1994-09-01 'The purpose of this book is to elevate stories and storytelling in people's esteem, so they will understand their holiness and appreciate them at their full worth. There are those who enjoy stories and storytelling but in the back of their minds think, 'After all, they're only stories.'

### **Time in the Babylonian**

**Talmud** Lynn Kaye 2018-02-08

In this book, Lynn Kaye examines how rabbis of late antiquity thought about time through their legal reasoning and storytelling, and what these insights mean for thinking about time today.

Providing close readings of

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legal and narrative texts in the Babylonian Talmud, she compares temporal ideas with related concepts in ancient and modern philosophical texts and in religious traditions from late antique Mesopotamia. Kaye demonstrates that temporal flexibility in the Babylonian Talmud is a means of exploring and resolving legal uncertainties, as well as a tool to tell stories that convey ideas effectively and dramatically. Her book, the first on time in the Talmud, makes accessible complex legal texts and philosophical ideas. It also connects the literature of late antique Judaism with broader theological and philosophical debates about time.

### **Jewish Stories from Heaven and Earth**

Dov Peretz Elkins 2008 This inspiring collection of stories, compiled by the well-known author, editor and anthologist Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, encourages readers to reflect on the wonder, meaning and purpose of life by tapping into the core values, ethics, beliefs, history and emotions of life from a Jewish perspective.

Chapters tell about: Simple Goodness? Hope and Endurance? Continuity and Tradition? Lessons Learned? Light Out of the Holocaust? Great Escapes? Words of the Wise? Providence? Israel Personal and profound, this is a book that will send a chill up the spine, bring a tear to the eye, and warm the heart? collected by the co-editor of the New York Times best-selling Chicken Soup for the Jewish Soul. Teaching about God and Spirituality Roberta Louis Goodman 2002 The ultimate source book on God spirituality and how to teach both.

### **Jewish Tales of Mystic Joy**

Yitzhak Buxbaum 2002-11-08

Jewish Tales of Mystic Joy reveals the happiness that awaits us if we strive for real spirituality. The stories are about pious rabbis and humble tailors, about dancing, singing, laughing, and crying, but their common denominator is always joyous ecstasy. Drawing us into a world of devotion, the tales allow us to taste the bliss that comes from a life lived from the

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very center of one's self. Each story comes alive in joy and produces a "holy shiver" that speaks to the soul.

*Spiritual Growth* Paul Steinberg  
2018-09-30 This book began with Paul Steinberg's realization that although religions are struggling to meet the needs and trends of our modern age, spirituality is not. Its contemporary manifestations continue to thrive, and Jews can be found throughout all varieties of spiritual leadership in America. Facing the fact that, for whatever reason, Jewish leaders simply have not done a good job of translating the ancient, spiritual wisdom of their beliefs into contemporary language and images that resonate with mass appeal, Rabbi Steinberg knew that the faith of his fathers was ready for a new spiritual message. And so he has written it—a message that is both particular to Judaism and uses Jewish language and text as starting points for a view that is universal enough to include spiritual concepts, terms, and expressions from many other

spiritual traditions. *Spiritual Growth: A Contemporary Jewish Approach* provides both a language and a set of Jewish spiritual principles that are accessible and integrated with contemporary life, as well as being deep and authentically real (i.e., not "dumbed down" for anyone). It is a work that emerged out of Rabbi Steinberg's own personal experiences, pains, and spiritual journey—the trials and growth documented in his highly successful book *Recovery, the 12 Steps, and Jewish Spirituality*. There are not a lot of works like this. There are books on Jewish scholarship, history, and theology. But books on Jewish spirituality tend usually to focus on a particular motif, such as the feminine, grief, aging, or Kabbalistic biblical interpretations. *Spiritual Growth: A Contemporary Jewish Approach* presents its message through the psycho-spiritual world view of 2018 but without the language and narrative of a therapist. It is an important contribution to the spiritual-

seeking community at large, to Jews who have become alienated from their faith, and

to anyone interested in learning more about what a historically vibrant spirituality can bring to today's troubled world.