

Storytelling And Spirituality In Judaism

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[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.

[Index to Jewish Periodicals](#) 2005 An author and subject index to selected and American Anglo-Jewish journals of general and scholarly interests.

[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."

[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.

[The Way Into Jewish Mystical Tradition](#) Lawrence A. Hoffman 2001 A highly accessible introduction to the Kabbalah explores the meaning of Jewish mysticism and places it in the context of modern Judaism. Original. \$15,000 ad/promo.

[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.

[Consider No Evil](#) Brandon G. Withrow 2014-07-10 Even casual acquaintances of the Bible know that the Truth shall set you free, but in the pursuit of that Truth in higher education--particularly in Christian or Jewish seminaries--there are often many casualties suffered along the way. What happens when faculty and students at religious academies butt heads with senior staff or dare to question dogmas or sacred cows that the institution cherishes? Consider No Evil examines seminaries affiliated with two faith traditions--Christian and Jewish--and explores the challenges, as well as prospective solutions, confronting those religious academies when they grapple with staying true to their traditions, as they interpret them, while providing an arena that incubates honest and serious scholarship.

[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.

[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.

[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, Roslyn 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 Levine, 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 Zaslou, 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)

[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 Reincarnation](#) Yonassan Gershom 1999-01-01 Scattered throughout many kabbalistic and Hasidic texts are numerous teaching stories with reincarnation as their central theme. In order to make the classical stories understandable to the modern reader, each tale has been expanded to include clear explanations of cultural and religious details. Both classical and contemporary tales are included here, from sources as widely varied as kabbalistic texts, folklore anthologies, and discussion on the Internet. Of special interest are several new tales collected by the author himself, which have never before appeared in print.

[Social Work and Spirituality](#) Ian Mathews 2009-06-24 Social work in modern society requires practitioners to be culturally and spiritually sensitive. This book explores the often challenging relationships between spirituality, religion and social work. It considers the skills, knowledge and values that are required to incorporate a spiritual awareness into social work practice and in doing so explores in greater depth the social worker/service user relationship. By using case studies, reflective exercises and other learning features, students will begin to appreciate and understand the importance of a spiritually sensitive approach to their social work practice.

[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 Ya'el Chaikind, Mitchell Chefitz, Rachel Coles, Gerald Fierst, Rinah Galper, Yehudit Goldfarb, Dan Gordon, Leslie Gorin, Daniel T. Grossman, Jill Hammer, Nancy Handwerker, Alide Huyser-Frijda, Barbara Solomon Josselsohn, Jennifer Voigt Kaplan, Melissa Klein, Geri Kolesar, Arthur Kurzweil, Alex Lazarus-Klein, Janet Madden, Cindy Rivka Marshall, Goldie Milgram, Lynnne 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

[Teaching about God and Spirituality](#) Roberta Louis Goodman 2002 The ultimate source book on God spirituality and how to teach both.

[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.' *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.

[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.

[The Bonding of Isaac](#) Joel Lurie Grishaver 1997 Stories and Essays about Gender and Jewish Spirituality.

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

[Contemporary American Judaism](#) Dana Evan Kaplan 2011 No longer controlled by a handful of institutional leaders based in remote headquarters and rabbinical seminaries, American Judaism is being transformed by the spiritual decisions of tens of thousands of Jews living all over the United States. A pulpit rabbi and himself an American Jew, Dana Evan Kaplan follows this religious individualism from its postwar suburban roots to the hippie revolution of the 1960s and the

multiple postmodern identities of today. From Hebrew tattooing to Jewish Buddhist meditation, Kaplan describes the remaking of historical tradition in ways that channel multiple ethnic and national identities. While pessimists worry about the vanishing American Jew, Kaplan focuses on creative responses to contemporary spiritual trends that have made a Jewish religious renaissance possible. He believes that the reorientation of American Judaism has been a "bottom up" process, resisted by elites who have reluctantly responded to the demands of the "spiritual marketplace." The American Jewish denominational structure is therefore weakening at the same time that religious experimentation is rising, leading to the innovative approaches supplanting existing institutions. The result is an exciting transformation of what it means to be a religious American Jew in the twenty-first century.

Politische und Philosophische Analysen Timo Schmitz 2022-07-15 Dieses Sammelband enthält ausgewählte Artikel des Philosophen und Autors Timo Schmitz (* 1993), welche sich hauptsächlich um philosophische und politische Themen drehen, jedoch wird auch Religion angesprochen. So gibt Schmitz einen Einblick in verschiedene indigene Religionen, behandelt aber auch jüdische Themen, da ihm das Judentum sehr am Herzen liegt. Im vorliegenden Band befinden sich neben seinen Erklärungen zur platonischen Philosophie u.a. die Artikel "Über die Gleichberechtigung", "Sind Tiere moralisch relevant?", "Prinzipien der Homosexualität und Transgender im Judentum", "Falsche Wirklichkeit oder realer Traum?" und "Moralische Schuld und schlechtes Gewissen (Nietzsche, Über die Genealogie der Moral)".

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 ineffable delight of being a Jew.">

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).

Judaism II Michael Tilly 2021-02-10 Judaism, the oldest of the Abrahamic religions, is one of the pillars of modern civilization. A collective of internationally renowned experts cooperated in a singular academic enterprise to portray Judaism from its transformation as a Temple cult to its broad contemporary varieties. In three volumes the long-running book series "Die Religionen der Menschheit" (Religions of Humanity) presents for the first time a complete and compelling view on Jewish life now and then - a fascinating portrait of the Jewish people with its ability to adapt itself to most different cultural settings, always maintaining its strong and unique identity. Volume II presents Jewish literature and thinking: the Jewish Bible; Hellenistic, Tannaitic, Amoraic and Gaonic literature to medieval and modern genres. Chapters on mysticism, Piyyut, Liturgy and Prayer complete the volume.

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.

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.

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

Reform Judaism for the Rest of Us Alexander Maller 2012-08 Reform Judaism has been tested by the spiritual torments and ideological upheavals of the last two centuries. Now, "Reform Judaism for the Rest of Us" brings into discussion key tenets and opinions that shape current thinking within the faith and introduces ideas for its future development. Author Alexander Maller believes that the core message of Reform Judaism, a modern faith inspired by the Jewish heritage and the Jewish and American Enlightenment, is entering a new phase in its history. Free from the defunct extremist ideologies of the last centuries, American Reform Judaism can expand its reach into the new millennium if it strengthens its grassroots appeal to be of, by, and for the Reform congregants. It must also have a strong Jewish divine faith orientation, be open-minded to the realities of modern living, bear a deep love of Zion, and uphold a strong defense of the Constitution. The arguments brought forth in this study stem from the author's position as a lay congregant. They also arise from the fact that he is a participant in and an observer of the continuous dialogue between rank-and-file congregants and clergy, as well as among congregations and various denominations of faith. "Reform Judaism for the Rest of Us" encourages congregants to adopt a sustainable, modern, deity-based orientation inspired by Jewish heritage and the American spirit.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Storytelling Magazine 1999