

# New Books from Israel • Spring 2010

 THE INSTITUTE FOR THE TRANSLATION OF HEBREW LITERATURE



# Contents

<b>Mira Magen</b> , <i>Vodka and Bread</i> .....	2
<b>Orly Castel-Bloom</b> , <i>Winter Life</i> .....	4
<b>Oudeh Basharat</b> , <i>The Streets of Zatunia</i> .....	6
<b>Gil Ilutowich</b> , <i>The Coal-Eaters</i> .....	8
<b>Emmanuel Pinto</b> , <i>Tinnitus</i> .....	10
<b>Nava Semel</b> , <i>Head on Backwards</i> .....	12
<b>Agur Schiff</b> , <i>In the Sand</i> .....	14
<b>Miron C. Izakson</b> , <i>Aliza with Child</i> .....	16
<b>Amichai Shalev</b> , <i>The Mentals</i> .....	18
<b>Ilan Sheinfeld</b> , <i>A Tale of a Ring</i> .....	20
<b>Danny Caspi</b> , <i>Four Shades of Love</i> .....	22
<b>Leah Goldberg</b> , <i>Losses</i> .....	24
<b>Reuven Miran</b> , <i>Anna and the Hunters</i> (crossover) .....	26
 <b>LITERARY THRILLER</b>	
<b>Amnon Jackont</b> , <i>The Mystery of my Death</i> .....	28

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# Mira Magen

## *Vodka and Bread*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir, 2010. 271 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Mira Magen** was born in Kfar Saba, Israel, to an Orthodox family. She studied psychology and sociology before turning to nursing. She worked as a nurse at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem. Magen started writing in the early 1990s. She has published a book of short stories and six bestselling novels. She was awarded the Prime Minister's Prize in 2005.

### SYNOPSIS

A husband and wife who have one child leave their high-powered careers and start working in menial jobs instead. Gideon, a brilliant attorney, moves to Eilat and starts working in a fish farm, while Amia, his wife, gives up her respected position as an accountant and decides to manage the village grocery store she inherited from her parents.

Ostensibly, this is a simple story about the disintegration of a bourgeois family unit, but Amia's decision isn't just a break away from the rat race – it is her response to Gideon's abandonment. And as he draws further away, she is torn between needing a husband and father for her son, and wanting to give the person she loves the space he needs.

Beyond Amia's personal problems, life in the village brings her in touch with many people who find themselves on the margins of mainstream society. Among them: an old man who lost his grandson in an accident that ruined his family; Amjad, the Arab helper at the store, who is trying to survive in an impossible political and financial situation; and "the Madonna," also known as "the little Russian slut," a small-time thief and big-time temptress who left her ultra-orthodox religious family. But what Amia doesn't know is that Gideon's progressive estrangement is beyond his control.



**T**rying in vain to revive his rhetorical skill, Gideon was disappointed with himself, and the more desperate he got the faster he talked, maintaining eye contact with the vase as if it were his psychiatrist.

“What’s the bottom line, Gideon, what are you getting at, where’s the point of this whole story?” I sprung to assist us both and cut him off.

“To find something worth getting up in the morning, okay?”

“A child? A wife? Not good enough reasons?”

“Don’t be mad but no. A rabbit also has a wife and a child.”

The argument filled him with energy. The courtroom spark was ignited, but just as his vocal chords stood to attention and his baritone glory was restored, Nadav’s yell wafted from the bathroom, “That’s it, I’m done, take me out!”

## FROM THE PRESS

No reviews yet available

For ***The Glass Butterfly***

A superb novel.

***L’Express*** (France)

A dazzling novel... the mother’s confession is a magnificent meditation on the unspoken and the lies hiding in the wings of family life.

***Lire*** (France)

A sensitive novel about early bliss and loss.

***Der Sonntag & Glaube und Leben***

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

## BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW

*Well Buttoned-Up* (stories), Keter, 1994

*Do Not Strike the Wall* (novel), Hakibbutz Hameuchad/Siman Kriah, 1997

*Love, After All* (novel), Keter, 2000

*Brother and Sister* (novella), Keter, 2000

*Her Angels Have All Fallen Asleep* (prev.title: *Let Me In, My Sister*) (novel), Keter, 2003

*The Glass Butterfly* (novel), Keter, 2005

*Time Will Tell*, (novel), Keter, 2008

*Vodka and Bread* (novel), Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir, 2010

## BOOKS IN TRANSLATION

*Well Buttoned-Up*

German: Frankfurt am Main, S.Fischer, 1997

*Do Not Strike the Wall*

German: Munich, dtv, 2001

*Love After All*

German: Munich, dtv, 2004

Chinese: Beijing, Baihua, forthcoming

*Her Angels Have All Fallen Asleep*

German: Munich, dtv, 2006

*The Glass Butterfly*

German: Munich, dtv, 2007

French: Paris, Mercure de France, 2008

*Time Will Tell*

German: Munich, dtv, 2010

French: Paris, Mercure de France, forthcoming



# Orly Castel-Bloom

## *Winter Life*

short stories

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, forthcoming

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Orly Castel-Bloom** was born in Tel Aviv in 1960 to parents originally from Egypt. Since the publication of her first book in 1987, she has been a leading voice in Hebrew literature, constantly expanding the boundaries of narrative style. Castel-Bloom has lectured at Harvard University, UCLA, UC Berkeley, New York University, Oxford and Cambridge; at present she teaches creative writing. She has published six collections of stories, six novels and a children's book. Her postmodern classic, *Dolly City*, is one of UNESCO's Representative Works. Castel-Bloom has received the Tel Aviv Foundation Award (1990), the Alterman Prize for Innovation (1993), the Newman Prize (2003), the French WIZO Prize (2005) and the Leah Goldberg Prize (2007). Her books have been published abroad in 11 languages.

### SYNOPSIS

*A new collection of short stories by one of the most notable writers in contemporary Israeli literature.*

“Test” recounts the nerve-racking experience that a woman has to undergo in a sweaty, all-male garage, in order to get her car through its annual licensing test.

In “Ivan Ilych,” an unsuccessful and penniless writer whose family is pressuring him to open a pizza parlor, avoids this by traveling to a conference on Tolstoy's famous character. He stays at a local inn and here he cannot avoid becoming involved in the inn owners' lives, their lies and secrets.

In “Season of the Dead,” death brings a fractured family close again. In turn, this death becomes associated with that of a bird, of flowers in the garden, and the death of soldiers in the Second Lebanon War.

“The Writer's Wife” highlights the complex relationship between a self-absorbed writer and his patient wife.

And finally, the title story, “Winter Life,” recounts a winter the protagonist spent in Boston doing research on Israelis living there. Through her research, which includes types of visas and interviews, she exposes the lives of these expatriates as well as the effect of her own forced exile.

Written in typically minimalistic style, these stories once again offer Castel-Bloom's ironic view the world.

**FROM THE PRESS**

No reviews yet available

For *Dolly City*

Devours the flesh in flames that are impossible to extinguish...Kafka has finally arrived in Tel Aviv.

**Le Monde des livres**

Obscene, courageous, provocative: an original female voice... goes beyond the surreal.

**Corriere della Sera**

An irreverent and witty satire, an original and timely tour de force.

**Times Literary Supplement**

A gem not to be missed. *Dolly City* is...a prophecy of rage. One of the most unique novels I have read in a long time.

**Svenska Dagbladet**

**A**s I walked toward the lectern, I heard a woman's voice announce over the loudspeaker, "Here he is!" and then she gives the name of another person altogether, someone with the title of professor, "who will speak to us about Praskóvya Fëdorovna Golovin, the wife of Ivan Ilyich, and their relationship."

I hear loud applause, as befits a Nobel laureate. I face the spotlight, so they'll see very clearly that it's not me, although I too can give a lecture like that, but I am not the professor they are expecting—look! there's been a mistake. I lift up my face so they'll see me also from the balcony, and I glance at the woman who introduced me but she's still clapping enthusiastically, and I know that I'm about to let three hundred people down. Then I decide not to let them down and I read the first paragraph of the novella, in English.

**BOOKS PUBLISHED****BOOKS IN TRANSLATION***Where Am I?*

Dutch: Amsterdam, Wereldbibliotheek, 1992  
French: Arles, Actes Sud, 1995

*Dolly City*

Dutch: Amsterdam, Wereldbibliotheek, 1993  
French: Arles, Actes Sud, 1993; pback: Babel, 2008  
German: Reinbeck, Rowohlt, 1995; pback: 1998  
English: London, Loki Books, 1997; Champaign, IL, Dalkey Archive, forthcoming  
Swedish: Stockholm, Ordfront, 1998  
Greek: Athens, Kastaniotis, 2000  
Italian: Viterbo, Stampa Alternativa, 2008

*The Mina Lisa*

French: Arles, Actes Sud, 1998  
Chinese: Beijing, China Social Sciences, 1998  
German: Munich, Piper, 1998

*Free Radicals*

French: Arles, Actes Sud, 2003

*Human Parts*

English: Toronto, Key Porter, 2003, Boston, David R. Godine, 2003  
Italian: Rome, edizioni e/o, 2003  
Portuguese: Rio de Janeiro, Imago, 2003  
French: Arles, Actes Sud, 2004  
German: Munich, Piper, 2004  
Arabic: Haifa, Kul Shee, 2007

*Textile*

French: Arles, Actes Sud, 2008  
Polish: Izabelin, Swiat Ksatski, forthcoming  
Italian: Rome, H2O, forthcoming

*Selected Stories*

Chinese: Hefei, Anhui Literature & Art Pubs, 2007  
French: Arles, Actes Sud, forthcoming

*Let's Behave Ourselves – Talking to My Son*

Italian: Milan, Mondadori, 2000

# Oudeh Basharat

## *The Streets of Zatunia*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Am Oved / Sifriat Ha'am , 2010. 255 pp.



PHOTO © IHAB HOSARI

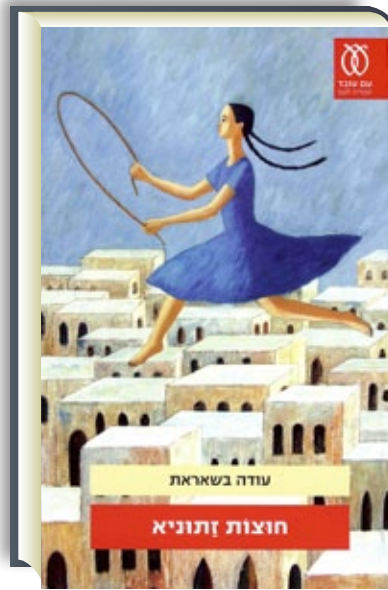
### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Oudeh Basharat** was born in 1958 to a family originally from Malul, a village destroyed in 1948, and now lives in the Galilee with his wife and three children. He has been involved in political and social activity all his life, first as head of National Committee of Arab-Israeli High School Students, later as head of the Arab Students' Organisation at Haifa University. He has been active in various Jewish-Arab movements, and worked as editor of the youth newspaper *Al-Jad*. In the early 2000s, he was secretary general of the political party Hadash (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality), and is now a publicist writing for the newspaper *Al-Atikhad*.

### SYNOPSIS

Basharat's novel describes the goings-on in a small Arab-Israeli town during an election campaign for head of the local council. Khaled al-Mosli, a modest schoolteacher, succumbs to a relative's suggestion that he run as a representative of their clan. Led by Ahmed al-Hidak, a local mover and shaker, al-Mosli's improvised campaign staff go about inventing him a past of ridiculous bravery and leadership that will turn the simple, a-political family man into a charismatic political candidate. They also invent him a suitable election platform. And he is soon swept up into a tornado that entwines the town of Zatunia with the political, social and cultural realities of the Arab citizens of Israel.

As the campaign gathers steam and subplots, tensions and conflicts abound in the town—leadership struggles; love stories; political brawls within and between extended families, and with leftwing women's movements; intergenerational struggles seen as progressivism versus conservatism; Arab town and Jewish city; gender struggles—a demand for sexual equality between men and women, revealing hypocrisy and discrimination; quarrels between al-Mosli and his wife, a murder mystery, and more.



“Hey, Rashid, my dear man,” muttered Abu al-Abed. “Please don’t check any pulses! Who asked you to check pulses?” After a brief silence, he added sarcastically: “The winds that are blowing through this family! Where do you think we are? Scandinavia?” Then he assumed a tone of silent sorrow: “Ho, my brother, in these matters it’s impossible for everyone to do whatever he likes. How are we going to persuade that man to change his mind now? He’s gone and bought enough suits to stock three outfitting shops. And his wife, my dear man, has already gotten used to acting like the First Lady.” Then, helplessly and with open rancor, he declared, “Every newborn baby in Zatunia now knows that Khaled al-Mosli, who has lived his entire life between home and school, is a candidate for head of the council. He’s already, like, the leader.”

## FROM THE PRESS

A true work of art, critical of local politics in Arab communities. A fascinating satire about Arab society that is not tainted by Orientalism.

**Haaretz**

A charming first novel... extremely funny, flowing, super-realistic with a dash of satire. It becomes the genuine voice of Arab life in Israel.

**Yedioth Ahronoth**

Excellent portrayal of the unique village atmosphere. Besharat gives us a brave and sober view of Israeli-Arab culture. Wonderful humor in his satirical, sarcastic writing.

**Time Out**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*The Streets of Zatunia*, Am Oved / Sifriat Ha'am, 2010



# Gil Ilutowich

## *The Coal Eaters*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2009. 287 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Gil Ilutowich** was born in Bnei-Brak, Israel, in 1965. He holds a BA in philosophy and Jewish studies from Tel Aviv University, and also studied electronics and practical engineering. Ilutowich has spent much of his professional life writing and developing educational games and interactive books for children, which have been translated into over 40 languages. He is involved in projects for immigrant children as well as children in hospital. *The Coal Eaters* is his third novel.

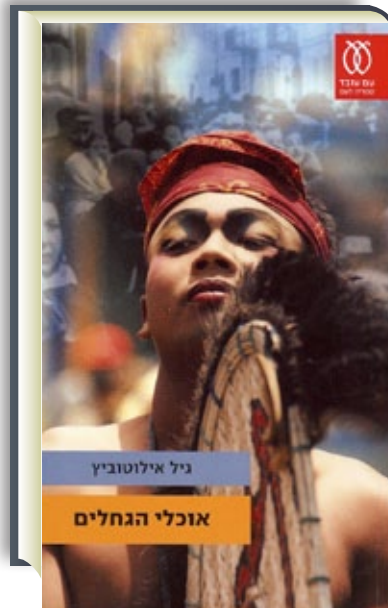
### SYNOPSIS

Mark-Mordechai Greenstein was the kind of man who always knew how to get along. In Warsaw before World War II, he was known as “Mottel the Brute” on account of the services he provided to a wealthy Jew. He made a good living and was successful with women until history forced him into the ghetto and the camps.

Arriving in Israel during the War of Independence, Mark becomes a fighter and a war hero. But then a man from his past recognizes him: he was a Kapo in Majdanek and Auschwitz, and badly abused the Jewish prisoners in his care. Arrested and sentenced to prison, he is later released into a life almost total seclusion.

The book begins when Greenstein, now a pensioner, travels abroad for the first time, to Indonesia. This group vacation gives him a rare opportunity to experience human contact once again, and he has romantic experiences with Dora and with Nava, the pretty tour guide.

But his horrific memories do not subside. On the contrary, the exotic scenery enhances their sharpness. And these flashbacks, intertwined with his holiday experiences, force Greenstein and the readers to confront questions of justice, morality, forgiveness and compassion.



“Do it as quietly as possible,” she asked. “Can I count on you?”

He had read about funeral ceremonies in Bali and knew this was an event that the locals prepared for days, even weeks. To see a ceremony like that with his own eyes would be an unforgettable experience.

The tour guide had given him a task and he did it quickly. He went back to the dining room and informed the group members he knew, asking them to tell the others. Mark wanted to push them to get going, but they insisted on finishing their dessert and coffee, behaving as though they had all the time in the world. Well, Mark knew how to deal with groups of this kind! If he were left to his own devices, they’d be lined up in a second and ready to go, like...!

But now he had to make an effort to gather them slowly and direct them to the parking lot.

## FROM THE PRESS

Despite Mark’s past and his difficult personality, it is hard not to like him, and this is the author’s greatest achievement.

### **Maariv**

The moral dilemmas and the inconceivable yet very realistic depictions remain with the reader long after he has finished the book.

### **Channel 7 TV**

Shows us the moral split in a man’s heart which threatens to overpower him.

### **Haaretz**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

### **Books Published in Hebrew**

*Is There Someone Here* (novel), Yedioth Ahronoth, 2004

*Wedding Pictures* (novel), Am Oved, 2006.

*The Coal Eaters* (novel), Am Oved, 2009.



# Emmanuel Pinto

## *Tinnitus*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2009, 176 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Emmanuel Pinto** was born in 1962 to an observant family from Algeria. He studied history and international relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and acting at the Nissan-Nativ Acting Studio. In 1994 he moved to Paris and established a theater group, Ama. Since returning to Israel in 2008, Pinto has taught theater and writing in various frameworks. He is also a script-writer and translator from French to Hebrew. His first book, *Daniel*, was published in 2000 and was awarded the Ministry of Culture Award for Debut Novel. *Tinnitus* is his second novel.

### SYNOPSIS

Pini, who fought in the First Lebanon War as a young soldier and witnessed the massacre at Sabra and Shatila, lives in present-day Paris, confused and lost. His memory of the war refuses to subside and remains with him as an indistinct sensation, like tinnitus. But instead of a ringing sound or whistle, he has been hearing the cries of the boy he killed for the past twenty years.

Interspersed with these memories are the letters his mother wrote him during the war and the experiences of old, sick French playwright Jean Genet, who was in Beirut in 1982. Pinto's Genet is drawn to the Palestinians for political and humanitarian reasons, and through his writerly need for a subject. He calls the Palestinians 'Revolutionary Poets' and draws his inspiration from them. His homosexuality (which he and Pini have in common) also plays a part in the appeal of the conflict.

The relationship between Genet and Pini, established through a few dramatic encounters, culminates in Pini's madness after the massacre, a crazed state filled with death, desire, fantasy and smoke. The novel fuses Pini's personal, nightmarish experience with the moral and political implications of the event in an extraordinary and challenging literary performance.



**B**eirut is empty, emptied, has been emptied. Has it? Jean Genet asks himself. Only a moment ago, while he was standing on the balcony, his legs trembling in anticipation, he noticed a mass of soldiers filling the city to the seams, yet now it is deserted. He rushes. Reminding himself that he is old, warning himself that even if his passion has kept its vigor and can easily cover many miles, his step is heavy and slow. At every street corner he has to make a fateful decision: right or left, straight on or perhaps back. The Israelis play hide and seek with him. He came here to write about his beloved Palestinians, and these blonde men are leading him astray. In his mind, all Israelis are blonde, blonde refugees. After being pulverized in Europe, they now release the fumes of their revenge on foreign soil.

## FROM THE PRESS

Profound and fascinating.

**Haaretz**

Pinto [shows] a palpable talent that draws on great creative wealth... His language is beautiful and tainted, aware of itself and precise.

**Yedioth Ahronoth**

Wonderful and terrible. I cannot think of another book that so communicates the memory of war as something that never ends in the protagonist's life. The writing is hypnotic.

**e-mago**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*Daniel* (novel), Schocken, 2000

*Tinnit* (novel), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2009



# Nava Semel

## *Head on Backwards*

a novel  
Forthcoming

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Nava Semel** was born in Tel Aviv in 1954 and has an MA in art history. She has worked as a journalist, art critic, TV and radio producer. She is a member of the Massua Institute of Holocaust Studies and is on the board of governors of Yad Vashem. Semel has published novels, short stories, poetry, plays, TV scripts and children's books. Her fiction has been adapted for screen, stage and radio in Israel, Europe and the USA. Most recently, her novel *And the Rat Laughed* has been made into a successful opera.

Semel has received the American National Jewish Book Award for Children's Literature (1990), the Women Writers of the Mediterranean Award (1996), the Austrian Best Radio Drama Award (1996), the Rosenblum Prize for Stage Art (2005) and Tel Aviv's "Literary Woman of the Year" (2006).

### SYNOPSIS

A farm house in a small Italian village during the Nazi occupation. Madelene, a promising young opera singer, and her handicapped mother Dominica, struggle to survive after adopting a young orphan boy, Tomaso. One day, Tomaso senses a foreign presence in the house. But his questions are violently rejected and the two women he loves so much humiliate him publicly, claiming that he has his "head on backwards." To cope with the emotional blow, Tomaso retreats into his imagination. Convinced that a mysterious princess is trapped in the attic, he sends her gifts and letters up the chimney, in secret.

When a German soldier falls in love with Madelene their lives become even more unsettled. Will the soldier's protection shield the family, or will his arrival reveal the preciously guarded secret?

This story, written during the Nazi occupation, ends up in the hands of a nurse in a Tel Aviv hospital who then tells it to a patient in a coma, in an attempt to awaken him.

This moving novel raises the difficult question: What price will people pay to maintain their humanity in dire circumstances, and how far are we willing to go to save a single soul?



There is one unforgettable moment, the kind you obsessively relive so that you will not overlook even the tiniest gesture by mistake. You must protect the memory of it, right to the end, so that it does not drain away.

It is that unforgettable moment of Tomaso's, that flash of wild joy within the desolation of his childhood – the day after he checked the rope end at the bottom of the chimney and found nothing there. What he sent her up the shaft had actually been taken. The discovery that he'd told the truth and the world around him lied, struck him like one more slap. But unlike the others, this blow filled him with sweet rapture. The princess was really there above him, she was not an invention of Fra Diabolo's, but an unquestionable reality.

## FROM THE PRESS

No reviews yet available

For ***And the Rat Laughed***

Brilliant and utterly original... Poetic in the deepest, most elusive sense of the word, and infinitely disturbing. Semel is an exquisite writer.

Playwright **Martin Sherman**

An exquisitely wrought meditation. Literary critics have acknowledged Semel's considerable talent.

**Forward** (USA)

A powerful and deeply arresting novel.

**Australia Jewish News**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

## BOOKS IN TRANSLATION

*And the Rat Laughed*

German: Mannheim, Persona, 2007  
English: Victoria, Austr., Hybrid, 2008

*Becoming Gershona*

English: New York, Viking Penguin, 1990; pback: New York, Puffin (Penguin), 1992

Italian: Florence, La Casa Usher, 1990; pback: Verona, Mondadori, 1999

German: Frankfurt, Alibaba, 1993; pback: Frankfurt, Fischer, 1995; 2004; 2005

Romanian: Bucharest, Fiat Lux, 1995

Dutch: Baarn, Fontein, 2000

*Flying Lessons (Flying Away)*

English: New York, Simon & Schuster, 1995

German: Berlin, Elefant, 1995; pback: Weinheim, Beltz & Gelberg, 2000

Italian: Verona, Mondadori, 1997

Czech: Prague, Albatros, 1998

Spanish: Madrid, Loguez, 1998

Dutch: Baarn, Fontein, 1999

Serbian: Belgrade, Book & Marso, 2008

*Bride on Paper*

German: Weinheim, Beltz & Gelberg, 2003; pback: 2005

Romanian: Bucharest, Pandora, 2000

*Hat of Glass*

Italian: Naples, Guida, 2002

German: Frankfurt, Dr. Orgler, 2000

Romanian: Bucharest, Hasefer, 2003

*Love for Beginners*

Italian: Casale Monferrato, Sonda, 2007

Czech: Prague, Albatros, 2009

German: Berlin, Jacoby & Stuart, 2010

*Who Stole the Show?*

Italian: Verona, Mondadori, 2003

English & Romanian: Bucharest, Hasefer, 2007



# Agur Schiff

## *In the Sand*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Am Oved, 2010. 287 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Agur Schiff** was born in Tel Aviv in 1955. He is a graduate of St. Martin's School of Art in London and of the Rijks Art Academy in Amsterdam. He won critical acclaim as a filmmaker before turning to writing. He received the Silver Dragon Award at the Cracow Film Festival, and, for his film *Gentila*, a prize at the Haifa Film Festival (1997). Schiff started publishing fiction in the early 1990s and has published two collections of stories and three novels. He is a senior lecturer at the Bezalel Academy of Art & Design in Jerusalem where he teaches creative writing, screen writing and cinematic concepts. Schiff has been awarded the Keter-Discount Prize (1994) and the Prime Minister's Prize (2010).

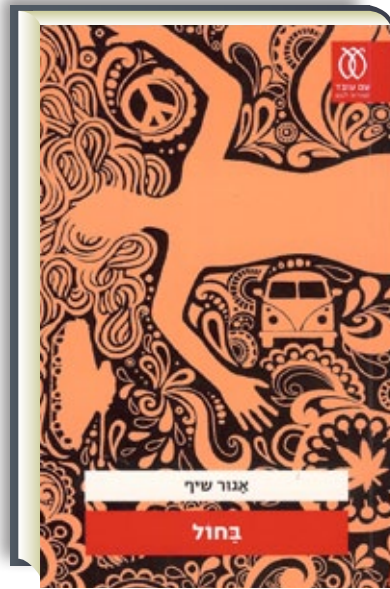
### SYNOPSIS

In 1973, a few months before the Yom Kippur War, the naked body of a girl is discovered in the sands of Caesarea. Superintendent Ram Dinoor, a highly regarded police detective, joins the investigation team, but the search for the murderer quickly takes an introspective turn. Eventually it leads to the Sinai Desert during the first days of the war.

Dinoor, who was born in Poland and lost his mother in the Holocaust, came to Israel as a child and created a new, Israeli identity for himself. His estrangement from his father, a charming Tel Aviv poet who abandoned him as a child, never bothered him especially, until that fateful summer of 1973, when self-confident Israel had to overcome a crisis that changed it forever.

Through his investigation, Dinoor is drawn into the culture of hippies and flower-children to which the dead girl belonged, together with the boy who was with her before her death. It breaks open Dinoor's restricted world, and after he discovers his relationship to the young boy, his repressed past finally surfaces.

*In the Sand* is a brilliant, moving detective novel. Schiff uses the traditional genre's structure to explore and ironize on the breaking point of Israeli society.



**S**o, we finally meet. But look at us, look how pitiful this meeting is. I'm lying on the sand and you are bent over me, blocking my view of the illuminated night sky, putting your ear to my mouth and hearing nothing. Not even a whisper.

I have no idea how long we have been stuck in this ridiculous situation, but I imagine we shall to have to part very soon. Actually, I'm quite sure of it. Yes, this meeting, our first, our last, will not last much longer. It's a shame really. I would have liked to tell you everything, even if you can't actually hear my soft murmurs.

Let's go back to where it all started.

Back to that insanely hot day at the beginning of summer.

Back to the phone that rang at exactly seven fifteen. To the shaving foam smeared all over the black tube. To the voice that told me they had found another one and asked me to get there right away.

## FROM THE PRESS

Agur Schiff is one of the most interesting writers in Israel today.

### **Ynet**

A fascinating allegory of Israeli society

### **Israel Hayom**

A powerful novelist, with a significant personal style. Schiff writes [in a style of] complex and alienated realism, but his writing is full of humor.

### **Prime Minister's Prize 2010**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

### **BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*Dying Animals and Bad Weather* (stories), Keter, 1995.

*Stories for Short Trips* (stories), Hakibbutz Hameuchad/Siman Kriah, 2000.

*Bad Habits* (novel), Zmora Bitan, 2004.

*What You Wished For* (novel), Zmora-Bitan, 2007.

*In the Sand* (novel), Am Oved, 2010.



PHOTO © DAN PORGES

# Miron C. Izakson

## *Aliza with Child*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2009. 269 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

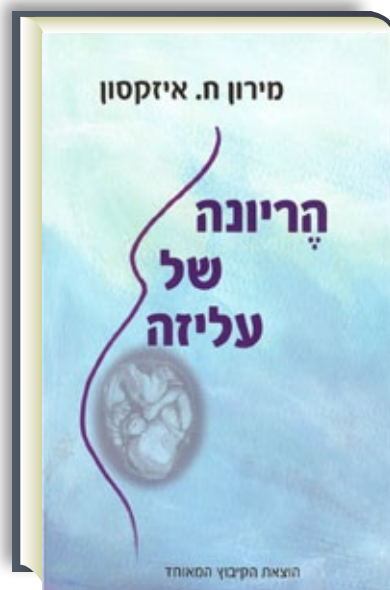
**Miron C. Izakson** was born in 1956 to a family which was among the first orange growers in pre-state Israel. He studied law and Jewish philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University. At present, he lectures at Bar-Ilan University and writes a weekly column on biblical subjects for *Haaretz*. He is chairman for literature at the Israel Culture and Arts Council, a member of the board of Bar-Ilan University, and serves as Honorary Consul for Luxembourg in Israel. Izakson has published eight books of poetry and four novels, to widespread literary acclaim. Three collections of his poems have been set to music by various musicians and released as CDs. Izakson was awarded the President's Prize in 2001.

### SYNOPSIS

Aliza, the owner of a bag shop in Tel Aviv has felt her biological clock ticking away for years. By now, she despairs of finding her one-and-only in the singles' world of Tel Aviv, and decides to get pregnant on her own. She goes through with her plan, but then the unthinkable happens: she meets Rami, a geeky history lecturer who teaches at a minor college, and falls in love with him.

In the meantime, Rami, whose wife has just left him, becomes entangled in a legal dispute. Letting his kindness get him into trouble, he agrees to act as arbitrator between an acquaintance of his ex-wife's and a law firm that is demanding payment. Rami's excessive kindness leads him to embezzlement and gets him into trouble with the law.

The complex relationship that develops between Aliza and Rami is supplemented by the bond Rami establishes with Aliza's elderly parents, who live in a home and see in him their last chance to marry off their single daughter. A wonderful novel of life in Tel Aviv today.



**A**liza's pregnancy isn't surprising, but it seems strange that it wasn't Rami who got her pregnant, perhaps even insulting. You see, Rami was in and out of Aliza's shop more than any other man, and presumably he got as close to her body as he did to her wares. For this reason her pregnancy bewilders him. But his failure with Aliza isn't the only thing upsetting him recently. Something else important happened some twenty weeks earlier, when Rami was asked, to his surprise, to arbitrate in a business dispute. Not the kind of thing a history teacher is called on to do every day.

**FROM THE PRESS**

Izakson's novel is light, saucy and a little gossipy, just what people like and helps them read on. The leading character is well-rounded and portrayed with humor... A triumph.

**Maariv**

There is in this novel a humane grace reminiscent of Hanoach Levin.

**Haaretz****BOOKS PUBLISHED****BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*Poems*, Shiri, 1975

*Poems*, Traklin, 1978

*Time to Ask* (poetry), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1990

*Family Life* (novel), Sifriat Ma'ariv, 1995

*The Attraction of the Edge* (poetry), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1994

*Sounds of Home* (poetry), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1998

*Nathan and His Wives* (novel), Hakibbutz Hameuchad / Yedioth Ahronoth, 1998

*Poems*, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2001

*Banning Her Caress* (poetry), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2003

*The Flat on King Solomon Street* (novel), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2004

*Selected and New Poems* (poetry), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2007

*Aliza with Child* (novel), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2009

**BOOKS IN TRANSLATION**

*Nathan and His Wives*

French: Paris, Stavitz, 2001

English: Syracuse, USA, Syracuse Univ. Press, 2003

*Selected Poems*

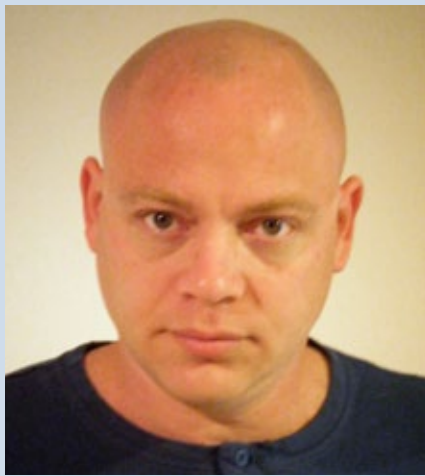
Norwegian: Oslo, Solum Forlag, 2004

French: Paris, Éd. Caractères, 2008

*Selected Poems*, Miron Izakson & Naim Araidy

French: Montrouge, Stavitz, 2003

English: New York & London, Toby Press, forthcoming



# Amichai Shalev

## *The Mentals*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Yedioth Sefarim, 2010. 221 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Amichai Shalev** was born in Israel. A writer, editor, lecturer and poet, he studied history and literature at Tel Aviv University, and screenwriting at the Camera Obscura School of Art. In recent years, he has worked as editor and project director for the internet edition of the daily *Yedioth Ahronoth* (Ynet). He also gave creative writing workshops and wrote a column for the culture section of *Maariv* as well as book reviews for the Hebrew press. At present he is editor for literature and art on Ynet. *The Mentals* is his second novel. His first novel (2004) has recently been republished to critical acclaim.

### SYNOPSIS

Uri Kravitz, an unstable army recruit, tells us of the time he spent at an army base near Jenin, where he went through basic training with other soldiers of “low level medical fitness” due to mental problems.

Edgy Uri takes in all the insanity around him without being able to block anything out: two recruits turn a third into their sex slave, one recruit commits suicide, another goes insane and a fifth keeps shooting at supposedly suspicious characters he sees around. In the midst of all this, Uri tries to distinguish himself from the others, while also dealing with the demons that haunt him.

Stranded in the muddy, foggy base, while he and his fellow soldiers slowly lose their minds, Uri mulls over his past. He thinks about his mother, who died by accident or committed suicide; about his cold, distant relationship with his father; about Keren, a girl he met at the Arad Music Festival who is no less ‘mental’ than him, and about the Israeli indie-rock band he worships, whose imminent break-up is threatening his sanity no less than his surroundings.

*The Mentals* isn’t a book about the IDF or about recruit training, it is a book about a young man who has to force his injured soul and sleepless body to perform a task that is more than he can handle.



“**T**his platoon is a bunch of guys they didn’t know what to do with, so they stuck them all together,” he told me. Perhaps he was trying to calm himself down too. “But why did they enlist him at all?” I asked. Motti didn’t answer and turned his head away.

I now believe that they enlisted him for the death statistics, because they need a few of these guys to get killed, and Sefi the Tiger was a suitable candidate. Just to think of a rifle in his hand makes me shiver. I don’t understand why they issued guns to all of us, some people are just not cut out for it. Bennie feels important with his gun. It’s like that with Turjeman too, it’s natural for him. For me, the rifle is a burden, uncomfortable on my shoulder, like a hump, and it doesn’t concern me that it can kill.

## FROM THE PRESS

Amichai Shalev has the rare talent of being able to create a palpable, associative narrative flow... Uncommon eloquence with some extremely impressive, wild and poetic stream-of-consciousness... striking insights and that rare sensuality that is the soul of fiction writing.

### **Maariv**

Shalev captures stressful situations and flawed norms. He creates a magical world of writing in the midst of the rain, snow and smelly socks... *The Mentals* threw me way back, to the Yom Kippur War.

### **Post**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

### **BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*Days of Pop*, Yedioth Ahronoth, 2004; 2010

*The Mentals*, Yedioth Sefarim, 2010



PHOTO © ADI NESS

# Ilan Sheinfeld

## *A Tale of a Ring*

a novel  
Jerusalem, Keter, 2007, 460 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

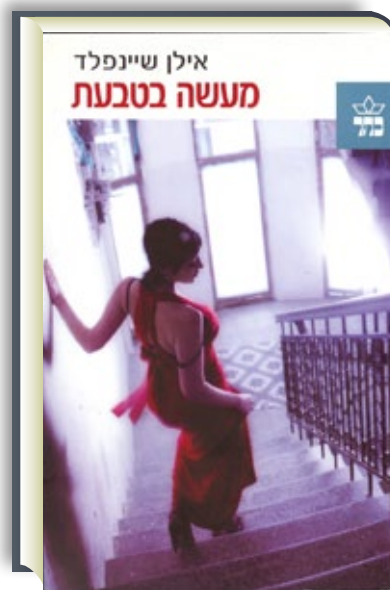
**Ilan Sheinfeld** was born in Israel in 1960. He has an MA in Hebrew and English literature from Tel Aviv University, where he teaches and is working towards his Ph.D. in Gay Studies. Sheinfeld has worked as a newspaper editor, literary critic and has written on cultural topics. He was also the founding editor of an Israeli journal on literature and theory, led various writing workshops and was spokesman for the Cameri Theater. He now owns a public relations office and a publishing house specializing in gay literature. Sheinfeld was awarded the Liv-Goldenberg Foundation Award in 2001.

### SYNOPSIS

The ills of the world, Jewish magic, torments of body and soul, and physical pleasure in various sexual identities are all woven into this novel. It is based on the scandal of “Zvi Mandel,” an organization that traded in women between 1870 and 1930 and, at its height, garnered enormous political and economic power.

In old-world Europe, between Shedlitz and Danzig, the mother of Rayna-Chaya, an epileptic girl, has consulted with healers and rabbis and, with their blessing, has made a gold ring that has healing qualities. As a result, others wish to seize the ring from its rightful owners, and it changes hands many times, leaving a trail of energy—and calamity—in its wake.

The ring travels from Europe to Argentina with Esther, a young girl sent there to work in the homes of Jews. However, during her journey, a new profession is forced on her—prostitution. This will also be the fate of her daughter, Esperanza, whose name—meaning ‘hope’ in Spanish—cannot change the course of her life. And it is Esperanza who, years later, in Israel, reveals to her daughter the secret of the terrible dynasty she was born into.



**T**he girls went on board ship as unwed virgins. They did not know they were going to disembark having been bedded and wedded by way of counterfeit papers. They also did not know that the man they had married at sea was already married to several other women, who were already settled in a single house, groaning under the bodies of strangers. They certainly did not imagine that the man they thought of as their savior came to each separately, like a guardian angel in her hour of need, impressing upon her that only he could protect her, finally penetrating her and appropriating her for good—it was he who brought this calamity upon Esther to begin with.

## FROM THE PRESS

A dramatic and complex story. The author turns this dark affair into a fascinating and thought-provoking book.

**Haaretz**

A special book with... plenty of mysticism and idiosyncrasies along with a real and fascinating history. A beautifully written book, which takes you to faraway eras and countries.

**Yedioth Ahronoth**

Sheinfeld's depictions carry you away and create a profound emotional experience... *A Tale of a Ring* is a masterpiece of Hebrew.

**Time Out**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW****Poetry**

*Enchanted Lizard*, Martef 29, 1981

*Making Love with the Tongue*, Dvir, 1983

*Lines to a Friend in Parting*, Aleph, 1987

*It Begins With Love*, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1989

*Temporary*, Tammuz/Writers Association, 1992

*Taschlich*, Tag, 1995

*Karet*, Shufra, 1997

*The Tourist Guide*, Shufra, 2003

**Fiction**

*Shedletse* (stories), Shufra, 1999

*Only You* (novel), Shufra, 2000

*A Tale of a Ring* (novel), Keter, 2007

**Children**

*From the Heart of Tel Aviv*, Dvir, 1983

*Peace*, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1989

*Margolis' Strange Book*, Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1991

*There is no Such Bird: Kortsipa*, Shufra, 1999

Individual poems have been published in: English, French, German, Polish, and Vietnamese.



PHOTO © ODED CASPI

# Danny Caspi

## *Four Shades of Love*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir, 2009. 237 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Danny Caspi** was born in Jerusalem, graduated medicine in Italy, and specialized in Israel and London. He now heads the department of rheumatology at the Tel Aviv Medical Center and is a professor at Tel Aviv University. Caspi has published a collection of poetry and a book of short stories. He is also the literary editor of the annual *Verses of Science*. Caspi was awarded the Ministry of Education Prize for Debut Fiction in 2005.

### SYNOPSIS

Paris in the 1930s, Palestine under the British Mandate, and Israel from its early days to the 1990s are the backdrop of this skillfully narrated novel.

Betty comes to Paris from her native Poland in the early 1930s to join her brother. And there, she falls in love with Yakir Cordovero, a young man without ambition, the son of a wealthy family in Mandatory Palestine. After an unwanted pregnancy and abortion, they move to Israel, where both marry and set up separate families while continuing their relationship.

Significantly, Betty becomes more fulfilled than the two men in her life: her husband Jacob works as a school teacher and Yakir turns into a frustrated, unpublished author. Betty, on the other hand, drives her own private car and builds an impressive career as one of the first social workers in Israel. Overshadowed by news of the Jews' annihilation in Europe, and by the continual proximity of her former sweetheart, Betty's life is, however, not entirely happy.

Narrated through the voices of Betty, Yakir, Jacob, and finally Rafi, the son who delves into his parents' past for inspiration to write, the novel creates a knot of emotions, secrets and loyalties.



**H**er voice rang so near me I could sense the whisper of her breath on my ear separating the words. Then it went silent, but the warmth of her breathing persisted. And from some faraway place—tapping on the keys of the Hermes, I know it sounds like cheap melodrama, but this was how it happened—the image of my mother suddenly flickered in my mind, reappearing after it was expunged, how long ago? Many years. And then I felt her fingers again, this time moving from my neck to my cheeks, to my eyelids, gently pulling them open. I saw her face close to mine, gazing intently into my eyes, her fingers continuing softly up towards my eyebrows and forehead, lingering and then parting with me when it reached my hair. I can feel, almost hear the hair on my arms stand on end. I close my eyes again, simply let my eyelids shut, and for the first time in my adult life, for the first time since I came to Paris, the first time in someone else's presence, since mother, I feel a little tear slide down my cheek like a raindrop, without pain, without crying either, in fact. I hear the light movement of a chair and wait a little for it to pass. Only then do I open my eyes and discover that she is gone.

## FROM THE PRESS

Caspi's original perspective, and his ability to distinguish his protagonists from one other through language mark this as a book of high quality.

**Haaretz**

This book is probably well-known to the elite of Hebrew literature because it is truly exceptional.

**Radio Le-lo Hafsaka**

For *A Sudden Break*

Written with grace and freshness... leaves a distinct taste for more.

**Ynet**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

*Internal Medicine* (poetry), Yahdav, 1991

*A Sudden Break* (stories), Zmora Bitan, 2004

*Four Shades of Love* (novel), Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan, Dvir, 2009



# Leah Goldberg

## *Losses*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 2010. 380 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Leah Goldberg** (1911-1970) was born in Königsberg, East Prussia (now Kaliningrad, Russia), and started writing Hebrew verse as a schoolgirl in Kovno. She received a Ph.D. in semitic languages from Bonn University, and immigrated to pre-state Israel in 1935. Goldberg was a renowned poet – a member of the Shlonsky group – as well as a theater critic, translator, and editor. In 1952, she established the Department of Comparative Literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and remained its chairwoman until her death. Goldberg published nine books of poetry, two novels, three plays, six books of non-fiction, and 20 books for children. She was awarded many prizes, including the Israel Prize for Literature in 1970.

### SYNOPSIS

#### **A Leah Goldberg classic, now published for the first time!**

Leah Goldberg wrote this wide-ranging novel in the second half of the 1930s. A few chapters appeared in magazines and newspapers, but she eventually decided not to publish the whole novel, which was found among her belongings after her death.

Elhanan Karon, a Hebrew poet from Palestine, comes to Berlin in 1932-33 to complete his research on the affinity between Jewish and Arab mysticism. But an unexpected encounter with Antonia, a young Christian German student, and the loss of his finest manuscript change his plans. Both the growing relationship between the two young people and Elhanan's search for the manuscript are inevitably influenced by the historical events of that period.

The conversations between Elhanan and his friends—Russian immigrants, Eastern-European Jews, German scientists, and more—reveal the various cultural choices that stand before him: to preserve his Jewish identity, adopt socialism and communism, or opt for assimilation. Ultimately, however, history chooses for him. The mounting power of the Nazis slowly becomes a dominant element in the book, and the ongoing tension between the original motherland and the adopted one, familiar to readers of Goldberg's poetry, takes center stage.



**A**ntonia! He was happy about her name. It was as if he had guessed it beforehand, had known it, smelled it. Yes, of course, he knew its smell. Just a few moments ago he'd remembered those hard, smooth apples, Anton apples. Antonia—the name suited her.

She pressed her cheek against the cold, black train window. “Sometimes... there is a kind of madness... times like this, as if it were not possible anymore,” she said. “If, say, there was an Eiffel Tower in this city to jump off, or an ocean... but go drown yourself in the Spree—let’s say, by the bridge, where the big boat *The Giant Whale* is moored. The next day they’ll pull your body out, and the police will look at you like at the Whale. Or let’s say, by the museum, and the statue of that stupid Fredrick would stand there looking at you all night long. It’s very foolish. Especially when there isn’t even a good reason to kill yourself. On nights like this, you travel to Grinau, to an aunt who never lived there, or... you begin talking to a stranger—it’s all the same.

## FROM THE PRESS

There are beautiful things in *Losses*. The novel is like amber that has trapped the air and atmosphere of another era in it.

**Haaretz**

Never before has Goldberg touched so explicitly on politics, Jewish identity, religion and sexuality.

**Yedioth Ahronoth**

*Losses* shows how much the creation and loss of ideological identity preoccupied Goldberg.... Exquisite depictions of Berlin in the 1930s.

**Time Out**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS IN TRANSLATION (Selected)***Lady of the Castle*

English: Tel Aviv, Inst. for the Trans. Hebrew Lit., 1974; incl. in *Sel. Poetry & Drama*, New York/London, Toby Press, 2005

French: Tel Aviv, Inst. for the Trans. Hebrew Lit., 1983

*Light on the Rim of a Cloud* (poetry)

English: San Francisco, Didymus, 1972

*Letters from an Imaginary Journey* (novel)

German: Frankfurt, Suhrkamp Jüdischer Verlag, 2003

Spanish: Valencia, Pre-Textos, 2006

*There Comes the Light*

English: New York/London, Toby Press, forthcoming

*The Cobbler* (story)

English: Tel Aviv, WIZO, 1950

*Selected Poems*

English: London/San Francisco, Menard/Panjandrum, 1976

Polish: London, Oficyna Poetow i Malarzy, 1971

Russian: Tel Aviv, Sifriat Poalim, 1989

Spanish: Granada, Univ. de Granada, 1994 (2 vols.)

*Selected Poetry and Drama*

English: New York/London, Toby Press, 2005

*This Night* (poetry)

Spanish: Granada, Univ. de Granada, 1994

*Of Bloom* (poetry)

English: New York, Garland, 1992



PHOTO © DANIEL MIRAN

# Reuven Miran

## *Anna and the Hunters*

a novel

Tel Aviv, Nahar Books, 2009, 80 pp.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Reuven Miran** was born in 1944 and grew up in the Jezreel Valley. He received his MA in philosophy from the Sorbonne and has written novels, stories and film scripts. He is also a translator of French literature. Miran has received the Prime Minister's Prize, the BBC World Service Prize, the ACUM Prize for Literary Achievement (1995), and the French Ministry of Culture Award for promoting French culture in Israel. In 2003, Miran founded Nahar Books, a new Israeli publishing house devoted to classic humanistic texts on freedom and human dignity.

### SYNOPSIS

Anna, a 13-year-old girl, lives—or rather hides—in a basement in Tel Aviv. She lives in fear of being thrown out of the country even though she was born in Israel, and Hebrew is her mother tongue. But because her parents came from far away, she is considered a “migrant worker,” a foreigner.

Her father has already been deported: arrested on the street, imprisoned and then put on a plane leaving the country. So Anna does not go out and tries to make as little noise as possible. Her mother leaves for work early each morning under cover of darkness, despite her fear of the “hunters”—the deportation police. And Anna stays alone, with just a radio and a little night light that cannot be seen from the street.

So as not to feel too lonely, she climbs up on the bed and peeks out through a little skylight. She sees the legs of passersby and tries to imagine what the people look like.

Anna thinks about her situation and in her innocent way raises difficult moral questions about Israel's policy towards foreign workers. As the author puts it, this book is intended for “every reader who seeks to live in a better, more just society.”

ENGLISH TRANSLATION AVAILABLE



**T**hey were really nice to us when they let us say good bye to Dad at the airport, right before they put him on the plane. “If you want to stay together,” said one of the hunters who escorted him, “it’s fine with us.” He winked to his friend and continued: “Please, join him and go back home. The ticket’s on us.” He said, “your home” and didn’t even try to hide his smile. Then he offered me a bottle of water, but I said no, no favors. What does it mean, return to your home? In order to return home I don’t need a plane. The most I need is a bus. My home is here, in Tel Aviv, the city where I was born. In Ichilov Hospital if you must know.

## FROM THE PRESS

This is not a book – it is a great cry to the sky, that maybe on her way to heaven Anna will find a sympathetic ear.

**Haaretz**

A short and moving novella that one reads with bated breath.

**Israel Hayom**

An example of committed and political literature that is a must in every library.

**Achbar Ha’Ir**

I got *Anna and the Hunters* an hour ago. I read it and was extremely moved. Regarding the poets, please tell Anna that some of us actually thought poems might change something.

Poet **Ronny Someck**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

- The Western Hills* (stories), Massada, 1970  
*The Lead Bird* (stories), Hakibbutz Hameuchad/Siman Kriah, 1979  
*The Planet of Yairi* (children), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1979  
*The Scarecrow of Dr. Givoli* (children), Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1979  
*In the Mountains, Inland* (stories), Tarmil, 1980  
*Night Over the City* (novella), Tarmil, 1987  
*And Twice the Parrot Held its Tongue* (novel), Zmora Bitan, 1987  
*South of Antarctica* (stories), Keter, 1990  
*Turtle Soup for Breakfast* (stories), Keter, 1995

- The Last Dwarfs in Givatayim* (children), Keter, 1995  
*Memories of a Dead Season* (stories), Yedioth Ahronoth, 1996  
*Three Cigarettes in an Ashtray* (novel), Yedioth Ahronoth, 2001  
*Kingfishers* (stories), Hakibbutz Hameuchad/ Siman Kriah, 2006  
*Anna and the Hunters* (crossover) Nahar, 2009

Individual stories have been published in English.

# Amnon Jackont

## *The Mystery of my Death*

a literary thriller

Jerusalem, Keter Publishing House, 2009. 356 pp.



PHOTO © AMIT NIV

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Amnon Jackont** was born in Israel in 1948, and lives in Tel Aviv. He holds a Ph.D. in history from Tel Aviv University. Jackont works as an editor at a leading publishing house. He is a lecturer in history, teaches creative writing, and contributes a bi-weekly column to *Haaretz*, one of Israel's major newspapers. He has published seven novels, of which six were best-sellers. One—*Borrowed Time*—was published in England by Hamish Hamilton.

### SYNOPSIS

In 588 BC, Gedalyahu Ben Achikam, appointed by the Babylonians to be the governor of Judea, became the first Jewish leader to be murdered by another Jew. There has been much speculation surrounding the reason for this murder, but the mystery remains unsolved to this day. It is on this mystery that Jackont, a trained historian, builds his gripping plot.

Gideon Luriah, a widowed professor raising his teenage daughter alone, receives an ancient parchment written by Gedalyahu, who had foreseen his own murder. Gedalyahu buried the breastplate worn by the High Priest of the Temple in a secret place in Jerusalem, to be discovered only by a man who could lead his people. For this reason, Gedalyahu wrote a riddle that only a person with unique skills could understand. To crack it, Gideon recruits a few doctoral students, among them a beautiful and sensual lawyer, a sensitive Arab student and a brilliant female student who is also a drug addict. With their help, he finally unravels the mystery: he deciphers a cursed code, confronts faceless enemies and even experiences a new, bitter-sweet love.

However, the greatest trial awaits him at the end of his search, when he finds the breastplate that has been buried in a cave for 2600 years. Then he must make a decision that will change his life, and history.



**G**ideon read the contract from start to finish, pressed it against the wall and signed at the bottom. Then he said: “It’s not the parchment that I’m worried about, it’s the High Priest’s breastplate. It’s more than just a religious relic—it’s a tool for governing people. According to the Bible, the people determined whether God permitted a war to start or not, by deciphering the light thrown by the precious stones on it. Can you imagine the power of a man who gets hold of it? He’ll be able to declare that God told him to send airplanes to bomb Teheran, or to conquer Lebanon or take over Gaza again. And that parchment is the only way of reaching the breastplate.”

“And where is that parchment now?”

“Here, with me. I was afraid to leave it at home.” He shifted his weight from one foot to the other.

## FROM THE PRESS

Jackont weaves the story of Gedalia into a thrilling historical plot.

**Haaretz**

It is a rare privilege to pick up a book that teaches you so much about biblical events from a really interesting and different perspective. A moving novel... A fascinating new book.

**Channel 7**

Well-written and very enjoyable... Jackont is one of Israel’s top suspense writers.

**Time Out**

## BOOKS PUBLISHED

**BOOKS PUBLISHED IN HEBREW**

- Borrowed Time* (novel), Am Oved, 1982  
*The Rainy Day Man* (novel), Am Oved, 1987  
*The Last of the Wise Lovers* (novel), Keter, 1991  
*Honey Trap* (novel), Keter, 1994  
*Ready for Life* (stories), Keter, 2000 ]  
*Introduction to Love* (novel), Keter, 2001  
*L for Lies* (novel), with Varda Rasiel-Jackont, Keshet, 2004  
*The Mystery of my Death*, Keter, 2009

**BOOKS IN TRANSLATION**

- Borrowed Time*  
 English: London, Hamish Hamilton, 1986