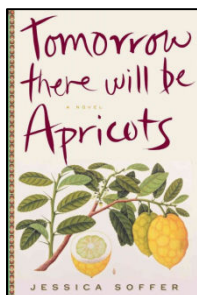


SISTERHOOD TORAH FUND BOOK CLUB

April 19, 2014



***Tomorrow There Will Be Apricots* by Jessica Soffer**

Two women, one a daughter about to be sent off to boarding school, and the other, a widowed immigrant dealing with loss, find comfort and friendship connected by their love of food when they become friends in a Manhattan cooking class.

FURTHER READING

Available in the Maxwell Abbell Library

THE JEWS OF IRAQ:

***Last Days in Babylon: The History of a Family, the Story of a Nation* by Marina Benjamin (956.93)**

Draws on the experiences of the author's own family to chronicle the odyssey and ultimate exile of Jewish Iraqis, documenting how Jewish citizens in Baghdad deteriorated from the region's largest and most prosperous ethnic group to a band of a few dozen survivors under the oppression of a hostile Iraqi government.

***Sweet Dates in Basra* by Jessica Jiji (F)**

After two Iraqi families - one Jewish and one Muslim - break through a wall in the 1930s to accommodate a shared water pipe, a Jewish boy falls in love with an Arab maid, whose mother is determined to preserve her daughter's honor in a land where the loss of it can be punishable by death.

***Farewell, Babylon: Coming of Age in Jewish Baghdad* by Naim Kattan (B)**

From the melting pot that was Iraqi society comes a tale, recounted by a grand old man of Canadian letters, of growing up as a Jewish boy in Baghdad in the 1940s.

***From Baghdad to Brooklyn: Growing Up in a Jewish-Arabic Family in Midcentury America* by Jack Marshall (300.10)**

Inspired by the posthumous discovery of letters written by his father but never mailed, Jack Marshall's memoir is both a moving story of a writer's artistic coming-of-age and a lush, lyrical recollection of a childhood spent in Brooklyn's Arabic-speaking Jewish community.

***Iraq's Last Jews: Stories of Daily Life, Upheaval, and Escape from Modern Babylon* edited by Tamar Morad, Dennis Shasha, and Robert Shasha (956.93)**

A collection of first-person accounts of Iraqi Jews about their lives in Iraq's once-vibrant, 2,500 year-old Jewish community.

***The Jews of Iraq: 3000 Years of History and Culture* by Nissim Rejwan (956.93)**

An overview of the long tenure of the Jewish community in Iraq, this fascinating history details the comfortable, centuries-long coexistence between Jews and Muslims under an Islamic majority government.

***My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for his Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq* by Ariel Sabar (B)**

A journalist describes his father's birth into an isolated community of Kurdish Jews, their emigration to Israel in the 1950s, the disappearance of the ancient culture and language of the Kurdish Jews, and his and his father's journey to postwar Iraq to uncover the vanished history of a people and place.

***Memories of Eden: A Journey through Jewish Baghdad* by Violette Shamash (B)**

Reconstructs the last years of the Jewish community in Baghdad through the recollections of a Jewish woman who was born in the city in 1912 and lived there until 1941, when the massacre of hundreds of Iraqi Jews forced her to flee to India.

***The Wayward Moon* by Janice Weizman (F)**

Takes readers back to ninth-century Babylonia in this story of Rahel Bat Yair, the seventeen-year-old daughter of a Jewish physician in Sura, a city south of Baghdad.

***When the Grey Beetles Took over Baghdad* by Mona Yahia (F)**

Follows the story of young Lina, who clings to childhood and the security of her youth during the last peaceful period for her Iraq Jewish community, which erupts into violence and anti-Semitism that shatters the lives of her friends and neighbors.

***The Forgotten Refugees* (DVD)**

Explores the history and destruction of Middle Eastern Jewish communities, some of which had existed for over 2,500 years. Using extensive testimony of refugees from Egypt, Yemen, Libya and Iraq, the film recounts the stories that nearly one million individuals have carried with them for so long. Personal stories are woven with dramatic archival footage of rescue missions, historic images of exodus and resettlement, and analyses by contemporary scholars.

READ-A-LIKES:

***The Middlesteins* by Jami Attenberg (F)**

Two siblings with very different personalities attempt to take control of their mother's food obsession and massive weight gain to save her life after their father walks out and leaves her reeling in the Chicago suburbs.

***The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake* by Aimee Bender (F)**

Discovering in childhood a supernatural ability to taste the emotions of others in their cooking, Rose Edelstein grows up to regard food as a curse when it reveals everyone's secret realities.

***Saving Ruth* by Zoe Fishman (F)**

When Ruth Wasserman returns home to the South for the summer after her freshman year at college, a near tragedy pushes her to uncover family truths and take a good look at the woman she wants to become.

***The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss (F)**

Sixty years after a book's publication, its author remembers his lost love and missing son, while a teenage girl, named for one of the book's characters, seeks her namesake, as well as a cure for her widowed mother's loneliness.

***The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit* by Lucette Lagnado (B)**

The daughter of a once-successful Jewish boulevardier traces her youth in post-World War II Cairo before and after Gamal Abdel Nasser's nationalization of Egyptian industry, an event that caused her family to lose everything and forced them to flee to America. See also *The Arrogant Years*.

***The Baker's Daughter* by Sarah McCoy (F)**

After an interview with an elderly baker leaves her feeling like she is the one who revealed too much--especially about her Border Patrol husband, Riki--El Paso journalist Reba Adams, as well as her interview subject and Riki, must confront the ghosts of the past.

***Moonlight on the Avenue of Faith* by Gina B. Nahai (F)**

An epic tale blending Persian and Jewish cultures travels from the Tehran's Jewish ghetto, through Turkish whorehouses, to Los Angeles as Lili, with the help of Aunt Miriam the Moon, searches for her magical mother Roxanna the Angel. See also: *Cry of the Peacock* and *Caspian Rain*.

***Memories of a Lost Egypt: A Memoir with Recipes* by Colette Rossant (B)**

A James Beard Award-winning journalist presents a combination memoir and cookbook in which she describes growing up in French colonial Egypt and presents a richly exotic collection of recipes that blend a variety of cultural influences.

***The Wholeness of a Broken Heart* by Katie Singer (F)**

An evocative debut novel chronicles the lives and fortunes of four generations of Jewish women, as their stories span two continents, from Eastern Europe to modern-day Cleveland, and one young woman, Hannah Felber, struggles to resolve her troubled relationship with her mother.

***97 Orchard: An Edible History of Five Immigrant Families in One New York Tenement* by Jane Ziegelman (900.73 ZIE)**

A richly detailed investigation of the lives and culinary habits, shopping, cooking, and eating, of five families of various ethnicities living at the turn of the twentieth century in one tenement on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

RECIPES

***The World of Jewish Cooking: More than 500 Traditional Recipes from Alsace to Yemen* by Gil Marks (741.1)**

Includes several recipes from Iraq such as Cardamon Macaroons, Semolina Kubba, and Stuffed Dumplings.

***The World of Jewish Desserts: More than 400 Delectable Recipes from Jewish Communities from Alsace to India* by Gil Marks (741)**

Includes several recipes from Iraq such as Cardamon-Almond Cookies, Almond Mounds, Hazelnut Brittle, Pistachio Brittle, and Date-Nut Cake.

***The Book of Jewish Food: An Odyssey from Samarkand to New York with More than 800 Askenazi and Sephardi Recipes* by Claudia Roden (741)**

Includes historical information and an extensive collection of recipes for chicken, fish, meat, savory pies, soups, and vegetables from Iraq.

***Entrée to Judaism: A Culinary Exploration of the Jewish Diaspora* by Tina Wasserman (741)**

Take a culinary journey around the world and across the ages, sharing the histories and recipes of the great Diaspora communities and the many wonderful ways they have told their stories through food. The Iraqi Jewish community is represented with recipes for Stuffed Kibbeh, Chicken with Rice, Chickpeas and Raisins, and Pickled Mango.