

Summer Reading Roundtable Recommendations

May 2020

Recommended By:	Title	Author	Summary	in the Beth El Library	See also:
Gerry	<i>Where Memories Lie</i>	Crombie, Deborah	A sinister mystery that leads all the way back to the Holocaust ensnares Scotland Yard detectives Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James.		<i>A Share in Death</i> , the first in the 18-book "Duncan Kincaid & Gemma James" series
Joyce	<i>Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots</i>	Feldman, Deborah	Traces the author's upbringing in a Hasidic community in Brooklyn, describing the strict rules that governed her life, arranged marriage at the age of seventeen, and the birth of her son, which led to her plan to leave and forge her own path in life.	Yes	4-part Netflix series and the sequel, <i>Exodus: A Memoir</i>
Jori	<i>The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion</i>	Flagg, Fannie	A novel spanning decades, generations, and America in the 1940s and today, centers around five women who worked in a Phillips 66 gas station during the World War II years.		<i>Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café</i> and the movie
Karen	<i>The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl</i>	Gad, Marra B.	A debut memoir by a mixed-race Jewish author describes how her decision to offer care to her abusively racist great-aunt, an Alzheimer's patient, helped them develop a loving relationship formerly marked by prejudice and estrangement.	Yes	
Cara	<i>My Own Words</i>	Ginsburg, Ruth Bader	In this collection Justice Ginsburg discusses gender equality, the workings of the Supreme Court, being Jewish, law and lawyers in opera, and the value of looking beyond US shores when interpreting the US Constitution.	Yes	<i>RBG</i> , the movie
Richard	<i>Teacher/Pizza Guy</i>	Kass, Jeff	Explores the emotional and physical labor necessary to work nights as a pizza delivery driver and days as a high school English teacher.		

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Susan	<i>The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz</i>	Larson, Erik	Draws on personal diaries, archival documents and declassified intelligence in a portrait of Winston Churchill that explores his day-to-day experiences during the Blitz and his role in uniting England.		<i>Dead Wake , The Devil in the White City , In the Garden of Beasts</i>
Merle	<i>A Jewish Woman's Prayer Book</i>	Lavie, Aliza	A beautiful and moving one-of-a-kind collection that draws from a variety of Jewish traditions, through the ages, to commemorate every occasion and every passage in the cycle of life.	Yes	
Karen	<i>Too Late the Phalarope</i>	Paton, Alan	Portrays a police lieutenant's struggle with his conscience when he violates a strict South African law concerning relationships between blacks and whites.		<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>
Fran	<i>American Judaism: A History</i>	Sarna, Jonathan D.	An updated and revised edition of the the 2004 National Jewish Book Award winner that provides a 350 year history of the Jewish religion, discussing key events, personalities, and struggles pertaining to Jews and the Jewish religion in the United States.	Yes	<i>Lincoln & the Jews: A History , When General Grant Expelled the Jews , Jews and the Civil War</i>
Cara	<i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i>	Shaffer, Mary Ann	In 1946, writer Juliet Ashton finds inspiration for her next book in her correspondence with a native of Guernsey, who tells her about the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, a book club born as an alibi during German occupation.		<i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> movie

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Caryn	<i>All-of-A-Kind Family</i>	Taylor, Sydney	First published in 1953, this classic children's novel portrays the joys and troubles of five high-spirited Jewish sisters as they grow up in New York City.	Yes	<i>More All-of-a-Kind Family , All-of-a-Kind Family Uptown , All-of-a-Kind Family Downtown and Ella of All-of-a-Kind Family</i>
Marilyn	<i>Heroic Children</i>	Teller, Hanoch	Chronicles the incredible lives and experiences of nine survivors who were only children when they encountered the unimaginable turbulence and horrors of the Holocaust.	Yes	<i>Sunset: Stories of Our Contemporary Torah Luminaries , Souled: Stories of Striving and Yearning</i>
Karen	<i>Anna Karenina</i>	Tolstoy, Leo	A classic nineteenth-century Russian novel in which a young woman is destroyed when she attempts to live outside the moral law of her society.		