

SNMA Library
April 17, 2021

Queer Jewish Writing

There is a rich body of literature and scholarship about the intersections of Jewish and LGBTQ experience. The SNMA has over 130 books that explore queer issues from Jewish perspectives as well as Jewish issues from queer perspectives; special topics include the evolution of traditions, the Holocaust, homophobia, the arts, and Israel-Palestine. With an emphasis on the 1980s to the present, the holdings consist of novels, memoirs, anthologies, poetry collections, short story collections, erotica, and even a cookbook.

Rebecca Alpert, *Like Bread on the Seder Plate: Jewish Lesbians and the Transformation of Tradition* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1997).

A study of how Jewish lesbians have embraced elements of their identities and reimagined faith traditions.

Christie Balka and Andy Rose, eds., *Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian, Gay, and Jewish* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1989).

An anthology of writings seeking to combine gay pride with active participation in Judaism.

Gil Block, *Confessions of a Jewish Nun: The True Life Adventures of Sister Sadie, Sadie, the Rabbi Lady* (San Francisco: Fog City Press, 1999).

The autobiography of a member of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Angela Brown, ed., *Mentsh: On Being Jewish and Queer* (Los Angeles: Alyson Books, 2004).

An anthology about queer Jewish life, featuring over 30 contributions from around the world.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, *Out of Our Closets: San Francisco Gay Jewish Cooking* (San Francisco: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 1987).

Gay takes on traditional Jewish recipes.

David B. Feinberg, *Eighty-Sixed* (New York: Viking, 1989).

A novel with a Jewish protagonist living through the AIDS crisis.

Dola de Jong, *The Tree and the Vine* (New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 1996 [1954]).

A pioneering fictional work about a lesbian relationship in the years leading up to the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam.

Noach Dzmura, ed., *Balancing on the Mechitza: Transgender in the Jewish Community* (Berkeley: North Atlantic Books, 2010).

A volume with contributions from Jewish trans activists, theologians, and scholars.

Julie R. Enszer, ed., *Milk and Honey: A Celebration of Jewish Lesbian Poetry* (New York: A Midsummer Night's Press, 2011).

A poetry anthology about relationships, ethics, family, politics, and community.

Wayne Hoffman, *Sweet Like Sugar* (New York: Kensington Books, 2011).

A novel about the relationship between a young Jewish man and an Orthodox rabbi.

Daniel M. Jaffe, *Jewish Gentle and Other Stories of Gay-Jewish Living* (Maple Shade, NJ: Lethe Press, 2011).

Short stories that variously deal with the gay Jewish experience.

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz, *My Jewish Face & Other Stories* (San Francisco: Spinsters/Aunt Luke Book Co., 1990)

A book of interconnected short stories about the coming of age and coming out of a daughter of the Jewish Left.

Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz and Irena Klepfisz, eds., *The Tribe of Dina: A Jewish Women's Anthology* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1989).

A diverse collection of essays, stories, memoirs, poems, and interviews about Jewish women's experience and feminism.

Irena Klepfisz, *Dreams of an Insomniac: Jewish Feminist Essays, Speeches, and Diatribes* (Portland: Eighth Mountain Press, 1990).

Writings on Israel-Palestine, homophobia, anti-Semitism, motherhood, and the Holocaust.

Edith Konecky, *Allegra Maud Goldman* (New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 1990 [1976]).

A novel about a Jewish girl in 1930s Brooklyn.

Lisa Kron, *2.5 Minute Ride and 101 Humiliating Stories* (New York: Theatre Communications Group, 2001).

Two solo performance works about Jewish and lesbian identity by Lisa Kron.

Joy Ladin, *Through a Door of Life: A Jewish Journey between Genders* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2012).

A memoir of a transgender Orthodox Jewish literature professor.

Raphael Lev, *Journeys & Arrivals: On Being Gay and Jewish* (Boston: Faber & Faber, 1996).

A collection of personal and critical essays about Jewish and gay identities.

Michael Lowenthal, *The Same Embrace* (New York: Dutton, 1998).

A novel about twin brothers confronting their relationship, religion, and sexuality.

Lawrence Mass, *Confessions of a Jewish Wagnerite: Being Gay and Jewish in America* (London: Cassell, 1994).

A book of autobiographical essays about the interconnectedness of gay, Jewish, and musical subcultures.

Lesléa Newman, *In Every Laugh a Tear* (Norwich, VT: New Victoria Publishers, 1992).
A novel about a Jewish lesbian, her mother, and her grandmother.

Lannon D. Reed, *Behold a Pale Horse: A Novel of Homosexuals in the Nazi Holocaust* (San Francisco: Gay Sunshine Press, 1985).
A work of historical fiction centered on a gay Jewish protagonist in Nazi Germany.

Lawrence Schimel, ed., *Kosher Meat* (Santa Fe: Sherman Asher Pub., 2000).
An erotic short story collection about Jewish identity and gay sexuality.

Sarah Schulman, *Israel/Palestine and the Queer International* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2012).
An account of political awakening and queer solidarity.

Moshe Shokeid, *A Gay Synagogue in New York* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1995).
A study of Beth Simchat Torah, the largest LGBTQ synagogue in the United States.

Karen X. Tulchinsky, *Love Ruins Everything* (Vancouver: Press Gang Publishers, 1998).
A novel about a Jewish lesbian's involvement in AIDS activism in Toronto.

Rebecca Walker, *Black, White, and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self* (New York: Riverhead Books, 2001).
A memoir about childhood, race, and identity.

Irene Zahava, ed., *Speaking for Ourselves: Short Stories by Jewish Lesbians* (Freedom, CA: Crossing Press, 1990).
An anthology of 18 short stories about the Jewish lesbian experience.