

## Select Adas Israel Top Ten Israel Books

Note: There are two ways to vote.  
Use this form (see details below) OR Vote via Web from the Adas Israel Home Page.

**Circle your ten favorite books from this list and leave the form at the Quebec Street reception desk. No more than one vote please.**

1. A Life of Poetry, by Yehuda Amichai. Amichai's ability to balance the arid with the fertile has made him Israel's most prominent poet, and another part of his gift is his capability for the eloquent analogical comment on larger issues, such as war, by means of striking minor images
2. As a Driven Leaf, Milton Steinberg. The book tells the story of Elisha ben Abuya, one of the contributors to the Talmud who we are told lost his faith.
3. A Pigeon and A Boy, by Meir Shalev and Evan Fallenberg. A love story between two pigeon handlers in the period prior to Israel's war of Independence .
4. A Tale of Love & Darkness, by Amos Oz. This memoir/family history brims over with riches: metaphors and poetry, drama and comedy, failure and success, unhappy marriages and a wealth of idiosyncratic characters.
5. Ben Gurion: The Burning Ground, by Shabtai Teveth. Great insight into what drove one of the giants of modern Jewish history.
6. Exodus by Leon Uris. A fictionalized account of the creation of the State of Israel. While many of our generation read it in its initial printing, or saw the movie, many of the recent generation has no experience with the book.
7. From Beirut to Jerusalem, by Thomas Friedman. Besides being informative and well-written, Friedman sets the stage for the angst that existed then and was to come in the Middle East. I thank him for giving me my first real handle on the area's regional rivalries.
8. Homeland: The Illustrated History of the State of Israel, by Marv Wolfman, Mario Ruiz and William J. Rubin. Depicting the history of Israel from biblical Abraham to the present, this sophisticated, four-color graphic adaptation is academically grounded, guiding readers through highlights both in historical detail and from Israel's world view. (For Young Adults).
9. Inheriting the Holy Land: An American's Search for Hope in the Middle East, by Jennifer Miller. Miller's own involvement with Seeds of Peace provides a backdrop for an analysis of the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

10. Martyr's Crossing, by Amy Wilentz. Wilentz supplements a natural storyteller's eye for character with a reporter's grasp of swirling political detail in this complex, haunting novel about an incident at a checkpoint between Israel and Palestine.
11. My Country/The Story of Modern Israel, Abba Eban. All of Israel's supporters need a detailed, factual background of the early history of the State of Israel to understand the complexity of the current peace process.
12. O Jerusalem, by Larry Collins and Dominic Lapierre. This remarkable classic recounts, moment by moment, the spellbinding process that gave birth to the state of Israel.
13. Open Heart, A. B. Yehoshua. The irrational, untamable power of love becomes almost palpable in Israeli novelist Yehoshua's intense novel of forbidden passion, obsession and spiritual yearning.
14. Prisoners: A Muslim and a Jew Across the Middle East Divide, by Jeffrey Goldberg (a member of the congregation). It is a riveting, beautifully written account of Jeffrey's years in the Israeli army, the Palestinians he came to know, and his hope for how the Israelis and Palestinians can find their way to peace.
15. Someone to Run With, by David Grossman. Two Jerusalem teens on the run in that city's underworld, one looking to save her brother from drug addiction, the other to find the owner of a lost dog. The novel's converging plotlines provide an atmosphere of romantic predestination that's no less engaging for being thoroughly predictable.
16. The Foods of Israel, Joan Nathan. Nathan shows the diverse cuisines of Israel's sabras and immigrants. know I will be cooking from "The Foods of Israel Today" for a long time.
17. The Jerusalem Anthology, by Reuven Hammer. This is an outstanding compilation about the Holy City. It has won many awards, and was presented to President Clinton at the White House shortly after it was published.
18. The Land of Israel, Amos Oz. An extraordinary snapshot of Israeli society in the 1980s, with relevance for today.
19. The Seventh Million: The Israelis and the Holocaust, by Tom Segev. A challenging and important account of what was happening to one million Israelis during the Holocaust. It is the first book to show the decisive impact of the Holocaust on the identity, ideology, and politics of Israel.

20. The Lover, by A. B. Yehoshua. A. B. Yehoshua's first novel is brilliant, compassionate, highly original and as accomplished as all his later works. A husband seeks his wife's lover who has vanished in the turbulence of Israel's Yom Kippur War
21. The Red Tent, by Anita Diamant. Skillfully interweaving biblical tales with events and characters of her own invention, Diamant's (sweeping novel re-creates the life of Dinah, daughter of Leah and Jacob, from her birth and happy childhood in Mesopotamia through her years in Canaan and death in Egypt.
22. Warrior, by Ariel Sharon. A very important book that really makes you understand Sharon's view of Israel.
23. ZigZag Kid, by David Grossman. Israeli writer Grossman here offers an imaginative new tale whereby the rebellious son of a detective is whisked away by a friendly kidnapper on the trail of the trademark purple scarf of actress Lola Ciperola.