



Reverend Katz Library

New Book Reviews

April 2019

Pesach is approaching and if you are looking for a new recipe or some advice on traditional recipes we would like to invite you to come into the library to borrow some of our wonderful Pesach recipe books or varied Jewish recipe books which contain sections on holiday cooking.

A few examples are listed:

The Complete Passover Cookbook : delectable recipes for Passover and the year 'round by Frances R Av Rutick

The spice and spirit of Kosher Passover cooking by the Lubavitch Women's Organization

The Sephardi culinary tradition by Elsie Menasce

The New Yiddish Kitchen : gluten free and Paleo Kosher recipes for the holidays and everyday by Simone Miller and Jennifer Robins

The Jewish Kitchen : recipes and stories from around the world by Clarissa Hyman

Jewish Soul Food from Minsk to Marrakesh : More than 100 unforgettable dishes updated for today's kitchen by Janna Gur

Monday Morning Cooking Club – The Feast Goes On by the members of the Monday morning cooking club.

Pesach books for the children.

Read some Pesach story books to your children and grandchildren this Pesach.

Listed are some lovely colourful children's books with a Pesach theme . These are available for loan in the children's room together with many other Pesach story books.

There are also some children's **Haggadot** available which make it easier for the children to follow and partake in the Seder. Simply fill in all items borrowed in the Library loan book in the children's library cupboard.

The Matzo ball boy by Lisa Shulman

The Passover Cowboy by Barbara Diamond Goldin

The Moses basket by

Only nine chairs : a tall tale for Passover by Deborah Urchill Miller

Waiting for Elijah: a story about Passover by Ann Jungman

New April additions to Reverend Katz Library

Weitzman, Steven, *The origin of the Jews : the quest for roots in a rootless age.* HIS WEI

The first major history of the scholarly quest to answer the question of Jewish origins. The Jews have one of the longest continuously recorded histories of any people in the world, but what do we actually know about their origins? While many think the answer to this question can be found in the Bible, others look to archaeology or genetics. Some sceptics have even sought to debunk the very idea that the Jews have a common origin. In this book, Steven Weitzman takes a learned and lively look at what we know—or think we know—about where the Jews came from, when they arose, and how they came to be.

Scholars have written hundreds of books on the topic and have come up with scores of explanations, theories, and historical reconstructions, but this is the first book to trace the history of the different approaches that have been applied to the question, including genealogy, linguistics, archaeology, psychology, sociology, and genetics. Weitzman shows how this quest has been fraught since its inception with religious and political agendas, how anti-Semitism cast its long shadow over generations of learning, and how recent claims about Jewish origins have been difficult to disentangle from the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He does not offer neatly packaged conclusions but invites readers on an intellectual adventure, shedding new light on the assumptions and biases of those seeking answers—and the challenges that have made finding answers so elusive.

Englander, Nathan, *kaddish.com*, HUM ENG

The celebrated Pulitzer finalist and prize-winning author of *Dinner at the Center of the Earth* and *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank* delivers his best work yet, a streamlined comic masterpiece about a son's failure to say Kaddish for his father.

Larry is the secular son in a family of Orthodox Brooklyn Jews. When his father dies, it's his responsibility to recite the Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for the dead, every day for eleven months. To the horror and dismay of his sister, Larry refuses—imperilling the fate of his father's soul. To appease her, Larry hatches an ingenious if cynical plan, hiring a stranger through a website called *kaddish.com* to recite the prayer and shepherd his father's soul safely to rest.

Sharp, irreverent, hilarious, and wholly irresistible, Englander's tale of a son who makes a diabolical compromise ingeniously captures the tensions between tradition and modernity—a book to be devoured in a single sitting whose pleasures and provocations will be savoured long after.

Stone, Julius, *Letters to Australia: the radio Broadcasts (1942- 1972)* 2 volumes. HIS STO

Letters to Australia is a collection of Julius Stone's radio talks, originally broadcast by the ABC between 1942 and 1972. Recently discovered in the nation's archives, they take the reader back to the mid-20th century, bringing to life the people, events and the sweep of affairs during World War II and its turbulent aftermath, the hopes and fears of individuals and nations. They tell much of Australia's role in that world and that era. More than anyone else at that time, Julius Stone gave Australians a sense that they were part of the world and could, and should, seek to influence these events. Volumes 1 and 2 contain essays from the 1940s.

Volume 1 begins with 13 wartime broadcasts, given with war at its most threatening for Australia; they are a call to courage in dark times. The broadcasts became more nuanced when they resumed, in 1945 with the war almost won, and, over the remainder of the decade, they covered a wide range of issues – the complex aftermath of war, moves towards disarmament and the control of nuclear weapons, the shift of power from Britain and Europe to the US and USSR; the evolution of the Cold War; the birth of the United Nations; the first moves to European union, and the stirrings of the fundamentalist violence that is so large a part of today's conflicts.

Volume 2 completes the 1940s broadcasts, with a series on decolonisation, and a remarkable set of commentaries on the events and people nations and regions, starting with Europe and concluding with the Americas. The volume closes with a series of talks on the jurisprudence of international relations, and four insightful end-of-the-decade talks on the key challenges he believed must be met to maintain intellectual freedom, to counter the narrowness of indoctrination, to respond constructively to the threat of racial conflict, and to assert the value and power of gradual reform.

About the Author

Julius Stone (1907-1985) was Challis Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law at the University of Sydney from 1942 to 1972, then Adjunct Professor at the University of New South Wales, until his death. Hailed as one of the country's premier legal theorists, he argued strongly for an understanding and practice of law that would incorporate, as an integral part, concern for human rights and social justice. His thinking profoundly influenced generations of students who went on to leadership in the legal profession, and in the social, cultural and political life of Australia.