FOR ADULTS:

From Holiday Books:


Aspects of the Holiday:

Agnon, S. Y. *Present at Sinai: The Giving of the Law.* (JPS, 1994; ISBN: 0-8276-0503-X). “Agnon uses the events at Sinai as a prism through which to view Jewish theological tradition. The sampler he offers us encompasses biblical and Talmudic texts and commentaries, the whole sweep of the Midrash, Kabbalah, and Hasidism, as well as homiletic and pietistic writings of various periods down to our own time.”


**FOR YOUNGER READERS:**

*From Holiday Books:*


*Aspects of the Holiday:*

Cedarbaum, Sophia N. *Shavuot: The Birthday of the Torah*. Pictures by Clare and John Ross. (UAHC, 1976). Debbie and Danny make decorations, learn about the wheat harvest and attend Susan’s confirmation in a book that describes customs and activities surrounding Shavuot.

Cone, Molly. *Who Knows Ten?: Children’s Tales of the Ten Commandments*. Illustrated by Uri Shulevitz. (UAHC, 1965). This book “gives you a chance to find for yourself the many meanings inside each commandment.”

Klempner, Rebecca. *A Dozen Daisies for Raizy: A Shavuos Story*. Illustrated by Chava. (Hachai, 2008; ISBN: 978-1-929628-41-4). When Bubbe and Raizy shop for flowers for Shavuot (it is customary to decorate homes and synagogues with flowers because according to the Midrash, Mount Sinai was covered with flowers in honor of the giving of the Torah), Raizy decides to get a bunch of daisies. On her way home, she finds many opportunities to do mitzvot including inviting a new girl to help with her family’s celebration; inviting an elderly woman to share in a holiday meal, and offering to babysit so a neighbor can go to synagogue. She gives each person two daisies. When her brother criticizes the scant bouquet in the vase, their grandmother explains that it is a bouquet of mitzvot that “is half as big as it started out, but twice as beautiful.”


Rouss, Sylvia A. *Sammy Spider’s First Shavuot*. (Sammy Spider) Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn. (Kar-Ben (Lerner), 2008.; ISBN: 978-0-8225-7224-4). Sammy Spider is once again observing the Shapiro family. He sees Mrs. Shapiro make blintzes by following a recipe “step by step.” He sees Mr. Shapiro make strawberry topping, and he learns about the holiday of Shavuot which celebrates the giving of the Torah and bringing first fruits to the Temple. When Sammy goes to bed, he reviews his busy day of almost landing in blintzes, strawberries and flowers.

