Using Picture Books with Older Readers: A Selective Bibliography
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Holocaust
ISBN: 0930494202
Through moving photographs from the Yad Vashem Archives in Jerusalem, Israel, archivist Chana Byers Abells has created an unforgettable essay about the children who lived and died during the Holocaust. While it is a story of death and loss, it is also a story of courage and endurance, a story to be shared with today’s children.

ISBN 0827603258
In this allegory, the author’s reaction to the Holocaust, the animals of the forest are carried away, one type after another, by the Terrible Things, not realizing that if perhaps they would all stick together and not look the other way, such terrible things might not happen.

Retells the story of King Christian X and the Danish resistance to the Nazis during World War II.

Two Jewish sisters, escapees of the infamous Warsaw ghetto, devise a plan to thwart an attempt by the Gestapo to intercept food bound for starving people behind the dark Wall.

In Belgium during World War II, Willy becomes friends with Max and his Jewish family, and although they become separated, they remain related by a bond of friendship and a special painting.
A biography of the Jewish heroine, Luba Tryszynska, who saved the lives of more than fifty Jewish children in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during the winter of 1944/45.

Homebound by a harsh Warsaw winter and the Nazi threat, Rachel combats her boredom by painting flowers on the drab, cracked walls of her family's apartment. As the German occupation draws closer and the fate of her people grows more uncertain by the day, Rachel and her family find inspiration in the whimsical flowers that slowly take over the cramped apartment.

Patz, Nancy.  *Who was the woman who wore the hat?*  New York : Dutton Books, 2003
A meditation on a woman's hat once on display in the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam.

During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.

When members of the U.S. Army marched into Mauthausen concentration camp, they were presented with a U. S. flag that the prisoners had sewn together from scraps of sheets and jackets. Not having an American flag to look at, they added an extra row of stars.

Rachel's Oma (her grandmother) has two picture albums. In one the photographs show only happy times -- from after World War II, when she and her daughters had come to America. But the other album includes much sadder times from *before* -- when their life in Germany was destroyed by the Nazis' rise to power. For as long as Rachel can remember, Oma has closed the other album when she's gotten to the sad part. But today Oma will share it all. Today Rachel will hear about what her grandmother, her mother, and her aunts endured. And she'll see how the power of this Jewish family's love for one another gave them the strength to survive.
An old man recalls his childhood in the tree-lined city of Vilna, where his family escapes from the ghetto and is protected by the forests surrounding the town. Later, following immigration to Israel, the boy helps plant trees in his new desert homeland so that the country can once again become a sea of never-ending greenness.

**Tolerance and Understanding**
During the California Gold Rush Rosabel, an African American, and Sophie, a Jew, team up and search for gold to buy Rosabel's mother her freedom from a slave catcher.

When the Los Angeles riots break out in the streets of their neighborhood, a young boy and his mother learn the value of getting along with others no matter what their background or nationality.

After the last person has gone from the earth, sheep take over the world.

A retelling of a mother's account of what happened to her family during the Flash that destroyed Hiroshima in 1945.

Jewish Abe's grandfather wants him to be a violinist while African-American Willie's father plans for him to be a great baseball pitcher, but it turns out that the boys are more talented when they switch hobbies.

A Baptist preacher from Atlanta. A rabbi born in Poland. Their names came to stand for the struggle for justice and equality in the American civil rights movement.


I was born at the beginning of it all, on the Red side - the Communist side - of the Iron Curtain. Through annotated illustrations, journals, maps, and dreamscapes, Peter Sis shows what life was like for a child who loved to draw, proudly wore the red scarf of a Young Pioneer, stood guard at the giant statue of Stalin, and believed whatever he was told.


A boy recalls the day his deaf father saved everyone's life when fire broke out at the newspaper printing plant where he worked.

**Heroes**


During prayers, he would daydream; in school he was distracted; and at home he worried about what profession he should choose. But when the young Marc Chagall realized he had artistic talent, he translated his unusual way of looking at the world into color and shape.


Chronicles the life of Marc Chagall, a celebrated twentieth-century artist who was born in Russia.


A fictionalized account of the travels of Benjamin, a Jewish man from Tudela, Spain, who, in 1159, set out on a fourteen-year-long journey that took him to Italy, Greece, Palestine, Persia, China, Egypt, and Sicily.
Describes some events in the life of Sholom Aleichem, the Yiddish author who wrote stories about Jewish life in nineteenth-century Russia.

Immigration and Pioneer Life
Julie's grandmother deflates many of her husband's tall tales about their journey from Russia to America and their life on Hester Street.

When Carol Olivia visits her great-grandmother, she discovers the roots of her African-American heritage and hears about the many adventures of her Jewish ancestors.

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Holidays
Recounts the story of the Jewish leader Moses, from his birth until his leading of the slaves out of Egypt. Based on the Torah, Modern Commentary and the King James Bible.

Every year a family celebrates Hanukkah by retelling the story how Grandma and her sister managed to mark the day while in a concentration camp.

The Once-ler describes the results of the local pollution problem.

Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman.
Pearl Moscowitz takes a stand when the city government wants to chop down the last gingko tree on her street.

After a devastating fire in the hills of Oakland, California, during Sukkoth, a Jewish family and their neighbors find symbols of hope amidst the ashes.

**Stories and Philosophy**

A young boy leaves bagels in the Holy Ark for God to say thank you for providing the raw material. A beggar asks God to give him food and finds Benny’s bagels as an answer to his prayer.

A collection of fourteen tales about the folk hero Nasreddin Hoca, also known as Goha, a man with a reputation for being able to answer difficult questions in a clever way.

ISBN 0397316747
A retelling of the Jewish legend of the golem created by Rabbi Lev to protect the Jews of Prague from the angry mob.

Though mocked by the rest of the villagers, poor Schmuel, the shoemaker, turns out to be a very special person.

When two wise people leave their lonely, confused town to find out if God really does exist, they make an amazing discovery about where God can be found.

A very old overcoat is recycled numerous times into a variety of garments.
Retelling of the Mesopotamian story of Gilgamesh, another flood story.

**Israel**

A land once protected by all sorts of wonderful trees is reduced over time by war and environmental neglect to desert, until new inhabitants plant trees and slowly make Israel bloom again.

Although they live in different quarters of Jerusalem, a Jewish boy and a Muslim boy are surprised to discover that they have been caring for the same cat.

Surveys the history of the Jewish people in Palestine and their activities around the First and Second Temples, with an emphasis on events before 70 C.E.

Evokes the spirit of an ancient city, recalling David, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod, Hadrian, Constantine, Saladin, Suleiman, and the many groups who came to conquer, and observes that despite 3000 years of being battered, burned, and rebuilt, Jerusalem stands peacefully in the moonlight.

A young Jewish boy living in Jerusalem observes all the different people who make the city their home and wonders why they can't be friends.

Tali, who lives with her family in Jerusalem, is a very disappointed when her relatives from the United States decide that they won't come to her birthday party because of the situation in Israel.