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Notable and Prize-Winning Canadian Jewish Adult Fiction  
2010-2020

Compiled by Caroline Ingvaldsen, BA, MLS

Barwin, Gary. *Yiddish for pirates*. Toronto: Random House Canada, 2016.

2016 Scotiabank Giller Prize Shortlist.

2016 Governor General's Award for Literature Finalist

A hilarious pirate saga set in 1492 replete with puns, colourful language and Kabbalistic shenanigans.

Behrens, Peter. *Carry me*. Toronto: Penguin Random House, 2016

2016 Jewish Book Award Finalist

2017 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist

A childhood friendship evolves into a timeless romance in the years between the world wars.

Bezmozgis, David. *The betrayers*. Toronto: Little, Brown and Company, 2014.

2014 Scotiabank Giller Prize Shortlist

2014 JJ Greenberg Award for Fiction Winner, Jewish Book Council

2016 Vine Award for Canadian Jewish Literature Finalist

A day in the life of Baruch Kotler, disgraced Israeli politician, as he confronts personal and public disaster.

Bonert, Kenneth. *The lion seeker*. Toronto: Knopf Canada, 2014.

2014 Vine Award for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner

Isaac Helger, son of Lithuanian Jewish immigrants, struggles to find his path in Johannesburg against the backdrop of World War Two.

Botha, Danila. *For all the men (and some of the women) I've known*. Toronto: Tightrope Books, 2016.

2017 Trillium Book Awards Finalist

2017 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist

This collection of honest and heartfelt stories is engaging and thought-provoking.

Boyarsky, Abraham. *Through shadows slow*. Montreal: 8th House Publishing, 2019.

2020 Canadian Jewish Literary Award, Winner

Daniel, child survivor of the Shoah, makes a pilgrimage to Masada in his twilight years seeking truth and redemption.

Burstow, Bonnie. *The other Mrs. Smith*. Toronto: Inanna Publications, 2017.

2018 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist

Naomi's story begins with a happy childhood in Winnipeg's north end and unravels into miserable confusion in a mental health centre in Toronto.

Gelman, Laurie. *Class mom*. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2017.

2018 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner

An entertaining expose of the politics of being a class parent in an elementary school.

Gold, Nora. *Fields of exile*. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2014.

2015 Canadian Jewish Literary Awards, Winner

Political activist Judith confronts the academic hypocrisy of BDS and anti-Zionism on the campus of her Canadian university.

Kertes, Joseph. *The afterlife of stars*. Toronto: Penguin Canada, 2014.

2016 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist

Brothers Robert and Attila flee Budapest in the final months of the Hungarian Revolution.

Leavitt, Sarah. *Agnes, murderess*. Calgary: Freehand Books, 2019.

2020 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner

A graphic novel inspired by the grisly legend of Agnes McVee, roadhouse owner, madam and serial killer.

McGrath, Robin. *The winterhouse*. St. John's, Nfld.: Breakwater Books, 2010.

2010 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner

Set in a Newfoundland outport, the startling marriage of a fourteen year old orphan to a Jewish remittance man evolves into love.

Michaels, Sean. *Us conductors*. New York: Tin House Books, 2014.

2014 Scotiabank Giller Prize, Winner

2016 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist

The love story of Lev Termen and Clara Rockmore endures through the last century and across continents.

Morill, Natalie. *The ghost keeper*. Toronto: Harper Collins Canada, 2018.

2018 Canadian Jewish Literary Awards, Winner

Survivors of the Shoah, Josef Toback and his family return to Vienna to confront the past.

Pick, Alison. *Far to go*. Toronto: Harper Collins Canada, 2011.

2011 Vine Award for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner

Pavel Bauer and his family struggle as the rising tide of Nazism consumes the Sudetenland.

Richler, Nancy. *The imposter bride*. Toronto: Harper Collins Canada, 2013  
2013 Vine Award for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner  
Abandoned as an infant, a young woman searches for the truth behind her mother's disappearance from post-war Montreal.

Robson, Jennifer. *The Gown: a novel of the Royal Wedding*. New York, William Morrow, 2018.  
2019 Canadian Jewish Literary Award, Winner  
The story of celebrated textile artist and Holocaust survivor Miriam Dassin and the most famous wedding dress of the mid-twentieth century.

Rosenblum, Rebecca. *So much love*. Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 2017.  
2017 Trillium Book Award, Finalist  
After a dramatic escape from months in captivity, Catherine confronts the aftermath of tragedy.

Rothman, Claire Holden. *Lear's shadow*. Toronto: Penguin Random House, 2018.  
2018 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Winner  
The tribulations of aging fathers and their grown daughters transcend the centuries.

Rubin, Eric Beck. *School of velocity*. Toronto: Doubleday Canada, 2016.  
2017 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist  
Virtuoso pianist Jan de Vries confronts his demons and returns to his first love.

Samuel, Sigal. *The mystics of Mile End*. New York: William Morrow, 2015.  
2016 Canadian Jewish Literary Awards, Winner  
At the cusp of adolescence, Lev Meyer grows up in his half-Hasidic, half-hipster Montreal neighbourhood.

Silcoff, Mireille. *Chez l'arabe: stories*. Toronto: House of Anansi, 2014.  
2015 Canadian Jewish Literary Awards, Winner  
2016 Vine Awards for Canadian Jewish Literature, Finalist  
The story of a young woman suffering chronic illness in a series of linked stories set in middle class Montreal.