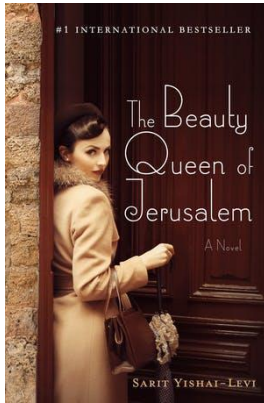


Beth Am Book Club: Book List 2021-2022 (5782)

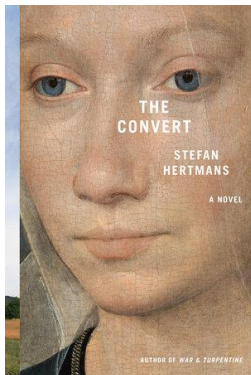
The Beauty Queen of Jerusalem by Sarit Yishai-Levi; translated by Anthony Berris. **November 9**

A long-time bestseller in Israel, this novel is a multi-generational saga, the story of a family of Sephardic Jews living in Jerusalem from the early 20th century when the Turks ruled Palestine, through the years of the British Mandate and the establishment of the State of Israel, to the early 1970s. (Soon to be a serial-TV show by the same production company as **Shtisel**) .

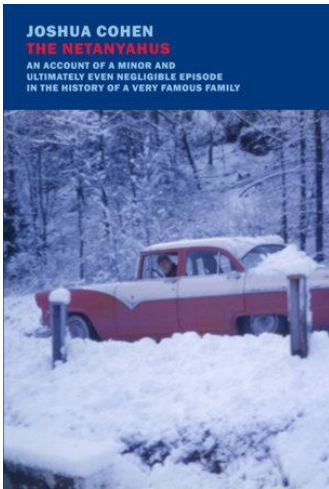


The Convert by Stefan Hertmans; translated by David McKay **Jan 11**

Based on fragments from the Cairo Genizah—a repository of more than three hundred thousand documents stored in the synagogue in Old Cairo—Stefan Hertmans has pieced together a remarkable work of imagination, re-creating the tragic story of distinguished Christian noblewoman who abandons her life for the love of a Jewish man. Blending fact and fiction, Hertmans brings the Middle Ages to life.

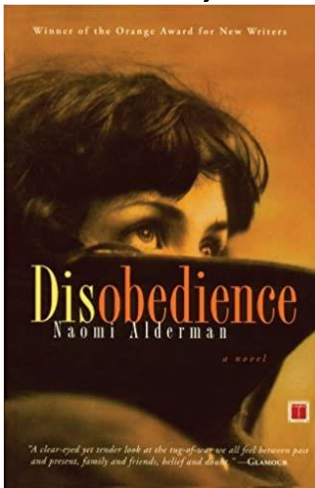


The Netanyahus: An Account of a Minor and Ultimately Even Negligible Episode in the History of a Very Famous Family by Joshua Cohen Feb 8



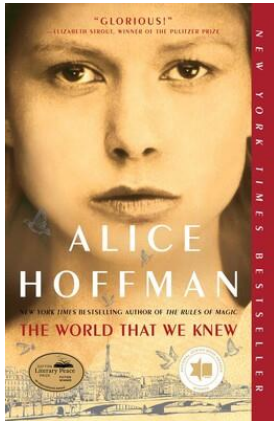
Described as a hilarious, breathtaking, laugh out-loud book, **The Netanyahus** is a fictionalized account of the time in the late 1950s when Benzion Netanyahu, father of former Prime Minister Benhamin Netanyahu, arrived in the United States seeking an academic position. Critical descriptions include a "generational campus novel", an "academic lecture", a "rigorous meditation on Jewish identity, a "polemic on Zionism," but most of all: funny.

Disobedience by Naomi Alderman April 12



The close-knit Orthodox Jewish community in London is the setting for a revealing look at religion and sexuality in this award-winning debut novel. The author described the book as: "A novel about the meeting place between religion and modern life, between sexuality and spirituality, between our own desires and the demands of the communities we live in and the God we worship. It's about the importance of changing, and the things that we inevitably lose when we do. It is about the power of silence and the power of speech, and the quintessential human characteristic of disobedience." (A film starring Rachel Weisz and Rachel McAdams is available.)

***The World That We Knew* by Alice Hoffman May 10**



On the brink of World War II, with the Nazis tightening their grip on Berlin, a mother's act of courage and love offers her daughter a chance of survival, this novel is described as a "spellbinding portrait of what it means to be human in an inhuman world."