**Diversify Your Reading**

**Jewish Experience**

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**All But My Life by Gerda Weissmann Klein**

15-year-old Gerda was living an idyllic life when the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, and she and her family were sent to the camps. This is the unforgettable story of her six-year ordeal.

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**A Backpack, A Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka by Lev Golinkin**

The vivid, darkly comic, and poignant story of a young boy in the confusing and often chilling final decade of the Soviet Union and the story of Lev Golinkin, the American man who finally confronts his buried past.

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**The Color of Love by Marra B. Gad**

In 1970, three-day-old Marra was adopted by a white Jewish family in Chicago. For her parents, it was love at first sight—but they quickly realized the world wasn’t ready for a family like theirs. Marra’s biological mother was unwed, white, and Jewish, and her biological father was black.

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**Inheritance by Dani Shapiro**

In the spring of 2016, through a genealogy website to which she had whimsically submitted her DNA for analysis, Dani Shapiro received the stunning news that her father was not her biological father. She woke up one morning and her entire history—the life she had lived—crumbled beneath her.

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**Little Failure by Gary Shteyngart**

The all too true story of an immigrant family betting its future on America, as told by a lifelong misfit who finally finds a place for himself in the world through books and words.

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**The Orpheus Clock by Simon Goodman**

The passionate, gripping, true story of one man’s single-minded quest to reclaim what the Nazis stole from his family, their beloved art collection, and to restore their legacy.
The Pawnbroker’s Daughter by Maxine Kumin

Against all odds, Kumin channels her dissatisfaction with the life that is expected of her as a wife and a mother into her work as a feminist and one of the most renowned and remembered twentieth-century American poets.

Pumpkinflowers by Matti Friedman

The hill, in Lebanon, was called the Pumpkin; flowers was the military code word for “casualties.” Award-winning writer Matti Friedman re-creates the harrowing experience of a band of young Israeli soldiers charged with holding this remote outpost.

Sababa: Fresh, Sunny Flavors From My Israeli Kitchen by Adeena Sussman

In Hebrew (derived from the original Arabic), sababa means “everything is awesome,” and it’s this sunny spirit with which the American food writer and expat Adeena Sussman cooks and dreams up meals in her Tel Aviv kitchen.

When Rabbis Bless Congress by Howard Mortman

An unprecedented examination of 160 years of Jewish prayers delivered in the literal and figurative center of American democracy. It uniquely tells the story of over 400 rabbis giving over 600 prayers since the Civil War days—who they are and what they say.

White Walls by Judy Batalion

Confronted with the daunting task of raising a daughter after her own dysfunctional childhood, Batalion reflects on not only her own upbringing but the lives of her mother and grandmother, Jewish Polish immigrants who escaped the Holocaust.

Why Not Say What Happened by Morris Dickstein

Morris Dickstein evokes his boisterous and close-knit Jewish family, his years as a yeshiva student that eventually led to fierce rebellion, his teenage adventures in the Catskills and in a Zionist summer camp, and the later education that thrust him into a life-changing world of ideas and far-reaching literary traditions.