



Melel Publishing House

www.jonyavin.com

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Jonathan Yavin

Author & Publisher



Lecture at Google Israel, 2022

2023 Catalogue



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About Jonathan Yavin



Jonathan Yavin is an Israeli author of 17 best-selling books for children, YA and adults. He was a journalist for 27 years in local and national newspaper as well as a TV and radio persona. He is a literary translator (*3 Men in a Boat*, *Tarzan* and others). His books are bestsellers even 20 years after their publication. Jonathan's most successful book, *Pumpkin the Kitten* sold over **200,000 copies** and reached platinum. He was awarded **The Prime Minister literary award**, 2012.

So far, Jonathan's books were translated into Arabic, French, German, Chinese, Japanese and English. Jonathan's show for children, "Literary Standup Comedy" is successfully active in schools for over a decade and many of his books are in the curriculum. "I value honesty and clear communication with children," says Jonathan. "You should always tell them the truth, fitted for their age, even if it's not pleasant. Just try to make it funny."



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Newest: *A Night at the Playground*

Children's book, February 2021



What a strange boy he is, Ben Guggenheim!

He always wants things when it's not the right time!

Ben persuades his parents to go to the playground at night. Only then does he understand the logic of grown-ups, while his parents are reminded it's good to have fun sometimes...

Ages 4-9, 32pp.

Illustrations: **Aviel Basil.**

Am-Oved Publishers, 2021.

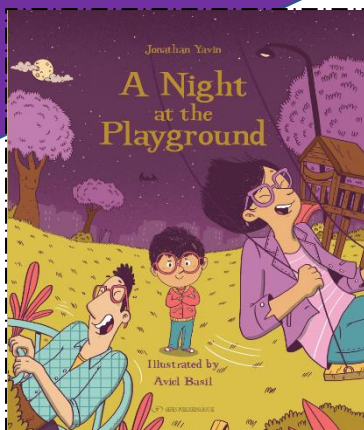
Achievements: 1st edition sold within 6 months.

Elected for the Board of Education's "Book Parade".

Translations: English USA (due 2023).

Rights availability: All other languages.

Representation: [Assia Literary Agency](#)



USA edition



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When I Grow Up...



An amusingly rhymed catalog of professions, over 10 re-prints! Grandma asks her grandson what he wants to be when he grows up and he is baffled. Each profession is described and there's also a reason why *not* to choose it.

Ages 4-8.

Co-written with **Nevo Ziv**.

Illustrations: **Na'ama Peleg**.

36pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2002.

Rights availability:

All languages/territories.

Representation: directly by author.



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Pumpkin the Kitten



Amazing bestseller!
220K copies and counting...

A boy afraid of cats can't resist Pumpkin, a shelter kitten his father brings home. A story about false fears of the unknown.

Ages 4-8.

Illustrations: **Gilad Soffer**.

32pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2004.

Achievements:

* PJ Library grand issue

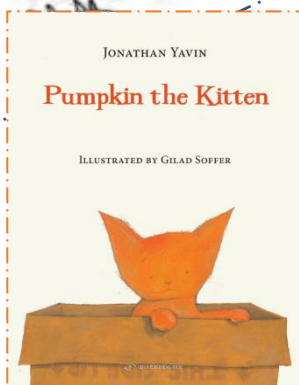
* **Platinum book**

* TV adaptation

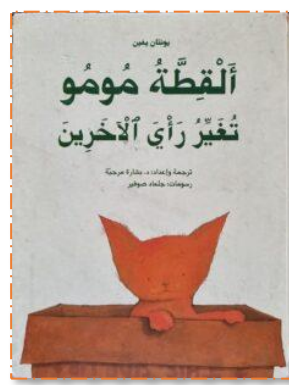
Translations: Arabic (2006), English USA (2023).

Rights availability: All other languages.

Representation: [Assia Literary Agency](http://AssiaLiteraryAgency.com)



USA edition



Arabic edition

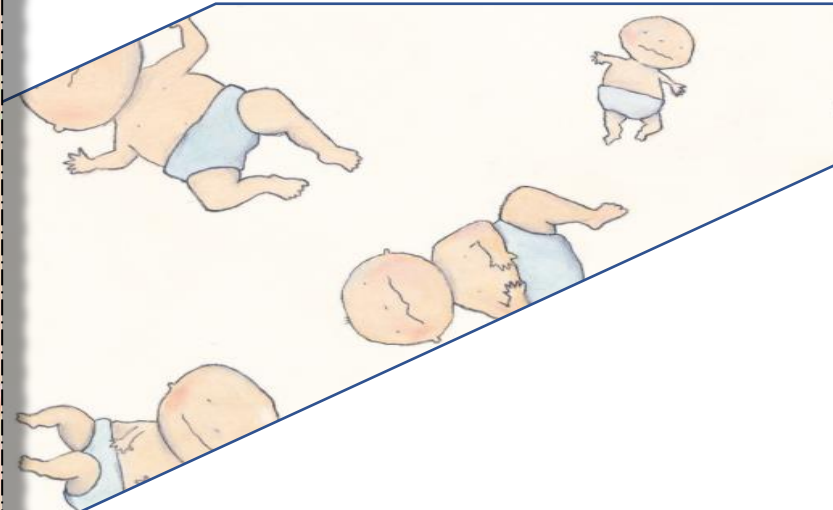


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Oh, Brother



A new baby arrives and the now first-born sister feels left-aside. She persuades her parents to take him back to the hospital and swap it, and they agree! Or do they...?

Ages 3-6.

Illustrations: **Gilad Soffer.**

32pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2005.

Achievements:

- * The Israeli Museum Illustration prize.
- * Huge best-seller, over 10 re-prints.

Rights availability:

All languages/territories.

Representation: [Assia Literary Agency](#)



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When Sad was Sad



Noa is sad over some silly nonsense, so Dad makes up a silly nonsense story to pull her out of it. A sad golden fish named Bleak saves the day! 6 re-prints and counting...

Ages 4-8.

Illustrations: **Gilad Soffer**.

32pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2008.

Rights availability:

All languages/territories.

Representation: [Assia Literary Agency](http://AssiaLiteraryAgency.com)



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In the Neighborhood



The neighborhood's kids are running around looking for an adventure, old school! A salutation to the 1980's childhood.

Ages 4-8.

Illustrations: **Noam Nadav**.

32pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2010.

Rights availability:

All languages/territories.

Representation: directly by author.



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Dorri the Dragon



Dorri dreams he's a dragon, and decides to keep at it all day... he misbehaves at home and kindergarten and learns why being alone can get lonely. Good thing vanilla ice-cream helps cool down dragons ...

Ages 4-8.

32pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2013.

Illustrations: **Ofer Getz**.

Rights availability:

All languages/territories.

Representation: directly by author.

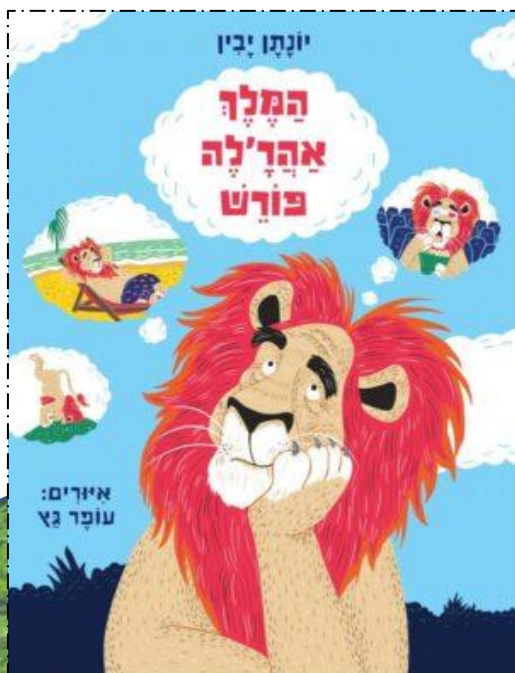


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King Leo Retires



Chinese edition

King Leo's had it with running the jungle!

He retires and the animals form a terribly disfunctional government... Leo doesn't enjoy sitting around either...

Ages 4-9.

32pp. Kinneret-Zmora Publishers, 2015.

Illustrations: **Ofer Getz.**

Translations: Chinese (2018).

Rights availability:

All other languages.

Representation: [Assia Literary Agency](http://AssiaLiteraryAgency.com)

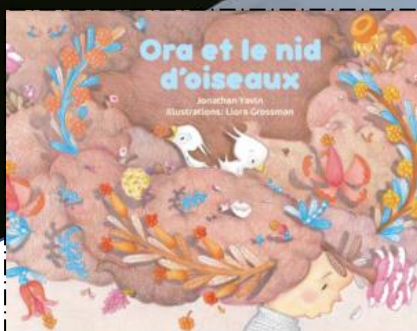


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Cockatoo Hairdo



French edition



German edition

Ra'ama's hair has a mind of its own. One morning two hatchlings are in it... and they don't know where their mother is!

Ages 4-8.

Illustrations: **Liora Grossman**.

36pp. Am-Oved Publishers, 2017.

Translations: German (2017), French (2017).

Rights availability:

All languages/territories including German and French (rights retrieved to author).

Representation: Directly by author.



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Young Adults

Golden Ones



428pp. 2011, Am Oved Publishers,
Representation: directly by author

Anti

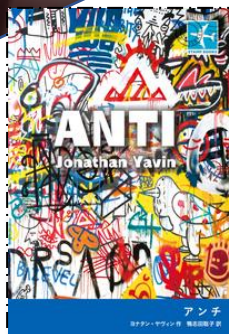


247pp. 2011, Am Oved Publishers,
Representation: [ITHL](http://ITHL.com)

Love vs. Friendship



216pp. 2011, Miskal PH,
Representation: Directly by author



Japanese edition

Jonathan's 3 fiction novels for young adults met with an enthusiastic crowd and critics. Specifically, their power to touch young hearts was repeatedly mentioned. **Golden Ones** is a classic "whodunnit" boarding-school thriller; **Anti** - a hardcore realistic rap tale; **Love vs. Friendship** - a romantic comedy for boys... Regardless of its heavy-weight onset of a suicide in the family (the uncle), **Anti** was translated into Japanese. "Young adults ache to be listened to and are looking for books that will affirm what they think matters and what they feel is okay," says Jonathan.



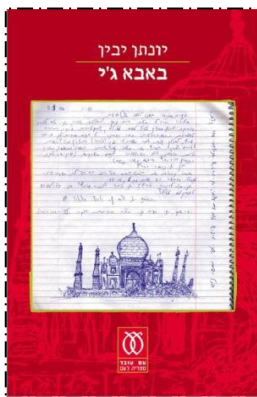
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Fiction Novels

Baba Gee



369pp. 2004, Am Oved PH

House-Sitter



357pp. 2011, Am Oved PH

The Misanthropist



479pp. 2014, Kinneret-Zabam PH

Loyal to None but Himself



348pp. 2022, Melel PH

Jonathan's 4 fiction novels are literary events *per se*. His unique worldly ability to write about the human condition won him a crowd of devotees that is growing by the day. His mastering of the Hebrew languages is repeatedly acknowledged and has gained praises from key Israeli authors like **David Grossman, A.B.**

Yehoshua, Dorit Rabinian, Haim Be'er and others. His 2nd novel, *House-Sitter* has won the Prime Minister Literary Award 2012.

His novels are smartly plotted, humorously edgy, cruel at times; he mercilessly dives head first into sensitive themes like father and son issues, existential insignificance, cultural violence and loyalty & betrayal in his new and highly praised novel, *Loyal to None but Himself*.