



Bookstop

Publishing Agency

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OUR STORY

Bookstop Publishing was established in 2024 by Orna Landau, an experienced editor and publisher offering a dynamic vision for a rapidly evolving literary landscape. From its start, the new publishing house incorporated two well-respected imprints: Afik—a boutique publisher for quality Hebrew literature founded in 2012 by Yiftach Aloni—and The Hedgehog and the Fox—an elite non-fiction series edited by Shmuel Rosner (who discovered Yuval Noah Harari, among others). Together, these imprints formed a diverse foundation of contemporary fiction, poetry, and non-fiction, championing bold new voices alongside well-established ones, all while maintaining the highest standards of literary selection and editing.

In 2026, Bookstop Publishing expanded its focus by launching the Bookstop Publishing Literary Agency. Founded with a clear mission to serve as a bridge between local talent and the international publishing community, the agency introduces the unique voices of writers in the Hebrew language to readers around the globe. It manages foreign rights, translations, and international representation for exceptional manuscripts that carry a universal appeal.

WHO WE ARE



Orna Landau Founder & Publisher

An experienced editor, author, and publisher Orna previously headed the Translated Fiction department at Kinneret Zmora Publishing, and was a founding partner of another small publishing house before establishing Bookstop Publishing house and Litereary Agency.

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Noa Ilsar Foreign Rights Manager

An experienced literary professional specializing in international publishing, managing global rights, translations, and building strategic partnerships with overseas publishers to bring Hebrew literature to the global stage.

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THE LEGEND OF ATARA

Dafna Barshilon

Published 2026, 192 pp

Shahar, a young woman working in a small museum in a northern valley, is fascinated by the story of the pioneer Atara Sturman. Armed with a nostalgic playlist, Shahar sets out on a journey to both change history and preserve it.

Outrageous, courageous and completely original, *The Legend of Atara* is a bold literary act that weaves history, fantasy, and humor. The book has been applauded by critics and has already received multiple prizes and awards.

The Legend of Atara is Dafna Barchilon's third novel. Her previous novels won the Culture Ministry Prize for debut novels, and the prestigious National Library scholarship for authors.

FROM THE PRESS

"Dafna Barchilon is a natural storyteller...This is a book about how the narrative transcends historical truth; about a world that has lost the desire to understand what actually happened and prefers the 'correct' narrative." **Ruth Kupfer, Calcalist**

"The book is excellent, and I could not put it down.... It is historical and contemporary, feminist and self-aware, amusing and moving. It is about Atara Sturman, 'a pioneer with a weapon and bereavement,' who 'did not go down well' with academics in the field. And about the wonderful Shahar, who tries to save her from 'the deadened death.'" **Shani Poker, Haaretz Daily**

Barchilon has written funny and unconventional characters... Barchilon possesses an excellent ear for the mannerisms of the zeitgeist, for bragging, and for arrogance ('she answered me that, as is well known, she is currently teaching at Princeton')... . The result is a wonderful parody of Israel in the current decade." **Tzlil Abraham, Haaretz Daily**

אגדת עטרה דפנה ברשילון





WHY DIDN'T I SAY NO

Ido Hefetz

Published 2025, 200 pp

The critically acclaimed second book by award-winning novelist **Ido Hefetz** examines how a single moment of inaction can determine the course of a person's life. In beautiful prose, he discusses morality and courage in what is most certainly one of the most thought-provoking novels on what it is to be a woman, written by a man.

Ido Hefetz is an author and a teacher. His debut book has won the Culture Ministry prize for emerging authors.

FROM THE PRESS

One of the book's greatest strengths is its lack of pathos. Hefetz does not offer a journey of redemption. The turning point does not lead from bad to good... He promises the readers only this: change. And he delivers. In doing so, he distances himself from the Hollywood model where the character must "win." Here, change is life itself, in all its complexity.

Reading the book is like walking a narrow path with an abyss on either side... It allows readers to linger within the confusion, within the question that Anna returns to time and again: "Why didn't I say no." This question, which becomes the book's title, is not just a narrative engine but also a cultural mirror: it reflects the gap between the social expectation for a "correct" response and the psychological complexity of the moment.

Ido Hefetz positions himself as one of the bravest and most precise voices in contemporary Hebrew prose. **Dr. Sigal Naor, Israel Hayom Daily**

"When you'll read this book you will find it hard to believe it was written by a man". **Maya Levin, L'aisha Magazine**



IN THE LANDS OF THE LIVING

By: Esti Halperin Maimon

Published 2026, 208 pp

A baby is born in Jerusalem during Covid, The mother remains in the hospital for post-birth for medical care, while the baby is released home. When the mother is reunited with her baby, she has an odd feeling: this is not her baby. Her baby smelled differently. Or did he? If this is her baby, what kind of mother is she if she cannot recognize him? And if he isn't, where is her real baby and what has become of him? Especially in a city like Jerusalem. He could be anywhere or anyone, being raised as an orthodox Jew, or perhaps an Arab, or a Christian...

In this brilliant prose, in ways that are simultaneously delicate and unsettling, the author weaves some fundamental questions and truths regarding motherly love, belonging, and faith.

Esti Halperin Maimon is a clinical psychologist. **In the Lands of the Living** is her fourth book.

FROM THE PRESS

"... Halperin Maimon's new novel describes the diverse range of identities among the people living here. A child will grow up ultra-Orthodox, or a settler, an Arab or a liberal, depending on the family they happen to land in.

In his book "The God Delusion", English biologist Richard Dawkins shows how absurd religious belief is, given that it always depends on where a person is raised...Is there a real, essential meaning to the biological-genetic identity of a child born to specific parents? Do we "order" our children's traits in advance, or is every birth a kind of lottery?

"We always adopt our children," the speaker realizes at a certain point in her struggle with herself, and it becomes clear to her that she might have to come to terms with this insight. I read the book almost in one sitting, and enjoyed every single page!

Ofra Ofer Oren, Sapir prize winner



THE MELTING POINT

By: Esti Halperin Maimon

Published 2025, 183 pp

Esti Halperin Maimon's third novel. Maimon, a critically acclaimed author and a clinical psychologist, brings a deep psychological perspective into the world of fiction. *The Melting Point* examines complex human dynamics and relationships in a highly literary book that can be read either as a novel about marriage – the complexities of the mundane - or one about the Hubris that led to October 7th.

The Melting Point was listed as one of the best books of 2025 by Makor Rishon Daily and was praised by the critics.

FROM THE PRESS

"One of the most beautiful books I read this year... Here there is a breakthrough of a different kind. Not of yet another original representation, but of the subject matter itself. ... The form is part of the content, and the story is told in the first-person plural... The writing in the plural form is not just a gimmick. It goes straight to the heart, causing a simple plot to turn into a detective story, where the double narrator is both all-knowing and lost in the dark ... This story of a bourgeois couple is one of the best books of the year."

Galit Chomsky, Makor Rishon Daily

"Esti Halperin Maimon's beautiful book *Melting Point*, which indeed does not deal with the national trauma but touches upon its margins, by sketching the face of Israeli society. ... Similar to Tolstoy's mid-19th-century story "*The Death of Ivan Ilyich*", Here too, the narrator settles accounts with bourgeois society. Must we wait for the collapse of the house's roof, literal or metaphorical, to observe our lives this way? And perhaps one can read this book, delivering what important and good literature ought to do." **Dr. Sigal Naor, Israel Hayom Daily**

"The choice to write in the first-person plural creates a shared consciousness... thus turning a simple story of construction damage into an existential mystery." **Pnina Gefen, Makor Rishon**



PARIS SQUARE

By: Zvi Friedlander

Published 2025, 233 pp

On the eve of the great social protest of 2011, the many heroes of this novel converge upon Paris Square in Jerusalem: young, innocent, and dreaming revolutionary activists; members of the supportive yet feeble bourgeois class; the touching ailing mentor of the revolutionary spirit; and one Frau Holle: a four-hundred-year-old vampire plotting her next victim amidst this campaign.

In an unprecedented manner, Zvi Friedlander weaves a theatrical novel in three acts. With sharp and meticulous realism, he connects historical and fantastical worlds, moving with linguistic virtuosity between the intricacies of Jewish-Israeli jargon, with its multitude of component voices and perspectives, and various literary genres; from horror and science fiction to poetry and speech. The humor, unique language, and narrative wildness of his writing hand are truly addictive.

Paris Square is **Zvi Friedlander's** debut novel. It has been applauded by critics and received multiple literary prizes including the Israeli Prize for Literature for debut novels and the JNF award.

From the Press

"Friedlander is endowed with linguistic skill, a rich imagination, and a refreshing tendency to deviate from literary conventions. I am already curious to know what the next stop on his literary journey will be." **Omri Hertzog, Haaretz Daily**

"A powerful and sophisticated debut book, the likes of which I have not encountered in recent years." **Aviv Fetter, Ma'ale**

"Paris Square, the debut novel of Zvi Friedlander, is an extraordinary book." **Ayal Hayut-Man, Israel Hayom Daily**



DISCHARGE LETTERS

By: Shahar Peled

Published 2025, 248 pp

Asaf is a young doctor. For years, he has been secretly in love with Sharon, his best friend Yaniv's sister.

Just moments before his residency begins, Asaf wins a bet against Yaniv: the resuscitation he participates in is successful. He calls Yaniv to tell him, but Yaniv doesn't answer. When Asaf's phone rings, he already knows something terrible has happened, and indeed, Yaniv has died in a car accident in Germany, on his way to be interviewed for his residency.

Aching, in love, trying his best, fighting until the very end, facing disappointment, and sometimes succeeding, Asaf encounters parts of himself in his patients. As it addresses the hospitalization process - from the admission, through the background story, and up to the discharge, *Discharge Papers* is an original, thought-provoking, and emotionally stirring work that reads like a thriller and stays with the reader long after.

Shahar Peled is a 29 year old Doctor, and **Discharge Letters** is his debut novel.

FROM THE PRESS

"A brilliant, profound, and captivating book that introduces us to the world of medicine and the professional and personal life of a hospital doctor, while contemplating the connection between the medical and the personal by fusing the story of a resident physician with the stories of several of his patients. The hospital is a meeting place for extreme stories. People meet their fate there. They and their doctors fight the Angel of Death. Their families face a test. A variety of patients represents a variety of existential themes, and the book tackles all of them successfully." **Tzur Erlich. Makor Rishon Daily**



THE DREAM AND THE HOUSE

By: Rina Greenwald

First Published, 2019, 208 pp

A woman who is going through a mid-life crisis, trying to keep it together by obsessively fixing her beloved house. But as she starts to investigate the history of the house, she uncovers the secrets hidden within its walls. An elegant and restrained plot, woven with pain, passion, detachment, and love.

Rina Greenwald is an editor and a novelist. She started publishing seven years ago, when she was already in her late sixties and has since published five novels. **The Dream and the House**, her debut novel, was published by Kinneret-Zmora publishing and had won the Culture Ministry's Prize for emerging authors.

FROM THE PRESS

"Was the purchase of these lands moral? Is it possible, from a comprehensive historical perspective, to justify the establishment of the home? Who truly has a right to it?"

'Palestine glimmers somewhere in the East like a gemstone' — this is how the narrator imagines the thoughts of the Jew who purchased the place, after he decided to flee Berlin not long before the outbreak of World War II. Can one deny the right of the persecuted to find themselves a refuge? But what about those who lived there and were dispossessed?

The novel before us attempts to touch upon all of these questions, and it does so with sensitivity and talent.

Ofra Ofer Oren, sapir prize winner

THE WONDERFUL LIFE OF AUNT MONA

By: Tamar Tessler

Published 2025, 190 pp

A beautifully illustrated work tracking the whimsical, fascinating, and colorful life story of aging Hollywood star Aunt Mona. Through evocative visual and narrative storytelling, the book captures a rich world of memory and glamour, all taking place in the haunted English countryside.

The Wonderful Life of Aunt Mona is based on the life story of the author's aunt, Haya Harrarit, a Hollywood star in the 50's who was married to Oscar winning director Jack Clayton.

FROM THE PRESS

"In addition to being a sensitive and wise novel, *The Wonderful Life of Aunt Mona* raises questions about belonging and foreignness, family, tribalism, parenting, and femininity. Through the two artists, the actress aunt and the photographer niece, themes also arise concerning the roles of art and criticism, and the relationship between the artist and their audience, in a prose devoid of pretension." **Moshe Akirav, Makor Rishon Daily**

"A book on glamour that exacts a price, and on the choice between a life of creativity and a normative routine." **Dafna Levi, Israel Hayom daily**



COMING
SOON

A STORY THAT BEGINS WITH THE DEATH OF A WOMAN

By: H. A. Liberman

To be Published in October

When journalist Alex discovers that her deceased mother left a vast portion of her estate to an anonymous charity, she uncovers clues that force her to realize she knew very little about her mother, or herself.

London, (2000). Young journalist Alex Barron's life unravels when she discovers her partner of seven years has been unfaithful to her, in the same week her mother, Serena — an esteemed historian — dies of cancer. When Alex discovers that Serena bequeathed a significant portion of her estate to an unknown Israeli educational non-profit, "The Purple House", Alex is sure some sort of foul play is involved. She is even more confused when her father, Bernard, reacts with hostility to her questions and secretly searches Serena's empty house. Then, in the attic, she finds an old box of documents from the 1940's. Alex embarks on a journey to find out what happened to her inheritance, or at the very least, the truth.

A Story That Begins with the Death of a Woman is a novel that follows two story lines that merge together only at the very end: one takes place in the Warsaw ghetto and the other almost 60 years later, in London and Tel Aviv. Fast paced and full of twists, this historical novel explores how the characters' lives were shaped over three generations by choices of love, loyalty, and sacrifice rather than bloodlines, posing the central question: Does the family we are born into define us, or rather the family we choose to create?



JUST ONE MORE LOVE

By: Orna Landau

First published 2009, 302 pp

Is it possible to be a mother and keep dreaming? To be married for five years, or ten, and still feel excitement? Passion? And what are you supposed to do with all the longings, fears, and desires? You are a mother now. But are you still... you?

They befriended each other because of the kids' kindergarten. Once a month, on Friday mornings, they meet. Five women chatting over a cup of coffee – how dangerous could that really be?

In **Just One More Love**, best-selling author **Orna Landau** describes the lives of women who have “happy families.” She does so with candor, empathy, and humor, in a touching book that is impossible to put down.

Just One More Love, Orna's debut novel, became an instant bestseller upon its publication over a decade ago. It sold over 25,000 copies and has received critical acclaim.

Orna Landau is an author, editor and publisher – owner and CEO of Bookstop Publishing, and a standup comedian at times. She has written eight books for adults and children. Some of her work has been translated into English and German. She has lived in the US and more recently splits her time between Tel Aviv and Rome.

FROM THE PRESS

“A very, very real and wise book.” **Dana Spector**,
Yedioth Ahronot Daily

“Hits and stings exactly in the right places... Chick lit at its very best” **Ran Ben-Nun**, **Yedioth Aharonot Daily**

“Wonderfully written, highly recommended.” **Keren Neubach**,
Public Radio



DROR MUST DIE

By: Raz Calmanovici

Published 2025, 191 pp

A captivating debut novel, compared to 'The Hundred-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared' and 'The League of Pensioners'.

Dalia, an elderly woman in her 70's, suspects that her good-for-nothing son is trying to declare her unfit so that he can evacuate her from her house. With the help of her neighbor and a Romanian ex-Securitate grocery shop owner, she embarks on a mission, trying to follow and decipher her son's actions and motives, while finding out the truth that really boils down to one eminent question: if she has to choose between herself and her only son, what would her choice be?

FROM THE PRESS

"Dror Must Die is, imagine that, indeed a comic revenge drama — the sweet kind that leaves you with a lingering smile. This is especially true when discovering, to one's great relief (spoiler alert), that Dror doesn't actually have to die, and that a chain of amusing misunderstandings leads to a happy, even moving, ending.

The aforementioned smile did not leave my face throughout the entire reading... This is a kind-hearted story about a cold-hearted world, which can be defeated with all the right ingredients: love, compassion, empathy, friendship, good neighborliness and a bit of self-deprecating and general humor." **Yaron Fried, Maariv Daily**

"The perfect book that delivers everything expected from a suspense comedy... This is a lovely and amusing book that passes the time excellently." **Ayelet Lahav, Yedioth Ahronoth Daily**



BURNT EDGES

By: Michal Kreitler

Published 2023, 2026, 208 pp

Split Ends is a family drama about motherhood, loss, and second chances.

Sixteen years ago, Etti Amsalem gave birth to a baby girl who had been taken from her shortly after birth. Since then, she has lived with grief, guilt, and the gradual disintegration of her family. One day, she receives an unexpected phone call: her daughter is alive.

The baby had been abducted from the hospital and raised by another woman in Italy. Now, after sixteen years, mother and daughter may meet for the first time and attempt to build a relationship between two lives that were never meant to be separated.

As old wounds resurface, both women must confront questions of identity, belonging, forgiveness, and what it truly means to be a mother and daughter.

Combining psychological depth with emotional intensity, *Split Ends* explores the devastating consequences of loss and the fragile possibility of repairing a broken family.

Split Ends has sold over seven thousand copies, became a digital bestseller, and won the support of the Rabinowitz Foundation and the Culture Ministry prize for debut novels in 2024.

Michal Kreitler is a novelist, translator, and psychologist. She holds a Ph.D. in Psychology from Tel Aviv University.

FROM THE PRESS

"The light in Kreitler's story ultimately prevails, transforming a dark and morbid premise into an optimistic novel." **Yaron Fried, Maariv Daily**



BEGINNER'S LUCK

By: Reut Weiss

First published 2024, 331 pp

A young woman living in a small village accidentally discovers that horoscopes she writes for the local paper turn out to be a reality. Sort of...

A witty and original romantic comedy that spins a fast-paced plot full of humor and self-awareness about relationships, coincidences, and life's hidden opportunities.

Beginners Luck won the Gefen Prize, and was listed among the top 100 best sellers in digital format and also among the 100 best loved books two years in a row. It was also named book of the year by leading book clubs.

FROM THE PRESS

"Witty, light, and engaging writing." **Atmosfera Magazine**

"Beginner's Luck has become a bestseller, and it is no surprise. Weiss has created a delightful romantic comedy that includes all the right ingredients: a charming and relatable heroine, a sensitive and handsome hero, a compelling central plot (woven with a variety of amusing subplots) and above all - truly funny comic writing. Weiss has merged all of these into a book with a huge heart, which succeeds in entering the hearts of its readers." **Israel Hayom Daily**



WHY IS THERE EVIL IN THE WORLD?

Published 2024, 219 pp

Rights sold: English, Italian

In his new book, Professor Israel Knohl, author of multiple books that have gained world-wide success, wanders the biblical stage, this time asking the big question: Why is there evil in the world?

In search of answers, Knohl combines archaeology, mythology, history and theology, weaving them seamlessly into a fascinating book.

Professor Israel Knohl is a bible scholar and historian at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is the author of more than ten books. His most famous book, *The Messiah before Jesus: The Suffering Servant of the Dead Sea Scrolls* won him international success and was translated into 17 languages.

FROM THE PRESS

"...Brilliant, fascinating, and full of momentum. Knohl, as is his way, aims high. He combines thematic discussions with textual analyses. He guides us through various chapters: from the primordial stories, through historiography (and the accountability for the Destruction), prophecy (especially First and Second Isaiah), and up to wisdom literature (and Job, which deconstructs it)."

"... the book binds two questions together: the question of the origin of human suffering, interpreted as evil from God, versus the question of sin, interpreted as human evil.... Indeed, these questions gradually diverged from one another. The question of sin, which in the ancient world was linked to demonic forces (Azazel, spirits of Beliar, Mastema, etc.), underwent internalization, detached itself from the question of cosmic evil, and became a discussion about the human psyche." **Ishay Rosen Zvi**, *Yediot Acharonot Daily*

LOST

By: Yiftach Aloni

152 pp

This bildungsroman, defying the conventions of the road novel, exploring and interweaving the borders of adventure and literary prose, merges various journeys into a personal portrayal of a search for a father, a mother, and their son who was lost in time.

Yiftach Aloni is a writer, a traveler, businessman, thinker and a political activist whose books offer a probing outlook on life and foreignness, unforgettable and inspiring.



THE BOOK OF RUNNING

By: Yiftach Aloni

Published 2024, 160 pp. Rights sold in the Netherlands

A memoir packed with reflections and philosophical wondering about running as a means to freedom, flight, and liberation. Yiftach Aloni looks at life through running and running as a way of life.

The Book of Running has won the Culture Ministry's literary prize. This critically acclaimed memoir also became a best seller.

Yiftach Aloni is a writer, a traveler, businessman, thinker and a political activist whose books offer a probing outlook on life and foreignness, unforgettable and inspiring.

FROM THE PRESS

"Aloni's book deploys a wide range of images, impressions, memories, quotes, questions, reflections, falls, pains, insights, running forward, backward - anything but staying in place - all through a dizzying first or second-person writing style. Hovering above it all is the question of questions, the Holy Grail of non-runners: 'Why. Why run?'"

"...Haruki Murakami, in his book 'What I Talk About When I Talk About Running'... phrased the difficulties of running in the famous sentence: 'Pain is inevitable. Suffering is optional.' So why do people run? According to Yiftach Aloni, the answer is clear, and it is phrased in six incredible words: 'If I stop, I'll get lost.'" **Yakir ben Moshe, Yediot Acharonot Daily**

יפתח אלוני

ספר הריצות



HOW I GOT THE BETTER OF PARKINSON'S

By: Zeev Shatzky

Published 2026, 55 pp

In a short, moving personal memoir, writer and actor **Zeev Shatzky** narrates his journey from the initial diagnosis of Parkinson's, to daily coping with the disease through a twelve year period.

A student of Logo-therapy, Shatzky focuses on human courage, humor and the ability to celebrate life, offering the 10 million people suffering worldwide from the disease some inspiration and hope.

FROM THE PRESS

"In his thin, inspiring, and as he defines it, 'illusion-free' book, Shatzky describes life alongside the illness, which he says bears witness to God's sense of humor...what elevates his book and sets it apart from others in this terrible genre is, of course, the approach of a healthy humor in a sick body. The stale cliché that humor is a weapon has never sounded more accurate than in this case. Shatzky's humor is a super-weapon that can destroy any aversion, dread, and negative thought. If only it could eradicate the disease itself.

"...Shatzky carries the somber torch with great talent and impressive wisdom of heart...Look how beautifully Shatzky summarizes it all: 'At this moment, life looks like a city lit up at night when viewed from a ship at sea. Even if they turn off the lights shortly, the stars will still twinkle. When it is impossible to change the limiting circumstances—all that remains is to change yourself.'" **Yaron Fried, Maariv Daily**





THE LAST DRAGON GIRL

By: Raz Calmanovici

Published 2026, 304 pp

The Last Dragon Girl is a fast-paced fantasy adventure about courage, friendship, and the secrets that connect two worlds.

Bridget Gray never imagined that moving from the city to a lonely cabin deep in the woods would change her life forever. With only her pet raccoon, Henry, by her side, she stumbles into a forgotten well and finds herself in Alantia — a magical world where giants, fairies and unicorns still exist. The dragons, however, have almost vanished and without dragons the magic will disappear. When Bridgette arrives in Alantia, everyone seems convinced that she is the legendary 'Dragon Girl', the only one who can rescue Klaus, the last dragon, before the fading magic that binds the two worlds disappears forever.

Joined by a timid dwarf, an endlessly talkative raccoon and an ill-tempered, unicorn, Bridget embarks on a thrilling journey filled with danger, humor and surprising discoveries about the world around her, and about herself.

Blending classic portal fantasy with a fresh contemporary heroine, **The Last Dragon Girl** is a heartwarming adventure about bravery, belonging and discovering that the greatest stories are sometimes the ones we inherit without ever knowing they were ours.