

# Good News from SCBWI Israel December 2020



WE WANT YOUR NEWS! SEND UPDATES TO VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR MEIRAV SHILO: [EURIMESH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EURIMESH@GMAIL.COM)

## ★ BOOK CONTRACTS:

- Author **Lori Kaufmann** signed with Delacorte for her YA *Rebel Daughter*, to be published in February 2021.
- Author **Tami Lehman-Wilzig** and illustrator **Menahem Halberstadt** signed with Kalaniot for their PB *Soosie: The Horse that Saved Shabbat*, to be published in spring 2021.
- Author **Tami Lehman-Wilzig** signed with Apples & Honey for her PB *The Boston Chocolate Party*, to be published in October 2021.

## ★ BOOK LAUNCHES:

- Author **Sara Arnold** celebrated the release of her PB *The Big Buna Bash* (Brandylane), illustrated by Roberta Malasomma.
- Author-illustrator **Hadar Fadida** celebrated the release of her PB *Spectacular You* (self-published).
- Author **Tami Lehman-Wilzig** celebrated the release of the sixth annual *My Very Own Jewish Calendar 5781* (Kar-Ben) and signed a contract for the seventh.
- Author **Hadas Leibowitz** celebrated the release of her MG novel *Libby: What Happened on the Tel Aviv Beach* (Hakibbutz Hameuchad) and PB *Winter's Broom Dance* (Zeltner), illustrated by Noa Paran.
- Author-illustrator **Miri Leshem-Pelly** (regional advisor, SCBWI Israel) celebrated the release of her PB *Penny and the Plain Piece of Paper* (Philomel/Penguin Random House) as well as the Chinese release of her PB *Scribble & Author*, which was published in English by Kane/Miller in 2016.
- Author **Carol Ungar** celebrated the release of her PB *The Surprise in the Desk* (HaChai).
- Illustrator **Shirley Waisman** celebrated the release of many PBs in 2020! (*Not-So Scary Stories* by Yankele Yakobson, *Cucumber and the Superheroes* by Maya Roseman, and *Mishka the Mouse* by Shlomit Gai (all from Korim), along with *The Magic Birthday Book* by Dov Luria (interactive book, Pele) and *Meitar's Chamber of Musical Strings* by Elyasaf Tel Or (Meitarim).

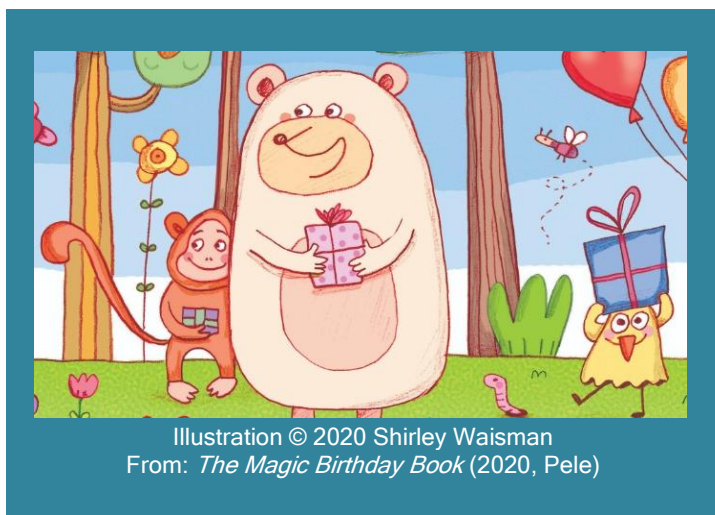


Illustration © 2020 Shirley Waisman  
From: *The Magic Birthday Book* (2020, Pele)

## ★ AGENT SIGNINGS:

- Author **Era Hitin** signed with agent Andrea Somberg of the Harvey Klinger Literary Agency to represent her book *Exploring the World of Medicine*.

## ★ OTHER GREAT NEWS:

- Authors **Tami Lehman Wilzig** and **Tzivia MacLeod** (assistant regional advisor, SCBWI Israel) interviewed each other about how and why they create Jewish kids' stories. Watch part of their discussion: [Why Write Jewish Books?](#)
- Author-illustrator **Miri Leshem-Pelly** (regional advisor, SCBWI Israel) recently spoke as part of the Picture Book Palooza with Children's Book Academy.
- Congratulations to all the SCBWI Israel authors and illustrators who joined in a special virtual Chanukah candlelighting event with many other Israeli authors and illustrators, hosted by Beit Ariela Library: **Tamar Brown Elkeles, Hadas Leibovich, Miri Leshem-Pelly, Maya Maytav, Galia Oz, and Tamar Weiss-Gabbay.**

## ★ PRIZE WINNERS:

- Author-illustrator **Varda Livney** received a PJ Author Incentive Award for her PB *How to Get to Savta's for Shabbat*.

## ★ JOIN US:

- SCBWI Israel offers several critique opportunities: For English-language writers, there's **The Red Pencil**, for PBs, and **Novel Ideas**, for MG and YA books. To join the wait list, or if you're interested in facilitating a Hebrew-language group, contact [pxmoritz@gmail.com](mailto:pxmoritz@gmail.com). We've also recently opened a critique group for illustrators which has a single place available. For details: [shirleywaisman@gmail.com](mailto:shirleywaisman@gmail.com).
- Join us on Jan. 12, 2021 to meet agent **Charlotte Wenger** of Prospect Agency – **The Art of the Page Turn: Illustrating a Book You Can't Put Down.** [https://israel.scbwi.org/events/charlotte\\_wenger\\_agent/](https://israel.scbwi.org/events/charlotte_wenger_agent/)
- Check out **SCBWI's winter conference** (Feb. 19-21, 2021). As we did for the summer conference, we'll be offering local Zoom chats to share highlights and must-see events. <https://www.scbwi.org/events/winter-conference-2021/>

## ★ We want YOUR good news! ★

Children's book launch (PAL or self-published) • Book tour or special appearance • Children's book deal (PAL only)  
Articles or illustrations in kids' magazines • Agent signing • Prizes, grants, or awards  
Send all info to volunteer coordinator Meirav Shilo at [eurimesh@gmail.com](mailto:eurimesh@gmail.com) and you'll see yourself in our next issue!