

miriam chaikin

Poetry

Author of book of poetry, *No Moon ... but Fire-flies*, Linear Arts. Contributor of poems and stories to periodicals, including *Good Housekeeping*, *Women's Day*, *Midstream*, *Story*, *Neovictorian*, *Cochlea*, and *Salonika*.

Writings for Children

Award-winning author Miriam Chaikin focuses on Jewish themes in her writing for children. Among her most praised works are *Exodus*, an adaptation of the Bible book, and *A Nightmare in History*, a study of the Holocaust. Chaikin's many books on Jewish traditions have been praised by reviewers not only for their compilation of historical facts, but also for the author's ability to thread contemporary traditions into her narrative. Each of these books includes a glossary, bibliography, and index. As a *Kirkus Reviews* critic noted in a review of *Sound the Shofar*, "Chaikin presents a great deal of information clearly and effectively, uniting the theology of Judaism with its expression through history and custom." Chaikin also publishes poetry and novels for older readers.

Born in Jerusalem in 1924 and brought by her parents to the United States a year later, Chaikin began writing poems and stories as a child. Although she continued writing into adulthood, it was primarily a hobby; she published several humorous poems in national magazines and children's poetry in anthologies, but worked in politics and public relations for several years before moving into the publishing field in 1961. Despite her move into juvenile novels and nonfiction, Chaikin has continued to craft poetry, and in 2002 published *Don't*

Member

PEN, Authors League of America, Poetry Society of America.

Honors Awards

Sydney Taylor Award for body of work, Association of Jewish Libraries, 1985; Notable Book designation, American Library Association, 1987, for *A Nightmare in History: The Holocaust, 1933-1945*; National Jewish Book Award for illustrated children's book, 1988, for *Exodus*.

Writings

FOR CHILDREN

Ittki Pittki, illustrated by Harold Berson, Parents' Magazine Press (New York, NY), 1971.

The Happy Pairr and Other Love Stories, illustrated by Gustave Nebel, Putnam (New York, NY), 1972.

Hardlucky, illustrated by Fernando Krahn, Lippincott (Philadelphia, PA), 1973.

I Should Worry, I Should Care, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Harper (New York, NY), 1979.

The Seventh Day: The Story of the Jewish Sabbath, woodcuts by David Frampton, Doubleday (New York, NY), 1979.

Finders Weepers, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Harper (New York, NY), 1980.

Light Another Candle: The Story and Meaning of Hanukkah, illustrated by Demi, Clarion (New York, NY), 1981.

(Reteller) *Joshua in the Promised Land*, woodcuts by David Frampton, Clarion (New York, NY), 1982.

Getting Even, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Harper (New York, NY), 1982.

Make Noise, Make Merry: The Story and Meaning of Purim, illustrated by Demi, Clarion (New York, NY), 1983.

How Yossi Beat the Evil Urge, illustrated by Petra Mathers, Harper (New York, NY), 1983.

Lower! Higher! You're a Liar!, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Harper (New York, NY), 1984.

Shake a Palm Branch: The Story and Meaning of Sukkot, illustrated by Marvin Friedman, Clarion (New York, NY), 1984.

Yossi Asks the Angels for Help, illustrated by Petra Mathers, Harper (New York, NY), 1985.

Ask Another Question: The Story and Meaning of Passover, illustrated by Marvin Friedman, Clarion (New York, NY), 1985.

Aviva's Piano, illustrated by Yossi Abolafia, Clarion (New York, NY), 1986.

Sound the Shofar: The Story and Meaning of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, illustrated by Erika Weihs, Clarion (New York, NY), 1986.

Yossi Tries to Help God, illustrated by Denise Saldutti, Harper (New York, NY), 1987.

(Reteller) *Esther*, illustrated by Vera Rosenberry, Jewish Publication Society, 1987.

(Adaptor) *Exodus*, illustrated by Charles Mikolaycak, Holiday House, 1987.

Hinkl and Other Shlemiel Stories, illustrated by Marcia Posner, Shapolsky Publishers, 1987.

A Nightmare in History: The Holocaust, 1933-1945, Clarion (New York, NY), 1987.

Friends Forever, illustrated by Richard Egielski, Harper (New York, NY), 1988.

Feathers in the Wind, illustrated by Denise Saldutti, Harper (New York, NY), 1989.

Hanukkah, illustrated by Ellen Weiss, Holiday House (New York, NY), 1990.

Menorahs, Mezuzas, and Other Jewish Symbols, illustrated by Erika Weihs, Clarion (New York, NY), 1990.

(Reteller) *Children's Bible Stories from Genesis to Daniel*, illustrated by Yvonne Gilbert, Dial (New York, NY), 1993.

(Reteller) *Clouds of Glory: Legends and Stories about Bible Times*, illustrated by David Frampton, Clarion (New York, NY), 1997.

Don't Step on the Sky: A Handful of Haiku, illustrated by Hiroe Nakata, Henry Holt (New York, NY), 2002.

Angels Sweep the Desert Floor: Bible Legends about Moses in the Wilderness, illustrated by Alexander Koshkin, Clarion (New York, NY), 2002.

Alexandra's Scroll: The Story of the First Hanukkah, illustrated by Stephen Fieser, Henry Holt (New York, NY), 2002.

For further info (*control +click the following link*)

<http://biography.jrank.org/pages/677/chaikin-miriam-1924.html>