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"Ancient wisdom for
modern minds"

Good News

A Bi-Annual Publication of Jewish Spiritual Literacy, Inc.

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What are you waiting for?

It's the season of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and I have a confession to make:

I'm not so much different than you.

I know it's hard to believe. Despite my superhero image, I have struggles, setbacks, hang-ups, bad habits, laziness, faults and flaws.

Sure I'm special....but, then again, so are you. We're all special.

Therefore, if I could do it, so could you.

What have I done? This past year, I (with a couple dedicated study partners) completed the study of the entire Tanach (10 years) and the entire Talmud (nearly 8 years).

Eight and ten years ago, did I know whether or not I would be able to finish? Whether or not I'd have the energy, the wherewithal? Of course not. But this wasn't such an amazing feat. My study partners and I simply plugged away, day by day, week by week.

If we could do it, so could you. The Torah in its many forms belongs to you as much as it does to me. When are you going to claim what is yours?

Need help getting started? That's what we're here for. We're Jewish Spiritual Literacy, remember? One email gets the ball rolling.

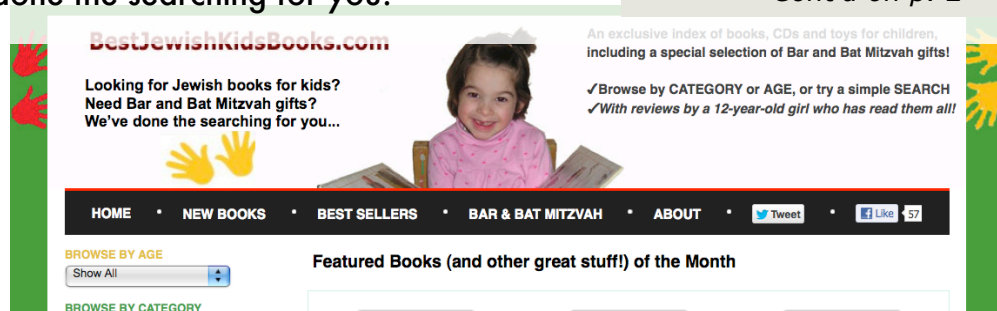
Wishing you and yours a healthy and happy New Year. May you be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life.

– Alexander Seinfeld, Executive Director

BestJewishKidsBooks.com Meets Bnai Mitzvah

Our popular portal for parents and grandparents to find the truly best Jewish books for their kids now has a special section of bar/bat mitzvah gifts. Why rack your brains or spend hours searching? We've done the searching for you!

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There is too much news that's fit to print! Keep up-to-date, including podcasts, new teacher resources, new book recommendations...all online at www.jsli.org.



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About Jewish Spiritual Literacy

JSL's mission is to foster a paradigm-shift in Jewish education, towards an experiential pedagogy that transforms participants with its spiritual clarity and direction.

In order to achieve this goal, we are creating and marketing classes and materials for both formal and informal learning, and innovative teaching methods for spiritual and Judaics educators of all backgrounds and affiliations.

Both our "direct to consumer" and teacher training programs are inspiring students to seek further learning opportunities, to forge a warm, lasting connection to the Jewish community and Israel, and to lead ethical, fulfilling lives that contribute to Tikkum Olam.

Secret Project

That's not a misleading headline just to catch your attention. It is a mysterious yet accurate headline just to catch your attention.

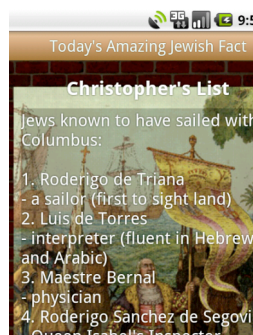
In fact, JSL does indeed have a new project under wraps that has the potential to revolutionize Jewish education. It is potentially so explosive that some pre-viewers have suggested we drop everything else and work on this alone.

Project X is scheduled for launch by Rosh Hashana next year, and in order to meet that target, we need a few partners.

Why would anyone want to participate in a secret project?

They wouldn't. So if you are intrigued and would like to learn more about this Project X, send an email to secretproject@jsli.org and we'll spill the beans, but you'll have to promise to keep the secret!

What's Up in Apps?



Our flagship app for iPhone, iPad, and Android systems — The Amazing Jewish Fact-a-Day Calendar — is being enjoyed almost* every day by thousands of users worldwide. Soon, Amazon Kindle users will also be able to enjoy the app, due to be launched in October.

**It's the only app out of 500,000 that celebrates Shabbat.*

BestJewishKidsBooks.com *cont'd*

If you have used the site you know that we are not selling anything. The site is merely a searchable database of carefully chosen books etc., with descriptions and reviews. (If you use the links to Amazon and other sellers, JSL receives a small commission — an easy way to support our non-profit work without spending an extra dime. But even if you don't, please use this free service for locating the very best in Jewish books, toys etc., and let us know how we can improve it!)

We launched the site eighteen months ago in response to frequent requests from parents for book recommendations. There are thousands of Jewish-themed books out there, and to create such a list on your own would take you hours of searching. We've done the searching for you!

Moreover, we designed the site to facilitate topic and age searches. For instance, if someone is looking for a book for an eight-year-old with the theme of sharing, bestjewishkidsbooks.com is the only website that allows such a search.

Thinking about the whole child, we added "gifts for teachers" and "books for parents" sections because one of the best ways to help a child connect to their heritage is to help their elders.