

Altneuland Press

Literature
Beyond
Borders

Autumn 2025

ALTNEULAND 

Altneuland Press —
*Literature Beyond
Borders* — a new
international publishing
house based in Berlin,
focuses on the publication
of literature in Hebrew
and in translation to
German, English and
other languages.

Our catalogue
includes published and
forthcoming books by
both well-established and
emerging Hebrew writers
who explore themes of
identity, diaspora, and
cultural transformation.
Together, these works
create a tapestry
that speaks across
languages, cultures, and
histories, telling a story of
displacement, nationality,
guilt, desire, migration,
memory, and imagination.

CEDRICK

Gish Amit



A rare literary document of striking emotional force that compels readers to listen

Altneuland Press
May 2025

Hebrew
145 pages

Genre:
Literary non-fiction

Gish Amit is leafing through the newspaper when he comes across the name of a soldier who was killed in Gaza: Cedrick Garin. He recognizes the face instantly—it is a former student of his. The young man was Israeli-Filipino; his mother is a migrant worker, and his father was deported from Israel when he was a little boy. Amit sets out to trace the story of the young man's life and death, creating a poignant portrait of Israeli society in the process.

He speaks with Cedrick's parents and widow, attends memorials, depicting vivid scenes and encounters. He meets with Cedrick's old schoolmates, his former students, most of whom have a migrant or asylum-seeking background. During their emotional evening together, Amit is forced to reckon with a painful truth: even his own attempts to portray the relations of power within a society are bound by those same relations. "If we were white," one of them tells Amit, "you wouldn't write about us like this."

Cedrick is not a book of commemoration. From scattered fragments, a full story takes shape—sharp, animated and profoundly honest. More than a teacher's lament for his student, *Cedrick* is a blueprint for an alternative human narrative.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

"Without an ounce of righteousness or a shred of kitsch, and with extraordinary storytelling talent, Amit accomplishes the impossible... I implore you, tears streaming down my cheeks – read this book." — Yaron Frid, Maariv

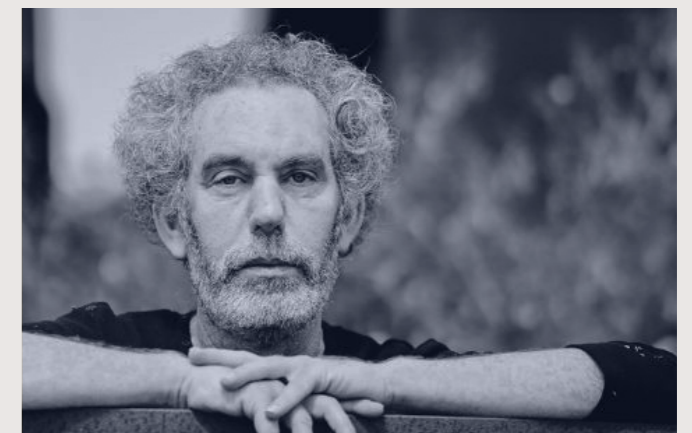
"Amit is endowed with spectacular perceptiveness, compassion, and an intense, even brutal honesty." — Itai Ziv, Haaretz ("The Best 45 Books of 2025")

"*Cedrick* is not only a wonderful book about Cedrick, who lived and died. It is also an offering to Israeli society: the possibility of redemption through listening." — Moti Fogel, Ynet

"The book is a literary, moral, and civic achievement of great integrity and immense force. It should be read for the mirror it holds up—and for the outstanding literary craft that makes it possible." — Omri Herzog, Haaretz

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. **Gish Amit** is a teacher, lecturer and writer. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Hebrew Literature at Ben-Gurion University and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Berlin, and a fellow at the Mandel School for Educational Leadership. Over the past two decades, he has taught literature and philosophy at university and college levels, and worked in education. He is currently the principal at a school in Jaffa for Jewish, Arab, and asylum-seeking students. *Cedrick* is Amit's fifth book.



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| Rights | World all languages | TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press | ISBN: 9783982730004 |
| Available materials | Hebrew - Full text German - Full text (publication March 2026 in collaboration with Kanon Verlag) English - Full text | | |

WE WERE THE FUTURE

Yael Neeman



In a style at once intimate and detached, this book masterfully conveys the intense and unique experience of growing up in a kibbutz

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| Achuzat Bait, 2011 May 2025 | Hebrew 288 pages | Genre: Literary non-fiction |
| Altneuland Press & Kanon Verlag October 2025 | German 268 pages | |
| Previous publications: | Czarne, 2012 (Polish); Actes Sud, 2015 (French); Duckworth Overlook, 2017 (English) | |

In this strikingly written, compelling memoir, which enjoyed great commercial success both in Israel and France, Yael Neeman recounts her unique upbringing in Kibbutz Yehiam. The Kibbutz, where she was born in 1960, was one of many collectives in Israel guided by socialist principles that shaped every aspect of life. On the kibbutz, children were not raised by their parents, but lived in communal children's houses, and members received no personal income. Community was paramount and devotion to it was essential.

Through her personal-collective story of growing up as part of a group of children, rather than as part of a family, Neeman reveals the experiences of an entire generation raised to embody the socialist-Zionist ideal, expressing resonating ideas about society, ideology and human beings. Narrated in the first person plural, Neeman paints an intimate and engaging portrait of kibbutz life, outlining the complexities that arise when an individual is expected to become one with a collective.

The German version has been published with a special introduction by Yael Neeman that reflects on the kibbutz after Oct. 7.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM

"Yael Neeman's depiction of her childhood and early youth is fascinating and portrayed with both enthusiasm and melancholy. Her book is deeply personal and leaves a lasting impression of what it was like to grow up in an idyll that was part of a utopia." — **Deutschlandfunk Kultur, Lesart, 2025**

"Yael Neeman movingly describes a world that no longer exists – a new society dreamed up by parents whose children eventually ran away." — **Maxim Leo, 2025**

"Both beautifully lyrical and devastatingly illuminating." — **Washington Independent Review of Books**

"A poignant reminder of lost Israeli idealism" — **Financial Times**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in 1960, **Yael Neeman** grew up in Kibbutz Yechiam and moved to Tel Aviv at the age of 20. Neeman studied literature at Tel Aviv University and worked as an editor for various newspapers, magazines and publishing houses. Her debut novel, "Hayinu He'Atid" (*We Were the Future*) was published in 2011. It received great critical acclaim, sold over 30,000 copies and was translated into several languages. This book was followed by four novels and collections of short stories, which enjoyed significant commercial and critical success.



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| Rights | English and German | TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press | ISBN: 9783985681907 |
| Available materials | Hebrew - Full text English - Full text German - Full text French - Full text | | |

AFTER THE WAR, BEFORE THE WAR:

My travels across the divide

Hillel Cohen & Yana Bukler



Unique memoir of a life lived through the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, offering an unflinching reflection on identity, nationality, guilt and memory

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| Altneuland Press September 2025 | Hebrew 175 pages | Genre: Illustrated memoir |
| Altneuland Press & Kanon Verlag November 2025 | German 200 pages | |

In this powerful illustrated memoir, Hillel Cohen—one of the leading scholars on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, a journalist, and a political activist—sets aside academic detachment and writes a gripping personal-political narrative. Cohen's moves across times and places: from Jerusalem in the aftermath of the Six-Day War to personal encounters with future leaders of Fatah and Hamas, politicians and terrorists alike.

The book crosses genres and brings a rare framework for a shared understanding of conflicting narratives into public discourse. Cohen does not attempt to resolve the complexity, but dwells within it. He writes of his experiences and through them portrays a region where no single truth prevails, only a multiplicity of memories and fears.

The memoir interweaves expressive illustrations by Yana Bukler, which blend humor, emotion, and subtle visual interpretation of both personal and historical scenes. The style is accessible and clear, yet intelligent and piercing, offering an empathetic entry point into the world of someone who has lived the conflict not only as a scholar but as an engaged observer.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Prof. **Hillel Cohen**, a distinguished scholar of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, was born in Jerusalem and lives in the city. He is a lecturer in the Department of Islam and Middle Eastern Studies at the Hebrew University. Cohen is the author of six books exploring various aspects of Jewish-Arab relations in Israel, including the bestsellers *Year Zero of the Arab-Jewish Conflict 1929* and *Good Arabs: The Israeli Security Agencies and the Israeli Arabs 1948-1967*. Translated into Arabic and English, his books have won prestigious awards and captivated a wide readership.



ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Yana Bukler is a Ukrainian-born Israeli illustrator who specialises in children's books. She studied Fine Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome and has illustrated dozens of books, some of which have received mentions and awards. She has exhibited her work in Israel and abroad, has her own illustration studio and teaches illustration at colleges.

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| Rights | World all languages | TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press | ISBN: 9783982730035 |
| Available materials | Hebrew - Full text English - Full text German - Full text | | |

LADY OF KAZAN

Maya Arad



A powerful and engaging epos that explores motherhood as both reality and fantasy

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| Xargol Publishing (Hebrew), 2015 May 2025 | Hebrew 512 pages | Genre: Novel |
| Altneuland Press, 2026 Forthcoming | German | |

Idit, a 39-year-old teacher in Tel Aviv, transitions from a childless, independent life to reluctant motherhood. Content with her routine and distant from her family, Idit's life begins to change after meeting Michael, a single doctor introduced by her close friend Anat, whose busy family life both fascinates and frustrates Idit, and the desire to have a child emerges.

Her journey to motherhood is fraught with challenges—from failed co-parenting arrangements to navigating the complexities of adoption. After a harrowing experience at a Russian orphanage, Idit adopts a boy named Lev, only to find that motherhood is far from her romanticized vision. Struggling with Lev's behavioral issues and the demands of raising him alone, she eventually moves to a rural village, making the move into a more nurturing way of life.

Through Idit's story, Arad delves into the tension between societal expectations and personal desires, the gap between fantasy and reality, and the limited roles imposed on women in modern society.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM "Like Arad's three previous wonderful novels, *Lady of Kazan* maintains an excellent pace..." — **Haaretz** (Hebrew)

"In her new book, *Lady of Kazan*, Maya Arad skilfully interweaves questions of fate, coincidence and the connection between literature and reality. — **Time Out Tel Aviv** (Hebrew)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR Born in Israel in 1971, **Maya Arad** is the author of twelve books of Hebrew fiction, as well as studies in literary criticism and linguistics. Arad received a PhD in linguistics from University College London. For the past twenty years, she has lived in California, where she is Writer in Residence at Stanford University's Taube Center for Jewish Studies. She is the inaugural recipient of the Jewish Book Council Jane Weitzman Prize for New Israeli Fiction (2019) as well as the Newman Prize (2024). *The Hebrew Teacher*, her first book to appear in



English translation (New Vessel Press, translated by Jessica Cohen), is the winner of the 2025 National Jewish Book Award for Hebrew Fiction in Translation. Her novel, *Happy New Years* appeared in English in August this year.

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| Rights | World all languages (exc. French) | TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press |
| Available materials | Hebrew - Full text German - March 2026 (publication forthcoming in collaboration with Kanon Verlag; based on an shorter version created by the writer) English - Excerpt (full translation forthcoming) | |

IN THE BELLY OF THE WHALE

Ruth Margalit



A literary journey through the raw
landscape of Israeli society—polarized,
fascinating and increasingly bereft

Altneuland Press, 2026
Forthcoming

English

Genre:
Literary non-fiction

Originally published in **The New Yorker** and **The New York Times Magazine**, this fascinating book comprises a series of profiles of politicians, cultural figures, and iconoclasts, encapsulating Ruth Margalit's reporting from the past decade in a single, immersive volume. Returning to these portraits from her current reality as a writer and mother living in Tel Aviv at a time of war, Margalit reexamines the texts in light of a transformed society and self. From Itamar Ben Gvir to Einav Zangauer, through the loss of a mother and retracing the trauma of Kibbutz Be'eri, Margalit sketches a unique, uncanny portrait of a country in crisis.

| Translation into German by Markus Lemke available March 2026.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ruth Margalit is a contributing writer to the **New York Times Magazine** and **The New Yorker**.

Her book reviews and essays frequently appear in the New York Review of Books. Born and raised in Jerusalem, she studied history and English literature at Tel Aviv University, and attended Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. She worked on the editorial staff of The New Yorker before moving back to Israel in 2019. She is the author of a forthcoming children's book (in Hebrew) and lives and writes in Tel Aviv.



Rights World all languages

[TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press](#)

Available materials English - Full text
German - March 2026
Hebrew - March 2026

THE LAST DEFENDANT

Alma Ganihar



A morally piercing narrative about silence in face of injustice and the meaning of justice when it arrives eighty years too late

Altneuland Press, 2026
Forthcoming

Hebrew

Genre:
Novel

An elderly woman is brought to trial for the role she played in the atrocities that took place in a Nazi concentration camp. Taken away from her quiet life in a nursing home, she is tried in juvenile court, where she appears each day with a surgical mask and dark sunglasses, a figure at once banal and monstrous, as if hiding from history itself. As the trial progresses, her silence transforms into a resonating indictment.

Inspired by the 2021 trial of Irmgard Furchner, who was charged at age 96 with 11,412 counts of accessory to murder, *The Last Defendant* is a short, chilling novel about complicity, denial, and the long shadow of justice.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alma Ganihar is a screenwriter, playwright, and author. She has published two books: *The Canary's Revenge* (Kinneret Publishing), currently being adapted into a film in an Israeli-French co-production, and *GPS* (Am Oved Publishing), which won the Wiener Prize for debut novel, with one of its stories adapted into a film. The films and plays she has written have participated in festivals and won various awards. Her short stories have appeared in *Granta* and *The Short Story Project*. Ganihar is an activist who campaigns against the ongoing war in Gaza and the occupation, and advocates for African asylum seekers in Israel.

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| Rights | World all languages | TV/Film Contact Altneuland Press |
| Available materials | English - Full text German - March 2026 Hebrew - March 2026 | |

