الله Jewish Books in Review

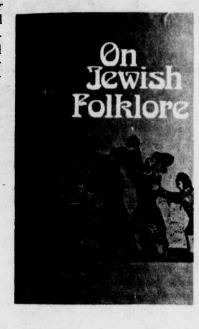
Elijah's Violin and Other Jewish Fairy Tales. Selected and retold and with an introduction by Howard Schwartz; Illustrations by Linda Heller; Calligraphy by Tsila Schwartz, Harper & Row, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022, 1983. 272 pp. \$19.95.

On Jewish Folklore. By Raphael Patai, Wayne State University Press, The Leonard N. Simons Bldg., 5959 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202, 512 pp.

Reviewed by Alan Mintz

Fairty tales are not the most profound or characteristic part of Jewish literature. But like every world literature, Judaism has some fairy tales, and they are delightful. Howard Schwartz has selected and retold thirty-four tales about kings and princesses, golden mountains and magic birds, sorcerers and enchanted forests. Some are simply versions of "universal" fairy tales that were absorbed into the oral, story-telling traditions of Jewry from such communities as Persia, Yemen, and Greece. When the fairy tales are found in more literary sources, such as the midrash and hasidic collections, the Jewish element is more conspicuous.

Howard Schwartz is an adept storyteller, and he gives these tales the right balance of exotic enhance-ment and timeless truth. While this book cannot be used as a scholarly resource, his introduction and notes contain substantive reflections on the nature of Jewish folktales. The text is accompanied by eleven lovely illustrations by Linda Heller, and each chapter is begun with an illuminated letter by the calligrapher Tsila Schwartz. This attractive book can be read with pleasure by adults and read to children with even more



pleasure.

On Jewish Folklore is a selection of scholarly papers representing half a century of work in the field of Jewish anthropology by Raphael Patai, the author of **Hebrew** Myths and The Hebrew Goddess. The topics of the papers range from methodological reflections of the field of Jewish folklore to studies of specific practices and customs: installation rites in the Bible, the folk history of the Jews of Meshed in Iran, exorcism among the Safed kabbalists, Jewish birth customs, the Jewish Indians of Mexico, and many others. The book has little unity and proposes no overall view or statement. As an anthropological miscellany, however, the reader will find fascinating bits of information which challenge conventional conceptions of normative Jewish practice.



Older Adult Luncheon

The April Older Adult Luncheon will be held April 13 at 11:30 a.m. at Temple Israel with Temple Israel Sisterhood as the host organization. All community senior adults are welcome to the lunch and entertainment program at a cost of \$1 per person.

The special afternoon will include a talk by Officer Dan Hepner from the Charlotte Police Department Crime Prevention Unit. He will give participants information on personal and home safety.

Transportation to Temple Israel will be provided for those needing it. You are asked to RSVP by April 7 by calling the JCC at 366-0357. At this time indicate if you will need transportation or if you can assist by providing a ride for someone else. If you have specific dietary restrictions for health reasons, let us know when you call.

Juvenile Diabetes Annual Roast

What: 4th Annual Roast honoring Bones McKinney When: April 25, 1983 Where: Sheraton Center Purpose: Raise money for diabetes research Cost of Ticket: \$40 - Includes cocktail hour, dinner and roast Time: Cocktails - 6:30 p.m. Dinner - 7:30 p.m. Roast 8:30 p.m. Dinner Music - Janice Mar-

Roasters: Billy Packer, played for Bones at Wake Forest - Sports Analyst; Jim Valvano - N.C. State basketball coach; John Belk played against Bones when they were in college; John "Hook" Dillon, Teammate; Marvin "Skeeter" Francis, ACC Asst. Commissioner; Bob Quincy, Observer Columnist.

Members of the Wake Forest Alumni are helping with ticket sales: Sara Page Lewis is the Alumni contact. Phone: 523-0176 after 5:30 p.m. Members of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation have tickets. For information or tickets call the JDF office: 568-4389 or 536-7212 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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This 'N That

Kimberly-Clark Corp. presented Debbie Goozner with a check for \$11,200 in their "Feel Good Every Day of the Month" contest. With her new found wealth betcha Debbie will "feel good every day for many months."

Just heard that **Sheryl Solomon**, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Solomon, graduated in December from UNC-CH with a B.S.I.R.

Congratulations to Benjamin Sutker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Sutker, on being awarded the coveted Morehead



Scholarship. Benjie is student council president at Charlotte Country Day and is a member of the National Honor Society and varsity football team. He aspires to be a physician.

Benjamin Sutker

Congratulations also go to Will Goldfarb, son of Dottie Goldfarb and Carl Goldfarb, who will be attending North Carolina State U. in the fall on a full gymnastic scholarship. Will is one of two Charlotteans to be awarded this scholarship by the Clemmer School of Gymnastics.

Amy Bernhardt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bernhardt, served as a page in the N.C. Senate for a week in March. She was appointed by Ben Tison.

Naomi Spitzer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Spitzer, a junior at East Mecklenburg High, won first place in non-fiction writing in the recent Charlotte Jr. Women's Club writing contest.

Shira Rocklin, daughter of Marilyn Perlman and Rabbi Richard Rocklin, took first place in the State Gymnastics competition in the parallel bar event and was the overall second place in the State Gymnastics finals.

Harry Lerner and Richard A. Klein have been named 1983 Year-Round Delegates to the Council of Jewish Federations. They also served as CJF Delegates in 1982.

BBYO has elected their new officers for the year. The new chapter presidents are: Julie Strause, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Strause, for Chai; Jodi Mond, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Irving Mond, for Chaverim; Evin Somerstein, son of Dr. and Mrs. David Somerstein, for Mickey Aberman; Andy Baron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Baron, for Barak.

At the recent Sweetheart/Beau weekend the following were named: Julie Strause, sweetheart of Barak; Jennifer Cohen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Errol Cohen, sweetheart of Mickey Aberman; Andy Baron, beau of Chai; Evin Somerstein and Neil Kodsi, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kodsi, beaus of Chaverim.

Kudos to Alexis Stein and Howard Winokuer for their successful "Living Til We Die" program.

At the recent exhibit of the Charlotte Quilters Guild, Carol Weiner received a special award for 'orginality' for her "Grandma's Old Glass Button." Sue Alvarez won a third place in the category of 'garments' for her "Blue Cut-Thru." She also received a special award for 'machine quilting' for her "Night Portrait.,"

Listed on the Dean's list at North Carolina State for the fall semester were Mark Farbman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Farbman, and Samuel Levin, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Levin. Pam Gorelick, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Gorelick, has made the Dean's list at Tufts University.

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