

“NICE” JEWISH GIRLS READERS’ GUIDE

CONTEMPLATE & DISCUSS

Tiffany Haddish didn’t discover she was Jewish until she was in her 20s. When did you first become aware that you were Jewish? What did that mean to you?

Many of the women in the book describe themselves as “culturally” Jewish. Others came from very religious homes, celebrating Shabbat and going to shul. How would you describe yourself? And how do you think being Jewish has shaped your life?

Most of the women in this book succeeded in spite of sexism and anti-Semitism. Have you experienced either in your life? What do you think is a greater challenge? Why? What did you do about it?

Which of the women in the book do you relate to the most? Do you see yourself as an artist, activist, leader?

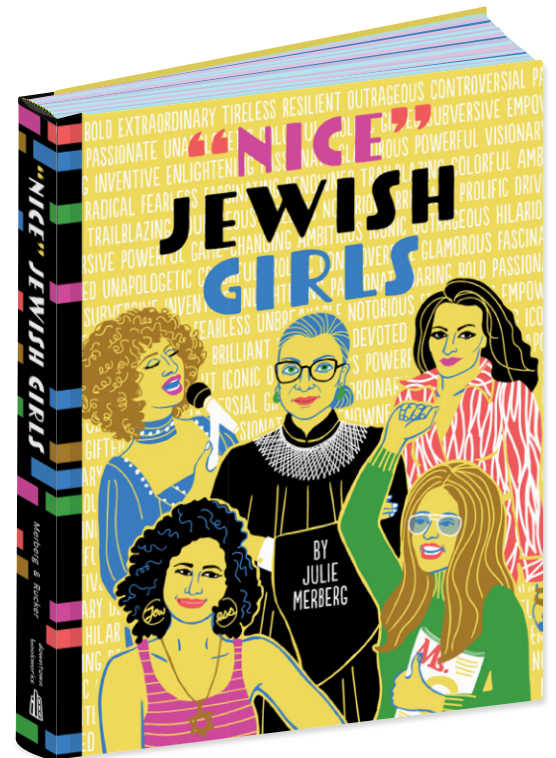
At the end of the book is a feature called **Jewish Geography** which illustrates how some of the women in the book are connected to each other—through work, school, TV shows, activism, friendship. . . What does your Jewish community look like? Who has mentored you? Who do you celebrate holidays with? Draw your own Jewish geography diagram.

RESEARCH & WRITE

Diane von Furstenberg’s story began with her mother, a Holocaust survivor. Where does your story begin? Do you have a living Jewish grandmother or great grandmother? Where did she come from? What was her experience growing up as a Jewish woman? Interview however many older relatives you have and write down their stories. How do their journeys lead to **you**?

I was only able to include 36 women in this book but there are countless Jewish women doing amazing things all over the world. Make a list of the Jewish women you know of and admire. What are they doing? Why or how do they inspire you?

Anne Frank famously kept a diary. Judy Blume explored children’s fears in her fiction. Diane Arbus photographed people who didn’t fit in. Ilana Glazer and Abbi Jacobson kept a shared google doc of funny ideas. Write (or draw or photograph) about things going on in your life. Keep a record—tell **your** story. Maybe it will go into a book someday!



READ & WATCH Check out the following books, websites, and videos if you want to learn more about some of the women in this book—or to discover more amazing Jewesses!

GENERAL READING

Jewish Virtual Library

- jewishvirtuallibrary.org Includes biographies as well as information about the Holocaust, religion, politics, Israel, and more

Jewish Women's Archive

- jwa.org Online encyclopedia that contains thousands of Jewish women's stories and historical information

Forward Association

- forward.com A Jewish American news media organization that covers current events

ACTIVISTS

Emma Goldman

- *Living My Life* by Emma Goldman
(This is out of print but available used. It is a detailed autobiography written during the later years of her life.)



Henrietta Szold

- *To Repair A Broken World: The Life of Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah* by Dvora Hachohen

Betty Friedan

- *The Feminine Mystique* by Betty Friedan

Gloria Steinem

- gloriasteinem.com
- *Gloria: In Her Own Words* (HBO documentary)
- *My Life on the Road* by Gloria Steinem
- *The Truth Will Set You Free, But First It Will Piss You Off!* by Gloria Steinem

Alicia Garza

- aliciagarza.com
- *Lady Don't Take No* (podcast)



ENTERTAINERS

Hedy Lamarr

- *Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story* (PBS documentary)

Joan Rivers

- *A Piece of Work* (documentary)

Barbra Streisand

- *Funny Girl* (her first movie)
- *Yentl* (movie starring, produced, and directed by Barbra Streisand)

Sarah Silverman

- *The Bedwetter* by Sarah Silverman
- *We are Miracles* (HBO stand-up comedy special)

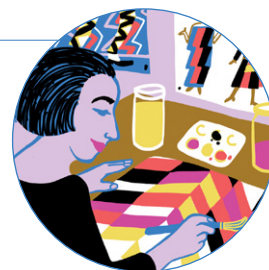
Tiffany Haddish

- *The Last Black Unicorn* by Tiffany Haddish

ARTISTS

Sonia Delaunay

- To view some of Sonia Delaunay's artwork, visit www.artnet.com/artists/sonia-delaunay-terk/.



Diane Arbus

- To see some of Diane Arbus's photos, visit www.artnet.com/artists/diane-arbus/.

Helen Frankenthaler

- Helen Frankenthaler's art can be seen at www.frankenthalerfoundation.org/artworks.

WRITERS

Emma Lazarus

- To read Emma Lazarus's poems, visit poetryfoundation.org and search for Emma Lazarus.

Anne Frank

- *Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank

SCIENTISTS

Janet Yellen

- *Janet Yellen in conversation with Paul Krugman* (interview available on YouTube)

ENTREPRENEURS

Diane von Furstenberg

- *The Day Before: Diane von Furstenberg* (fashion documentary series about the days leading up to a fashion show)



LEADERS

Golda Meir

- *Lioness: Golda Meir and the Nation of Israel* by Francine Klagsbrun

JUSTICES

Ruth Bader Ginsburg

- *In My Own Words* by Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- *RBG: Hero. Icon. Dissenter.* (documentary)

Price: \$21.99, \$27.99 Can
ISBN: 9781950587094
Specs: Hardcover, 7.25" x 9.25",
160 pages
Ages 10 and up

