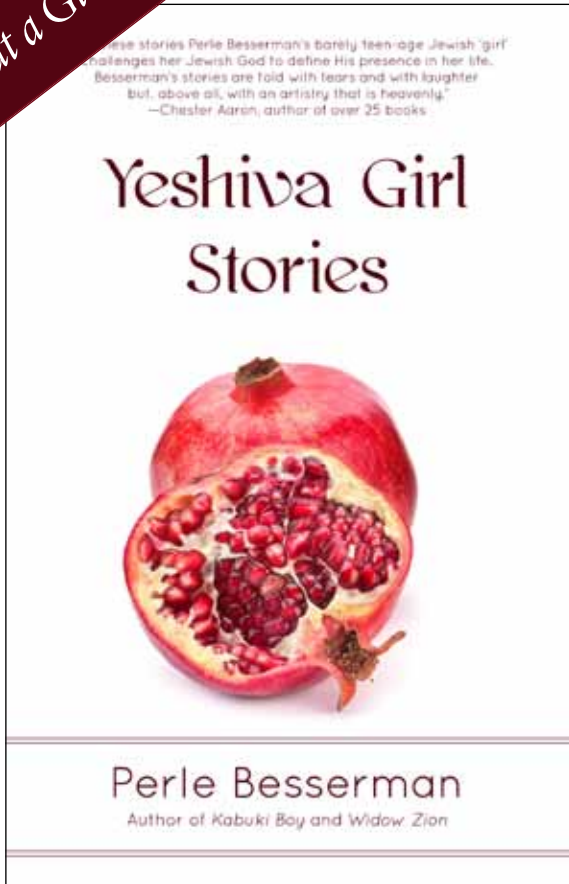


The Book at a Glance



A collection of linked stories, *Yeshiva Girl* explores the little-known world of American Orthodox Judaism from a young girl's perspective. A feminist coming-of-age story paralleling the experiences of Chaim Potok's yeshiva boys, Besserman's collection depicts the limited intellectual and social expectations, and stunted future promise, of precocious girl-children like Pnina, who, from her earliest days in a strictly orthodox, all-girl yeshiva (Jewish parochial school) finds herself first questioning, and gradually rebelling against, family constraints as she seeks to forge a new identity in the secular world outside her community before ultimately coming to terms with her own.

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**Perle Besserman's** books have been translated into over ten languages. Her most recent books of creative non-fiction are *A New Zen for Women* and *Zen Radicals, Rebels, and Reformers*, coauthored with Manfred Steger. Perle holds a doctorate in Comparative Literature from Columbia University. She currently divides her time between Honolulu, Hawaii and Melbourne, Australia.

"...In these stories Perle Besserman's barely teen-age Jewish 'girl' challenges her Jewish God to define His presence in her life. Besserman's stories are told with tears and with laughter but, above all, with an artistry that is heavenly."  
—Chester Aaron, author of over 25 books

## Book Availability and Terms

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