



Jewish Influence on Secular Society

Hazzan Menes

Judaism and Literature I

From Jinfo.org

THE JEWISH CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD LITERATURE

The Bible, the single greatest legacy of the Jews, has been translated into more than two thousand languages and is the most widely read and influential body of literature in all of human history. The poet and artist William Blake said of its role in shaping the Western imagination that "the Old and New Testaments are the Great Code of Art."¹ Northrop Frye, whose *Anatomy of Criticism* is the third most frequently cited twentieth century work in the arts and humanities, tells us that "in a sense all my critical work, beginning with a study of Blake published in 1947, and formulated ten years later in *Anatomy of Criticism*, has revolved around the Bible."² From *The Divine Comedy* of Dante to John Milton's *Paradise Lost* to Thomas Mann's *Joseph and His Brothers*, the Bible has directly or indirectly inspired many of the greatest masterpieces of world literature. Mann, the greatest German novelist of the twentieth century, chose the Joseph cycle from the *Book of Genesis* as the subject matter for "his 'pyramid'...the great literary monument that he hoped would tower over all the other works for which he is now remembered."³

The *Book of Genesis* was arguably also the inspiration for *The Tempest*, William Shakespeare's great farewell to the stage.⁴ Although Shakespeare is generally considered to have been a purely secular poet and playwright, his work is rich in Biblical influences and allusions.⁵ Nor is the literary power of the Bible primarily an artifact of its beautiful English and German translations, as is sometimes argued. Biblical translation is severely constrained by the need to preserve the precise meaning of Sacred Scripture. Poetry is especially unlikely to be enhanced through such a constrained process of translation. Yet the Psalms of the Hebrew Bible remain the world's most recited and beloved poetry. The British statesman (and Greek classicist) William Gladstone said of it that "all the wonders of the Greek civilization heaped together are less wonderful than the single *Book of Psalms*."⁶ Friedrich Nietzsche, commenting on the Hebrew Bible, wrote that "in the Old Testament of the Jews, the book of Divine righteousness, there are men, events, and words so great that there is nothing in Greek or Indian literature to compare with it."⁷

A second aspect of Jewish influence on the development of world literature emerged out of the crucible of the Spanish Inquisition and the crypto-Judeo/*converso* subculture



that it created. The literary scholar Stephen Gilman states in *The Spain of Fernando de Rojas* that "the *conversos* contributed many things to Spain ... but what they contributed to the world was nothing less than the possibility of the major literary genre of modern times: the novel. Cervantes, and the men that provided him with this tradition - Mateo Alemán, Alonso Nuñez de Reinoso (Spain's first reviver of the Byzantine novel), Jorge de Montemayor (creator of the first pastoral novel in Castilian), the anonymous author of *Lazarillo de Tormes*, Fernando de Rojas, the "sentimental novelist" Diego de San Pedro, and earliest of all, Alfonso Martínez de Toledo, who in the *Corbacho* first brought speech into Castilian prose - were all, although certain scholars fight rearguard battles in individual cases, *conversos*."⁸ Another literary genre that emerged at about the same time was the essay, which was the literary innovation of Michel de Montaigne, whose mother was also descended from Spanish-Jewish *conversos*.

An area of significant Jewish influence that is closely related to literature is twentieth century linguistics and language-based philosophy and criticism, which has been described by the eminent literary critic George Steiner as perhaps the century's "most important intellectual achievement outside the physical and mathematical sciences (with which it is at some points cognate)..." Steiner goes on to note that through the work of Fritz Mauthner, Karl Kraus, Ludwig Wittgenstein, Walter Benjamin, Roman Jakobson, Zellig Harris, Noam Chomsky, and many other Jews, "the language revolution" can be considered to constitute "a second principal chapter, as it were, in the decisive interaction between Judaism and the genius of the spoken and written word."⁹ [Wittgenstein, e.g., despite his very assimilated Jewishness and his highly conflicted relationship with it,¹⁰ nevertheless characterized his thinking (in a conversation toward the end of his life) as having been "one hundred percent Hebraic."¹¹]

In addition to the three broad areas of influence described above, there are, of course, the individual contributions of authors such as Heinrich Heine, Franz Kafka, Marcel Proust,¹² Boris Pasternak, Arthur Koestler, Saul Bellow, Harold Pinter, and the hundreds of others listed below:

Jewish Authors

Jewish Playwrights

Jewish Poets & Lyricists

Jewish Screenwriters

Jewish Literary Critics

Jews in Linguistics

Jewish Recipients of the Nobel Prize in Literature (12% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Pulitzer* Prize for Fiction (14% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry (19% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Pulitzer Prize for Non-Fiction (52% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama (33% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award for Best Play (44% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Antoinette Perry (Tony) Award for Best Book of a Musical (54% of recipients)

Jewish Recipients of the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay (36% of recipients)



Jewish Recipients of the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay (32% of recipients)
Jews Listed Among the 250 Most Frequently Cited Authors (from antiquity to the present) in the Arts & Humanities (21% listees)
Jewish Authorship Among the Fifty Most Frequently Cited Twentieth Century Works in the Arts & Humanities (42% of works)

NOTES

1. *The Great Code: The Bible and Literature*, by Northrop Frye (Harcourt Brace, New York and London, 1981, p. xvi).
2. Ibid., p. xiv.
3. From the translator's introduction to *Joseph and His Brothers*, by Thomas Mann, translated from the German by John E. Woods (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2005, p. xiii).
4. *Shakespeare and the Bible*, by Steven Marx (Oxford University Press, Oxford and New York, 2000, Ch. 2).
5. Ibid. See also *Biblical References in Shakespeare's Tragedies*, by Naseeb Shaheen (University of Delaware Press, Newark, DE, 1987); *Biblical References in Shakespeare's History Plays*, by Naseeb Shaheen (University of Delaware Press, Newark, DE, 1989); *Biblical References in Shakespeare's Comedies*, by Naseeb Shaheen (University of Delaware Press, Newark, DE, 1993); and *Biblical Influences in Shakespeare's Great Tragedies*, by Peter Milward (University of Indiana Press, Bloomington, 1987). Shaheen finds more than 1,300 Biblical references in the plays.
6. *The Place of Ancient Greece*, by William Ewart Gladstone (1865), as quoted in *The Bible and Civilization*, by Gabriel Sivan (Quadrangle/New York Times, New York, 1973, p. 231).
7. *Jenseits von Gut und BŶse*, by Friedrich Nietzsche (1886, 52), as translated in *The Bible and Civilization*, by Gabriel Sivan (Quadrangle/New York Times, New York, 1973, p. 276).
8. *The Spain of Fernando de Rojas*, by Stephen Gilman (Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1972, p. 154). Carlos Fuentes, the world renowned Mexican novelist, writes the following in Fr'd'ric Brenner's *Diaspora: Homelands in Exile* (HarperCollins, New York, Vol. 2: *Voices*, 2003, p. 23): "Jewish intellectuals were prominent in the court of King Alfonso X of Castile, Alfonso the Wise, where they wrote down the monumental *summae* of the Spanish Middle Age: the judicial compilation known as *Las Siete Partidas*, the judicial treatise *El Fuero Real*, and the two great histories of Spain and of the world in the thirteenth century. The extraordinary fact is that the Jewish intelligentia at Alfonso's court demanded that the vast knowledge of the times be written in Spanish and not, as was then the custom, in Latin. It can be said that the Spanish language as we know it and write it now is the great bequest of



the Spanish Jews of the Middle Ages to us all, the four hundred million men and women who speak and write and dream in Spanish today."

9. "Some Meta-Rabbis," by George Steiner in *Next Year in Jerusalem*, edited by Douglas Villiers (Viking Press, New York, 1976, p. 70). The *first* of the two "principal chapters" to which Steiner refers was the text-centric reconstruction of Judaism by the Rabbis, which ultimately involved its transfer out of the ruins of Jerusalem into what Steiner describes as an "indestructible house of words."

10. See, e.g., *Culture and Value*, by Ludwig Wittgenstein (University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1984) and the biographical novel *The World as I Found It*, by Bruce Duffy (Ticknor and Fields, New York, 1987).

11. *Wittgenstein and Judaism: A Triumph of Concealment*, by Ranjit Chatterjee (Peter Lang, New York, 2005, p. 103).

12. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.

* Contrary to what is written nearly everywhere, Joseph Pulitzer's father and mother were *both* Jewish. See *Pulitzer: A Life*, by Denis Brian (Wiley, New York, 2001, pp. 129-130, 255, and 357). Brian notes concerning Pulitzer's supposed half-Jewish background that "recent research [in Hungary by Andr s Csillag] shows that both his mother [n e Louise Berger] and his father were Jewish." Kinga Frojimovics, G za Komor czy, Vikt ria Pusztai, and Andrea Strbik write the following in *Jewish Budapest: Monuments, Rites, History* (Central European University Press, Budapest, 1999, p. 335): "Pulitzer, whose mother and father were both Jewish, whose name had been preserved in the *mohel*'s registry of the Mak  Jewish community..."

Shmuel Agnon, *The Bridal Canopy; A Guest for the Night, The Day Before Yesterday* **1966 Nobel Prize in Literature**

Vasily Aksyonov ¹, *The Burn, Generations of Winter, The Island of Crimea*

Aharon Appelfeld, *Badenheim 1939, The Immortal Bartfuss, The Age of Wonders, The Story of a Life: A Memoir* (**2004 Prix M dicis  tranger**)

Sholem Asch, *The Nazarine, The Apostle, Three Cities, Salvation, East River*

Isaac Asimov, *I, Robot, Foundation Trilogy*

Paul Auster, *The New York Trilogy, Leviathan* (**1993 Prix M dicis  tranger**)

Isaac Babel, *Red Cavalry, Odessa Tales*

Giorgio Bassani, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*

Vicki Baum, *Grand Hotel*

Saul Bellow, *The Adventures of Augie March, Henderson the Rain King, Herzog, Mr. Sammler's Planet, Humboldt's Gift* (**1976 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction; 1976 Nobel Prize in Literature**)



Haggan Rob Menes
10700 Havenwood Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89135
(702) 804-1333

Henri Bergson, *L'Evolution Créatrice* (Creative Evolution); **1927 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Biblical Authors, *The Bible* (Jewish and Christian Scriptures)
Robert Bloch, *Psycho*
Kazimierz Brandys, *Samson*, *Antygonia*, *Troy*, *Open City*, *Man Does Not Die*
Hermann Broch, *The Death of Virgil*, *The Sleepwalkers*
Max Brod, *The Redemption of Tycho Brahe*
Anita Brookner, *Hotel du Lac* (**1984 Man Booker Prize**)
Elias Canetti, *Auto-da-Fé*, *Masse und Macht* (Crowds and Power), *Das Gewissen der Worte* (The Conscience of Words); **1981 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Miguel de Cervantes ², *Don Quixote*
Michael Chabon, *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* (**2001 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**)
Hélène Cixous, *Inside* (Dedans, **1969 Prix Médicis**)
Albert Cohen, *Belle du Seigneur*
Marcia Davenport, *The Valley of Decision*, *Easy Side*, *West Side*
Benjamin Disraeli, *Sybil*, *Vivian Grey*, *Coningsby*, *Tancred*
Alfred Döblin, *Berlin Alexanderplatz*
E. L. Doctorow, *Ragtime*, *World's Fair*, *Billy Bathgate*, *City of God*
Sergei Dovlatov ³, *The Compromise*, *The Zone*
Maurice Druon ⁴, *The Accursed Kings* (Les Rois Maudits), *Les Grandes Familles* (**1948 Prix Goncourt**)
Ilya Ehrenburg, *The Ninth Wave*, *The Storm*, *The Thaw*
Harlan Ellison, *Dangerous Visions*
Leslie Epstein, *King of the Jews: A Novel of the Holocaust*, *Goldkorn Tales*
Edna Ferber, *So Big* (**1925 Pulitzer Prize for the Novel**), *Show Boat*, *Cimarron*, *Saratoga Trunk*
Lion Feuchtwanger, *Jud Süß* (Jew Süß: A Historical Romance), *Der jüdische Krieg* (Josephus), *Der Tag wird kommen* (The Day Will Come)
Anne Frank, *The Diary of a Young Girl*
Sigmund Freud, *The Interpretation of Dreams*, *Civilization and Its Discontents*, *Totem and Taboo*
Romain Gary ⁵, *The Roots of Heaven* (**1956 Prix Goncourt**), *The Life Before Us* (**1975 Prix Goncourt**), *Forrest of Anger*, *The Dance of Gengis Cohn*
Eugenia Ginzburg, *Journey Into the Whirlwind*
Natalia Ginzburg ⁶, *All Our Yesterdays*, *Voices in the Evening*
Nadine Gordimer, *A World of Strangers*, *Burger's Daughter*, *The Conservationist* (**1974 Man Booker Prize**); **1991 Nobel Prize in Literature**
David Grossman, *The Yellow Wind*
Vasily Grossman, *Life and Fate*, *Forever Flowing*
Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*, *God Knows* (**1985 Prix Médicis étranger**)
Mark Helprin, *Winter's Tale*, *A Soldier of the Great War*
Stefan Heym, *The Crusaders*
Paul Heyse ⁷, *Children of the World*, *In Paradise*; **1910 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Laura Z. Hobson, *Gentleman's Agreement*
Roger Ikor, *La greffe de printemps*, *Les eaux mêlées* (**1955 Prix Goncourt**)
Ilya Ilf, *The Twelve Chairs*, *The Little Golden Calf*
Howard Jacobson, *Who's Sorry Now?*, *Kalooki Nights*, *The Finkler Question* (**2010 Man Booker Prize**)
Elfriede Jelinek ⁸, *Women as Lovers*, *Wonderful, Wonderful Times*, *The Piano Teacher*; **2004 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Ruth Praver Jhabvala, *In Search of Love and Beauty*, *Heat and Dust* (**1975 Man Booker Prize**)
Erica Jong, *Fear of Flying*, *Inventing Memory: A Novel of Mothers and Daughters*
Franz Kafka, *The Trial*, *The Castle*, *Amerika*, *The Metamorphosis*
Roger Kahn, *The Boys of Summer*
MacKinlay Kantor ⁹, *Long Remember*, *Andersonville* (**1956 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**)



Haggan Rob Menes
10700 Havenwood Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89135
(702) 804-1333

Veniamin Kaverin, *Two Captains*
Imre Kertész, *Kaddish for a Child Not Born*; **2002 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Joseph Kessel, *Bell de jour*, *Les Captifs*, *Les Coeurs purs* (The Pure of Heart), *L'Armée des ombres* (Army of Shadows)
Danilo Kiš¹⁰, *Garden*, *Ashes*, *Early Sorrows*, *Hourglass*, *The Encyclopedia of the Dead*
Arthur Koestler, *Darkness at Noon*, *Arrow in the Blue*, *The Age of Longing*, *Insight and Outlook*, *The Sleepwalkers*, *The Act of Creation*
György Konrád, *A Feast in the Garden*, *Homecoming*
Jerzy Kosinski, *The Painted Bird*, *Being There*
Judith Krantz, *Scruples*, *Princess Daisy*
Anna Langfus, *Les bagages de sable* (The Lost Shore) (**1962 Prix Goncourt**)
Stanislaw Lec, *Unkempt Thoughts*
Stanislaw Lem, *Summa Technologiae*, *Cyberiad*, *Solaris*
Carlo Levi, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*
Primo Levi, *If This Is a Man*, *The Periodic Table*, *If Not Now, When?*, *The Drowned and the Saved*
Ira Levin, *Rosemary's Baby*, *The Stepford Wives*, *The Boys from Brazil*
Jonathan Littell, *Les bienveillantes* (The Kindly Ones) (**2006 Prix Goncourt**)
Alison Lurie¹¹, *Foreign Affairs* (**1985 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**)
Arnošt Lustig, *Night and Hope*, *Diamonds in the Night*, *The Street of Lost Brothers*, *A Prayer for Catherine Horowitz*
Norman Mailer, *The Naked and the Dead*, *The Armies of the Night* (**1969 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction**), *The Executioner's Song* (**1980 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**)
Bernard Malamud, *The Fixer* (**1967 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**), *The Natural*, *The Tenants*, *The Assistant*
David Malouf²⁶, *An Imaginary Life*, *Fly Away Peter*, *The Great World*, *Remembering Babylon*
Nadezhda Mandelstam, *Hope Against Hope*
Norman Manea, *On Clowns: The Dictator and the Artist*, *Compulsory Happiness*, *The Black Envelope*, *The Hooligan's Return* (**2006 Prix Médicis étranger**)
Klaus Mann¹², *Mephisto*, *Der Vulkan*
André Maurois, *Les Silences du Colonel Bramble*, *À la recherche de Marcel Proust*, *Climats*, *Le Cercle de famille*, *Ariel*
Mendele Moykher Sforim, *The Little Man*, *The Travels and Adventures of Benjamin the Third*
Daniel Mendelsohn, *The Lost* (Les Disparus) (**2007 Prix Médicis étranger**)
Steven Millhauser, *Edwin Mullhouse* (**1975 Prix Médicis étranger**), *Martin Dressler: The Tale of an American Dreamer* (**1997 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**)
Patrick Modiano¹³, *Missing Person* (**1978 Prix Goncourt**)
Michel de Montaigne¹⁴, *Essays*
Elsa Morante¹⁵, *La storia*, *Aracoeli* (**1984 Prix Médicis étranger**)
Alberto Moravia¹⁶, *Two Women*, *The Conformist*
Harry Mulisch¹⁷, *The Assault*, *The Discovery of Heaven*, *The Procedure*
Irene Némirovsky, *David Golder*, *Le Bal*, *Les mouches d'automne*, *Le vin de solitude*, *Les chiens et les loups*, *Les Biens de ce monde*
Amos Oz, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*, *My Michael*
Cynthia Ozick, *Art & Ardor*, *Heir to the Glimmering World*, *The Puttermesser Papers*
Dorothy Parker¹⁸, *The Collected Dorothy Parker*
Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*; **1958 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Georges Perec, *La Vie mode d'emploi* (Life: A User's Manual) (**1978 Prix Médicis**)
I.L. Peretz, *Bontshe the Silent*, *The Book of Fire: Stories by I.L. Peretz*
Belva Plain, *Evergreen*
Chaim Potok, *In the Beginning*, *The Chosen*



Haggan Rob Menes
10700 Havenwood Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89135
(702) 804-1333

Marcel Proust ¹⁹, *À la Recherche du Temps Perdu* (In Search of Lost Time; alternatively translated as *Remembrance of Things Past*) **(1919 Prix Goncourt)**
Ellery Queen (pseudonym used by Frederic Dannay and Manfred Lee), Ellery Queen mystery novels, anthologies, and magazine
Ayn Rand, *Atlas Shrugged*, *The Fountainhead*, *We the Living*
Mordecai Richler, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*
Harold Robbins, *The Carpetbaggers*
Fernando de Rojas, *La Celestina*
Henry Roth, *Call It Sleep*
Joseph Roth, *The Radetzky March*, *Job*
Philip Roth, *Portnoy's Complaint*, *Goodbye Columbus*, *American Pastoral* **(1998 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)**, *The Human Stain* **(2002 Prix Médicis étranger)**
Bernice Rubens, *Madame Sousatzka*, *The Elected Member* **(1970 Man Booker Prize)**, *A Solitary Grief*
Anatoly Rybakov, *Children of the Arbat*, *Heavy Sand*
Carl Sagan, *The Dragons of Eden* **(1978 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction)**
J. D. Salinger ²⁰, *The Catcher in the Rye*
Nathalie Sarraute, *Tropismes*, *The Planetarium*, *The Age of Suspicion*, *The Golden Fruits*, *Between Life and Death*
Budd Schulberg, *What Makes Sammy Run?*
Bruno Schulz, *The Street of Crocodiles*, *Sanatorium under the Sign of the Hourglass*
Andr' Schwarz-Bart, *Le Dernier des Justes* (The Last of the Just) **(1959 Prix Goncourt)**
Erich Segal, *Love Story*
Anna Seghers, *The Seventh Cross*
Meir Shalev, *The Blue Mountain*, *Esau*, *The Loves of Judith*
Irwin Shaw, *Rich Man, Poor Man*, *The Young Lions*
Sidney Sheldon, *The Other Side of Midnight*, *Rage of Angels*
Sholem Aleichem, *Tevye the Dairyman and Other Stories*, *Some Laughter, Some Tears: Tales From the Old World and the New*
Isaac Bashevis Singer, *The Magician of Lublin*, *Enemies: A Love Story*, *Satan in Goray*, *The Family Moskat*, *The Slave*; **1978 Nobel Prize in Literature**
Muriel Spark ²¹, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*
Man'us Sperber, *Burned Bramble*, *All Our Yesterdays*
Art Spiegelman, *Maus* **(1992 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction)**
Danielle Steel ²², Best-selling romance novels (more than 500 million copies sold)
Gertrude Stein, *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*
Milton Steinberg, *As a Driven Leaf*
George Steiner, *The Portage to San Cristóbal of A.H.*
Irving Stone, *The Agony and the Ecstasy*, *Lust for Life*
Arkady and Boris Strugatsky ²³, *Roadside Picnic*, *Monday Begins on Saturday*
Jacqueline Susann, *Valley of the Dolls*
Italo Svevo, *The Confessions of Zeno*
Alvin Toffler, *Future Shock*
Yuri Trifonov ²⁴, *House on the Embankment*
Elsa Triolet, *A Fine of 200 Francs* **(1944 Prix Goncourt)**
Barbara Tuchman, *The Guns of August* **(1963 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction)**
Scott Turow, *Presumed Innocent*, *Burden of Proof*, *The Laws of Our Fathers*, *Reversible Errors*, *Ordinary Heroes*
Lyudmila Ulitskaya, *Sonechka* **(1996 Prix Médicis étranger)**, *Kukotsky's Case*
Leon Uris, *Exodus*, *Mila 18*
Vladimir Voinovich ²⁵, *The Life and Extraordinary Adventures of Private Ivan Chonkin*



Irving Wallace, *The Prize*

Edward Wallant, *The Pawnbroker*, *The Human Season*

Jerome Weidman, *I Can Get It for You Wholesale*

Franz Werfel, *The Forty Days of Musa Dagh*, *The Song of Bernadette*

Nathanael West, *Miss Lonelyhearts*, *The Day of the Locust*, *A Cool Million*

Elie Wiesel, *Night*, *Dawn*, *The Accident*, *The Gates of the Forrester*, *A Beggar in Jerusalem* (*Le Mendiant de Jérusalem*), **1968 Prix Médicis**, *All Rivers Run to the Sea: Memoirs*, *And the Sea is Never Full: Memoirs*; **1986 Nobel Peace Prize**

Nobel Peace Prize

Herman Wouk, *The Caine Mutiny* (**1952 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction**), *The Winds of War*, *War and Remembrance*, *This is My God*

A. B. Yehoshua, *A Late Divorce*, *Five Seasons*, *Mr. Mani*

Israel Zangwill, *Children of the Ghetto*

Arnold Zweig, *The Case of Sergeant Grischa*

Stefan Zweig, *Amok*, *The Royal Game*, *The World of Yesterday*

NOTES

1. Jewish mother (Eugenia Ginzburg), non-Jewish father.

2. See, e.g., *The Cambridge Companion to Cervantes*, edited by Anthony Cascardi (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2002, p.4). Writing of Cervantes' parents Rodrigo de Cervantes and Leonor de Cortinas, Cascardi states in the Introduction: "While the family may have had some claim to nobility they often found themselves in financial straits. Moreover, they were almost certainly of converso origin, that is, converts to Catholicism of Jewish ancestry." While this view is now very widely held, it has not yet been definitively established.

3. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

4. Jewish father (Lazare Kessel, the brother of novelist Joseph Kessel).

5. Although born Roman Kacew to a Jewish couple, Nina and Leyba Kacew (who separated shortly after his birth), Gary claimed that he "never knew with any certainty who his father was"; see *Romain Gary: The Man Who Sold His Shadow*, by Ralph Schoolcraft (University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, 2002, pp. 1, 48).

6. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

7. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.

8. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

9. Born Benjamin MacKinlay Kantor to a Jewish father and a non-Jewish mother.

See *My Father's Voice: MacKinlay Kantor Long Remembered*, by Tim Kantor (McGraw-Hill, New York, 1988, pp. 28-29, 40, 48-49, 92).

10. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

11. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

12. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.

13. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

14. According to both Donald Frame in *Montaigne*, a biography (Hamilton, London, 1965, pp. 16-28) and Cecil Roth in "The Jewish Ancestry of Michel de Montaigne" [Chapter 14 of *Personalities and Events in Jewish History* (Jewish Publication Society of America, Philadelphia, 1953, pp. 212-225)], Montaigne's maternal grandfather was a Jewish converso; however, Montaigne's maternal grandmother came from an "Old Christian" (i.e., non-converso) family, as did his father.

15. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.

16. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

17. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.

18. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.

19. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.



Hazzan Rob Menes
10700 Havenwood Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89135
(702) 804-1333

-
20. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother; raised Jewish.
 21. Jewish father, mother of partial Jewish descent. Although Spark had always maintained that, of her mother's antecedents, only her mother's maternal grandfather was Jewish, documents in the possession of the office of the Chief Rabbi in London indicate that both of her mother's maternal grandparents were Jewish, which is consistent with her grandmother having been buried in the Jewish section of the Piershill Cemetery in Edinburgh. In 1998, Spark conceded that "it's quite possible that Adelaide [her maternal grandmother] was born a Jew, that I got it wrong." See 15 April 1998 article "Document sparks family feud over writer's Jewish origins," by Dean Nelson in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.
 22. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother.
 23. Jewish father, non-Jewish mother; see final paragraph of http://www.abstrugatskie.ru/strug_famil/.
 24. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.
 25. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.
 26. Jewish mother, non-Jewish father.