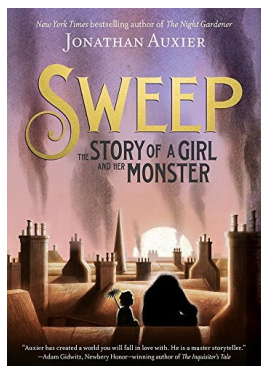
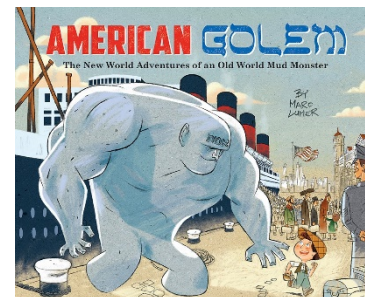


GOLEM TITLES

The Golem is a favorite character from Jewish legend, popular in fiction for all ages. Below is a list of favorite resources in the Rabbi Richard B. Safran Library at Congregation Achduth Vesholom. Be sure to check out our full list of golem-related titles [here](#).

Picture Books for Younger Readers

The Golem is a little bit scary for the youngest readers, so it doesn't appear in very many picture books. Marc Lumer's *American Golem: The New World Adventures of an Old World Mud Monster*, is a light-hearted exception. A young Jewish immigrant boy creates a Golem to protect him in his new and scary country. On the non-fiction side, Mark Podwal tells the story of the Old-New Synagogue in Prague in *Built by Angels: The Story of the Old-New Synagogue*. This was the Golem's birthplace in legend. The book is beautifully illustrated.

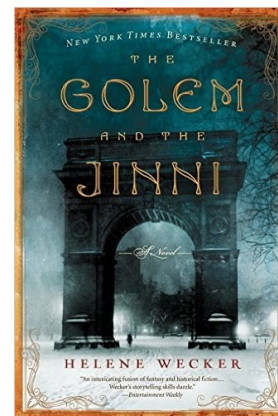


Chapter Books for Older Children

Our juvenile fiction and non-fiction collections are the best source for Golem-related material. *Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster*, by Jonathan Auxier, won a National Jewish Book Award in 2018. Set in 19th-century England, this golem is created accidentally by a young girl working as a chimney sweep. Jane Yolen's Sydney Taylor Notable Book, *B.U.G. (Big Ugly Guy)*, includes a golem as a twelve-year-old's bodyguard. *The Trouble with Good Ideas*, by Amanda Panitch, is a brand-new addition to our collection. Twelve-year-old Leah creates a golem to look after her grandfather. There are several non-fiction titles to choose from that tell the story more or less "straight." One of the best is David Wisniewski's *Golem*, the winner of a Caldecott Medal. It's a picture book with absolutely stunning illustrations, but because of the nature of its content – it's rather scary – it's filed in the juvenile section for slightly older readers. Barbara Rogasky's *The Golem: A Version*, was the winner of a National Jewish Book Award, and *Clay Man: The Golem of Prague*, by Irene Watts, was a National Jewish Book Award finalist. We also have similar titles by both Isaac Bashevis Singer and Elie Wiesel.

Titles for Adults and Teens

Three works of fiction are worth mentioning in our adult collection, suitable for teens as well. *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay*, by Michael Chabon, is set in New York City in 1939. Comic books and golems are included in this adventurous, Pulitzer prize-winning novel. Helene Wecker's *The Golem and the Jinni*, was a "One Book One Congregation" selection for us a few years ago. A National Jewish Book Award finalist, its main characters are a female golem and a male jinni (genie), and is also set in New York City, though around 1900. *The Golem's Mighty Swing*, by James Sturm, is a graphic novel set in the 1920s. The story centers around a Jewish baseball team and a questionable promoter who adds a golem to the mix.



Stories for All Ages

The story of the Golem is included in most of the folktale collections in our library. The anthology by Howard Schwartz, *Miriam's Tambourine*, presents "The Golem" in the most traditional setting, as protector of the Jewish people. Ellen Frankel's *The Jewish Spirit* includes Nathan Ausubel's retelling of an alternate version, where the Golem must be destroyed by its creator. Beatrice Weinreich's collection, *Yiddish Folktales*, includes "The Golem of Vilna," yet another variation on the story of this famous creature.