

# New for February

The books worth checking out this month.

By ADI SHTAMBERGER



## השתיין by Hans Fallada, Yediot Sfarim -

You might have thought that Fallada's **masterpiece** לבד כברלין was a one-off and nothing else the man wrote comes near that novel's level. Then this novel appears, which was found and came out only after Fallada's death, and shows you the man was a genius whose every book is **worth** a read. In this novel, a businessman, Herr Sommer, has fallen to drink after his business went bad. As a **result**, his 15-year marriage to Magda starts falling apart. Again, Fallada is wonderful in **describing** the feeling of being all alone in the world, **estranged** from everything that's going on around you, with no one to turn to for **support** and **comfort**. There is no writer more honest. He shows us Sommer's breakdown and inner chaos in the most **honest** and truthful way possible. Every sentence gives you **goosebumps**, and every chapter **spirals** deeper and deeper into this man's inner **crisis**. The personal **oppression** is a mirror of the outside oppression of which we are **aware** in reading the novel, **although** it is hardly ever **mentioned** in it. The context of when and where this book was written, and under which **circumstances**, gives the story new levels of depth and meaning. Perfect.

## רצח בקריצה (Wink Murder) by Ali Knight, Kinneret, Zmora-Bitan -

Many **suspense** novels are based on the question of how much you really know about the people closest to you. This one starts with the same question in mind. Kate's life seems very normal – she has a nice house, a nice husband who is a successful TV **producer**, two nice children and a great job at BBC. But one night she is woken up by strange noises. She gets up and finds her husband covered with blood and very drunk on the floor. He says he has killed someone and cries, but Kate takes his words as the crazy talk of a drunk, and goes back to sleep. In the morning, he says everything is fine, and that he had only ran over a dog on the road. Kate wants to believe him, and carries on as usual, although from time to time she **admits** to herself that she's not really sure about what really happened to Paul that night. Then a young woman, one of Paul's workers, turns up dead, and Kate **realizes** that she will not be able to continue her life as normal without learning the whole truth about the man she lives with. Fast-**paced** and **gripping**.

## האמת על פרשת הארי קברט by Joel Dicker, Modan -

It is not every day that a Swiss book is **hailed** as 'the latest great American novel.' But this one was. Although it first came out in France and Switzerland and was **nominated** for many **awards** there, its story takes place in the US, during a presidential **election**, and is very American. Its main **character** is a young writer, Marcus Goldman, who **suffers** from writers' block and is about to miss his deadline for a new book. Then he hears that his old friend and teacher, Harry Quebert, is **accused** of a murder that took place 30 years ago. Sure that Harry is not guilty of this crime, Marcus goes on his own **investigation** to try and help his friend. But things soon turn ugly and dangerous. Dicker looks into the modern American society, and finds all that is sick and decadent about it. It is an intelligent, surprisingly well-written novel, and I enjoyed it very much.

Dictionary		
Masterpiece	מסטרפיס	יצירת מופת
Worth	וורת'	שווה
Result	ריזלט	תוצאה
Describing	דיסקריבינג	תיאור
Estranged	אסטרינג'ד	מנוכר
Support	ספורט	תמיכה
Comfort	קמפורט	נחמה
Honest	אונסט	כן
Goosebumps	גוסבמפס	צמרמורות
Spirals	ספירלז	מסתחרר
Crisis	קריסיס	משבר
Oppression	אופרשן	דיכוי
Aware	אואר	מודעים
Although	אולת'וו	למרות
Mentioned	מנשנד	מוזכר
Circumstances	סירקומסטנסז	נסיבות
Suspense	סספנס	מתח
Producer	פרודוסר	מפיק
Admits	אדמיטס	מודה
Realizes	ריאלייזז	מבינה
Paced	פיסט	בקצב
Gripping	גריפינג	מרתק
Hailed	הילד	הוכרז
Nominated	נומיניטד	מועמד
Awards	אורדז	פרסים
Election	אלקשן	בחירות
Character	קרקטר	דמות
Suffers	ספרז	סובל
Accused	אקיוזד	מואשם
Investigation	אינבסטיגישן	חקירה