

# The Remarkable Journey of Josh's Kippah

By  
**Barbara Elissa**  
Illustrated by  
**Farida Zaman**

Follow the madcap  
adventure of  
Josh's kippah from  
his Bar Mitzvah  
in New York, to a  
sukkah in Israel,  
a Hanukkah party in  
Argentina, and many  
stops in between.

Where will the  
traveling  
kippah end  
up?





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For Eli and Daniel, who  
are my constant joy and  
inspiration, and with  
special thanks to Gail R.  
- B.E.

To My Family - F.Z.





## Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Jacobs



The first to wear the kippah was **Avi Abelson**, Josh's uncle from **Los Angeles**.  
Avi was called to the Torah for an aliyah during the service.







That night at  
the party,  
he danced a  
crazy hora.  
He had so much  
fun dancing,  
that he lost  
track of time.

When he raced to the airport to fly  
home, Josh's kippah flew with him.



HOLLYWOOD




On Rosh Hashanah, Avi wore the kippah when he blew the shofar in synagogue.



He was still wearing it as he walked to the ocean for Tashlich. But when everyone tossed crusts of bread into the water, a big wind tossed their kippot into the air...and scattered them everywhere.








This is how Josh's kippah wound up on the head of **Benjamin Brody**. Benjamin was spending Rosh Hashanah with his sister, but his home was in **Sydney, Australia**.

When Benjamin flew home,  
Josh's kippah flew with him.



A colorful cartoon illustration of a synagogue service. On the left, a man in a blue kippah and a blue robe with an orange and yellow striped scarf stands at a purple podium, reading from a large open book. To his right, a group of people are seated in pews. In the foreground, a woman in a pink sweater and a purple skirt with a white swirl pattern is reading a book. Behind her, a young boy with blonde hair is also reading. To the right, a young girl with blonde pigtails in a blue dress is holding a doll. Other people in the background are also reading or looking towards the front. The scene is set in a room with a green wall and a white archway. A blue ladder is visible in the bottom left corner.

On Yom Kippur, Benjamin wore the kippah when he read from the Book of Jonah.





As the day of prayer wore on, his drowsy head nodded backward, and off slipped the kippah...right onto the forward-nodding head of **Coby Cohen**. Coby was visiting his family in Australia.

When he flew home to Israel, Josh's kippah flew with him.







On Sukkot, the kippah was  
knocked off Coby's head by  
a very little girl shaking a  
very big lulav.





More than one kippah fell off a head that day, and as people collected the scattered kippot, **Daniel Disraeli** snatched up Josh's.



The next day Daniel flew to Paris where he was studying art, and Josh's kippah flew with him.





On Simchat Torah, Daniel carried a Torah around the synagogue.



He marched and danced and sang so fast that Josh's kippah flew off his head, and was lost in the wild celebration.





It was found by **Eli Espinoza**, who had also lost his kippah as he whirled around. Eli was in Paris enjoying the museums and cafes.




When he flew home to Argentina, Josh's kippah flew with him.



On Hanukkah, Eli fried  
delicious latkes and  
sufganiyot for his friends.





A colorful cartoon illustration of a group of people celebrating Hanukkah. In the foreground, a large, ornate menorah with nine lit candles stands on a blue surface. A woman with brown hair and a blue headband is lighting a candle. To her left, a woman with blonde hair and a pink shirt smiles. Behind them, a young boy with brown hair and a blue shirt is also smiling. To the right, a man with glasses and a yellow headband is holding a small yellow object. Next to him, a young boy with blonde hair and a red shirt is pointing upwards. In the background, a woman with brown hair and a purple headband is smiling. A young girl with brown hair and a purple shirt is sitting on the floor, looking at a plate of food. The background is a light blue wall with yellow stars hanging from the ceiling. A red banner at the top right contains text about Franny Frankel. A yellow banner at the bottom right contains text about Josh's kippah. A picture of a beach scene is also visible in the bottom right corner.

One of his guests was **Franny Frankel** who was visiting from **Miami**. Franny borrowed the kippah for the lighting of the menorah.

When she flew home, Josh's kippah flew with her.





On Purim, Franny went to  
hear the Megillah with her  
niece **Gabby Gitelman**.



Every time Haman's  
name was read,  
they twirled their  
groggers and raised  
quite a ruckus.







Gabby had traveled from **New York** with her family and her toy tiger Hezekiah. "Hezekiah needs a kippah," Gabby said. Franny searched her pockets and found the blue kippah...just the thing!

When Gabby and Hezekiah flew home,  
Josh's kippah flew with them.





On Passover, Gabby and her family went to a seder at their synagogue.



She asked the Four Questions and searched for the afikomen.



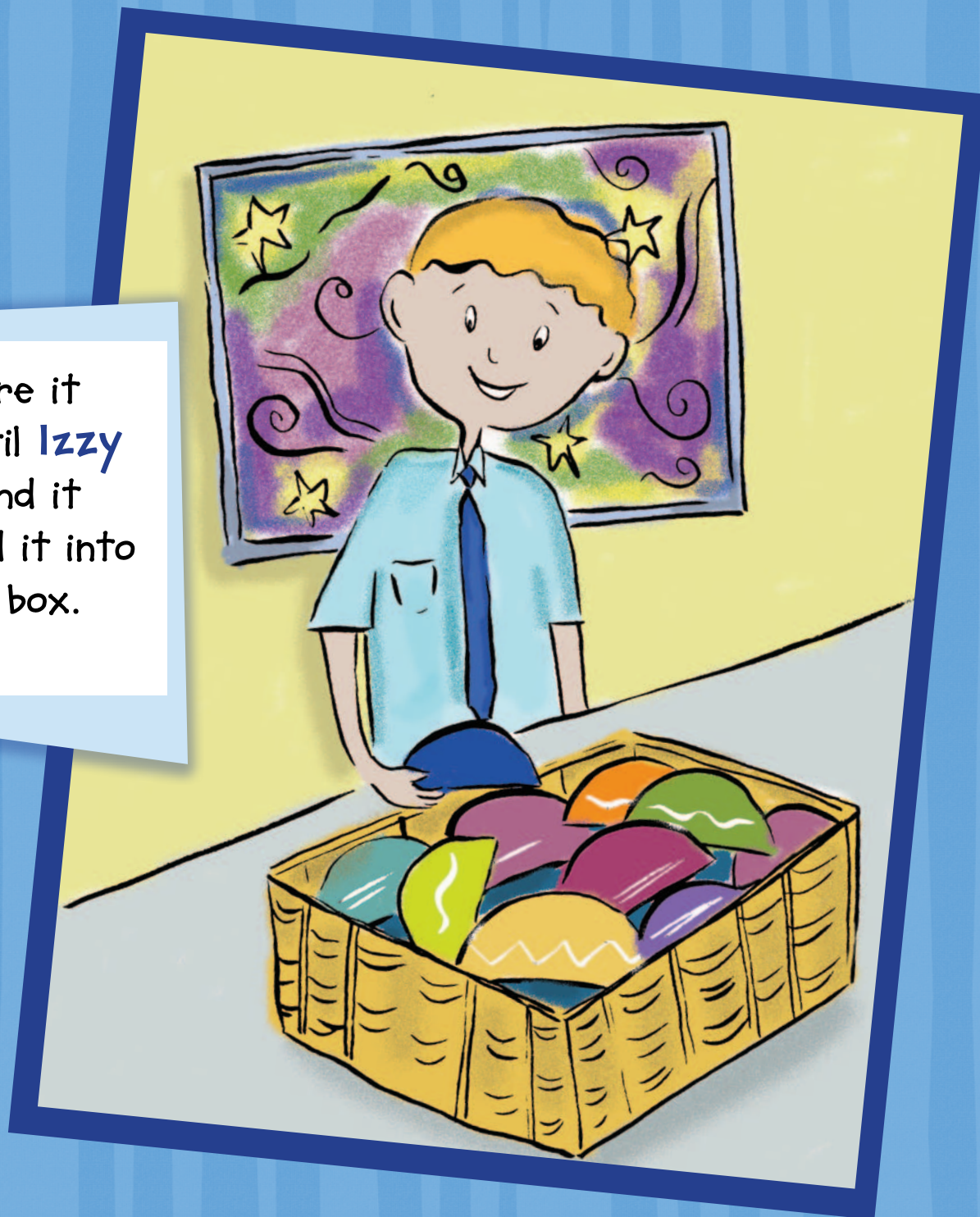





But by  
"Had Gadya,"  
Gabby was so  
sleepy that  
her daddy  
had to carry  
her home.  
As Hezekiah  
dangled in  
her arms,  
Josh's kippah  
slid to the  
floor...



...and there it stayed until **Izzy Isaacs** found it and tossed it into the kippah box.







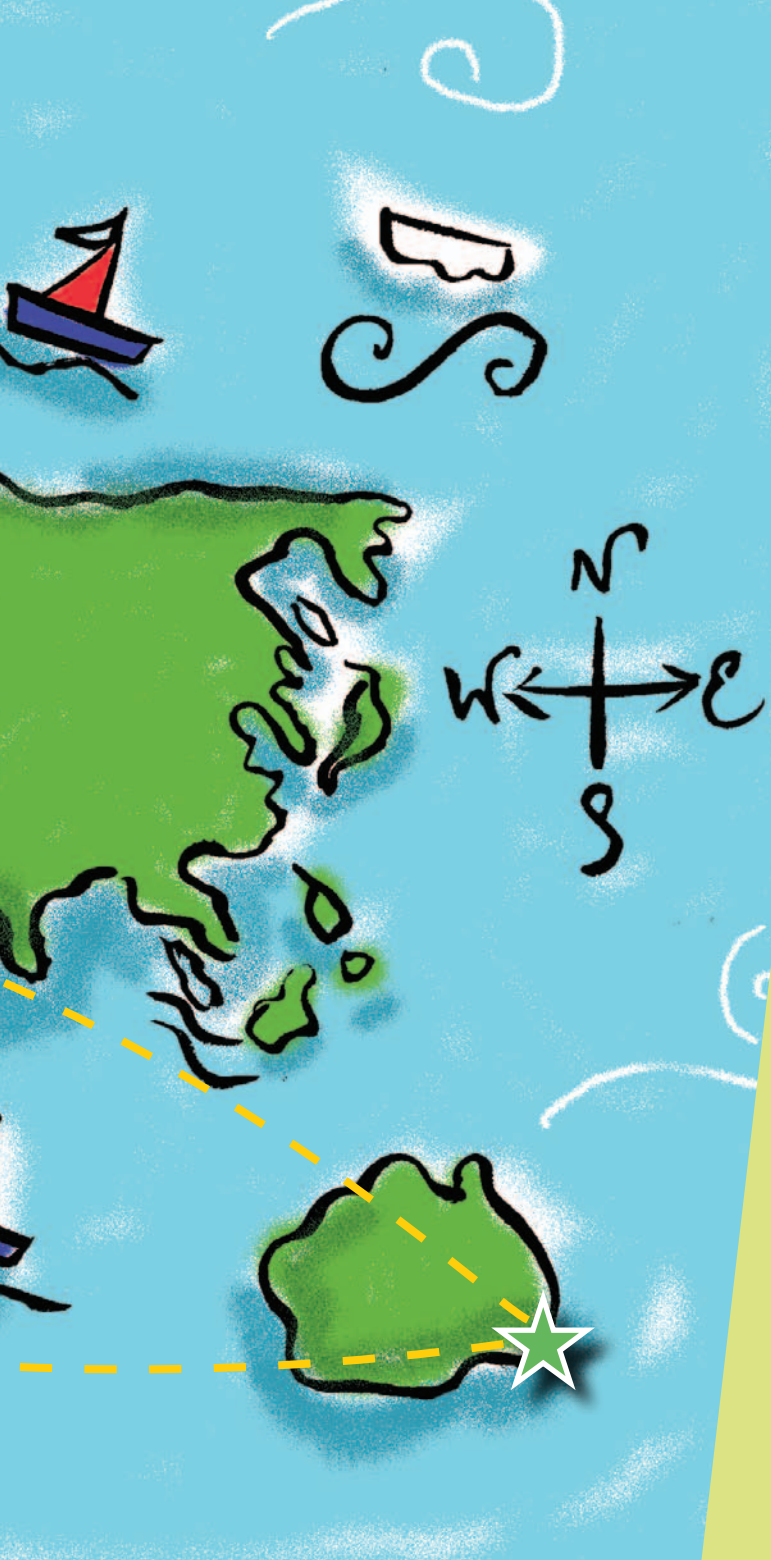
On Shavuot, Joshua Jacobs  
reached into the box and  
pulled out a kippah.  
It was blue satin and inside it  
said **Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Jacobs**  
in faded gold letters.

"Look," said Josh,  
"one of my kippot  
is still here...after  
all this time!"









Can you follow the travels  
of Josh's kippah?

New York City, New York

Los Angeles, California

Sydney, Australia

Israel

Paris, France

Argentina

Miami, Florida

and back to

New York City, New York



# Glossary

**Afikomen:** matzah (unleavened bread) hidden at Passover seder to pique the interest of children

**Aliyah:** literally “going up,” the synagogue honor of being called up to bless the Torah

**Bar Mitzvah:** coming of age ceremony for Jewish boys

**Four Questions:** part of the Passover seder, traditionally asked by youngest child

**Grogger:** noisemaker

**Hanukkah:** The holiday celebrating the Jewish victory over King Antiochus

**Hora:** Israeli folk dance

**Kippah (plural kippot):** headcovering

**Latkes:** potato pancakes often eaten on Hanukkah

**Lulav:** palm branch bound with sprigs of myrtle and willow used on Sukkot

**Megillah:** scroll containing Biblical Book of Esther read on Purim

**Menorah:** candelabra used on Hanukkah

**Passover:** holiday celebrating Exodus from Egypt

**Purim:** Festival of Lots celebrating victory over Persians recorded in Book of Esther

**Rosh Hashanah:** Jewish New Year

**Seder:** festive meal eaten on Passover

**Shavuot:** Festival of Weeks celebrating giving of the Torah

**Shofar:** ram’s horn blown on the Jewish High Holidays

**Simchat Torah:** holiday of rejoicing with the Torah

**Sufganiyot:** jelly donuts eaten on Hanukkah

**Sukkot:** Jewish harvest festival

**Tashlich:** literally “to throw,” symbolic ceremony performed on Rosh Hashanah of “throwing away” sins

**Torah:** Scroll containing Five Books of Moses

**Yom Kippur:** Day of Atonement

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