



Reading Guide

Yuvi's Candy Tree

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Plucky Yuvi, a little Jewish girl living in Ethiopia, dreams of a place where candy grows on trees. Based on a true story, this book tells of Yuvi's extraordinary journey to Israel with her grandmother—a passage from famine and fear to oranges and freedom.

Aliyah is the Hebrew term for Jewish immigration to Israel. The literal translation of the word aliyah is “ascent” or “going up.” One is said to “make aliyah.” (Aliyah also refers to the honor bestowed on those invited to recite the blessings before and after reading the Torah.)

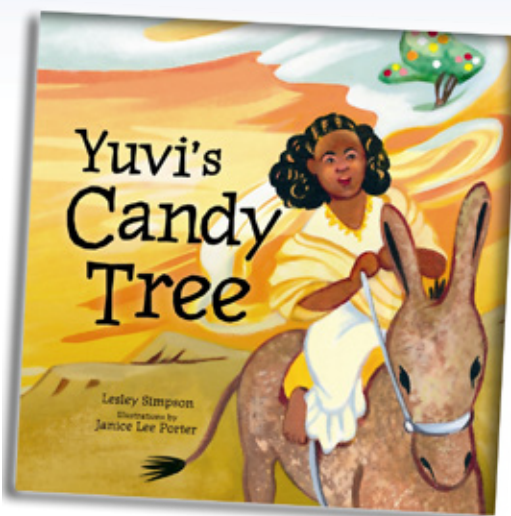
FAMILY RELOCATION

While any family move is pivotal, relocation to another country (particularly in the manner of this story) is monumental. Ask:

- Do you think children should help parents decide whether their family will move?
- Do you think moving to another country would be easier for a child or an adult?
- How might it feel to move to Israel if the customs and language were unfamiliar to you?
- Can you imagine why Yuvi's mother and baby brother were already in Jerusalem?

OTHER QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

After reading *Yuvi's Candy Tree* and the author's Afterward, consider the fascinating story of ongoing



Ethiopian immigration to Israel and, specifically, Yuvi's journey throughout the story. Together, as a family, ask the following questions:

- What aspects of *Yuvi's Candy Tree* show that this is a Jewish story?
- In what ways might Yuvi's family's decision to leave Ethiopia have been troubling and/or exciting for Yuvi?
- Can you imagine how Yuvi felt when armed thieves threatened her family?
- Even after robbers stole their money, Yuvi's grandmother promised, “Nothing bad will happen.” Was she telling Yuvi the truth?
 - Who were the “angels” that Yuvi's grandmother said were with them? What made Yuvi think the airline attendant was an angel?
 - Do you think Yuvi's family should have taken her on their long and dangerous journey?
 - Though her childhood was very different from yours, in what ways are you like Yuvi? PJ