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Available August 2013



## **What a Way to Start a New Year! A Rosh Hashanah Story**

HC 978-0-7613-8116-7 \$16.95  
PB 978-0-7613-8117-4 \$7.95  
eBook 978-1-4677-1640-6 \$6.95

**Author:** Jacqueline Jules  
**Illustrator:** Judy Stead

**Size:** 9 3/4 x 9 3/4  
**Page Count:** 24

**Details:** Full color illustrations  
**Age Level:** 3-8  
**Grade Level:** PreK-2

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## A Modern Family Juggles Chaos at Rosh Hashanah

Beginning the new year in a new city isn't easy—at least it isn't starting out very well for Dina and her family in *What a Way to Start a New Year!* But when they're welcomed by warm and generous hosts in their new community, it becomes a very happy new year for all.

In her author's note, Jacqueline Jules shares that the Jewish custom of welcoming guests enriched her own life growing up. Like the new friend in the story, her father often invited newcomers at their synagogue to share holiday meals. This is also a story about the challenges of moving to a new house in a new town, where everything seems strange and unfamiliar. Children will appreciate the difficulties the family has settling into their new home and missing their friends.

New beginnings and sweetness are associated with Rosh Hashanah. In this story, the family is literally making a new start as they get settled after moving. While "sweetness" seems to evade them through the day's trials, ultimately the first day of the Rosh Hashanah holiday turns out well.

*Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown on September 4, 2013.*

### About the Author and Illustrator:

**Jacqueline Jules** is an award-winning author and poet. Her many children's books include *The Hardest Word* (National Jewish Book Award finalist), Sydney Taylor Honor Award Winners *Sarah Laughs* and *Benjamin and the Silver Goblet*, the Ziz adventure series, and *Once Upon A Shabbos*. She lives in Northern Virginia. Visit her online at [www.jacquelinejules.com](http://www.jacquelinejules.com)

In college, **Judy Stead** majored in her two favorite subjects, reading and drawing, a good combination for working as a teacher, designer, art director, painter, illustrator, and author. Judy lives in Charlotte, North Carolina.

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