

## About the Book

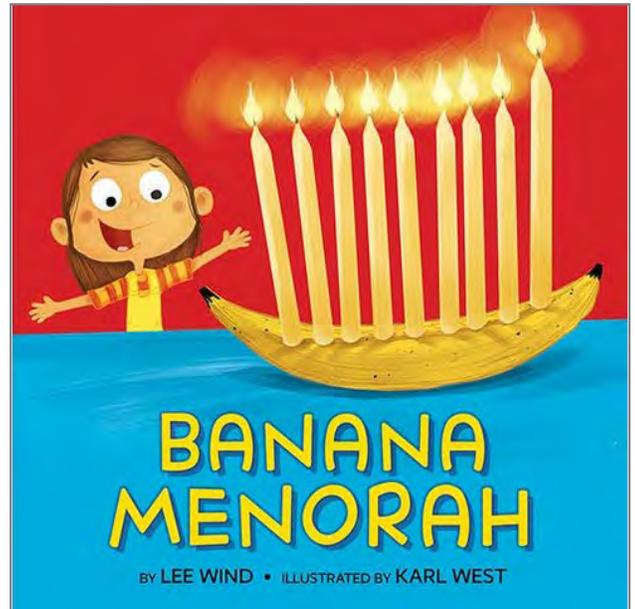
When Skylar and her dads discover they forgot to pack a Hanukkah menorah for their winter vacation, Skylar's creative thinking saves the celebration with unusual and silly replacements.

It's fun to be on vacation, but Skylar is glad the family will also be lighting Hanukkah candles just like they do at home. But as the first night draws near, they discover that while they brought Hanukkah candles, they forgot to bring a menorah. With some quick creative thinking, Skylar improvises some highly unusual solutions for the first three nights of Hanukkah. The family is happy to get home to their regular menorahs while there are still a few nights of Hanukkah left to celebrate. Yet while they love the warm glow of their traditional menorahs, do they really want to light the same ones every night? Maybe tradition can be changed a little.

Inspired by the author's own experience forgetting a menorah on vacation, this book also includes a guide for readers to make their own unusual menorahs.

**Lee Wind** writes the books that would have changed his life as a young gay Jewish kid. He's the author of the picture books *Love of the Half-Eaten Peach* and *Red and Green and Blue and White*. He also runs the popular blog *I'm Here. I'm Queer. What the Hell Do I Read?* – words his younger self only dreamed of saying. Lee lives in Los Angeles, CA.

**Karl West** was born in Oxfordshire, England. Influenced by his love of comics and comic books, he creates his work entirely digitally in Manga Studio and Photoshop. He has won several awards, including 2nd place in the World Pencil Sharpening Championships of 1986. He now lives and works from a studio on the small island of Portland in Dorset, England.



## Key Themes:

Adapting, Celebrating Hanukkah as a family, Creativity, Problem-solving

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Ages 3–5 years

Use these questions to preface and conclude a reading of this book with children. Encourage them to share their observations as you read the book together, and take time to linger on pages or spreads that generate more discussion.

## Before Reading

- The cover gives us a clue as to the holiday this story is going to be about? Which holiday is it?
- How do the characters look on page 5? Can you guess why?
- Look at the split picture on page 11. Tell about the change in the settings and scenery.
- There are so menorahs on page 18. How are they alike? How are they different?

## During Reading

- Where did the family go? What did Daddy and Papa forget to pack?
- Who played an important part by coming up with a menorah solution? What did she use for the first night?
- Can you recall some of the materials and items she used to create the different menorahs?
- The phrase comfy and cozy was said over and over during the story. But then they realized it was fun coming up with new ideas. Do you have any celebrations or traditions that you added something new to, or changed?
- What do you think would have happened if they didn't come up with an idea to design a menorah while on vacation?

## After Reading

- Look in your playroom or on a shelf in your bedroom and find 3 different items you could use to construct your own menorah. Draw a picture showing how you would build this new menorah.
- Pretend you are somewhere on vacation. Go out for a walk and come back with some items that you could use to make a menorah. Draw a picture and tell/write about the items you used to assemble your menorah.

