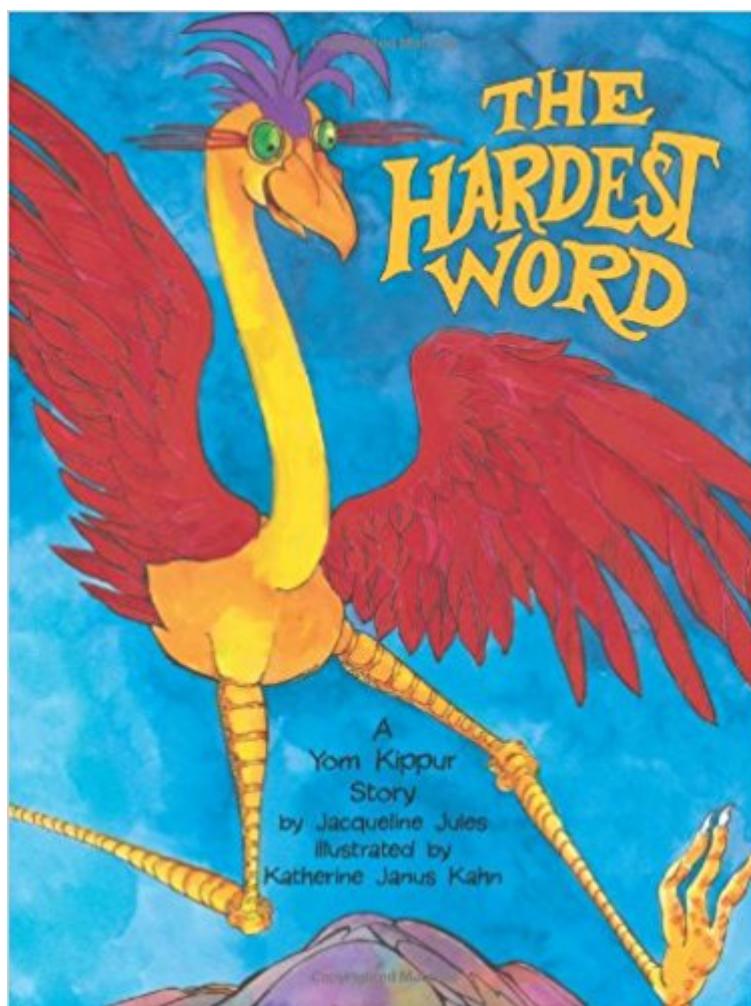


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# The Hardest Word: A Yom Kippur Story



## **Synopsis**

The Ziz, a huge bird that is clumsy but good-hearted, accidentally destroys a vegetable garden, and when he asks God for advice he learns the importance of apologizing.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Kar-Ben Publishing (July 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580130283

ISBN-13: 978-1580130288

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 30 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #123,579 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Religious Fiction > Jewish #366 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism #794 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

"A breezy plot, a whirlwind protagonist, a sense of the silly and vibrant an combine to explain a vital part of our most somber and introspective holiday...Kar-Ben deserves our thanks for publishing another appealing gem."

Jacqueline Jules is the award-winning author of 25 children's books, including *No English* (2012 Forward National Literature Award), *Zapato Power: Freddie Ramos Takes Off* (2010 CYBILS Literary Award, Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Honor Award, ALSC Great Early Elementary Reads), and *Freddie Ramos Makes a Splash* (named on 2013 List of Best Children's Books of the Year by Bank Street College Committee). When not reading, writing, or teaching, Jacqueline enjoys time with her family in Northern Virginia.

The book brings out a key part of this high holiday, i.e. saying "I am sorry". The one point one could make is that the bird is not doing something bad, he just can not find the hardest word. Failing to accomplish a task is not inherently a sin. There are many occasions in life where we say "I am

"sorry" and the most important ones is when we did something purposefully or omitted something that was not right. That is different from not being able to do something. The bird regretted his inability to find the hardest word and that genuine regret caused him to say "I am sorry". This is also one way to bring the substance closer to children. The bird also rectifies an earlier mishap (again, not done on purpose) and restores a garden playground for children. This is a good book. It should be complemented with a book that describes Yom Kippur more explicit in theological terms with great pictures. One of these books is "On Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur" by Cathy Goldberg Fishman, a true gem.

Exactly what I was expecting, a Great product, good quality and was shipped quickly. A+

A great story written with simple text for young readers that still has deep meaning that connects to the most serious holiday of Yom Kippur. Beautiful illustrations add to the tale as well.

Wonderful book! Highly recommend to read to your little ones. It goes nicely with teaching kids who come out of time out to be able to say sorry, and legitimizes their struggle with saying it

I liked the message, the kids got it and loved the illustrations. I think it teaches a great lesson very well.

I bought this for my 5 year old granddaughter. The story is very cute and keeps her attention. The lesson taught is excellent. The illustrations are well done. She loves the book and wants it read to her every night.

Great book, for any kid of any background. My 4 year old loves the story and the pictures! Nice overall message of humility and apologizing when wronging others, even if on accident.

Great story for Yom Kippur (or anytime) for saying sorry. Beautiful illustrations. Creative fiction. Cute for age 8 and under.

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