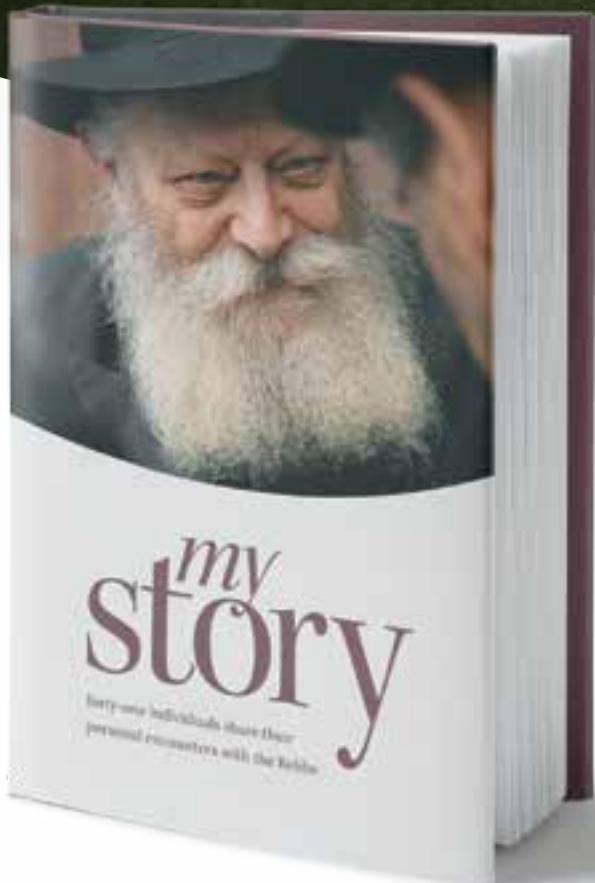


לזכות  
הרה"ת ר' חיים דניאל שיחי'  
פיעקארסקי



# The Faithful Shepherd

*My Story*

ועל כל אחד ואחת מאתנו לדעת, היינו להעמיק דעתו ולתקוע  
 מחשבתו בזה, אשר הוא הוא הנשיא והראש, ממנו ועל ידו הם כל  
 ההשפעות בגשמיות וברוחניות...

Each and every one of us must know—by contemplating  
 deeply and constantly thinking about the fact that he [the  
 Rebbe] is the leader and the head [of the generation]. Through  
 him we receive all material and spiritual provisions...

—The Rebbe’s letter, Gimmel Tammuz 5710



# As Chassidim

As Chassidim, we are naturally inclined to appreciate every story, *vort*, or anecdote from the Rebbe. We seek to search out the lessons they carry and apply them as a guiding light to ourselves and our surroundings.

But pursuant to the Rebbe’s instructions, a mere appreciation does not suffice. We are told to “contemplate deeply” how the Rebbe is the *nossi* and the “head” of our generation, in a way that we can truly understand and feel.

Perhaps the best way to reach this conviction is by listening to the thousands of stories about the Rebbe. The stories that tell us about the Rebbe’s impact on the lives of so many individual people, and his intimate involvement in every single area of concern for Yiddishkeit as a whole. Only a true *nossi* could carry so much on his shoulders; as the *possuk* says of Moshe Rabbeinu—*כאשר ישא האמן את*—הינק—as the nurse carries the suckling.

Just in time for Gimmel Tammuz, JEM has released a collection of

forty-one such stories, all told by the individuals who experienced them first-hand. Boasting 408 beautifully designed pages, this hardcover volume includes many colored photographs of the Rebbe and many of the interviewees, bringing these special stories to life.

Reading the book, we learn of the Rebbe’s impact on issues of global importance—like the testimony of Israeli Brigadier General, **Ron Ronen Pekar**:

“I had not been expecting to sit with a Torah giant discussing, tactically, why Sharon didn’t use Egyptian fuel, or the strategic value of the air force in a complex war, or whether military families should live inside the bases, and its effect on preparedness...”

Yet at the same time, we hear of the Rebbe’s keen sensitivity to a young orphaned girl. As **Mrs. Yehudis Fishman** relates in her story:

“I walked out [from *yechidus*] exhilarated and relieved. From that

moment on, I was certain that I had acquired not only a guide and a teacher, but also a compassionate friend, and — most important for me—a father figure...”

We learn how the Rebbe’s insistence that a Yid keep Shabbos and put on tefillin daily completely transformed his life for the good—in the story of **Dr. Irving Wolinsky**. And how a comment made by the Rebbe to a young student at the University of London, **Freddy Hager**, ultimately resulted in providing hundreds of Jewish students with kosher meals on campus.

Based on the popular “Here’s My Story” weekly publication, the stories in this volume are not subject to the space constraints of the weekly sheet and are brought in greater detail. Many new stories are also being published now for the first time.

Every story is a gem. And each of them will provide just another glimpse at the meaning of the Rebbe’s words: “He is the *nossi*, he is the *rosh*...” ①