

A Letter from the Parents of Gilad Shalit

Parents Shalom,

Gilad, our son, wrote the story "When the Shark and the Fish First Met" in 1997. He was eleven years old. This story reflects the values in which he was raised. It was imagined without the knowledge of Isaiah 11:6: "And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid."

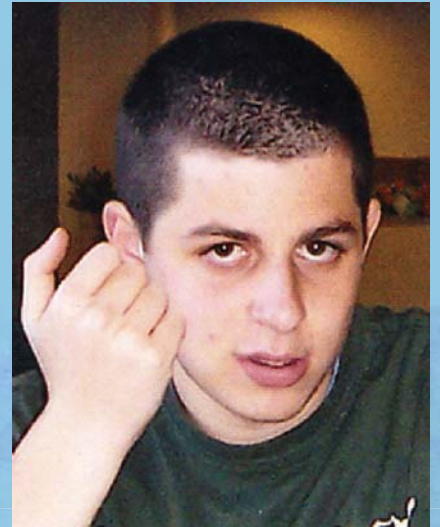
Gilad was kidnapped from Israeli soil and taken into Gaza by Hamas on Sunday, June 25, 2006. He was nearly twenty years old, serving in the IDF guarding Israel's southern border.

Two weeks later on the northern border, Udi Goldwasser and Eldad Regev were kidnapped by Hizbollah and taken into Lebanon. They were serving as reservists in the IDF. Immediately, Israel set out on a military campaign to return these boys home and to restore peace to its borders.

As this book goes to print, seventeen months have passed. Gilad is still in captivity in Gaza and Udi and Eldad are still in captivity in Lebanon.* Together with the People of Israel - in our country and around the world - we worry, miss, and wait with open hearts for the return of Gilad, Udi, and Eldad and wish for the day in which "the shark and the fish will play together," just as Gilad wrote nine years before his kidnapping.

Aviva and Noam Shalit, November 2007

*On July 16, 2008 and since the writing of this letter, the bodies of Udi Goldwasser and Eldad Regev were returned to Israel. Gilad is still captive in Gaza.



A limited number of copies of the Hebrew edition of *When the Shark and the Fish First Met* are available for sale in today's bookfair.

Both Hebrew and English versions can be preordered at the checkout at \$20 each.

All proceeds go to the Habinim Foundation for missing Israeli soldiers and their families.

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