

**ON OCTOBER 7, 2023**—the Sabbath and the final day of the holiday of Sukkot—Hamas launched an unprecedented assault on the people of Israel.

Crashing through the border, attacking from the sea and air, militants indiscriminately massacred civilians in what became one of the worst terrorist attacks in modern history and the most lethal day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust.

A radically passionate work of investigative journalism and political critique by acclaimed Haaretz reporter Lee Yaron, *10/7* chronicles the massacre that ignited a war through the stories of more than one hundred civilians. These stories are the products of extensive interviews with survivors, the bereaved, and first responders in Israel and beyond. The victims run the gamut from left-wing kibbutzniks and Burning Man–esque partiers to radical right-wingers, from Bedouins and Palestinians to Thai and Nepalese guest workers, peace activists, elderly Holocaust survivors, refugees from Ukraine and Russia, pregnant women, and babies.

At a time when people are seeking a deeper understanding of the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and how internal political turmoil in Israel has affected it, they predominantly encounter perspectives from the powerful, such as politicians and military officers. Yaron takes a fresh approach, offering answers through the stories of everyday people, those who lived tenuously on the border with Gaza. *10/7* shows that, ultimately, the tragedy is much greater than the violence of the attacks; it extends back through the entire Netanyahu era, which propagated a false image of Israel as a technologically advanced, militarily formidable powerhouse so essential to the region that it could continue to ignore and undermine Palestinian statehood indefinitely.

**LEE YARON** has been a journalist with *Haaretz*, Israel's oldest and most award-winning newspaper, for nearly a decade. The winner of the 2022 Yitzhak Livni "Knight" Award for Free Speech in Media, her investigative reporting has resulted in the founding of state-level commissions and the changing of substantial bodies of Israeli policy and law. She is an elected member-representative of the Executive Committee of the Union of Israeli Journalists, and the founder of "Green Idea," the Middle East's first journalist-training program dedicated to climate coverage. Yaron has also written and directed acclaimed theater productions notable for their use of found materials, including official governmental texts, to bring attention to marginalized communities both in Israel and throughout the Middle East. She has an MPA in Environmental Science and Policy from Columbia University's Climate School and School of International and Public Affairs. Born in Tel Aviv, she splits her time between her native city and New York.

**READ BY FRED BERMAN**



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