Aviya and her mother Henya survived the Holocaust, but its scars remain apparent as they try to build a new life in Israel. Henya’s nightmares result in frequent breakdowns that send Aviya to the children’s villages where she is raised. In the summer of 1951 Henya brings ten-year-old Aviya home, where, as the daughter of the local “crazy woman,” Aviya is ostracized by the neighborhood children and retreats into fantasy. But the summer also brings Henya a few lucid weeks during which Aviya learns that her mother was a hero among the partisans of the European Jewish resistance. With her new understanding, Aviya finds the courage to navigate the harsh reality of a country that is struggling through the early days of statehood.