

# Teaching About the Holocaust

## A Selected Bibliography

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The books selected for this bibliography are considered some of the best resources to use in the classroom, grades 6-12. A variety of genres and formats are listed with a brief summary of each and any awards, booklists, and/or starred reviews that the resource has received. Included below is a list of significant awards/recognitions that these resources may have received and the granting organizations.

**Cybil Award:** Given each year by bloggers for the best children's and young adult titles

**McNally Robinson Award:** Established in 1995 to celebrate the best in Manitoba (Canada) writing

**John Newbery Medal:** The Newbery Medal is awarded annually by the American Library Association for the most distinguished American children's book published the previous year.

**Notable Social Studies Trade Books:** The books that appear in these annotated book lists were evaluated and selected by a Book Review Committee appointed by National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) and assembled in cooperation with the Children's Book Council (CBC). NCSS and CBC have cooperated on this annual bibliography since 1972.

**Scott O'Dell Award:** Established in 1982 by Scott O'Dell. It goes to a meritorious work of historical fiction, children or young adult. It was established to encourage authors to write historical fiction for young people.

**Orbis Pictus Award:** Awarded by the National Council of Teachers of English through a committee for outstanding writing in nonfiction for youth.

**Robert Sibert Award:** Awarded by the Association for Library Service to Children and is given to the author/illustrator of the most distinguished informational book.

**Sydney Taylor Award:** Awarded by the Association of Jewish Libraries and goes to the outstanding books for children and teens that portray an authentic Jewish experience.

**Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) Best Books:** This list is created by a committee of librarians/teachers/etc. who serve teens in some way. The books chosen for this list are both fiction and nonfiction and are chosen for their proven appeal to teens.

**Young Adult Choices, IRA:** This is a list project created by the International Reading Association. The list is compiled and teens select the best of the books.

## Historical Fiction

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *The Boy Who Dared*. New York: Scholastic, 2008.

In October, 1942, seventeen-year-old Helmuth Hubener, imprisoned for distributing anti-Nazi leaflets, recalls his past life and how he came to dedicate himself to bring the truth about Hitler and the war to the German people.

- \*Cybil Award
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Awards
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Bat-Ami, Miriam. *Two Suns in the Sky*. Chicago, IL: Front Street/Cricket Books, 1999.

In 1944, an Upstate New York Teenager named Christine meets and falls in love with Adam, a Yugoslavian Jew living in a refugee camp, despite their parents' conviction that they do not belong together.

- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults
- \*Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction

Boyne, John. *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: A Fable*. New York: David Fickling Books, 2006.

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

- \*School Library Journal Book Review Stars
- \*Young Adults' Choices, IRA

Chapman, Fern S. *Is It Night or Day?* New York: Farrar Straus and Giroux, 2010.

In 1938, Edith Westerfeld, a young German Jew, is sent by her parents to Chicago, Illinois, where she lives with an aunt and uncle, and tries to assimilate into American culture, while worrying about her parents and mourning the loss of everything she has ever known.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Booklist Top 10 Historical Fiction for Youth
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Award

Dogar, Sharon. *Annexed*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2010.

The story of the boy who loved Anne Frank.

Engle, Margarita. *Tropical Secrets: Holocaust in Cuba*. New York: Henry Holt, 2009.

Escaping from Nazi Germany to Cuba in 1939, a young Jewish refugee dreams of finding his parents again, befriends a local girl with painful secrets of her own, and discovers that the Nazi darkness is never far away.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*School Library Journal Book Review Stars

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, Winner Teen Readers

Glatshetyn, Yankev. *Emil and Karl*. Translated by Jeffrey Shandler. New Milford, Conn.: Roaring Brook Press, 2006.

In Vienna, Austria, in 1940, two-nine-year-old boys, one Jewish and one Aryan, are classmates and best friends when events of the Nazi occupation draw them even closer together as they fight to survive and escape together.

\*Booklist Book Review Stars

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Book for Young People

\*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars

\*School Library Journal Book Review Stars

Gleitzman, Morris. *Once*. New York: Henry Holt, 2010.

After living in a Catholic Orphanage for nearly four years, a naïve Jewish boy runs away and embarks on a journey across Nazi-occupied Poland to find his parents.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults

\*Sydney Taylor Book Award

----. *Then*. New York: Henry Holt, 2010.

In early 1940s Poland, ten-year-old Felix and his friend Zelda escape from a cattle car headed to the Nazi death camps and struggle to survive, first on their own and then with Genia, a farmer with her own reasons for hating Germans. This is the follow up to *Once*.

\*Kirkus Star Reviews

\*Publisher's Weekly Star Reviews

\*YABBA (Young Australians' Best Book Award) 2009 Winner

Hoestlandt, Jo. *Star of Fear, Star of Hope*. New York: Walker, 1995.

Nine-year-old Helen is confused by the disappearance of her Jewish friend during the German occupation of Paris.

- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*Notable Children's Books
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

Isaacs, Anne. *Torn Thread*. New York: Scholastic, 2000.

In an attempt to save his daughter's life, Eva's father sends her from Poland to a labor camp in Czechoslovakia where she and her sister survive the war.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- \*Publisher's Weekly Book Review Stars
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, ALA

Mazer, Norma Fox. *Good Night, Maman..* San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1999.

After spending years fleeing from the Nazis in war-torn Europe, twelve-year-old Karin Levi and her older brother Marc find a new home in a refugee camp in Oswego, New York.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Booklist Book Review Stars
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- \*Young Adults' Choices, IRA

Orgel, Doris. *The Devil in Vienna*. New York: Dial, 1978.

A Jewish girl and the daughter of a Nazi have been best friends since they started school, but in 1938 the thirteen-year-olds find their close relationship difficult to maintain.

- \*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

Orlev, Uri. *Run, Boy, Run: A Novel*. Translated from the Hebrew by Hillel Halkin. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2003.

Based on the true story of a nine-year-old boy who escapes the Warsaw Ghetto and Must survive throughout the war in the Nazi-occupied Polish countryside.

- \*Booklist Book Review Stars

- \*Kirkus Book Review Stars
- \*Notable Children's Books, ALA

Polak, Monique. *What World is Left?* Victoria, B.C.: Orca Publishers, 2008.

Anneke, a Dutch Jewish teenager, is sent with her family to Theresienstadt, a "model" concentration camp, where she confronts great evil and learns to do what it takes to survive.

- \*Booklist Book Review Stars

Pressler, Mirjam. *Malka*. Translated by Brian Murdoch. New York: Philomel, 2003.

In the winter of 1943, a Polish physician and her older daughter make a dangerous and arduous trek to Hungary while seven-year-old Malka, who they were forced to leave behind when she became ill, fends for herself in a ghetto.

- \*Kirkus Book Review Stars
- \*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars

Roy, Jennifer. *Yellow Star*. Tarrytown, NY: Marshall Cavendish, 2006.

From 1939, when Sylvia is four and a half years old, to 1945 when she has just turned ten, a Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.

- \*Booklist Book Review Stars
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- \*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars
- \*School Library Journal Best Books
- \*School Library Journal Book Review Stars
- \*Lamplighter Award, Honor Book
- \*National Jewish Book Awards, Finalist Children's & Young Adult Literature United States
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Award, Honor Award Older Readers United States

Sachs, Marilyn. *Lost in America*. Brookfield, Conn.: Roaring Brook Press, 2005.

Follows the experiences of Nicole, a teenaged French Jew, from 1943 to 1948, as she loses her parents and sister to the concentration camps and then leaves her native France to make a new life for herself in New York City.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Notable Children's Books of Jewish Content, Association of Jewish Librarians

Sharenow, Robert. *The Berlin Boxing Club*. New York: HarperTeen, 2011.

In 1936 Berlin, fourteen-year-old Karl Stern, considered Jewish despite a non-religious upbringing, learns to box from the legendary Max Schmeling while struggling with the realities of the Holocaust.

\*Kirkus Star Review, 2011

\*Publisher's Weekly Star Review, 2011

Spinelli, Jerry. *Milkweed: A Novel*. New York: Knopf, 2003.

We see the brutal reality of the holocaust through the eyes of a young boy who has no memory of who he is.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year

\*Booklist Book Review Stars

\*Kirkus Book Review Stars

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

\*Young Adults' Choices

\*Golden Kite Award

\*Heartland Award for Excellence in Young Adult Literature

\*National Jewish Book Award

\*Iowa Teen Award, nominee

Williams, Laura E. *Behind the Bedroom Wall*. Minneapolis: Milkweed Editions, 1996.

Thirteen-year-old Korinna must decide whether to report her parents to her Hitler youth group when she discovers that they are hiding Jews in a secret place behind Korinna's bedroom wall.

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

Wiseman, Eva. *My Canary Yellow Star*. Plattsburgh, N.Y.: Tundra Books, 2002.

Marta and her family survive with the help of Raoul Wallenberg.

\*McNally Robinson Book for Young People Award

\*Society of School Librarians International Book Award

Yolen, Jane. *Briar Rose*. New York: Tom Doherty, 1992.

Takes the story of Briar Rose (commonly known as Sleeping Beauty) and links it to the Holocaust—set this time in the forests patrolled by the German army during World War II. This title is Historical Fantasy.

- \*Best of the Best Revisited (100 Best Books for Teens)
- \*Outstanding Books for the College Bound

Yolen, Jane. *The Devil's Arithmetic*. N.Y.: Viking, 1988.

Hannah resents stories of her Jewish heritage and of the past until, when opening the door during a Passover Seder, she finds herself in Poland during World War II where she experiences the horrors of a concentration camp, and learns why she—and we—need to remember the past. This title is Historical Fantasy.

- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Award

Zusak, Markus. *The Book Thief*. New York: Random House, 2006.

Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel—a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

- \*Notable Books for a Global Society, 2007 (IRA)
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People, 2007 (NCSS)
- \*YALSA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults, 2009
- \*Michael Printz Award Honor Book, 2007

## Non-Fiction

Adler, David A. *We Remember the Holocaust*. New York: Holt, 1989.

Discusses the events of the Holocaust and includes personal accounts from survivors of the persecution and the death camps.

- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

Bachrach, Susan D. *Tell Them We Remember: The Story of the Holocaust*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1994.

How the Holocaust affected the daily lives of innocent people.

- \*Best of the Bunch: Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*Notable Children's Books
- \*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies
- \*School Library Journal: Best Books for Young Adults

\*YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers

Bartoletti, Susan B. *Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*. New York: Scholastic, 2005.

The story of a generation of German young people who devoted all their energy to the Hitler Youth, the propaganda that gave Hitler his power, and how the youths resisted the Nazi movement. An audio version is also available.

\*Notable Children's Books of Jewish Content

\*Notable Children's Books

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*John Newbery Medal Honor Book

\*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

\*Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal

*Bearing Witness: Stories of the Holocaust*. Sel. By Hazel Rochman & Darlene Z. McCampbell. New York: Orchard, 1995.

Offers a multifaceted view of the Holocaust, from a child's bewilderment at having to wear a star and later go into hiding, to the agony of the camps themselves.

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians.

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults.

Bitton-Jackson, Livia. *I Have a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997.

The author describes her experiences during World War II when she and her family were sent to the Nazi death camp at Auschwitz.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*Outstanding Nonfiction for Middle School Students

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Chaikin, Miriam. *A Nightmare in History: The Holocaust, 1933-1945*. New York: Clarion, 1987.

Traces the history of anti-Semitism from biblical times through the twelve years of the Nazi era, 1933-1945, and describes Hitler's plans to annihilate European Jews by focusing on the Warsaw Ghetto and the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camps. Also discusses the continuing effort to remember the horrors of the Holocaust.



Drucker, Malka. *Portraits of Jewish American Heroes*. New York: Dutton, 2008.

Provides brief biographies of well-known Jewish–Americans.

\*Booklist Top 10 Religion Books for Youth

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Fox, Anne L. & Eva Abraham-Podietz. *Ten Thousand Children: True Stories Told by Children Who Escaped the Holocaust on the Kindertransport*. West Orange, NJ: Behrman House, 1999.

Tells the true stories of children who escaped Nazi Germany on the Kindertransport, a rescue mission led by concerned British to save Jewish children from the Holocaust.

Gottfried, Ted. *Displaced Persons: The Liberation and Abuse of Holocaust Survivors*. Brookfield, Conn.: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Books, 2001.

Looks at the suffering of survivors immediately after the war.

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Greenfeld, Howard. *After the Holocaust*. New York: Greenwillow, 2001.

Details what happened to young Holocaust survivors after the war.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education.

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Greenfeld, Howard. *The Hidden Children*. New York: Ticknor & Fields, 1993.

Describes the experiences of those Jewish children who were forced to go into hiding during the Holocaust and survived to tell about it.

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

*Kinderlager: An Oral History of Young Holocaust Survivors*. Ed. By Milton J. Nieuwsma. New York: Holiday House, 1998.

Draws on interviews with three women who recount their experiences as child survivors of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Nazi death camp.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education.

Krintz, Esther N. & Bernice Steinhardt. *Memories of Survival*. New York: Hyperion, 2005.

A story of surviving the Holocaust in Poland, illustrated in a collection of embroidered panels, and told in the survivor's own words.

- \*Booklist Book Review Stars
- \*Notable Books for a Global Society
- \*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars
- \*School Library Journal Book Review Stars
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Awards- Honor Book Older Readers

Levine, Ellen. *Darkness Over Denmark: The Danish Resistance and the Rescue of the Jews*. New York: Holiday House, 2000.

An account of people in Denmark who risked their lives to protect and rescue their Jewish neighbors from the Nazis during World War II.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults
- \*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Meltzer, Milton. *Rescue: The Story of How Gentiles Saved Jews in the Holocaust*. New York: Harper & Row, 1988.

A recounting drawn from historic source material of the many individual acts of heroism performed by gentiles who sought to thwart the extermination of the Jews during the Holocaust.

- \*Best Books for Young Adults
- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, Honor Book

Nicholson, Dorinda M (ed.) *Remember WWII: Kids Who Survived Tell Their Stories*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2005.

Experience the war through the real-life accounts of kids who survived the war in Europe, the Pacific, and on the home front.

- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Resnick, Abraham. *The Holocaust*. San Diego: Lucent Books, 1991.

Discusses the events surrounding the imprisonment and execution of millions of Jews in Nazi concentration camps during World War II and the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine following the war.

Rogasky, Barbara. *Smoke and Ashes: The Story of the Holocaust*. New York: Holiday House, 2002.

Examines the causes, events, and legacies of the Holocaust which resulted in the extermination of six million Jews.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, Honor Book

Rosenberg, Maxine B. *Hiding to Survive: Stories of Jewish Children Rescued From the Holocaust*. New York: Clarion, 1994.

First person accounts of fourteen Holocaust survivors who as children were hidden from the Nazis by non-Jews.

\*YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers

Rossel, Seymour. *The Holocaust*. New York: Watts, 1981.

Discusses how, between 1938 and 1945, the Nazis planned and carried out a program of extermination against the Jews of Europe now known as the Holocaust, and how the Holocaust continues to affect our everyday lives.

Schroeder, Peter W. & Dagmar Schroeder-Hildebrand. *Six Million Paper Clips: The Making of a Children's Holocaust Memorial*. Minneapolis: Kar-Ben Pub., 2004.

The detailed story of a school that added the Jewish Holocaust to their curriculum and the artistic memorial that resulted.

\*Notable Children's Books of Jewish Content

Smith, Frank D. *My Secret Camera: Life in the Lodz Ghetto*. San Diego: Gulliver Books, 2000.

Photographs taken secretly by a young Jewish man document the fear, hardship, generosity, and humanity woven through the daily life of the Jews forced to live in the Lodz ghetto during the Holocaust.

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Taylor, Peter Lane. *The Secret of Priest's Grotto: A Holocaust Survival Story*. Minneapolis, MN: Kar-Ben, 2007.

Two explorers survey caves in the Western Ukraine and relate the story of how an extended Jewish family, fleeing persecution by the Nazis, lived for two years in a large cave, Popowa Yama, and survived the war.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*Sydney Taylor Books Awards

Thompson, Ruth. *Terezin: Voices From the Holocaust*. Somerville, Mass.: Candlewick, 2011.

Through inmates' own voices—from secret diary entries and artwork to excerpts from memories and recordings narrated after the war—"Terezin" explores the lives of Jewish people in one of the most infamous of the Nazi transit camps.

\*School Library Journal Book Review Stars

*We Are Witnesses: Five Diaries of Teenagers Who Died in the Holocaust*. Ed. By Jacob Boas.

New York: Henry Holt, 1995.

This is an in depth and documented look at 5 diaries of young people who did not survive the holocaust.

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Wieviorka, Annette. *Auschwitz Explained to My Child*. New York: Marlowe & Co., 2002.

A French historian whose grandparents died in the Holocaust answers her thirteen-year-old daughter's questions about that historic event, including Hitler's rise to power, the establishment of ghettos and concentration camps, and the genocide of the Jews.

\*Booklist Editors' Choice: Adult books for Young Adults

Willoughby, Susan. *Art, Music, and Writings from the Holocaust*. Chicago, Ill: Heinemann Library, 2003.

Artistic responses to the Holocaust and Holocaust experiences.

Wood, Angela G. *Holocaust: The Events and Their Impact on Real People*. New York: DK Pub.,

2007.

An encyclopedia overview of the Jewish Holocaust.

\*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

## **(Auto)Biography/Memoir**

Altman, Linda J. *Adolf Hitler: Evil Mastermind of the Holocaust*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow Pub., 2005.

Explores the life of Hitler, from his desolate childhood to his success as a politician.

Ayer, Eleanor H. *Parallel Journeys*. New York: Atheneum, 1995.

Alternating chapters explore the experiences of a Nazi Youth and a young Jewish mother. This duo would later end up on the lecture circuit together.

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Bernstein, Sazra Tuvel. *The Seamstress: A Memoir of Survival*. New York: Putnam, 1997.

A Romanian Jew tells of her survival of the Holocaust.

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Bitton-Jackson, Livia. *My Bridges of Hope: Searching for Life and Love after Auschwitz*. N.Y.: Simon & Schuster, 1999.

In 1945, after surviving a harrowing year in Auschwitz, fourteen-year-old Elli returns, along with her mother and brother, to the family home, now part of Slovakia, where they try to find a way to rebuild their shattered lives.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Denenberg, Barry. *Shadow Life: A Portrait of Anne Frank and Her Family*. New York: Scholastic, 2005.

Provides family, historical, and social context to Anne Frank's life story.

\*Book Sense Children's Picks

\*Booklist Book Review Stars

Frank, Anne. *The Diary of a Young Girl*. Nattituck, N.Y.: American Reprint Co., 1977.

Gold, Alison L. *A Special Fate: Chiune Sugihara, Hero of the Holocaust*. New York: Scholastic, 2000.

A biography of Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese consul in Lithuania, who saved the lives of thousands of Jews during World War II by issuing visas against the orders of his superiors.

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Gold, Alison L. *Memories of Anne Frank: Reflections of a Childhood Friend*. New York: Scholastic, 1997.

Recounts the story of Hannah Goslar, a close friend of Anne Frank and one of the last to see her alive.

\*Best of the Bunch: Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Kacer, Kathy. *Hiding Edith: A True Story*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2006.

\*Notable Books for Older Readers, Association of Jewish Librarians

Koestler-Grack, Rachel. *Ellie Wiesel: Witness for Humanity*. Pleasantville, NY: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2008.

Kor, Eva Mozes. *Surviving the Angel of Death: The Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz*. Terre Haute, IN: Tanglewood Pub., 2009.

The story of 10 year-old Evakor who, along with her twin sister, faced extreme evil and cruelty at the hands of Dr. Josef Mengele.

Levine, Karen. *Hana's Suitcase: A True Story*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 2002.

A biography of a Czech girl who died in the Holocaust, told in alternating chapters with an account of how the curator of a Japanese Holocaust center learned about her life after Hana's suitcase was sent to her.

\*Book of the Year Award for Children, Winner Canada

\*International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), Honor List

Levy, Debbie. *The Year of Goodbyes: A True Story of Friendship, Family and Farewells*. New York: Disney-Hyperion, 2010.

Narrative poems that detail life in Nazi Germany, based on the 1938 autograph book belonging to the author's mother.

\*Kirkus Book Review Stars

\*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars

\*School Library Journal Book Review Stars

\*Sydney Taylor Book Award

Lobel, Anita. *No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War*. New York: Greenwillow, 1998.

The author, known as an illustrator of children's books, describes her experiences as a Polish Jew during World War II and her years in Sweden afterwards.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Best of the Bunch; Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Bulletin Blue Ribbons

\*Notable Children's Books, ALSC

\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

\*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children, Honor Book

\*Sydney Taylor Books Awards Honor Book, Honor Book

McClafferty, Carla K. *In Defiance of Hitler: The Secret Mission of Varian Fry*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2008.

At a time when most Americans ignored the atrocities going on in Europe in 1940, American journalist Varian Fry put himself in great danger to save strangers in a foreign land. He was instrumental in the rescue of more than 2,000 refugees, including novelist Heinrich Mann and artist Marc Chagall.

\*Cybil Award

\*Society of School Librarians International Book Awards

Millman, Isaac. *Hidden Child*. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2005.

The author details his difficult experiences as a young Jewish child living in Nazi-occupied France during the 1940s.

- \*Notable Books for a Global Society
- \*Notable Children's Books of Jewish Content
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Nir, Yehuda. *The Lost Childhood: A World War II Memoir*. New York: Scholastic, 2002.

Describes six years in the life of a daring and resourceful Polish Jewish boy and his family, who survived the Holocaust by using false papers and posing as Catholics.

Novac, Ana. *The Beautiful Days of My Youth: My Six Months in Auschwitz and Plaszow*. New York: Henry Hold, 1997.

A record of life triumphing over death.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People.

Opdyke, Irene Gut. *In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer*. N.Y.: Knopf, 1999.

Recounts the experiences of the author who, as a young Polish girl, hid and saved Jews during the Holocaust.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education
- \*Booklist Book Review Stars
- \*Publishers Weekly Book Review Stars
- \*School Library Journal Book Review Stars
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Perl, Lila & Marion B. Lazan. *Four Perfect Pebbles: A Holocaust Story*. New York: Greenwillow, 1996.

Marion Blumenthal Lazan recalls the devastating years that shaped her childhood.

- \*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians
- \*Notable Children's Books, ALSC American Library Association
- \*YALSA Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Adult Readers

Pressler, Mirjam. *Anne Frank: A Hidden Life*. New York: Dutton, 1999.



Describes the background in which Anne Frank's life and diary were set as she hid in an attic in Nazi-occupied Holland for two years.

Rabinovici, Schoschana. *Thanks to my Mother*. New York: Dial, 1998.

After struggling to survive in Nazi-occupied Lithuania, a young Jewish girl and her mother endure much suffering in Kaiserwald, Stutthof, and Tauntzien concentration camps and on an eleven-day death march before being liberated by the Russian army.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Best of the bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Notable Children's Books

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Roberts, Jack L. *The Importance of Oskar Schindler*. San Diego, CA: Lucent Books, 1996.

Follows the life of Oskar Schindler from his youth to his death in 1974.

Rubin, Susan G. *The Cat with the Yellow Star: Coming of Age in Terezin*. New York: Holiday House, 2006.

A little cat pinned with a star, a Nazi concentration camp and an opera production. This is the story of one girl's coming of age in Terezin.

\*Notable Books for a Global Society

\*Notable Books for Older Readers, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Notable Children's Books

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*Orbis Pictus Award

Rubin, Susan G. *Irena Sendler and the Children of the Warsaw Ghetto*. New York: Holiday House, 2011.

Using ingenious methods, Irena Sendler saved and hid Jewish children and kept a secret list of their identities.

\*Booklist Star Review, 2011

\*Publisher's Weekly Star Review, 2011

Rubin, Susan G. *Searching for Anne Frank: Letters from Amsterdam to Iowa*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 2003.

Provides a glimpse of life during World War II in both the Netherlands and the United States through the correspondence of Anne Frank and her Iowa pen pals.

\*Although this book received so-so reviews, teachers may be interested for its Iowa connection.

Seigal, Aranka. *Upon the Head of the Goat: A Childhood in Hungary, 1939-1944*. N.Y.: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1981.

Nine-year-old Piri describes the bewilderment of being a Jewish child during the 1939-1944 German occupation of her hometown (then in Hungary and now in the Ukraine) and relates the ordeal of trying to survive in the ghetto.

\*Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Excellence in Children's Literature  
\*John Newbery Medal, Honor Book

Toll, Nelly S. *Behind the Secret Window: A Memoir of a Hidden Childhood During World War Two*. New York: Dial, 1993.

The author recalls her experiences when she and her mother were hidden from the Nazis by a Gentile couple in Lwow, Poland, during World War II.

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians  
\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies  
\*IRA Children's and Young Adult's Book Award  
\*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Van der Rol, Ruud & Rian Verhoeven. *Anne Frank, Beyond the Diary: A Photographic Remembrance*. New York: Viking, 1993.

\*Bulletin Blue Ribbons; Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books  
\*Notable Children's Books  
\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies  
\*School Library Journal: Best Books for Young Adults  
\*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults  
\*Mildred L. Batchelder Award  
\*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Warren, Andrea. *Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps*. New York: HarperCollins, 2001.

Jack survives the life-and-death game he is forced to play with his Nazi captors.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Notable Children's Books

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal, Honor Book

Wiesel, Elie. *Night*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2006.

Born in the town of Sighet, Transylvania, Elie Wiesel was a teenager when he and his family were taken from their home in 1944 to the Auschwitz concentration camp, and then to Buchenwald. This book is the terrifying record of Elie Wiesel's memories of the death of his family, the death of his own innocence, and his despair as a deeply observant Jew confronting the absolute evil of man.

\*Best Books: Books for You, 1976

\*Best Books: Recommended Literature: K-12, 2002

Whiteman, Dorit Bader. *Lonek's Journey: The True Story of a Boy's Escape to Freedom*. New York: Star Bright Books, 2005.

Lonek, an eleven-year-old Jewish boy, escapes from Nazi-occupied Poland in 1939, and is subsequently deported to a Siberian slave labor camp.

## Poetry

Boraks-Nemetz, Lillian. *Ghost Children: Poems*. Vancouver: Ronsdale Press, 2000.

Patz, Nancy. *Who Was the Woman Who Wore the Hat?* New York: Dutton, 2003.

A mediation on a woman's hat once on display in the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam.

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young Readers

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

## Fiction (Aftermath)

Codell, Esme Raji. *Vive la Paris*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2006.

Fifth-grader Paris learns some lessons about dealing with bullies of all kinds as she wonders how to stop a classmate from beating up her brother at school and as she learns about the Holocaust from her piano teacher, Mrs. Rosen.

- \*Best Children's Books of the Year
- \*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Award

Fleischman, Sid. *The Entertainer and the Dybbuk*. New York: Greenwillow, 2007.

A struggling American ventriloquist in post World War II Europe is possessed by the mischievous spirit of a young Jewish boy killed in the Holocaust. Author's note details the murder of over one million children by the Nazis during the 1930s and 1940s.

- \*Kirkus Book Review Stars
- \*School Library Journal Book Review Stars
- \*YALSA Best Books for Young Adults

Friedman, Carl. *Nightfather*. New York: Persea Books, 1994.

A novel about the Holocaust that captures not only the experience of the concentration camp but also its powerful legacy.

- \*Bulletin Blue Ribbons, 1994

Matas, Carol. *After the War*. Richmond Hill Ont.: Scholastic, 1996.

The unforgettable story of a Jewish teenager who survives World War II and embarks on a long and dangerous journey to a new land...and new life.

- \*Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction for Young Adults

Pressler, Mirjam. *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie*. Ashville, N.C.: Front Street, 2007.

After a school trip to Israel, Johanna discovers' that her German grandfather acquired a clothing store during the Nazi regime according to the anti-Semitic laws of the Third Reich rather than starting it himself as her family has always stated. She struggles with whether to keep silent or to question her family's history.

- \*Outstanding International Books, United States Board on Books for Young People  
Children's Book Council, United States
- \*Sydney Taylor Book Award, Honor Award Teen Readers United States

Schnur, Steven. *The Shadow Children*. New York: Morrow, 1994.

While spending the summer on his grandfather's farm in the French countryside, eleven-year-old Etienne discovers a secret dating back to World War II and encounters the ghost of Jewish children who suffered a dreadful fate under the Nazis.

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

## Picture Books for Older Readers

Abells, Chana Byers. *The Children We Remember*. Rockville, MD: Kar-Ben, 1983.

Text and photographs briefly describe the fate of Jewish children after the Nazis began to control their lives.

Bogacki, Tomek. *The Champion of Children: The Story of Janusz Korczak*. New York: Farrar

Straus Giroux, 2009.

In 1912, a well-known doctor and writer named Janusz Korczak designed an extraordinary orphanage for Jewish children in Warsaw, Poland.

\*National Jewish Book Award

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards

Hesse, Karen. *The Cats in Krasinski Square*. Illus. Wendy Watson. New York: Scholastic, 2004.

Two Jewish sisters, escapees of the infamous Warsaw ghetto, devise a plan to thwart an attempt by the Gestapo to intercept food bound for starving people behind the dark Wall.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Booklist Book Review Stars

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*Publisher's Weekly Book Review Stars

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, Honor Book

Johnston, Tony. *The Harmonica*. Illus. Ron Mazellan. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2004.

Separated from his parents in Poland during World War II, a young Jewish boy enslaved in a concentration camp, keeps hope alive while playing Schubert on his harmonica whenever the camp's commandant orders him to play.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Notable Children's Books of Jewish Content, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*National Jewish Book Awards, Finalist

Mochizuki, Ken. *Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story*. Illus. by Dom Lee. New York: Lee & Low, 1997.

The story of one man's remarkable courage, and the respect between a father and a son who shared the weight of witness and an amazing act of humanity.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Notable Children's Books, ALSC

\*Notable Children's Trade Books in the Field of the Social Studies

\*Smithsonian Magazine's Notable Books for Children.

Morpurgo, Michael. *The Mozart Question*. Illus. Michael Foreman. Cambridge, M.A.: Candlewick Press, 2008.

A young journalist goes to Venice, Italy, to interview a famous violinist, who tells the story of his parents' incarceration by the Nazis, and explains why they can no longer listen to the music of Mozart.

\*Cybil Award 2008

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards 2009

Polacco, Patricia. *The Butterfly*. New York: Philomel, 2000.

During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Fireflies in the Dark: The Story of Friedl Dicker-Brandels and the Children of Terezin*. New York: Scholastic, 2001.

Covers the years during which Friedl Dicker, a Jewish woman from Czechoslovakia, taught art to children at the Terezin Concentration Camp. Includes art created by teacher and students, excerpts from diaries, and interviews with camp survivors.

\*Booklist Book Review Stars

\*Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People

\*School Library Journal Book Review Stars

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, Honor Book Older Readers

Ruelle, Karen Gray. *The Grand Mosque of Paris: A Story of How Muslims Saved Jews During the Holocaust*. New York: Holiday House, 2008.

During the Nazi occupations of Paris, many Jews found refuge in an unlikely place, the sprawling complex of the Grand Mosque of Paris.

\*American Association of University Women Award for Juvenile Literature

\*Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Tryszynska-Frederick, Luba. *Luba: The Angel of Bergen-Belsen*. Berkeley, Calif.: Tricycle Press, 2003.

A biography of the Jewish heroine, Luba Tryszynska, who saved the lives of more than fifty Jewish children in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during the winter of 1944/45.

\*Amelia Bloomer List, ALA Social Responsibilities Round Table

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Best of the Bunch, Association of Jewish Librarians.

Vander Zee, Ruth. *Erika's Story*. Mankato: MN: Creative Editions, 2003.

A woman recalls how she was thrown from a train headed for a Nazi death camp in 1944, raised by someone who risked her own life to save the baby's, and finally found some peace through her own family.

## Graphic Novels

Heuvel, Eric. *A Family Secret*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2009.

While searching his Dutch grandmother's attic for yard sale items, Jeroen finds a scrapbook which leads Gran to tell of her experiences as a girl living in Amsterdam during the Holocaust, when her father was a Nazi sympathizer and Esther, her Jewish best friend, disappeared.

\*Best Children's Books of the Year, Bank Street College of Education

\*Sydney Taylor Book Awards, 2010 Notable Book Teen Readers

Jacobson, Sid, and Ernie Colon. *Anne Frank: the Anne Frank House Authorized Graphic Biography*. New York: Hill and Wang, 2010.

Draws on the unique historical sites, archives, expertise, and unquestioned authority of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam.

\*School Library Journal Star Review, 2011

\*Sydney Taylor Book Award, 2011

Spiegelman, Art. *Maus: A Survivor's Tale*. New York: Pantheon, 1997.

A stylized, personal interpretation of life in the German concentration camps, with mice portraying the Jews and cats portraying the Nazis. Includes a section dealing with life as a survivor.

\*Booklist Editor's Choice, 1991

\*YALSA Best Books for Youth, 1992

----. *Maus II: A Survivor's Tale: And Here My Troubles Begin*. New York: Pantheon, 1991.

A stylized, personal interpretation of life in the German concentration camps, with mice portraying the Jews and cats portraying the Nazis. Includes a section dealing with life as a survivor.

\*Booklist Editor's Choice, 1991

\*YALSA Best Books for Youth, 1992

## **Encyclopedia/Handbooks**

Fernekes, William R. *The Oryx Holocaust Sourcebook*. Westport, CT: Oryx Press, 2002.

Sullivan, Edward T. *The Holocaust in Literature for Youth*. Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Pr., 1999.

Soumerai, Eve N. & Carol D. Schulz. *Daily Life During The Holocaust*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Westport, CT: Greenwood Pr., 2009.

Stephens, Elaine C. *Learning About – the Holocaust: Literature and Other Resources for Young People*. North Haven, Conn.: Library Professional Publications, 1995.

## **Multimedia**

*Anne Frank: The Life of a Young Girl*. New York: A & E Home Video, 2002.



Anne Frank has become an international symbol of the horror and hatred of the Nazi regime an innocent, intelligent young girl swept up by their voracious killing machine. In this episode, the details of Anne's life outside the attic are revealed. From the carefree days of her early childhood in Germany to the harrowing months she spent at Bergen-Belsen before succumbing to typhus, scholars and survivors tell what they know of the young girl who has become a worldwide icon.

*The Butterfly*. Patricia Polacco. U.S.: Spoken Arts, 2008.

During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.

*The Devil's Arithmetic*. New York: Showtime Entertainment, 2002.

An American Jewish teenager dreams that she has been transported through time to a Polish concentration camp.

*Diary of Anne Frank*. Beverly Hills, Calif.: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox Home Entertainment, 2004.

Teenaged Anne Frank, a Dutch Jew, perished along with most of her family in a concentration camp, but her hopes, dreams, and optimistic outlook has endured through the publication of her diary in 1952. Her diary conveys the precariousness of the Frank family and that of their fellow exiles, the Van Daan family and fussy dentist Mr. Dussel. They spent their time hiding from the Gestapo in a tiny Amsterdam attic.

*The Diary of a Young Girl*. New York: Listening Library, 2010.

Traces the life of the Jewish girl who hid with seven other people in an attic for two years in Nazi-occupied Holland and chronicled her day-to-day life in a diary which was discovered after her death in German concentration camp.

*Forgiving Dr. Mengele*. Brooklyn, N.Y.: First Run/Icarus Films, 2007.

"Eva Kor and her twin sister Miriam were victims of the infamous Nazi doctor Josef Mengele, who conducted sadistic experiments on human beings at Auschwitz concentration camp. Haunted ever since by these cruel acts, something even more shocking occurs: Eva finds the power to forgive him. Having finally liberated herself from her feelings of rage and victimhood, she becomes a tireless advocate of this new way of healing – but not everyone is ready to forgive the unforgiveable"

*The Holocaust: A Teenager's Experience*. U.S.: United Learning; Loganholme, Qld: Marcom Projects, 2004.

This video documentary is based on the experiences of David Bergman. A teenage boy who survives to tell of the terror. In his own words he gives us the facts, keeping them simple without exaggeration or embellishment.

*I'm Still Here: Real Diaries of Young People Who Lived During the Holocaust.* New York: MV Networks. Distributed by Sisu Home Entertainment, 2008.

Brings to life the diaries of young people who witnessed first-hand the horrors of the Holocaust. Through an emotional montage of sound and image, the film salutes this group of brave, young writers who refused to quietly disappear. The stories of the young Holocaust victims come to life by weaving together personal photos, handwritten pages and drawings from the diaries, and archival films. Original footage shot in Vinius, Lithuania, in the remnants of the old Jewish ghetto.

*More Than Broken Glass: Memories of Kristallnacht.* Teaneck, NJ: Ergo Media, 1990.

The sounds of broken glass, on the eve of November 9, 1938, will be forever etched in the collective memory.

*The Nazis-A Warning From History.* Burbank, CA: Warner Home Video, 2005.

Use interviews with witnesses and perpetrators, along with archival film and records, to examine how a political party as fundamentally evil as the Nazis could come to power in a modern European nation. Discusses the factors that enable the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in the economically-devastated Germany of the post-World War I era and looks at the role of ordinary Germans in the Nazi suffering of World War II. Includes segments focusing on the occupation of Poland and on the holocaust and concentration camps, particularly Treblinka.

*One Survivor Remembers.* New York: HBO, 2005

Through a series of interviews, photographs and footage shot in the actual locations of her memories, Gerda Weissmann Klein takes us on her journey of survival of the Holocaust. Also includes Gerda Klein's Academy Award acceptance speech.

*Paper Clips.* New York: Hart Sharp Video, 2006.

Students at Whitwell Middle School in rural Tennessee attempt to collect 6 million paper clips as part of a school project on the Holocaust.

*Raoul Wallenberg: Buried Alive.* Los Angeles, CA: Direct Cinema, 2007.

Examines the role of Raoul Wallenberg in saving Hungarian Jews during World War II, his disappearance after the Russians occupied Budapest, and the reports through the intervening decades that Wallenberg was imprisoned in Russia. Includes testimonies from Wallenberg's associates, his sister, and Jews who survived because of Wallenberg's intervention.

*Sugihara: Conspiracy of Kindness*. Boston: WGBH Boston video, 2005.

This documentary tells the story of Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara, consul to Lithuania during World War II. Sugihara defied Tokyo authorities and wrote transit visas that allowed hundreds of Jewish families to flee Europe through Russia to Japan and other countries. Includes home movies, photographs, film footage, and interviews with Holocaust survivors who owe their lives to Chiune Sugihara.

Youth Collection

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Summer 2011