

American Historical Fiction – World War II: 1938-1945 Holocaust



F BIS

Bishop, Claire Huchet and Du Bois, William Pene.

Twenty and Ten [1978, 1952].

Twenty school children hide ten Jewish children from the Nazis during the occupation of France during World War II.

F BOY

Boyne, John

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas: A Fable [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.

F KER

Kerr, Judith

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit [1972, 1971].

A Jewish girl and her family escape Berlin just before Hitler gains power and spend the next few years as refugees in Switzerland, France and England.

F LAS

Lasky, Kathryn

The Night Journey [1986]

A young girl ignores her parents' wishes and persuades her great-grandmother to relate the story of her escape from czarist Russia.

F LEV

Levitin, Sonia and Robinson, Charles

Journey to America [1987, 1970].

A Jewish family fleeing Nazi Germany in 1938 endures innumerable separations before they are once again united.

F LOW

Lowry, Lois

Number the Stars [1990, 1989].

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

F MAT

Matas, Carol

After The War [1996].

After being released from Buchenwald at the end of World War II, fifteen-year-old Ruth risks her life to lead a group of children across Europe to Palestine.

F MAZ

Mazer, Norma Fox

Good Night, Maman [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 on Lake Oswego, New York.

F ORL

Orlev, Uri.

The Island on Bird Street [1984, 1983].

During World War II a Jewish boy is left on his own for months in a ruined house in the Warsaw Ghetto, where he must learn all the tricks of survival under constantly life-threatening conditions.

F ORL

Orlev, Uri

Run, Boy, Run: A Novel [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.

F RIC

Richter, Hans Peter.

Friedrich [1970].

A young German boy recounts the fate of his best friend, a Jew, during the Nazi regime.

F SPI

Spinnelli, Jerry

Milkweed [2003]

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 on Lake Oswego, New York.

F YOL

Yolen, Jane

The Devil's Arithmetic [2004, c1988]

Hannah resents the traditions of her Jewish heritage until time travel places her in the middle of a small Jewish village in Nazi-occupied Poland.

PB FIC ISA

Isaacs, Anne

Torn Thread [2000].

It is June 1943, and for four years the Nazi armies have occupied the Polish town of Bedzin. 12-year old Eva, along with her father and her sister, have been forced to leave their comfortable home and move into a tiny attic in the Jewish ghetto. But Eva's life takes an even more terrifying turn, when she and her sister are torn from their father and imprisoned in a Nazi work camp.

PB FIC DRU

Drucker, Malka.

Jacob's Rescue: A Holocaust Story [1994]

In answer to his daughter's questions, a man recalls the terrifying years of his childhood when a brave Polish couple, Alex and Mela Roslan, hid him and other Jewish children from the Nazis. Based on a true story.

Non-Fiction (Holocaust)

B BRA

Levine, Karen.

Hana's Suitcase: A True Story [2003].

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.

B FRA

Frank, Anne

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl [1993, c1967]

The journal of a Jewish girl in her early teens describes both the joys and torments of daily life throughout two years spent in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of Holland.

B ISA

Isaacman, Clara and Grossman, Joan Adess.

Clara's Story [1984].

The author describes her own and her family's experiences during the two and one-half years they spent in hiding in Antwerp, Belgium, during World War II.

B MIL

Millman, Isaac.

Hidden Child [2005].

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

B REI

Reiss, Johanna.

The Upstairs Room [1972].

A Dutch Jewish girl describes the two-and-one-half years she spent in hiding in the upstairs bedroom of a farmer's house during World War II.

B SIE

Siegal, Aranka.

Upon the Head of the Goat: A Childhood in Hungary, 1939-1944 [1994, 1981].

Recounts the bewilderment of being a Jewish child in Hungary between 1939 and 1944, and relates the ordeal of survival in the ghetto.

B WIE

Wiesel, Elie.

Night [1986, 1960]

"Night" is Elie Wiesel's masterpiece, a candid, horrific, and deeply poignant autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in the Nazi death camps.

940.5 JAC

Jackson, Livia Bitton.

I Have Lived a Thousand Years: Growing Up in the Holocaust [1997].

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

940.5 ROS

Rosenberg, Maxine B.

Hiding to survive: Stories of Jewish Children Rescued from the Holocaust [1994].

Fourteen men and women tell how their childhood lives were turned upside down under the Nazi regime. They talk about the horrors they witnessed, their will to survive, and the courage of rescuers.

945.53 LEA

Leapman, Michael

Witness to war: eight true-life stories of Nazi persecution [2000]

True stories of eight children persecuted during World War II.

945.53 LOB

Lobel, Anita.

No Pretty Pictures: A Child of War [1998].

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

940.53 SCH

Schroeder, Peter W and Schroeder-Hildebrand, Dagmar.

Six Million Paper Clips: The Making of a Children's Holocaust Memorial. [2004].

Chronicles a small town's efforts to teach diversity as a class project which evolved into a memorial to the six million Jewish lives lost during the Holocaust by collecting six million paper clips like those worn by WWII Norwegians in protest against the persecution of Jews.

940.53 TAL

Talbott, Hudson.

Forging Freedom [2000].

A true story of heroism during the Holocaust. Chronicles the brave exploits of Jaap Penraat, a young Dutch man, who risked his life during World War II to save the lives of over 400 Jews.

940.53 ZAP

Zapruder, Alexandra

Salvaged pages: Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust [2002]

This is a stirring collection of diaries written by young people, ages 12 to 22, during the Holocaust. Some of the writers were refugees, others were hiding or passing as non-Jews, some were imprisoned in ghettos, and nearly all perished before liberation.