

THE HOLOCAUST

Insights | Tools

The Power of Individual Testimony

Elie Wiesel described in his film with Oprah in 2006 that his goal in teaching and writing has been "to sensitize people." Another survivor, Zdenka Fantlova, said in *The Lady in Number Six*, "Most people when they hear the word Holocaust see only two things: gas chambers and the number of six million and nothing in between, but it was everything in between." These voices and the others listed in this packet, through film, Internet, and book sources enable students to connect with an individual. Then after learning one story, a student can bear witness and continue to share that individual's story as his/her own story is being lived.

Films

Secrets of the Dead PBS episode called "Escape from Auschwitz" *I'm Still Here* dev. by MTV and uses material from *Salvaged Pages*. *The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life*. Academy Award winning Documentary about Alice Herz Sommer. *Auschwitz*. A short documentary directed by James Moll with narration by Meryl Streep that premiered at Annual Liberation ceremony at camp in Poland in 2015.

Photo of Auschwitz Birkenau Entry from railway tracks inside camp. Photo taken by L. Totty



Credible Web sites

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: <https://www.ushmm.org>

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is an important resource for educators and also useful for students. An important resource is their Guidelines for Teaching available to aid you as you develop curriculum. See this link: <https://www.ushmm.org/educators/teaching-about-the-holocaust/general-teaching-guidelines>

Yad Vashem: <http://www.yadvashem.org>

Jewish Foundation for the Righteous: <https://jfr.org>

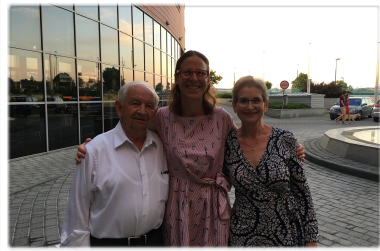
The topic of rescue is an important component of the Holocaust. This site has a map to view where countries can be selected, then individual rescuers can be explored within that country.

USC Shoah Foundation : <https://sfi.usc.edu>

Classrooms Without Borders (Pittsburgh Based): <http://classroomswithoutborders.org>

A credible glossary from Echoes & Reflections: <http://echoesandreflections.org/the-lessons/glossary/>





Book Suggestions for Educators

When I began teaching tenth grade, The Holocaust through literature was new to me. I am so thankful for the opportunities that have arisen in order to better my knowledge so that I can convey that knowledge clearly to my students.

- The books listed below are geared to deepen your understanding of the historical context.

Hayes, Peter, *Why? Explaining the Holocaust*.

Friedlander, Saul. *Nazi Germany and the Jews, Volume 1: The Years of Persecution, 1933-1939 The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939-1945*.

Van Pelt, Robert Jan. *Auschwitz 1270 to the Present*.

Dwork, Deborah and Robert Jan van Pelt. *Holocaust: A History*.

Browning, Christopher. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland*.

Bauer, Yehuda. *A History of the Holocaust*.

Photo with Holocaust survivor Howard Chandler & Hedy, his daughter in Poland 2016.

Book Suggestions for Students

Though books are usually decided by curriculum and class year, the following list is intended for high school age students.

Night by Elie Wiesel

Survival in Auschwitz by Primo Levi

Maus I A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History & Maus II: And Here My Troubles Began by Art Spiegelman

All But My Life by Gerda Weissmann Klein

Rutka's Notebook. A Diary by Rutka Laskier. Edited by Daniella Zaidman-Mauer (Editor), Kelly Knauer (Editor)

Salvaged Pages edited by Alexandra Zapruder. 15 diarists included with information on each diarist's background.

The Cage by Ruth Minsky Sender

Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor Frankl

Sophie Scholl and the White Rose by Annette Dumbach & Jud Newborn

The Holocaust by Bullets: A Priest's Journey to Uncover the Truth Behind the Murder of 1.5 Million Jews by Father Patrick Desbois

Photo of Block 17 Barrack that Elie Wiesel and his father, Shlomo, stayed in for three weeks. Photo taken L. Totty in Auschwitz 1.

