After the Holocaust
Delve Deeper into "Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance After the Holocaust"
A film by Oren Rudavsky and Menachem Daum

This multi-media resource list, compiled by Jennifer Ewing of the San Diego Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance After the Holocaust" that premieres on August 30th, 2005 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at www.pbs.org/pov/).

Is it possible to heal wounds and bitterness passed down through generations? An Orthodox Jewish father tries to alert his adult sons to the dangers of creating impenetrable barriers between themselves and those outside their faith. He takes them on an emotional journey to Poland to track down the family who risked their lives to hide their grandfather for more than two years during World War II. Like many children of survivors, the sons feel that Poland is a country that is incurably anti-Semitic, but it is precisely here that they meet people who personify the highest levels of compassion. "Hiding and Seeking" explores the Holocaust's effect on faith in God as well as faith in our fellow human beings. A co-presentation with the Independent Television Service. (ITVS)

ADULT NONFICTION


Blatman, Daniel. For Our Freedom and Yours: the Jewish Labour Bund in Poland, 1939-1949. Portland, OR: Vallemente Mitchell, 2003. Creates a picture of the Bund, the largest Jewish left-wing political party in Poland before the war, and how it was thrown into turmoil by the German attack, losing contact with many of its constituents and control over the institutions it had cultivated for decades.


Cyprys, Ruth Altbeker. A Jump for Life: a Survivor's Journal from Nazi-Occupied Poland. New York: Continuum, 1997. This journal describes the ordeal a middle-class Jewish woman, Cyprys, and her child, Eva, endured in German-occupied Poland from the formation of the Warsaw Ghetto through the ghetto uprising in 1944.


Dobroszycki, Lucjan. Image Before My Eyes: a Photographic History of Jewish Life in Poland Before the Holocaust. New York: Schocken Books, 1994. This photographic essay examines the various Jewish societies in pre-Nazi Poland, the most Jewish European country at the time, and reveals that community's creativity, vitality, and complexity.


of a teenage boy faced with the horrifying realities of the Holocaust, trying to stay alive without losing his humanity.


**Hoffman, Eva. Shtetl: the Life and Death of a Small Town and the World of Polish Jews. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.** This account of cultures in conflict puts the shtetl, the rural Eastern European small town that stood as “the site of the Jewish soul,” in its Polish context, describing both the life and the world of the Polish Jews - the largest and most distinctive Jewish community in the pre-war Europe - and the culture and history of their Christian Polish neighbors.

**Kessel, Barbara. Suddenly Jewish: Jews Raised as Gentiles Discover Their Jewish Roots. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2000.** Based on interviews with 166 individuals who were raised as non-Jews and later learned that they were of Jewish descent, all bound together by a basic need for determining their identity.

**Lauer, Betty. Hiding in Plain Sight: the Incredible True Story of a German-Jewish Teenager’s Struggle to Survive in Nazi-Occupied Poland. Hanover, NH: Smith and Kraus, 2004.** This memoir chronicles the struggles of a young Jewish teenager and her mother as they learn to pass as Polish Christians to escape Nazi persecution.


**Niezabitowska, Malgorzata. Remnants: the Last Jews of Poland. New York: Friendly Press, 1986.** Offers a rare glimpse of Polish-Jewish daily life, family, religious celebrations, and community events and their ability to survive and to retain cherished fragments of their culture after the Holocaust.

**Oliner, Pearl M. Saving the Forsaken: Religious Culture and the Rescue of Jews in Nazi Europe. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004.** Drawing on interviews with more than 300 Christians—Protestant and Catholic rescuers and non-rescuers—living in Nazi-occupied Europe, Oliner offers a sociological perspective on the values and attitudes that distinguished each group.

**Paldiel, Mordecai. Saving the Jews: Amazing Stories of Men and Women Who Defied the "Final Solution." Rockville, MD: Schreiber, 2000.** Presents 47 accounts of gentiles who risked their lives and the lives of their loved ones to save Jews during the Holocaust.

**Polonsky, Antony., ed. "My Brother’s Keeper?": Recent Polish Debates on the Holocaust. New York: Routledge-Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies, 1990.** In this collection of essays, contributors grapple with the moral questions surrounding the treatment of one set of the Nazis’ victims by another. Many Poles vehemently argue their innocence, pointing to their utter helplessness before the Nazis, while others resolutely refuse to make excuses for standing by—or even aiding—the slaughter.

**Rigg, Bryan Mark. Rescued from the Reich: How One of Hitler's Soldiers Saved the Lubavitcher Rebbe. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2004.** Details the story of how high-ranking Nazis, in a complicated series of actions, helped to rescue Rabbi Joseph Schneersohn, the esteemed head of the Hasidic Lubavitcher movement, his family, and his entourage from Warsaw, Poland in March 1940.

**Ringelblum, Emmanuel. Polish-Jewish Relations During the Second World War. Chicago, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1992.** Represents Ringelbaum’s attempt to answer the questions that have haunted Polish-Jewish relations for the last fifty years: what did the Poles do while millions of Jews were being led to the stake? What did the Polish underground do? What did the government-in-exile do?

**Rose, Daniel Asa. Hiding Places: a Father and His Sons Retrace Their Family’s Escape from the Holocaust. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000.** A reckless, religiously ambivalent kid with a passion for hiding places, Rose, now 38, struggles to bond with his sons by taking them to Europe to retrace the journey that one of his mother’s cousins took with his twin daughters in an effort to escape the Nazis.

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American friends who meet in 1983 and slowly reveal that as teenagers during World War II, they struggled on opposite sides of the Holocaust: Rosner as his Jewish-Hungarian family’s only survivor at Auschwitz and Tubach as the son of a German Army intelligence officer and a member of the Jungvolk, a pre-Hitler youth organization.

Śliwowska, Wiktoria., ed. The Last Eyewitnesses: Children of the Holocaust Speak. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 1998. This collection of stories of child survivors of the Holocaust not only reveals the evil and brutal anti-Semitism of the times, but also the great risks taken by courageous individuals in order to save Jewish children.


Steinlauf, Michael. Bondage to the Dead: Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust. Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1997. This study analyzes postwar Poland’s efforts, first to deny, then to begin to deal with the complex reality of Poland’s role in the Holocaust and traces the slow emergence of a new, more sympathetic attitude toward the Holocaust and the legacy of Polish-Jewish history.


Wiesel, Elie and John Cardinal O’Connor. A Journey of Faith: a Dialogue Between Elie Wiesel and John Cardinal O’Connor; Based on and Expanded from the WNBC-TV Broadcast. New York: D. Fine, 1990. In this dialogue, which took place at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Yonkers, New York and was moderated by veteran reporter Gabe Pressman for WNBC-TV, Wiesel and Cardinal O’Connor shared moments of their past that profoundly changed their lives. Discuss subjects ranging from anti-Semitism to the horrors of the Holocaust.


Wiesenthal, Simon. The Sunflower: On the Possibilities and Limits of Forgiveness. New York: Schocken, 1998. Wiesenthal recalls his life in a concentration camp and his envy of the dead Germans who had sunflowers marking their graves, assuming his would be a mass one, unmarked and forgotten. When a dying Nazi soldier asks Weisenthal for forgiveness for his crimes against the Jews, he tackles the possibilities and limits of forgiveness.

Wilkomirski, Binjamin. Fragments: Memories of a Wartime Childhood. New York: Schocken Books, 1996. This memoir illustrates the horror that Wilkomirski went through in a Nazi concentration camp in Poland as a young child and the terrible loss of family, heritage, and a normal childhood. Written from fragments of his childhood memory, it conveys the feeling of a child speaking with no adult interpretations.


ADULT FICTION

Belliveau, Gregory Kenneth. Go Down to Silence: a Novel. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 2001. When businessman Jacob Horowitz, a Belgian Holocaust survivor, is diagnosed with terminal cancer, he decides to make peace with his estranged son, Isaac, and with his past. The two embark on a journey to reveal the suffering the Horowitz family endured during World War II and the reasons for hiding his faith.


Rosenbaum, Thané. Elijah Visible. New York: St. Martin’s Griffin, 1999. This collection of nine interlinked stories examines what life could have been for Manhattan lawyer Adam Posner, a son of Holocaust survivors, and investigates how fragmented families, weak identification with faith, as well as the chasm between generations, dulls recognition of the full enormity of the Holocaust.

Sucher, Cheryl Pearl. The Rescue of Memory: a Novel. New York: Scribner, 1997. The daughter of Holocaust survivors, Rachael Wallfish is raised in comfortable postwar New York, reluctantly struggling to keep alive the suffering her parents experienced in the Lodz ghetto, Auschwitz, and Ravensbruck. When her mother dies, she struggles with the tensions in her life, the Nazi death camp stories that haunt her dreams, and her conflicted Jewish identity in an effort to define herself.
Wiesel, Elie. *The Forgotten.* New York: Schocken Books, 1995. Holocaust survivor Eliezer Rosenbaum, living in New York, is a distinguished professor with a psychiatric practice, but he is tragically losing his memory. While he can still remember, he creates a "backup" by recording and giving his stories to his son, Malkiel, successfully linking generations together.

**NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS**


Drucker, Malka and Michael Halperin. *Jacob’s Rescue: A Holocaust Story.* New York: Dell, 1994. Grades 5-9. This novel tells the story of a courageous Polish family that hides two Jewish brothers during WW II, risking their lives every day to protect children who were not even related to them.


Opdyke, Irene. *In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer.* New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 1999. Grades 5 and up. Opdyke was a 17-year-old Polish Catholic nursing student when Germany invaded her country in 1939 and she, like so many Poles, was made to serve the German army. Sickened by the suffering inflicted on the local Jews, Opdyke began helping Jews in the ghetto by passing along information, smuggling food, and helping them escape.

Toll, Nelly S. *Behind the Secret Window: a Memoir of a Hidden Childhood During World War Two.* New York: Dial Books, 1993. Grades 5 and up. Toll describes persecution by neighbors and former servants as well as the Germans, and how she went from an affluent home to cramped quarters in a ghetto to a tiny, hidden room in the Gentile part of town.


**FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS**

Feder, Paula Kurzband. *The Feather-Bed Journey.* Morton Grove, IL: A. Whitman, 1995. Grades 1-4. Rachel and Lewis play tug-of-war with grandma’s old pillow one windy day and suddenly it comes apart. Everyone scrambles to try to retrieve the feathers that fly up in the air. When the search is abandoned, grandma tells the youngsters the history of the pillow—how it was once a featherbed and that now it is all she has left from her childhood in Poland.


Orlev, Uri. *The Man From the Other Side.* Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 1984. 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.


**VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES**


This documentary breaks new ground by following Holocaust survivors and their sons as they reluctantly return to Europe with his sons to confront his traumatic memories for the first time.

www.jewishculture.org/film/film_andre.html

"Angry Harvest / Bittere ernte." A film by Agnieszka Holland. Euro-American Home Video. German with English subtitles. 1987. (105 min.) During the German occupation of Poland and the raid on the ghetto, a farmer offers a young Jewish woman on the run to stay at his house. They begin to fall in love; but with differing personalities, education, attitudes to life, and quite a difference in age, the relationship begins to fall apart again.

www.german-cinema.de/archive/film_view.php?film_id=884

"At the Crossroads: Jews in Eastern Europe Today." A film by Yale Strom and Oren Rudavsky. English subtitles provided when Yiddish is spoken. 1989. (60 min.)

Strom travels through Eastern Europe and discusses Jewish history and a Jewish future with Jewish academics, musicians, teenagers, and students.

"Diamonds in the Snow." A film by Mira Binford. National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis. 1994. (58 min.)

This documentary tells the story of three of the few Jewish children from the Polish city of Bendzin who survived the Holocaust. The film also portrays the individuals whose courage helped the three girls survive - other Polish Jews, Polish Christians and even a German businessman.

"From Kristallnacht to Crystal Day: A Synagogue in Wroclaw Glows Again." A film by Ellen Friedland and Curt Fissel. 2001. (28 min.)

Emphasizes the re-emergence of Jewish life in today's post-communist Wroclaw, making the White Stork synagogue not only an historical monument but also a center and springboard for the continuity of the community.

"Hidden in Silence." A film by Hans Propp. 2000. (93 min.)

In Nazi-occupied Poland, the Jewish adoptive family of young Fusia is taken into captivity. Fusia boldly helps some of her family escape and must protect them by keeping them hidden in her tiny attic.


An exploration of the relationship between objective history and personal memory, this film examines the Holocaust through the eyes of survivors and their descendants.

"Kaddish." A film by Steve Brand. 1984. (92 min.)

Presents actual events as interpreted through the eyes of a Jewish concentration camp inmate who was among the very few to survive the ordeal. The survivor's memories are further elaborated on by his son.


This documentary examines the efforts of non-Jewish adults who risked their lives during World War II trying to save Jewish children, using archival footage and interviews with survivors and the families who hid them.

"Shtetl." A film by Marian Marzynski. 1996. (173 min.)

The filmmaker accompanies Nathan Kaplan, a 70 year-old Jewish man from Chicago to Bransk, a small Polish shtetl in Eastern Poland. Here, their confrontation with the past begins. "Shtetl" takes a look at Jewish-Polish relationships in both the past and the present.

"There Once Was a Town." A film by Jeff Bieber. 1999. (90 min.)

Documentary based on the book of the same name by Yaffa Eliach. About the town of Eishyshok. Zwi Michael is on a quest to find the young Christian farm girl who saved his life. Reuvan Paikowsky is searching for his father's grave. Abe Asner is looking for the Torah he hid. Yaffa Eliach is searching for her mother's murderers who shot her after the war had ended.

"To Know Where They Are." A film by Terri Randall. 1989. (28 min.)

Randall and her father travel to Poland in search of family roots. There they discover that Christian neighbors hid their relatives during World War II.

www.terrirandalldistributions.com/family.html


Chronicles the events of World War II through expert commentary and graphic combat footage from the famed battles.


Filmed in Poland, Israel, and London, this film documents the clandestine efforts of diverse Polish groups- Catholics, socialists, independents and others- to save Jewish lives despite great personal risks.

www.facets.org/asticat

**WEB SITES**

Anti-Semitism
http://ddickerson.igc.org/antisemitism.org

Offers a variety of links for learning more about anti-Semitism.

American Jewish Historical Society
www.ajhs.org/

The mission of the American Jewish Historical Society is to foster awareness and appreciation of the American Jewish heritage and to serve as a national scholarly....
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resource for research through the collection, preservation and dissemination of materials relating to American Jewish history.

Centropa: Jewish Heritage in Central and Eastern Europe
www.centropa.org/
Centropa desires to create a window into Jewish history, and current events, in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Its largest project, Witness to a Jewish Century, is a searchable online library of Jewish family pictures, and the memories that go with them.

Holocaust History
www.history1900s.about.com/library/holocaust/blholocaust.htm
The Holocaust section of about.com includes articles, photographs, internet links and a Holocaust timeline.

Holocaust History Project
www.holocaust-history.org/
The Holocaust History Project is a free archive of documents, photographs, recordings, and essays regarding the Holocaust, including direct refutation of Holocaust-denial.

Holocaust Survivors.org
www.holocaustsurvivors.org/
History presented with a human face. Read survivors stories, hear them speak, look at family photos, consult the encyclopedia and leave your thoughts on the discussion board.

Holocaust—Understanding and Prevention
www.kimel.net/
Holocaust—Understanding and Prevention is a collection of about 90 sites of Holocaust poetry, prayers, remembrance, Holocaust education, memoirs and past magazine posts.

Human Rights Watch
www.hrw.org/
Human Rights Watch is dedicated to protecting the human rights of people around the world.

Prevent Genocide International
www.preventgenocide.org/
Prevent Genocide International, established in 1998, is a global education and action network for the prevention of genocide and crimes against humanity.

Poland at War
www.thornb2b.co.uk/Poland_at_War/
Photographs of Nazi Occupied Poland taken between 1939-1945.

Remember.org
www.remember.org/
Remember.org is dedicated to preserving the memory of those who died in the Holocaust through art, discussion boards, photos, facts and testimonials.

“Shtetl”
www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shtetl/
PBS’ Frontline web site for their film “Shtetl.”

To Save a Life: Stories of Jewish Rescue
www.humboldt.edu/~rescuers/
To Save a Life: Stories of Jewish Rescue was published as an online book by Ellen Land-Weber and is based on interviews the author conducted with individuals who have been recognized by Yad Vashem in Israel as “Righteous Gentiles.” It features rescuers’ stories, photographs, and short biographies of Holocaust survivors and rescuers.

Simon Wiesenthal Center
www.wiesenthal.com/
The Simon Wiesenthal Center is an international Jewish human rights organization dedicated to preserving the memory of the Holocaust by fostering tolerance and understanding through community involvement, educational outreach and social action.

Tolerance.org
www.tolerance.org/
Tolerance.org is a principal online destination for people interested in dismantling bigotry and creating, in hate’s stead, communities that value diversity.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
www.ushmm.org/
The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. is America’s national institution for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history, and serves as this country’s memorial to the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust.

Yad Vashem
www.yadvashem.org/
Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations.