

Who Wrote These Letters?

Directions: As you read the following letters, circle clues in the text that reveal the type of person that the author might be. When you finish reading, use the back of your paper to write a description of the person who wrote the letters based on the clues you found in the text.

3.17.87

[...] I would feel so depressed if in my young age- I had not stood with my people especially in this hour of immense suffering- that I had lied to my spirit, to the spirit of my people, to the millions of oppressed people. Maybe it looks grandiose- the betrayed- but that's how I would feel- that I have chosen comfort and love, the fulfillment of my own desires- to that of their suffering. [...]

3.28.87

So the bombing is coming closer and closer we can feel and hear the bombers right next to us as we sit in the trenches. Narmi and Shari are terrified as any children. But they are very grownup because of the events around them. [...] Stand on your feet. Do not depend on another for anything tangible.

3.30.87

In the early hours of the morning yesterday I was reading when I heard a thunder rushing close by- I grabbed my sleeping little ones and ran and tumbled into the trench. The whole family sat it out- bombs over and over again right round us, trees in our garden were shaking with terror and vibrating. [...] Darling, darling at the end all of us like termites crawled out of the trench, talk to neighbor, count the corpses and carry on.

11.25.87

Our university is a rubble...Of course they have ransacked my room totally- gone through each and every file and letters, all my specimens have been jumbled up [...] I am living in the darkest days of my nation ...The immense sacrifice of the people is nothing. It is so upside down our world- that you do not know where to start to organize. One needs enormous energies to restart, lose, restart, lose, restart, lose- Oh God an endless cycle. [...] They came again to interrogate us at home [...] I think we will be under surveillance. [...] I think that I am going to get killed, by the poisonous emotions outside me. [...]

11.29.87

[...] Normalcy returning is an absolute dream. Nothing works here. Research is an utmost unreachable pleasure- as nothing can be done- we have no water, no electricity in the university. No staff can come to work as rigorous curfew- numerous check points. And military actions all the time. No transport as well and the Tigers are ready to kill even starving people trying to get some rations. Nothing is salvageable- even a legend that we had, a romantic dream of freedom- because it (...) is tainted with egoism, cruelty and murder.