



11+

The Azrieli Foundation's
Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program

EDUCATORS' CATALOGUE 2027



“

In telling these stories, the writers have liberated themselves. For so many years we did not speak about it, even when we became free people living in a free society. Now, when at last we are writing about what happened to us in this dark period of history, knowing that our stories will be read and live on allows us to feel truly free. These unique historical documents put a face on what was lost, and allow readers to grasp the enormity of what happened to six million Jews — one story at a time.

”

David J. Azrieli, C.M., C.Q., M.Arch.
Holocaust survivor and founder, the Azrieli Foundation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE.....	3
THE FIRST STEP	5
RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM	7
11+ Collection	8
Re:Collection	11
Education Programs and Activities	12
ORDER BOOKS	15



WHO WE ARE

The Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program was established by the Azrieli Foundation in 2005 to collect, publish and share the memoirs and diaries written by survivors of the Holocaust who came to Canada. We have published the stories of over 130 survivor authors. These books are read every year by students across Canada, and we have provided more than a million copies of our award-winning memoirs to Canadian educators and students.

The memoirs encourage readers to engage thoughtfully and critically with the complexities of the Holocaust by creating meaningful connections with the lives of survivors. Students tell us how important these books are to them and how moved they are by the authors' experiences.

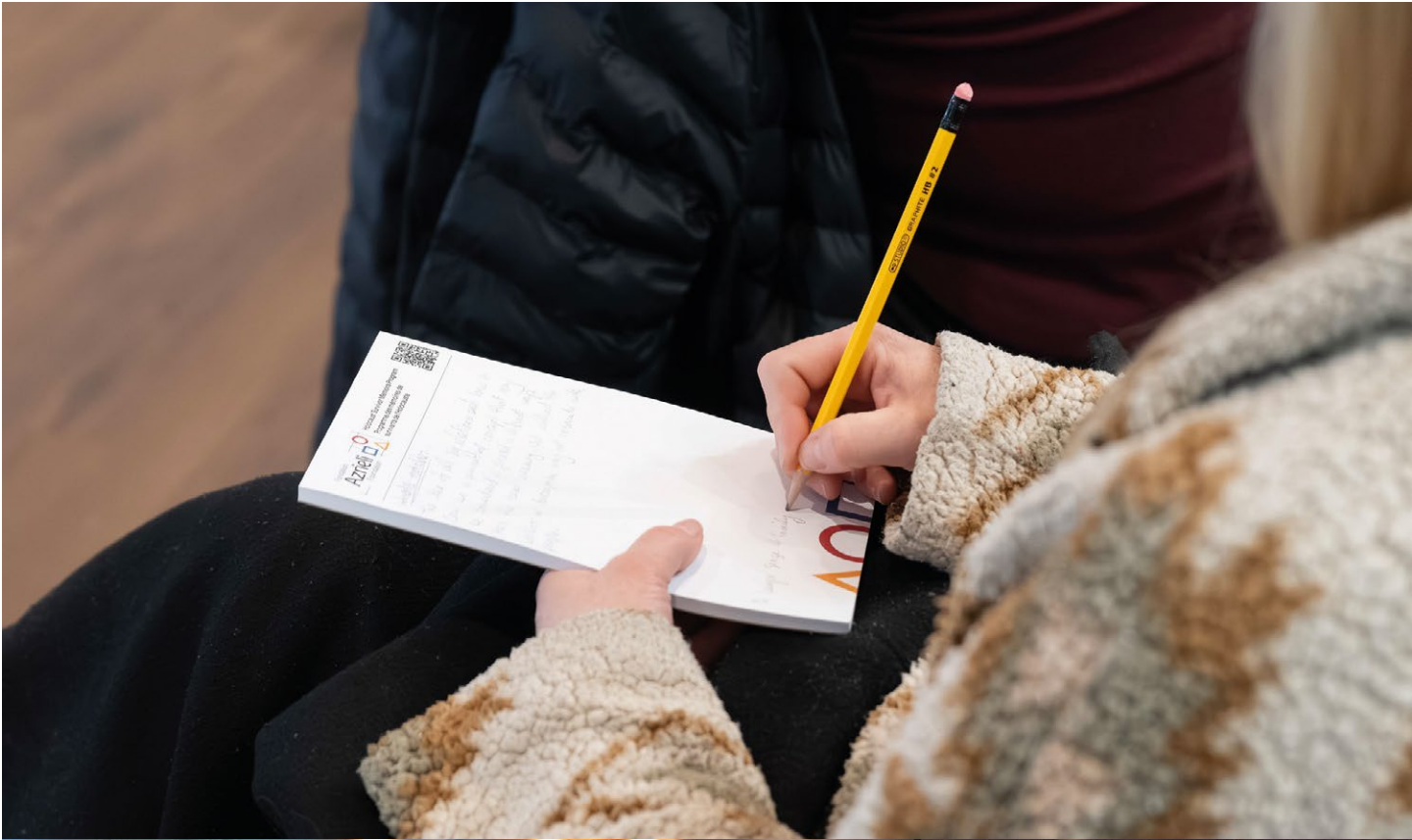
Stories bring history to life, and that's why we publish these memoirs, which are available in both

English and French as print books, ebooks and PDFs and are offered free of charge to Canadian educational institutions.

The survivors' accounts are carefully fact-checked by our editorial and research staff, and their books include supplementary material, such as glossaries, introductions written by experts and maps. We also create a variety of bilingual educational materials, made for and tested by the teachers who use these memoirs in their classrooms.

We encourage teachers to incorporate a trauma-informed approach when using our educational materials and when working with our memoirs.

For more information on trauma-informed teaching, see our [blog post](#).



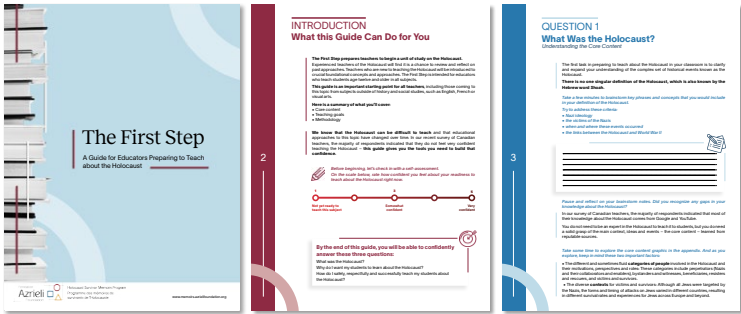
THE FIRST STEP

A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS PREPARING TO TEACH ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

The First Step helps both new and experienced educators to feel more confident teaching about the Holocaust.

This guide provides educators with reflective exercises, trusted resources and tangible takeaways and tools for use in the classroom.

The First Step can be accessed directly from [our website](#).

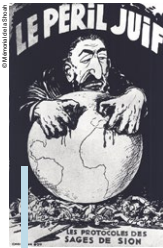


CORE CONTENT

This graphic lays out the main context, ideas and events - the core content - that teachers should be familiar with before teaching about the Holocaust. Two additional key factors to consider:

The different and sometimes fluid categories of people involved in the Holocaust and their **motivations, perspectives and roles**. These categories include perpetrators (Nazis and their collaborators and enablers), bystanders and witnesses, beneficiaries, resisters and rescuers, and victims and survivors.

The diverse **contexts** for victims and survivors: Although all Jews were targeted by the Nazis, the forms and timing of attacks on Jews varied in different countries, resulting in different survival rates and experiences for Jews across Europe and beyond.



IDEAS AND DEVELOPMENTS THAT PRECEDED THE HOLOCAUST

- The long history of anti-Jewish attitudes
- The forms of anti-Jewish persecution in Europe and elsewhere
- The development of imperialism, nationalism, racism and eugenics
- The social and political effects of World War I

THE AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST

- Trauma and rebuilding for survivors
- Displaced persons camps
- The struggle to emigrate
- Efforts at attaining justice, such as the Nuremberg Trials



JEWISH LIFE

- The history of Jews in Europe
- The diverse Jewish communities and their range of cultural and religious practices before the Holocaust

NAZISM

- The core tenets of Nazi ideology
- The central role of antisemitism
- The political process by which Hitler came to power in 1933



KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRE-WAR NAZI YEARS

- The social and political revolution in Germany
- The intensifying persecution of Jews and other target groups
- The opening of concentration camps for Nazi target groups beginning in 1933
- The Nuremberg Laws of 1935
- The Kristallnacht pogrom in 1938
- The Jewish refugee crisis and the voyage of the MS St. Louis in 1939
- The beginning of the program to murder Germans with disabilities in 1939

A Definition of the Holocaust

The Holocaust refers to Nazi Germany's attempt to annihilate the Jewish population of Europe. Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazi Party, saw Jews as the primary enemy of the "Aryan" race and believed that Germany would become powerful only by ridding itself of Jews.

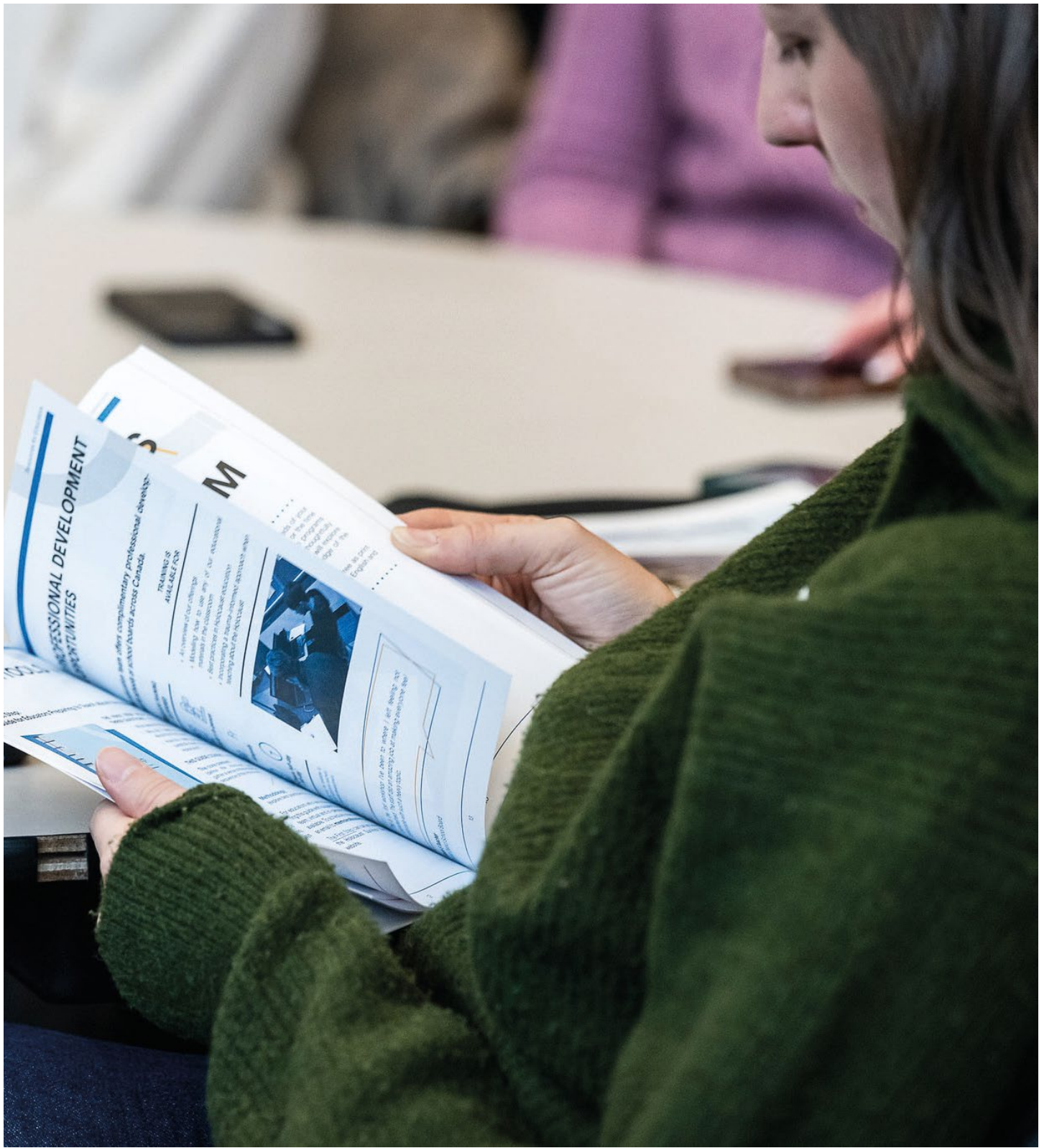
Starting in 1933, Nazi Germany took measures to humiliate, isolate and persecute Jews. The Nazis also targeted other groups in Germany, including Roma and Sinti, people with disabilities, Jehovah's Witnesses, Afro-Germans, homosexuals and political opponents.

With the outbreak of World War II in September 1939, Nazi policies and violence extended to each country occupied by Germany. During the war, the Nazis and their collaborators began systematically killing Jews and other target groups. By the time World War II ended in 1945, six million Jews had been murdered in the Holocaust.

THE UNFOLDING OF THE HOLOCAUST DURING WORLD WAR II

- The expansion of Germany across Europe and its system of alliances that brought the Jewish population under Nazi control
- The spread of systematic methods of anti-Jewish persecution, such as the ghettos in Eastern Europe
- The evolution of persecution and violence into mass killing operations, such as Einsatzgruppen shootings starting in 1941
- The development of the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question" in mid-1941, the Nazi leadership's plan to murder all Jews
- The creation of killing centres in occupied Poland using gas to murder Jews
- The deportation of Jews from all over Europe to Nazi camps and killing centres
- The forced death marches of camp prisoners in the final months of the war





RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM

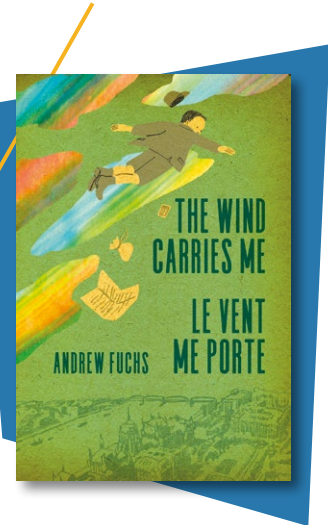


The resources we offer free of charge to use in your classroom include [our memoirs](#), [Education Programs and Activities](#), short films and digital tools. The 11+ Collection of memoirs and other relevant 11+ resources are listed on the following pages.

11+ COLLECTION

All titles below are available in both English and French, as print books, PDFs and certified-accessible ebooks, and are offered free of charge to educational institutions across Canada.

Our memoirs have been classified by age according to content and not by reading level. Memoirs that are considered 11+ do not contain any graphic violence, sexual violence or sexual content. Generally shorter and less complex than our other memoirs, books in the 11+ category are perfect for students who are ending elementary school or who are starting high school but are also appropriate for older readers.



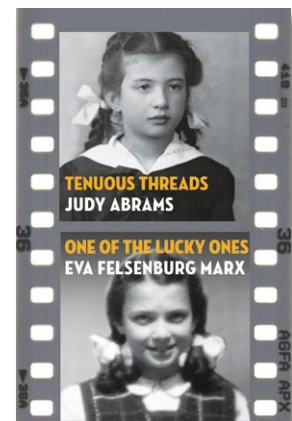
Andrew Fuchs

The Wind Carries Me / Le Vent me porte

Our first side-by-side bilingual memoir (a parallel text publication), intended as an educational tool for language literacy.

- 248 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in Hungary in 1936
- Life in Budapest during and after the Holocaust; survived the war in Red Cross children's homes
- Arrived in Canada in 1958 and settled in Ottawa and Montreal

NEW



Judy Abrams

Tenuous Threads

Eva Felsenburg Marx

One of the Lucky Ones

- 224 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in Hungary in 1937 (Judy) and in Czechoslovakia in 1937 (Eva)
- Parallel stories of two children in hiding and surviving under false identities
- Both arrived in Canada in 1949 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Short films (Eva Felsenburg Marx and Judy Abrams), Re:Collection (Judy Abrams), Author Biography Activity (Judy Abrams), Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (Program, Judy Abrams)



Claire Baum

The Hidden Package

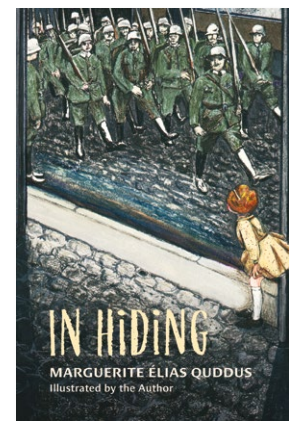
- 128 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in the Netherlands in 1936
- In hiding with her younger sister with non-Jewish families; includes drawings and postcards sent to their parents, who were hidden separately
- Arrived in Canada in 1951 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (Program)



Muguet Myers

Where Courage Lives

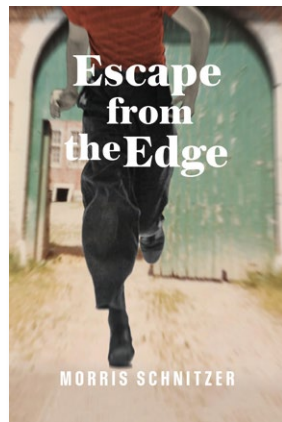
- 168 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in France in 1931
- In hiding in a village with her family, under false identities
- Arrived in Canada in 1947 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, When Art Animates Memory (Activity), Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (Program)



Marguerite Élias Quddus

In Hiding

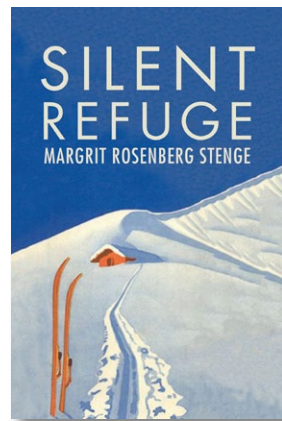
- 264 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in France in 1936
- In hiding with her older sister in convents and on a farm, under false identities
- Includes author's colour illustrations of her story
- Arrived in Canada in 1967 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (Program), Hearing History: A Holocaust Survivor Memoir Read Aloud (Program)



Morris Schnitzer

Escape from the Edge

- 226 pages / / **Available in French**
- Born in Germany in 1922
- Sent on a Kindertransport to the Netherlands; later fled to Belgium and France under a false identity
- Joined a resistance group in Belgium and then the American army as an interpreter
- Arrived in Canada in 1947 and settled in Montreal and Ottawa
- Available resources: *Escape: The True Story of Morris Schnitzer* (film), *Escape: Holocaust Testimony as Animated Film* (Activity), *Hearing History: A Holocaust Survivor Memoir Read Aloud* (Program)



Margrit Rosenberg Stenge

Silent Refuge

- 244 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Germany in 1928
- Escaped to Norway; in hiding with her family
- Escaped to Sweden with her family
- Arrived in Canada in 1951 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity

For a full list of our published memoirs, see [our website](#) :

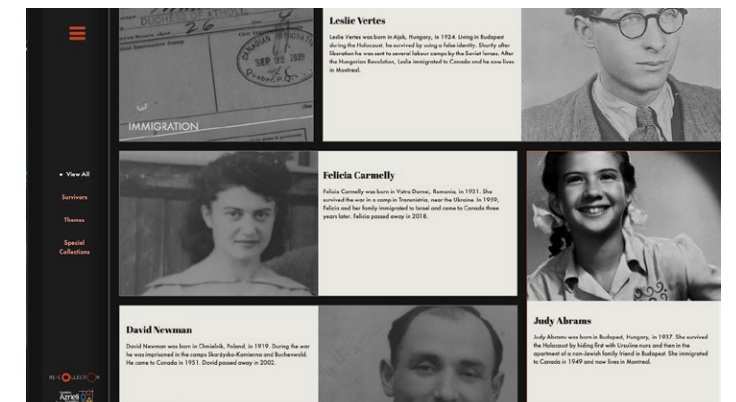
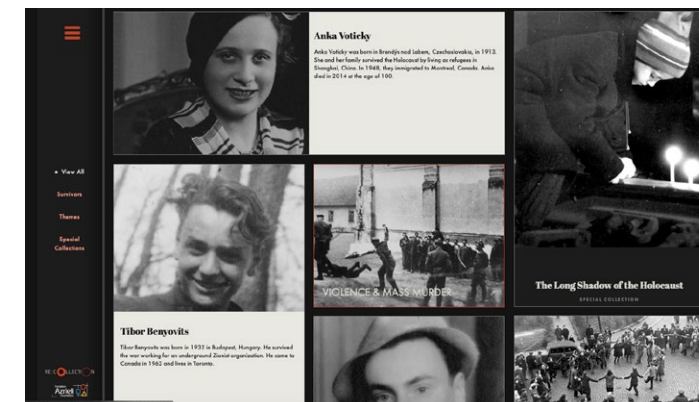


RE:COLLECTION :

A DIGITAL RESOURCE

[Re:Collection](#) is an educational tool for exploring the history of the Holocaust through first-hand accounts of survivors. This innovative digital resource combines video interviews with memoir excerpts, photos and artifacts, and features interactive timelines and maps to place survivors' stories in historical and geographic context.

There are no graphic images on Re:Collection, but it does include themes that may not be appropriate for a younger audience. Consider specifying age-appropriate themes (including "Family," "Pre-War Daily Life," "Hiding" and "Escape") or authors featured in our 11+ Collection for your students to explore.

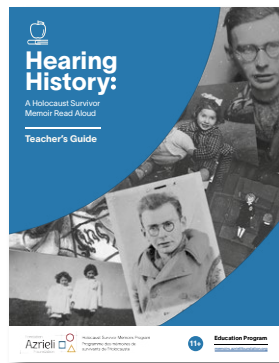


EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The content of the following Education Programs and Activities are appropriate for ages 11+. These resources might include age-appropriate excerpts from memoirs categorized as 14+ or 16+.

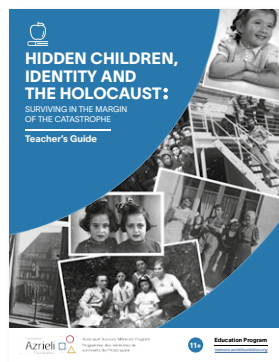
Education Programs

These multi-lesson units offer a complete program of study on the Holocaust, using the stories of survivors and covering different themes such as rescue, immigration, identity and persecution. Each Program includes an introduction to the Holocaust and is adaptable to the needs of your classroom.



Hearing History: A Holocaust Survivor Memoir Read Aloud

- **Available in French**
- Flexible length
- Explores the value of memoirs as both a literary form and a tool for studying history as educators guide students through a read aloud of a published memoir.

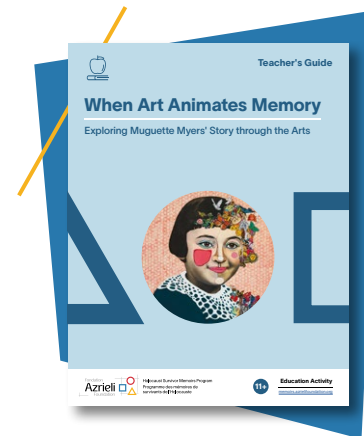


Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe

- **Available in French**
- 6 lessons
- Explores narratives of survivors who were hidden as children and discusses the concept of identity and experiences of immigration.

Activities

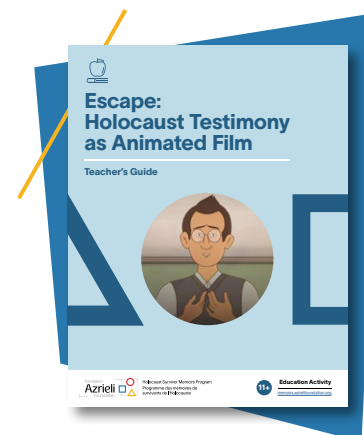
These short lessons are designed to supplement a broader unit of study on the Holocaust and focus on one theme or a survivor's story.



When Art Animates Memory: Exploring Muguette Myers' Story Through the Arts

NEW

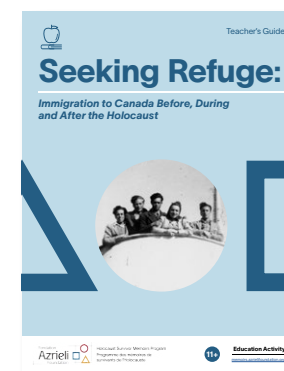
- **Available in French**
- 2 lessons
- Students learn about Holocaust survivor Muguette Myers while studying and analyzing the portrait of her by painter/collagist Adèle Blais.
- Optional supplement: interactive elements via the free application Peindre l'histoire (Painting History), available on Android and iOS



Escape: Holocaust Testimony as Animated Film

NEW

- **Available in French**
- 3+ lessons and an optional final assignment
- Features *Escape: The True Story of Morris Schnitzer* (2025), a 21-minute short film produced by Riddle Films.
- Students view the animated film based on Morris Schnitzer's memoir and then reflect on key questions about the short film, historical testimony and media.



Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust

- **Available in French**
- 2 lessons
- Explores the wartime and postwar experiences of survivors and Canada's role and response during the Holocaust, focusing on immigration policies, the MS *St. Louis* and the War Orphans Project.



Education Disrupted

- **Available in French**
- 2 lessons
- Examines what education meant to Jewish students before, during and after the Holocaust by using the digital exhibit [Education Disrupted](#).



Liberation through the Eyes of a Hidden Child

- **Available in French**
- 1 lesson
- Using the IWitness Canada educational platform, this activity incorporates audiovisual clips, memoir excerpts, historical context and engaging interactive elements, such as reflective questions and creative tasks.
- Produced in partnership with the USC Shoah Foundation.

Author Biography Activities

The following Activities include a background reading about an author's life, along with historical context about where they lived and a handout for students to complete. During each activity, students learn about the survivor author by using our digital resource Re:Collection. The Activities can also be completed by students after reading a survivor's memoir in full. Each Activity can be found on our website.



Judy Abrams



Claire Baum



Muguette Myers



Marguerite Élias
Quddus



Margrit
Rosenberg Stenge



ORDER BOOKS

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE

The Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program exists to share these stories. To learn more about the many authors and their memoirs, visit memoirs.azrielifoundation.org or mail to memoirs@azrielifoundation.org.

ABOUT THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION

For more than thirty years, the Azrieli Foundation has quietly funded institutions as well as operated programs on the ground. The Foundation supports Holocaust education, scientific and medical research, music and the arts, higher education, youth empowerment and school perseverance, architecture and quality of life initiatives for people with developmental disabilities.

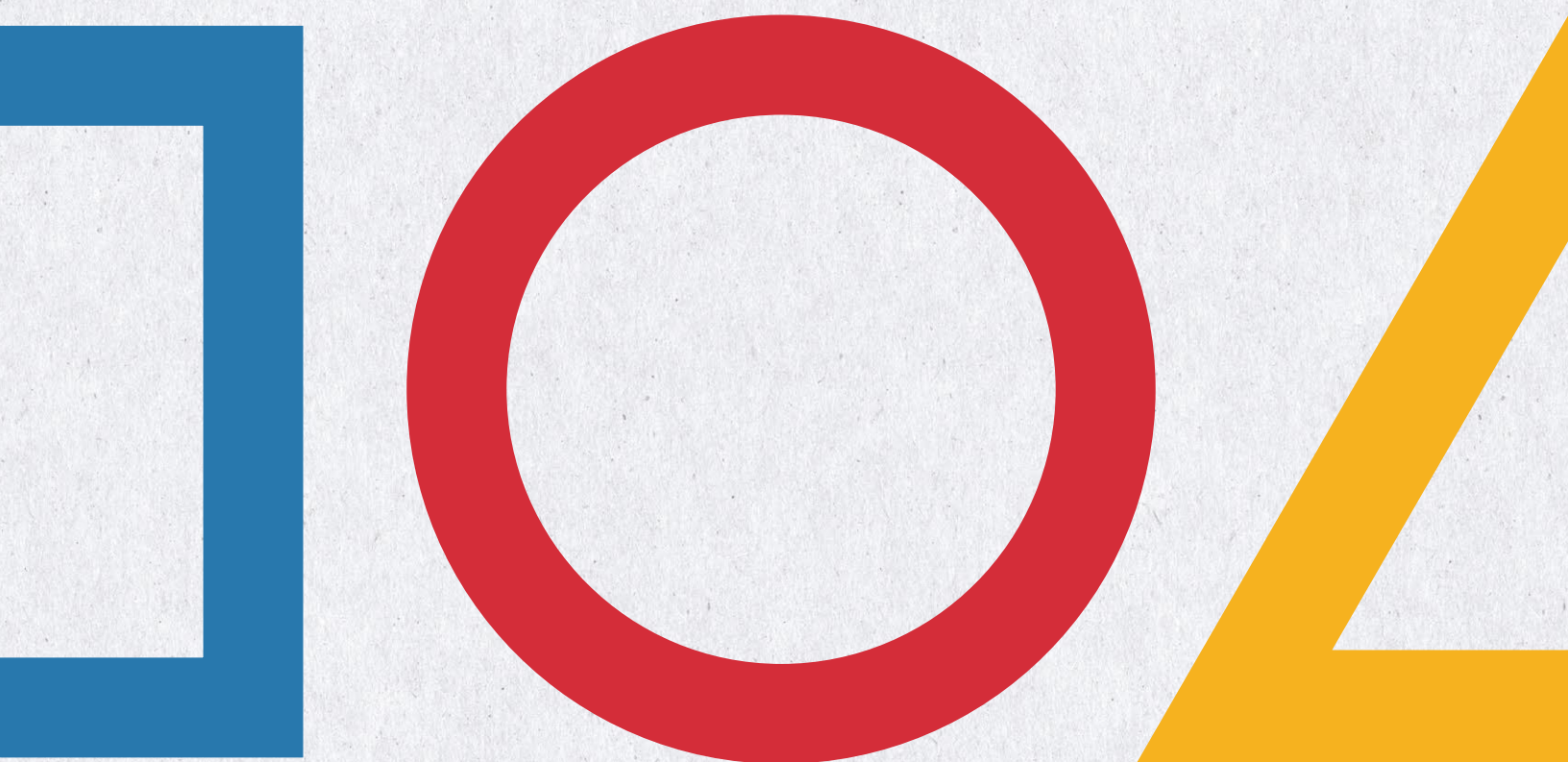
www.azrielifoundation.org



facebook.com/azrielimemoirs



instagram.com/azrielimemoirs





14+

16+

The Azrieli Foundation's
Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program

EDUCATORS' CATALOGUE 2027



“

In telling these stories, the writers have liberated themselves. For so many years we did not speak about it, even when we became free people living in a free society. Now, when at last we are writing about what happened to us in this dark period of history, knowing that our stories will be read and live on allows us to feel truly free. These unique historical documents put a face on what was lost, and allow readers to grasp the enormity of what happened to six million Jews — one story at a time.

”

David J. Azrieli, C.M., C.Q., M.Arch.
Holocaust survivor and founder, the Azrieli Foundation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE	3
THE FIRST STEP	5
RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM	7
14+ Collection	8
16+ Collection	13
Re:Collection	16
Education Programs and Activities	17
Exhibits	21
ORDER BOOKS	23



WHO WE ARE

The Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program was established by the Azrieli Foundation in 2005 to collect, publish and share the memoirs and diaries written by survivors of the Holocaust who came to Canada. We have published the stories of over 130 survivor authors. These books are read every year by students across Canada, and we have provided more than a million copies of our award-winning memoirs to Canadian educators and students.

The memoirs encourage readers to engage thoughtfully and critically with the complexities of the Holocaust by creating meaningful connections with the lives of survivors. Students tell us how important these books are to them and how moved they are by the authors' experiences.

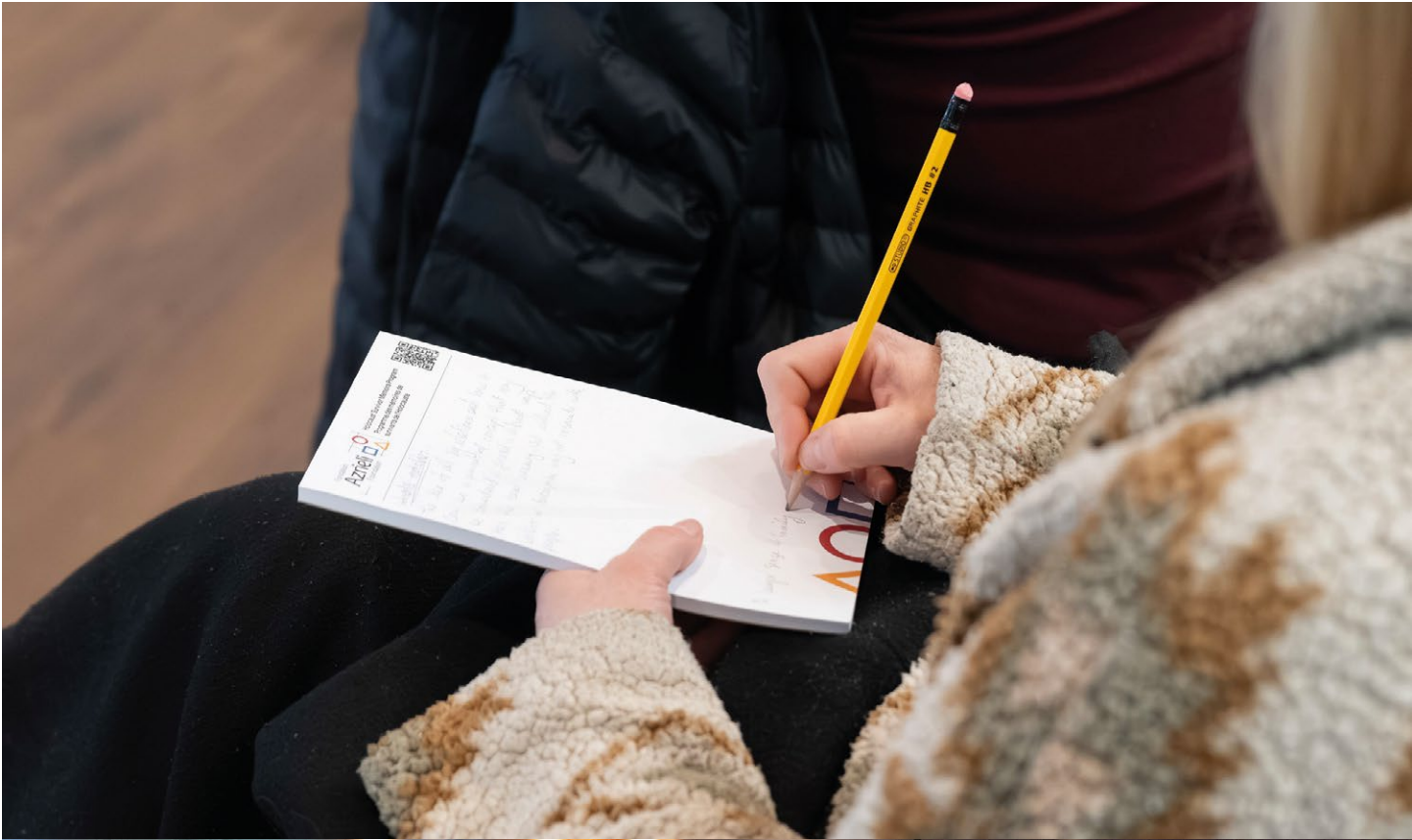
Stories bring history to life, and that's why we publish these memoirs, which are available in both

English and French as print books, ebooks and PDFs and are offered free of charge to Canadian educational institutions.

The survivors' accounts are carefully fact-checked by our editorial and research staff, and their books include supplementary material, such as glossaries, introductions written by experts and maps. We also create a variety of bilingual educational materials, made for and tested by the teachers who use these memoirs in their classrooms.

We encourage teachers to incorporate a trauma-informed approach when using our educational materials and when working with our memoirs.

For more information on trauma-informed teaching, see our [blog post](#).



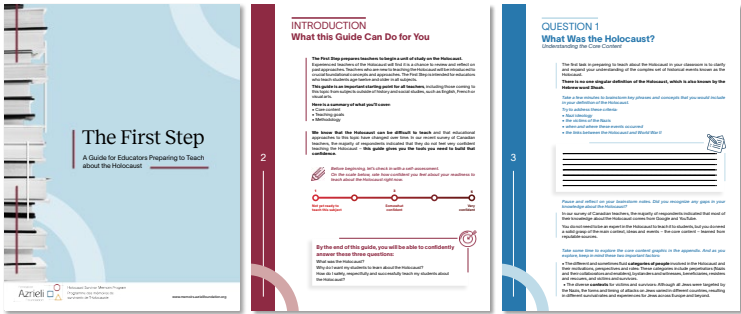
THE FIRST STEP

A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS PREPARING TO TEACH ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

The First Step helps both new and experienced educators to feel more confident teaching about the Holocaust.

This guide provides educators with reflective exercises, trusted resources and tangible takeaways and tools for use in the classroom.

The First Step can be accessed directly from [our website](#).

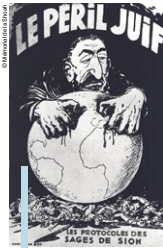


CORE CONTENT

This graphic lays out the main context, ideas and events - the core content - that teachers should be familiar with before teaching about the Holocaust. Two additional key factors to consider:

The different and sometimes fluid categories of people involved in the Holocaust and their **motivations, perspectives and roles**. These categories include perpetrators (Nazis and their collaborators and enablers), bystanders and witnesses, beneficiaries, resisters and rescuers, and victims and survivors.

The diverse **contexts** for victims and survivors: Although all Jews were targeted by the Nazis, the forms and timing of attacks on Jews varied in different countries, resulting in different survival rates and experiences for Jews across Europe and beyond.



IDEAS AND DEVELOPMENTS THAT PRECEDED THE HOLOCAUST

- The long history of anti-Jewish attitudes
- The forms of anti-Jewish persecution in Europe and elsewhere
- The development of imperialism, nationalism, racism and eugenics
- The social and political effects of World War I

THE AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST

- Trauma and rebuilding for survivors
- Displaced persons camps
- The struggle to emigrate
- Efforts at attaining justice, such as the Nuremberg Trials



JEWISH LIFE

- The history of Jews in Europe
- The diverse Jewish communities and their range of cultural and religious practices before the Holocaust

NAZISM

- The core tenets of Nazi ideology
- The central role of antisemitism
- The political process by which Hitler came to power in 1933



KEY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PRE-WAR NAZI YEARS

- The social and political revolution in Germany
- The intensifying persecution of Jews and other target groups
- The opening of concentration camps for Nazi target groups beginning in 1933
- The Nuremberg Laws of 1935
- The Kristallnacht pogrom in 1938
- The Jewish refugee crisis and the voyage of the MS St. Louis in 1939
- The beginning of the program to murder Germans with disabilities in 1939

A Definition of the Holocaust

The Holocaust refers to Nazi Germany's attempt to annihilate the Jewish population of Europe. Adolf Hitler, leader of the Nazi Party, saw Jews as the primary enemy of the "Aryan" race and believed that Germany would become powerful only by ridding itself of Jews.

Starting in 1933, Nazi Germany took measures to humiliate, isolate and persecute Jews. The Nazis also targeted other groups in Germany, including Roma and Sinti, people with disabilities, Jehovah's Witnesses, Afro-Germans, homosexuals and political opponents.

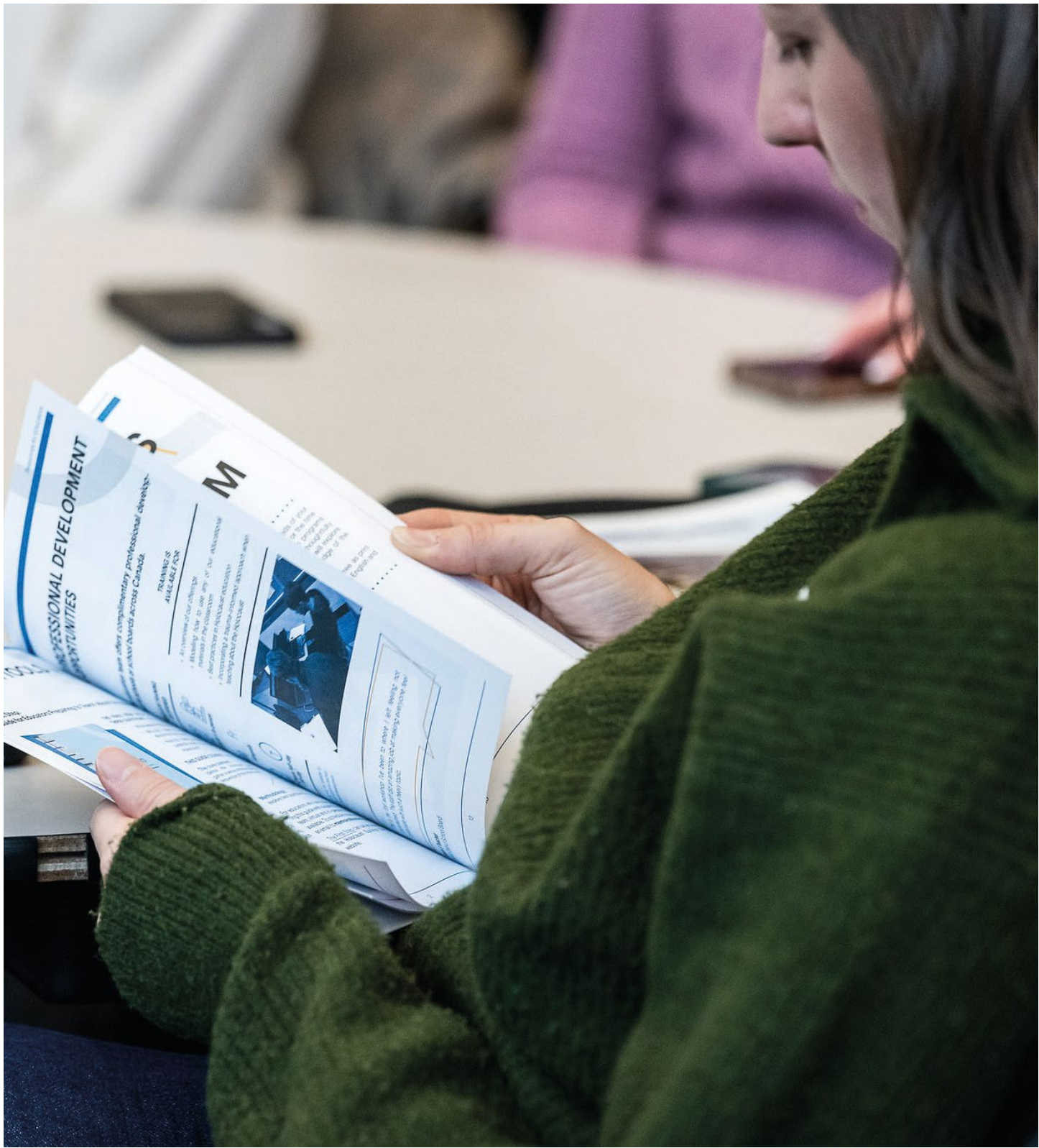
With the outbreak of World War II in September 1939, Nazi policies and violence extended to each country occupied by Germany. During the war, the Nazis and their collaborators began systematically killing Jews and other target groups.

By the time World War II ended in 1945, six million Jews had been murdered in the Holocaust.

THE UNFOLDING OF THE HOLOCAUST DURING WORLD WAR II

- The expansion of Germany across Europe and its system of alliances that brought the Jewish population under Nazi control
- The spread of systematic methods of anti-Jewish persecution, such as the ghettos in Eastern Europe
- The evolution of persecution and violence into mass killing operations, such as Einsatzgruppen shootings starting in 1941
- The development of the "Final Solution of the Jewish Question" in mid-1941, the Nazi leadership's plan to murder all Jews
- The creation of killing centres in occupied Poland using gas to murder Jews
- The deportation of Jews from all over Europe to Nazi camps and killing centres
- The forced death marches of camp prisoners in the final months of the war





RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM



The resources we offer free of charge to use in your classroom include [our memoirs](#), [Education Programs and Activities](#), short films and digital tools. Our secondary collections of memoirs and other relevant resources are listed on the following pages.

I The Secondary Collection

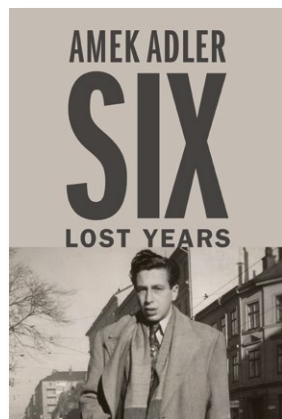
The Secondary Collection includes memoirs intended for students in high school and that have educational material associated with them, as well as the seven titles from our 11+ Collection, which are also suitable for use in high school classrooms.

All titles below are available as print books, PDFs and ebooks, and are offered free of charge to educational institutions across Canada.

Our memoirs have been classified by age according to content and not by reading level. We strongly urge teachers to use discretion and note the age recommendation icons alongside each book listed, as well as the mature content notice where applicable. We also recommend that teachers read the memoirs before providing them to students.

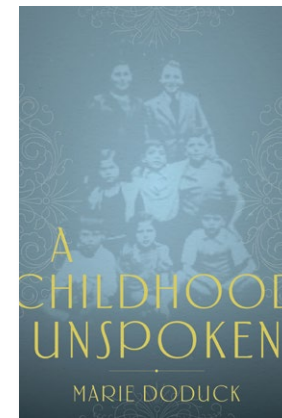
I 14+ COLLECTION

Memoirs that are considered 14+ might contain some descriptions of graphic violence or sexual content. They may be a bit longer and have a higher level of complexity than those in the 11+ Collection.



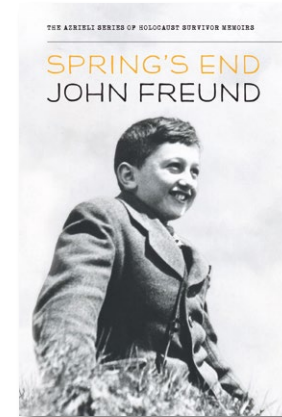
Amek Adler *Six Lost Years*

- 144 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1928
- Confined in two ghettos and deported to forced labour and concentration camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1954 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Re:Collection, The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance (14+ Activity)



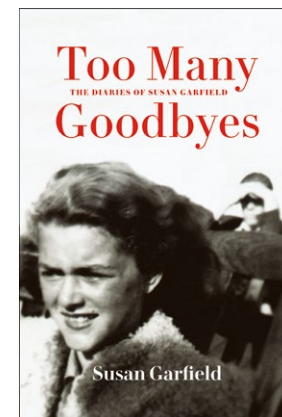
Marie Doduck *A Childhood Unspoken* ⚠

- 208 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Belgium in 1935
- In hiding in Brussels
- Arrived in Canada in 1947 and settled in Vancouver
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



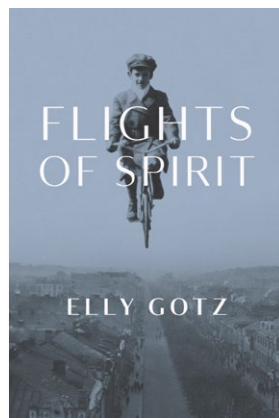
John Freund *Spring's End*

- 136 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Czechoslovakia in 1930
- Confined in Terezín/Theresienstadt ghetto and concentration camp and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity), The Human Experience of Auschwitz (16+ Activity)



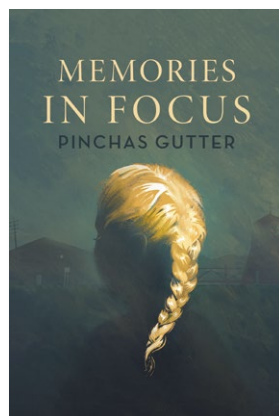
Susan Garfield *Too Many Goodbyes: The Diaries of Susan Garfield*

- 256 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Hungary in 1933
- Survived in a Budapest Red Cross house and in hiding with relatives
- Wartime diary with postwar diary and memoir
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Winnipeg
- Available resources: Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



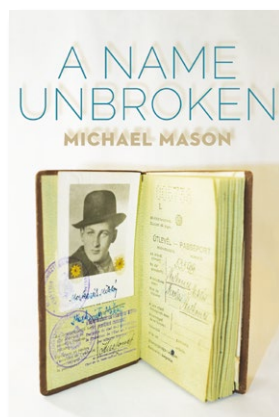
Elly Gotz *Flights of Spirit*

- 240 pages / /
- Born in Lithuania in 1928
- Confined in a ghetto and deported to a subcamp of Dachau concentration camp
- Arrived in Canada in 1964 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity



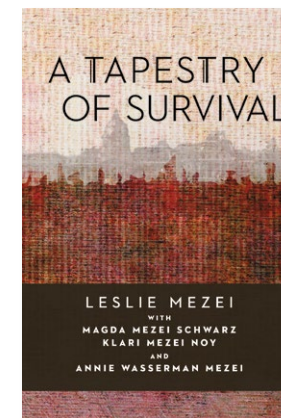
Pinchas Gutter *Memories in Focus*

- 192 pages / / / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1932
- Confined in a ghetto and deported to Majdanek and several other forced labour and concentration camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1985 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance (14+ Activity)



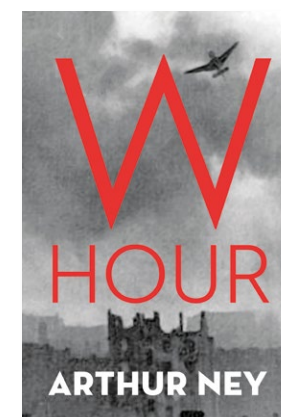
Michael Mason *A Name Unbroken*

- 192 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Czechoslovakia in 1928
- Forced labour in Hungary and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau and forced labour camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Hamilton and Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



Leslie Mezei with Magda Mezei Schwarz, Klari Mezei Noy and Annie Wasserman Mezei *A Tapestry of Survival*

- 192 pages
- Born in Hungary in 1931
- Survived in Budapest under a false identity
- Includes separate accounts by author's two sisters and his wife after the war
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



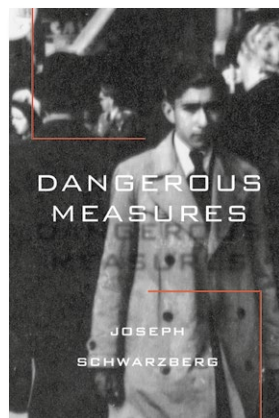
Arthur Ney *W Hour*

- 240 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1930
- Escaped from a ghetto; under a false identity, worked in countryside and was also sheltered in an orphanage
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (11+ Activity), The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance (14+ Activity)



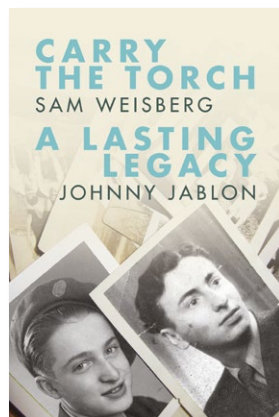
Kitty Salsberg and Ellen Foster *Never Far Apart*

- 208 pages / / / **Available in French**
- Both born in Hungary; Kitty in 1932, Ellen in 1935
- Separate and interwoven accounts by sisters
- Confined in Budapest ghetto
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 ; Kitty settled in Toronto and Ellen settled in Los Angeles
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



Joseph Schwarzberg *Dangerous Measures*

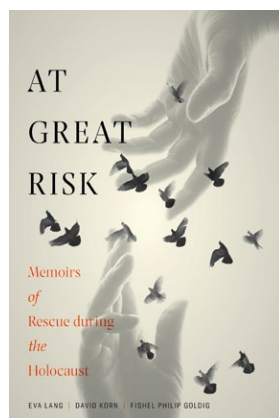
- 248 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Germany in 1926
- Fled Germany to Belgium after Kristallnacht, then fled to France, where he joined resistance groups
- Documents life in postwar Israel
- Arrived in Canada in 1968 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, The Rise of Nazism: How Antisemitism Consumed a Modern Democracy (14+ Program)



Sam Weisberg *Carry the Torch* ⚠

Johnny Jablon *A Lasting Legacy* ⚠

- 256 pages / **Available in French**
- Both born in Poland; Sam in 1927, Johnny in 1926
- Parallel stories of teenagers in the Plaszow forced labour camp
- Both deported to several forced labour and concentration camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1959 (Sam to Toronto) and in 1948 (Johnny to Montreal)
- Available resources: Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity (Johnny Jablon), Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity, Johnny Jablon)

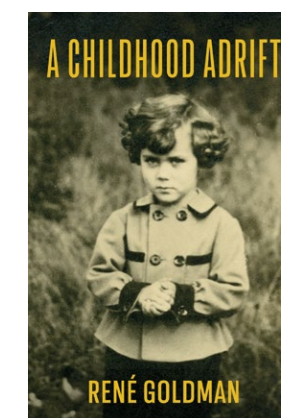


At Great Risk: *Memoirs of Rescue during the Holocaust*

- 400 pages / **Available in French**
- Anthology
- Three short memoirs by survivors Eva Lang (France), David Korn (Slovakia) and Fishel Philip Goldig (Poland) about different experiences of hiding and rescue, connected by the theme of Righteous Among the Nations
- Includes section of short rescue stories excerpted from thirteen previously published Azrieli Foundation memoirs
- Available resources: Short film, At Great Risk: An Education Program on Holocaust Rescue and the Righteous Among the Nations (14+)

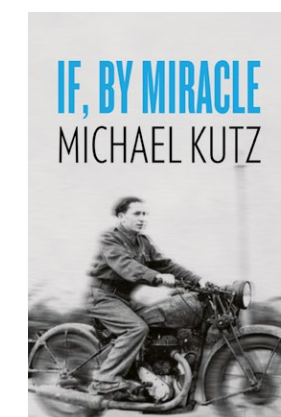
16+ COLLECTION

Memoirs that are considered 16+ are often longer and more complex than those in the 14+ Collection and may also contain descriptions of graphic violence, sexual violence or sexual content. We recommend these books to older students.



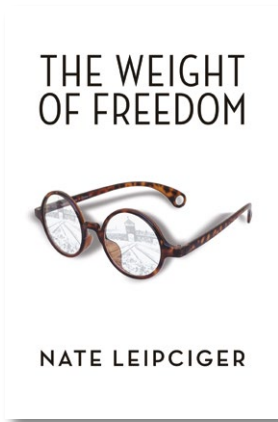
René Goldman *A Childhood Adrift*

- 312 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Luxembourg in 1934
- Fled occupied Belgium for France with his parents; hidden in convent, children's homes and with non-Jewish families under a false identity
- Arrived in Canada in 1963 and settled in Vancouver
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, Hidden Children, Identity and the Holocaust: Surviving in the Margin of the Catastrophe (11+ Activity)



Michael Kutz *If, By Miracle* ⚠

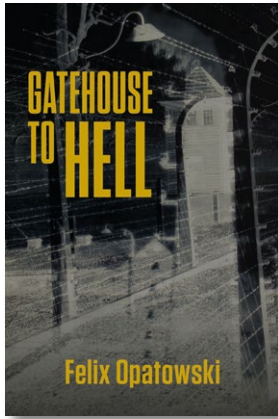
- 184 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1930
- Escaped from a mass shooting and hid in a forest with partisans; part of an underground resistance group
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Montreal
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust (11+ Activity)



Nate Leipziger

The Weight of Freedom ⚠

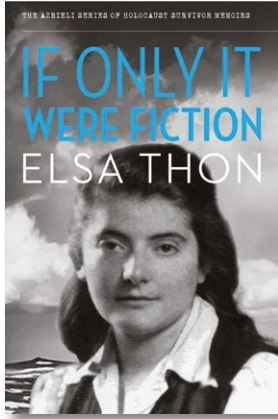
- 360 pages / 🎧 / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1928
- Confined in ghettos and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau and several forced labour and concentration camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1948 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, Author Biography Activity, The Human Experience of Auschwitz (16+ Activity)



Felix Opatowski

Gatehouse to Hell ⚠

- 216 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1924
- Confined in a ghetto and deported to a forced labour camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau and several concentration camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1949 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, The Human Experience of Auschwitz (16+ Activity)



Elsa Thon

If Only It Were Fiction

- 304 pages / **Available in French**
- Born in Poland in 1923
- Confined in ghettos; escaped and joined a youth underground movement
- Discovered while living under a false identity and deported to forced labour camps
- Arrived in Canada in 1980 and settled in Toronto
- Available resources: Short film, Re:Collection, The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance (14+ Activity)

For a full list of our published memoirs, see [our website](#) :

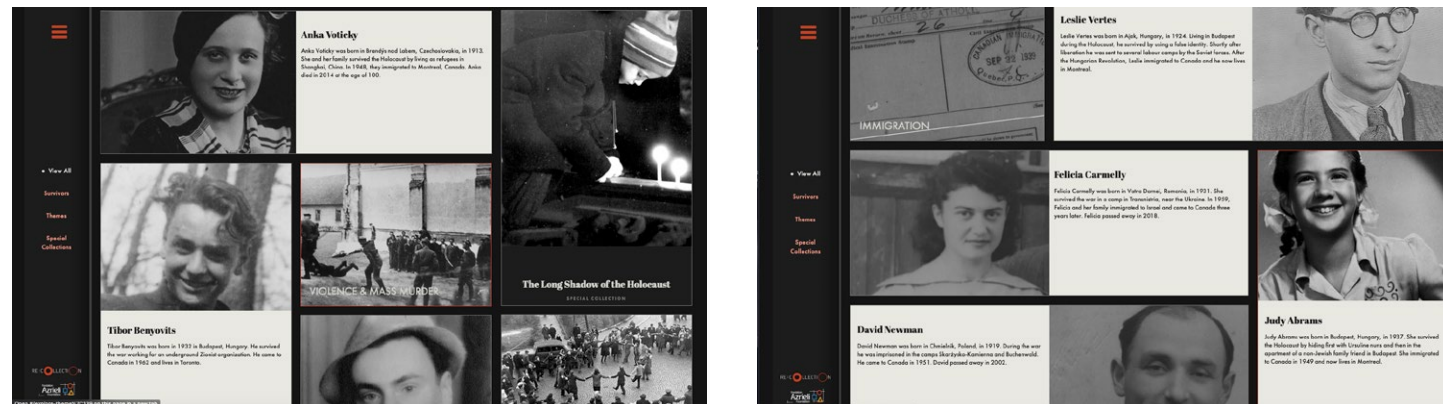


RE:COLLECTION :

A DIGITAL RESOURCE

[Re:Collection](#) is an educational tool for exploring the history of the Holocaust through first-hand accounts of survivors. This innovative digital resource combines video interviews with memoir excerpts, photos and artifacts, and features interactive timelines and maps to place survivors' stories in historical and geographic context.

There are no graphic images on Re:Collection, but it does include themes that may not be appropriate for a younger audience.

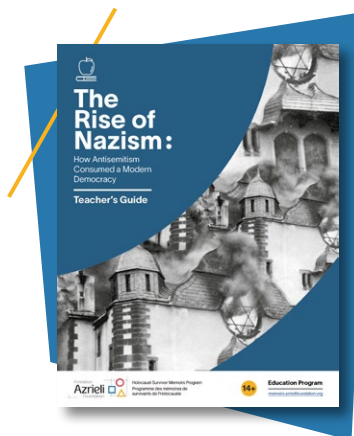


EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The 11+ and 14+ Activities and Programs might include age-appropriate excerpts from memoirs categorized as 16+.

Education Programs

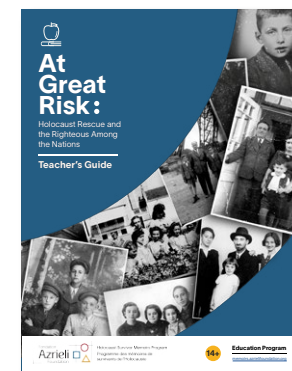
These multi-lesson units offer a complete program of study on the Holocaust, using the stories of survivors and covering different themes such as rescue, immigration, identity and persecution. Programs generally include an introduction to the Holocaust and are adaptable to the needs of your classroom.



The Rise of Nazism: How Antisemitism Consumed a Modern Democracy

NEW

- Available in French
- 14+
- 3 lessons and an optional final assignment and extension lesson
- Examine how Nazism thrived during unstable political conditions, while exploring Jewish life before the Holocaust from German Jewish survivors.

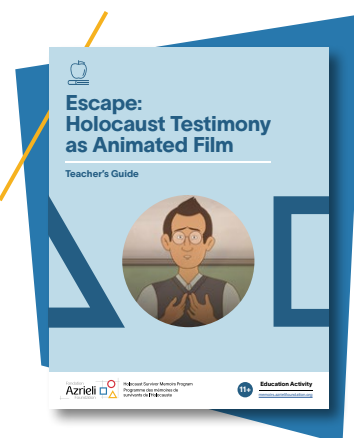


At Great Risk: An Education Program on Holocaust Rescue and the Righteous Among the Nations

- Available in French
- 14+
- 4 lessons and an optional final assignment
- Explore the theme of Holocaust rescue and the designation of the Righteous Among the Nations using three survivor stories.

Activities

These short lessons are designed to supplement a broader unit of study on the Holocaust and focus on one theme or a survivor's story.



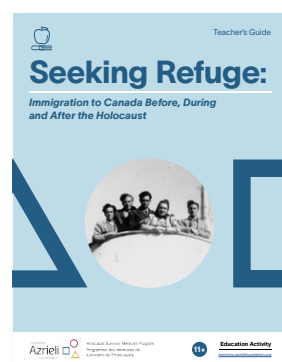
Escape: Holocaust Testimony as Animated Film

- Available in French
- 11+
- 3+ lessons and an optional final assignment
- Features *Escape: The True Story of Morris Schnitzer* (2025), a 21-minute short film produced by Riddle Films.
- Students view the animated film based on Morris Schnitzer's memoir and then reflect on key questions about the short film, historical testimony and media.

NEW

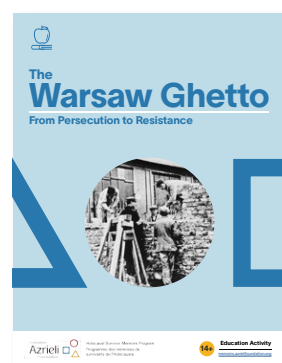


Based on Morris Schnitzer's Memoir



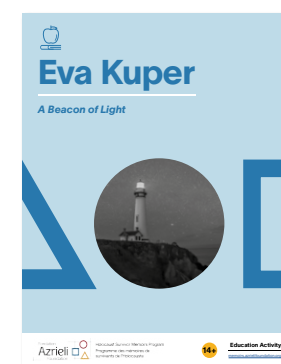
Seeking Refuge: Immigration to Canada Before, During and After the Holocaust

- Available in French
- 11+
- 2 lessons
- Explore the wartime and postwar experiences of survivors and Canada's role and response during the Holocaust, focusing on immigration policies, the MS *St. Louis* and the War Orphans Project.



The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance

- Available in French
- 14+
- 1–2 lessons
- Students explore prewar Jewish life in Poland, life in the Warsaw ghetto and the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising by using Re:Collection and the digital exhibit [Four Stories from the Warsaw Ghetto](#).



Eva Kuper: A Beacon of Light

- Available in French
- 14+
- 3 lessons
- Students explore written survivor testimony and learn to engage with primary sources. Activity includes an all-in-one fillable PDF and printable booklet containing a condensed version of Eva's memoir, *A Beacon of Light*, along with supplementary materials and fillable sheets for students.



The Human Experience of Auschwitz

- Available in French
- 16+
- 1 lesson
- Students use survivor testimony in Re:Collection to study and reflect on the lives of prisoners at the Auschwitz concentration camp complex, one of the most significant sites of the Holocaust.



Activities in Partnership with IWitness Canada

- Available in French
- Seven Activities produced by the Azrieli Foundation and the USC Shoah Foundation on a range of Holocaust-related topics and available on the IWitness Canada website.
- Activities incorporate audiovisual clips, memoir excerpts, historical context and engaging interactive elements, such as reflective questions and creative tasks.

Author Biography Activities

The following Activities include a background reading about an author's life, along with historical context about where they lived and a handout for students to complete. During each activity, students learn about the survivor author by using our digital resource Re:Collection. The Activities can also be completed by students after reading a survivor's memoir in full.

Each Activity can be found on our website.



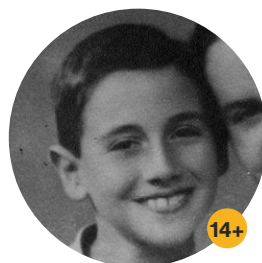
Marie Doduck

Available in French



René Goldman

Available in French



Elly Gotz

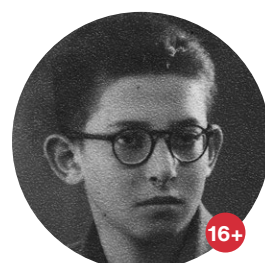


Pinchas Gutter

Available in French



Johnny Jablon



Nate Leipziger



Leslie Mezei



Arthur Ney

Available in French

EXHIBITS

The following four digital exhibits are accessible from our website and contain excerpts from our authors alongside additional multimedia and contextual information.

Education Disrupted

Available in French

Explores the role of education in the lives of those who experienced the Holocaust as children and youth. The exhibit examines the school life of Jewish students, the significance of being denied an education, and how Jews resisted persecution and pursued an education during the Holocaust. The exhibit also highlights the value of education and the role it played for survivors who were rebuilding their lives after the war.

- Used in the [Education Disrupted](#) Activity (11+)

Liberating Our Stories

Available in French

Presents first-hand accounts of the moment of liberation for five survivors. For many, freedom from the Nazi occupation did not mean being free from suffering and antisemitism. Survivors often had difficulty leaving their painful pasts behind, and some remained silent about what they had experienced. Yet their moments of liberation were the beginning of another story. As they restarted their lives after the war, these individuals gained a new sense of freedom through opening up about what they had experienced.

Sustaining Memories Project

In partnership with Toronto Metropolitan University

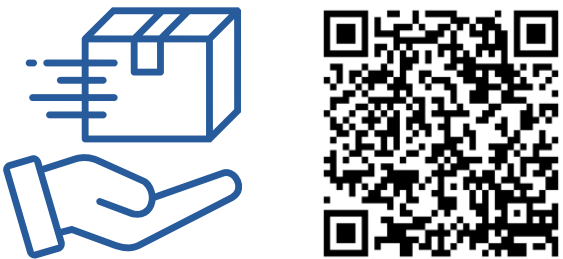
The **Sustaining Memories Project** online exhibition highlights the diverse experiences of ninety-five survivors through excerpts of their partner-written memoirs. Sustaining Memories was created to give interested survivors of the Holocaust the opportunity to "write" their memoirs alongside a writing partner and was created in 2011. The online exhibition brings these incredible stories to the public.

Four Stories from the Warsaw Ghetto

Available in French

Shows how four survivors (Pinchas Gutter, Arthur Ney, Amek Adler and Elsa Thon) endured death and destruction in the largest Nazi ghetto. This exhibit explores the daily struggle to stay alive and different types of resistance that took place, while also commemorating the hundreds of thousands of Jews who were murdered.

- Used in [The Warsaw Ghetto: From Persecution to Resistance](#) Activity (14+)



ORDER BOOKS

SHARE THE EXPERIENCE

The Holocaust Survivor Memoirs Program exists to share these stories. To learn more about the many authors and their memoirs, visit memoirs.azrielifoundation.org or mail to memoirs@azrielifoundation.org.

ABOUT THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION

For more than thirty years, the Azrieli Foundation has quietly funded institutions as well as operated programs on the ground. The Foundation supports Holocaust education, scientific and medical research, music and the arts, higher education, youth empowerment and school perseverance, architecture and quality of life initiatives for people with developmental disabilities.

www.azrielifoundation.org



facebook.com/azrielimemoirs



instagram.com/azrielimemoirs

