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Applestein-Sweren Book Collecting Prize
Goucher College
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Once We Were Dreamers: A Collection of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust
Annotated Bibliography

Barkai, Meyer, ed. *The Fighting Ghettos*. Trans. Meyer, Barkai. Philadelphia and New York: J.B Lippincott, 1962. Print.

This book is meant to serve as a reference library book, but somehow it ended up in my hands. Entirely comprised of original accounts by the resisters themselves, the book is split into three sections in order to be as comprehensive as possible. The parts, “Within the Walls,” “In the Forests,” and “In the Camps,” refer to the ghettos, partisans units, and concentration camps in that order. It is the only book I have that includes all three of these important aspects of resistance as well as the only anthology of entirely personal accounts of the Shoah. It is important due to the sheer wealth of information it holds.

Beigel, Micaela. *God Who Created Auschwitz*. Poland and Rishon Le’Zion, Israel. Photographic Prints.

God Who Created Auschwitz is my artistic response to my heritage. This collection of prints, made up of my photographs is framed around the intention to portray the complexity of the Jewish narrative in Poland by intertwining the stories of tragedy with the stories of triumph. I weaved the work in with poems and songs important to my upbringing in order to bring my vision into reality.

Callahan, Kerry P. *Mordechai Anielewicz : Hero of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising*. New York: The Rosen Publishing Group inc, 2001. Print.

I picked up this piece by chance at a library discard sale. Mordechai Anielewicz is the greatest name associated with ghetto uprisings. Since being martyred in the ruins of Mila 18, where he and others made their last stands, thousands of young Jews have learned his name and heard his words. Few books ever written on this topic are targeted specifically for younger children. This, of course, isn’t surprising given the subject matter. However, this slim biography was written specifically for middle schoolers. What I love so much about this work is that since it is written for children there is overwhelming feeling of passion, hope, and love. Among a collection filled with sadness, this innocent work really stands out.

Frank, Anne. *Anne Frank : The Diary of a Young Girl*. Trans. B. M. Mooyaart-Doubleday. New York: Pocket Books, 1958. Print.

Anne Frank is the most famous victim of The Holocaust ever. For almost seventy years, her words have lived in classrooms all over the world. Anne Frank's work is not generally considered a work of resistance, but it most definitely is. An essential part of the Nazi oppression was in telling their victims that their lives were meaningless and worth nothing. Within Anne's words it is clear that she did not believe that. Under her innocence is a fire that empowered her to keep writing no matter what, until the very end.

Grossman, Chaika. *The Underground Army: Fighters of the Bialystok Ghetto*. Trans. Shmuel Beer. New York: Holocaust Library, 1987. Print.

This is my only book about the resistance in the Bialystok Ghetto, and it is one of my more recent additions to the collection. One active part of my collection process is in seeking out books about all the different ghetto uprisings. This book was written by Chaika Grossman, a member of the Hashomer Hatzair youth movement, and a member of the uprising in Bialystok, and later an Israeli parliament member. It is both an autobiography and a historical account of the events that comprised the uprising. The uprising in the Bialystok ghetto was very different than the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, as their goals were different. It is the beginning of a new chapter in this ongoing process.

Grymes, James A. *Violins of Hope: Violins of the Holocaust -- Instruments of Hope and Liberation in Mankind's Darkest Hour*. New York: Harper Perennial - Harper Collin, 2014. Print.

This book is the account of a violin maker in Israel whose work is in restoring violins that made it out of the Holocaust, even when their owners did not. From this simple endeavor comes this beautiful account of the role the violin and music played in Jewish resistance both literally and spiritually. After some time this project evolved in a traveling museum exhibition as well as this book. Unlike other books in the collection, this is about historical preservation of memory, but it belongs in my collection because of its focus on hope, and resistance.

Gutman, Yisrael. *Fighters among the Ruins : The Story of Jewish Heroism during World War II*. Tel Aviv: International Quiz on Jewish Heroism During World War II, 1988. Print.

Yisrael Gutman was a ghetto fighter, Auschwitz survivor, historian, and educator. His story, as told in this autobiography is one of the more astonishing of my collection. Gutman was first a ghetto fighter before being sent to Auschwitz. Subsequently he was forced to participate in the death march to Mauthausen. After moving to Israel following the Shoah, he joined the faculty at Hebrew University, chaired the Auschwitz-Birkenau council, and headed the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem. I bought this book at Powell's books in Portland last year when I was focusing on adding autobiographies of Warsaw Uprisers to my collection.

Gutterman, Bella. *Fighting for Her People : Zivia Lubetkin, 1914-1978*. Trans Ora Cummings. Jerusalem: Yad VaShem, International Institute for Holocaust Research, 2014. Print.

People who changed the world they live in generally do not have the ability to take credit for their work in doing so, so often that task falls to biographers. This book came to me at an important time in my life when I was, in many ways, at a crossroads of belief. Since it was a Yad Vashem exclusive publication I am lucky that circumstances allowed me to acquire it. In this book Gutterman explores Zivia Lubetkin in a way she never could speak about herself, and separates her from her better known husband, the ghetto resistance leader, Yitzhak Zuckerman. It also really makes the youth movement culture and history in Poland accessible in ways it usually isn't, given its complexity.

Gur, David. *Brothers for Resistance and Rescue: The Underground Zionist Youth Movement in Hungary During World War II*. Jerusalem: Gefen Publishing House Ltd, 2007/5767. Print.

A commonality of the underground resistance movements in the Second World War was an immediate loss of information. Names were generally the first to go, as all these resistance fighters save the legacies became anonymous cogs in the movement. This book subverts that idea. It is comprised mainly of photos, biographies, and roles of the young people who participated in the underground youth resistance in Hungary. This is singular in its devotion to give voice to such a multitude of individuals, and the way their individual contributions aided the success of the entire movement. It is a beautiful work of devotion on behalf of its creators.

Habonim Dror World Organization ed. *The Journey to Uncover the Roots of the Zionist Revolution and the Youth Movements Rebellion: Holocaust and Heroism*. Haifa. 2015. Print.

This educational resource is distributed exclusively to members of the Habonim Dror Youth Movement, the movement to which many of the ghetto fighters belonged. I received it due to my participation in the movement's gap year program during the 2014-2015 academic year. Its educational goal is to frame the events of The Holocaust through the lens of the youth's struggle for absolution. It was our guide in Poland to understanding our heritage. Its contents are not just historical accounts of the destruction, but also poems, songs, and testimonials.

Latour, Anny. *The Jewish Resistance in France, 1940-1944*. New York: Holocaust Library, 1981. Print.

Of the 350,000 Jews living in France only 90,00 of them ultimately fell victim to Nazi persecution. The vast majority of them survived, thanks to a comprehensive underground made up of Jews and non-Jews alike. Anny Lazare, a member of the Jewish resistance, tells the story of her efforts to save Jewish children at the cost of her own life. This extremely well-documented book was my first introduction to the resistance movement in France. Having read it directly following the Charlie

Hebdo attacks in 2015, it was extraordinarily thought-provoking about the complexities of prejudice in France both then and now.

Lubetkin, Zivia. *In the Days of Destruction and Revolt*. Trans. Ishai Tubbin. Tel Aviv: Hakibbutz Hameuchad Publishing House, Am Oved Publishing House, 1981. Print.

This is the most special book in my collection. I searched for it the longest, so it is the book that is the most rewarding to hold. This is the autobiography of Zivia Lubetkin, a youth movement leader during the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, as well as a partisan fighter. Zivia changed my understanding of what it means to be a Jewish woman, and what it means to care for the community you are a part of. Though modest in her self-praise, Zivia's passion, joy, and commitment shine through this stark account of the Holocaust's reality. Of the Uprising she once said, "We had one weapon, readiness and devotion," and indeed these words describe her perfectly as well. My collection did not begin until after I loved Zivia, and ten months after I committed to this endeavor, I was able to make this rare book a physical part of it.

Novitch, Miriam., et al. *Spiritual Resistance : Art from Concentration Camps, 1940-1945 : A Selection of Drawings and Paintings from the Collection of Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetat, Israel*. New York: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1981. Print.

Kibbutz Lohamei Haghetat, the Ghetto Fighters Kibbutz near Akko, is an important part of this collection. Though this is the only work in which their name appears in the byline, they have had a hand in the creation of nearly every work on this list in some way. This kibbutz was founded by Ghetto Uprisers, and the Ghetto Fighter's House (the Kibbutz's museum), holds the largest collection of artifacts related to Jewish resistance in the Holocaust in Israel. I acquired this book last year at a used book store in Tel Aviv, after spending a few days at Lohamei before going to Poland. This book is a huge anthology of all types of art that can be categorized as resistance art, and it is unique. It helped broaden my perspective of resistance as an artform. It changed the direction of my collection process.

Perlov, Yitzchok. *The Partisaner: An Epic Novel of the Heroic men and Women of the Little Known Jewish Underground in WWII*. New York: Universal Publishing and Distribution Corporation, 1968. Print.

The Partisan Fighters played a very critical role in the liberation of Eastern Europe. These freedom fighters who used the cover of vast forests included men and women who escaped ghettos and death camps, children orphaned at the hands of the Nazis, and refugees who had experienced every nightmare imaginable but whose rebellion was unflinching. This slim volume tells the story of dozens of these fighters. It is the only work I have that speaks uniquely on the partisans, though their contribution to this story is great.

Richman, Alyson. *The Lost Wife*. New York: Berkley Books, 2011. Print.

This is one of two books in my collection that falls under the category of fiction. However this book only succeeds in making its purpose clearer by centering actual events and figures around a fictional protagonist. It tells the story of a young girl interned at Terezin, the Nazi's 'model ghetto,' that was used to convince the Red Cross of their cause's humanity. Because of this special designation, the camp had a vibrant community of art, music, and culture. This book puts the reader in the middle of the underground art movement that was able to flourish at the camp by following Lenka, a Czech artist through her involvement within it. This book was the one that sparked my love of this collection when I was a freshman in high school. For me, Lenka's experiences are very personal. She is a parable of love, loss, and passion for survival and creation that art symbolized to many Jews.

Rotem, Simha. *Memoirs of a Warsaw Ghetto Fighter : The Past Within Me*. Trans Barbara Harshav. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1994. Print.

Simha Rotem, or Kazick, was another leader in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. His story is significant to me because Kazick is one of two survivors of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising that remains alive as of January 2016. Having a personal connection to these events has helped me understand the human aspects of the uprising. Additionally, in his old age he continues to speak to youth movement members about heroism, and revolution in Israel which is very important to making sure this history is taught and understood.

Senesh, Hannah. *Her Life and Diary: The First Complete Edition*. Vermont: Jewish Light Publishing, 2004. Print.

This was the second book in my collection, and the most well read by far. Hannah Senesh has played an incredibly important role in my personal development over the past eight years. Senesh is a national heroine of Israel, and the Jewish world at large since her execution in 1943. (She has been called by many since her death the "Jewish Joan of Arc".) After her death she became recognized not just for her heroism as a paratrooper in the war, but as a poet as well. This edition is special because it includes not just her diary, but her poetry, and correspondence with her mother in Hungary. With an introduction written by her mother, the book paints a portrait of a truly complex young woman. This book, highlighted, dogeared, and worshipped has traveled with me for many years.

Syrkin, Marie. *Blessed Is the Match : The Story of Jewish Resistance*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society of America, 1947. Print.

This book is the biggest surprise of the collection, as well as the biggest delight to read. I came upon it totally by accident. I have the first edition of this book, published for American teenagers by Hillel, and it is like a time capsule. This is the oldest work in the collection as well, and since it was

written so soon after the events of the war, it speaks of events that had just taken place. Since it was published before the independence of Israel, it acts as a piece of history. It is written in a very accessible tone that keeps the events of resistance clear and uncomplicated. It also does something that other books in the collection don't do: it unifies history by looking at acts of resistance all over Europe, connecting their events, and telling a story using all the individual acts of heroism.

Uris, Leon. *Mila 18*. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1961. Print.

I read *Mila 18* in eighth grade, and though it is based on the true events of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, it is actually a work of fiction. The protagonist, Andrei, is inspired closely by Mordechai Anielewicz but instead of a young Jewish movement member he is a Jewish Polish military officer drafted into the resistance, and it is told from the perspective of a non-Jewish reporter. Though I believe the changes made to the historical narrative in this book are generally negative, it is important to the collection because of how popularized it was at the time of its publication. It continues to affect the understanding the public has of the actual events of the Uprising.

Vishniac, Roman, et al. Benton, Maya, Ed. *Roman Vishniac Rediscovered*. New York: International Center of Photography, 2015. Print.

Three years ago, The International Center of Photography, where I was a student at the time, ran a retrospective on the photographer Roman Vishniac. Vishniac was a German-Jewish photographer whose work chronicles Jewish life in Europe prior and post WWII. This book belongs in my collection because it is one of the only visual accounts of what Jewish life looked like going into the war, and how it rebuilt itself after. His work is the only photographic testament to the vanishing of a world stolen by The Holocaust. His relentless search to honestly capture the ways in which the Holocaust destroyed Jewish life is a form of resistance in its brutality.

Volavková, Hana, ed. *I Never Saw Another Butterfly: Children's Drawings and Poems from Terezín Concentration Camp, 1942-1944*. Expanded 2nd ed. New York: Schocken Books, 1993. Print.

I bought my copy of this anthology at Yad Vashem, the Holocaust museum in Jerusalem. I knew I wanted this book in my collection from the beginning because this book is iconic in its widespread publication in the Jewish community; often this is the first interaction Jewish children have with the Holocaust. The beautiful thing about this book is its ability to reconcile the quiet innocence of hope with the tragic reality of its existence. The work in the anthology, the art of the over 15,000 children who died after being interned in Terezin, is a work of resistance in its sheer existence. Thanks to the brave teachers who buried the work in the camp, and returned to dig it up after their students passed away, we have a startling look into the hope these children had in the darkest times.

Zuckerman, Yitzhak. *A Surplus of Memory : Chronicle of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising*. Trans Barbara S. Harshav. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993. Print.

As the book that started my collection, this work has a singular place in my story. Yitzhak Zuckerman is considered by most to be the true leader of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, and his early death in the 1970s heavily impacted Israeli society. In this surprisingly introspective and dense memoir, (which he had instructed should be released upon his passing) Zuckerman goes into excruciating detail the means it took to organize the youth movements in the Ghetto into a comprehensive fighting organization. This book was life changing because as a member of the youth movement he was also a part of, it created an immediate and powerful sense of kinship.