Invisible Jews

Bondage to the Dead Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust Syracuse University Press Describes the Poles’ memory of the Holocaust, which amounted to mass psychic and moral trauma unprece

I was born in the town of Wegrow in north-eastern Poland in mid-1938. Not a single Jew was born in the town for close to 40 years. But that is a different story.

Aftermath. The analysis includes the course and dynamics of the debates and, most importantly, the panorama of Holocaust memory in the struggle between the Solidarity movement and the Polish government.

Making Holocaust Memory: A Summary of Polish-Jewish Relations up to and during the Holocaust outlines how the Polish people were involved in the Holocaust as witnesses, the subsequent denial of involvement after the war, and the communist manipulation of Holocaust memory in the public sphere. The book aims to reconstruct and analyze the disputes over the Polish-Jewish past and memory in public debates in Poland between 1985 and 2012, from the key=the

Three Minutes in Poland

Three Minutes in Poland: Poland and the Memory of the Holocaust

Three Minutes in Poland is a landmark book that changed the story of the Holocaust in Poland. It is the story of the people who were killed in the Holocaust and their memories. Based on interviews with survivors of the Holocaust in Poland, the book provides a moving description of their life during the war and the sense they made of it. The book begins by looking at the differences between the wartime experiences of Jews and Poles in occupied Poland, both in terms of Nazi legislation and individual experiences. On the Aryan side of the ghettos, Jews could either be helped or blackmailed by Poles. The largest section of the book reconstructs everyday life in the Warsaw Ghetto.

The psychological consequences of wartime experiences are explored, including interviews with survivors who stayed on in Poland after the war and were victims of anti-Semitism again in 1968. These discussions bring into question some of the accepted survivor stereotypes found in Holocaust literature. A final chapter looks at the problem of transmitting experience and of the place of the Holocaust in Polish history and culture. Poland: Studies in Polish Jewish History Volume 20 Making Holocaust Memory Liverpool University Press

The book focuses on the commemoration of Jewish and Polish memories in contemporary Poland. It is the first attempt to examine these divisive memories in a comprehensive way. Until 1989, Polish consciousness of the Second World War subsumed the destruction of Polish Jews within a communist narrative of Polish martyrdom and heroism. Post-war Jewish memory, by contrast, has been concerned mostly with Jewish national identity and has barely acknowledged the plight of Poles under German occupation. Since the 1980s, however, a significant number of Jews and Poles have sought to identify a common ground and have met with partial but increasing success,

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Poland And The Memory Of The Holocaust


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eyeeglasses, shoes, clothing, kitchen utensils — tangible vestiges of a once-lived reality, which she reads here as cultural texts. Schalchroff delineates the ways in which the Holocaust objects are represented in Polish and Polish-Jewish texts written during or shortly after World War II. These representations are distanced from the realities of the Holocaust, as they are often subjective, selective, and filtered through the lens of post-WWII Polish society. This is evident in the way the Holocaust is depicted in Polish literature, film, and art.

The ways in which the Holocaust has been communicated, represented, and used have changed dramatically over the years. From such memories being neglected and silenced in most of Europe to the present day, the Holocaust has become a central theme in Polish cultural discourse. The book examines the ways in which the Holocaust has been integrated into Polish memory and identity, and how this process has been influenced by external factors such as the Cold War and the policies of the Soviet Union.

The Neighbors Respond is a collection of essays that examines the debate over the portrayal of the Holocaust in Polish culture. The essays are written by a diverse group of authors, including historians, literary scholars, and social scientists. The book offers a wide range of perspectives on the Holocaust in Poland, and it provides valuable insights into the complex relationship between the Polish state and its citizens and the legacy of the Holocaust.

The book also includes a comprehensive bibliography of works on the Holocaust in Poland, as well as a detailed index of key terms and concepts. It is an important resource for anyone interested in the study of the Holocaust, and it is a valuable contribution to the ongoing debate over the portrayal of the Holocaust in Polish culture.
Press Shaping Losses explores how traumatic loss affects identity and how those who are shaped by loss give shape, in turn, to the empty place where something—relationships, family, culture—was and is no longer. Taking the example of the decimation of European Jewry during the Nazi era, Shaping Losses confronts the problem of transforming trauma into cultural memory. This eloquent volume examines how memoirs, films, photographs, art, and literature, as well as family conversations and personal remembrances, embody the impulse to preserve what is destroyed. The contributors—all distinguished women scholars, most of them survivors or daughters of survivors—examine classic memorializations such as Claude Lanzmann’s film Shoah and Roman Vishniac’s photographs of prewar Jews as well as several less-well-known works. They also address ways in which children of survivors of the Holocaust—and of other catastrophic traumas—struggle with inherited or vicarious memory, striving to come to terms with losses that centrally define them although they experience them only indirectly. Shaping Losses considers the limitations of Holocaust representations and testimonies that capture shards of the experience but are necessarily selective and reductive. Contributors discuss artistic efforts to “preserve the rawness” of memory, to resist redemptive closure in Holocaust narratives and public memorials, and to prevent the Holocaust from being sealed in “the cold storage of history.” The authors probe the nature of memory and of trauma, studying the use of language within and outside a traumatic context such as Auschwitz and pinpointing the qualities that make traumatic memory ineffable, untransmitable, and perhaps unreliable. Within the “haunted terrain of traumatized memory” that all Holocaust testimonies inhabit, the impulse to give form to emptiness—to shape loss—emerges as a necessary betrayal, a vital effort to bridge the gap between history and memory. After Such Knowledge Memory, History, and the Legacy of the Holocaust PublicAffairs: As the Holocaust recedes in time, the guardianship of its legacy is being passed on from its survivors and witnesses to the next generation. How should they, in turn, convey its knowledge to others? What are the effects of a traumatic past on its inheritors? And what are the second-generation’s responsibilities to its received memories? In this meditation on the long aftermath of atrocity, Eva Hoffman—a child of Polish Jews who survived the Holocaust with the help of neighbors, but whose entire families perished—probes these questions through personal reflections, and through broader explorations of the historical, psychological, and moral implications of the second-generation experience. She examines the subterranean processes through which private memories of suffering are transmitted, and the more willful stratagems of collective memory. She traces the “second generation’s” trajectory from childhood intimations of horror, through its struggles between allegiance and autonomy, and its complex transactions with children of perpetrators. As she guides us through the poignant juncture at which living memory must be relinquished, she asks what insights can be carried from the past to the newly problematic present, and urges us to transform potent family stories into a fully informed understanding of a forbidding history. On a Memory Note, the Jew in Contemporary Poland A Study in the Construction of Collective Memory