

# Four Perfect Pebbles A Holocaust Story

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Parallel Journeys Eleanor H. Ayer 2011-06-28 She was a young German Jew. He was an ardent member of the Hitler Youth. This is the story of their parallel journey through World War II. Helen Waterford and Alfons Heck were born just a few miles from each other in the German Rhineland. But their lives took radically different courses: Helen's to the Auschwitz extermination camp; Alfons to a high rank in the Hitler Youth. While Helen was hiding in Amsterdam, Alfons was a fanatic believer in Hitler's "master race." While she was crammed in a cattle car bound for the death camp Aushchwitz, he was a teenage commander of frontline troops, ready to fight and die for the glory of Hitler and the Fatherland. This book tells both of their stories, side-by-side, in an overwhelming account of the nightmare that was WWII. The riveting stories of these two remarkable people must stand as a powerful lesson to us all.

**Tell Them We Remember** Susan D. Bachrach 1994-10-03 Provides a pictorial history of the Holocaust

Millions of Pebbles Roberta Kagan 2022-02-20 It is the darkest time in the history of mankind, and fate is playing a twisted game. Benjamin Rabinowitz's world is crashing down on him, a painful reality following the invasion of Poland. He is loath to let his wife and sickly son go but escaping the horrors of the Lodz ghetto seems to be their best chance at survival, albeit slim. Will Benjamin ever see them again? Ilsa Guhr is determined to overcome the specter of a troubled childhood. She quickly learns that she has just the tools to give her the power she desperately wants: her beauty and sexuality. As the Nazis take control of Germany, she sees an opportunity to gain everything she has ever desired. Fate will weave a web that will bring these two unlikely people into each other's lives.

**I Have Lived a Thousand Years** Livia Bitton-Jackson 2011-11-01 What is death all about? What is life all about? So wonders thirteen-year-old Elli Friedmann as she fights for her life in a Nazi concentration camp. A remarkable memoir, *I Have Lived a Thousand Years* is a story of cruelty and suffering, but at the same time a story of hope, faith, perseverance, and love. It wasn't long ago that Elli led a normal life that included family, friends, school, and thoughts about boys. A life in which Elli could lie and daydream for hours that she was a beautiful and elegant celebrated poet. But these adolescent daydreams quickly darken in March 1944, when the Nazis invade Hungary. First Elli can no longer attend school, have possessions, or talk to her neighbors. Then she and her family are forced to leave their house behind to move into a crowded ghetto, where privacy becomes a luxury of the past and food becomes a scarcity. Her strong will and faith allow Elli to manage and adjust, but what she doesn't know is that this is only the beginning. The worst is yet to come...

*My Survival: A Girl on Schindler's List* Joshua M. Greene 2019-12-26 The astonishing true story of a girl who survived the Holocaust thanks to Oskar Schindler, of Schindler's List fame. Rena Finder was only eleven when the Nazis forced her and her family -- along with all the other Jewish families -- into the ghetto in Krakow, Poland. Rena worked as a slave laborer with scarcely any food and watched as friends and family were sent away. Then Rena and her mother ended up working for Oskar Schindler, a German businessman who employed Jewish prisoners in his factory and kept them fed and healthy. But Rena's nightmares were not over. She and her mother were deported to the concentration camp Auschwitz. With great cunning, it was Schindler who set out to help them escape. Here in her own words is Rena's gripping story of survival, perseverance, tragedy, and hope. Including pictures from Rena's personal collection and from the time period, this unforgettable memoir introduces young readers to an astounding and necessary piece of history.

*The Last Train* Rona Arato 2020-03-15 The Last Train is the harrowing true story about young brothers Paul and Oscar Arato and their mother, Lenke, surviving the Nazi occupation during the final years of World War II. Living in the town of Karcag, Hungary, the Aratos feel insulated from the war -- even as it rages all around them. Hungary is allied with Germany to protect its citizens from invasion, but in 1944 Hitler breaks his promise to keep the Nazis out of Hungary. The Nazi occupation forces the family into situations of growing panic and fear: first into a ghetto in their hometown; then a labor camp in Austria; and, finally, to the deadly Bergen Belsen camp deep in the heart of Germany. Separated from their father, 6-year-old Paul and 11-year-old Oscar must care for their increasingly sick mother, all while trying to maintain some semblance of normalcy amid the horrors of the camp. In the spring of 1945, the boys see British planes flying over the camp, and a spark of hope that the war will soon end ignites. And then, they are forced onto a dark, stinking boxcar by the Nazi guards. After four days on the train, the boys are convinced they will be killed, but through a twist of fate, the train is discovered and liberated by a battalion of American soldiers marching through Germany. The book concludes when Paul, now a grown man living in Canada, stumbles upon photographs on the internet of his train being liberated. After writing to the man who posted the pictures, Paul is presented with an opportunity to meet his rescuers at a reunion in New York -- but first he must decide if he is prepared to reopen the wounds of his past.

**Thanks to My Mother** Schoschana Rabinovici 2000-03-01 Susie Weksler was only eight when Hitler's forces invaded her Lithuanian city of Vilnius. Over the next few years, she endured starvation, brutality, and forced labor in three concentration camps. With courage and ingenuity, Susie's mother helped her to survive--by disguising her as an adult to fool the camp guards, finding food to add to their scarce rations, and giving her the will to endure. This harrowing memoir portrays the best and worst of humanity in heartbreaking scenes you will never forget. Winner of the Mildred L. Batchelder Award An ALA Notable Book An NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies

**All But My Life** Gerda Weissmann Klein 1995-03-31 All But My Life is the unforgettable story of Gerda Weissmann Klein's six-year ordeal as a victim of Nazi cruelty. From her comfortable home in Bielitz (present-day Bielsko) in Poland to her miraculous survival and her liberation by American troops--including the man who was to become her husband--in Volary, Czechoslovakia, in 1945, Gerda takes the reader on a terrifying journey. Gerda's serene and idyllic childhood is shattered when Nazis march into Poland on September 3, 1939. Although the Weissmanns were permitted to live for a while in the basement of their home, they were eventually separated and sent to German labor camps. Over the next few years Gerda experienced the slow, inexorable stripping away of "all but her life." By the end of the war she had lost her parents, brother, home, possessions, and community; even the dear friends she made in the labor camps, with whom she had shared so many hardships, were dead. Despite her horrifying experiences, Klein conveys great strength of spirit and faith in humanity. In the darkness of the

camps, Gerda and her young friends manage to create a community of friendship and love. Although stripped of the essence of life, they were able to survive the barbarity of their captors. Gerda's beautifully written story gives an invaluable message to everyone. It introduces them to last century's terrible history of devastation and prejudice, yet offers them hope that the effects of hatred can be overcome.

The Cage Ruth Minsky Sender 2016-04-05 A teenage girl recounts the suffering and persecution of her family under the Nazis, in a Polish ghetto, during deportation, and in a concentration camp.

The Child of Auschwitz Lily Graham 2019-11-08 'She touched the photograph in its gilt frame that was always on her desk, of a young, thin woman with very short hair and a baby in her arms. She had one last story to tell. Theirs. And it began in hell on earth.' It is 1942 and Eva Adami has boarded a train to Auschwitz. Barely able to breathe due to the press of bodies and exhausted from standing up for two days, she can think only of her longed-for reunion with her husband Michal, who was sent there six months earlier. But when Eva arrives at Auschwitz, there is no sign of Michal and the stark reality of the camp comes crashing down upon her. As she lies heartbroken and shivering on a thin mattress, her head shaved by rough hands, she hears a whisper. Her bunkmate, Sofie, is reaching out her hand... As the days pass, the two women learn each other's hopes and dreams - Eva's is that she will find Michal alive in this terrible place, and Sofie's is that she will be reunited with her son Tomas, over the border in an orphanage in Austria. Sofie sees the chance to engineer one last meeting between Eva and Michal and knows she must take it even if means befriending the enemy... But when Eva realises she is pregnant she fears she has endangered both their lives. The women promise to protect each other's children, should the worst occur. For they are determined to hold on to the last flower of hope in the shadows and degradation: their precious children, who they pray will live to tell their story when they no longer can. A heart-breaking story of survival, where life or death relies on the smallest chance and happiness can be found in the darkest times. Fans of *The Choice* and *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* will fall in love with this beautiful novel. Readers are captivated by *The Child of Auschwitz*: 'This hauntingly heart-breaking story is one of pure, instinctual survival. It is a story of fierce friendships, unbreakable spirits, and the most powerful love possible ... I was so spellbound by this captivating, riveting read that I could not put it down until I read every last word.' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'This book grabbed me from the first sentence and didn't let me go for the entire journey. I had goosebumps while reading... It is a beautiful story.' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'You will cry, you will be addicted from the start and will find it hard to put down. This book ranks high on my favourite books list a BRILLIANT book and worth far more than 5\* in my opinion EXCELLENT.' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'A book that plays with your emotions, sad and poignant in parts and a book I just couldn't put down. A compelling, haunting story. Read it in one day.' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'This stunning historical fiction in the setting of Auschwitz will haunt me for a long time to come. It's a story of love, hope and told through a combination of the present and the past flashbacks. It completely captivated me that I read it in a day because I just couldn't stop' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'The Child of Auschwitz by Lily Graham. Such a beautifully written, incredible story of love, loss, friendship, family... this book was very, very good.' Abbygabbyreadsrightnow, ★★★★★ 'This beautiful story needs to be read and cherished.' Netgalley Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'This story will stay with me. And despite the despicable conditions love can be born of the situation.. if I could rate higher than five stars I would. Superb!' Goodreads Reviewer, ★★★★★ 'I found this such an emotional and evocative read and it kept me gripped and turning those pages well into the night. ...Great characterization and rich descriptive prose that made you feel the cold and their everyday hunger and agony made this a 5 stars highly recommended read from me.' Netgalley Reviewer, ★★★★★

**The Great Ancestor Hunt** Lila Perl 1990-10 A guide for tracing one's ancestors via various means. An appendix describes how to use a number of available government resources.

*Rena's Promise* Rena Kornreich Gelissen 2015-03-17 An expanded edition of the powerful memoir about two sisters' determination to survive during the Holocaust featuring new and never before revealed information about the first transport of women to Auschwitz In March 1942, Rena Kornreich and 997 other young women were rounded up and forced onto the first Jewish transport of women to Auschwitz. Soon after, Rena was reunited with her sister Danka at the camp, beginning a story of love and courage that would last three years and forty-one days. From smuggling bread for their friends to narrowly escaping the ever-present threats that loomed at every turn, the compelling events in *Rena's Promise* remind us that humanity and hope can survive inordinate brutality.

**Torn Thread** Anne Isaacs 2000 In an attempt to save his daughter's life, Eva's father sends her from Poland to a labor camp in Czechoslovakia where she and her sister, Rachel, are forced to make blankets and uniforms for the German army.

**My Family's Survival** Aviva Gat 2019-01-21 For the Shwartz family, survival was the only option. Their will to live, and a bit a luck, kept the family safe during the Holocaust, bringing them across Eastern Europe all the way to Israel. In 1937, the Shwartz family lived a calm life in their small village in Poland. Fifteen-year-old Rachel liked to sing and go out dancing at a local night club, while her older brother David was busy running a farm and raising a family with his wife Hinda. But all that changed when the war reached Butla. First, the Russians came and kicked them out of their house. Then, the Nazis came to cart them off. But the Shwartz family resisted. David decided that no matter what, his family would not be taken captive. Instead, he snuck his family out of their village, through a large forest, and into Hungary, a place that was supposed to be safe. But that didn't last long. Again the Shwartz family found themselves on the run, escaping prison, Nazis, and bombings. *My Family's Survival* is the incredible true story of how the Shwartz family survived the Holocaust. It is a powerful tale of one family's triumph during history's darkest moments. Fans of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and *We Were the Lucky Ones* will enjoy this riveting saga where hope prevails.

*Boulevard Des Misères* Jacob Boas 1985 Describes the experiences of Dutch Jews in Westerbork, a transit camp which shipped its prisoners to concentration camps in Poland

*I Will Protect You* Eva Mozes Kor 2022-04-05 The illuminating and deeply moving true story of twin sisters who survived Nazi experimentation, against all odds, during the Holocaust. Eva and her identical twin sister, Miriam, had a mostly happy childhood. Theirs was the only Jewish family in their small village in the Transylvanian mountains, but they didn't think much of it until anti-Semitism reared its ugly head in their school. Then, in 1944, ten-year-old Eva and her family were deported to Auschwitz. At its gates, Eva and Miriam were separated from their parents and other siblings, selected as subjects for Dr. Mengele's infamous medical experiments. During the course of the war, Mengele would experiment on 3,000 twins. Only 160 would survive--including Eva and Miriam. Writing with her friend Danica Davidson, Eva reveals how two young girls were able to survive the unimaginable cruelty of the Nazi regime, while also eventually finding healing and the capacity to forgive. Spare and poignant, *I Will Protect You* is a vital memoir of survival, loss, and forgiveness.

*Surviving Hitler* Andrea Warren 2013-06-11 The life-changing story of a young boy's struggle for survival in a Nazi-run concentration camp, narrated in the voice of Holocaust survivor Jack Mandelbaum. When twelve-year-old Jack Mandelbaum is separated from his family and shipped off to the Blechhammer concentration camp, his life becomes a never-ending nightmare. With minimal food to eat and harsh living conditions threatening his health, Jack manages to survive by thinking of his family. In this Robert F. Silbert Honor book, readers will glimpse the dark reality of life during the Holocaust, and how one boy

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made it out alive. William Allen White Award Winner Robert F. Silbert Honor ALA Notable Children's Book VOYA Nonfiction Honor Book

Somewhere There Is Still a Sun Michael Gruenbaum 2017-04-25 When the Nazis invade Czechoslovakia in 1941, twelve-year-old Michael and his family are deported from Prague to the Terezin concentration camp, where his mother's will and ingenuity keep them from being transported to Auschwitz and certain death.

**In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer** Irene Gut Opdyke 2016-03-08 "No matter how many Holocaust stories one has read, this one is a must, for its impact is so powerful."--School Library Journal, starred I did not ask myself, "Should I do this?" but "How will I do this?" Through this intimate and compelling memoir, we are witness to the growth of a hero. Much like The Diary of Anne Frank, In My Hands has become a profound testament to individual courage. You must understand that I did not become a resistance fighter, a smuggler of Jews, a defier of the SS and the Nazis, all at once. When the war began, Irene Gut was just seventeen: a student nurse, a Polish patriot, a good Catholic girl. Forced to work in a German officers' dining hall, she learns how to fight back. One's first steps are always small: I had begun by hiding food under a fence. Irene eavesdropped on the German's plans. She smuggled people out of the work camp. And she hid twelve Jews in the basement of a Nazi major's home. To deliver her friends from evil, this young woman did whatever it took--even the impossible.

*Isabel's War* Lila Perl 2014-11-01 Isabel thinks World War II is a drag—until the horrors of war literally come right into her home.

**Good Night, Maman** Norma Fox Mazer 2015-06-16 Escaping from the terrors of World War II, Karin gets the chance for a new life in America—but she can't stop thinking about her mother, who she left behind in France Karin Levi's life in Paris was happy and normal. She never dreamed she would find herself hiding in a cramped attic with her family, sitting silently while police went from house to house hunting for Jews and turning them over to German soldiers. Hopeless and scared, only Maman's loving smile and caring touch give Karin the strength to keep going. But soon, Karin and her older brother, Marc, must flee the attic, crossing land and sea in search of safety, and leaving Maman behind. Longing for her mother and a return to their happy life, Karin expresses her love in letters she won't be able to send until the war is over. Dearest Maman . . .

**Elly: My True Story of the Holocaust** Elly Gross 2010-02-01 Told in short, gripping chapters, this is an unforgettable true story of survival. The author was featured in Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. At just 15, her mother, and brother were taken from their Romanian town to the Auschwitz-II/Birkenau concentration camp. When they arrived at Auschwitz, a soldier waved Elly to the right; her mother and brother to the left. She never saw her family alive again. Thanks to a series of miracles, Elly survived the Holocaust. Today she is dedicated to keeping alive the stories of those who did not. Elly appeared on CBS's 60 Minutes for her involvement in bringing an important lawsuit against Volkswagen, whose German factory used her and other Jews as slave laborers.

**Survivors: True Stories of Children in the Holocaust** Allan Zullo 2016-11-29 Gripping and inspiring, these true stories of bravery, terror, and hope chronicle nine different children's experiences during the Holocaust. These are the true-life accounts of nine Jewish boys and girls whose lives spiraled into danger and fear as the Holocaust overtook Europe. In a time of great horror, these children each found a way to make it through the nightmare of war. Some made daring escapes into the unknown, others disguised their true identities, and many witnessed unimaginable horrors. But what they all shared was the

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unshakable belief in-- and hope for-- survival. Their legacy of courage in the face of hatred will move you, captivate you, and, ultimately, inspire you.

**The Boy on the Wooden Box** Leon Leyson 2013-08-29 Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezjon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. With incredible luck, perseverance and grit, Leyson was able to survive the sadism of the Nazis, including that of the demonic Amon Goeth, commandant of Plaszow, the concentration camp outside Krakow. Ultimately, it was the generosity and cunning of one man, a man named Oskar Schindler, who saved Leon Leyson's life, and the lives of his mother, his father, and two of his four siblings, by adding their names to his list of workers in his factory - a list that became world renowned: Schindler's List. This, the only memoir published by a former Schindler's List child, perfectly captures the innocence of a small boy who goes through the unthinkable. Most notable is the lack of rancour, the lack of venom, and the abundance of dignity in Mr Leyson's telling. *The Boy on the Wooden Box* is a legacy of hope, a memoir unlike anything you've ever read.

*The Road from Home* David Kherdian 2009-10-06 David Kherdian re-creates his mother's voice in telling the true story of a childhood interrupted by one of the most devastating holocausts of our century. Vernon Dumejian Kherdian was born into a loving and prosperous family. Then, in the year 1915, the Turkish government began the systematic destruction of its Armenian population.

*Survivors Club* Michael Bornstein 2017-03-07 "The ... true story of Michael Bornstein--who at age 4 was one of the youngest children to be liberated from Auschwitz--and of his family"--

*The Story of Blima: A Holocaust Survivor* Shirley Russak Wachtel 2005 Blima Weisstuch and her husband's life experiences in Poland during the Holocaust from 1936 to 1947. This story is taken from a longer work, the novel *My Mother's Shoes*, written by Blima's daughter, Shirley Russak Wachtel.

*Four Perfect Pebbles* Lila Perl 2016 First hardcover edition published by Greenwillow Books in 1996.

*Into the Flames* Irene Gut Opdyke 1992 Memoirs of a non-Jewish Polish woman from Radom who, during the German occupation of Tarnopol, hid 12 Jews (who had fled from the Tarnopol ghetto) in the house of a high-ranking German officer. The officer discovered the Jews during the last stage of the occupation, but kept silent about them.

**Four Perfect Pebbles** Lila Perl 2016-10-18 The twentieth-anniversary edition of Marion Blumenthal Lazan's acclaimed Holocaust memoir features new material by the author, a reading group guide, a map, and additional photographs. "The writing is direct, devastating, with no rhetoric or exploitation. The truth is in what's said and in what is left out."—ALA Booklist (starred review) Marion Blumenthal Lazan's unforgettable and acclaimed memoir recalls the devastating years that shaped her childhood. Following Hitler's rise to power, the Blumenthal family—father, mother, Marion, and her brother, Albert—were trapped in Nazi Germany. They managed eventually to get to Holland, but soon thereafter it was occupied by the Nazis. For the next six and a half years the Blumenthals were forced to live in refugee, transit, and prison camps, including Westerbork in Holland and Bergen-Belsen in Germany, before finally making it to the United States. Their story is one of horror and hardship, but it is also a story of courage, hope, and the will to survive. *Four Perfect Pebbles* features forty archival photographs, including several new to this edition, an epilogue, a bibliography, a map, a reading group guide, an index, and a new afterword by the author. First published in 1996, the book was an ALA Notable Book, an ALA Quick Pick for Reluctant Readers, and IRA Young Adults' Choice, and a Notable Trade Book in the Field of Social

Studies, and the recipient of many other honors. "A harrowing and often moving account."—School Library Journal

**The Hidden Girl** Lola Rein Kaufman 2010-03-01 After deciding to donate the dress her mother had made for her to a museum, Lola Rein Kaufman, survivor of the Nazi Holocaust, decides that it's finally time to speak publicly about her experiences.

**The Secret Holocaust Diaries** 2011-03-21 Nonna Bannister carried a secret almost to her Tennessee grave: the diaries she had kept as a young girl experiencing the horrors of the Holocaust. This book reveals that story. Nonna's childhood writings, revisited in her late adulthood, tell the remarkable tale of how a Russian girl from a family that had known wealth and privilege, then exposed to German labor camps, learned the value of human life and the importance of forgiveness. This story of loss, of love, and of forgiveness is one you will not forget.

**Yellow Star** Jennifer Rozines Roy 2009-01 In 1939, the Germans invaded the town of Lodz, Poland, and moved the Jewish population into a small part of the city called a ghetto. As the war progressed, 270,000 people were forced to settle in the ghetto under impossible conditions. At the end of the war, there were 800 survivors. Of those who survived, only twelve were children. This is the story of Sylvia Perlmutter, one of the twelve.

**Hidden** Fanya Gottesfeld Heller 2017 "I peered out the second-floor window of my grandparents' villa. Through an early morning haze I saw men in German uniforms jumping off trucks. The Germans were carrying rifles and kicking in the doors of houses up and down the main street. Some of the men restrained big barking dogs on leashes. I heard people screaming and watched as men, women, and children scattered in all directions . . ." Fanya and her family run to their secret hiding place. But even if they survive this Nazi search, there will be others. How long can they survive? You will never forget Fanya's incredible story of courage and survival and she recounts the true story of how she survived the Holocaust.

**The Ancient Maya** Lila Perl 2005-09-01 Describes the civilization of ancient Maya, including the roles and responsibilities of the people within different social classes, such as the farmers, rulers, scribes, warriors, and traders.

Rescuing the Children Deborah Hodge 2012-10-09 This important book tells the story of how ten thousand Jewish children were rescued out of Nazi Europe just before the outbreak of World War 2. They were saved by the Kindertransport — a rescue mission that transported the children (or Kinder) from Nazi-ruled countries to safety in Britain. The book includes real-life accounts of the children and is illustrated with archival photographs, paintings of pre-war Nazi Germany by artist, Hans Jackson, and original art by the Kinder commemorating their rescue.

**Four Perfect Pebbles:** Lila Perl 1996-03-21 Provides a factual reflection of the life of a young girl and her family during the Holocaust

**Four Perfect Pebbles:** Lila Perl 1999-11-03 If she could find four perfect pebbles of almost exactly the same size and shape, it meant that her family would remain whole. Mama and papa and she and Albert would survive Bergen-Belsen. The four of them might even survive the Nazis' attempt to destroy every last Jew in Europe.

Me and Fat Glenda Lila Perl 2014-01-28 Thin Sara's family is so unconventional and fat Glenda's so conventional that the differences put a real strain on the two girls' friendship.

**Behind the Bedroom Wall** Laura E. Williams 2010-09-01 It's 1942. Thirteen-year-old Korinna Rehme is an active member of her local Jungmadel, a Nazi youth group, along with many of her friends. She believes that Hitler is helping Germany by instituting a program to deal with what he calls the "Jewish problem," a program that she witnesses as her Jewish neighbors are attacked and taken from their homes. Korinna's parents, however, are members of a secret underground group providing a means of escape to the Jews of their city. Korinna is shocked to discover that they are hiding a refugee family behind the wall of her bedroom. But as she comes to know the family, her sympathies begin to turn. When someone tips off the Gestapo, loyalties are put to the test and Korinna must decide what she really believes and whom she really trusts. Filled with adventure, *Behind the Bedroom Wall* helps readers understand the forces that drove so many to turn on their neighbors and the courage that allowed some to resist.