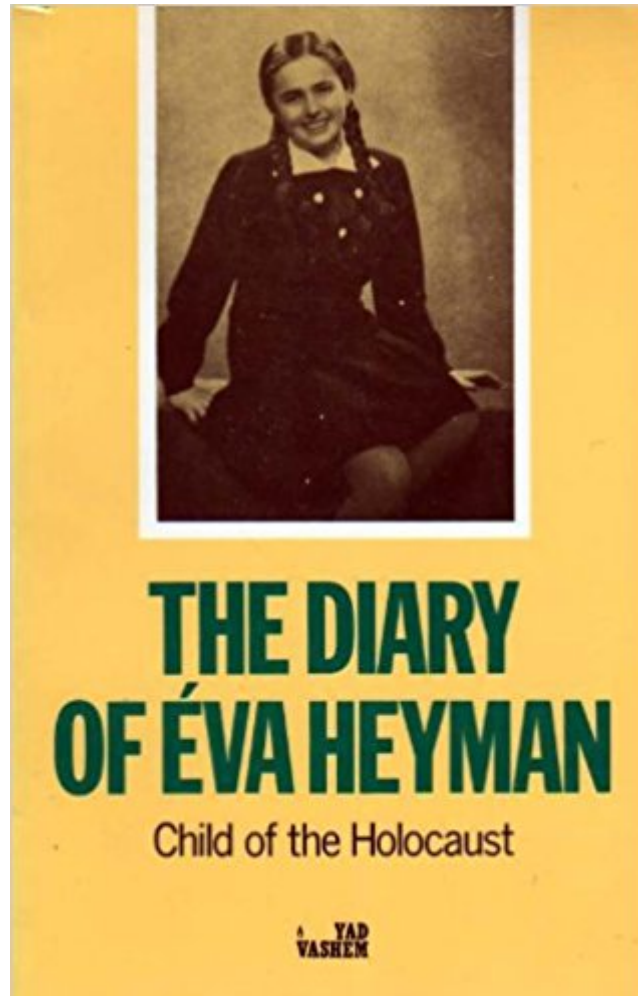




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The Diary Of Eva Heyman: Child Of The Holocaust



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Hebrew, Hungarian --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Excellent slim volume of the diary of Eva Heyman a lovely young girl of 13 years old who was sent to a concentration camp during WWII, and how she was basically abandoned and left to her own devices.

Eva Heyman was born Nagyvarad, Hungary in 1931. She lived with her grandparents as her parents were divorced. Here she writes of her life in 1944, with her friends and family, before being deported to her death, at the age of 13, because she was Jewish. We read of a lively and intelligent 13 year old girl growing up in an assimilated middle class Jewish family, and how their security was removed after the Nazi invasion of Hungary, leading to their poverty, then being forced to the camps and finally being deported to Auschwitz, where only Eva's mother Agnes Szolt survived. This diary is a testament to one of the million Jewish children, murdered by the Nazis, and her strong desire to live. Eva writes time and time again: 'I want to live at all costs' and 'I don't want to die because I've hardly lived'. This edition includes an introduction, a foreword by Eva's mother Agnes, an appendix consisting of letters by her grandmother's former Christian maid, Mariska Szabo and her Austrian nanny Juszti. Eva's mother Agnes who survived Bergen-Belsen tells of how Eva was sent to the gas chambers by Josef Mengele: "A good-hearted female doctor was trying to hide my child, but

Mengele found her without effort. Eva's feet were full of sore wounds. 'Now look at you', Mengele shouted, 'you frog, your feet are foul, reeking with pus! Up with you on the truck!' He transported his human material to the crematorium on yellow-colored trucks. Eyewitnesses told me that he himself had pushed her on to the truck."Eva Heyman, thirteen-years-old, was gassed that same day, on October 17, 1944This edition was translated from the Hebrew edition into English by Moshe Kohn and published by Yad Vashem in Israel.The Introduction and Notes are by Judah Marton.

Alexandra Zapruder, editor of *Salvaged Pages: Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust*, believes this diary isn't genuine and was in fact mostly or entirely authored by Eva's mother, Agnes Zoldt, who committed suicide after the war. I respect Ms. Zapruder's scholarship and thus read this diary with a jaundiced eye, but I can't find anything that leads me to believe it was written by anyone other than Eva. The voice sounds like an intelligent thirteen-year-old girl to me. Zapruder cites inconsistencies in the style and content as the reason for her belief that the diary is fabricated, but these inconsistencies can be explained by the fact that she was reading a translation of a translation of the book. (From Hungarian to Hebrew to English. The original diary was lost shortly after its publication.) Though the diary only covers a few months, the entries are very detailed, and you can see Eva's life -- and the lives of all the Jews in Hungary -- crumble all to pieces. I'm trying to read all the Holocaust diaries I can get my hands on, and I'd recommend this one as much as any other. Fact of note: Eva's stepfather was Bela Zsolt, a well-known Hungarian writer and politician, who wrote his own Holocaust memoir, called *Nine Suitcases*.

Is an amazing book and the saddest book I have ever read the way this child really fought for her life. God rest in peace all those innocent souls. The only thing that is wrong is that she was born in Oradea (Nagyvarad) the city that is in Romania on the border with Hungary not in Hungary.

Eva Heyman was like Anne in many ways: A budding teenager, spirited and observant of the world around her. Anne and Eva both began diaries when they were thirteen. Tragically, both did not survive the war. Like Anne, only one of Eva's parents survived the Holocaust, her mother Agnes, but out of guilt for not attempting to save her daughter's life she committed suicide in 1949. Read this book.

The autobiography of a very precocious Hungarian martyr. I was shattered. A beautiful life snuffed out by Nazi fiends. It is almost unbearable to read, but very necessary. Extremely moving.

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