

Selected Bibliography, Auschwitz

Memoirs

Auschwitz and After, by Charlotte Delbo. Yale University Press, 1995.

In this award-winning book Delbo, a non-Jewish writer who was in the French resistance, chronicles her experiences imprisoned in Auschwitz and the challenges of facing life after liberation.

Night, by Elie Wiesel. Hill and Wang, a Division of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.

In *Night*, the first in a trilogy, Wiesel explores his own and his father's incarceration in Auschwitz and the toll the experience took on his humanity and his belief in God.

Survival in Auschwitz, by Primo Levi. Simon and Schuster, 1996.

Levi, an Italian Jewish chemist and anti-Fascist, recounts his ten months in cruel, desperate circumstances in Auschwitz and his near-miraculous survival. The book is often hailed as one of the most important ever written about the Holocaust.

Histories

A Small Town near Auschwitz: Ordinary Nazis and the Holocaust, by Mary Fulbrook. Oxford University Press, 2012.

Udo Klausa was the principal civilian administrator of a small town near Auschwitz. He implemented and carried out Nazi policies of ghettoization and deportation of the Jewish population in his town. Fulbrook combines Klausa's story with the wider narrative of countless others who contributed to the persecution and genocide of Jews. She has a personal connection to Klausa's actions: her mother was a close friend of Klausa's wife; this lends a compelling entanglement to her research.

Hanns and Rudolph: The True Story of the German Jew who tracked Down and Caught the Commandant of Auschwitz, by Thomas Harding. Simon and Schuster, 2014.

This is a riveting post-World War II story of German Jew Lieutenant Hanns Alexander, working for the British army, and his search and capture of Rudolph Hoss, the former Kommandant of Auschwitz.

Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields, by Wendy Lower. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013.

Lower explores the ways in which 500,000 young German women went to the occupied East as nurses, social workers, teachers, and office workers to support the Nazi war effort and participate in the murder of Jews. This is the first book to provide a detailed examination of women's roles and various forms of complicity.

Films

Schindler's List, 1993.

This film, directed by Steven Spielberg, depicts the true story of Oskar Schindler, a German industrialist collaborating with the Nazis, who ultimately saved over a thousand Polish Jews from being sent to death at Auschwitz. It is often listed as one of the greatest films ever made and was nominated for twelve Academy Awards and received seven, including Best Picture and Best Director.

Sophie's Choice, 1982.

The book *Sophie's Choice* by William Styron won the *US National Book Award for Fiction*. The film, also earning many awards, depicts Auschwitz survivor Sophie's struggle to face up to a decision she had to make while in the concentration camp. Her difficult decision has become used as an idiom: a *Sophie's Choice* is the necessity to choose between two unbearable options. Meryl Streep received an Oscar for her portrayal of Sophie.

Playing for Time, 1980.

This television film was written by Arthur Miller and Fania Fénelon, based on Fénelon's autobiography, *The Musicians of Auschwitz*. Vanessa Redgrave stars as acclaimed musician Fania Fénelon, a female prisoner in Auschwitz. She and other classical musicians were spared from the gas chambers in return for performing music for their captors. The film won four Emmy Awards and one Peabody Award.