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Destined To Live: A True Story Of A Child In The Holocaust



Synopsis

What would you do if your whole life was shattered, and you were forced into hiding? This gripping, poignant memoir about coming of age during The Holocaust explores that question. Pretty, carefree Aurelia Gamser (known today as Ruth Gruener) had an idyllic life in 1930s Poland -- until violent acts of anti-Semitism and the deportation of Jewish families to concentration camps changed everything in her world. Hiding out with a gentile family, her very life at risk every day, Ruth struggled to remain strong and sane. And though she was destined to live, her struggle continued after the war, when she began a new life in America, as a teenager who had been through horrors. This memoir will inspire countless readers and bestow important lessons about life, hope, and memory.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 960L (What's this?)

Paperback: 156 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks (2007)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 5.4 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #840,885 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #120 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Holocaust #1289 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical #3652 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

Ruth Gruener is a Holocaust survivor who, along with her husband (also a survivor), travels the country speaking to schools about her experiences. She also works as a docent at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. This is her first book for children.

Amazing story! My 4th Grader read for a book report.

An excellent account of the life of this amazing survivor of the holocaust. Twice I have attended symposia at which the author was a guest-speaker, and she appears as genuine and real in this autobiography as she is in person."Destined to Live," even though its subject matter is extremely serious, is an easy-read for young, as well as older, adults. Highly recommended for use in the classroom, as well as on your own! What an honor and a privilege to learn history as told to us first-hand!

Quick read. I bought this book because I also read the book of her husband's life during the Holocaust. It was a very informing and interesting book.

It's a wild and fantastical story that's amazingly true. If I didn't know it was a true story, I wouldn't believe it. It's a good book for younger kids, but as an avid reader of young-adult novels, I found it a bit dry. I would have loved to read a bit more in-depth book about this woman's life in hiding!

My daughter chose this book for a school report and weeks later is still talking about it. The story is told with enough detail that at 12 she was moved by what people went through, yet was appropriate for her age (not too detailed). It drew her in and held her attention throughout. A great read, a great lesson, and an inspiring story.

Completely satisfied.

It was a very short story it only run 150 pages. Not one of the best of the holocaust stories that I have read.

Very powerful emotional story.

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