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# Shoah: The Complete Text Of The Acclaimed Holocaust Film



## Synopsis

A nine-and-a-half-hour documentary on the Nazi extermination camps, Shoah (the Hebrew word for "Holocaust") was internationally hailed as a masterpiece upon its release in 1985. Shunning any re-creation, archival footage, or visual documentation of the events, filmmaker Claude Lanzmann relied on the words of witnesses—Jewish, Polish, and German—to describe in ruthless detail the bureaucratic machinery of the Final Solution, so that the remote experiences of the Holocaust became fresh and immediate. This book presents in an accessible and vivid format the testimony of survivors, participants, witnesses, and scholars. This tenth anniversary edition, published on the fiftieth anniversary of the liberation of the camps, is newly revised and corrected in order to more accurately present the actual testimony of those interviewed. Shoah is an unparalleled oral history of the Holocaust, an intensely readable journey through the twentieth century's greatest horror.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: French

Claude Lanzmann is one of the premier documentary filmmakers of our time. His most recent work is Tsahal, which focuses on the Israeli army.

Very GOOD reading about the movie of the same title. But it's much faster reading than watching a 9 hour movie.

I don't know what I was thinking when I bought this. This was never meant to be a book. Go see the movie.

Unnecessary for most people unless you are deaf.

I am a Cinema major at San Francisco State University, and one of the classes I'm in right now is "Film and the Holocaust." We watched Shoah in that class, and the final exam is based solely on that film. This book, which is a transcript of the entire film, word-for-word, is a CRUCIAL study aid for me. I don't know what I would have done without it. Thank you Claude Lanzmann for making this book available to the public!!!! Shoah: The Complete Text of the Acclaimed Holocaust Film

Everyone should read this book since it presents views, experiences of people that described what was taking place in Nazi concentration camps. This book is precious regardless of film Shoah. Reader can learn about tragical events, mindset of evil, mentality and absurdity of Nazi ideology and activities in the German concentration camps in Poland. Such a book can serve as a reminder for everyone not just about concentration camps but also on need to carefully reconsider various ideologies and policies that may lead to violence and hatred. Everyone in schools, governments, families should read this book.

I visited the death camps in Poland and found this documentary to be very useful in preparing me for what I saw. Should you be interested in this topic, this is a must see (many times).

I have taken a Holocaust class before and read many of the so-called classics in the genre, (for example, "Night" by Elie Wiesel), and prior to reading this book, I had thought, "This way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen" by Borowski as the best piece of writing to explain something as unexplainable as the Holocaust. "Shoah" changed all that. This book, in a nutshell, explains the matter completely and thoroughly without pretense or melodrama. It captures the horror matter of factly, as Borowski had done in "This way for the Gas. . ." Still, if someone were to ask me if I could recommend one book about what happened or what I would make required reading for all human beings, it would be "Shoah." I understand that "Night" is required reading for many high school students. Its power is unforgettable, and no one can deny its narrative power, but for me, "Shoah" was even more powerful because all the different voices gave me an idea of the enormous

implication of the numbers. Not abstract, but real voices, person to person, all witnessing, all remembering. If I could make everyone on earth read just one book, this would be the one. Then people might understand where their views might lead them to. I can only hope, although "Shoah" does not really allow that hope. It allows me to bear witness. I have. I recommend others bear witness as well in this powerful document. One of the best books I have ever read. I recommend it without hesitation.

This book is exactly what the title says -- the complete text of the Holocaust documentary, SHOAH, transcribed into a convenient printed form. A very valuable aid for anyone viewing the film or for teachers using it in a class. The book enables a discussion leader to re-read sections of the testimony for discussion, etc. without having to constantly re-wind the video. It's also a good book in itself, for those who prefer to read the words of the Holocaust survivors and witnesses from a book, rather than view them on the screen. Highly recommended!

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