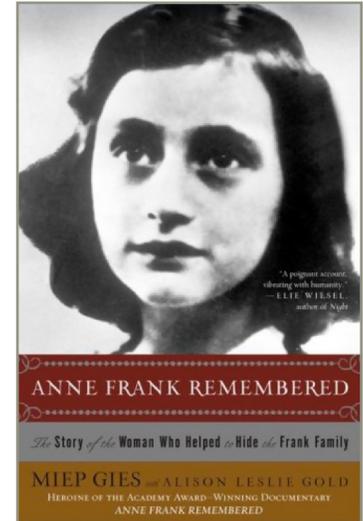


Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family

By: *Miep Gies and Alison Leslie Gold*

Lexile®: 920L

Recommended grade levels: 6th–Adult



Background:

This book, authored by one of the four people responsible for hiding both the Frank and Van Pels families as well as Fritz Pfeffer, serves as a uniquely personal testament. Elie Wiesel has deemed it, “a poignant account, vibrating with humanity.” It provides a deeply personal account of what life in the secret annex was like and what it took to hide Jews during the time of the Third Reich. As both a participant and a witness, Miep Gies is able to share her story, her experiences with Anne and, further, share the miracle of saving the diary.

She expounds on her childhood as a refugee, her experiences with those hiding in the secret annex, the arrest and deportation of Anne and her family and her “dark days.” Miep Gies, a hero, has produced a beautiful testimony for the world, she is courage embodied.

Notes on the Book:

- This book has a photographic excerpt, which includes photographs of Miep Gies, members of the Frank family, Peter Van Pels, Fritz Pfeffer and others. It also includes the annex, memorabilia of those hiding in the annex and more.
- To help with visualization, this book includes a map of the Netherlands, a map of the Amsterdam and a floor plan of the annex..

Guiding Questions:

- When and why was Miep Gies a refugee? (page 15)
- Do you think Miep’s time as a refugee paved the way toward making her a humanitarian?

- Do you find that the book is personal? Are you able to get a feel for the kind of person Miep Gies was?
- What was Miep’s reaction when Otto Frank asked her to help hide his family? (page 88)
- Miep discusses how she believes she was given a great opportunity in finding and hiding Anne’s diary after the arrest, why is this? (page 264)
- Do you find this resource to be different from others about Anne Frank? Why?

Suggested Activities and Projects:

- Have the class brainstorm a time in their lives when they have received help, whether it was from a parent, a teacher, or a friend. Ask them to write about this time as a story. Next, have each student write how they have “paid it forward:” meaning how someone’s kindness has changed them and what they have done to then pass that kindness on to another. This activity will show the class that kindness and courage are contagious and that one good deed can lead to many more.
- Miep Gies is considered a hero. She courageously hid Jews and risked her life to ensure the safety of those she was helping. Have students research (alone or in small groups) “Righteous Among the Nations,” an award that is bestowed upon non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the time of the Holocaust. Have each student or group select a recipient of this award and conduct research about their lives and what they did to receive this prestigious award. Students should share their findings with the rest of the class. For more information on “The Righteous Among the Nations,” please visit the Yad Vashem website: <http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/righteous/>

“This book is so relatable for readers because of its deeply personal content. This is Holocaust testimonial as we rarely see or experience—it is a firsthand account of the most well known Holocaust story [Anne Frank] as told by the woman who rescued and preserved the diary that is one of the most widely read books across the world. Miep Gies is a true heroine and this book does no less than prove her sincere courage and purity of heart.”

— **Hana Green**
 The University of Florida
 Bachelor of Arts in History
 Certificate in Holocaust Studies
 Class of 2014

For more information on education programs or to schedule a visit please email education@annefrank.com or call **212.431.7993**.

Directions: Take the A/C/E trains to Chambers Street; the 2-3 trains to Park Place; the R train to City Hall; the 4-5-6 trains to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall.