

Reviews of The Legacy of Anne Frank

This book made for a wonderful read but its deeper significance lies in its relevance in today's world. Anne Frank's diary is the second most sold non-fiction book of all time, following only the Holy Bible itself, and for this reason has had a momentous impact on places, as this book covers, all the way from the Far East to the Indian subcontinent to Latin America. A chapter I found particularly interesting was the one which covered how the Anne Frank exhibition programs helped to transition nations in the Eastern Bloc away from communism after 1990; these certainly aren't two dots that I would conventionally put together. What makes the book particularly worth reading is the fact that it was written by someone who has not only devoted her life to studying Anne Frank but also teaching and sharing her stories.

Gillian also recognises that, despite Anne being a huge part of our culture today, she was nevertheless just a humble teenager. This is, certainly, a dimension in the book that is, too, well covered.

Nicholas Zhang

'The Legacy of Anne Frank' is a vital book for our times. A reminder of how the soaring power of words can inspire, in Anne's case, millions of people to find the courage to take action for justice and against prejudice. Who can forget the image of Nelson Mandela and friends writing out her diary by hand after their copies fell apart, so they could teach it to younger prisoners. From Africa to Brazil, Kazakhstan and Newham, readers have found a friend to relate to, no matter their age or situation. Anne's remarkable impact will live on forever.

Carrie Supple, Director, Journey to Justice

Writing with great passion, Perry takes the reader on the path that she covered, describing not just the travels of the exhibition, but the way in which the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam and the (Anne Frank) Trust, together with the establishment of satellites in other countries, became transformed into agents for peace and reconciliation around the world.

Rabbi Dr Charles Middleburgh, Dean of Leo Baeck College, review in the Church Times

We might ask what purpose is served by another book on the life of Anne Frank? In the case of this book, a really important one. Gillian does not simply give us a biography of Anne's life but she reflects more deeply on the ways in which Anne's life has impacted on others and how that inspiration has helped to change lives in all sorts of contexts and situations around the world, from post-Apartheid South Africa to Bosnia and south London...As Gillian reminds us in approaching the legacy of Anne Frank, inspiring others is the first step in changing the world, and there's heaps of such inspiration to be found in this book.

Rob Thompson, Common Ground, journal of the Council of Christians & Jews

A must read for every person. The humanity and sensitivity, along side the brutal facts makes this a book worthy of your time to read. The inspirational things that have come out of the diary by Anne Frank and recognised world wide. Also the contribution made by other you persons dying and living such underground lives. This all because of the hatred of madmen and women. An inspirational and a must read.

Jayne Mills

This marvelous book by Gillian Walnes Perry, co-founder of the Anne Frank Trust in the UK, highlights the growing importance of Anne Frank as the human face of the Holocaust, as well as the growing influence of Anne's diary in the fight against oppression. Ms. Perry gives many moving examples of how Anne Frank has touched the souls of children, teachers, and world leaders. I was especially moved by the chapter entitled Anne Frank and the Children of Bosnia. The Legacy of Anne Frank is a must-read.

Nancy King

Anne Frank has become a global icon in the decades since her death by genocide, her story and writings transformed into symbols of the quest for universal human rights. Educator Perry has spent almost three decades at the center of that endeavor as cofounder of the UK-based Anne Frank Trust, which pursues these goals through traveling exhibitions, education, and outreach. ... What makes the book particularly worth reading is the fact that it was written by someone who has not only devoted her life to studying Anne Frank but also teaching and sharing her stories.

Elma Voogdt

I work a lot with students to encourage them to remember Anne Frank's story in order to learn from the errors of the past and in order to build a better society today. Anne Frank's life and diary changed my life. I already know a lot about her, but it is never enough. Gillian is an inspiration. To read her book was a gift, to me. It was such a refreshing, deep, touching reading and I would suggest it to everyone. It really helped me to reflect even more on so many arguments learning new things.

Federica Pannocchia

Fascinating behind the scenes read. I learned so much about Anne, her family and the way her legacy was carried on, even today.

Beth Coulson

This book couldn't be more moving, and stimulating too. Written by an 'insider' who co-founded the influential Anne Frank Trust UK, was honored by the Queen, & has traveled the world - here I discovered untold, fascinating stories - from Miep Gies (the heroine who risked her life to shelter the Frank family); Nelson Mandela, profoundly influenced by Anne's diary, which was read by his prison mates on Robben Island till its pages began to crumble; Audrey Hepburn, who'd have been perfect to play "Anne Frank" in the 1959 film - & why she didn't; Anne Frank's influence on scarred children in Bosnia; Anne Frank in the Far East; indeed, in every part of the world over time, where Anne Frank's diary has helped mitigate the effects of violence and upheaval, draw people together & help heal scars. You can read this book through - or take a look at the quite amazing table of contents & dip in wherever you choose. I'm an expert on the Holocaust & human rights, but until I read this book, I had no idea just how deep, diverse & widespread Anne's influence has been & continues to be - in details that kept me rapt.

**Dr Jud Newborn, Director of Programming Cinema Arts Centre, and Founder
Historian and Creator at the New York Museum of Jewish Heritage**

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