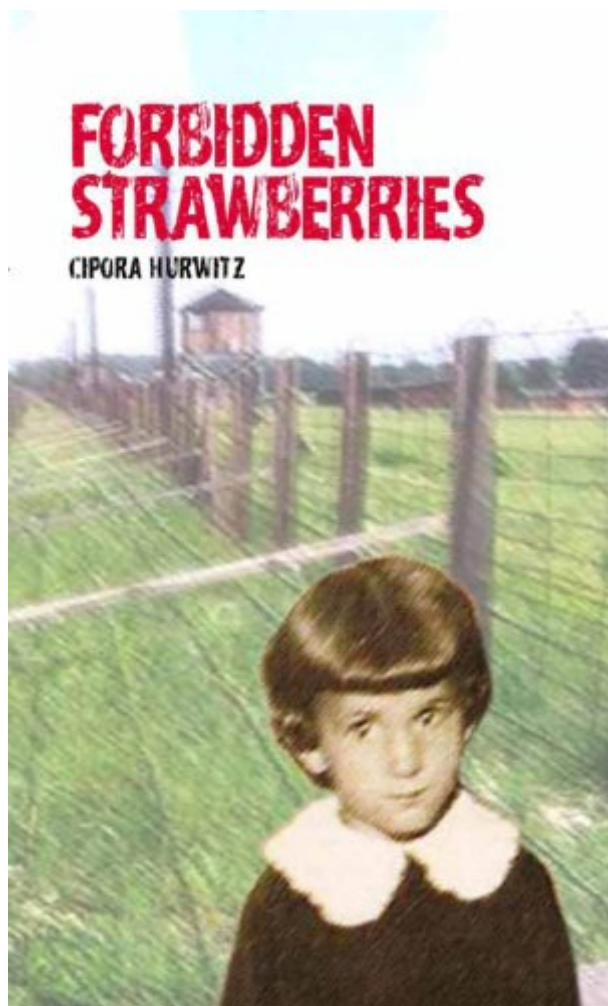


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# Forbidden Strawberries



## Synopsis

Cipora Hurwitz (Fela Rozensztajn) was less than six years old when the Second World War erupted. All at once the life of her tranquil family became a Hell. FORBIDDEN STRAWBERRIES is the riveting auto-biography of Cipora Hurwitz, an innocent young girl caught up in the Maelstrom of the Holocaust. Her eldest brother survived the war by the skin of his teeth by fleeing to the Soviet Union. The second brother was murdered when only sixteen. Her parents, by great efforts, succeeded in hiding their little daughter and thereby save her life. Devastatingly, they themselves were unable to escape the hands of the murderers. Cipora, as yet a young child and an orphan, was miraculously saved after surviving the Budzyn camps and the Majdanek extermination camp. The author relates the story of her life during the Holocaust to a delegation of Hashomer Hatzair youth and Israeli High School students on a mission to the death camps in Poland. In FORBIDDEN STRAWBERRIES, Cipora presents her testimony on what transpired to her family and friends who were exterminated, thus paying tribute to their memory.

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## Customer Reviews

I've read many Holocaust memoirs, but this one told by one so young is one that amazed me! The author survived despite the odds against her and inspires others by sharing her story. Definitely a different perspective than other stories about Holocaust survival and the determination of one so young left alone through circumstances beyond her control.

Coming on the day of the 70th anniversary liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp, this book was an absorbing account detailing Cipora Hurwitz's struggle to survive similar labor/concentration camps situated in Budzyn and Majdanek (occupied Poland) at the time of WW2. Brings back all the horror of those times from the start of the madness to her eventual journey to safety, some stand-out passages including this one from her time spent in hiding, "It was horrible. Her bottle was empty and there was no water. Then, someone suggested filling the bottle with urine in order to keep the baby quiet!" as well as this from their eventual discovery and being one of the last families forced to leave town by train, "All that remained in the city were the silent bones of the Jews buried in the ground. There were many such graves." While a lot of the book left me heart-broken, this passage did give me a bit of a lift, "I engaged in forced labor and I was able to complete it. I hungered for a piece of bread, and I persevered. I witnessed executions, and my spirit was not broken..." If not this same book, I'd recommend all people grab themselves a similar book in this category and give it a read as a reminder of what had been so as to prevent any atrocities like this from ever occurring again!

This is another wonderful book about courageous people overcoming terrible odds. This poor little girl, how could she have suffered all this trauma from such a young age and still come out a lovely, compassionate person? Whenever I hear someone griping about how things are going in the world today, I tell them to read a Holocaust survivor story! Suddenly troubles don't seem nearly as horrible after learning about the true horror these Jews and others suffered for nothing more than their religion. The lesson of the Jews and Germans and Hitler in World War II should really be required reading for everyone today. Society is never improved by discrimination, mistrust and xenophobia. How easy it seemed to be that ordinary citizens turned into killing monsters with no regard for humanity. Cipora, I admire your strength and fortitude, and thank you for telling us your story.

This is one of the better Holocaust books. She was so young when it began and so brave to be able to do the things she had to do to be able to survive. I don't know how many American children could do it. Though there were graphic scenes to imagine, on the most part, we just went along with

her as she grew up in the terrible years .

I am of the opinion that all testimonies, or personal stories of the lives of survivors of the Holocaust should be given a 5 star!! Why? Because each is a precious memory of their loss and suffering. Something none of us can relate to unless we too suffered the same. Each story is precious! Each life is precious. I did enjoy this story. It is remarkable for a child to survive this ordeal, alone, afraid. Cipora is a remarkable woman, who was a remarkable child as well. It does amaze me that you rarely hear a survivor attribute the hand of God as the one who delivered them from their hell on earth. Most say luck or their own abilities and this always bothers me! It is only by the grace of God that anyone could survive that!! found this book interesting by the way the story was told. There are times where it was a lot to follow in keeping up with the cities and areas of travel. There also were areas of typos but it was easy to figure out the meaning of the sentence in spite of this. All in all, it was a very good book. It was told in a very matter of fact way though and not with very much emotion, sort of like, "here are just the facts, ma'am". Almost as though she had told the story many times, and she wasn't thinking so much of the pain or the joy she was feeling. Perhaps she still hurts too much to release those feelings. But, who am I to judge and I certainly don't want to. Please read and enjoy the precious life of Cipora Hurwitz!!

This autobiography is about a little Jewish girl from Poland who survived the Holocaust. The manner in which her experiences were told, simply painted a colorful story. Whenever I stopped reading for awhile, I always looked forward to picking up where I left off. This is the first Holocaust account I've read that was about someone who had went through and survived that terribly horrific experience as a young child. Her true, unforgettable, traumatic story, as told in this book, has given me a clear view into the existence of true evil that men are capable of possessing and expressing, and more importantly, the strength and sheer will and determination to live that is deeply rooted and instilled in the human soul.

What a self possessed little girl to have survived camps, etc. A well told chronicle and a very interesting read. The beginning is a bit slow as she leads up to why she wrote the book. And a bit too hysterical for me but of course she had reason to be.

This is a page turner, one cannot even imagine all that this little girl went through and survived. This is a book that should be required reading in all high schools. One must never forget what was done

to this girl and 6+ million other people.

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