

The Years of Darkness Anne Frank “Encountered”

At a time when Adolf Hitler ruled Germany and the lands beyond, Anne Frank and her family encountered the intolerance of Nazi rule and escaped persecution, so they thought, by hiding. Although she encountered years of darkness and loss of freedom, Anne found a way to keep hope and continue living. Through her diary, Anne continues to touch lives and inspire greatness, “I want to go on living even after my death!”

Even though Anne went through horrifying things that many people will never experience, she kept hope that there was still good in everyone. Anne Frank was born on June 12, 1929 in Frankfurt, Germany. Anne and her older sister, Margot had many friends in school and lived a life like any other child. But as Margot and Anne got older their parents, Edith and Otto became scared because Adolf Hitler started making Jews the center point of his hatred. In 1933, Hitler came to power by changing Germany from a democracy to a dictatorship. A democracy is when a system of government is when power is vested in the people who rule directly or through freely elected representatives. Dictatorship is a government where one person makes all the rules and decisions without anyone else's input. Hitler was a dictator at this time because he controlled every part of daily life.

In the beginning when the Nazi's began taking over The Frank family made a decision to move to Amsterdam, because Otto and Edith, Anne's parents, were terrified of the tragic event happening in Germany. They felt very safe and comfortable in Amsterdam but then the Nazi's invaded. The Nazi's plan was to make all of the Jews go to Germany, is the reason why the Frank family went into hiding along with the Van Pel family. When the Nazi's took control of Germany and the Jews, if they discovered them they would tattoo

them with an identifying number on their arms, take off their clothing to be disinfected, and shave their heads, all of these harmful things happened when the found Jews were sent to a concentration camp. These terrible decisions Hitler made for the Jews Anne also encountered, when she was in the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

On July 1942 Margot Frank received a call from central office for Jewish Emigration. The ordered her to report for relocation to a work camp, Anne Frank turned 15 just a few months later and became one of the youngest people to be spared from her transport.

The Nazi's made these family's lives depend on hiding. A reason why their lives depended on hiding is because it was way too dangerous to go outside. If they went outside and were caught they would be sent to Germany by the Nazi's. Another example of how the Nazi's made their lives depend on hiding is that, the family hid inside the secret annex which was located above Otto's office, for more than 2 years. While in hiding they had very little food, not much room, not many things to do, very little fresh air, and not able to speak with anyone except the people hiding with them because they had to stay hidden inside.

Anne would describe particular evenings when she would use a pair of binoculars to take a peek at the neighbors. She wrote in her diary while in hiding, "I never knew that neighbors could be so interesting." Even though she was fascinated by how interesting her neighbors were she was at the same time very upset, as she said in her diary, " Not being able to go outside upsets me more than I can say, and I'm terrified our hiding place will be discovered and that we'll be shot." This is one of many events that Anne went through a very dark and depressed time for her family and herself. It was a dark stage because the Franks were afraid of getting

caught, were tired of staying in the annex and not being able to go outside, and mostly because Anne was afraid that something might happen to her family that she cared and loved very much.

Anne wrote many powerful things inside her diary. She wrote about her feelings inside that she never wanted to express on the outside because she always wanted to be known as the girl who was always happy no matter what happened. Writing in her diary was one of her favorite things to do. She wrote in her diary a lot before hiding and while in hiding, she never let go of her diary. "Kitty" is what Anne named the diary when she first got it. Kitty was just like a best friend to her.

Writing in Kitty gave Anne hope through the dark and rough times. The diary is one of the main ways that Anne continued to have strength and courage. This shows that Anne was a very tough girl at such a young age. It didn't matter what kind of situation it would be Anne would always try to make the best of things.

Then on September 3rd 1944 the family was packed into train cars and sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. Anne and her family were captured by the Gestapo. Anne was forced to take off all her clothing to be disinfected, they also shaved her head and tattooed her with an identifying number on her arm, this is one of the many ways Anne encountered darkness through her life.

The way Anne survived for a while is because while in the concentration camps, Margot and Anne survived in the concentration camp because their mother, Edith gave them her food because the girls didn't get very much food in the camp. Edith Frank died from starvation in the concentration camp because she had stopped eating, because she would save her food for Margot and

Anne and give it them through a hole in the wall she had made. The Frank sisters became badly infected with scabies. Later on Anne died in Bergen- Belsen concentration camp. She lost her sister to typhus. Three days after her sister's death Anne herself succumbed to typhus in March 1945. Mr. Frank was the only survivor of the Frank family because he got separated from them.

Otto returned to Amsterdam on June 3, 1945 with hopes that his 2 daughters and wife may still be alive. After Otto Frank heard his children and spouse did not survive, he began reading Anne's diary and discovered a side of her he never knew about. In Anne's diary she wrote that her wish was to publish a book when the war was over. When Otto saw that Anne wanted to publish a book he decided to fulfill his daughter's wish and publish her diary. Reasons why he published her diary is because he was very impressed with how good of a writer Anne was and he was surprised that Anne had such deep feelings and thoughts at such a young age.

Mr. Frank was so shocked in a good way to see the deep thoughts that Anne had and wrote very serious things in there, especially her self criticism. Otto also published her book because he wanted to let parents, teachers and students that reading Annes book will teach them many things. The diary's success was very important to Otto, he did some things that weren't very nice just to achieve this success. After the diary was published Anne gained international fame. While reading Annes book Otto realized that she took much pride and care in her writing, when he witnessed this he was rather quite shocked of how much writing actually meant to her.

In her writing, Anne explained the tragic things she went through, how tough life was during the time for both her and her family, her relationships with her family members, and things she

never wanted to tell anyone. Anne's diary is important to the world because it put a face on the Holocaust and showed people what life was really like for the Jews at the time. It also has given people an insight that no one would ever have heard without the existence of Anne Frank's diary. As people read her book they become more attached to her, because she is a very mature child that had to go through things that most adults couldn't go through today.

Anne's book also impacted the world by some of the quotes she had in her diary. For example, "I want to bring out all kinds of things that lie buried deep in my heart." This fascinating quote shows the world how committed she was to her feelings and how detailed her writing was at such a young age. She is also chiefly known for her diary, through its educational work. The diary's aspirations bequeathed to the world by its educational work. Although Anne's story is extremely upsetting in ways, it is also very fascinating and makes you realize that at such a little age she went through horrific situations. There's only one word to describe Anne's fame..her diary!

The reason why Anne started a diary was because she felt that even though she was only 13 that she was quite alone. "I come to the root of the matter, the reason for starting a diary: it is that I have no such real friends." Even though this is how Anne felt, many children in the world feel this exact same way today. Anne's life changing quotes, writing, and secret feelings, this shows that maybe if you start writing down your feelings you won't feel so alone anymore. She expressed her deepest darkest secrets, which were then revealed to the world and inspired billions of people.

"The Diary of a Young Girl" written by Anne Frank, is in fact a literary masterpiece. Anne's leaning towards greatness and ultimate desire to gain immortality through her writing has been

fulfilled to epic proportions. "I am grateful to God for giving me this gift, this possibility of developing myself and of writing, of expressing all that is in me. I can shake off everything if I write: my sorrows disappear, my courage is reborn." This well written quote affects many lives, including my own. The reason why this affects so many is because it makes you realize that Anne did not write because she was bored, he wrote because she had so many different kinds of feelings to express that she felt like she couldn't express to anyone but to her diary. Not many writers can put such a huge impact on the world, and inspire the sort of devotion that Anne did.

Anne's story is not just a piece of found art, it is a piece of modern literature. Throughout history there have been many people who have changed the world, but there have been very few teenagers who have made an impact like Anne Frank. Anne's greatness and desire to gain immortality through her writing has been fulfilled. If you read just a sentence in the book "The Diary of a Young Girl" you will be absolutely speechless. The book is so breathtaking that while you reading it, it makes you hear Anne's voice just through one short little sentence.

In conclusion, if Anne and her family never experienced the dark times they went through then Anne's diary wouldn't have been published. The diary would have never been published because she wouldn't have anything interesting to write about even though she was a very brilliant girl with a big imagination. This tragic event that Anne went through shows you that even though she went through a dark time something great came out of it...a amazing, inspiring, life changing diary.

Primary sources

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- <https://youtu.be/4hvtXuO5GzU> (G)
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