

TORAH FUND BOOK CLUB

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***Sarah's Key* by Tatiana De Rosnay**

On the 60th anniversary of the 1942 roundup of Jews by the French police in the Vel d'Hiv section of Paris, American journalist Julia Jarmond is asked to write an article on this dark episode during World War II and embarks on investigation that leads her to long-hidden family secrets and to the ordeal of Sarah, a young girl caught up in the raid. Tatiana de Rosnay offers us a brilliantly subtle, compelling portrait of France under occupation and reveals the taboos and silence that surround this painful episode.

FURTHER READING

Available in the Maxwell Abbell Library

FICTION:

***Those Who Save Us* by Jenna Blum (F)**

A professor of German history begins a long journey back into a past she has pushed aside, returning to Germany to reopen the wounds of her own life - as well as that of her mother - as a child living in Nazi Germany.

***Pictures at an Exhibition* by Sara Houghteling (F)**

In the wake of World War II, Max Berenzon, the son of an art dealer and his pianist wife, wanders Paris in an effort to recover his family's lost masterpieces, looted by the Nazis during occupation, uncovering in the process an old family secret.

***Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky; translated by Sandra Smith (F)**

Published more than sixty years following the author's death at Auschwitz, a remarkable story of life under the Nazi occupation includes two parts: "A Storm in June," set amid the chaotic 1940 exodus from Paris on the eve of the Nazi invasion, and "Dolce," set in a German-occupied provincial village rife with jealousy, resentment, resistance, and collaboration.

***Let Sleeping Dogs Lie* by Mirjam Pressler; translated by Erik J. Macki (TF)**

When Johanna discovers that her grandfather's company - and her family's wealth - was founded on injustice due to the anti-Semitic laws of the Third Reich during the Nazi regime, she must make a life-altering decision.

NON-FICTION:

***The Jews of France* by Esther Benbassa (900.40)**

This general, synthetic history of French Jewry from antiquity to the present, tells the intriguing tale of the social, economic, and cultural vicissitudes of a people in Diaspora.

***France Under the Germans* by Philippe Burrin (900.51)**

Examines how from 1940 to 1944, the French adapted in a multitude of ways to the extraordinary predicament of life under the domination of Nazi Germany. Some joined the resistance, some actively carried favor with the conquerors, and others adjusted in small ways to the new regime. The study explores the choices made by ordinary French citizens, and their degree of complicity with the Nazis.

***Bad Faith: A Forgotten History of Family, Fatherland and Vichy France* by Carmen Callil (900.51)**

Tells the story of one of history's most despicable villains and conmen - Louis Darquier 'de Pellepoix', Nazi collaborator and Commissioner for Jewish Affairs, who managed the Vichy government's dirty work, controlling its Jewish population.

***French Children of the Holocaust: A Memorial* by Serge Klarsfeld (R900.51)**

Presents black and white photographs and biographical paragraphs for over 2,500 French children who perished during the Holocaust.

***Not the Germans Alone: A Son's Search for the Truth of Vichy* by Isaac Levendel (900.51)**

On the eve of D-Day, Isaac Levendel's mother left her hiding place on a farm in southern France and never returned. After 40 years of silence and torment, he returned to France in 1990 determined to find out what had happened. This is the story of how, with perseverance, luck, and official help, he gained access to secret wartime documents laying bare the details of French collaboration and the truth about his mother's fate.

***French Seduction: An American's Encounter with France, Her Father, and the Holocaust* by Eunice Lipton (B)**

An acclaimed art historian explores the United States' love-hate relationship with France while tracing her own experiences as an American resident of France as well as an art historian, a Jewish person, and a sensualist, in an account that evaluates American-French cultural diplomacy and how it has played out in the modern world.

***Vichy France and the Jews* by Michael R. Marrus and Robert O. Paxton (900.51)**

Examines the Vichy regime's anti-Semitic policies and practices, and documents French cooperation in the Nazi effort to eliminate the Jews.

***Petain's Crime: The Full Story of French Collaboration in the Holocaust* by Paul Webster (900.51)**

A controversial best seller in Paris, this shocking history of French collaboration in the Holocaust accuses Petain and the Vichy government of independently and enthusiastically seeing to the extermination of French Jews.

***The Holocaust, the French, and the Jews* by Susan Zuccotti (900.51)**

Reexamines the French response to the Holocaust, explaining how French indifference to the Jewish plight allowed many Jews to disappear into the countryside and survive.

DVDs:

Au Revoir Les Enfants

This wonderful film tells a heartbreaking story of friendship and devastating loss between two boys living in Nazi-occupied France. Based on events from writer-director Louis Malle's own childhood, the film is a powerful depiction of courage and cowardice.

Miracle at Moreaux

Three Jewish children flee Nazi-occupied France and find refuge in a Catholic school run by Sister Gabrielle. At first, the nun's students are afraid to shelter the refugees, but they come to understand the plight of the Jewish children, and help to rescue them.

Mr. Klein

Robert Klein is an art dealer in Nazi-occupied France. As the Jews flee Paris, Klein exploits them, buying their valuables at a fraction of their worth until he finds that his name is shared by a Jewish member of the Resistance. He sinks into a quagmire of mistaken identity.

A Secret

Follows the saga of a Jewish family in post-World War II Paris. Francois, a solitary, imaginative child, invents for himself a brother as well as the story of his parents past. But on his fifteenth birthday, he discovers a dark family secret that ties his family's history to the Holocaust and shatters his illusions forever.

The Sorrow and the Pity

Combines interviews and archival film footage to explore the reality of the French occupation in one small industrial city, Clermont-Ferrand. Speaking with Resistance fighters, collaborators, spies, farmers, government officials, writers, artists and veterans, the result is a shattering portrait of how ordinary people actually conducted themselves under extraordinary circumstances.