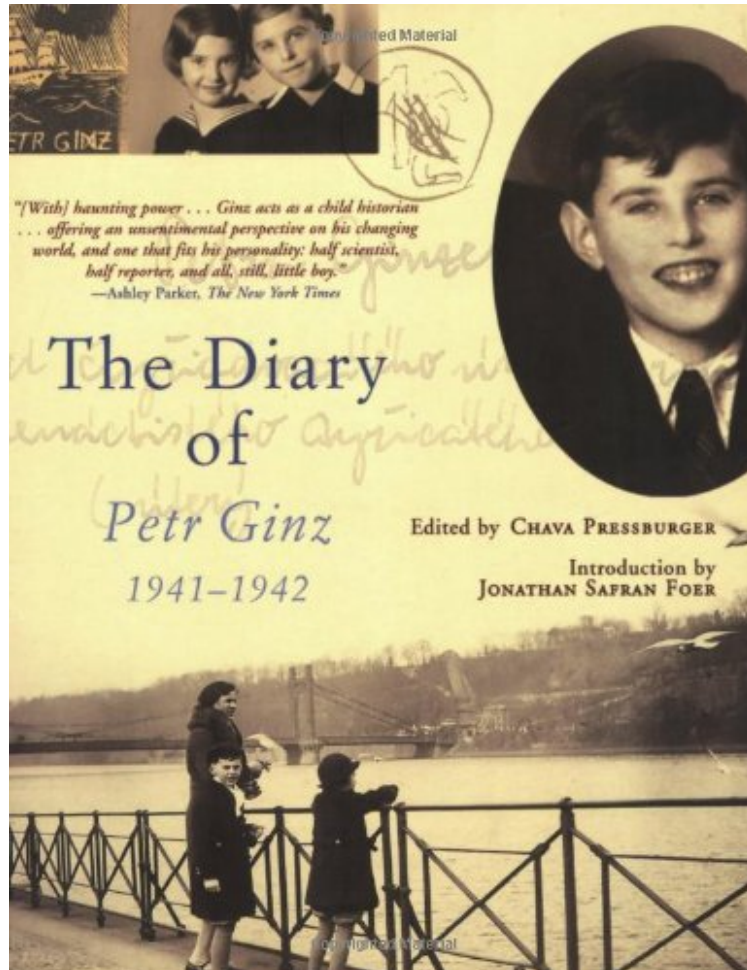


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The Diary of Petr Ginz

Petr Ginz

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Petr Ginz : The Diary of Petr Ginz before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Diary of Petr Ginz:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Lest We Forget By Shari Alexander Do you believe? Yes. It did happen. Yes. It can easily happen again because we refuse to believe it happened. Yes. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Monument of a Gifted Boy in a Terrible Time By Daniel L. Berek Although the Holocaust diaries of adult writers contain greater historical detail, those of children and young adults give us a perspective of what it is like to be a person in the early years of life, full of both fear and hope. Petr Ginz was a remarkable person in so many ways, a talented artist, writer, humorist, and reporter. His artistic legacy is one of a young man who faced unimaginable adversities with courage, dignity, and hope (even when there was little reason to hope). This beautiful diary covers Ginz's life in Prague, as the Nazi stranglehold creates new social and economic restrictions against the Jewish population with each passing day, and continues with life in Terezin, what was supposed to be a model ghetto

but was, in truth, a model of Nazi lies and deception. Petr's sister, Chava Pressburger, who survived the war, adds notes on the underground newspaper he edited at Terezin, *Vedem*. (For further information on *Vedem*, I heartily recommend the book "We Are Children Just the Same." A little over a half century later, Israeli astronaut Ilan Ramon selected a copy of Petr's most famous work, *Moonscape*, as one souvenir to take aboard the space shuttle Columbia. It was that mission that ended in tragedy, the spacecraft disintegrating as it entered Earth's atmosphere. I like to think that both these great dreamers have reunited in Heaven, united in their dreams for a peaceful and just world. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. beautifully portrayed two years in a typical young teenager's life By Charlotte W. Mark Heartwrenching; beautifully portrayed two years in a typical young teenager's life, with examples of his writing only months after his deportation to Terezin.

Not since Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* has such an intimately candid, deeply affecting account of a childhood compromised by Nazi tyranny come to light. As a fourteen-year-old Jewish boy living in Prague in the early 1940s, Petr Ginz dutifully kept a diary that captured the increasingly precarious texture of daily life. His stunningly mature paintings, drawings, and writings reflect his insatiable appetite for learning and experience and openly display his growing artistic and literary genius. Petr was killed in a gas chamber at Auschwitz at the age of sixteen. His diaries recently discovered in a Prague attic under extraordinary circumstances are an invaluable historical document and a testament to one remarkable child's insuppressible hunger for life.

From Publishers Weekly The diaries of Petr Ginz, a 14-year-old Czech Jew who died in Auschwitz in 1944, resurfaced in 2003 after nearly 60 years in obscurity. Now edited by his sister, the diary covers 11 months preceding Ginz's deportation to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. The entries, along with poems and artwork, demonstrate the young man's determined spirit, imagination and intellectual precociousness. With much that is mundane about his life in Prague—the weather, visits with family and friends, school assignments and grades—the diary also reveals Ginz's prankish and entrepreneurial sides (he initiates a school lottery) and his observations of resistance against the German occupiers and their acts of savage reprisal. Ginz also records the progressive deportations of those he knows to either Theresienstadt or to the Lodz Ghetto. This volume also includes excerpts from *Vedem* ("we lead"), a weekly periodical Ginz created in Theresienstadt. Pressburger's helpful, if at times sketchy, notes and annotations to the diary include a summary of the fates of Ginz's family, neighbors, schoolmates and friends. While Ginz's diary lacks the expressions of the rich inner life of Anne Frank's, it is a moving and valuable addition to the personal literature of the Holocaust. (Apr.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Petr Ginz was a 14-year-old Jewish boy living in Prague. Six exercise books full of his writings and drawings were found in a house in Prague in 2003. Lappin, who translated his diaries from Czech, relates that he wrote daily reports in 1941 and 1942, the period before his deportation to Theresienstadt concentration camp. There he continued to draw, paint, write, and read until he was sent to Auschwitz in 1944, where he was killed at age 16. (Pressburger, who edited the diaries, is Petr's sister.) There are watercolors and linocuts, including illustrations of the novels of Jules Verne (his favorite author), the first part of one of Petr's novels, and a list of his literary writings. There is a long poem about the humiliating Nazi laws Jews were forced to accept, which satirizes not only the absurdity of the rules themselves but also the Jews' ability to live with them, and 11 family photographs. Also included is a list revealing the fate of his relatives and friends. This extraordinary personal diary is an important document. George Cohen Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Petr's [diary] offers an unsentimental perspective on his changing world, and one that fits his personality: half scientist, half reporter and all, still, little boy... Petr acts as a child historian, and this is where the book derives much of its haunting power. -- Ashley Parker * New York Times * Inspiring. -- Paul Bailey * Independent * Hugely moving. * Financial Times * Impossible to read without tears. * Glasgow Herald * Heartbreaking... A book that may well be as important a diary of the Holocaust as Anne Frank's. * Tablet *