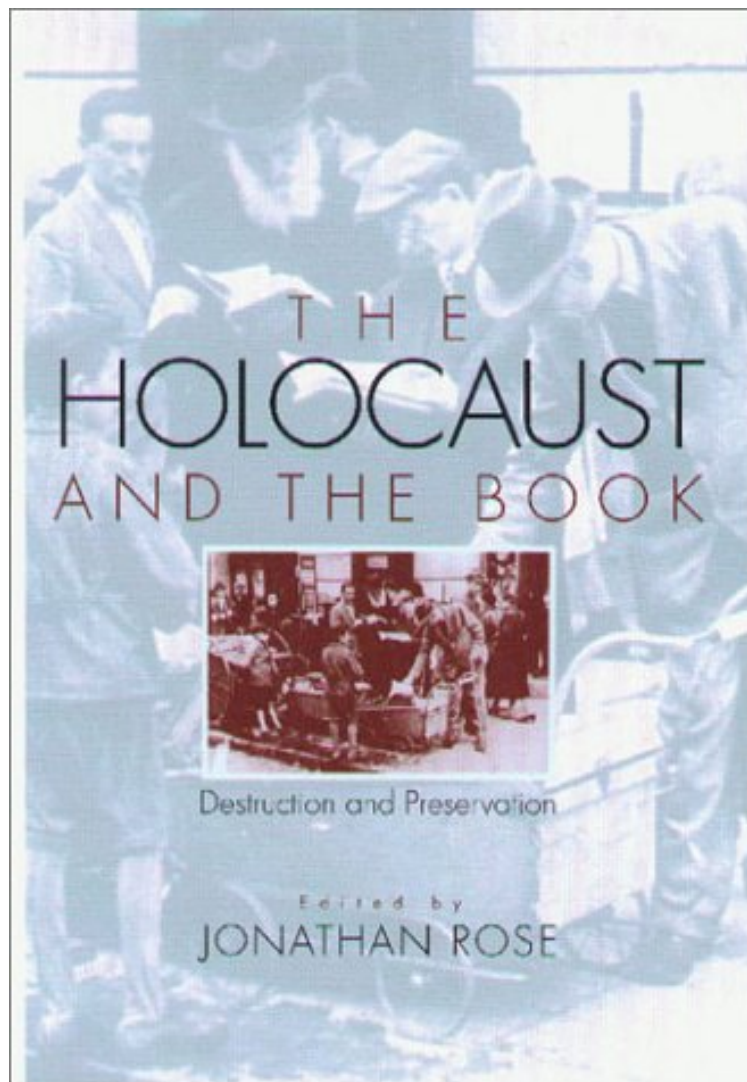


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The Holocaust and the Book: Destruction and Preservation (Studies in Print Culture and the History of the Book (Hardcover))

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From Brand: University of Massachusetts Press : The Holocaust and the Book: Destruction and Preservation (Studies in Print Culture and the History of the Book (Hardcover)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Holocaust and the Book: Destruction and Preservation (Studies in Print Culture and the History of the Book (Hardcover)):

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Look at a Little-Studied SubjectBy Joshua WatsonI

looked up this book to study censorship, and what I found was an interesting, although somewhat narrowly focused read. Basically, and in accordance with the title, this tome deals with how books were either destroyed or preserved in Nazi occupied countries. Each chapter is written by a different person, and therefore offers a unique voice and perspective on literary censorship. The standout chapters for me were "'The Jewish Question' and Censorship in the USSR" - which offers a great glimpse of how governments can slowly turn to censorship, and "When the Printed Word Celebrates the Human Spirit" - in which the author talks about the library kept up at her concentration camp. This book offers an informative, interesting look on literary censorship; and given the variety of authors, everyone who is seeking to learn more about this subject will likely find at least one or two chapters to be particularly useful. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Tom Carr Fascinating!

Between 1933 and 1945 Nazi Germany destroyed an estimated 100 million books throughout occupied Europe, an act inextricably linked with the murder of 6 million Jews. This volume examines this bleak chapter in the history of printing, reading, censorship, and libraries.

From Publishers Weekly "The story of the Six Million is also the story of the One Hundred Million... the mass slaughter of Jews was accompanied by the most devastating literary holocaust of all time," notes Rose, director of the graduate program in book history at Drew University. He has compiled 15 sound works of scholarship that explore reading as a conscious act of resistance and the vital importance of books to the preservation of a society and its identity. In this case, the complete extermination of a society and its identity. Historian Stanislaw G. Pugliese discusses how the contents of Rome's renowned Judaica libraries including rare manuscripts and books documenting the community's history were burned by the Fascists and later by the Nazis, allegedly with the help of the Catholic Church. Communications expert John Rodden presents a thoughtful essay on "reception history" (or the response of readers) during Hitler's regime, specifically how the Nazis twisted the teachings of Friedrich Nietzsche to advance their cause and the present-day revival of interest in the philosopher in Germany. But the most compelling articles recall firsthand how both Jews and other Europeans attempted to maintain their dignity with books during WWII. Vilna Ghetto librarian Dina Abramowicz delivers an unemotional yet powerful description of her patrons and what they wanted to read: some sought historical analogies, such as books about WWI; others wanted to read about social issues, but most checked out escapist books detective stories, romance and suspense novels. Jewish scholars and students of modern history will find this volume to be a significant and unusual supplement to Holocaust research and a convincing argument for the centrality of books and reading as subjects for historical research. Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Because the essays are anchored so soundly in historical sources, Rose's premise of history itself as 'book-bound' is amply supported and illustrated throughout the volume. The scholarship is not only sound, but such an extended collection is a breakthrough for Holocaust scholarship the first of its kind. It adds cultural and literary destruction to the terrible sum of human losses suffered during the Holocaust." James E. Young, author of *The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meaning* "Jewish scholars and students of modern history will find this volume to be a significant and unusual supplement to Holocaust research and a convincing argument for the centrality of books and reading as subjects of historical research." Publishers Weekly "Fascinating and wrenching reading for any booklover." Umbrella About the Author Jonathan Rose is William R. Kenan Professor of History at Drew University. He was the founding president of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing.