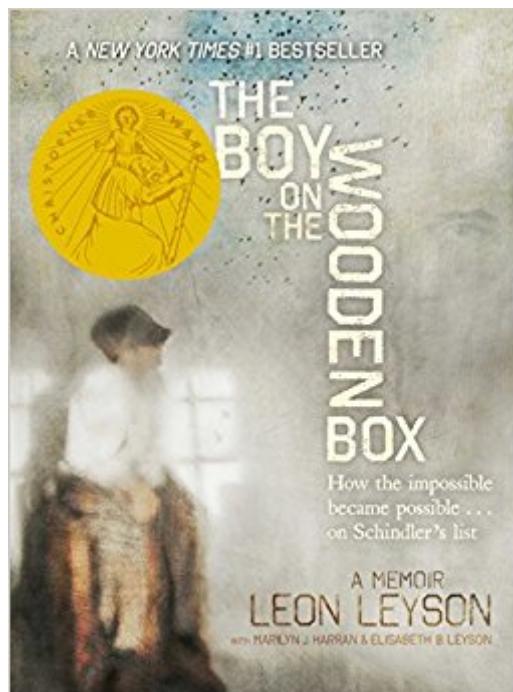


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# The Boy On The Wooden Box: How The Impossible Became Possible . . . On Schindler's List



## Synopsis

In the #1 > bestseller, Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. Leon Leyson (born Leib Lezon) was only ten years old when the Nazis invaded Poland and his family was forced to relocate to the Krakow ghetto. With incredible luck, perseverance, and grit, Leyson was able to survive the sadism of the Nazis, including that of the demonic Amon Goeth, commandant of Plaszow, the concentration camp outside Krakow. Ultimately, it was the generosity and cunning of one man, a man named Oskar Schindler, who saved Leon Leyson's life, and the lives of his mother, his father, and two of his four siblings, by adding their names to his list of workers in his factory—a list that became world renowned: Schindler's List. This, the only memoir published by a former Schindler's List child, perfectly captures the innocence of a small boy who goes through the unthinkable. Most notable is the lack of rancor, the lack of venom, and the abundance of dignity in Mr. Leyson's telling. The Boy on the Wooden Box is a legacy of hope, a memoir unlike anything you've ever read.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1000L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (August 27, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442497815

ISBN-13: 978-1442497818

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.9 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 717 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #41,626 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Children's Books > Religions > Judaism #13 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Holocaust #25 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery

Age Range: 9 - 14 years

Grade Level: 4 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Best Books of the Month, August 2013: For readers ages 11 and up, Leon Leyson's

remarkable memoir, *The Boy on the Wooden Box*, is the moving account of a happy childhood shattered by the Holocaust. Leyson was fortunate enough to survive, thanks largely to Oskar Schindler. As the youngest member of Schindler's list, Leyson offers a unique perspective on the man who became his lifelong hero and his first-hand account of day-to-day existence in the factory--which did not alleviate the fear or deprivation--and his personal interaction with Schindler is powerful and special. *The Boy on the Wooden Box* is an important work, helping mature young readers understand the Holocaust through the life of a young person who lived it. --Seira Wilson

This powerful memoir of one of the youngest boys on Schindler's list deserves to be shared. Leon Leyson grew up in Poland as the youngest of five children. As WWII breaks out, Leyson's ingenuity and bravery, combined with the kindness of strangers and a bit of serendipity, save his life, time and again. The storytelling can at times meander, and the various reflections of his life in Poland during the war can result in a certain patchiness, but Leyson's experiences and memories still make for compelling reading about what it was like to suffer through the Holocaust. This memoir is a natural curriculum addition to WWII units for upper-elementary- and middle-school readers. Be sure to have additional materials on hand about Oskar Schindler, as readers will want to do more research into Leyson's story. Grades 4-7.

--Sarah Bean Thompson

Upsetting, moving, tear invoking, warmth, caring, strength of spirit, anger, and more are the range of reactions and emotions you feel reading this excellent book. Leon's personal story brings to its readers first person understanding of the devastation of Hitler and the Nazis. Their horror involved so many it is still hard to fathom.

Excellent book; very readable, although difficult in that so many experienced, yet thankfully some survived, this unforgivable life imposed upon them. May we never repeat these crimes against our fellow man. That we need this reminder in 2017 is frighteningly too apparent.

This story is an account by a survivor of the holocaust. It is well written and explains the role Schindler had in saving this man and his family. It's definitely worth reading!

Living to tell the horror of the Nazi occupation of Poland. I'll never understand how anyone can hate Jewish people. So sad how everything they owned was just taken from them.

Amazing story of survival in spite of the murders around them...Once you think you've read all the WWII survival stories, and then you read this one and think what a miracle!

Vivid and sad. Well-written, and it strikes you how random good and bad luck can be. They were horrifying times, and the book is a poignant reminder of how humanity can go off the rails and a large scale very quickly.

This is a moving and harrowing account of a family's survival of the Holocaust, thanks to Oskar Schindler's repeated interventions. While the story is riveting, it is told in the voice of the late Leon Leyson which allows the reader to envision the family as they struggle to survive mentally and physically the inhuman conditions, repeated disappointments and loss of family members. His service in the U.S. military and subsequent successful life among family and friends in California is a tribute to his optimism and mental fortitude. In addition to the story which appeals not only to young people, the book is beautifully published. Not least of all are the birds that begin on the front end paper and follow throughout at the beginning of the chapters, until the two remaining fly away on the end paper. This memoir is a work of love.

I've read so many books about the Holocaust and this was truly amazing. There is no way to read this little treasure without feeling the pain and anguish and confusion he felt as a child and then as an adult. What a blessing Leon Leyson is to the world.

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