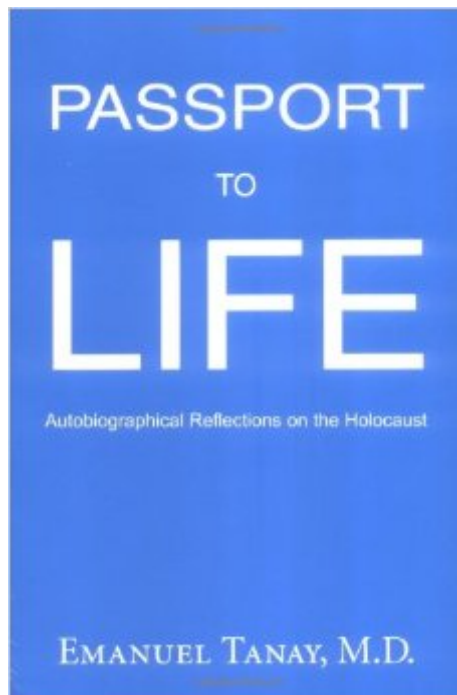


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# Passport To Life: Autobiographical Reflections On The Holocaust



## Synopsis

This is a book about a teenager's struggle to stay alive in a culture of death. It tells the story of a young adult who, after the ordeal of the Holocaust, lived a good life. It ends with an old man who enjoys family, professional success, health and prosperity. This book reflects the lessons learned from the author's 50 years of psychiatric practice and his experiences during the Holocaust.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the most important book published in this format. It combines the memoir of a Holocaust survivor with the analysis of many aspects of the whole era, and its aftereffects to date. The number of issues thoroughly discussed in this remarkable book is incredible. It took the author thirty years of study and research, including self-study to make possible the profound examination and analysis of issues pertaining to the Nazi movement and German people's Genocide, Polish and Jewish (and often the world's) reactions during and after the Holocaust. Dr. Tanay's courage and forthrightness permits him to expose and discuss many commonly held opinions and prejudices in a variety of groups and people, including his own. His analyses are profound, and he has tested them bravely and boldly on various groups and audiences in over thirty years. His background in political science, medicine, psychiatry, psychoanalysis and forensic psychiatry enables him to produce a very interesting and readable book which is fascinating in many ways.

I must confess my bias. I worked with Emanuel Tanay in an effort to solve the mystery of the Dr. Sam Sheppard murder case of the 1950's. His gripping testimony about the mind of the sexually

sadistic suspect, who we believed actually committed the crime, was spellbinding. As the attorney trying to undo a fifty year injustice, Tanay's analysis steered me in a fascinating and logical direction - fully connecting all the loose ends of my case. After reading his recent reflections of the Holocaust, I now understand where his unique and unimpeachable understanding of the human psyche comes from. This is a masterful account of his struggle for survival. Yet it is also a story of universal survival beyond time and place. His vivid memory is remarkable standing alone, but the added insights of someone who has the scholarly ability to now explain the meaning of it all is mindboggling. He goes on to pronounce frightening truths about ideology, religion, and hate which, if not checked, signal a foreboding future for the world - all from a man who truly knows.

When you pick up this book you will not be able to put it down. The "story" is a moment-to-moment recounting of daily survival. The situations that this young boy finds himself in are beyond the imagination of most people who have grown up in a country like America. The resourcefulness and intelligence necessary for a young teenager to survive each day, not knowing what will become of him the next, are not only an amazing and fascinating story, but a LIFE of a child. Not only did Dr. Tanay survive, he also saved his mother, sister and close childhood friend. His father suffered at the hands of Amos Goeth, infamously renowned for his role in the Plascow camp depicted in Steven Spielberg's "Schindler's List". Dr. Tanay's insight into his own plight, the plight of European Jewry as well as the psyche of hatred in religion and ideological movements is intelligent, moving and educational. I recommend this book to anyone who is interested in the human spirit and the analysis of societal and religious movements that can lead to assertions, beliefs and actions that are generated by arrogance of opinion.

Passport to life is one of the most moving personal accounts of the Holocaust that I have ever read. It provides not only the story of a young man's "struggle to stay alive in a culture of death", it documents his return to the world and his ultimate success. One of the most fascinating things about the book are the insights the author draws from his many years of psychiatric experience. Passport to Life is an excellent book that should be read by anyone with an interest in the Holocaust.

Bring your thinking cap and your Kleenex box as this autobiographic analysis of the Holocaust years will grab both your intellect and your emotional senses. The writing style generates empathy and is sophisticated, yet easy reading. Amazing is Dr. Tanay's ability to add palatable, forensic psychological analysis to the terrifying events of his youth. His emphasis on thoroughness and

accuracy is startling. His accomplishments as an adult, he recognizes, are dwarfed by his accomplishments in just four years during his teens. This very detailed and personal story of luck, skill, ingenuity, deception, devotion and love makes unique and fascinating reading. This should make a great film- I hope Spielberg is reading. This is a required read for Holocaust scholars and a desired read for those who "enjoy" a story of a boy's ability and will to be a survivor.

This book lives up to its subtitle "autobiographical reflections on the Holocaust" This survivor's story is his Odyssey -his long journey from his youth in antisemitic Poland , separation from his family during the Holocaust solving problems on his own upon which his very life depended.His life story continues to the present and is narrated in great detail. The reader will learn a great deal about everyday life during those terrible years.He will also learn much from Dr.Tanay's discussion of his memories using his psychiatric background and his extensive knowledge of Holocaust literature.Be prepared for some good insights.

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