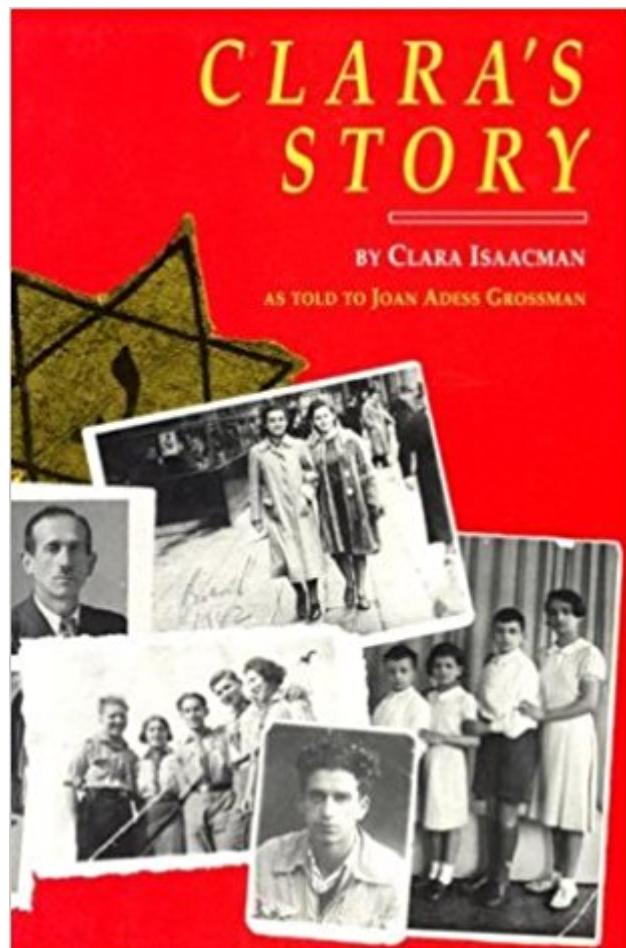


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## Clara's Story



## **Synopsis**

The author describes her own and her family's experiences during the two and one-half years they spent in hiding in Antwerp, Belgium, during World War II.

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 122 pages

Publisher: Jewish Publication Society; 2nd Printing edition (April 1, 1984)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0827605064

ISBN-13: 978-0827605060

Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 6.2 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #479,856 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #96 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Holocaust #853 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History #15831 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction

## **Customer Reviews**

Excellent narrative! I met Clara years ago when I was only a 16 year old girl. I never quite understood then what I understand now- if you are still alive today, Clara- write to me!

I knew Clara, she was a wonderful human being and so dedicated to Holocaust education. The story obviously isn't for laughs, but it would be appropriate and easy to comprehend for a somewhat older child (maybe 10 years and up? You know your own kid better than I do.). I have the original release, Clara gave it to me, I only bought this b/c it's a limited edition with her signature. Nice memory to have of her. Her experiences were obviously traumatic, but she wrote this book to be a pretty quick read with excellent narrative.

This is the story of a young girl and her family's escape from Nazi persecution. It begins with Hitler's anti-Jewish activities and the refusal of Jews in Belgium to be cowed by Hitler's threats. Clara's family had fled six years earlier from anti-Semitic persecution in Romania, after her father had been beaten. After the Nazi invasion of Belgium in 1940, Clara experienced the rapid deterioration of life for Jews in Europe as her family's comfortable middle class life came apart and they were forced to wear yellow stars. And yet many still showed tremendous valour. Clara's Zionist youth-group leaders

travelled on a train through occupied Belgium wearing Zionist youth-group uniforms. Certainly some courage that Jews, in these sombre and frightening days of anti-Israel/anti-Semitism, could learn from. Into hiding Clara took a Star of David, with Zion engraved on one side and Clara on the other. Clara and her family spent several years hiding in attics and secret rooms. The book focuses on the experience of surviving the holocaust from a youthful perspective and concentrates on the concerns of youth. It is especially recommended for teens and pre-teens to learn about life in Europe during this period.

The memoir of a "hidden child" who survived the Holocaust with the help of the Belgian Resistance, who hid her entire family in various safe houses throughout the war. Clara's mother and two of her three siblings survived, but her brother died in Auschwitz and her father was murdered. I haven't seen too many Holocaust memoirs out of Belgium. Unfortunately, this one isn't terribly detailed and it doesn't really stand out from all the other books I've read.

This is one of the best books I have ever read. I would recommend this book to anyone interested about the holocaust. She is a very courageous person and she keeps you in suspense the entire time.

This story was very interesting in how the writer was never in a concentration camp, but how many different places she lived and the different hardships she had to face. I recommend this book to everyone.

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