

NANCY: Heather Morris shares here an incredible true story of both horror and hope. For those like me who have difficulty reading about inhumane treatment, this book provides a path of triumph through a very dark chapter of history. The Tattooist decides to survive, falls in love, and seeks to save those close to him with remarkable resolve. He said he needed to tell this story so it never happens again. I think this is a must read for us all. This book teaches me to never give up hope and to keep trying against all odds.



KATHARINE: Yes, kudos to Heather Morris for this great read. Once again, I think from a educators viewpoint, a good book to accompany learning about the Holocaust. This puts a human face on things in a way that helps you learn about the atrocities, while also seeing the power of love.



PRISCILLA: Whew. I had a hard time with this one. I know that the Jews killed Jesus but no one deserves the treatment they receive from the Nazis. How did Hitler get away with this? Why didn't someone stop him sooner?



ABIGAIL: What a well-written account of the death camps during WWII. It's amazing to me that the man could remember such details of what happened. Very few survived to tell the story. An important book for our time. We must all make sure this never happens again.



MOLLY: Well, as an African-American, every day I live with the reality that racism is an established part of the American reality. The author tells the stories of inhuman treatment, also common during slavery. It is so hard to read and realize that people are capable of this. But I agree it helps to tell the story, so that may help people speak up and stop these things when they occur.



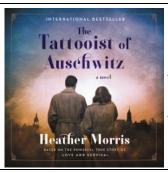
JANE: This man surprised me time after time. No wonder that he became a good businessman. To me the book teaches us to never give up, to keep trying, even in the midst of impossible situations. Zig Ziglar would approve. Maybe we all need to learn a few more languages, too.



SALLIE: This horrendous story baffles me. How can people be so evil? How can children be exterminated? Are we the enemy now with how we are treating children at the border? Dictators can only conduct such evil if common people refuse to take action to stop them. Don't you think it's time?



Discussion Guide



About the Book

Book Title: The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Author: Heather Morris Published: 2018, Harper

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Questions for Discussion

- 1. What were your general impressions of this book?
- 2. This book occurs in the midst of a campaign of human extermination. Have you studied the time of Hitler? What were your impressions before you read this book? Did this book confirm your thoughts or add anything new to your understanding?
- 3. Lale (Ludwig Eisenberg) asked Heather to tell his story so that it will never happen again. Do you think this book helps prevent this sort of thing from happening again? Why or why not?
- 4. This book has received an award as a book of fiction. In what ways is this fiction? In what ways is it not? How would you classify it and why?
- 5. What made Lale's story so compelling? What was his goal in the concentration-camp? Did you find his story surprising? Believable? Possible? Why or why not.
- 6. What role did love play in this story? What do you think Lale would say love requires? What would you do for love?
- 7. Do you see any parallels to Hitler in current history? Could this happen again? If so, does this story impel you to do anything if you see similar events unfolding?
- 8. Read over the MAMs comments on the book. Which of them do you most agree with and why?
- 9. In what ways, if any, will this change your life or perspective?

On YouTube: "The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris" (1:47) | "On Sale Sept 4, Heather Morris discusses meeting Lale Sokolov," (2:45) "Book trailer: The Tattooist of Auschwitz" (:47),