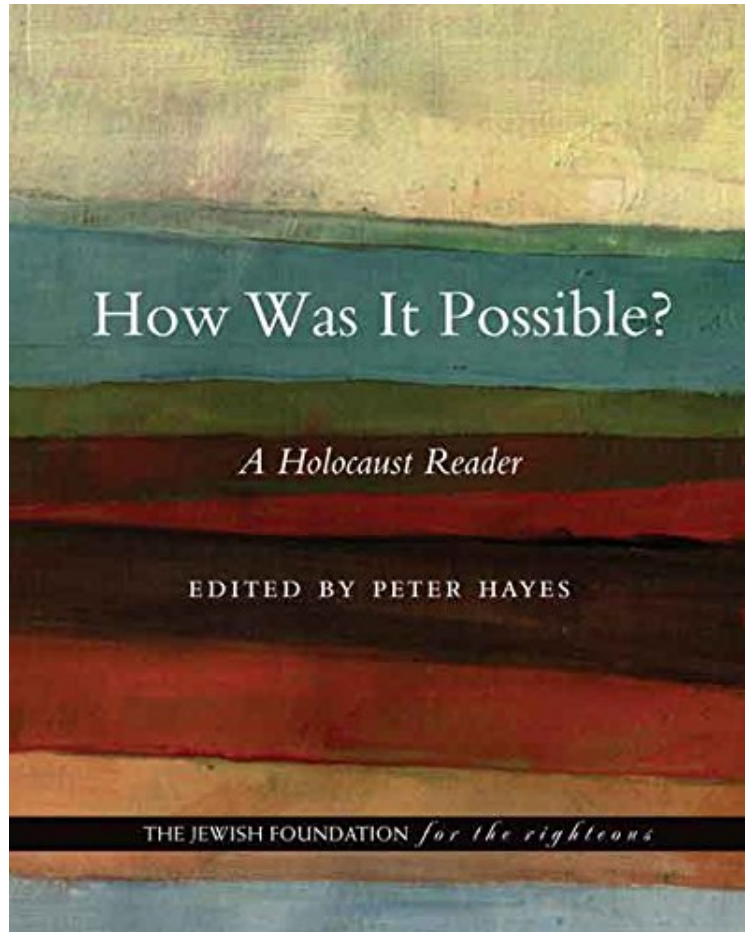


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How Was It Possible?: A Holocaust Reader

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From Ingramcontent : **How Was It Possible?: A Holocaust Reader** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How Was It Possible?: A Holocaust Reader:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Lawrence B.Impressive collection of the most current scholarship on the Holocaust.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. excellent! just thoroughly excellent for anyone trying to teach ...By William Sullivan Iexcellent! just thoroughly excellent for anyone trying to teach holocaust lit.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not Only Jews Lost Property. Did You Know That 50 Million People Were Made Homeless by World War II?By Jan PeczkisThe very title of this book partakes of the mystification of the Holocaust: It tacitly assumes that the Nazi genocide of the Jews is exceptional and in need of a profound explanation, while the multitudes of non-Jewish genocides implicitly are not and do not. After all, almost no one writes books asking “How was it possible that there was a genocide of: Poles, Armenians, Herrero, or (fill-in the blank)”. What does this tell us?Many technical issues in this book are raised in my comments under this review.SOFT-PEDDLING OF THE JEWISH COLLABORATION WITH THE NAZISAs with some of his other works, author

Peter Hayes tends to minimize the significance of Jewish-Nazi collaboration. (pp. 334-335). Fact, is, not all the Jewish collaborative acts were “choiceless choices.” Nor were Jews always powerless in whatsoever they did. Far from it. For details, see Comments under this review. **A VERY UNOBJECTIVE PORTRAYAL OF THE POLISH BLUE POLICE (POLICJA GRANATOWA)** A major shortcoming of this book is the inclusion of Jan Grabowski and his disastrous portrayal of the mostly non-collaborationist **POLICJA GRANATOWA**. For corrective, see Comments. The reader interested in an objective portrayal of the situation facing Poles and Jews, in Dabrowa Tarnowska County, in Nazi-German-occupied Poland, should click on, and read my detailed English-language review, of *Krwawe Upiory* (Polish Edition). **FINALLY, A MEASURE OF JUSTICE TO ALL VICTIMS OF NAZI GERMAN CRIMINALITY** Author Peter Hayes give the reader of this volume a welcome break from the usual Judeocentric preoccupation with Jewish sufferings. The reader is reminded of the truly staggering scale of overall human suffering caused by WWII. Hayes writes, “Nazi aggression brought unprecedented destruction and upheaval to Europe between 1939 and 1945. Thirty-six and one-half million Europeans died from war-related causes, over half of them civilians. At least fifty million persons became homeless. By 1943, thirty million inhabitants had been uprooted and transplanted, and that was before the Red Army’s advance toward Berlin set millions more in motion.” (pp. 258-259). The usual complaints nowadays, promoted by the Holocaust Industry, about millions of properties of murdered Jews falling into the hands of gentiles (“unjust enrichment”), now come into perspective. In fact, these complaints are almost surreal--in view of the fact of over 30 million transplanted and 50 million WWII homeless!

As the Holocaust passes out of living memory, future generations will no longer come face-to-face with Holocaust survivors. But the lessons of that terrible period in history are too important to let slip past. *How Was It Possible?*, edited and introduced by Peter Hayes, provides teachers and students with a comprehensive resource about the Nazi persecution of Jews. Deliberately resisting the reflexive urge to dismiss the topic as too horrible to be understood intellectually or emotionally, the anthology sets out to provide answers to questions that may otherwise defy comprehension.

"How Was It Possible constitutes an invaluable resource and should find its place in all libraries."—Jack Fischel, Jewish Book Council