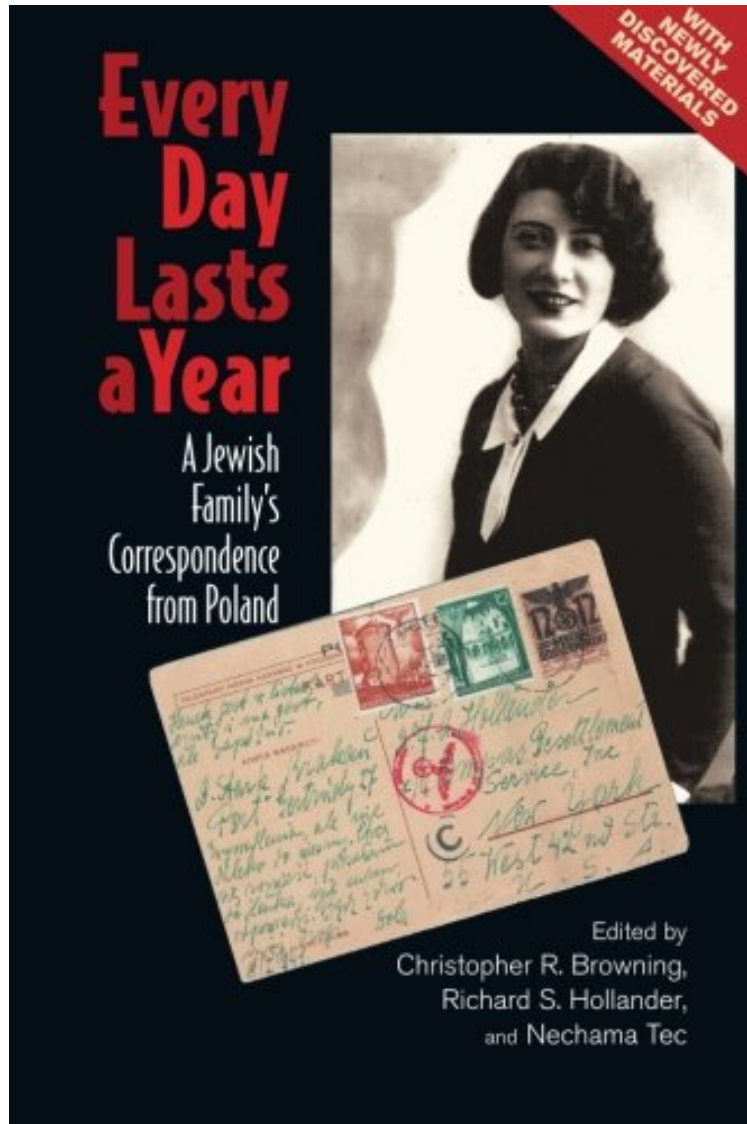


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# Every Day Lasts a Year: A Jewish Family's Correspondence from Poland

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**From Cambridge University Press : Every Day Lasts a Year: A Jewish Family's Correspondence from Poland** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Every Day Lasts a Year: A Jewish Family's Correspondence from Poland:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Especially significant at this moment in history By Shelley K. Every Day Lasts a Year is an especially significant book at this moment in history, when anti-immigrant sentiment is rising

around us. Not only does the book contain rare letters composed by besieged residents of the Krakow ghetto, but it also relates the simultaneous immigration case of Joseph Hollander, the recipient of the letters. Hollander was an educated, hard-working, deserving person who was attempting to flee oppression. It is chilling to learn his story, particularly the US government's efforts to deport him back to Poland to his certain death as WWII unfolded. The book is of special interest because Hollander's immigration petition was a notable case in American immigration history. Remarkably, Hollander's case reached the highest levels of the US government, among them the U.S. Court of Appeals in New York and the office of the Secretary of State, bringing even greater importance to this tale about Joseph Hollander and his family's letters. The book centers around the letters sent to Hollander in the U.S. from his desperate relatives trapped in the Krakow ghetto, where they were enduring progressively more devastating measures imposed by the Nazis. Two chapters by Holocaust scholars precede the chapter containing the Hollander family's correspondence. These chapters provide essential historical context on WWII Europe. We learn, for example, how the Nazis planned for Poland's Jews; why the ghettos were established, how they were created, and what Nazi rule of them entailed. This background ensures that when we finally read the letters we truly appreciate the escalating, impossible burdens being imposed upon the community and the increasing pressure to which Hollander's family members were being subjected (and about which they were not allowed to write directly). *Every Day Lasts a Year* paints a vivid picture of this terrible moment in history. The authors have skillfully illuminated a poignant story, and thanks to the excellent organization of the book and the clarity of the background within it, I now have the tools to pass this consequential saga on to others - and I am inspired to do so. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A compelling story. By baking fool. Though somewhat academic, it is a compelling story of a family whose history was unearthed after their untimely deaths. The pre-WWII and the ultimate journey to America is a story that brings so much clarity. I recommend it highly. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars. By Barbara E. Richmond. All good.

Author Richard Hollander was devastated when his parents were killed in an automobile accident in 1986. While rummaging through their attic, he discovered letters from a family he never knew -- his father's mother, three sisters, and their husbands and children. The letters, neatly stacked in a briefcase, were written from Krakow, Poland, between 1939 and 1942. They depict day-to-day life under the most extraordinary pain and stress. At the same time, Richard's father, Joseph Hollander, was fighting the United States government to avoid deportation and death. Richard was astounded to learn that his father saved the lives of many Polish Jews, but -- despite heroic efforts -- could not save his family.

From Publishers Weekly: Starred . Sustained personal documentation from those who lived and died in the Holocaust is rare. That makes this collection of letters a precious gift to historians. Written from November 1939 to December 1942, the letters collected here are from nine members of the Hollander family in the Krakow ghetto to Joseph Hollander, who had emigrated to the U.S. in 1939. Discovered by Joseph's son Richard in 1986, these vibrant letters written in German and Polish are helped enormously by an essay by the younger Hollander about his father's life and relationship to his family. From Joseph's 74-year-old mother wondering "Can I still hope to take you in my arms?" to his brother-in-law Salo's worry that the mail is not coming through, the letters evoke intense feeling, as we know that almost all of the correspondents died in the Holocaust. That many of these letters were co-edited and put into historical context by Browning and Tec, two leading Holocaust scholars, do not mention the increasingly dangerous political situation in Krakow but rather dwell on personal matters makes them all the more moving. (Nov. 5) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Sustained personal documentation from those who lived and died in the Holocaust is rare. That makes this collection of letters a precious gift to historians." Publisher's Weekly "Browning and Nechama Tec offer a historical context, and Hollander tells how his family found strength through letters. This is an important human and literary document of a family facing the Holocaust." Booklist "Anyone interested in the Holocaust should read this powerful book, an inimitable, personal look inside the eve of 'all of the cruelty, mischief, evil, unhappiness, destruction and misery brought by them [the Nazis] on so many millions in the whole world'. Few documents written by the victims themselves survive today. *Every Day Lasts a Year* gives these victims a resounding voice." Wendy A. Maier-Sarti, *History: s of New Books* "Readers of *Martyrdom and Resistance* will find *Every Day Lasts a Year* touching, and exceptionally real. Put simply, the letters speak directly to us, reminding us of lives and hopes that once were ..." Diane Cypkin, *Martyrdom and Resistance* "... this book achieves the elusive combination of being of value to experts in the field and of interest to a wider public ... it also remains highly relevant to today's world." Keith Stuart Parkes, *Polish-Studies Interdisciplinary* ([www.pol-int.org](http://www.pol-int.org)) About the Author: Christopher R. Browning is the author of seven books on Nazi Germany and the Holocaust, including *The Origins of the Final Solution: The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy, September 1939-March 1942* (with contributions from Jürgen Matthäus) in 2004 and *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* in 1992. Both of these books received the National Jewish Book Award in the Holocaust category. With Cambridge University Press he has published *The Path to Genocide* (1992) and *Nazi Policy, Jewish Workers, German Killers* (2000). Christopher Browning received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He taught at Pacific

Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington for 25 years, before moving in 1999 to the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill as the Frank Porter Graham Professor of History. He has delivered the George Macauley Trevelyan Lectures at the University of Cambridge (1999) and the George Mosse Lectures at the University of Wisconsin, Madison (2002). He has been an expert witness at various trials of accused Nazi criminals in Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom, as well as in the 'Holocaust denial' trials of Ernst Zndel in Toronto (1988) and Irving vs. Lipstadt in London (2000). Richard S. Hollander is the son of Joseph A. Hollander. Joseph Hollander's mother, three sisters, their spouses, and children wrote the poignant and powerful letters from Krakow, Poland (1939-42) that comprise the bulk of this book. Hollander has an undergraduate degree in political science from Johns Hopkins University, a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University, and a master of liberal arts degree also from Johns Hopkins. He has been a reporter and columnist on two daily newspapers - The Evening News in Newsburgh, New York and The Baltimore News-American. Most of his journalism career was as a reporter for WBAL-TV in Baltimore, Maryland, where he specialized in covering politics and government. Presently, Mr Hollander is president of Millbrook Communications in Baltimore, Maryland, an advertising and marketing firm. He has taught journalism at the University of Baltimore and at Goucher College in Towson, Maryland, and has also worked in Congress for Rep. John G. Dow as a press secretary and speech writer. Hollander is the author of Video Democracy (1986), a projection of the impact of interactive technology on American politics. In the community, Mr Hollander served for eight years (1996-2004; five as chair) on the Baltimore Community Relations Commission, the city's civil rights enforcement agency. He was also President of Beth El Congregation in Baltimore, Maryland, from 2005 to 2007.