STUDY GUIDE

(ELA) Parallel Journeys

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Information on this resource

Uddhav Marwaha contributed to this study guide, and I have used portions and material from his study guide in this one. Special thanks to him.

Important vocabulary

- **Mein Kampf** – a book written by Hitler while he was in prison, in which he promotes racism and included propaganda on the Holocaust.
- **Der Fuhrer** – a German word meaning “leader” or “guide”, commonly attributed to Hitler.
- **Bannfuhrer** – a rank equal to a Major General in the US army. Commanded 6,000 troops. Alfons received this rank at age 16.
- **Nuremberg Laws** – Anti-Semitic laws in Nazi Germany introduced at the annual Nuremberg Rally of the Nazi Party.
- **Treaty of Versailles** – treaty established after World War I, preventing Germany from causing war by banning them from having an army or navy. Ultimately violated.
- **West Wall** – also known as the Siegfried Line, a wall built through Germany that protected Germany from attack. Alfons defended this position.
- **Typhus** – a disease spread by lice of fleas; commonly received in the concentration camps.
- **Gestapo** – the German secret state police, notorious for brutal methods and operations.
- **SS** – an elite military unit serving as Hitler’s bodyguards and as a special police force and military unit. Attacked on Kristallnacht.
- **Final Solution** – the plan Nazis created for the systematic genocide of European Jews.
• **Kristallnacht** – meaning “Night of Broken Glass”, a series of attacks on Jews and their homes and businesses on **November 9, 1938**.

• **Wittlich** – where Alfon’s family comes from. Allies attacked on **Christmas Eve** with air attacks and destruction, as well as eventual capture and occupation.

• **Amsterdam** – where Helen’s family moved to after the Nuremberg Laws. Anne Frank’s family was hiding here. Helen returned to Amsterdam after release from concentration camps.

• **Berlin** – the German capital city; where RAF bombers attacked after RAF bases near London were bombed by the Germans. Multiple attacks by Britain and Americans here.

• **Delouse** – to remove lice from.

• **Wehrmacht** – the German army.

### Distinctions between Sets of Words

- **Anti-Semitism** – hatred against Jews.
- **Bigotry** – intolerance of another type of person.
- **Prejudice** – judging before knowing them.
- **Discrimination** – prejudice in action.
- **Racism** – hatred of another race
- **Persecution** – act of harassment, or violence.
- **Genocide** – systematical extermination of a group.

- **Scape-goat** – a person made to bear blame
- **Bystander** – person present but not involved.
- **Collaborator** – person who cooperates with an enemy.
- **Perpetrator** – person who causes to happen.

- **Gestapo** – German state police
- **SS** – elite military unit, Hitler’s bodyguards

### Important people

- **Herman Goring** – highest ranking Nazi official, second to Hitler. Carried 20,000 narcotic pills with him to the trials. He was hung and killed.

- **Heinrich Himmler** – head of the Gestapo and SS; captured while attempting to flee, he committed suicide with a cyanide pill.
- **Adolf Eichmann** – lieutenant colonel in the SS; fled to Argentina to escape trial.
- **Eva Braun** – Hitler’s girlfriend. Committed suicide with him.
- **Rudolf Hess** – top Nazi official, helped Hitler to write *Mein Kampf*.
- **Rabbit** – Alfon’s friend while training; an excellent pilot, KIA.
- **Jo Vis** – old friend of Helen’s who helped to hide her. Her sister was Doris’ foster mother. She was a hero to many Jews and saved 40+ people. Tree planted in honor.
- **DeBohr family** – Doris’ foster family.
- **Becky** – 16 year old Dutch girl from Amsterdam who joined Helen in her escape from the concentration camp. Ratted out Helen to a Dutch.
- **Siegfried** – first husband of Helen.
- **Robert Waterford** – attorney; married Helen when she was uncertain of Siegfried’s return
- **“Rubble Women”** – nickname given to women who started rebuilding homes
- **Martin Luther** – 16th century German who started the Protestant Christian religion.
- **Franklin D. Roosevelt** – President of the US during WWII
- **Winston Churchill** – PM of Great Britain during WWII
- **Joseph Stalin** – leader of Soviet Russia during the war, under the Allies
- **Dr. Josef Goebbels** – German Minister of Propaganda.
- **Dr. Josef Mengele** – “Angel of Death”, with the left-right-death-live thumb. Successfully escaped to South Africa after downfall of Germany.
- **“Righteous Gentiles”** – phrase used for non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews.