

# *All But My Life* by Gerda Weissmann Klein

(Hill & Wang, c. 1995, Revised Edition)

## A Chronology compiled by Bill Younglove

### *All But My Life* Memoir Chronology

### Reich Sphere of Influence Chronology

Text	Date	Event	Date	Event
			January 26, 1934	Germany and Poland sign a ten-year nonaggression pact.
<b>Part I</b>	September 1-3, 1939	Gerda and family see the taking of Bielitz, now Bielsko Poland, 20 miles from Czechoslovakia.	September 1, 1939	Germany invades Poland (Jewish population: 3.35 million); World War II begins.
ch.1, pp. 3-10				
ch.2, pp. 11-15	September 3-18, 1939	Krakov and Warsaw fall. Papa's illness prevents their leaving Bielitz. Germans arrive. Neighbors fly Nazi flag.	September 2, 1939	Stutthof concentration camp established in Poland
			September 21, 1939	Reinhard Heydrich (SS) orders establishment of <i>Judenräte</i> and concentration of Polish Jews.
			September 28, 1939	Partition of Poland between Germany and USSR.
			October 8, 1939	First Polish ghetto is established at Piotrków Trybunalski.
ch.3, pp. 16-21	October 15-19, 1939	Bielitz males, 16-50, are called up by the Nazis.		
ch.4, pp. 22-27	October 20-29, 1939	Nazi thugs beat factory owner Mr. Pipersberg,		

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ch.5, pp. 28-32	Nov. 1-Dec. 2, 1939	Jewish transport from Bielitz postponed.	November 23, 1939	Wearing of <i>Judenstern</i> (Jewish Star of David) is made compulsory throughout occupied Poland.
			Dec. 5-6, 1939	Jewish property in Poland is seized.
ch.6, pp. 33-40	Dec. 20 (?), 1939- Mar. 31(?), 1940	Restrictions on Jews increase; Weissmanns move into basement of home.	February 8, 1940	Łódź Ghetto is established by German authorities.
ch.7, pp. 41-46	Apr.-Dec. 31, 1940	Bielitz Jewish population is 300, down from 8,000. Gerda turns 16.	April 30, 1940	Łódź Ghetto is sealed (230,000 Jews).
			October 12, 1940	Warsaw Ghetto is established
			November 15, 1940	Warsaw Ghetto sealed (400,000 Jews).
			Nov. 20-25, 1940	Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia join the Nazis, Italians, and Japanese Tripartite Pact.
ch.7, pp. 46-54	Jan.-September 1941	Gerda escapes personal Nazi encounter; meets Abek Feigenblatt in a boys' camp	March 1941	Himmler orders Birkenau (Auschwitz II) construction; finished in one year.
			March 3-20, 1941	Krakow Ghetto is established and sealed (70,000 Jews).
			April 24, 1941	Lublin Ghetto is sealed
			June 22, 1941	Operation "Barbarossa"; Nazis invade the USSR (3,000,000 Jews).
			June 23, 1941	<i>Einsatzgruppen</i> begin their mass murder of Jews, Gypsies, and Communist leaders in the USSR.

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ch.8, pp. 55-64	Sept.-November 1941	Further Jewish restrictions occur. Abek falls in love with Gerda.	September 3, 1941	First Zyklon-B experimental gassing of Soviet prisoners of war in Auschwitz.
			September 27, 1941	Heydrich arrives in Prague as <i>Reichsprotektor</i> .
ch.9, pp. 65-70	Dec.-January 1942	Friend Erica writes of Nazi brutality elsewhere in Poland	December 10-11, 1941	Germany and U.S. declare war on each other. Roosevelt allocates 90% of military resources to defeat Hitler.
ch.10, pp. 71-77	January-April 19, 1942	Bielitz is moved into a remote quarter ghetto.	January 20, 1942	Wannsee Conference held to coordinate planning of the "Final Solution."
			March 1, 1942	Sobibor, Polish extermination camp is begun.
ch.11, pp. 78-81	April 20-May 1942	Gestapo nearly seizes Gerda's father.		
ch.12, pp. 82-92	May 8-June 1942	Weissmanns register for work; soon, Bielitz is to be made <i>Judenrein</i> . Gerda sees her parents for last time.		
<b>Part II</b>				
ch.1, pp. 95-100	June 1942	Gerda arrives at Sosnowitz, Poland.		
ch.2, pp. 101-110	June 1942	Gerda is housed in a transit camp to work; rejects housing with Abek's family in Sosnowitz.		

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ch.3, pp. 111-117	July 2, 1942	Gerda is taken by train to Bolkenhain, Germany to work in a weaving mill		
ch.4, pp. 118-123	July 3-August 1942	Gerda works long hours; no response from parents.	Jul.22-Sept.12, 1942	Mass deportations from Warsaw Ghetto to Treblinka.
ch.5, pp. 124-134	Aug.- late January 1943	Gerda's life saved by Frau Kügler.	January 18-22, 1943	First Warsaw Ghetto uprising breaks out.
ch.6, pp. 135-143	Feb.- end of August 1943	Sosnowitz is evacuated to Auschwitz. Gerda leaves Bolkenhain.	July 21, 1943	Himmler orders the liquidation of all ghettos in Poland and USSR.
ch.7, pp. 144-153	September 1943	Gerda arrives at Märzdorf, a worker's hell. Ilse uses a ruse to get them sent to Landeshut.		
ch.8, pp. 154-160	Sept.-November 1943	Gerda weaves parachutes on night shift at Landeshut. Abek is in nearby Burgberg.		
ch.9, pp. 161-165	Nov.-May 8, 1944	Italian prisoners show up at Burgberg.	March 19, 1944	Nazis occupy Hungary (725,000 Jews).
			May 2, 1944	First transport of Hungarian Jews reaches Auschwitz; over 437,000 Hungarian Jews sent to Auschwitz by July 9; most are gassed.

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ch.10, pp. 166-177	May 9-November 1944	Gerda arrives at Grünberg; weaves from Auschwitz prisoner clothing.	July 23-24, 1944	Soviet army liberates first extermination camp, Majdanek (500 alive).
			July 28, 1944	1st major death march from Warsaw (3,250).
			October 6-7, 1944	<i>Sonderkommando</i> blow up crematory IV at Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp.
ch.11, pp. 178-184	Nov.30-Jan. 29, 1945	Gerda and 4,000 others, in two transports, march westward toward Germany.	January 17-18, 1945	Nazis evacuate Auschwitz I, II, and III; 66,000 are on foot “death marches” toward Germany.
ch.12, pp. 185-193	Jan. 30-February 1945	The march continues to Dresden, Germany; three-quarters are dead	January 27, 1945	Soviet army liberates Auschwitz’s 7,650 prisoners.
ch.13, pp. 194-199	March-April 1945	Gerda and 400 others arrive at Helmbrechts barracks.	April 11, 1945	Buchenwald “self-liberated,” and liberated by the American army (21,000 inmates).
ch.14, pp. 200-206	Apr.13-late April 1945	Gerda and 300 leave Helmsbrechts for Czechoslovakia. Ilse dies.	April 15, 1945	British army liberates Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.
			April 29, 1945	US Seventh American Army liberates Dachau concentration camp (32,000 inmates).
			April 30, 1945	Hitler commits suicide in Berlin bunker.
ch.15, pp. 207-210	May 1945	Gerda and some others hide in a factory at Volary, Czechoslovakia as the war ends.	May 2, 1945	Soviet troops capture Berlin.
			May 7, 1945	Germany surrenders unconditionally.

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<b>Part III</b>				
ch.1, pp. 213-218	May-May 8, 1945	Suse dies. German-speaking soldiers arrive to help. Gerda has her 21 <sup>st</sup> birthday – liberation day.		
ch.2, pp. 219-233	May 9-June 27, 1945	Kurt Klein, the German-speaking American soldier returns as Gerda recovers. He tells of his own family's losses. At 68 pounds, Gerda recovers slowly.		
ch.3, pp. 234-240	June 28-July (?) 1945	Gerda inquires, via an uncle in Turkey, of her family. Kurt is in Bavaria.		
ch.4, pp. 241-246	July (?) -Sept. 13, 1945	Gerda goes to Cham, in Bavaria, by jeep; thence to Freising, near Munich. Gerda works for the Civilian Censorship Division; learns of Abek's death. Kurt asks Gerda to marry him and go to the United States.		
			November 20, 1945	First major Nuremberg International War Crimes Trial begins.

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<b>Text</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Epilogue, pp. 247-261	September 1946	Gerda and Kurt, married, travel via Paris and London, to Buffalo, New York to live their lives.		
			October 1, 1946	Conclusion of first major Nuremberg Trial.
			October 16, 1946	Execution of Nazi war criminals.

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