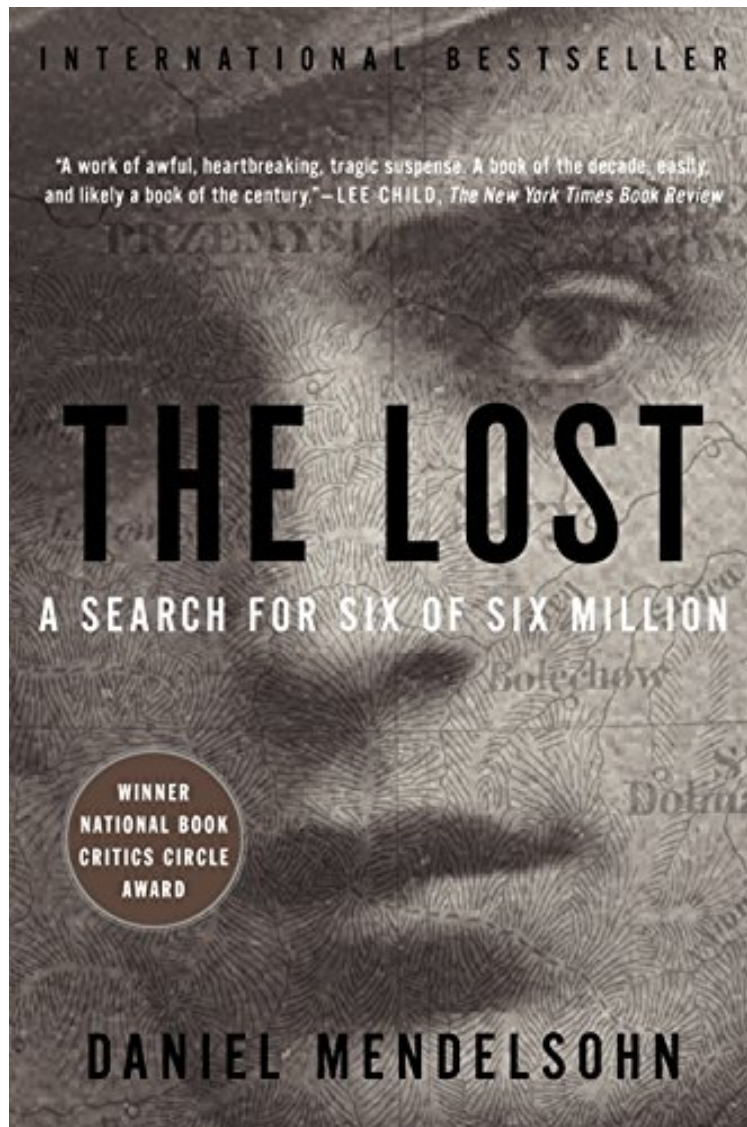


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The Lost: The Search for Six of Six Million (P.S.)

Daniel Mendelsohn

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#83139 in Books Daniel Mendelsohn 2013-11-12 2013-11-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x 1.10 x 5.311, 1.20 #File Name: 0062277774688 pages The Lost | File size: 48.Mb

Daniel Mendelsohn : The Lost: The Search for Six of Six Million (P.S.) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Lost: The Search for Six of Six Million (P.S.):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Incredible story. By M Kairey Interesting story but he digresses often so I find myself skimming. There are some graphic details that need to be told. I respect the authors tenacity in preserving the stories, and his willingness to go where he needed to go and do whatever it took. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great work that fully captures what it means to be ... By Customer A great work that fully captures what it means to be human on multiple levels, appealing to the intellect with extreme scholarship and the

stresses of family that still never break the bonds of deep love across continents and generations. Mendelsohn is a master story teller! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. HauntingBy Kindle CustomerHaunting..I too grew up on Long Island, same age as the author - with many Jewish friends. Had many elderly patients - Yiddish speakers- at Beth Israel Hospital in Manhattan and Holocaust survivors too. Married a Jew myself (secular family) and was working on his family's Polish genealogy when I happened upon this book. It speaks to me in deep ways. I bear witness for the many I met back then.

In this rich and riveting narrative, a writer's search for the truth behind his family's tragic past in World War II becomes a remarkably original epic part memoir, part reportage, part mystery, and part scholarly detective work that brilliantly explores the nature of time and memory, family and history.

.com Daniel Mendelsohn's *The Lost* is the deeply personal account of a search for one family among his larger family, the one barely spoken of, only to say they were "killed by the Nazis." Mendelsohn, even as a boy, was always the one interested in his family's history, but when he came upon a set of letters from his great uncle Shmiel, pleading for help from his American relatives as the Nazi grip on the lives of Jews in their Polish town became tighter and tighter, he set out to find what had happened to that lost family. The result is both memoir and history, an ambitious and gorgeously meditative detective story that takes him across the globe in search of the lost threads of these few almost forgotten lives. A whole culture lies behind the story Mendelsohn tells, and a lifetime of reading as well. For our Grownup School feature, he has given us a tour of some of the books behind his own, in a list he calls *10 Great Novels of Family History, the Holocaust, New York Jewish Life (And Other Things That Helped Me Write My Book)*. And you can watch his own moving introduction to the book in this short video: [Watch Daniel Mendelsohn introduce *The Lost*: high bandwidth or low bandwidth](#) From Publishers Weekly Starred . As a boy in the 1960s, Mendelsohn could make elderly relatives cry just by entering the room, so much did he resemble his great-uncle Shmiel Jager, who had been "killed by the Nazis." This short phrase was all Mendelsohn knew of his maternal grandfather Abraham's brother, who had remained with his wife and four daughters in the Ukrainian shtetl of Bolechow after Abraham left for America. Long obsessed with family history, Mendelsohn (*The Elusive Embrace*) embarked in 2001 on a series of journeys to learn exactly what had happened to Shmiel and his family. The result is a rich, ruminative "mythic narrative... about closeness and distance, intimacy and violence, love and death." Mendelsohn uses these words to describe the biblical story of Cain and Abel, for one of the book's most striking elements is the author's recounting of the book of Genesis in parallel with his own story, highlighting eternal themes of origins and family, temptation and exile, brotherly betrayal, creation and annihilation. In Ukraine, Australia, Israel and Scandinavia, Mendelsohn locates a handful of extraordinary, aged Bolechow survivors. Especially poignant is his relationship with novelist Louis Begley's 90-year-old mother, from a town near the shtetl, an irascible, scene-stealing woman who eagerly follows Mendelsohn's remarkable effort to retrieve her lost world. Bw photos, maps. (Sept.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From *The New Yorker* When Mendelsohn was a child, his resemblance to Shmiel Jager, a great-uncle who died in the Holocaust, would make elderly relatives burst into tears. This memoir tells of his search to uncover the truth about the life and death of Shmiel, and of his wife and four daughters, by interviewing as many people who knew them as he can find. The result is a spectacular trail of discoveries, disappointments, and staggering coincidences which leads to Ukraine, Australia, Israel, and Scandinavia. Always aware of the danger of misrepresenting his finds "How do you find out who someone was, really?" Mendelsohn constructs an artful, looping narrative that includes elaborate digressions on such topics as the Hebrew Bible, Homeric narrative, and tensions within his own immediate family. The technique pays off, showing how the Holocaust continues to affect people who had no direct experience of it. A classicist, Mendelsohn cites Virgil's line "sunt lachrimae rerum," and comments, "There are tears in things; but we all cry for different reasons." Copyright 2006 [Click here to subscribe to The New Yorker](#)