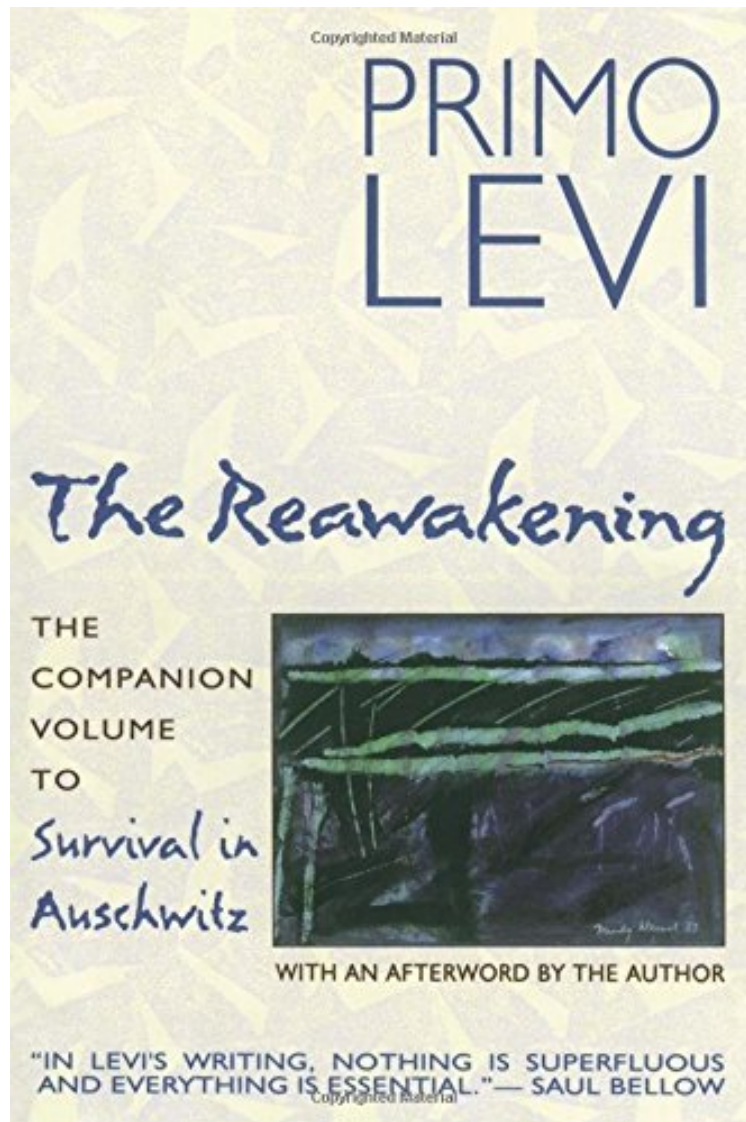


The Reawakening

Primo Levi

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#416764 in Books Primo Levi 1995-12-01 1995-12-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.25 x .60 x 5.50l, .51 #File Name: 0684826356240 pagesThe Reawakening | File size: 49.Mb

Primo Levi : The Reawakening before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Reawakening:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Essential readingBy Matthew SmithThis work tends to be overshadowed by Levi's earlier *Survival in Auschwitz* even though this is a very important book as well. Too often when people study WWII they tend to stop their research at the end of the war in 45. The problem with this is that the war is really only one chapter in the story. The same is true of the Holocaust as well. For the victims "liberation" was

often anything but, and many times the road of liberation could be just as cruel and merciless as the camps themselves. This is the importance of *The Reawakening*. It tells the rest of the story. This book gives readers a first hand look at the world of post hostilities Europe, and shows readers the difficulties faced by those few to survive the horrors of Auschwitz. Levi gives us a personal account of what life was like trying to pick up the pieces of shattered lives in the chaotic and sometimes anarchic world in which survivors found themselves after their "liberation". Readers are left to understand that the world did not magically revert back to sanity when the Nazis were pushed back from territories formerly under their control. Instead with cruel irony thousands succumbed to the deprivations of the camps in the days and weeks that followed their liberation so that liberation cruelly came too late. Primo Levi does an exquisite job detailing life after liberation and the long, tortuous journey home. His eloquence in describing the mundane, while at the same time opening a window to the psychological aspects of his experiences, makes the reading experience both enlightening and entertaining. There are thousands of studies that have been done detailing the experiences of survivors, but in little more than 200 pages Levi does as much to enlighten as many of these. His ability to describe the boredom and monotony of post liberation life for a survivor while at the same time enthralling his reader is a unique gift possessed by few writers. This is what makes his story so powerful. He brings readers into his world effortlessly, and it is so natural to find the humanness in his story and his characters that one does not have to put forth any effort whatsoever to empathize with him and his characters. A person can read hundreds of thousands of pages detailing the history of these events, yet they will still lack a fundamental understanding of these events if they neglect these two books. These are essential books for understanding this history.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Should really be required reading

By Spike This book is a mandatory follow-up to "Survival in Auschwitz". Even if you have seen the film version ("The Truce" 1997), as I have, you still need to read this book. They are similar and dissimilar, both great parts of this amazing true story. Primo Levi is a master and this trilogy (*Survival in Auschwitz*, *The Reawakening* and *Moments of Reprieve*) are his finest arts. I very rarely read a book more than once but I keep coming back to these.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book - frustrating print edition

By Sandra Gavin This is a great book, a true classic. This print edition ISBN 0020223706 First Collier Books Edition 1987 is a frustrating edition. There is not enough white space on the side margins, so you have to break to spine in order to read the beginning or end of the sentences. So I would recommend this book, but not the First Collier 1987 Edition.

First published in English in 1965, "*The Reawakening*" is Primo Levi's bestselling sequel to his classic memoir of the Holocaust, "*Survival in Auschwitz*." The inspiring story of Levi's liberation from the German death camp in January 1945 by the Red Army, it tells of his strange and eventful journey home to Italy by way of the Soviet Union, Hungary, and Romania. Levi's railway travels take him through bombed-out cities and transit camps, with keen insight he describes the former prisoners and Russian soldiers he encounters along the way. An extraordinary account of faith, hope, and undying courage, "*The Reawakening*" was praised by Irving Howe as "a remarkable feat of literary craft."

Language Notes
Text: English, Italian (translation)
About the Author
Born to a Jewish family in Turin in 1919, Primo Levi was trained as a chemist. During World War II, he was arrested as a member of a partisan group and deported to Auschwitz. After the camps liberation, he returned to Italy and worked as a chemist, writing only on the side. His first book *Survival at Auschwitz* was a personal account of his year at the camps. The follow-up memoir *The Reawakening* cemented Levi as a leading authority on the Holocaust. Other books by Levi include *Periodic Table*, *If Not Now, When?*, *The Monkeys Wrench*, *Other Peoples Trades*, *The Drowned and the Saved*, and more. Primo Levi died in 1987 after falling down his apartments stairway. Biographers remain divided as to whether his fall was a suicide or an accident.