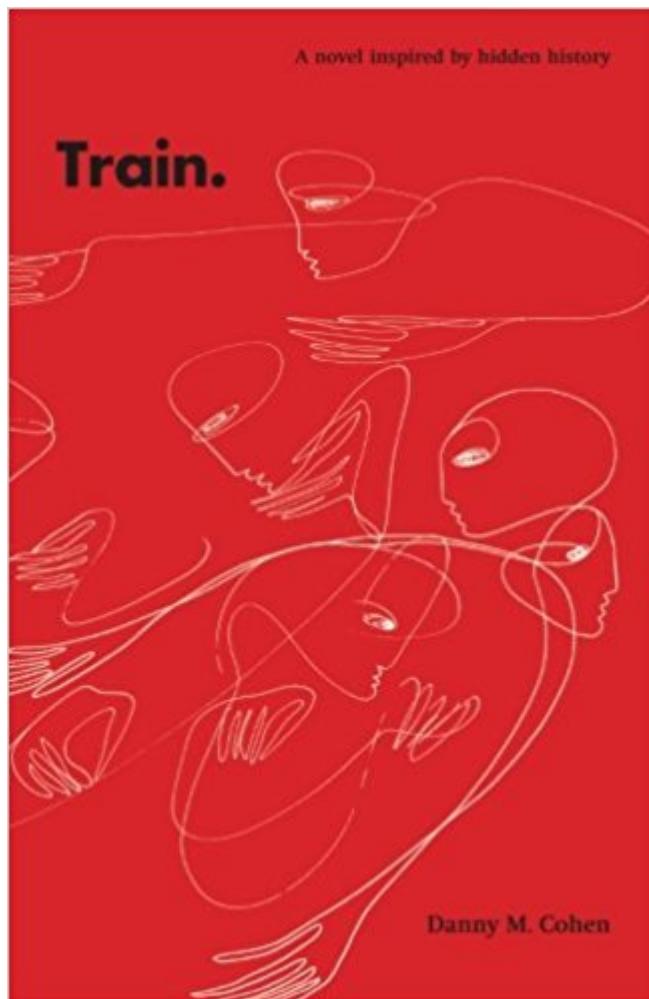


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# Train



## Synopsis

Over ten days in 1943 Berlin, six teenagers witness and try to escape the Nazi round-ups. This young adult thriller is based on real events and inspired by hidden stories of Nazi genocide. Giving voice to the unheard victims of Nazism -- the Roma, the disabled, intermarried Jews, homosexuals, political enemies of the regime -- this thriller will change how we think about Holocaust history. Marko screwed up. But he's good at swallowing his fear. By now, the 17-year-old 'Gypsy' should be far from Nazi Germany. By now, he should be with Alex. That's how they planned it. But while Marko has managed to escape the Gestapo, Alex has been arrested in the final round-ups of Berlin's Jews. Even worse, Marko's little cousin Kizzy is missing. And Marko knows he's to blame. Yet the tides of war are turning. With hundreds of Christian women gathered in the streets to protest the round-ups, the Nazis have suspended the trains to the camps. But for how long? Marko must act now. Against time, and with British warplanes bombing Berlin, Marko hatches a dangerous plan to rescue Alex and find Kizzy. There are three people who can help: Marko's sister with her connections to the Resistance, Alex's Catholic stepsister, and a mysterious Nazi girl with a deadly secret. But will Marko own up to how Kizzy disappeared? And then there's the truth about Alex -- they just wouldn't understand. Suitable for age 13 and up, TRAIN is an edge-of-your-seat page-turner that will inspire and surprise students and adults alike. Published in partnership with Unsilence Project.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A stunning achievement... From the start, TRAIN's historically grounded depiction of Hitler's young

victims creates unrelenting compassion and suspense. (Dr. Phyllis Lassner, Holocaust scholar)TRAIN will change the way we think about Holocaust history. (Ellen Rago, Social Studies Teacher)TRAIN not only fills a gap in Holocaust literature; it is also powerful, moving, and hard to put down. (Alexis Storch, The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education)TRAIN is an essential read for Holocaust and Genocide educators, students, or anyone who believes in the profound power of brilliant storytelling, the resilience of the human spirit, and the need to shed light and bring a voice to the often shadowed narratives of the Holocaust. (Kelley Szany, Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center)A fascinating book. I couldn't put it down. I read it in two afternoons. (Tony Sarabia, The Morning Shift, WBEZ 91.5 Chicago, an NPR Station)

Danny M. Cohen is an author of human rights fiction for young adults, including the historical thriller TRAIN, the short stories DEAD ENDS and THE 19TH WINDOW, and the forthcoming contemporary thriller HIDE OR SPEAK. A professor at Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy and The Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies, Danny teaches about the design of Holocaust education, Holocaust fiction, and marginalized narratives of human rights. He is an appointed member of the Illinois Holocaust and Genocide Commission and sits on the editorial advisory board of the journal The Holocaust in History and Memory. He was a faculty fellow of the Auschwitz Jewish Center and is a global justice fellow of the American Jewish World Service. Danny designed the pedagogical track of the inaugural docent training program of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center. Originally from London, Danny lives in Chicago with his husband and their daughter.

It's strange to describe Holocaust literature as "MUST READ" leisure reading, but that's the case for this amazing book by Danny Cohen. With its gripping, action-packed narrative blending stories and experiences from different but intertwined groups targeted by the Nazis during WWII, TRAIN illuminates previously dark corners of history in ways that speak to contemporary audiences of all ages. TRAIN follows the lives, loves, and sorrows of a diverse group of young people trying to simply live life in Berlin during the war, providing a foundational history lesson about the era and politics of life within Germany under the Reich. I thought I understood what there was to know about the Holocaust until I read this book and saw through Cohen's characters the often neglected narratives of the range of groups targeted by Hitler and the many ways in which people reacted to those persecutions with both cruelty and kindness. TRAIN offers lessons on humanity not just from the pages of history, but also for today as people across the USA try to understand and reach

across the invisible cultural lines that sometimes divide us. TRAIN is a non-stop page turner that made me laugh, cry, gasp, miss a train stop, and stay up long past my bedtime. Not only is it a 5 star reading adventure, this is THE book about the Holocaust that the next generation of readers will be reading.

Avia: This book has an excellent and captivating view on the Holocaust that I had never seen before. The characters in Train pull you in on a story that you can't help but to get invested in. It shows off the defiance and truth that can make you only hope for a happy ending. Ann: My 14-year-old (above) characterized this book as "the best Holocaust book I've ever read." Both of us were captivated and couldn't put it down. And, while there are few "happy endings" in Holocaust literature, the story is told without explicit descriptions that might be traumatic for younger (and older) readers. Train is a wonderful blend of beautiful character development and incredibly engaging story-telling. In addition, Cohen draws an important and little known historical picture of persecution suffered not only by Jews, but also by gay men, the Roma, and the disabled, and aptly weaves together the lives of people experiencing the Holocaust from a variety of perspectives. The historical events described that the characters live through are ones that were, in large part, unfamiliar to me and likely will be for other readers, and so, in addition to an excellent piece of fiction, Train is a great educational tool. We highly recommend Train to youth and adult readers alike.

My dear friend Danny wrote this book, and while excited to read his work I was nervous to begin. What if I didn't like it? How do you tell a close friend, "Er, well, about that book you wrote...yeah, well...i just couldn't get into it". Well, this was NOT that book, and I'm extremely proud to call Danny a friend and have him produce such an AMAZING book. Of course, I have all the other feelings one would expect after reading a book about the Holocaust...but some new ones thrown in there as well. We all know the terrible fate of the Jews living under Hitler's control at that time, but Danny sheds light on others who suffered similar fates: from other ethnic minorities, those in the gay community, and even the disabled. The story is told through the eyes of a group of mostly teenagers - the characters were extremely compelling, the storytelling was riveting, and the fact that the events were all based on historical research really makes one stop and think when finishing the story. Amazing job, Danny! (My mom also read this immediately after I did, based on my enthusiastic recommendation...and she told me it was a "five star" book as well...)

This is an excellent book about this. In time. It is a book that is for younger readers but also works for adults as well. The characters are well defined and you care a lot about what happens to them. I highly recommend this book for readers from teens on up. It is beautifully written and crafted storytelling I look forward to more by this author!

TRAIN was an amazing read. I really had trouble putting it down. Danny Cohen created characters with depth and set them in the horrors of Nazi Berlin. His writing felt true to the historic reality and engaged me as I anxiously followed the twists and turns of the plot. I really felt connected to the characters' fates. Highly recommended for readers of all ages.

I absolutely loved this book. I bought it for my grandkids to read but found I couldn't put it down. It's told from a completely different perspective than most Holocaust fiction, and I heartily recommend it for both adults and young adults. Danny Cohen is a wonderful story-teller!

Amazing book about Jewish and other victims, of the Holocaust, including homosexuals and Roma-Sinti. Has mystery element to it. Writing brings characters, young and old, to life. Is a must read for teens and not to be missed by grown ups.

This is a good book and a moving one. It is tainted by the protagonists being unbelievably careless. So much so as to make the story hard to swallow.

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