



JOURNEYS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2014

HEDY KLEIN

On her 11th birthday Hedy Klein was given a memory book as a present. Her friends and family drew and wrote things in the book for Hedy to remember.

Hedy was Jewish, at that time some people called Nazis were in power and they thought it was bad to be different. Being Jewish was one of the ways of being different that the Nazis thought was bad.

Hedy gave her memory book to her aunty, who was married to someone who wasn't Jewish, so she could keep it safe for her.

The Nazis put Hedy in a train truck that was meant to be used to carry cows. They squashed 70 people into the truck, there were no windows, no toilets, and no food. Hedy had to stay in the truck for three days. Hedy was taken to Auschwitz — a place where Jewish people were killed or used as slaves.

Hedy's parents were killed by the Nazis. Hedy survived Auschwitz even though there was little food and the Nazis were cruel. The Nazis made Hedy work in a factory for them, it was very cold and Hedy did not have warm clothes, but she survived.

Once the Nazis were gone Hedy found her aunty and got her precious memory book back. Now she lives in Canada. Hedy goes into schools to show children her memory book. She wants everyone to remember that it is wrong to think that being different is bad.



This is a picture of Hedy when she was a little girl.



This is one of the pictures in Hedy's memory book.

When Hedy was in Auschwitz she searched for anyone she knew. She found the girl who drew this picture, she had been in Hedy's class at school. The girl asked Hedy to give a message to a boy whom she loved. Hedy asked her why she wasn't going to give the boy the message herself. The girl said that she knew she would die in Auschwitz but she thought that Hedy would might survive.

Memories have always been important to Hedy. She wants everyone to remember that it is wrong to dislike people just because they are different.

