

***World, Wake Up!* - Smithsonian Magazine - by Alexandra Zapruder**

**November 2018**

*Young people caught in the crossfire of history provide fearless accounts of the horrors of war- and shatter our complacency in real time.*

1. *I go on dreaming, dreaming, about survival and about getting fame, in order to be able to tell “the world.” - to tell and “rebuke.” To “tell and protest.” Both seem at present moment remote and unbelievable - but who knows, maybe, perhaps.*

**June 11, 1944, Anonymous boy, Lodz Ghetto, Poland**

Why do you think the author of this article, Alexandra Zapruder, chose this quote from an anonymous boy’s diary as the opener to this article?

2. How many diaries have surfaced by young writers during the Holocaust? From where?

3. How does Zapruder describe the survival of these diaries?

4. How does Zapruder answer the questions she poses about diaries?
- What does it mean to read them?
  - What do they tell us and why?
  - Why do they matter?

5. What claim does Zapruder make about the different between adult and youth diaries?

6. How has Zapruder widened her scope of research about the study of diaries? What has she discovered from reading this wider range of diaries?

7. What can be learned from reading the diary of a Japanese-American interned in a government run camp at the height of American's involvement in World War II?

8. How does Zapruder define the complex roles of Americans in more recent diaries?

9. What does Zapruder claim regarding American response to Serbian aggression in Bosnia in the 1990's?

10. Nadja Halilbegovich writes in her diary from Sarajevo in 1992 the following:

*Sometimes I think that there is no hope and that we are all dying slowly while the whole world watches silently. They send us crumbs of food yet never condemn those who kill us... The aggressors kill children and rape women. The world looks on and perhaps gives us a thought while sitting in their comfortable homes and palaces. Are they unable to see?... WORLD, PLEASE WAKE UP AND HELP US!!!*

What is significant about this entry? When and how does America intervene in the Bosnian conflict?

11. Who is Zlata Filipovic? What perspective characterizes her diary?

12. Who is Samer? What is significance of his diary?

*We didn't believe the international community would stand with its arms behind its back, watching crimes being committed against unarmed people...Even though it could clearly see what was going on, it didn't act.*

How does Samer's excerpt above equate to Nadja Halilbegovich's excerpt earlier in this article?

How does Samer's diary serve as evidence of crimes against humanity?

13. What connections can you make between Holocaust era diaries and modern day diaries written in conflict zones?

14. How has the purpose of writing diaries in wartime or in conflict zones changed over time?

15. How is Hadiya's diary an example of this modern export of diary writing?

16. Zapruder claims that Hadiya's diary is an example of how war diaries are

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Why is this significant? What does this mean to you?

17. Hadiya's blog allowed her to have direct conversation with her audience. Describe an example of that direct conversation.

18. These digital blogs also raise questions about authenticity. Cite an example from the article.

19. Describe Zapruder’s final claim regarding the power of these modern day diarists.

20. Describe what you think Zapruder’s intended message is in the title of this piece - **World, Wake Up!**

After reading this article, what doe the diaries written in wartime or in conflict zones mean to you?

21. Of the five articles we read in the November 2018 issue of *Smithsonian Magazine*, which diarist quotes resonate with you? Why?

Complete the chart below.

Article	Diarist	Excerpt/Quote	Impact Statement
<b>Rescuing History</b>			

<b>Hear, O Israel, Save Us</b>			
<b>Becoming Anne Frank</b>			
<b>Finding Her Voice</b>			
<b>World, Wake Up!</b>			