

## Hostility. Indifference. Rescue.

### Attachment 1

The quotations have been divided into two parts. If the group is active and numerous, you can use both parts. You may also use only part one or make your own choice.

A hint: Jadwiga Gawrych has been awarded the title Righteous Among the Nations.

### PART ONE

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***There were about ten guys sitting around the house, eavesdropping on whether there was a Jewish woman hiding in there. But there was no German among them, only ours.*** Helena Haraś

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***“There are Jews in Dziechciarz’s apartment above, „cause the walls are wet.” People learnt about it because of the walls. But nobody denounced us.*** Genowefa Dziechciarz

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***They came to us at night. But we couldn’t hide so many people. Where would we hide them? They came at night only to get some food.*** Maria Kotwica

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***There was one family, the Wasilewskis. They lived in our neighborhood. They accepted the Jews, then took their fur coats, all their savings and then denounced them to Germans. When they took everything from them, later they threw some grenades into their bunker.*** Genowefa Jankowska

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***You had to carry water to them, I did it with my own hands. There were no faucets like today, and you had to carry water from the well, far from the house. You had to wash their clothes, as they couldn't do it themselves. You had to fetch them bread, food. Everything had to be delivered to them.*** Genowefa Jankowska

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***They hid me there for 2 years in appalling conditions. I was always hungry, there was nothing to eat, very cold – I remember this well. My bed consisted of two chairs put together.*** Anat Rahav

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***I hid him „cause I needed him. I went to school, to secondary school. We needed him to guard our cows. My father had a lot of cattle. Six, seven, ten, including the calves. My mother would feed us with cheese and bread.*** Jerzy Noszkowski

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***He wanted to go outside in the evening and play with the children. To have some fun or play football. But people were so mean. To this date me and my family we do not know who denounced us. But somebody did.*** Halina Błaszczyk



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***He would always repeat: “I am alive thanks to you! I survived thanks to you!” He wanted to go out on the road, and I, standing in my farmyard „cause I didn’t want to be seen by my neighbors, gestured to him to run away as the Germans were coming. And he would always later say: “I survived thanks to you, to you.” Genowefa Dziechciarz***

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***People lived in fear. My father wanted to drive [them] away in the end. But my mother said: no! And so it happened. My father wanted to drive them away, and later was killed [by Germans]. And you know, mister: “You wouldn’t do this again. No.” But my mother wouldn’t give it to them. Tadeusz Celuch***

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***We couldn’t eat our fill, because they [Jews] had to eat something too. My mother used to tell us that they were poor and also wanted to eat something. And we didn’t have supper... we would give food to them, let them have this slice of bread so that they weren’t hungry. Maria Kotwica***

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***“She is your school friend. She wants to get warm and asks us to put her up at least one night.” My mother’s eyes grew very large – she was a bit abashed. She didn’t know what to do and how to behave in such a situation. But they stayed with us until morning. Teresa Sokołowska***

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***Later she left the country. She went to Germany using my mother’s papers.***

Helena Haraś



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***They lived in the countryside. And they robbed them. When they took everything from them, they drove them away [from the hiding place].*** Mieczysław Konieczny

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***They were to be taken in the evening. Those Laufers were to be taken and executed. But he told them: „Listen, go away and leave me. I don“t want you to be killed because of me.”*** Mieczysław Konieczny

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***You had to be careful whatever you did. Or they would kill all the residents of the house. The Germans would execute everybody. They said: if you hide a Jew – death penalty.*** Mieczysław Konieczny

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***He came and asked my mother to give him something to eat. And my mother asked him: “Where do you live?” He answered: “In hay in the peasant“s barn.” My mother than talked with her husband, my father: “Let“s take these people. They are sleeping in hay with children and it’s cold nowadays. How can they live like that?”***

Honorata Rosa

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***I took some bread and water and I had a broken mirror. I prepared a piece of glass for him so that he could shave himself. I brought him all of this. Two weeks had passed in this way. One day I would go, and the other I would stay at home.***

Modesta Baranek-Jedlina



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***My mother used to visit this ghetto [...] to meet Jews there. Sometimes she would take some food for them. She used her own passage to sneak inside, because it was forbidden.*** Helena Haraś

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***I found a document from the church in Vilnius with a priest's signature. It was a birth certificate [...] I have kept this empty form to this day. Such a form should be filled in with proper data.*** Hanna Taborska

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***I learnt to ignore the old acquaintances, because they could pay with their lives for the friendship with me.*** Anita Kwiatkowska

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### The Gestapo

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***Chanan, have mercy! Hide somewhere, don't come back here any longer!*** Halina Błaszczyk

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***Give me your headscarf! After all, you are going to die! – cried an acquaintance of Salomonowa, when she was being led from a jug to transport.*** Celina Grünszpán

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**Irena Sendler**

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***After all, there were such Jews who had to pay money for staying in a Polish apartment.*** Anna Bando

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***I transported bread, meat and cold meats by train from Daleszyce to Kielce to sell that food there. I also traded in the ghetto.*** Leon Śliwiński

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**Oscar Schindler**

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***Engels [a Gestapo commanding officer] formed a Jewish police consisting of Czech Jews, boys of 18 or 20 years old. They used to patrol the streets day and night, maintaining order.*** Halina Błaszcyk

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***When there were the Navy-Blue police guarding, we were trying to smuggle [to the Jews] everything we could get [for eating].*** Halina Błaszcyk

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***The Germans approached the watchman and began to beat him, screaming: “Where’s the Jew?” “Who? There is no Jew here.” “Who did you talk to?” “A dog.”***

Halina Błaszcyk

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***They gave him some food but refused to put him up. Everyone was afraid. They were frightened because he looked like an ordinary Jew.*** Barbara Siemborska

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***The Germans let him go [leave the ghetto]. There were two of them. They took him and wrapped in a sort of quilt, and put him in a gap in a fireplace. They put him there. And he said: you have to stay here. But they took his mother and father. They came at 11 o'clock, led him to the forest and told him: Don't look behind. Just go along this path, wherever it leads...*** Maria Kotwica

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***He didn't hide anybody, but rather helped the Jews to escape from the ghetto. He was a smuggler.*** Jan Bartczak

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***Some bad people, Poles, were waiting there. Whenever a Jew tried to leave [the ghetto], they would blackmail him to get some money or gold. Such Poles were called the ones who were hunting "cats".*** Jan Bartczak

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**Jadwiga Gawrych**

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**Judenrat – Jewish Council**

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***I do what I think fit to do. Everybody, with the exception of Germans, may find shelter at my home. I don't care about one's faith, I treat everyone equally, our life is in God's hands.*** Rev. Romańczyk – on hiding Jews in the monastery



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## PART TWO

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***My parents learnt that there was going to be a round-up. My folks didn't have time to go and notify them about it. My father learnt about it too late. They attached a piece of paper under my panties. „Cause I was a child then. Those Germans knew I had an aunt hiding in those woods. So they gave me this piece of paper with information that there was going to be a round-up and that they had to run away. Maria Kotwica***

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***His cry was incredible. We kept him for free, because he had no money. And my father, papa, said: “Don't cry. You will stay at my home with the Laufers, in a hiding place, all three of you.” Mieczysław Konieczny***

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***And then the Germans came: “Papers!” – if you didn't have documents, they would take you and force you to talk, and they would learn everything in this way...***

Aleksander Allerhand

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***[The Germans] were to catch Jews and deport them. There was an announcement saying that the Jews are to gather at the market at so and so time. Halina Błaszczyk***

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***When he escaped from that round-up, he went to his friends: “Here, take this slice of bread and don't come here, I won't feed you”, and so they pushed him away.***

Tadeusz Banasiewicz



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***This Jewish girl also stayed at our home. She had been living in the forest. We decided to hide this man, because he was crying so hard and didn't know what to do. We were in touch with him and at night they would come to sleep in our house.*** Maria Kotwica

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***I have met Poles – great people. And I think that the fact that they took money is of no importance. Poles' life was hard and tough [...] There were some widows or officials who earned money by helping Jews.*** Antek Cukierman

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***We are totally jittery and terrorized with fear. Both Zdzisio and Halina [the hiders] won't leave us alone to rest for a moment. [...] The only medicine, the only way to buy a few moments of peace [...] is to keep your money bag open at all times, [...] to pay endlessly for each breath you take.*** Marian Berland

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***Every Pole who [...] commits a felony towards the Republic of Poland by blackmailing or denouncing Jews [...] will be punished immediately.*** The manifesto of General Władysław Sikorski

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***Leszek had a gun, followed Olszewski to his house and emptied his whole clip, killing him. On site. Instantly, the whole area became peaceful. There were no more szmalcownikis (blackmailers) here.*** Krzysztof Dunin-Wąsowicz