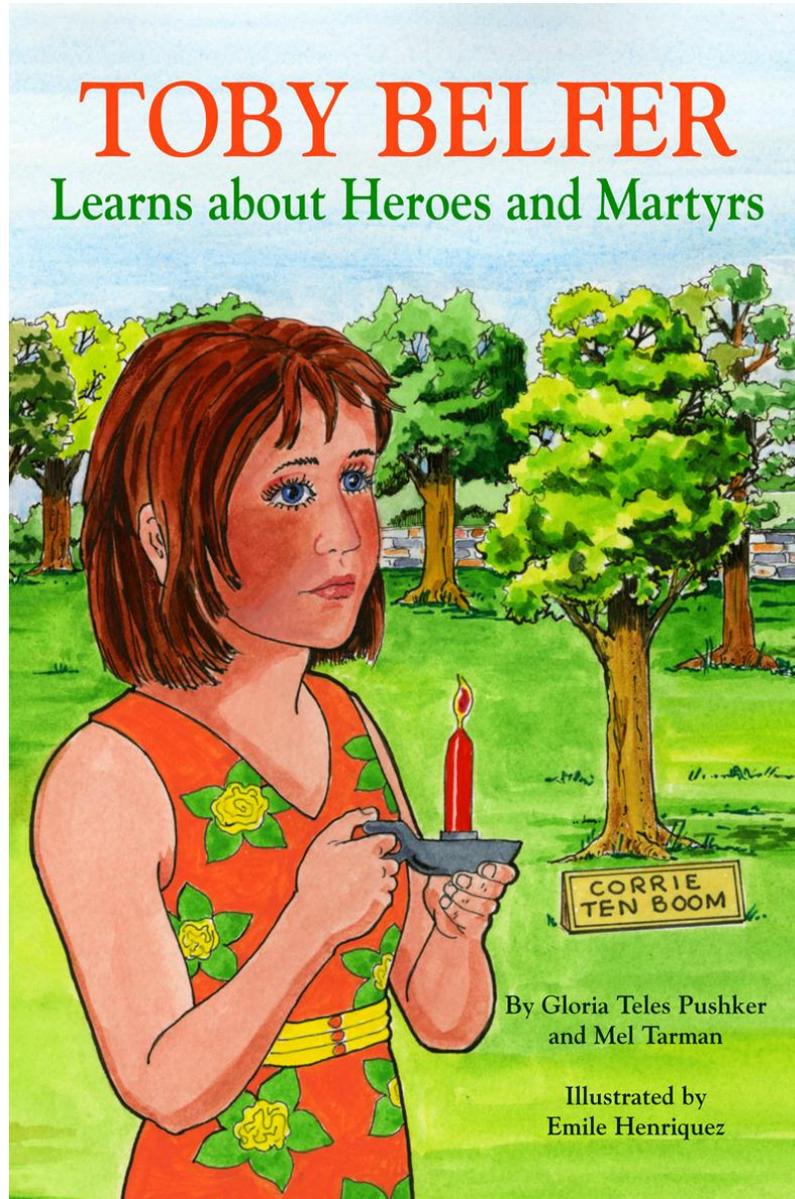




# PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

1000 BURMASTER ST., GRETNA, LA 70053 • 504-368-1175 FAX 504-368-1195  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: csmith@pelicanpub.com • <http://www.pelicanpub.com>

## Activity Guide for



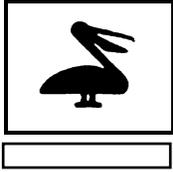
### ***Toby Belfer Learns about Heroes and Martyrs***

By Mel Tarman and Gloria Pushker  
Illustrated by Emile Henriquez

Pelican Publishing Company  
[www.pelicanpub.com](http://www.pelicanpub.com)

Guide  
created by  
Mel Tarman

**Reproducible  
Worksheets**



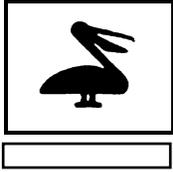
# PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

---

1000 BURMASTER ST., GRETNA, LA 70053 • 504-368-1175 FAX 504-368-1195  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: [csmith@pelicanpub.com](mailto:csmith@pelicanpub.com) • <http://www.pelicanpub.com>

## Critical Thinking Questions

1. What does the term *holocaust* mean to you?
2. Were Jews the only ones killed in the Holocaust? Who else?
3. Why do you think the Germans singled out Jews?
4. Why do you think Christians helped save Jewish lives?
5. Would you do the same if a friend or neighbor was in danger? What about a total stranger?
6. Name the capitals of the following countries:  
Germany:  
France:  
England:  
Poland:  
Russia:
7. Name some of the countries that were neutral during World War II.
8. Why do you think those countries were neutral?
9. Can you describe what a *ghetto* was?
10. Why was the Warsaw ghetto more famous than any of the other ghettos?
11. What countries fought alongside Germany during World War II?
12. Who fought with the United States against these countries?
13. Are you surprised that so many brave Christians risked their lives to save Jews?
14. Would you like to visit Israel and the Holocaust Memorial Museum someday to learn more about the Holocaust?
15. Do you think learning about the righteous gentiles makes you more tolerant of other races and religions?
16. Do you think Anne Frank was right when she said that even though she knew she would probably be killed she thought “people are really good at heart”?



# PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

---

1000 BURMASTER ST., GRETNA, LA 70053 • 504-368-1175 FAX 504-368-1195  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: [csmith@pelicanpub.com](mailto:csmith@pelicanpub.com) • <http://www.pelicanpub.com>

## Reflections

Choose a righteous gentile that you most admired from the stories that you read and explain why you chose that individual.

Sometimes books remind us of unpleasant experiences we might have had ourselves. Have you had an experience of name-calling or bullying because of your race or religion? Describe how you felt about that experience.

Try to imagine being Jewish and living in Germany at the time of Hitler. What do you think it would have been like?

Now try to imagine being a Christian and seeing your Jewish friend or neighbor being humiliated, bullied, or beaten. What do you think you would do?

Share your opinion of the book and explain why you liked or didn't like it. What lesson did you learn from reading this book?



# PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY

1000 BURMASTER ST., GRETNA, LA 70053 • 504-368-1175 FAX 504-368-1195  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: csmith@pelicanpub.com • <http://www.pelicanpub.com>

## ***TOBY BELFER LEARNS ABOUT HEROES AND MARTYRS***

**By Gloria Teles Pushker and Mel Tarman**  
**Illustrated by Emile Henriquez**

“He who saves one human life is as he saves the entire world.”

—*Hebrew Talmud*

Toby Belfer is now in the fifth grade, and she and her best friend Donna take a trip to Israel to tour the Holy Land. There, the girls visit Yad Vashem, the Holocaust History Museum where they learn about the Righteous Gentiles, the Christian men and women who aided persecuted Jews during the Holocaust.

Recounting the true stories of twenty-six Christian heroes, this compelling book for middle readers celebrates the men and women who were determined to do the right thing, no matter the cost. Jozef Zwonartz sacrificed everything he had to hide a Jewish family. Alfred Rosner, a German Christian, was executed by the Nazis for helping Jews. Mother Maria Skobtsova was a Russian nun who was imprisoned in a concentration camp for smuggling Jewish children out of Nazi-occupied Paris.

Complete with a glossary of important terms and illustrations of the heroic figures, this newest Toby Belfer adventure is an important lesson in world history for young readers. Including the stories of Corrie Ten Boom, Heinz Dorssel, Princess Andrew of Greece, and the students in Whitwell, Tennessee, and their incredible Paper Clip Project, this book will give children of all faiths the ability to believe, in the words of Anne Frank, that *despite everything, people are really good at heart.*

### **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

Gloria Teles Pushker holds a M.A. in education with a concentration in children’s literature from the University of New Orleans, and she is a member of the national Storytelling Association and the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education. Her other Pelican books include *Toby Belfer Never Had a Christmas Tree*, *Toby Belfer’s Seder: A Passover Story Retold*, and *A Belfer Bar Mitzvah*. She lives in Metairie, Louisiana.

Mel Tarman has worked as an executive, entrepreneur, and educator. In addition to having worked in publishing for many years, he served in the United States army during the Korean Conflict and earned a master’s degree from New York University. He resides in Galveston, Texas. This is his first book with Pelican.

### **ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR**

Emile Henriquez is a prolific commercial artist, graphic designer, and calligrapher. He studied drawing, painting, design, and art history at Tulane University and has worked as a graphic illustrator since 1963. He is the illustrator of Pelican’s *Oklahoma Land Run*, *The Battle of New Orleans: The Drummer’s Story*, and the popular *D.J. Series*.

**JUVENILE FICTION / Historical / Holocaust**

**JUVENILE FICTION / Religious / Jewish**

**112 pp. 6 x 9 29 illus. 1 map Glossary Biblio.**

**ISBN: 1-58980-647-6**

**ISBN-13: 9781589806474 \$12.95**