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## Armenian National Committee of America – Western Region

### Education Committee

#### Recommended Book List for Middle School & High School Level Students

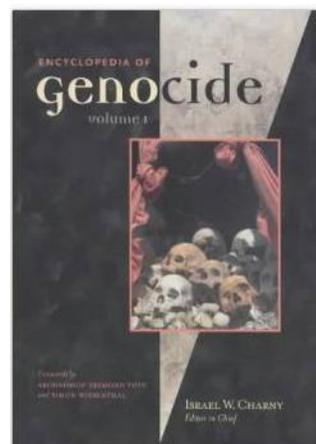
The following books may be found on Amazon and primarily focus on the Armenian Genocide and its implications. Descriptions were taken from Amazon and other similar sources. The list is comprised of four sections: History/References, Teaching Guides, Memoirs/Biographies, and Novels. More teaching guides and lesson plans can be found through the [Genocide Education Project](#) and at this [link](#).

#### History/Reference Publications:

##### *Encyclopedia of Genocide* edited by Israel W. Charney

**Description:** The Encyclopedia of Genocide is the first reference work to chart the full extent of this horrific subject with objectivity and authority. The Nazi Holocaust; the genocides in Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia; and the eradication of indigenous peoples around the world are all covered in A–Z entries, written by almost 100 experts from many countries.

**Publication Year:** 2000

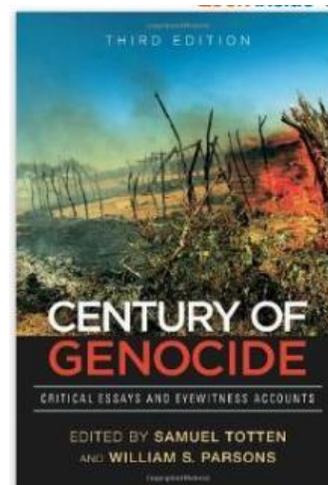


##### *A Century of Genocide: Critical Essays and Eyewitness Accounts*

edited by Samuel Totten, William S. Parsons, & Israel W. Charney

**Description:** Through powerful first-person accounts, scholarly analysis, and compelling narrative, *Century of Genocide* details the causes and ramifications of the genocides perpetrated in the twentieth century and into the twenty-first. Historical context provides the necessary background on the actors and victims to help us better understand these episodes of atrocious political violence.

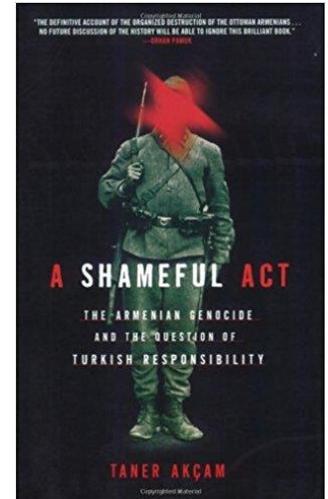
**Publication Year:** 2008



***A Shameful Act: The Armenian Genocide and the Question of Turkish Responsibility* by Taner Akcam**

**Description:** In a pioneering work of excavation, Turkish historian Taner Akcam has made unprecedented use of Ottoman and other sources—military and court records, parliamentary minutes, letters, and eyewitness reports—to produce a scrupulous account of Ottoman culpability. Tracing the causes of the mass destruction, Akcam reconstructs its planning and implementation by the departments of state, the military, and the ruling political parties, and he probes the multiple failures to bring the perpetrators to justice.

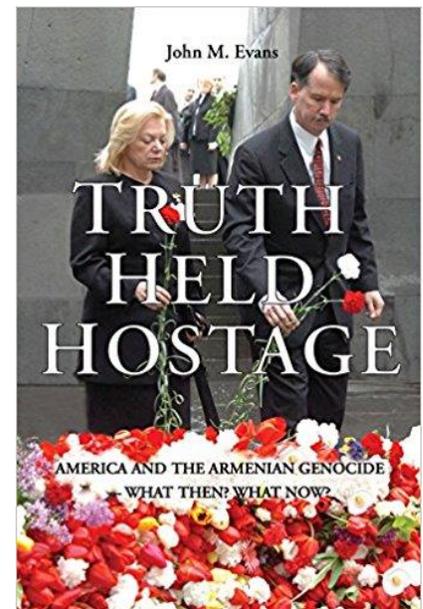
**Publication Year:** 2007



***Truth Held Hostage: America and the Armenian Genocide – What Then? What Now?* by John M. Evans**

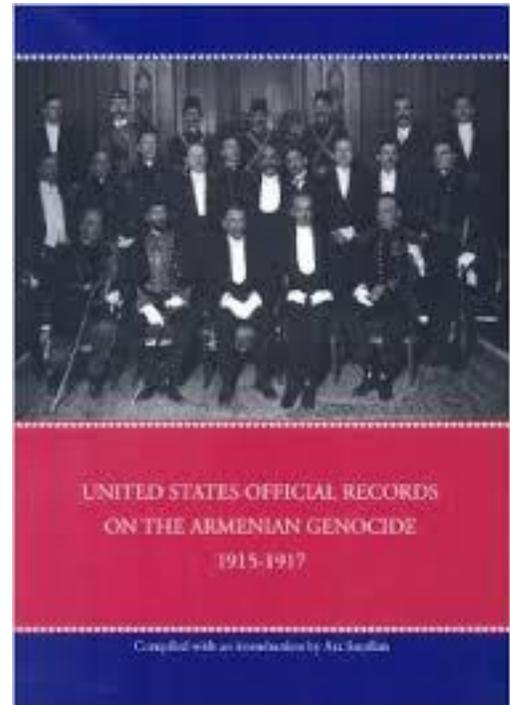
**Description:** John Evans, formerly U.S. Ambassador to Armenia, gained notoriety in 2005 by publicly dissenting from the stated policy of the Bush and previous Administrations on the 90-year-old issue of the Armenian Genocide. A veteran of the U.S. Foreign Service, Ambassador Evans had no Armenian ancestors or family connections, but over the course of his historical studies and diplomatic career, became convinced that a gross injustice was being perpetrated against the Armenians through the denialist policies of the Turkish Government and the U.S. Government's tacit acceptance of them. He decided to take a measured public stand, but then paid for his "heresy" by being dismissed from his post and forced into early retirement, although not without a fight over the issue in the U.S. Congress.

**Publication Year:** 2016



***United States Official Documents on the Armenian Genocide Volumes I-V* edited by Ara Sarafian**

**Description:** This publication includes the "core materials" that informed U.S. officials in Washington, D.C. about the senseless mass killing of Armenians by the Ottoman Empire. Recipients of this information included Secretaries of State William Jennings Bryan and Robert Lansing, as well as President Woodrow Wilson. The documents in this book provide a first-hand look at the efforts of U.S. consuls and the American Ambassador in Constantinople to engage the U.S. government in ending the systematic destruction of the Armenian people. Sadly, these efforts were ultimately unsuccessful, the massacres continued, and most Armenians perished as a result. However, the information in these documents did spark an unprecedented American humanitarian campaign that, in many ways, marked the entry of the U.S. on the world stage as a humanitarian power. U.S. consulates were used to channel aid into the Ottoman provinces and disburse it through American and other missionaries, while providing shelter to hundreds of Armenians throughout this period. The formation of Near East Relief by an Act of Congress was a direct result of this effort. Armenians may never have recovered from their losses between 1915 and 1923 were it not for the support they received from the United States.

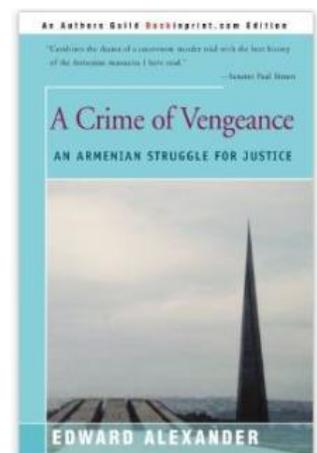


**Publication Year:** 2004

***A Crime of Vengeance: An Armenian Struggle for Justice* by Edward Alexander**

**Description:** Turkey's massacre of Armenians in 1915 and the six year hunt and assassination of former Grand Visier Talaat Pasha as revealed in an internationally-covered Berlin murder trial in 1921.

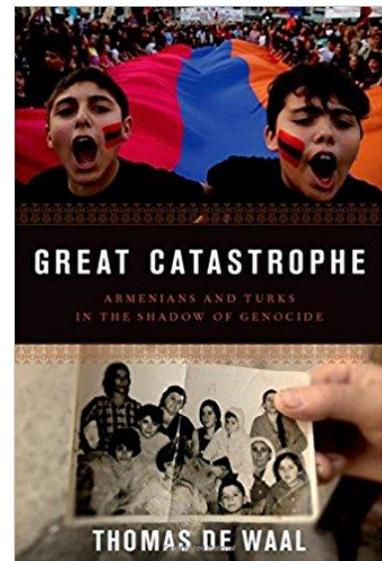
**Publication Year:** 2000



***Great Catastrophe: Armenians and Turks in the Shadow of Genocide* by Thomas de Waal**

**Description:** The destruction of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire in 1915-16 was the greatest atrocity of World War I. Around one million Armenians were killed, and the survivors were scattered across the world. Although it is now a century old, the issue of what most of the world calls the Armenian Genocide of 1915 is still a live and divisive issue that mobilizes Armenians across the world, shapes the identity and politics of modern Turkey, and has consumed the attention of U.S. politicians for years.

**Publication Year:** 2015

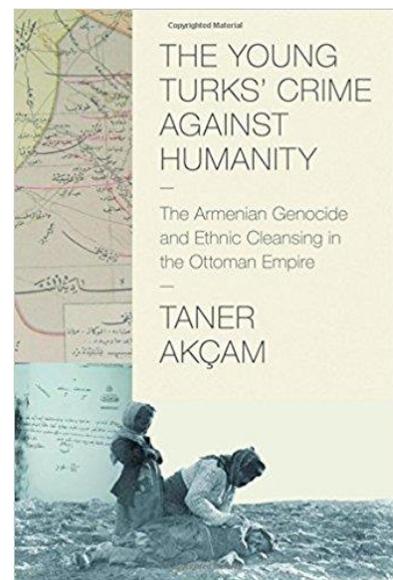


***The Young Turks' Crime Against Humanity: The Armenian Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing in the Ottoman Empire* by Taner Akcam**

**Description:** Introducing new evidence from more than 600 secret Ottoman documents, this book demonstrates in unprecedented detail that the Armenian Genocide and the expulsion of Greeks from the late Ottoman Empire resulted from an official effort to rid the empire of its Christian subjects. Presenting these previously inaccessible documents along with expert context and analysis, Taner Akcam's most authoritative work to date goes deep inside the bureaucratic machinery of Ottoman Turkey to show how a dying empire embraced genocide and ethnic cleansing.

Although the deportation and killing of Armenians was internationally condemned in 1915 as a "crime against humanity and civilization," the Ottoman government initiated a policy of denial that is still maintained by the Turkish Republic. The case for Turkey's "official history" rests on documents from the Ottoman imperial archives, to which access has been heavily restricted until recently. It is this very source that Akcam now uses to overturn the official narrative.

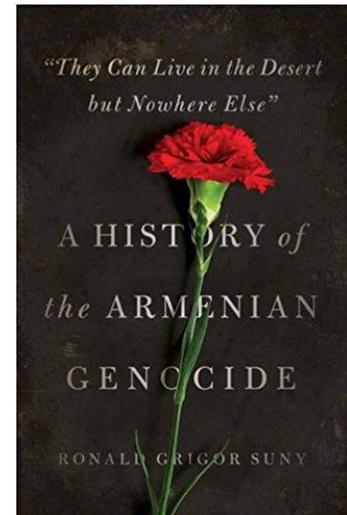
**Publication Year:** 2013



***“They Can Live in the Desert but Nowhere Else:” A History of the Armenian Genocide***  
by Ronald Grigor Suny

**Description:** Starting in early 1915, the Ottoman Turks began deporting and killing hundreds of thousands of Armenians in the first major genocide of the twentieth century. By the end of the First World War, the number of Armenians in what would become Turkey had been reduced by 90 percent—more than a million people. A century later, the Armenian Genocide remains controversial but relatively unknown, overshadowed by later slaughters and the chasm separating Turkish and Armenian interpretations of events. In this definitive narrative history, Ronald Suny cuts through nationalist myths, propaganda, and denial to provide an unmatched account of when, how, and why the atrocities of 1915–16 were committed. Drawing on archival documents and eyewitness accounts, this is an unforgettable chronicle of a cataclysm that set a tragic pattern for a century of genocide and crimes against humanity.

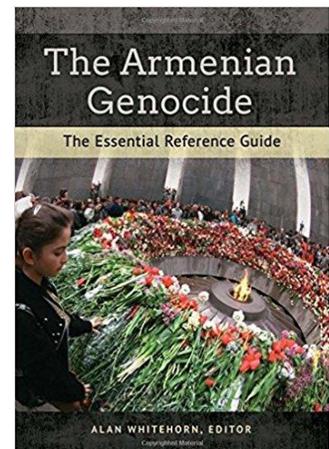
**Publication Year:** 2015



***The Armenian Genocide: The Essential Reference Guide*** by Alan Whitehorn

**Description:** With its analytical introductory essays, more than 140 individual entries, a historical timeline, and primary documents, this book provides an essential reference volume on the Armenian Genocide.

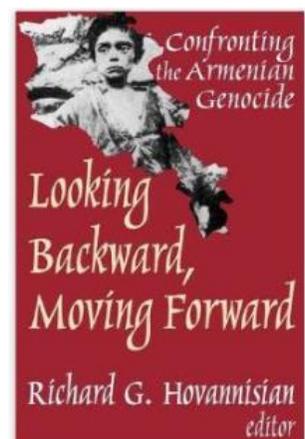
**Publication Year:** 2015



***Looking Backward, Moving Forward: Confronting the Armenian Genocide*** by Richard G. Hovannisian

**Description:** This volume argues that the time has come for Turkey to reassess the propriety of its approach, and to begin the process that will allow it move into a post-genocide era.

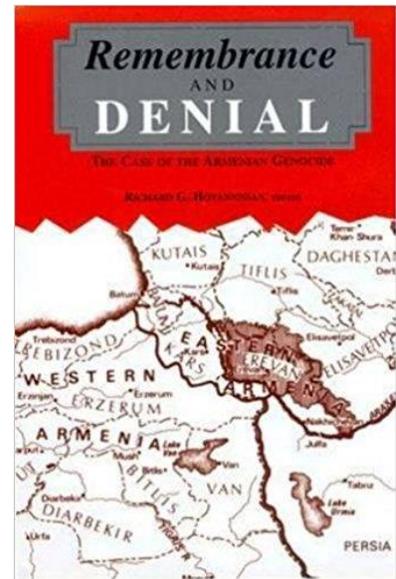
**Publication Year:** 2003



***Remembrance and Denial: The Case of the Armenian Genocide* by Richard G. Hovannisian and 13 other contributors**

**Description:** The Armenian Genocide that began in World War I, during the drive to transform the plural Ottoman Empire into a monoethnic Turkey, removed a people from its homeland and erased most evidence of their 3000-year-old material and spiritual culture. For the rest of this century, changing world events, calculated silence, and active suppression of memory have overshadowed the initial global outrage and have threatened to make this calamity "the forgotten genocide" of world history. Fourteen leading scholars here examine the Armenian Genocide from a variety of perspectives to refute those efforts and show how remembrance and denial have shaped perceptions of the event. Many of the chapters draw on archival records and court proceedings to review the precursors and process of the genocide, examine German complicity, and share the responses of victims, perpetrators, and bystanders.

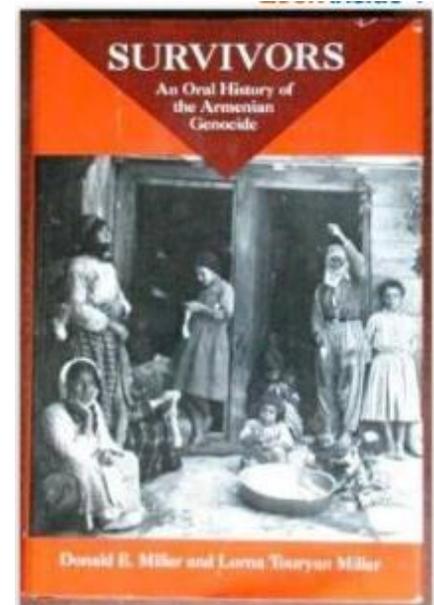
**Publication Year:** 1999



***Survivors: An Oral History of the Armenian Genocide* by Lorna Touryan Miller & Donald Eugene**

**Description:** Between 1915 and 1923, over one million Armenians died, victims of a genocidal campaign that is still denied by the Turkish government. Thousands of other Armenians suffered torture, brutality, deportation. Yet their story has received scant attention. Through interviews with a hundred elderly Armenians, Donald and Lorna Miller give the "forgotten genocide" the hearing it deserves. Survivors raise important issues about genocide and about how people cope with traumatic experience. Much here is wrenchingly painful, yet it also speaks to the strength of the human spirit.

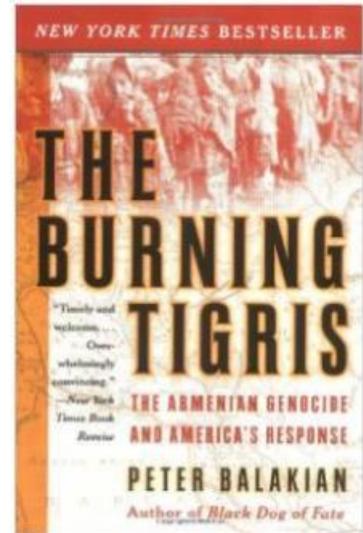
**Publication Year:** 1999



***The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America's Response* by Peter Balakian** (Awarded the Raphael Lemkin Prize)

**Description:** In this national bestseller, the critically acclaimed author Peter Balakian brings us a riveting narrative of the massacres of the Armenians in the 1890s and of the Armenian Genocide in 1915 at the hands of the Ottoman Turks. Using rarely seen archival documents and remarkable first-person accounts, Balakian presents the chilling history of how the Turkish government implemented the first modern genocide behind the cover of World War I. And in the telling, he resurrects an extraordinary lost chapter of American history.

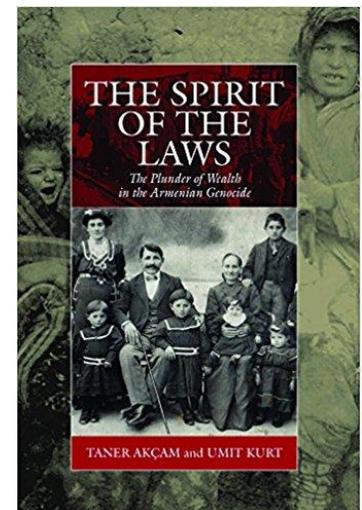
**Publication Year:** 2004



***The Spirit of the Laws: The Plunder of Wealth in the Armenian Genocide* by Taner Akcam and Umit Kurt**

**Description:** This book examines the confiscation of Armenian properties during the genocide and subsequent attempts to retain seized Armenian wealth. Through the close analysis of laws and treaties, it reveals that decrees issued during the genocide constitute central pillars of the Turkish system of property rights, retaining their legal validity, and although Turkey has acceded through international agreements to return Armenian properties, it continues to refuse to do so. The book demonstrates that genocides do not depend on the abolition of the legal system and elimination of rights, but that, on the contrary, the perpetrators of genocide manipulate the legal system to facilitate their plans.

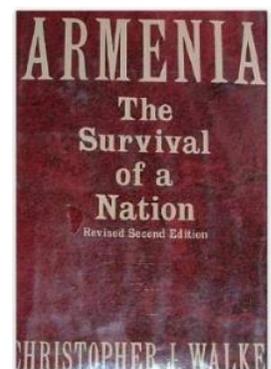
**Publication Year:** 2017



***Armenia: The Survival of a Nation* by Christopher Walker**

**Description:** This modern history of Armenia traces the influences promoting Armenian nationalism, and places the historical, cultural and social issues firmly in the contemporary context. It assesses the impact of changing political attitudes, and provides brief bibliographies of 120 leading Armenian figures.

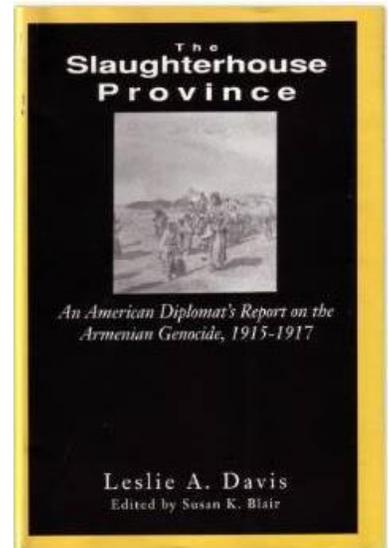
**Publication Year:** 1990



***The Slaughterhouse Province: An American Diplomat's Report on the Armenian Genocide, 1915-1917* by Leslie A. Davis**

**Description:** A searing indictment of the Ottoman Turkish government for its brutal massacre and deportation of its Armenian population in 1915-1923 by Leslie Davis who as U. S. consul in Harput from 1915 to 1917 was an eyewitness to the atrocities committed upon Armenians. Much of what he saw could scarcely be told in ways that would be palatable to western sensibilities, for as he wrote: "It is hard for one living in a civilized country to believe that such things are possible; yet, as Lord Bryce has said, 'Things which we find scarcely credible excite little surprise in Turkey.'" Nevertheless, his report survived to comprise *The Slaughterhouse Province*.

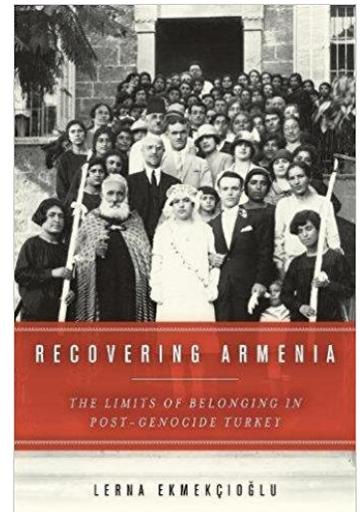
**Publication Year:** 1989



***Recovering Armenia: The Limits of Belonging in Post-Genocide Turkey* by Lerna Ekmekcioglu**

**Description:** *Recovering Armenia* offers the first in-depth study of the aftermath of the 1915 Armenian Genocide and the Armenians who remained in Turkey. Following World War I, as the victorious Allied powers occupied Ottoman territories, Armenian survivors returned to their hometowns optimistic that they might establish an independent Armenia. But Turkish resistance prevailed, and by 1923 the Allies withdrew, the Turkish Republic was established, and Armenians were left again to reconstruct their communities within a country that still considered them traitors. Lerna Ekmekcioglu investigates how Armenians recovered their identity within these drastically changing political conditions. Reading Armenian texts and images produced in Istanbul from the close of WWI through the early 1930s, Ekmekcioglu gives voice to the community's most prominent public figures, notably Hayganush Mark, a renowned activist, feminist, and editor of the influential journal *Hay Gin*.

**Publication Year:** 2016

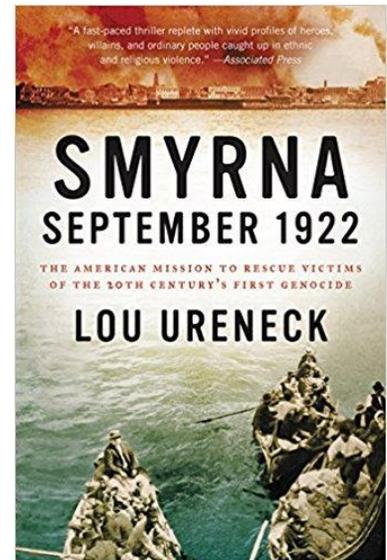


***Smyrna, September 1922: The American Mission to Rescue Victims of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century's First Genocide* by Lou Ureneck**

**Description:** In September 1922, the richest city of the Mediterranean was burned, and countless numbers of Christian refugees killed. The city was Smyrna, and the event was the final episode of the 20th Century's first genocide — the slaughter of three million Armenians, Greeks and Assyrians of the Ottoman Empire.

The slaughter at Smyrna occurred as warships of the great powers stood by — the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy. The deaths of hundreds of thousands seemed inevitable until an American minister staged a bold rescue with the help of a courageous U.S. naval officer. Now, the forgotten story of one of the great humanitarian acts of history gets told.

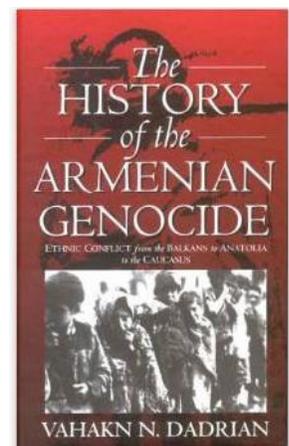
**Publication Year:** 2016



***The History of the Armenian Genocide: Ethnic Conflict from the Balkans to Anatolia to the Caucasus* by Vahakn N. Dadrian**

**Description:** The Armenian Genocide, though not given such prominent treatment as the Jewish Holocaust which it precedes, still haunts the Western world and has assumed a new significance in the light of ethnic cleansing in Bosnia. This study by the most distinguished scholar of the Armenian tragedy offers an authoritative analysis by presenting it as a case study of genocide and by seeing it as a historical process in which a domestic conflict escalated and was finally consumed by a global war.

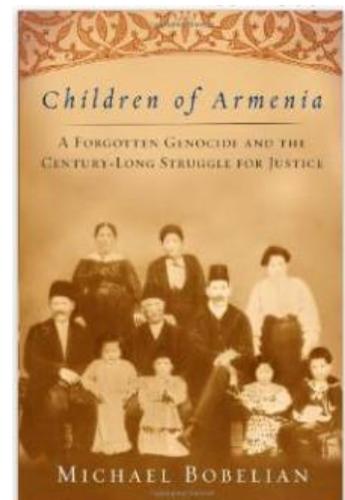
**Publication Year:** 2003



***Children of Armenia: A Forgotten Genocide and the Century-Long Struggle for Justice* by Michael Bobelian**

**Description:** The first book to chronicle the aftermath of the twentieth century's first genocide, this groundbreaking work recounts the Armenians' struggle for justice in the face of fifty years of silence and denial. First comprehensive account: From 1915 to 1923, the Ottoman Turks drove two million Armenians from their ancestral homeland, slaughtering 1.5 million of them in the process.

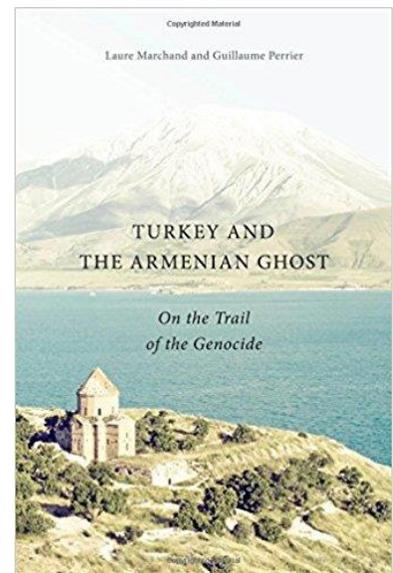
**Publication Year:** 2012



***Turkey and the Armenian Ghost: On the Trail of the Genocide* by Laure Marchand, Guillaume Perrier, and Debbie Blythe**

**Description:** The first genocide of the twentieth century remains unrecognized and unpunished. Turkey continues to deny the slaughter of over a million Ottoman Armenians in 1915 and the following years. What sets the Armenian genocide apart from other mass atrocities is that the country responsible has never officially acknowledged its actions, and no individual has ever been brought to justice. In *Turkey and the Armenian Ghost*, a translation of the award-winning *La Turquie et le fantôme arménien*, Laure Marchand and Guillaume Perrier visit historic sites and interview politicians, elderly survivors, descendants, authors, and activists in a quest for the hidden truth. Taking the reader into remote mountain regions, tiny hamlets, and the homes of traumatized victims of a deadly persecution that continues to this day, they reveal little-known aspects of the history and culture of a people who have been rendered invisible in their ancient homeland. They also describe the struggle to have the genocide officially recognized in Turkey, France, and the United States. Arguing that this giant cover-up has had consequences for Turks as well as for Armenians, the authors point to a society sickened by a century of denial. The face of Turkey is gradually changing, however, and a new generation of Turks is beginning to understand what happened and to realize that the ghost of the Armenian genocide must be recognized and laid to rest.

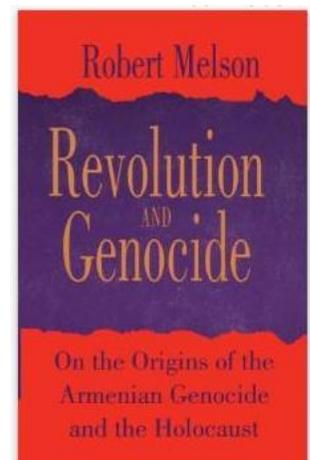
**Publication Year:** 2015



***Revolution and Genocide: On the Origins of the Armenian Genocide and the Holocaust* by Robert Melson**

**Description:** In a study that compares the major attempts at genocide in world history, Robert Melson creates a sophisticated framework that links genocide to revolution and war. He focuses on the plights of Jews after the fall of Imperial Germany and of Armenians after the fall of the Ottoman as well as attempted genocides in the Soviet Union and Cambodia. He argues that genocide often is the end result of a complex process that starts when revolutionaries smash an old regime and, in its wake, try to construct a society that is pure according to ideological standards.

**Publication Year:** 1996

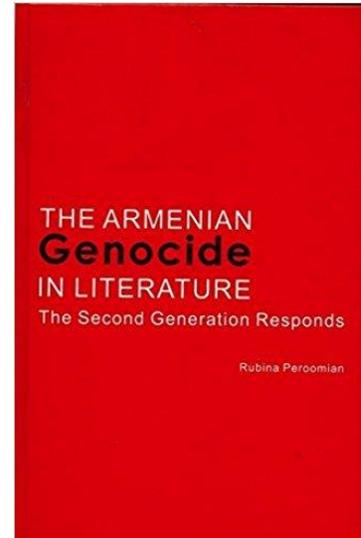


***The Armenian Genocide in Literature: The Second Generation Responds* by Rubina Perroomian**

**Description:** This volume, the fourth by the author in her continuing study and analysis of Diasporan Armenian literature, shows how the shadow of the Genocide has surfaced in the works of second-generation Armenian writers to reflect a variety of reactions/responses conditioned by the individual's perception of the past, in the context of his or her relationship with mainstream society and the dominant culture. The author examines a broad spectrum of responses, ranging from total immersion/assimilation to total commitment to the Cause. In some second-generation survivor-writers, the Armenian component remains dormant, at least in appearance; in others, it is gradually retrieved from a nebulous memory-hole to become an important dimension of their self-identity; in still others, the transmitted memory of images of suffering and death never loosens its grip and imposes upon everyday life.

When coupled with the vague image of a lost homeland, a sense of deprivation, anger and frustration sets in and is further fueled by the perpetrator's denial of the crime and distortion of history. Are healing and reconciliation possible? Even after one hundred years, the process is yet to begin. "Healing is denied to Armenians." Second-generation Armenian artistic expressions thus echo the struggle to cast off the shadow of the past and challenge the present stance of the perpetrators and world bystanders.

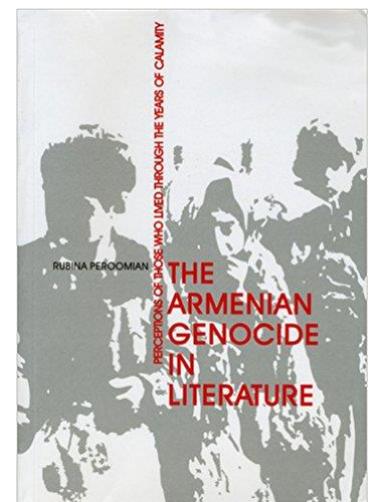
**Publication Year:** 2015



***The Armenian Genocide in Literature: Perceptions of Those Who Lived Through the Years of Calamity* by Rubina Perroomian**

**Description:** The Armenian Genocide that took place almost a century ago is now sliding into the past, but justice has not been rendered, and Armenians cannot put their dead to rest. Obsession with the past fueled by denial of the crime, the deniers' distortion of history, and the image of a lost homeland that kindles a sense of deprivation keep surfacing in the literature produced in the Diaspora. The present volume engages with this discussion. It begins with the response of the first-generation writers who survived, to complement this author's Literary Responses (1993) and to demonstrate more emphatically the depth of the initial psychological shock of the most recent traumatic experience as well as the soul-consuming struggle in dispersion.

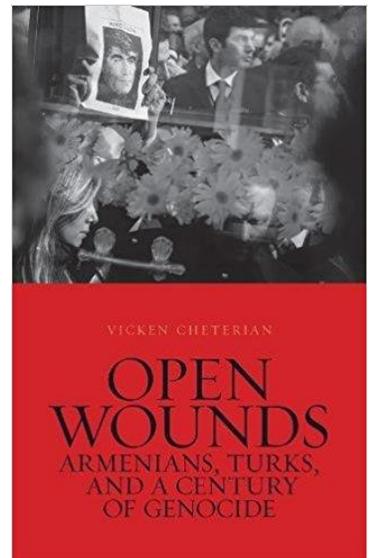
**Publication Year:** 2012



***Open Wounds: Armenians, Turks and a Century of Genocide* by Vicken Cheterian**

**Description:** The assassination of the author Hrant Dink in Istanbul in 2007, a high-profile advocate of Turkish-Armenian reconciliation, reignited the debate in Turkey on the annihilation of the Ottoman Armenians. Many Turks soon re-awakened to their Armenian heritage, reflecting on how their grandparents were forcibly Islamised and Turkified, and the suffering their families endured to keep their stories secret. There was public debate around Armenian property confiscated by the Turkish state and the extermination of the minorities. At last the silence had been broken. *Open Wounds* explains how, after the First World War, the new Turkish Republic forcibly erased the memory of the atrocities, and traces of Armenians, from their historic lands -- a process to which the international community turned a blind eye. The price for this amnesia was, Vicken Cheterian argues, "a century of genocide." Turkish intellectuals acknowledge the price society must pay collectively to forget such traumatic events, and that Turkey cannot solve its recurrent conflicts with its minorities -- like the Kurds today -- nor have an open and democratic society without addressing the original sin on which the state was founded: The Armenian Genocide.

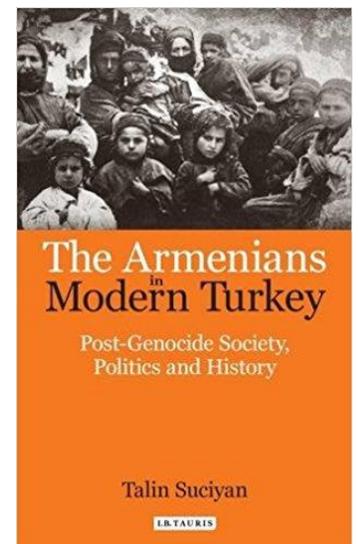
**Publication Year:** 2015



***The Armenians in Modern Turkey: Post-Genocide Society, Politics and History* by Talin Suciyan**

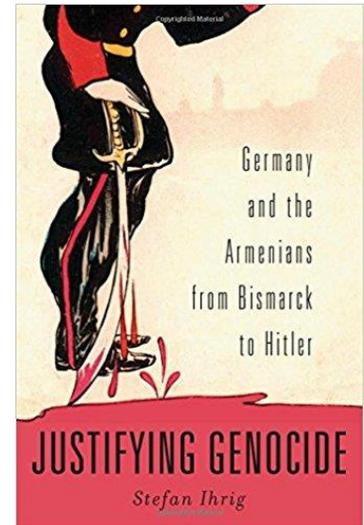
**Description:** After the Armenian genocide of 1915, in which over a million Armenians died, thousands of Armenians lived and worked in the Turkish state alongside those who had persecuted their communities. Living in the context of pervasive denial, how did Armenians remaining in Turkey record their own history? Here, Talin Suciyan explores the life experienced by these Armenian communities as Turkey's modernisation project of the twentieth century gathered pace. Suciyan achieves this through analysis of remarkable new primary material: Turkish state archives, minutes of the Armenian National Assembly, a kaleidoscopic series of personal diaries, memoirs and oral histories, various Armenian periodicals such as newspapers, yearbooks and magazines, as well as statutes and laws which led to the continuing persecution of Armenians.

**Publication Year:** 2016



***Justifying Genocide: Germany and the Armenians from Bismarck to Hitler* by Stefan Ihrig**

**Description:** The Armenian Genocide and the Nazi Holocaust are often thought to be separated by a large distance in time and space. But Stefan Ihrig shows that they were much more connected than previously thought. Bismarck and then Wilhelm II staked their foreign policy on close relations with a stable Ottoman Empire. To the extent that the Armenians were restless under Ottoman rule, they were a problem for Germany too. From the 1890s onward Germany became accustomed to excusing violence against Armenians, even accepting it as a foreign policy necessity. For many Germans, the Armenians represented an explicitly racial problem and despite the Armenians' Christianity, Germans portrayed them as the "Jews of the Orient."



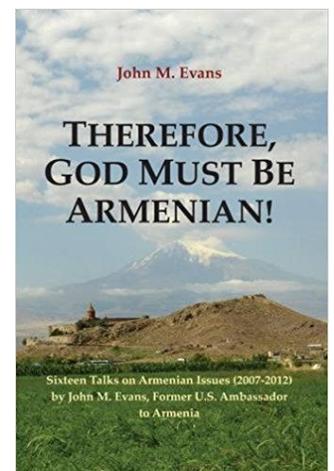
As Stefan Ihrig reveals in this first comprehensive study of the subject, many Germans before World War I sympathized with the Ottomans' longstanding repression of the Armenians and would go on to defend vigorously the Turks' wartime program of extermination. The Nazis too came to see genocide as justifiable: in their version of history, the Armenian Genocide had made possible the astonishing rise of the New Turkey. Ihrig is careful to note that this connection does not imply the Armenian Genocide somehow caused the Holocaust, nor does it make Germans any less culpable. But no history of the twentieth century should ignore the deep, direct, and disturbing connections between these two crimes.

**Publication Year:** 2016

***Therefore, God Must Be Armenian* by John M. Evans**

**Description:** *Therefore, God Must Be Armenian* presents sixteen talks and public comments between 2007 and 2012, where Evans engaged the Armenian issue in no uncertain terms. He stood by his words in the hope of influencing official policy in the United States on the Armenian issue. Evans still stands firm in his belief that the United States should reoccupy the moral high ground regarding the Armenian Genocide of 1915 - as it did at the time of the events in question.

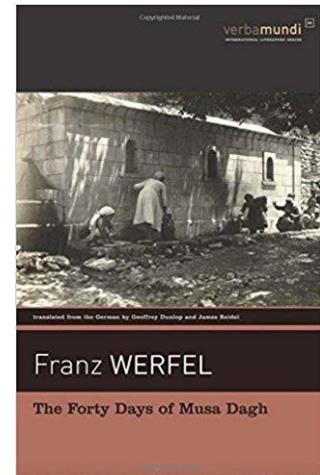
**Publication Year:** 2016



## ***The Forty Days of Musa Dagh* by Franz Werfel**

**Description:** *The Forty Days of Musa Dagh* is Franz Werfel's masterpiece that brought him international acclaim in 1933, drawing the world's attention to the Armenian genocide. This is the story of how the people of several Armenian villages in the mountains along the coast of present-day Turkey and Syria chose not to obey the deportation order of the Turkish government. Instead, they fortified a plateau on the slopes of Musa Dagh Mount Moses and repelled Turkish soldiers and military police during the summer of 1915 while holding out hope for the warships of the Allies to save them.

**Publication Year:** 2012



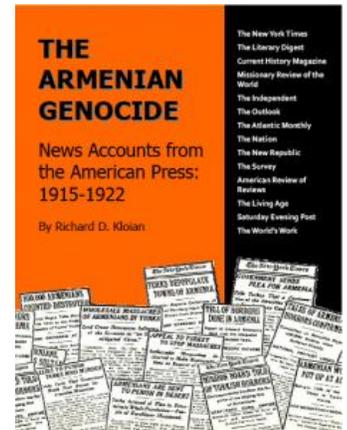
## Teaching Guides:

### *The Armenian Genocide: News Accounts from the American Press, 1915-1922* edited by Richard Kloian

**Description:** This newly edited 2005 edition of 460 pages comprises more than 200 articles from The New York Times with bonus material from 1890-1909 reporting the massacres of Armenians in earlier periods, thus establishing the antecedents to the 1915 genocide. Also included are two analytical essays along with sixty full length articles from American periodicals of the time, including Ambassador Morgenthau's story as it was first made public and many other important documents.

**Publication Year:** 2011

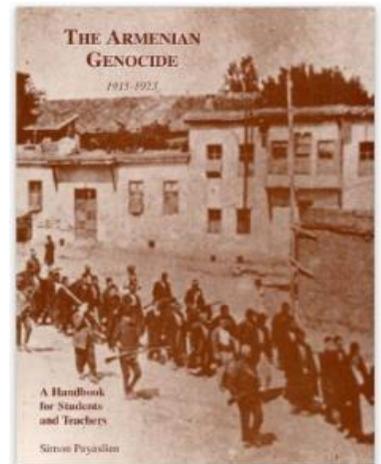
\*Available with a lesson plan via [The Genocide Education Project](http://www.genocideeducationproject.org).



### *The Armenian Genocide: 1915-1923: A Handbook for Students and Teachers* by Simon Payaslian

**Description:** This handbook, prepared by the tireless efforts of Dr. Simon Payaslian of UCLA, provides both a historical perspective of the Genocide and an overview of international and national constraints in preventing the genocides that followed, highlighting the world's inability to deal appropriately with the perpetrators of the Armenian tragedy. This book also provides teachers with maps, graphs and eyewitness accounts as well as valuable teaching aids such as worksheets, discussion and essay topics to maximize the student's understanding of how the unspeakable can occur and recur even in contemporary times.

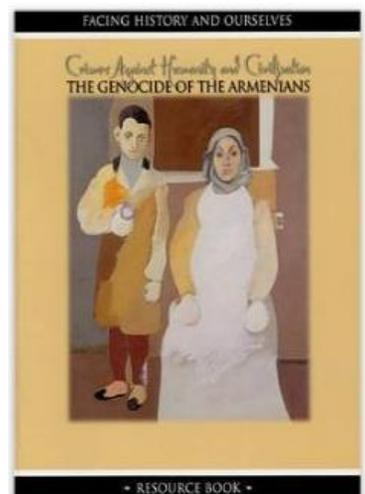
**Publication Year:** 2001



### *Crimes Against Humanity and Civilization: The Genocide of the Armenians* by Facing History and Ourselves

**Description:** *Crimes Against Humanity and Civilization: The Genocide of the Armenians* combines the latest scholarship on the Armenian Genocide with an interdisciplinary approach to history, enabling students and teachers to make the essential connections between history and their own lives.

**Publication Year:** 2004



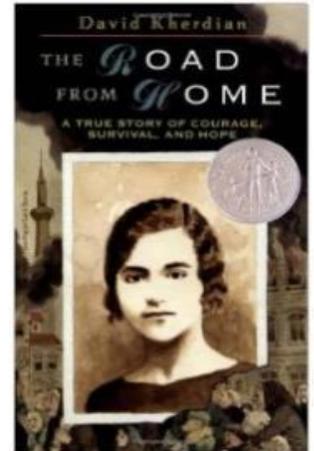
## **Memoirs and Biographies:**

### ***The Road from Home: The Story of an Armenian Girl* by David Kherdian**

**Description:** David Kherdian re-creates his mother's voice in telling the true story of a childhood interrupted by one of the most devastating holocausts of our century. Vernon Dumehjian Kherdian was born into a loving and prosperous family. Then, in the year 1915, the Turkish government began the systematic destruction of its Armenian population.

**Publication Year:** 1995

\*Recommended for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and older

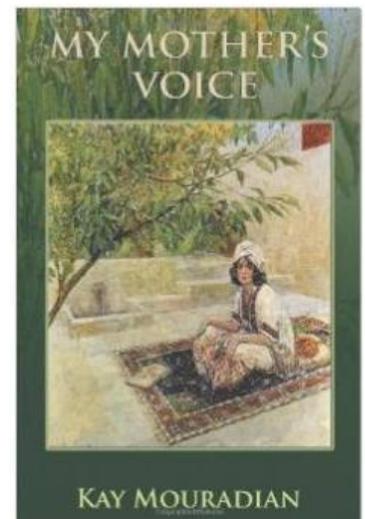


### ***My Mother's Voice: Oral history of a Young Girl* by Kay Mouradian**

**Description:** Researching through volumes in several libraries and archives in the United States, author Kay Mouradian visited the village in Turkey where her mother and her mother's family, along with twenty- five thousand other Armenians, were forced to leave their homes. Traveling over the same deportation route to the deserts of Syria where more than a million Armenians perished, the author became acutely aware of the suffering of her mother's generation and the lingering sense of injustice they carried.

**Publication Year:** 2013

\*Recommended for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older

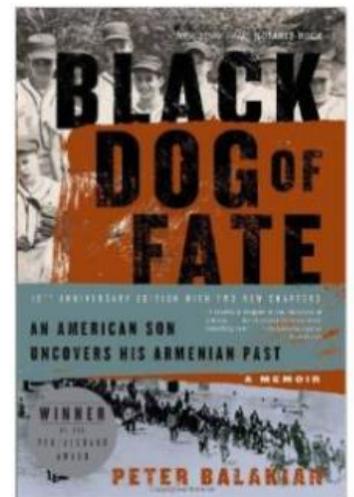


### ***Black Dog of Fate* by Peter Balakian (PEN Albrand Award Winner)**

**Description:** New York Times bestselling author, Peter Balakian, expands his compelling story about growing up in the baby-boom suburbs of the 50s and 60s and coming to understand what happened to his family in the first genocide of the twentieth century and the Ottoman Turkish government's extermination of more than one million Armenians in 1915.

**Publication Year:** 2009

\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older

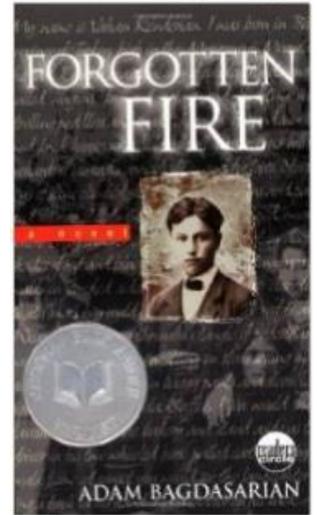


***Forgotten Fire* by Adam Bagdasarian (A National Book Award Finalist)**

**Description:** In 1915 Vahan Kenderian is living a life of privilege as the youngest son of a wealthy Armenian family in Turkey. This secure world is shattered when some family members are whisked away while others are murdered before his eyes. Vahan loses his home and family, and is forced to live a life he would never have dreamed of in order to survive. Somehow Vahan's incredible strength and spirit help him endure, even knowing that each day could be his last.

**Publication Year:** 2002

\*Recommended for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older

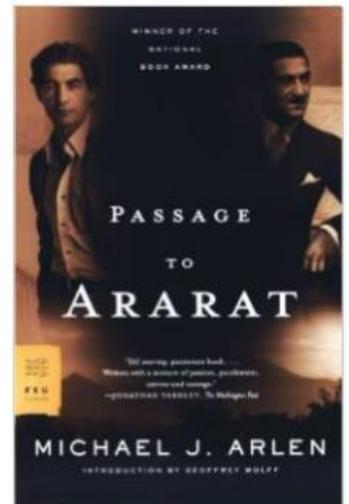


***Passage to Ararat* by Michael J. Arlen**

**Description:** In *Passage to Ararat*, which received the National Book Award in 1976, Michael J. Arlen goes beyond the portrait of his father, the famous Anglo-Armenian novelist of the 1920s, that he created in *Exiles* to try to discover what his father had tried to forget: Armenia and what it meant to be an Armenian, a descendant of a proud people whom conquerors had for centuries tried to exterminate. But perhaps most affecting, Arlen tells a story as large as a whole people yet as personal as the uneasy bond between a father and a son, offering a masterful account of the affirmation and pain of kinship.

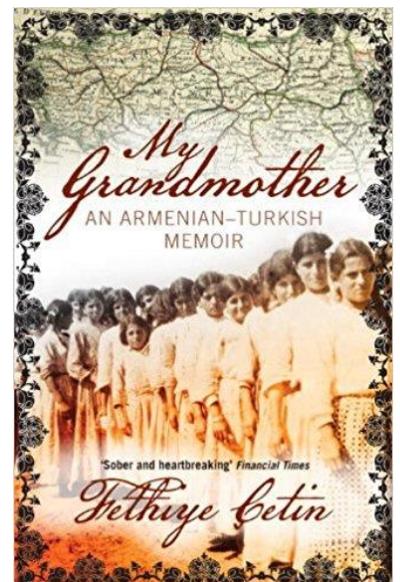
**Publication Year:** 2006

\*Recommended for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older



***My Grandmother: An Armenian-Turkish Memoir* by Fethiye Cetin**

**Description:** Growing up in the small town of Maden in Turkey, Fethiye Çetin knew her grandmother as a happy and respected Muslim housewife called Seher. Only decades later did she discover the truth. Her grandmother's name was not Seher but Heranus. She was born a Christian Armenian. Most of the men in her village had been slaughtered in 1915. A Turkish gendarme had stolen her from her mother and adopted her. Çetin's family history tied her directly to the terrible origins of modern Turkey and the organized denial of its Ottoman past as the shared home of many faiths and ways of life. A deeply affecting memoir, *My Grandmother* is also a step towards another kind of Turkey, one that is finally at peace with its past.



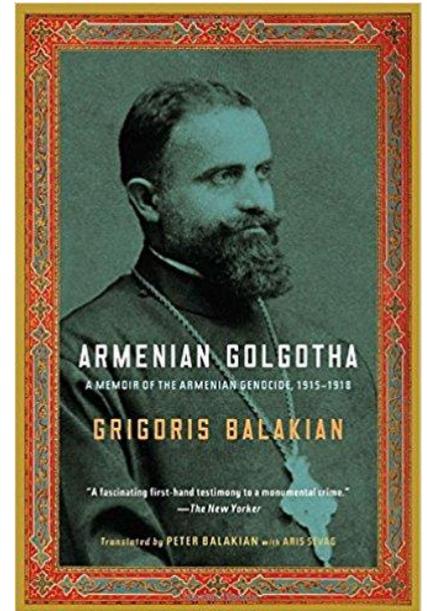
**Publication Year:** 2012

***Armenian Golgotha: A Memoir of the Armenian Genocide, 1915-1918* by Grigoris Balakian**

**Description:** On April 24, 1915, Grigoris Balakian was arrested along with some 250 other leaders of Constantinople's Armenian community. It was the beginning of the Ottoman Empire's systematic attempt to eliminate the Armenian people from Turkey—a campaign that continued through World War I and the fall of the empire. Over the next four years, Balakian would bear witness to a seemingly endless caravan of blood, surviving to recount his miraculous escape and expose the atrocities that led to over a million deaths.

*Armenian Golgotha* is Balakian's devastating eyewitness account—a haunting reminder of the first modern genocide and a controversial historical document that is destined to become a classic of survivor literature.

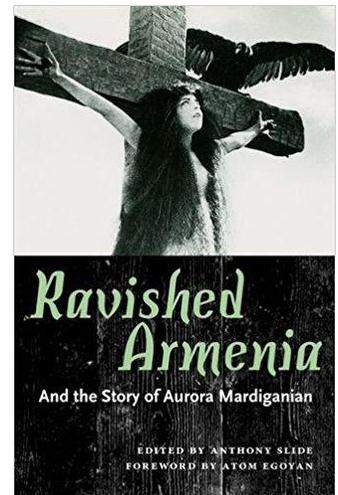
**Publication Year:** 2010



***Ravished Armenia and the Story of Aurora Mardiganian* by Anthony Slide and Atom Egoyan**

**Description:** *Ravished Armenia* and the Story of Aurora Mardiganian is the real-life tale of a teenage Armenian girl who was caught up in the 1915 Armenian genocide, the first genocide in modern history. Mardiganian (1901-1994) witnessed the murder of her family and the suffering of her people at the hands of the Ottoman Empire. Forced to march over fourteen hundred miles, she was sold into slavery. When she escaped to the United States, Mardiganian was then exploited by the very individuals whom she believed might help. Her story was published in book form and then used as the basis for a 1918 feature film, in which she herself starred.

**Publication Year:** 2014

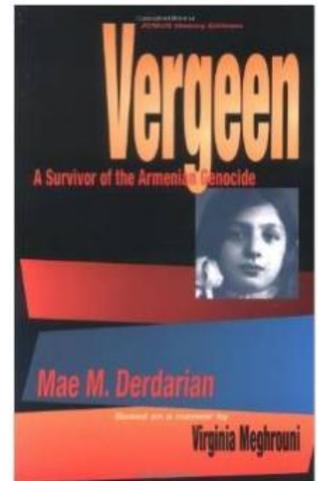


***Vergeen: A Survivor of the Armenian Genocide* by Mae Derdarian**

**Description:** This is the gripping true story of a girl's indomitable will to survive the genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Turkish government against its Armenian subjects during World War I. Through a first-and account of Vergeen's recollections, the brutalities endured by two million Armenians come to life and are mirrored a generation later by Hitler's attack on Jews.

**Publication Year:** 1997

\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older

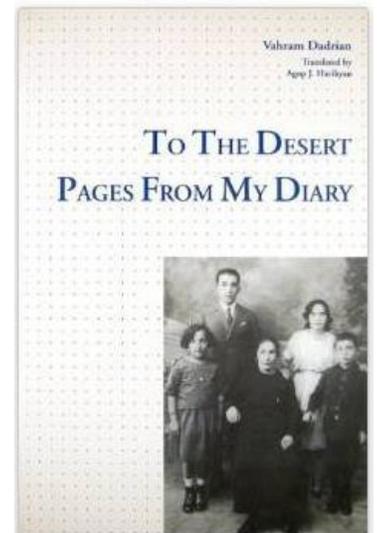


***To the Desert: Pages from My Diary* by Vahram Dadrian and translated by Agop Hacikyan**

**Description:** Vahram's account, written in Armenian, was first published as a book in 1945. This is the first English translation of that work. It is a somewhat unusual narrative written by a child survivor of the Armenian Genocide. Vahram relates the fate of thousands of Armenians who were not sent to Der Zor in 1915, but to the wastelands south of Aleppo, as far as Maan and Es Salt in Jordan. Vahram relates his family's deportation, survival strategy—and luck—throughout this period. He also notes the condition of other deportees on the way.

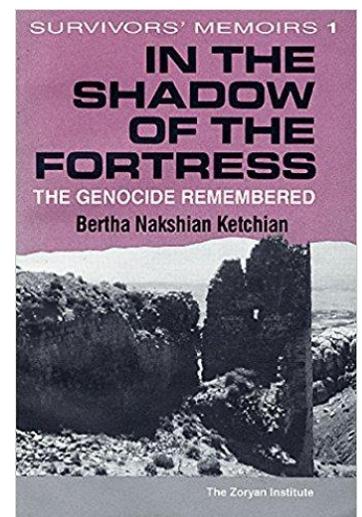
**Publication Year:** 2003

\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older



***In the Shadow of the Fortress: The Genocide Remembered* by Bertha A. Ketchian**

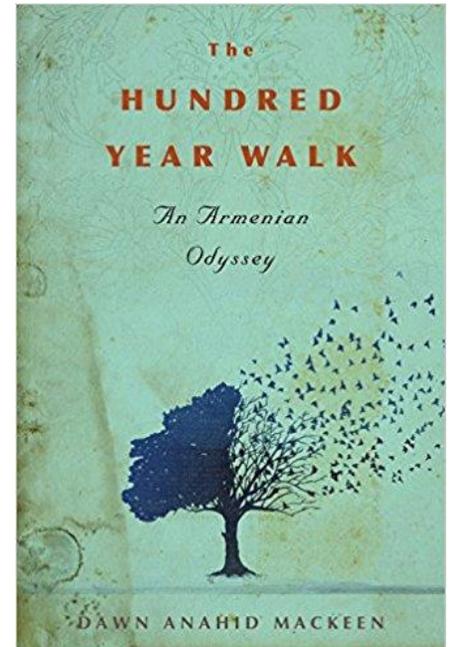
**Description:** *In the Shadow of the Fortress* is the story of a young girl born in Husenig, Western or Ottoman Armenia, just before the Genocide of 1915-1917. Bertha Nakshian Ketchian experienced the horrors of that tragedy with her mother and sister. She witnessed and recorded in her memory the cruelty as well as devotion of neighbors, the hard choices of friends and family as she survived against all odds. Having crossed the desert and spent time in an orphanage supported by American help, Bertha eventually joined her father in Providence, Rhode Island.



**Publication Year:** 1988

***The Hundred-Year Walk: An Armenian Odyssey* by Dawn Anahid Mackeen**

**Description:** In the heart of the Ottoman Empire as World War I rages, Stepan Miskjian's world becomes undone. He is separated from his family as they are swept up in the government's mass deportation of Armenians into internment camps. Gradually realizing the unthinkable—that they are all being driven to their deaths—he fights, through starvation and thirst, not to lose hope. Just before killing squads slaughter his caravan during a forced desert march, Stepan manages to escape, making a perilous six-day trek to the Euphrates River carrying nothing more than two cups of water and one gold coin. In his desperate bid for survival, Stepan dons disguises, outmaneuvers gendarmes, and, when he least expects it, encounters the miraculous kindness of strangers.

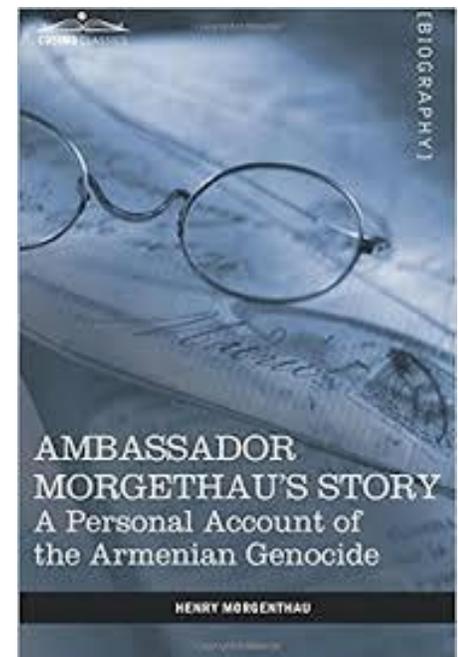


*The Hundred-Year Walk* alternates between Stepan's saga and another journey that takes place a century later, after his family discovers his long-lost journals. Reading this rare firsthand account, his granddaughter Dawn MacKeen finds herself first drawn into the colorful bazaars before the war and then into the horrors Stepan later endured. Inspired to retrace his steps, she sets out alone to Turkey and Syria, shadowing her resourceful, resilient grandfather across a landscape still rife with tension. With his journals guiding her, she grows ever closer to the man she barely knew as a child. Their shared story is a testament to family, to home, and to the power of the human spirit to transcend the barriers of religion, ethnicity, and even time itself.

**Publication Year:** 2016

***Ambassador Morgenthau's Story* by Henry Morgenthau and edited by Peter Balakian**

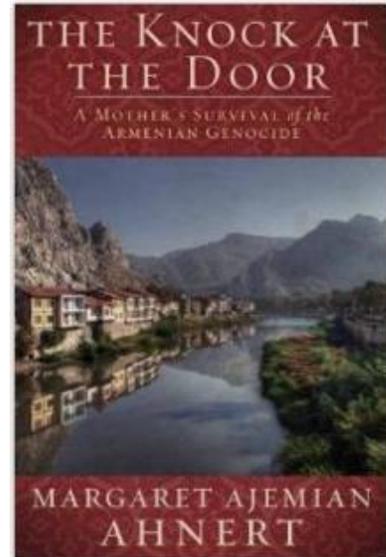
**Description:** By the early 1900s, the Ottoman Empire was beginning to dissolve. Upon seeing this weakness, Germany set its own plans into action in the capital of Constantinople—to bring the vast Turkish Empire under its control. In this book, American statesman Henry Morgenthau Sr. (1856-1946) details how Turkey fell under the influence of Germany and how this led to the Armenian Genocide. In a trial run of the extermination of the Jews, the Germans orchestrated the murder and exile of the Armenians from Turkey, with "Turkey for the Turks" as a rallying cry. The similarities to the Holocaust are chilling. Anyone intrigued by the history and politics of Eastern Europe will find Morgenthau's memoir enlightening. And scholars will gain great insight from reading this first-hand account of an often forgotten tragedy.



**Publication Year:** 2008

***The Knock at the Door: A Mother's Survival of the Armenian Genocide* by Margaret Ahnert**

**Description:** In 1915, Armenian Christians in Turkey were forced to convert to Islam, barred from speaking their language, and often driven out of their homes as the Turkish army embarked on a widespread campaign of intimidation and murder. In this riveting book, Margaret Ajemian Ahnert relates her mother, Ester's, terrifying experiences as a young woman during this period of hatred and brutality. At age 15, Ester was separated from her family during a forced march away from her birth town of Amasia. Though she faced unspeakable horrors at the hands of many she met, and was forced into an abusive marriage against her will, she never lost her faith, quick wit, or ability to see the good in people. Eventually she escaped and emigrated to America. Ahnert's compelling account of her mother's suffering is framed by an intimate portrait of her relationship with her 98-year-old mother. Ester's inspiring stories, told lovingly by her daughter, will give you a window into the harrowing struggle of Armenians during a terrible period in human history.

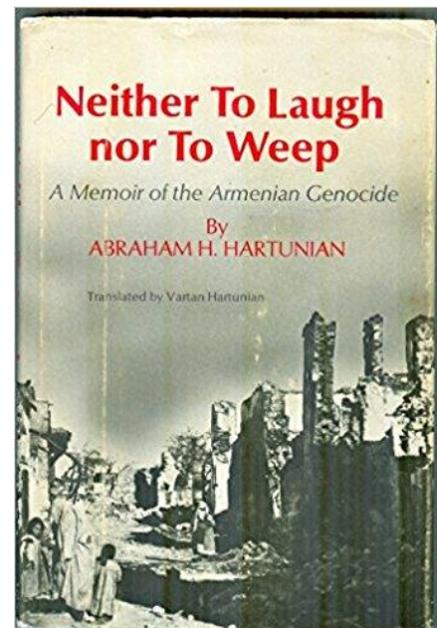


**Publication Year:** 2007

\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older

***Neither to Laugh nor to Weep: A Memoir of the Armenian Genocide* by Abraham H. Hartunian**

**Description:** The premeditated, ruthless, official campaign by the Turkish government to exterminate Turkey's Armenian minority –which began in 1895- ground relentless through 27 years and two million deaths. The memoirs of Abraham Hartunian, a clergyman who endured those years, give one man's account of the process which saw a once proud people reduced to scattered and ragged remnants. No angry wish for revenge, no desire to open old wounds, brought them into print. But today, when the nature of warfare has provoked near-parallels to the official fury unleashed upon the Armenians, the quiet voice of Abraham Hartunian offers a profound warning: when governments forget that they are dealing with human beings, not abstract problems, the results can be horribly inhuman.

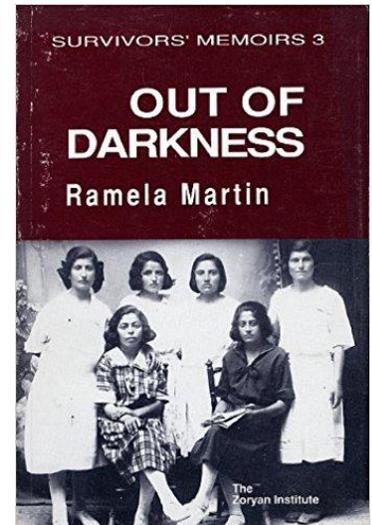


**Publication Year:** 1968

### ***Out of Darkness* by Ramela Martin**

**Description:** The book tells the story of Ramela Martin who was born in Western or Ottoman Armenia, just before the Genocide of 1915-1917. Her father had died before she was born, and after the disappearance of her brother and deportation of her grandfather by the Turks, Ramela Martin and her mother were forced to join the death marches, but not before her mother arranged to leave Ramela's older sister with a Turkish family. Escaping from the death marches, the women tried to return to their home, but her mother died on the way. Ramela Martin was rescued by the Near East Relief and placed in an orphanage and moved to Aleppo, Beirut, Istanbul, Greece, Havana and finally settled in the United States.

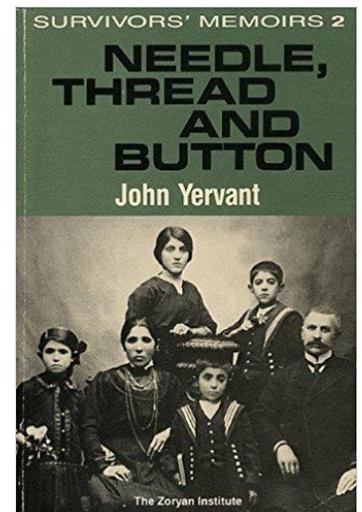
**Publication Year:** 1989



### ***Needles, Thread, and Button* by John Yervant**

**Description:** Born in Garin (Erzerum), the heartland of historic Armenia, young Yervant Kouyoumjian lived through the horrors of the deportations and massacres of Armenians under Ottoman rule during the First World War. John Yervant witnessed the disintegration of his family and people as the deportations led him from Erzerum to Erzingan, Egin, Arapgir, and Malatia on their way to the slaughter houses in Northern Syria. Young Yervant was able to escape death with his mother and reach Aleppo. From there he went to Istanbul, then to the newly established Republic of Armenia, to Greece, Sicily, France and, finally, to America.

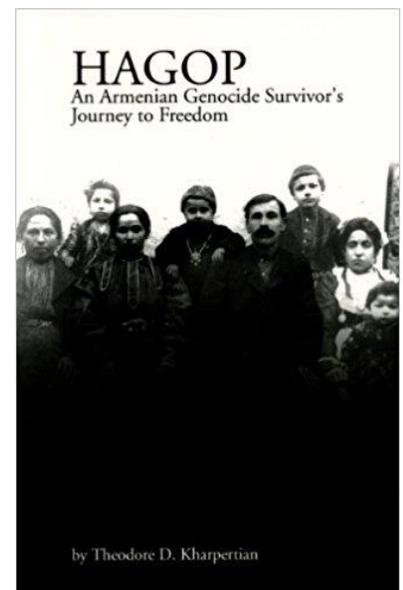
**Publication Year:** 1988



### ***Hagop: An Armenian Genocide Survivor's Journey to Freedom* by Theodore Kharpertian**

**Description:** *Hagop: An Armenian Genocide Survivor's Journey to Freedom* recounts the life of Hagop Kharpertian, the sole survivor in his family of the Armenian Genocide of 1915. Written by his son in the form of a memoir, covering nearly a century and spanning locales from Asia Minor and the Middle East to Europe and the United States, Hagop represents the odyssey of one man's lifelong struggle and tenacity: the Genocide and his miraculous but bitter childhood survival; the uncertain and difficult years of transition from Malatia, his birthplace in Turkey, to Asnieres, his home in France; and the surprising decision after WWII to settle and raise a family in the United States.

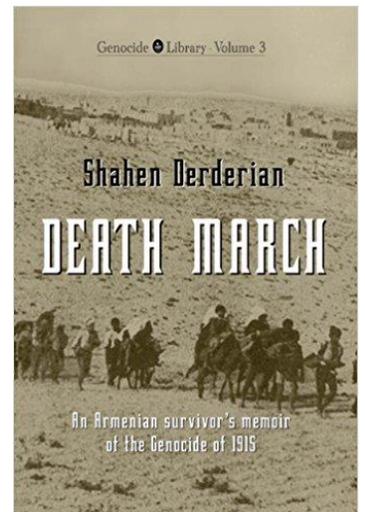
**Publication Year:** 2003



***Death March: An Armenian Survivor's Memoir of the Genocide of 1915* by Shahen Derderian**

**Description:** Shahen Derderian was barely eight years old when the Ottoman Turkish government deported his family, along with the entire Armenian community of his native Sebastia (now Sivas). The uprooting was part of an elaborate Turkish plan to exterminate the Armenian population of Anatolia. In the ensuing forced marches, the Sebastia caravan - one among countless others - was subjected by the Turkish police and hired criminals to a systematic spree of murder, robbery, rape, and death by starvation and disease. Young Shahen survived the carnage through sheer miracle. In *Death March*, he tells a harrowing story of dehumanization and loss, whose enormity would eventually be matched only by the Armenian survivors' spirit of renewal.

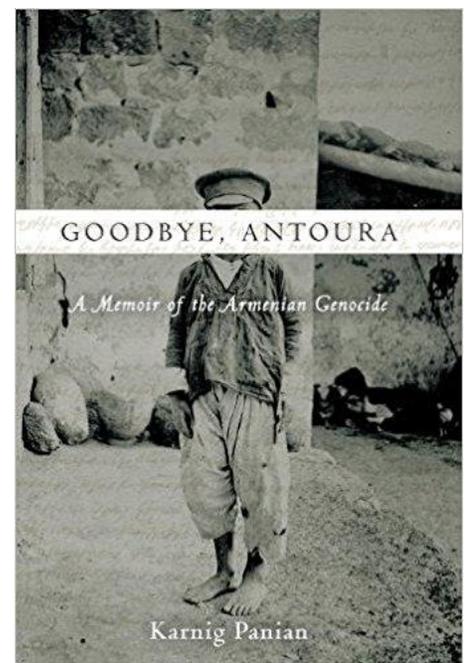
**Publication Year:** 2008



***Goodbye, Antoura: A Memoir of the Armenian Genocide* by Karnig Panian**

**Description:** When World War I began, Karnig Panian was only five years old, living among his fellow Armenians in the Anatolian village of Gurin. Four years later, American aid workers found him at an orphanage in Antoura, Lebanon. He was among nearly 1,000 Armenian and 400 Kurdish children who had been abandoned by the Turkish administrators, left to survive at the orphanage without adult care.

This memoir offers the extraordinary story of what he endured in those years—as his people were deported from their Armenian community, as his family died in a refugee camp in the deserts of Syria, as he survived hunger and mistreatment in the orphanage. The Antoura orphanage was another project of the Armenian genocide: its administrators, some benign and some cruel, sought to transform the children into Turks by changing their Armenian names, forcing them to speak Turkish, and erasing their history.



Panian's memoir is a full-throated story of loss, resistance, and survival, but told without bitterness or sentimentality. His story shows us how even young children recognize injustice and can organize against it, how they can form a sense of identity that they will fight to maintain. He paints a painfully rich and detailed picture of the lives and agency of Armenian orphans during the darkest days of World War I. Ultimately, Karnig Panian survived the Armenian genocide and the deprivations that followed. *Goodbye, Antoura* assures us of how humanity, once denied, can be again reclaimed.

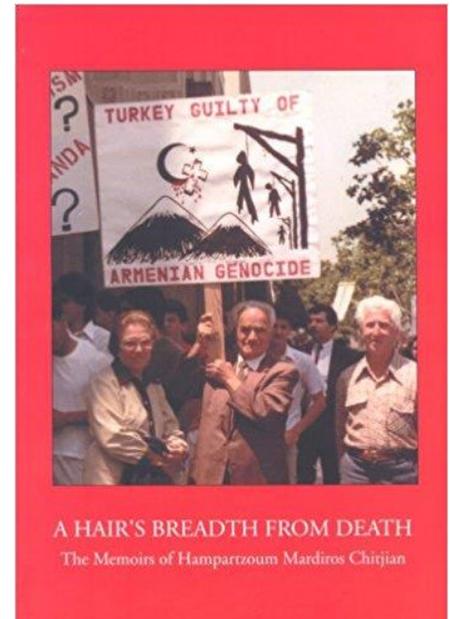
**Publication Year:** 2015

*A Hair's Breath from Death: The Memoirs of Hampartzoum Mardiros Chitjian* by Sara Chitjian

**Description:** *A Hair's Breath from Death* represents one of the key memoirs of the Armenian genocide to date. Hampartzoum Chitjian (1901-2003) fleshes out –in great detail– the fate of Armenian women and children who were not "deported" in 1915–but separated from their parents for assimilation into Turkish and Kurdish households. According to some estimates–close to 200,000 Armenians were targeted for such assimilation during the genocide process, and only a fraction of them managed to revert back to their Armenian identity after the defeat of Ottoman Turkey in 1918. Chitjian survived the genocide in the Kharpert plain–until 1921–when he escaped to Mexico–and later moved to Los Angeles.

**Publication Year:** 2004

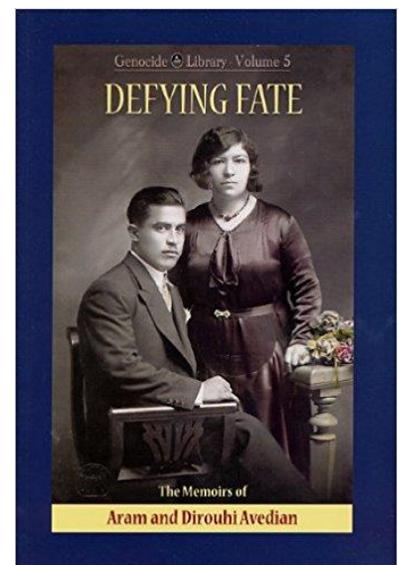
\*Free version available online via [Chitjian Foundation](http://Chitjian Foundation).



*Defying Fate: The Memoirs of Aram and Dirouhi Avedian* by Adam Avedian and Dirouhi Avedian

**Description:** For the fifth volume of the Genocide Library, the memoirs of eyewitness survivors Mr. and Mrs. Aram and Dirouhi Avedian were chosen. Aram Avedian was born in the village of Garin in Erzeroum, he thinks in 1907. His writing consisted of a small book of handwritten notes titled “The dark days I’ve lived.” Dirouhi Avedian was born in Izmit (Nicomedia) in about 1907 as well. Her memoirs comprised a relatively longer, though still compact, handwritten diary titled “My life.” Originally written in Armenian and translated to English, their stories reveal a childhood of sorrow and anguish as they relate how they lost their families and how they survived thanks to the kindness of strangers. Their infrangible faithfulness toward their cultural identity leads them to risk their lives and escape their circumstances. Amidst the tragedy, a happy ending emerges.

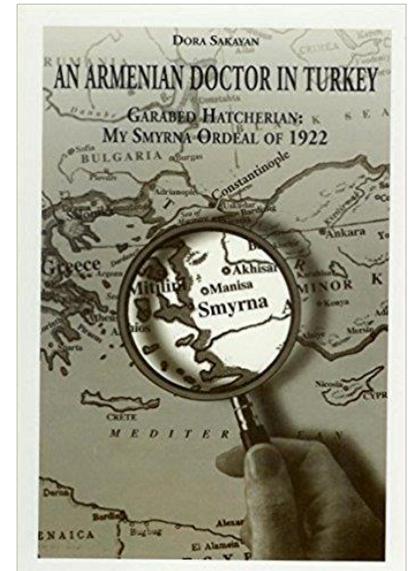
**Publication Year:** 2014



## ***An Armenian Doctor in Turkey* by Dora Sakayan**

**Description:** Dr. Hatcherian's journal is a chronicle of the Smyrna catastrophe in 1922. It is written in the general form of a diary, chronicling the most significant events in Smyrna in September 1922. The narrator's thoughts and concerns during these events are recorded on a day-by-day basis. The manuscript is comprised of 52 tightly-written pages, covering the period between August 28, 1922 and April 7, 1923. The journal can be broken down into three distinct structural segments: Introduction, Story, Epilogue. The Introduction reports on the twelve ominous days between August 28 and September 8, preceding the 1922 Smyrna catastrophe. The events are presented in their gradual development, preparing the reader for the central episodes in the journal. The Story, which describes the Hatcherian family's last two weeks in Smyrna, encompasses the time from September 9 to September 24. This section is a detailed account of what Dr. Hatcherian and his family of eight endured in those fifteen horrifying days. The Epilogue depicts the seven months (September 25, 1922 to April 7, 1923) that the refugee Hatcherian family spent on the Greek island of Mitilini.

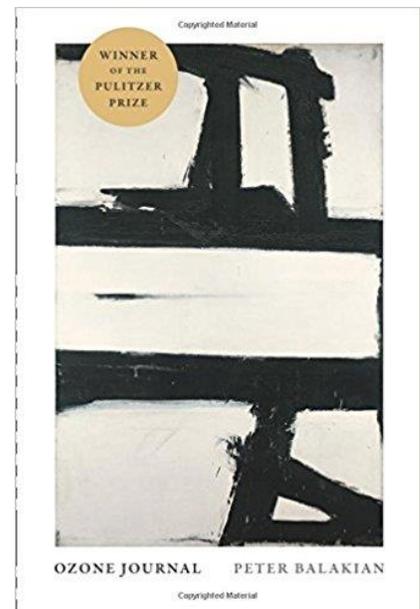
**Publication Year:** 1997



## ***Ozone Journal* by Peter Balakian (Winner of Pulitzer Prize)**

**Description:** The title poem of Peter Balakian's *Ozone Journal* is a sequence of fifty-four short sections, each a poem in itself, recounting the speaker's memory of excavating the bones of Armenian genocide victims in the Syrian desert with a crew of television journalists in 2009. These memories spark others—the dissolution of his marriage, his life as a young single parent in Manhattan in the nineties, visits and conversations with a cousin dying of AIDS—creating a montage that has the feel of history as lived experience. Bookending this sequence are shorter lyrics that span times and locations, from Nairobi to the Native American villages of New Mexico. In the dynamic, sensual language of these poems, we are reminded that the history of atrocity, trauma, and forgetting is both global and ancient; but we are reminded, too, of the beauty and richness of culture and the resilience of love.

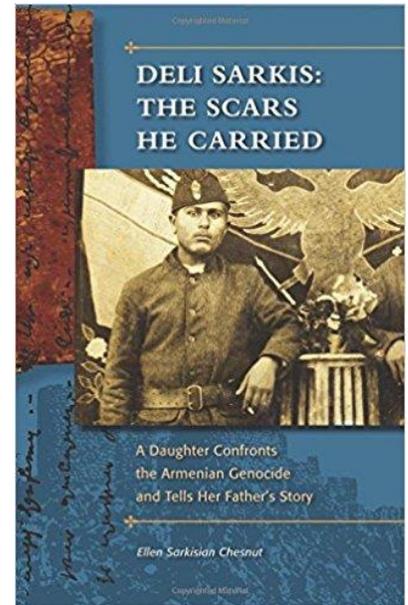
**Publication Year:** 2015



***Deli Sarkis: The Scars He Carried: A Daughter Confronts the Armenian Genocide and Tells Her Father's Story* by Ellen Sarkisian Chesnut**

**Description:** *Deli Sarkis: The Scars He Carried* tells the story of Deli Sarkis, an Armenian who witnessed first-hand the atrocities of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923. The book is a tale of two journeys: the author's journey to discover the facts, places, and people in order to write her father's story, and her father's journey from near death to survival. Deli Sarkis's physical and emotional scars were a constant reminder of the horrifying times he endured and the loss of so many he loved. Filled with photographs of the people and places that played roles in Deli Sarkis's life, as well as maps that outline the villages, cities, and landmarks described in the book, *Deli Sarkis: The Scars He Carried* provides readers with a sobering recollection of a tragic time in Armenian history. Years ago, Ellen's father told her, "Tell my story." His wish has finally come to fruition.

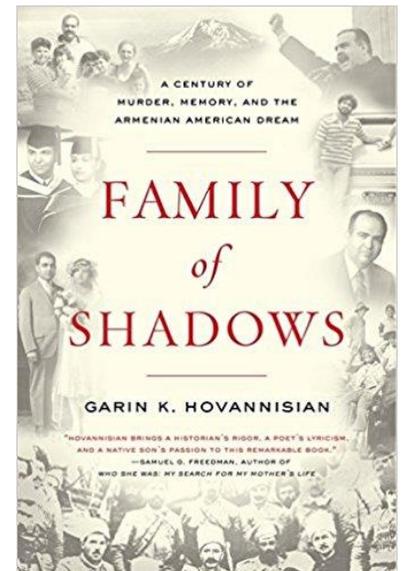
**Publication Year:** 2014



***Family of Shadows: A Century of Murder, Memory, and the Armenian American Dream* by Garin Hovannisian**

**Description:** Combining the historical urgency of *The Burning Tigris*, the cultural sweep of *Middlesex*, and the psychological complexity of *Bending Toward the Sun*, Garin K. Hovannisian's *Family of Shadows* is a searing history of Armenia, realized through the lives of three generations of a single family. In *Family of Shadows*, Hovannisian traces the arc of his family's changing relationship to its motherland, from his great-grandfather's flight to America after surviving the Armenian Genocide to his father Raffi Hovannisian's repatriation and subsequent climb to political prominence as the head of the Heritage Party. Hovannisian's articles on Armenian issues, including the Genocide, the Armenian Diaspora, and the challenges of post-Soviet statehood, have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Armenian Observer*, *Ararat*, and numerous other publications.

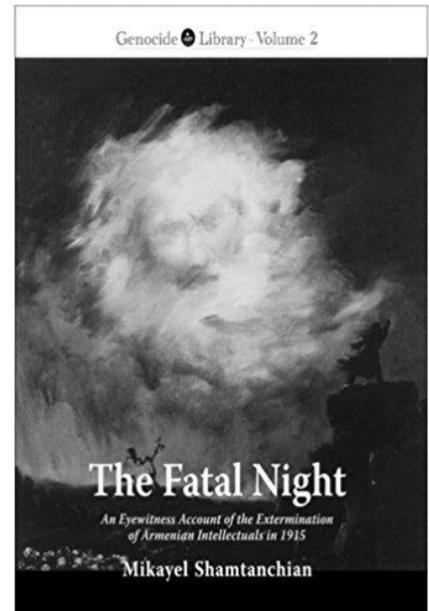
**Publication Year:** 2011



***The Fatal Night: An Eyewitness Account of the Extermination of Armenian Intellectuals in 1915* by Mikayel Shamtanchian**

**Description:** Mikayel Shamtanchian was among the hundreds of Armenian intellectuals rounded up in Istanbul on the night of April 24, 1915, and deported to the interior of Turkey, where the Turkish genocide of Armenians began. The author beat the odds and survived the first genocide of the 20th century. His memoir, *The Fatal Night*, is a detailed account of the extermination of Turkey's Armenian cultural and civic leadership in 1915. Shamtanchian recorded the fates of the innocent Armenian luminaries who perished in Anatolia -- the echoes of "Lord, Have Mercy," the last hymn sung by the Armenian priest and music ethnologist Komitas and a throng of exiles held in a Turkish military fort, and the pangs of authors Daniel Varoujan and Sevak as they were slaughtered in the field of death called Ayash. The book provides a partial list of the Armenian intellectuals, civic leaders and priests who were martyred during the Genocide.

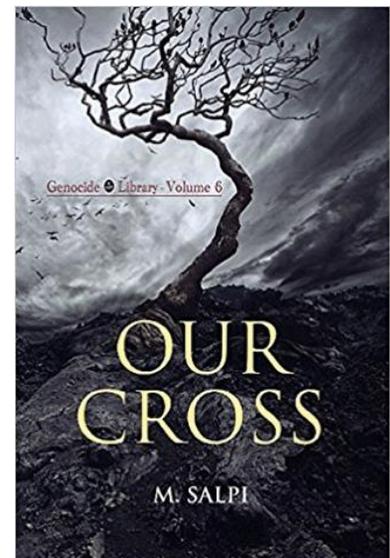
**Publication Year:** 2007



***Our Cross* by M. Salpi**

**Description:** A collection of autobiographical short stories from survivors of the 1915 Genocide of the Armenians, *Our Cross* was written by Aram Sahakian under the pen name M. Salpi. Sahakian, a medical officer in the Turkish army during the First World War, met many Armenian soldiers and officers who recounted to him the plight of their families following the Turkish deportations and massacres of their communities. After his capture by the British, Sahakian was appointed resident doctor at an Armenian refugee camp in Port Said, Egypt. Here, as well as during his sojourns in Syria and Lebanon, he met numerous Genocide survivors struggling to rebuild their lives. Finding their experiences at turns heartbreaking and inspiring, he went on to portray them in his writings. Complementing the laser-sharp observations of a man of science with the compassion and sensitivity of someone who himself had walked the path of devastation, Sahakian's stories pulsate with unforgettable images and characters, each a microcosm of a nation's cataclysm but also its irrepressible will to endure.

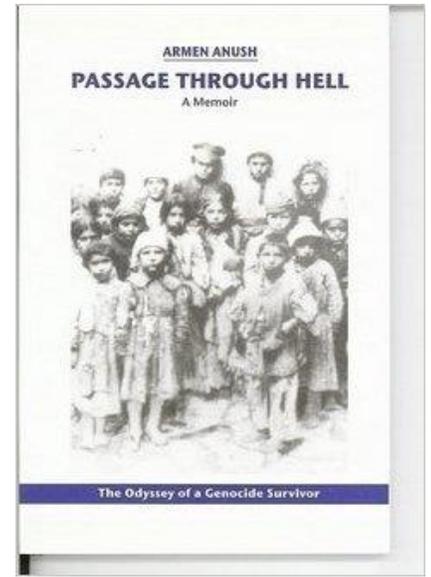
**Publication Year:** 2014



***Passage Through Hell: The Odyssey of a Genocide Survivor* by Armen Anush**

**Description:** Armen Anush’s world came tumbling down in 1915, when the Turkish government deported and subsequently massacred the Armenian population of his native Urfa, as part of a larger plan to exterminate the Armenian people. The author recounts the horrors of the Genocide and its psychological impact on the survivors. In vivid, documentary detail and a style at once poetic and profoundly compassionate, Armen Anush tells a story of irreplaceable loss and, ultimately, life-affirming transformation.

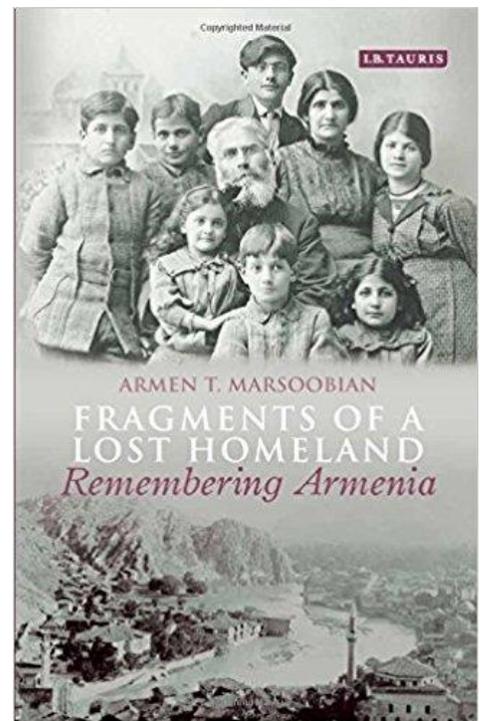
**Publication Year:** 2005



***Fragments of a Lost Homeland: Remembering Armenia* by Armen Marsoobian**

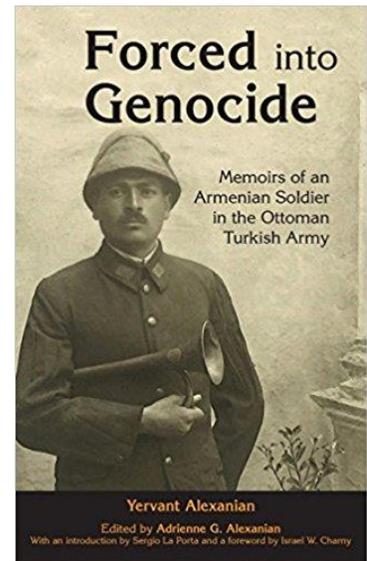
**Description:** The Armenian world was shattered by the 1915 genocide. Not only were thousands of lives lost but families were displaced and the narrative threads that connected them to their own past and homelands were forever severed. Many have been left with only fragments of their family histories: a story of survival passed on by a grandparent who made it through the cataclysm or, if lucky, an old photograph of a distant, silent, ancestor. By contrast the Dildilian family chose to speak. Two generations gave voice to their experience in lengthy written memoirs, in diaries and letters, and most unusually in photographs and drawings. Their descendant Armen T. Marsoobian uses all these resources to tell their story and, in doing so, brings to life the pivotal and often violent moments in Armenian and Ottoman history from the massacres of the late nineteenth century to the final expulsions in the 1920s during the Turkish War of Independence. Unlike most Armenians, the Dildilians were allowed to convert to Islam and stayed behind while their friends, colleagues and other family members perished in the death marches of 1915-1916. Their remarkable story is one of survival against the overwhelming odds and survival in the face of peril.

**Publication Year:** 2015



***Forced into Genocide: Memoirs of an Armenian Soldier in the Ottoman Turkish Army***  
**by Adrienne G. Alexanian**

**Description:** This memoir recalls Yervant Alexanian’s death-defying experiences in the center of the Armenian Genocide. Like other Armenians of his generation, he was an eyewitness to the massacre and dislocation of his family and fellow countrymen in Ottoman Turkey during World War I. Alexanian was conscripted into the Turkish army—but unlike others so conscripted, he survived.



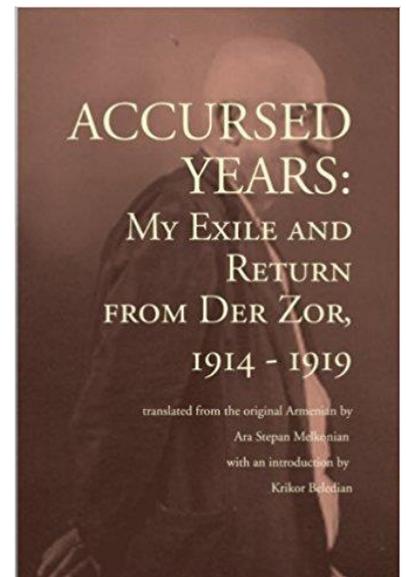
Alexanian was forced to become an onlooker while he watched the atrocities unfold. His story of resourceful action and fateful turns is a suspenseful “insider’s account” of a Genocide survivor. From his singular position, Alexanian was able to document the tragedy of his people in his journals and diaries, but he also offers us a behind-the-scenes look into the motivations and actions of Turkish military officials as they committed the atrocities. His story continues after the war as we follow the trail of his journey through Europe and finally to America, where he found solace and was able to start anew with fellow survivors.

No comparable account exists in the literature of the Armenian Genocide. This edition, translated from Alexanian’s hand-written Armenian-language chronicle, includes never-before-seen documents and photos that the author preserved. Through his eyes we relive the astonishing cruelty of the Genocide’s perpetrators—but also rare, unexpected acts of humanity between victim and oppressor.

**Publication Year:** 2017

***Accursed Years: My Exile and Return from Der Zor, 1914-1919*** by Yervant Odian

**Description:** A remarkable account of a survivor of the Armenian Genocide. Odian was sent to the depths of the Der Zor desert (in Syria) and witnessed the remnants of over 300,000 Armenians who were killed in that area. His own exile to Der Zor had been delayed for a number of factors, and he thus survived the killing fields of the Armenian Genocide.

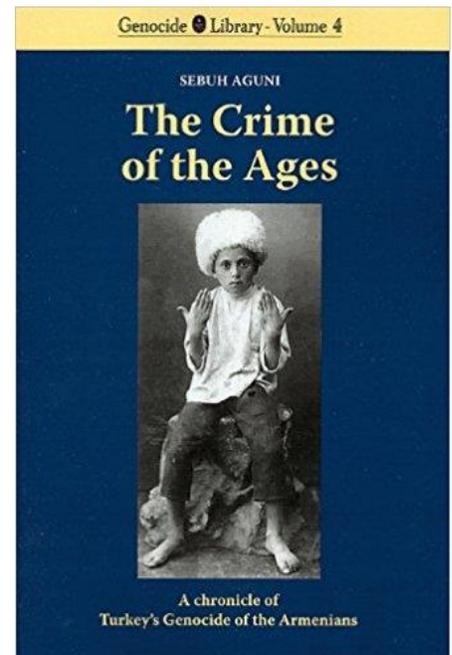


**Publication Year:** 2009

***The Crime of the Ages: A Chronicle of Turkey's Genocide of the Armenians* by Sebuhan Aguni**

**Description:** Sebuhan Aguni, a newspaper editor in Istanbul, was in the second largest group of Armenian intellectuals in Istanbul rounded up by Turkish authorities and deported to the interior of Turkey. Imprisoned in Konya, he was able to communicate with deportees among the 30,000 Armenians removed from their homes in Sebastia, Kastamonu, Garin, Samsun, Drabizond, Kharpert, Zeytun and the Sea of Marmara and he obtained their eyewitness accounts of the Turkish-government supervised plunder, abductions, and massacres on the road to exile. Brimming with the eloquent, vivid narrative of a journalist, the Crime of the Ages is an invaluable work of historiography as it encompasses not only firsthand victim accounts, but a wealth of evidential information culled from Turkish, European, and American official sources.

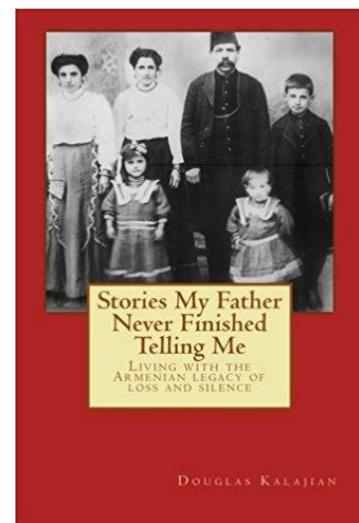
**Publication Year:** 2010



***Stories My Father Never Finished Telling Me: Living with the Armenian Legacy of Loss and Silence* by Douglas Kalajian**

**Description:** *Stories My Father Never Finished Telling Me* recounts author Douglas Kalajian's lifelong attempts to overcome his father's reluctance to speak about his life as a survivor of the Armenian Genocide. In piecing together the scattered bits his father reluctantly shared, Kalajian reflects on how his father's silence affected his own life and his identity as an American of Armenian descent. Kalajian is a retired journalist who worked as an editor and writer for the Palm Beach Post and the Miami Herald. He is author of the nonfiction book *Snow Blind* and co-author of *They Had No Voice: My Fight for Alabama's Forgotten Children*.

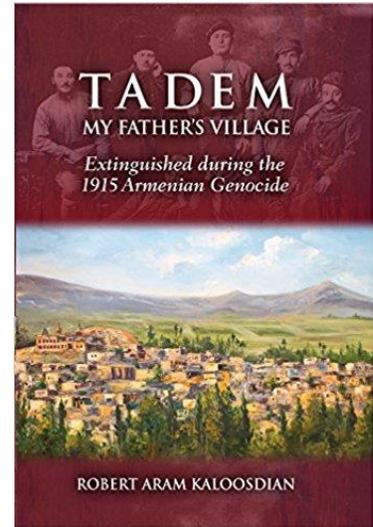
**Publication Year:** 2014



***Tadem, My Father's Village: Extinguished during the 1915 Armenian Genocide* by Robert Aram Kaloosdian**

**Description:** Drawing on accounts from over a dozen witnesses, most never before published, the author recounts the life and death of one village. He follows his father, Boghos Kezerian Kaloosdian, and other townspeople from the first intimations of violence through deportations, separations, massacres, and escapes, to the establishment of diasporal communities. With striking immediacy, the author presents Tadem as a microcosm of the Genocide and argues that the Turks used the outbreak of World War I as a cover for atrocities motivated by religious hatred and greed.

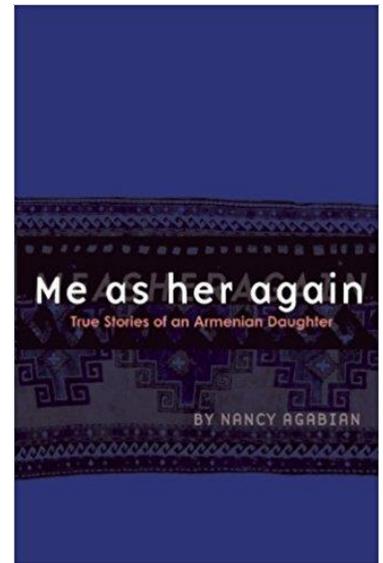
**Publication Year:** 2015



***Me as Her Again: True Stories of an Armenian Daughter* by Nancy Agabian**

**Description:** In this memoir, Nancy Agabian tells stories of growing pains, family tensions, and buried pasts. In a narrative that braids together different times and places and shifts between comic and dramatic registers, Agabian tells us how, as a child, she learns to juggle roles in response to competing pressures to fit in as an American while maintaining her Armenian heritage. At home, she struggles with her grandmother's old ideologies, arguments between her parents, and heated discussions about race and sexuality. In her twenties, Agabian moves to Hollywood and becomes a performance artist and begins to discover herself sexually, dating both men and women. After hiding her autobiographical shows from her relatives, she finally decides to confront her family history and takes a trip to Armenia with her artist aunt, during which she finds she must reckon with painful family histories involving displacement and genocide.

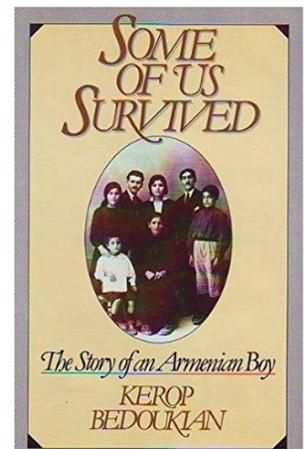
**Publication Year:** 2008



***Some of Us Survived: The Story of an Armenian Boy* by Kerop Bedoukian**

**Description:** Bedoukian recalls, sixty years later, the systematic annihilation and forced deportation by the Turks of the three million Armenians within their borders and his fortuitous inclusion among the few survivors.

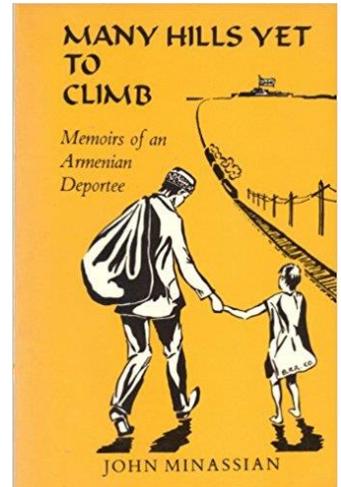
**Publication Year:** 1979



***Many Hills Yet to Climb: Memoirs of an Armenian Deportee* by John Minassian**

**Description:** The memoirs of John Minassian, who witnessed the loss of his family and friends, but managed to escape with his life by concealing his identity. In this book, Minassian recalls the city of his birth, Sivas, and a way of life long vanished, the American missionaries who taught him English, and the hardships of deportation. He reflects quietly upon the fear of finding himself separated from those he could trust and the uncertainties of the war years. Written thoughtfully, with no resentment about the past, the author asks, "How much have we learned from experience?"

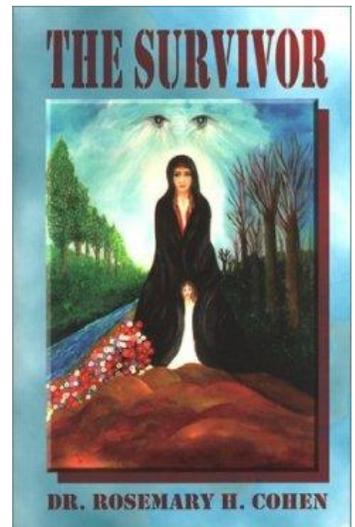
**Publication Year:** 1986



***The Survivor* by Rosemary Hartounian Cohen**

**Description:** Set in the early 1900s, it is a tender and sensitive story of a young girl caught in the crossfire of family traditions and political unrest. She wishes for an education, but she marries instead, as demanded by tradition, and is happy as a new bride, living in luxury, with a devoted husband. The war and its consequences shatter her life, transforming her into a member of the living dead. Yet she continues living and struggles hard to educate her only daughter, her sole reminder of a deep love and glorious past. Although the events in this book take place a century ago, the many sociological issues and deep-felt emotions are timely ever present and still true in this millennium.

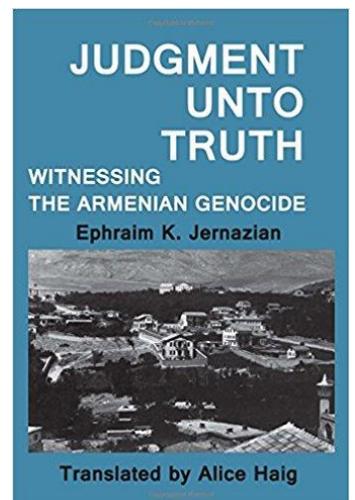
**Publication Year:** 2002



***Judgment Unto Truth: Witnessing the Armenian Genocide* by Ephraim Jernazian**

**Description:** This dramatic personal narrative is a unique contribution to understanding past and current events in the Near East. These memoirs of an American Protestant clergyman reveal little known aspects of major events in Asia Minor in the early twentieth century, give valuable insights to their background, and describe pivotal interrelationships with the western world. Those perceptions are woven into the story of the author's protracted genocidal experiences. Dispassionately rendered, *Judgment Unto Truth* is a call for truth and justice.

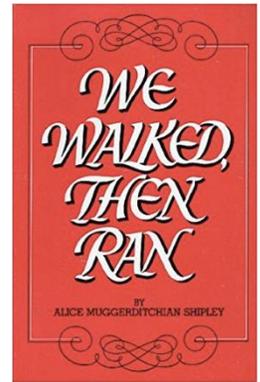
**Publication Year:** 1990



***We Walked, Then Ran* by Alice Muggerditchian Shipley**

**Description:** Born into a diplomatic family in pre-1914 Armenia, Alice Muggerditchian fled, with her mother and siblings, from the Turkish atrocities, made her way through the Russian Revolution, and finally arrived in the United States in 1919 to begin a new life. *We Walked Then Ran* is her own story of those momentous experiences.

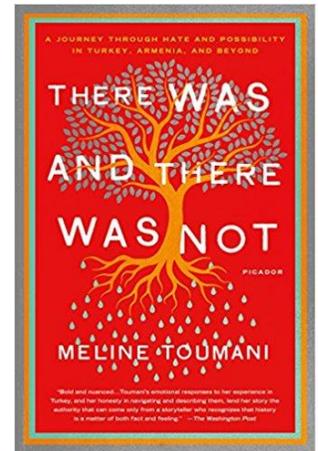
**Publication Year:** 1983



***There Was and There Was Not: A Journey Through Hate and Possibility in Turkey, Armenia, and Beyond* by Meliné Toumani**

**Description:** In this far-reaching quest, told with eloquence and power, Toumani probes universal questions: how to belong to a community without conforming to it, how to acknowledge a tragedy without exploiting it, and most importantly how to remember a genocide without perpetuating the kind of hatred that gave rise to it in the first place.

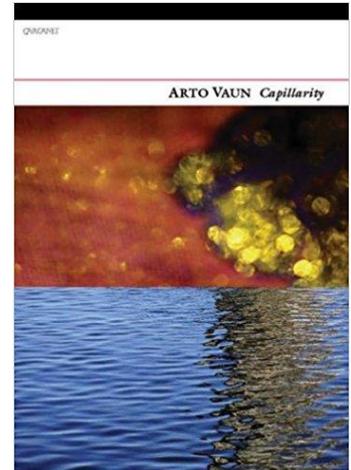
**Publication Year:** 2015



***Capillarity* by Arto Vaun**

**Description:** Rooted in autobiography and 20th-century Armenian history, these lyrical poems explore the true story of three generations of upheaval, migration, and homecoming. Exploring the dark corners and bright expanses of an individual's desire to break out of historical circumstances and belong to society and the world, this collection offers a daring and honest look at migrant experience, both personal and collective.

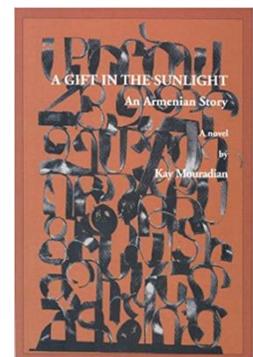
**Publication Year:** 2009



***A Gift in the Sunlight: An Armenian Story* by Kay Mouradian**

**Description:** Provides a historical account based on the author's mother and the Armenian Genocide of 1915.

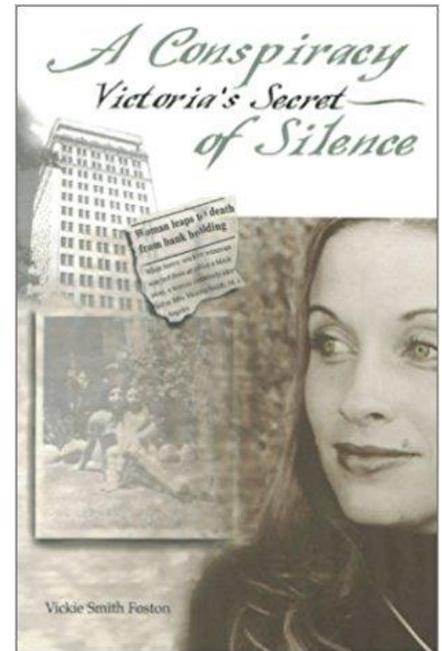
**Publication Year:** 2005



***Victoria's Secret: A Conspiracy of Silence* by Vickie Smith Foston**

**Description:** To her family, she was the black sheep who befriended the local Armenian immigrants; to her son, she was a reliable, kind and loving mother; to her namesake granddaughter, Victoria was a mystery woman whose tragic suicide appeared to be a silent testimony echoing through time. In *Victoria's Secret: A Conspiracy of Silence*, Vickie Smith Foston takes a historical journey to the lifetime that preceded her grandmother's death leap from the top of a sixteen-story building. Past decades of family resistance and obstacles of concealment, Vickie discovers an ancient culture, a nearly forgotten history, and a secret past that was supposed to have been buried with Victoria.

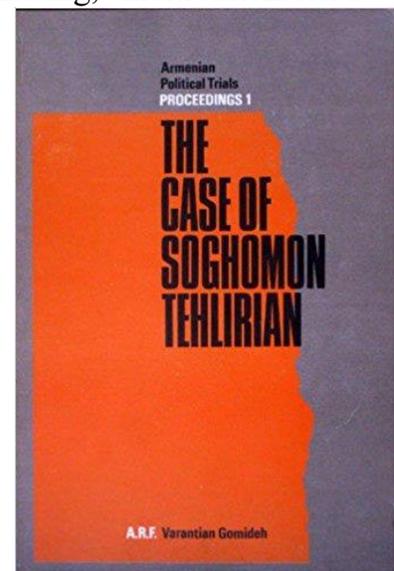
**Publication Year:** 2001



***The Case of Soghomon Tehlirian* translated by Vartkes Yeghiayan**

**Description:** The Case of Soghomon Tehlirian is a fascinating, multidimensional document. It is a trial transcript, which offers the reader a front row seat to a riveting trial which established a number of legal precedents. "For the first time in legal history" wrote Robert Kempner, a law student who attended the trial, and who subsequently became a key prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials, "it was recognized that other countries could legitimately combat gross human rights violations caused by a government, especially genocide, without committing unauthorized intervention in the internal affairs of another country." The Case of Soghomon Tehlirian was also instrumental in provoking Raphael Lemkin, who coined the word genocide, to investigate the paradox of how a single man, Tehlirian, could be prosecuted for murder, yet the murdered man, Talaat, had almost gotten away after successfully planning and prosecuting the extermination of over a million souls.

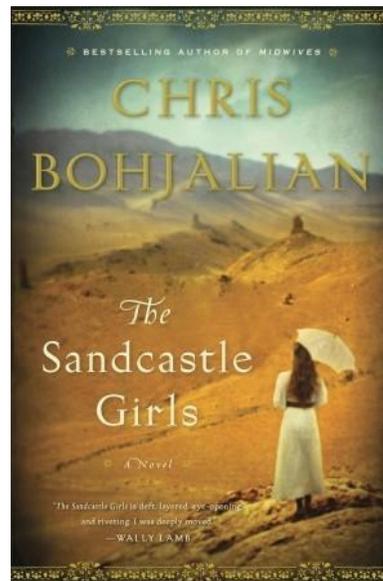
**Publication Year:** 1985



## Novels:

### ***The Sandcastle Girls* by Chris Bohjalian**

**Description:** When Elizabeth Endicott arrives in Aleppo, Syria, she has a diploma from Mount Holyoke, a crash course in nursing, and only the most basic grasp of the Armenian language. It's 1915, and Elizabeth has volunteered to help deliver food and medical aid to refugees of the Armenian Genocide during the First World War. There she meets Armen, a young Armenian engineer who has already lost his wife and infant daughter. After leaving Aleppo and traveling into Egypt to join the British Army, he begins to write Elizabeth letters, realizing that he has fallen in love with the wealthy young American. Years later, their American granddaughter, Laura, embarks on a journey back through her family's history, uncovering a story of love, loss—and a wrenching secret that has been buried for generations.

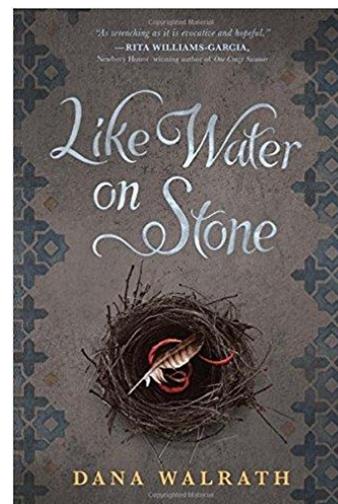


**Publication Year:** 2013

\*Recommended for 10<sup>th</sup> grade and older

### ***Like Water on Stone* by Dana Walrath**

**Description:** It is 1914, and the Ottoman Empire is crumbling into violence. Beyond Anatolia, in the Armenian Highlands, Shahan Donabedian dreams of going to New York. Sosi, his twin sister, never wants to leave her home, especially now that she is in love. At first, only Papa, who counts Turks and Kurds among his closest friends, stands in Shahan's way. But when the Ottoman pashas set in motion their plans to eliminate all Armenians, neither twin has a choice. After a horrifying attack leaves them orphaned, they flee into the mountains, carrying their little sister, Mariam. But the children are not alone. An eagle watches over them as they run at night and hide each day, making their way across mountain ridges and rivers red with blood.

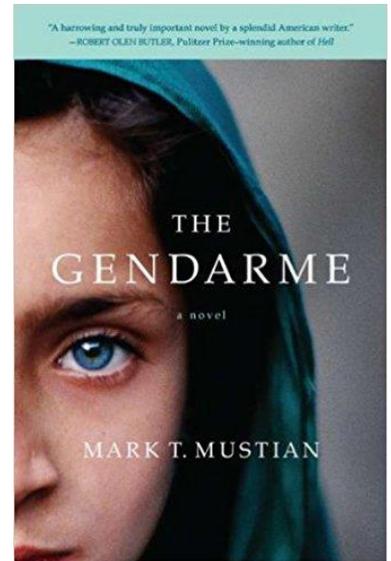


**Publication Year:** 2015

### ***The Gendarme* by Mark Mustian**

**Description:** To most people, Emmett Conn is a confused old World War I veteran, fading in and out of senility. But in his mind, Emmett is haunted by events he'd long forgotten. In his dreams, he's a gendarme, a soldier marching Armenians out of Turkey. He commits unspeakable acts. Yet he feels compelled to spare one remarkable woman: Araxie, the girl with the piercing eyes—one green, one blue. As the past and present bleed together in *The Gendarme*, Emmett Conn sets out on one final journey to find Araxie and beg forgiveness, before it's too late. With uncompromising vision and boundless compassion, Mark Mustian has written a transcendent meditation on the power of memory—and the dangers of forgetting who we are and have been.

**Publication Year:** 2011

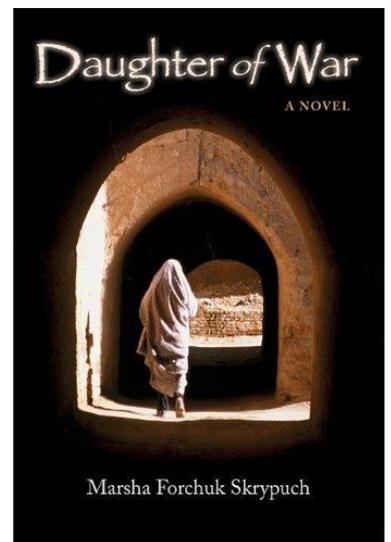


### ***Daughter of War* by Marsha Skrypuch**

**Description:** Teenagers Kevork and his betrothed Marta are the lucky ones. They have managed so far to survive the Armenian Genocide in Turkey, and both are disguised as Muslims. But Marta is still in Turkey, pregnant with another man's child. And Kevork is living as an Arab in Syria. Kevork yearns to get back into Turkey and search for Marta, but with the war raging and the genocide still in progress, the journey will be impossibly dangerous. Meanwhile, Marta worries that even if Kevork has survived and they are reunited, will he be able to accept what she has become? And what has happened to her sister, Mariam, who was sold as a slave to the highest bidder? *Daughter of War* is a gripping story of enduring love and loyalty set against the horrors of Turkey during World War I.

**Publication Year:** 2008

\*Recommended for 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older

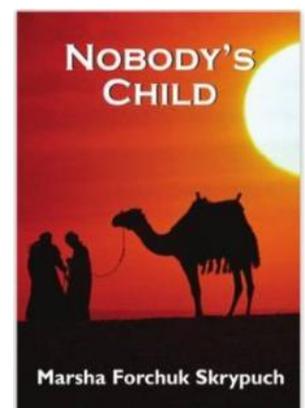


### ***Nobody's Child* by Marsha Skrypuch**

**Description:** Orphaned by the Adana massacre in 1909, Mariam and her siblings, together with their friend Kevork and his aunt, travel home to Marash hoping to find their remaining family still alive. Six years later, when the teens face deportation from Turkey, they are torn apart despite their best efforts to stay together. One thing sustains them throughout their horrifying ordeals -- the hope that they might one day be reunited.

**Publication Year:** 2003

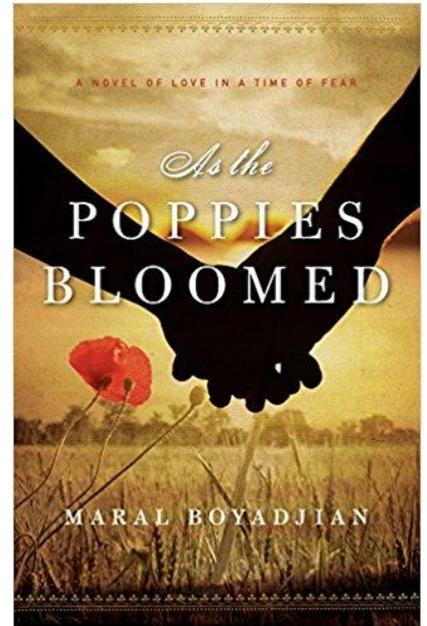
\*Recommended for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older



***As the Poppies Bloomed: A Novel of Love in a Time of Fear* by Maral Boyadjian**

**Description:** It is 1913 and late summer in the Ottoman Empire. The sun rises, full and golden, atop a lush, centuries-old village tucked into the highlands where the blood-red poppies bloom. Outside the village leader's home, the sound of voices carries past the grapevines to the lane where Anno, his youngest daughter, slips out unseen. She heads to a secret meeting place. She forgets that enemies surround her village. She forgets that her father meets each day with trepidation. She knows only the love she has for Daron, who waits for her as she hastens to him, once again breaking the ancient rules of courtship. Anno and Daron wish for nothing more than marriage and a better day alongside their neighbors, but neither is prepared for the dark, dangerous secret that Daron's father keeps or the upheaval that will soon envelop their village, their land, and their hearts.

**Publication Year:** 2015

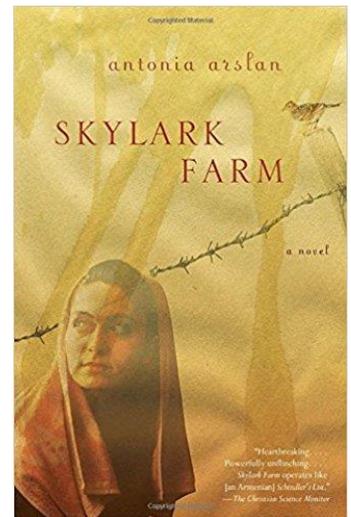


***Skylark Farm* by Antonia Arslan**

**Description:** A beautiful, wrenching debut chronicling the life of a family struggling for survival during the Armenian genocide in Turkey, in 1915. After forty years in Venice, Yerwant is planning a long-awaited reunion with his family at their homestead in the Anatolian hills of Turkey. But as joyful preparations begin, Italy enters the Great War and closes its borders. At the same time, in Turkey, the Young Turks, determined to rid their nation of minorities, force his family on a brutal march of hunger and humiliation. We follow Yerwant's relatives as they strain to stay alive and as four children set out on a daring course to reach Yerwant—and safety—in Italy.

**Publication Year:** 2008

\**The Lark Farm* is the film adaptation available online.

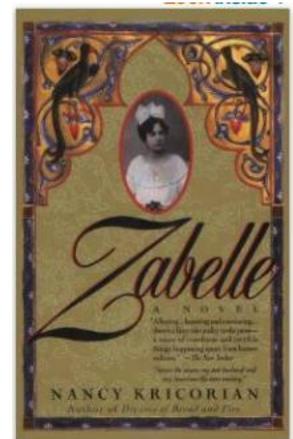


***Zabelle* by Nancy Kricorian**

**Description:** As Zabelle's family assembles for her funeral in present-day Massachusetts, it becomes clear that her children hardly knew her. But as this alternatively comic and heartbreaking novel unfolds--beginning with Zabelle's survival of the 1915 Armenian Genocide in Turkey and her subsequent emigration to America for an arranged marriage--an unforgettable character emerges.

**Publication Year:** 2009

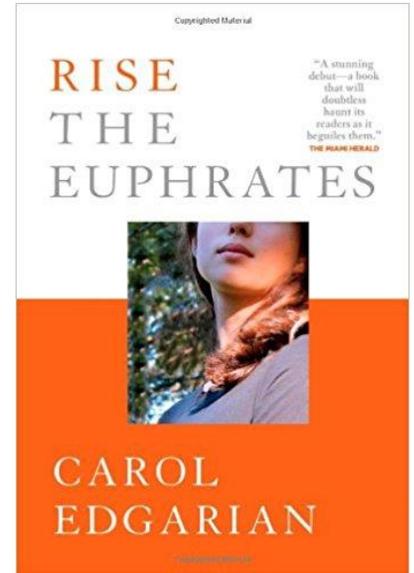
\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older



### ***Rise the Euphrates* by Carol Edgarian**

**Description:** A contemporary woman's coming of age story, the novel reaches back to 1915 Armenia, when Seta Loon's family is fractured in the Armenian genocide at the hands of the Turks. Two generations later, Seta, the novel's lyrical narrator, must alter her family's legacy. "The daughter assumes what is unfinished in her mother's life," Seta learns. Caught between the generations, between American and Armenian cultures in her Connecticut town, Seta confronts an even fiercer division, the one within herself. The wisdom she gains frees the next generation in Carol Edgarian's stunningly original and ground-breaking novel.

**Publication Year:** 2011

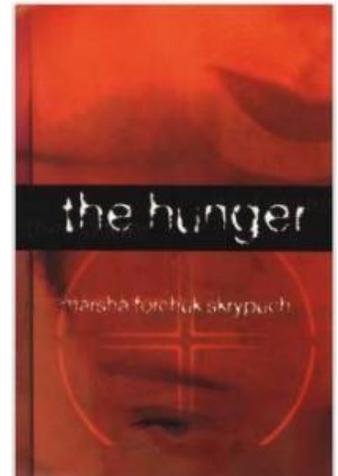


### ***The Hunger* by Marsha Skrypuch**

**Description:** Marsha's interest in untold chapters of ethnic history compelled her to write her newly completed young adult novel, *The Hunger*. The story tells of Paula, a contemporary teen who tries to solve her problems by dieting to perfection. Instead of attaining the perfect body, she ends up near death. While unconscious, her spirit slips back into her own great-grandmother's time and Paula finds herself disgorged onto the banks of the Euphrates River. Paula must deal with the stark contrast between her own self-imposed hunger and the chillingly real physical deprivation that her great-grandmother endured as a result of ethnic cleansing in Turkish Armenia.

**Publication Year:** 2002

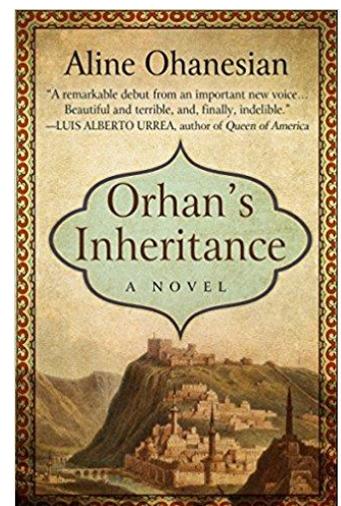
\*Recommended for 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older



### ***Orhan's Inheritance* by Aline Ohanesian**

**Description:** When Orhan's brilliant and eccentric grandfather, who built a dynasty out of making kilim rugs, is found dead, submerged in a vat of dye, Orhan inherits the decades-old business. But his grandfather has left the family estate to a stranger, thousands of miles away, Seda, an aging woman in a retirement home in Los Angeles. Over time, Orhan begins to unearth the story that eighty-seven-year-old Seda so closely guards--a story that, if it's told, has the power to undo the legacy upon which Orhan's family is built and could unravel Orhan's own future.

**Publication Year:** 2015

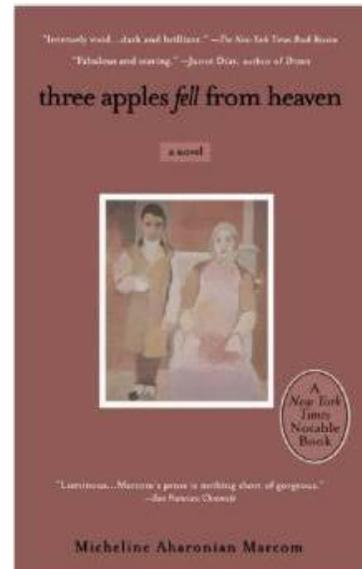


***Three Apples Fell From Heaven* by Micheline Aharonian Marcom**  
(A New York Times Notable Book)

**Description:** Through a series of chapters that have the weight and economy of poetry, Micheline Aharonian Marcom introduces us to the stories of Anaguil, an Armenian girl taken in by Turkish neighbors after the death of her parents who now views the remains of her world through a Muslim veil; Sargis, a poet hidden away in his mother's attic, dressed in women's clothing, and steadily going mad; Lucine, a servant and lover of the American consul; Maritsa, a rage-filled Muslim wife who becomes a whore; and Dickran, an infant left behind under a tree on the long exodus from an Armenian village, who reaches with tiny hands to touch the stars and dies with his name unrecorded. Through these lives, we witness the vanishing of a people.

**Publication Year:** 2002

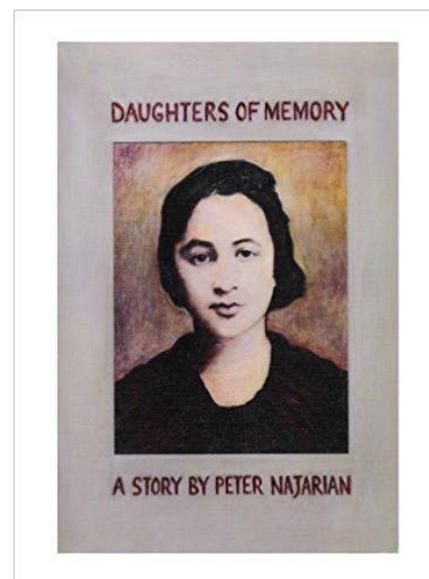
\*Recommended for 11<sup>th</sup> grade and older



***Daughters of Memory* by Peter Najarian**

**Description:** In *Daughters of Memory*, the third novel in what the author now describes as a series centered on a single protagonist at different stages of life and consciousness, Najarian tells a haunting tale in pellucid prose. It is a tale of an artist's search for "the center, the buried seed" which Zeke, the questing painter, believes inheres in the elusive essence of the eternal woman. Zeke's personal search is intertwined with the stories of his close friends, Charlie and Dolores, whose lives mirror the drift of the 1960s, and of his family, Armenian immigrants whose fate illuminates the dark side of history itself. The novel is a series of vignettes beautifully counterpointed by the choric conversations of old women "sitting around in a place like Fresno," gossiping, remembering, surviving. The book unites the circumstantiality and spaciousness of the traditional novel with the subjectivity and intensity of the lyric poem. Portentous without being pretentious, the narrative gives flesh and pulse to some of the ideas of Jung, Eliade, Campbell, and Neumann, while offering a convincing account of human experience.

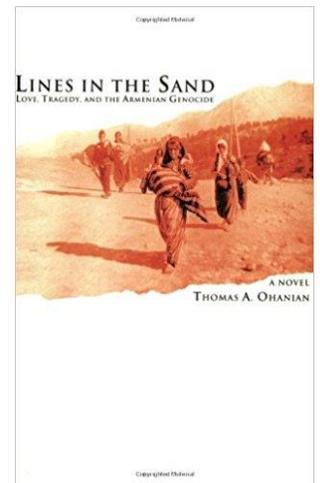
**Publication Year:** 1986



***Lines in the Sand* by Thomas Ohanian** (Thomas Ohanian is an Academy Award and two-time Emmy Award recipient)

**Description:** *Lines in The Sand* is a love story set against the backdrop of World War 1 and the Genocide of the Armenian nation. It is the story of families who must sacrifice everything, and as countries collide, it is the story of a young man and woman who find each other and must struggle to survive despite impossible odds.

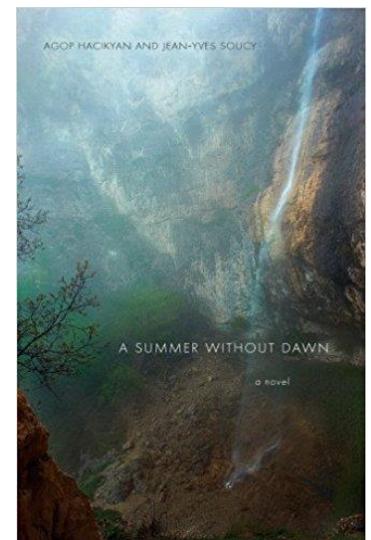
**Publication Year:** 2001



***A Summer without Dawn: An Armenian Epic* by Agop Hacikyan and Jean-Yves Soucy**

**Description:** In the summer of 1915, days after the government orders the deportation of the Armenians, journalist Vartan Balian, an Armenian, is imprisoned by politicians hoping to silence him. Soon, after a daring escape, he embarks on an odyssey across the vast empire in desperate search of his wife, Maro, and their young son Tomas, whose own stories we gradually learn. In the ensuing years the Balian will each confront the calamities of war as well as the secrets of the human heart. *A Summer without Dawn* is a compelling story about a family swept up in one of history's darkest moments, and a moving portrait of a people's unbreakable will to survive.

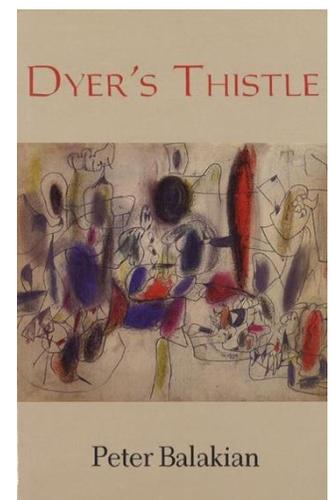
**Publication Year:** 2010



***Dyer's Thistle* (Carnegie Mellon Poetry Series) by Peter Balakian**

**Description:** In *Dyer's Thistle*, Peter Balakian writes a severe and sensual poetry that unfolds discoveries of myth and history. He creates a landscape in which the private self is often inundated by messages of global suffering and must confront an American spiritual predicament. Inventing a language of condensation and leaps, Balakian probes a contemporary notion of the sublime as it oscillates between terror and beauty. In poems like "The Oriental Rug" and "American Dreaming," he finds the threads back to the ancient culture of Armenia, and to the tragedy of the century's first genocide, committed by the Turkish government against its Armenian population. Exile and immigration are as much a part of his music as are rock 'n roll, the Vietnam War, and the dark ironies of growing up in the suburbs of the fifties and sixties.

**Publication Year:** 1996



### ***The Gate* by Peter Sourian**

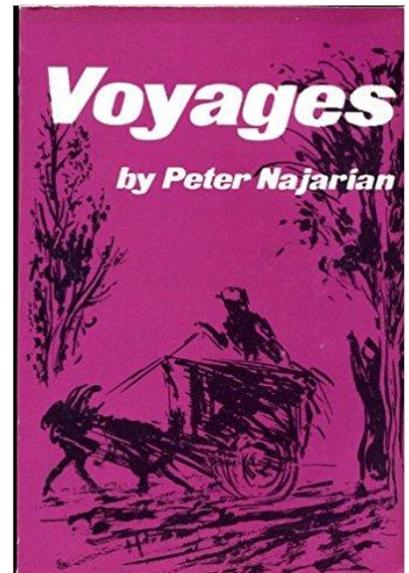
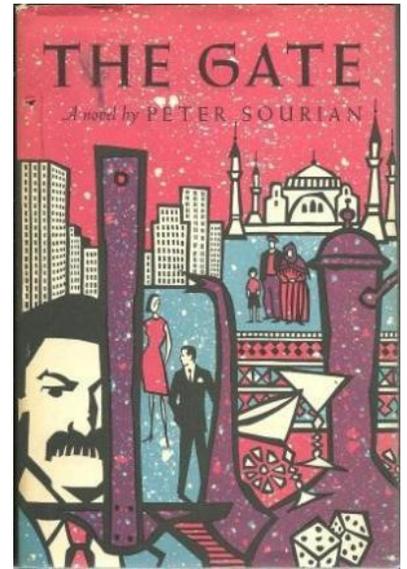
**Description:** This novel starts with a journey by a victim of history, and deals with several other kinds of journeys-- actual, social, spiritual, as well as several kinds of history-- national, family, personal. It is about three generations of the Stepanyan family, ranging in time from the 1890's to the 1960's, and in space from a ravaged village near the Black Sea to a remodeled town house in the East Seventies. The Gate is the title of a novel young Paul Stepanyan is writing "'root of my Armenian background, my family's immigrant past,'" and its first chapter is an account of his grandfather's journey to Constantinople and later exile and imprisonment. For others of his generation who escape to America, patriotic idealism is imperceptibly transformed into imprisoning self-deception or obsession. Sarkis, Vahan's son, travels another road in America from poor immigrant to successful architect, in a life which carries a bitter residue of failure in his relationship to his children. For the children, Grace and Paul, the journey is spiritual or psychological, an attempt to fit together a broken truth or a broken self. Unfortunately, the novel is much more vivid at the level of manners and surfaces than it is in attempting to deal with intense emotional states, and much more successful in its satirical portraiture than it is in attaining focus.

**Publication Year:** 1965

### ***Voyages* by Peter Najarian**

**Description:** This is an appealing and timely first novel by a young Armenian-American who writes of the difficulties of coming to terms with a second homeland that isn't always welcoming. Writing out of the memories of growing up "different" in an Armenian community on the Jersey side of the Hudson, Peter Najarian turns into lyrical and moving fiction his tale of disillusionment with America, its crassness, its inhumanity to ethnic groups, and its betrayal of the very values it proclaims. Aram, the young narrator of the novel, recounts stories of massacre and breakups of families in Armenia, lonely journeys to the New World, and painful new starts in strange and harsh circumstances. These stories of his parents and their generation become a rich counterpoint to his own story and his own generation, a very different tale, but one in which he tries to join his past with the present. Rejecting the example of his older brother, Aram refuses to become a conventional American, but even in Europe cannot escape the deep love he holds for his brother and for home. Turning once again towards America, Aram seems to contemplate a new confrontation, perhaps a better connection with his time and his country.

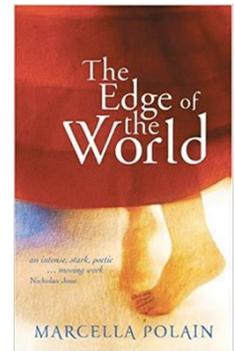
**Publication Year:** 1979



***The Edge of the World* by Marcella Polain**

**Description:** A powerful, monumental story of an Armenian family, this account spans 100 years, five countries, and several generations. A family fragmented by genocide, exile and emigration, but which, through extraordinary acts of courage and compassion, is eventually brought together again—albeit utterly changed.

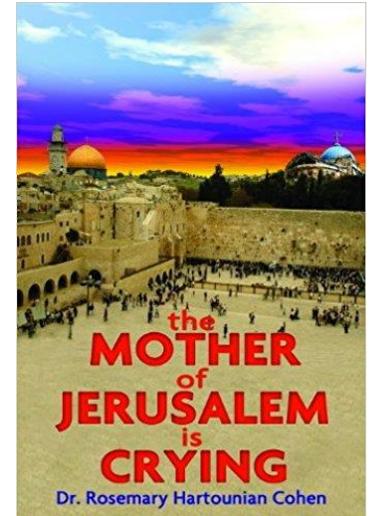
**Publication Year:** 2007



***The Mother of Jerusalem is Crying* by Rosemary Hartounian Cohen**

**Description:** *The Mother of Jerusalem is Crying* is a sweeping historical novel that begins in 19th Century Armenia, then under Turkish control, and tells the interwoven stories of three families - Christian, Jewish and Muslim over three generations and three continents. The story describes their lives in terms of their traditions, triumphs and tragedies, and how they contended with the violence of the Armenian Genocide, World War Two, the Holocaust, and the founding of Israel. Many of the characters do not survive the enveloping violence. Despite these tragedies, the message of this book is hopeful. The story illustrates that people of different faiths can live together, marry, and raise happy children. Ordinary people, perhaps more than their political leaders, have the capacity to bring an end to the Suffering and death that mark our time.

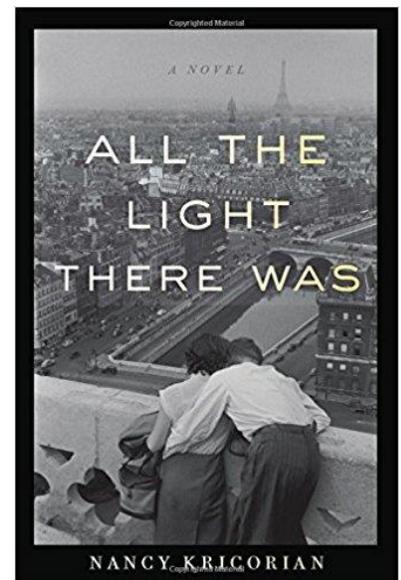
**Publication Year:** 2012



***All the Light There Was* by Nancy Kricorian**

**Description:** *All the Light There Was* is the story of an Armenian family's struggle to survive the Nazi occupation of Paris in the 1940s—a lyrical, finely wrought tale of loyalty, love, and the many faces of resistance. On the day the Nazis march down the rue de Belleville, fourteen-year-old Maral Pegorian is living with her family in Paris; like many other Armenians who survived the genocide in their homeland, they have come to Paris to build a new life. The adults immediately set about gathering food and provisions, bracing for the deprivation they know all too well. But the children—Maral, her brother Missak, and their close friend Zaven—are spurred to action of another sort, finding secret and not-so-secret ways to resist their oppressors. Only when Zaven flees with his brother Barkev to avoid conscription does Maral realize that the occupation is not simply a temporary outrage to be endured. After many fraught months, just one brother returns, changing the contours of Maral's world completely.

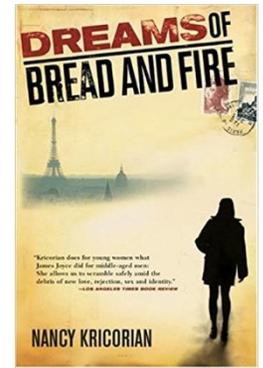
**Publication Year:** 2013



***Dreams of Bread and Fire* by Nancy Kricorian**

**Description:** A breathtaking novel that follows a young woman named Ani Silver through college, a long sojourn in Paris, and a string of romantic entanglements, all of which lead her to confront the legacy of her Armenian family's tragic past.

**Publication Year:** 2004



***Fair Sun* by Susan Barba**

**Description:** The three interrelated sections of poetry in *Fair Sun* explore the primary importance of connection, both with other human beings and with the natural world. The second section consists of a series of prose poems titled 'Andranik.' In these poems, a child is speaking with her grandfather who relates, in answer to her questioning (she knows what to ask, his answers are as familiar to her as nursery rhymes), the details of his survival during the Armenian Genocide: his escape, the murder of his father, the suicide of his sister, the death of his best friend, forced marches, enslavement all punctuated by memories of an earlier boyhood spent chasing ducks, swimming in the river, sleeping on mats under the stars.

**Publication Year:** 2017

