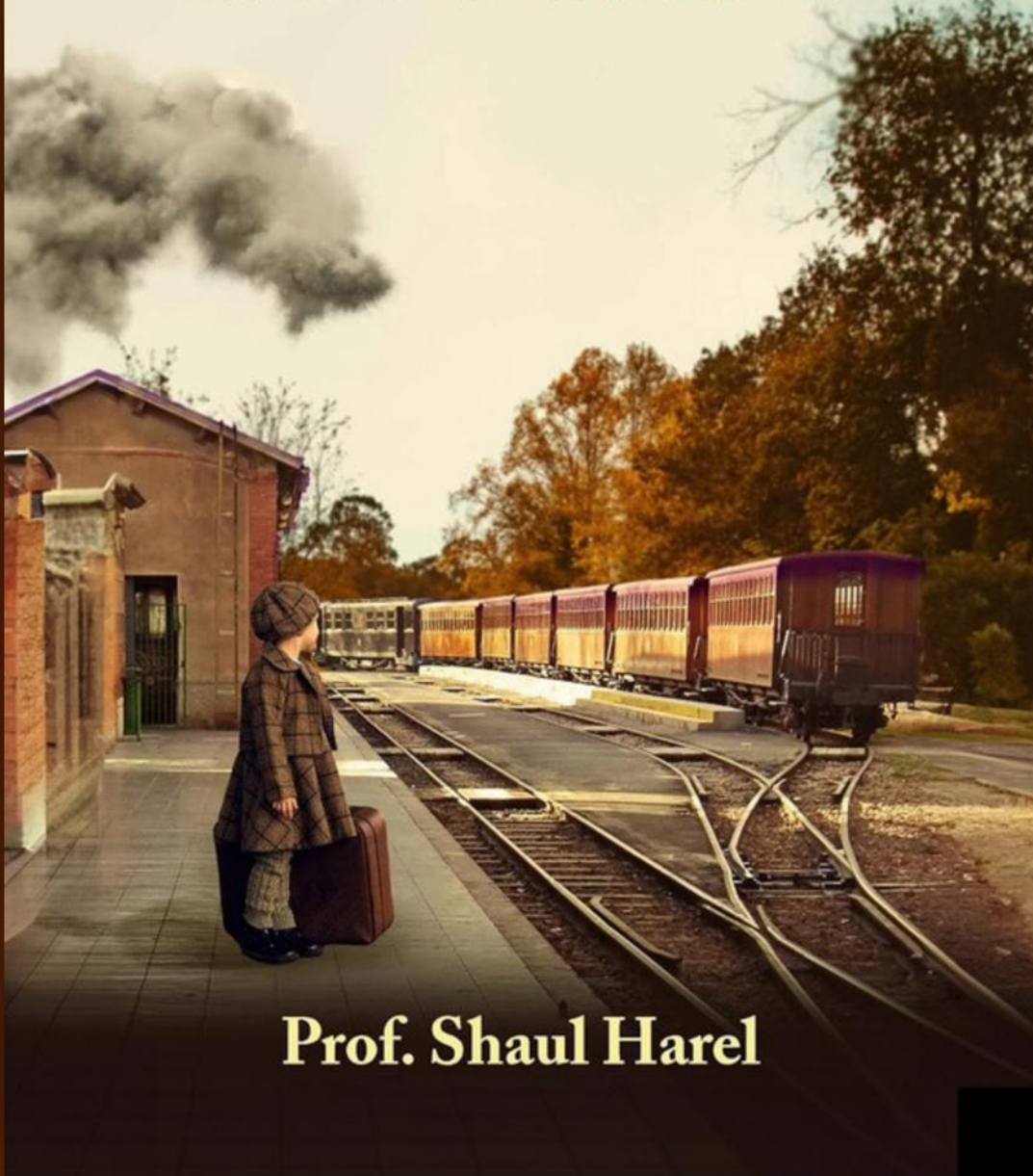


A CHILD WITHOUT A SHADOW: A STORY OF RESILIENCE



Prof. Shaul Harel

THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY

From Holocaust survivor to world expert in pediatric neurology: The moving story of Professor Shaul Harel's transformation from a hidden child during WWII to an internationally acclaimed medical pioneer.

ABOUT THE BOOK

In 1942, five-year-old Charlie Hilsberg disappeared. The Belgian Resistance erased his identity to save his life, transforming him into one of the "children without shadows." This extraordinary memoir chronicles his journey from those dark days to becoming Professor Shaul Harel, a world-renowned expert who would dedicate his life to healing children.

This powerful narrative unfolds across three continents and spans eight decades, weaving together:

- A gripping Holocaust survival story of a hidden child
- The building of a new life in the nascent state of Israel
- A pioneering medical career that would impact thousands
- A testament to the triumph of the human spirit

SYNOPSIS

Not a single child under the age of thirteen returned alive from Mechelen transit camp in Belgium. Against these impossible odds, young Charlie survived through a network of safe houses and brave resisters. While his parents and siblings perished in Auschwitz, he emerged from the war to begin an extraordinary journey of renewal.

After immigrating to Israel in 1949, Charlie became Shaul Harel and began rebuilding his shattered world. Despite facing a near-fatal injury during his military service, he pursued his dream of healing others. His path led him from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem to prestigious fellowships at UCLA and USC, eventually rising to become president of the International Child Neurology Association.

Most poignantly, in 1998, the same child who once hid from the Germans found himself presiding over an international medical conference in Slovenia, where German doctors now sought his professional guidance – a moment of profound historical irony and personal triumph.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Prof. Shaul Harel



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Over 170 publications in international medical journals
- Editor of seven books in pediatric neurology
- Co-founder of the Israeli Child Neurology Association
- President of the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA)
- Received by two popes: Jean-Paul II and Benedict XVI
- Organized two conferences for the Vatican
- Pioneer in pediatric neurology and child development research

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Officer of the Order of Leopold – Belgium's highest honor
- Ministry of Health Award for Excellence
- Arnold P. Gold Award for Humanism in Medicine – American Child Neurology Society
- Lifetime Achievement Award – Israeli Society of Child Development
- Excellence Award – Child Neurology Mediterranean Congress



Top Reviews From the United-States:

emotional, well told, story of resilience

“I was captivated by this book..... Little Charlie, I am so glad you were able to not only survive, but to make a huge positive impact on the world. God Bless”!



Everyone must read this book

“A heartbreaking, inspiring true story of resilience, hope and restoration despite extreme cruelty and horror. Thankful for all the people in this story who unselfishly saved the hidden children and many others. Special honor to the brave and courageous parents who gave up their beloved children so they would live”!



Courage, resilience, optimism can overcome

“Excellent book. The story of his childhood, survival, and career were awe inspiring. Example of what people can accomplish under the most difficult conditions. Besides his story of survival, his accomplishments as a doctor are important and changed lives. He is an example of giving back and I’m in awe of his story”.



Top Reviews From the United Kingdom:

Amazing Story

“Once you start to read the book you will find it a job to put down
Highly recommended”.



Deeply moving and insightful

“What can I say other than I salute you Prof. Shaul Harel!

Thank goodness for those brave individuals who risked their lives to hide and save the lives of Jewish children during WW2. Despite being robbed of his parents and his family, and then becoming a hidden child during WW2, Shaul's lifelong dedication to the work of child neurology is truly remarkable. If I could give this book ten stars then I would. I can't recommend this book highly enough”!



PUBLISHING VALUE

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This memoir uncovers a remarkable, previously untold chapter of Holocaust history: the Belgian Resistance's secret operation that saved 3,000 Jewish children from deportation to death camps. Through Professor Harel's personal story, readers gain unprecedented insight into this heroic rescue network that operated under extreme danger to preserve young lives.

In 2003, at age 66, Professor Harel's visit to Auschwitz led to a profound discovery: His father and brother had been murdered during medical experiments. This revelation spurred him to become an active commemorator of the Holocaust and the Belgian Resistance's heroic work. His subsequent contributions include:

- Organizing the First Hidden Children Convention in Jerusalem (2007)
- Creating the documentary "Children Without a Shadow"
- Preserving crucial testimony about the Belgian resistance
- Bridging medical science with humanitarian values

READER'S IMPACT

"Of all his achievements in pediatric neurology and child development, of all the awards that he received, Professor Shaul Harel had never felt greater satisfaction than when he presided over that medical conference in Slovenia, watching German doctors seek his permission to speak."

Readers consistently praise the book for its:

- Powerful narrative that spans decades
- Inspirational message of overcoming trauma
- Unique perspective on both survival and success
- Universal themes of resilience and hope



MARKET POTENTIAL

This compelling work appeals to diverse audiences:

- Readers of Holocaust literature and WWII history
- Medical professionals and students
- Those interested in trauma recovery and resilience
- Readers seeking inspiring true stories of triumph
- Academic institutions and medical schools
- Holocaust education programs



THE UNIVERSAL MESSAGE



Professor Harel's extraordinary journey demonstrates that even from the darkest beginnings, one can rise to create profound positive change in the world. His transformation from hidden child to healer offers hope and inspiration to readers everywhere, proving that trauma need not define one's destiny.

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