Edited by Klaas Smelik, Gerrit Van Oord and Jurjen Wiersma

Reading Etty Hillesum in Context
Writings, Life, and Influences of a Visionary Author

The diaries and letters of Etty Hillesum have a special place among the Jewish-Dutch testimonies of the Shoah. Not only do they contain a description of the transit camp Westerbork during the German occupation of the Netherlands; they also reflect Etty Hillesum’s important existential search, which was of an ethical, philosophical, spiritual and literary nature. Since the first publication in 1981, her writings have received worldwide attention. Since then Etty Hillesum studies have become a distinct field within the international research in the Humanities.

This volume offers a valuable overview of the various angles international research has taken in investigating Hillesum’s multi-faceted work and life. With the most important contributions of the leading series Etty Hillesum Studies from the past 15 years, this volume offers a coherent state of the art, assuring worldwide accessibility for the study of this exceptional author.

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