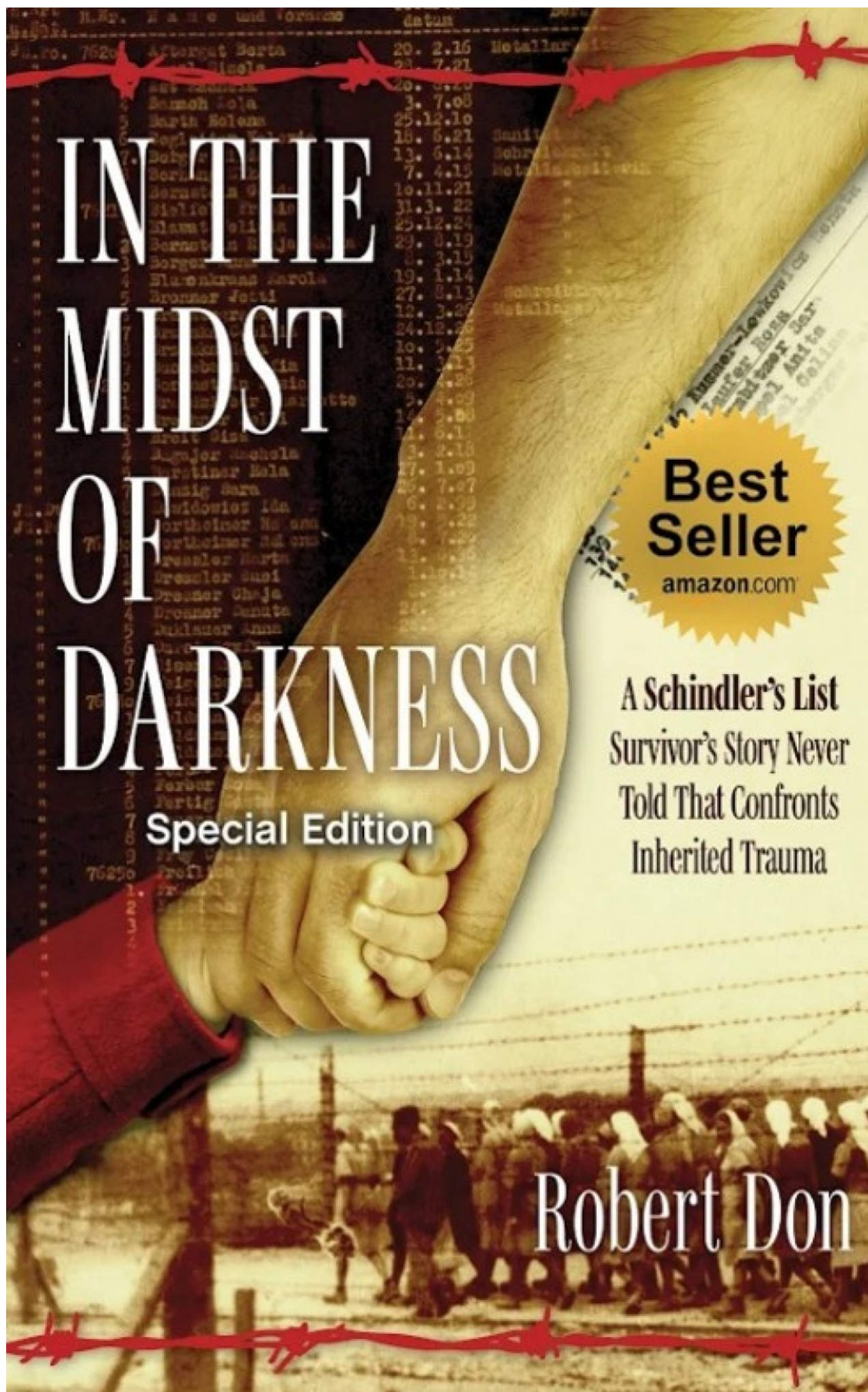


Robert Don's In the Midst of Darkness Became an Amazon Bestseller Across Three Major Holocaust and Sociology Categories

Robert Don's *In the Midst of Darkness* became an Amazon bestseller across three Holocaust and sociology categories, spotlighting trauma and reconciliation.



IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS

Special Edition

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A Schindler's List
Survivor's Story Never
Told That Confronts
Inherited Trauma

Robert Don

Chicago, Illinois Sep 7, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Robert Don's *In the Midst of Darkness* has reached Amazon bestseller status across three categories: Sociology of Race Relations, General Sociology of Race Relations, and Holocaust Biographies. The deeply personal memoir explores a rarely told aspect of Holocaust history: the lasting impact of survivor trauma on the children who inherit its emotional weight.

Robert's story begins with a question that shaped his entire life: What happens when a child grows up carrying the fears, pain, and beliefs created by a parent's unimaginable trauma?

The son of Holocaust survivor Rosa Laufer Don, Robert grew up surrounded by memories of loss and survival. His mother endured Nazi persecution, lost her entire family, both parents, her four sisters, and a brother in the Auschwitz and Belzec extermination camps, but survived because she was among the Jewish people protected by German industrialist Oskar Schindler. Yet the full significance of her survival, and the story behind it, was something Robert would only discover years later, never knowing while she was alive that she was a "Schindler's List" survivor.

As a child, Robert struggled to understand the impact of his mother's Holocaust experiences on his family. Her memories shaped how he viewed the world, relationships, and the people around him. He absorbed the fears and anger that came from her suffering, particularly in how he viewed his German stepmother, Kathy, and every other German. But what that did to his brother was immeasurable: he suffered a nervous breakdown when he was 23, and his brother was only 13. He never recovered from what happened to him, and throughout his adult life he was deeply impacted by mental illness, a fate Robert often felt that could have been his own. The unrelenting irony is that he or his brother never knew, while she was alive, that his mother, with over 1200 other Jewish lives, was saved by a German, let alone a member of the Nazi Party.

In the Midst of Darkness examines the complex reality of second-generation Holocaust survivors: children who did not experience the Holocaust firsthand but grew up deeply affected by its consequences. Robert explores how unresolved trauma can influence identity, family relationships, emotional health, and perceptions of others across generations.

The memoir asks difficult questions that extend far beyond one family's experience:

- How does trauma pass from one generation to another?
- How do children separate inherited beliefs from their own understanding?
- Can people confront painful histories and find a path toward greater compassion?

"This book is about what trauma can pass from one generation to the next, but it is also about the possibility of breaking that cycle," said Robert Don. *"We cannot choose what we inherit as children, but with awareness, compassion, and courage, we can learn to see people through our own lens."*

Through his family's story, Robert offers a broader conversation about how historical trauma continues to influence families decades after the original events. His memoir provides insight into the emotional experiences of second-generation survivors and anyone confronting the impact of inherited pain.

The recognition of *In the Midst of Darkness* across sociology, race relations, and Holocaust biography categories reflects the book's relevance to readers interested not only in Holocaust history but also in psychology, family dynamics, prejudice, resilience, and reconciliation.

In the Midst of Darkness is available in paperback, hardcover, and eBook formats through [Amazon](#). For more information about the author and his book, visit <https://inthemidstofdarkness.com/>.

About the Author

Robert Don has been changing careers from his professional background in senior risk management in corporate banking to becoming a writer. He recently conducted research in both the Auschwitz and Plaszów concentration camps, where his mother was deported, and is deeply familiar with the Holocaust stories being told. Having lived through this story, he finally wanted to tell the story and was well-versed in the details of this time period of the Holocaust. *In the Midst of Darkness* will be his debut book.

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