



Boston University Events & Conferences

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# The Fascination with Jewish Tales

## THREE ENCOUNTERS WITH

# ELIE WIESEL

“He is living proof that the powerful, eloquent voice of one man can help make the world a more tolerant and just place.”

—New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson,  
presenting Elie Wiesel with the Lantos Human Rights Prize, November 2010

**Elie Wiesel is an active spokesman** for peace and human rights all over the world. He has worked on behalf of Soviet Jews and also the State of Israel, and has helped the relatives of “the Disappeared” in Argentina. He has spoken out for victims in Rwanda and Ethiopia, for the Cambodian Boat People, against apartheid in South Africa, in support of peace and human rights in Central America and Kosovo, on behalf of those suffering and at risk in the Darfur region of former Sudan, and, more recently, bringing attention to the political and legal injustice in Russia evidenced by the imprisonment of former Yukos Oil CEO Mikhail Khodorkovsky.

Wiesel was 15 years old in 1944 when he and his family were deported from a small village in Transylvania to Auschwitz, where his mother and younger sister perished. Wiesel and his father were later taken to Buchenwald, where his father died before the camp was liberated in 1945. *Night*, the deeply moving account of his experience during the Holocaust, was written when he could no longer remain silent about what he witnessed as a prisoner in the Nazi death camps, and the mem-

oir has been translated into over thirty languages since its first publication in 1956.

Wiesel’s humanitarian efforts have earned him many honors, including the United States Congressional Gold Medal (1985) and the Medal of Liberty Award (1986); the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1992); the rank of Grand-Croix in the French Legion of Honor (2001); an honorary Knighthood of the British Empire awarded by Her Majesty, the Queen (2006); and, in 1986, the Nobel Peace Prize. He has written more than fifty books and is the recipient of numerous literary awards and honorary degrees. He became an American citizen in 1963. Soon after receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity was established, with the mission of advancing the cause of human rights and peace throughout the world by creating a forum for the discussion of urgent ethical and moral issues confronting humankind.

Professor Wiesel has been the Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities at Boston University since 1976.

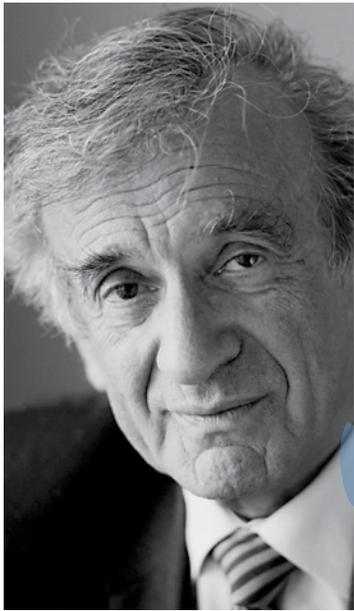


Photo by Sergey Bernheim

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THREE ENCOUNTERS WITH

# ELIE WIESEL

Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the Humanities, Boston University

“That is my major preoccupation—memory, the kingdom of memory. I want to protect and enrich that kingdom, glorify that kingdom and serve it.”

—Elie Wiesel

### **In the Bible: Return to the Akeda—Why I Love Isaac**

Introduction by Dr. John Silber, President Emeritus, Boston University

*November 7, 2011 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)*

### **In the Talmud: The Greatness of Rabbi Eliezer ben Hyrcanus**

Introduction by Deena Klepper, Associate Professor of History and Religion;  
Chair, Department of Religion, Boston University

*November 14, 2011 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)*

### **Today: Reflections on Good and Evil**

Introduction by Rabbi Joseph A. Polak, Director, Hillel Foundation;  
Rabbi to the Jewish Community at Boston University

*November 21, 2011 at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.)*

“Every book has its own [melody]. It’s more than simple rhythm. It’s like a musical key, major or minor, but more so. If you have that key, you know you can go on—the book is there. It’s a matter of time before I begin to know more or less what I want to say: the ideas, the characters, the opinions. But the profound meaning of the book is within me; I still don’t know what it is. And then, suddenly, at the corner of a sentence, an astonishing discovery: *this* is where I was trying to go.”

—Elie Wiesel

**Free and open to the public.** Tickets not required.

For security purposes, all bags are subject to inspection on entry.

**Sign language interpreters will be available.**

**No seating in Metcalf Hall once the program begins.**

**Overflow seating is available in the Conference Auditorium.**

**Boston University George Sherman Union  
Metcalf Hall**

775 Commonwealth Avenue

By MBTA: “Boston University Central” stop on the B Train of the Green Line

**Please note: No University parking is provided.**

**No food or beverages are permitted in Metcalf Hall.**

**For further information, call 617-353-2238.**

