

Renée Fink

hidden child in Holland

Renée Fink

- Renée was a “hidden child” in Holland for four years, beginning at age 4.
- Unlike Anne Frank, Renée lived “in plain sight” with a Catholic family; her Jewish identity was concealed and she lived as a practicing Catholic.
- “My maternal aunt, my grandmother, and I were the sole survivors of my immediate family.”
- She came to the U.S. in 1948.
- Renée was interviewed in October 2008.

Questions and Exercises

1. What would you expect to be the most common themes Renée would discuss? How does the word cloud confirm or challenge your expectations?
2. Based on the combinations of more and less frequently used words shown in the word cloud, what seems important to Renée? How might you explain this?
3. What words do you find Renée does NOT use often when describing her experiences? Does this surprise you? Why or why not?
4. Construct a creative project (poem, story, essay, etc.) focusing on the most frequently used words (those with the largest fonts in the word cloud). What does your project say about hidden children? About the Holocaust? About what it means to be hidden?

