

MFSHIEN
044
CHOI
C.2

'STORIES OF A NEW BIBLE':

RUTH KLUGER'S HOLOCAUST CHRONICLE IN *LANDSCAPES OF MEMORY*

CHOI Ho Leng, Rosina

M-A7-5513-8

Thesis Adviser: Professor Glenn Henry TIMMERMANS



A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in
English Studies at the University of Macau

April 2010

Abstract of thesis entitled

'Stories of a New Bible': Ruth Kluger's Holocaust Chronicle in

Landscapes of Memory

Submitted by

CHOI Ho Leng, M-A7-5513-8

for the degree of Master of Arts at the University of Macau in April 2010

Austrian-born Ruth Kluger (1931 -), a professor of German literature in America, was a child inmate in a number of Nazi concentration camps together with her mother. She has written her Holocaust memoir twice, in German in 1992, and in English in 2001. This thesis will look at the English memoir, *Landscapes of Memory*, to see how Kluger remembers and represents her Holocaust chronicle as well as her life before and after the experience. It will also seek to show a more critical analysis of women's experience of the Holocaust by comparing Kluger's experience to other survivors' of the Holocaust. The comparison is not to find a more accurate picture of the atrocity, but to look at how Kluger, along with other survivors, articulates her own experience, which, in turn, reveals her personality, her perceptions, her priorities in writing as well as how the experience helps shape the person she becomes after these traumatic events.

Contents

Abstract	iii
Declaration	iv
Acknowledgements	v
Introduction	x

I

Describing the Incomprehensible: Translating the Holocaust Experience into Writing	1
---	---

II

Mapping Kluger's Memory: A Brief Introduction to Kluger and <i>Landscapes of Memory</i>	10
--	----

III

Deciphering the Landscape: 'Vienna' (1931 – 1942)	23
--	----

IV

Deciphering the Landscape: 'The Camps' (1942 – 1945)	34
---	----

V

Deciphering the Landscape: 'Germany' (1945 – 1947)	62
---	----

VI

Deciphering the Landscape: 'New York' (1947 – 1951)	73
--	----

VII

Talking Back: Writing to Redefine Herself as a Jewish Woman, a Survivor and a German Scholar	81
---	----

Bibliography	87
--------------	----