

= Bloeme Evers @-@ Emden =

Bloeme Evers @-@ Emden ( Dutch pronunciation : [ blum? e?v?rs ?md?n ] ; 5 July 1926 ? 18 July 2016 ) was a Dutch Jewish teacher and child psychologist who extensively researched the phenomenon of " hidden children " during World War II and wrote four books on the subject in the 1990s . Her interest in the topic grew out of her own experiences during World War II , when she was forced to go into hiding from the Nazis and was subsequently arrested and deported to Auschwitz on the last transport leaving the Westerbork transit camp on 3 September 1944 . Together with her on the train were Anne Frank and her family , whom she had known in Amsterdam . She was liberated on 8 May 1945 .

In the 1980s , Evers @-@ Emden earned a doctorate in developmental psychology and began interviewing and writing about the phenomenon of " hidden children " from the points of view of the children , their biological parents , their non @-@ Jewish foster parents , and their non @-@ Jewish foster siblings . She was also interviewed for several television documentaries on her remembrances of Anne Frank and her family before they went into hiding and after they were sent to Auschwitz .

= = Early life = =

She was born Bloeme Emden in Amsterdam to Emanuel Emden , a diamond cutter and a socialist , and Rosa Emden @-@ DeVries , a seamstress . Her younger sister , Via Roosje , was born 29 May 1932 .

In 1941 , Bloeme attended the Jewish lyceum , where she befriended Anne Frank and her sister , Margot . Bloeme was in the same grade as Margot , but in a different class . In July 1942 , Bloeme received a deportation order from the local government office . Her father went to the Central Room for Jewish Resettlement and found a sympathetic German who stamped the order " released . " She returned to the high school in September , but her class kept shrinking from deportations throughout the year , to the point that only three students were left at the end of the year . By the time oral examinations were administered three weeks later , Bloeme was the only student in her class .

On the first day of the oral examinations in May 1943 , Bloeme 's non @-@ Jewish boyfriend warned her that the Germans were looking for her . She asked the school board to administer all 12 of her examinations at once , and she received her high school diploma that same day . When the Germans arrived , they took her to an assembly point for Amsterdam Jews , but she managed to enter the building without being registered . A few days later , she sneaked out with a group of younger teens . At first she hid in the home of Christian friends of her parents who worked in the Dutch underground , but they were afraid that if they were arrested , Bloeme would be , too . She spent the next year hiding in 15 to 16 different places , including an Amsterdam old @-@ age home and a job as a maid for a widow and her son in Rotterdam . When she returned to the people who worked in the underground , she was arrested and sent to Westerbork .

= = Deportation and incarceration = =

Bloeme was deported to Auschwitz on the last train leaving Westerbork on 3 September 1944 . On the same train were the Frank family who had been discovered in hiding on 4 August . Bloeme saw Anne , Margot and their mother regularly in Auschwitz , although she was part of a separate group of eight women who stayed together , encouraging and helping one another . In October 1944 , Bloeme and her group were selected for transfer to the Liebau labor camp in Upper Silesia . For the filming of the 1995 BBC documentary Anne Frank Remembered , Bloeme recalled that Anne , Margot , and their mother , Edith , also planned to join the transport , but Anne was prohibited from joining because she had developed scabies . Her mother and sister opted to stay with her , and Bloeme went on without them . Bloeme was also interviewed for her remembrances of the Frank women in Auschwitz in the 1988 television documentary The Last Seven Months of Anne Frank by Dutch filmmaker Willy Lindwer .

Bloeme was liberated by the Soviets at Liebau on 8 May 1945 . She and a small group of friends began walking back to the Netherlands on foot , arriving six weeks later . She discovered that her parents and sister had been deported to the Sobibor extermination camp , where they all perished .

= = Post @-@ war research = =

After the war , she married Hans Evers and raised a " relatively large family " in Amsterdam . However , she testified , she was unable to talk about her war experiences with her family . She began studying psychology part @-@ time and became a lecturer in psychology at the University of Amsterdam in 1973 . She earned her doctorate in the late 1980s .

In the 1980s , she began holding group therapy sessions for former hidden children , addressing " our grief , our anger , our aggression and our mourning " . At the Hidden Child Conference held in Amsterdam in 1992 , she interviewed 73 former hidden children , and with questionnaires completed by another 321 attendants , she began her research into the emotional and psychological trauma of hidden children , widening her scope to include the points of view of the children , their biological parents , their non @-@ Jewish foster parents , and their non @-@ Jewish foster siblings .

In the 1990s , Evers @-@ Emden published four books in Dutch based on her research . Geleende Kinderen ( Borrowed Children ) ( 1994 ) focused on the foster parents who hid the children . Ondergedoken Geweest , Een Afgesloten Verleden ? ( Hidden During the War : A Closed @-@ Off Past ? ) ( 1995 ) examined the written responses of 300 hidden children to a questionnaire . Geschonden Bestaan ( Shattered Existence ) ( 1996 ) interviewed the parents who sent their children into hiding . Je ouders delen ( Sharing Your Parents ) ( 1999 ) focused on the foster siblings of the hidden children .

In 1991 , she was decorated by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands as an officer of the Order of Orange @-@ Nassau .

Her son , Raphael Evers , is the Rabbi of Rotterdam .

Evers @-@ Emden died July 2016 , a few days after her 90th birthday .