

## "Two Regimes - Witness to War" TWO GENOCIDES FREE LESSON PLANS for 4th Grade through High

"Two Regimes - A Mother's Memoir of Wartime Survival"

written by Teodora Verbitskaya with paintings by her daughter, professional artist, Nadia Werbitzky.



"Two Regimes" weaves a tale of suffering and survival from 1927-1945 during Stalin's collectivization and requisition of agriculture that resulted in millions of Soviet citizens, mostly Ukrainians, dying from hunger in a time of good harvests (known as the Holodomor). Teodora and Nadia witnessed the ferocious Nazi invasion of the USSR and the Holocaust of the Jews in Mariupol, then found themselves taken back to Germany as Eastern slave labor for the Third Reich. Four long years later they were liberated by the American soldiers.

Lesson plans sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and the Foundation for Leon County Schools.



Nadia's paintings are memory paintings: no one posed for her. Teodora's journals were inspired by her desire to document life and the lives of those who lived and perished. Created decades apart, the written word and the artist's brush correlate, as both sets of works are shared memories.

"Hitler and Stalin were the history-makers, Teodora and Nadia are the carriers of memory. History is about knowing what happened in the past; memory is about knowing how what happened in the past makes you who you are today." - Michael Camarda the translator of Two Regimes