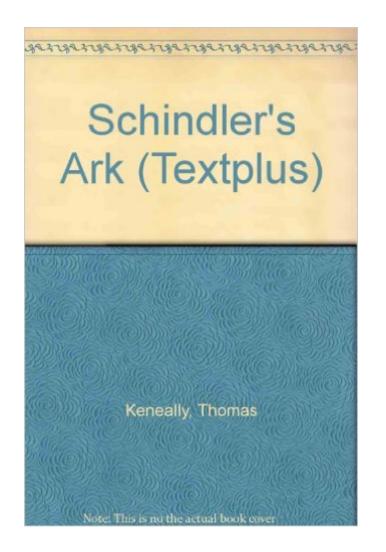
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# Schindler's Ark (Textplus)





## Synopsis

The titles in the "Textplus" series, designed to reflect the changing nature of English Literature at advanced post-GCSE level, offer the complete text with a specially commissioned introduction and compact background notes placing the work in historical and critical context. Together, these components are intended to open up the text for students, allowing them to plot their own course of study, to plan extended projects, to compare writers' perspectives on similar themes and to relate works to key social and historical phenomena.

## **Book Information**

Series: Textplus Hardcover: 384 pages Publisher: Hodder Arnold H&S (October 1, 1989) Language: English ISBN-10: 0340499842 ISBN-13: 978-0340499849 Product Dimensions: 6.3 x 1.2 x 9.5 inches Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (21 customer reviews) Best Sellers Rank: #3,642,072 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #109 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > Australian & Oceanian #1095 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary Criticism & Collections #17754 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Regional & Cultural > European

#### **Customer Reviews**

Thomas Keneally's Booker Prize-winning, fictionalized biography of Oskar Schindler memorializes a member of the Nazi party who endangered his own life for four years, working privately to save Jews from the death camps. A playboy who loved fine wines and foods, he was also a smooth-talking manipulator (and briber) of Nazi officials, as well as a clever entrepreneur, already on his way to stunning financial success by the early days of World War II. Nowhere in Schindler's background are there any hints that he would one day become the savior of eleven hundred Jewish men and women. While the excellent film of this novel concentrates on the dangers Schindler and "his Jews" faced daily throughout the war, Keneally, well known for his depictions of characters acting under stress, concentrates on the character of Oskar Schindler himself, beginning with his childhood and teen years. As he explores Schindler's transformation from war profiteer and

"passive" Nazi to a man willing to use his fortune to ensure the salvation of his factory workers, Keneally reveals a man of enormous courage and derring-do, a man who thrives by living on the edge.Presenting episodes from the lives of some of the "Schindlerjuden," Keneally highlights their humanity, creating moments of high drama. Characters such as Leopold Pfefferberg and factory manager Itzhak Stern move in and out of the narrative, illustrating graphically the extent to which their lives depend upon Oskar Schindler, while the constant intrusion of sadistic SS commandant Amon Goeth in Schindler's life shows the fragility of their security. Other stories, of people who just missed being saved by Schindler, highlight the arbitrariness of fate--chance--in their (and our) lives.

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