1. “Anne Frank was born on 12 June 1929 in [Frankfurt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankfurt), Germany, the second daughter of [Otto Frank](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otto_Frank) (1889–1980) and [Edith Frank-Holländer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edith_Frank) (1900–45). [Margot Frank](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margot_Frank) (1926–45) was her elder sister. The Franks were [liberal Jews](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Progressive_Judaism), did not observe all of the customs and traditions of Judaism, and lived in an [assimilated](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cultural_assimilation) community of Jewish and non-Jewish citizens of various religions. Edith Frank was the more devout parent, while Otto Frank was interested in scholarly pursuits and had an extensive library; both parents encouraged the children to read.”
2. “In July 1945, after the [Red Cross](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Red_Cross_and_Red_Crescent_Movement) confirmed the deaths of the Frank sisters, Miep Gies gave Otto Frank the diary and a bundle of loose notes that she had saved in the hope of returning them to Anne. Otto Frank later commented that he had not realized Anne had kept such an accurate and well-written record of their time in hiding. In his memoir, he described the painful process of reading the diary, recognizing the events described and recalling that he had already heard some of the more amusing episodes read aloud by his daughter. He saw for the first time the more private side of his daughter and those sections of the diary she had not discussed with anyone, noting, "For me it was a revelation ... I had no idea of the depth of her thoughts and feelings ... She had kept all these feelings to herself".[]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anne_Frank#cite_note-FOOTNOTELee2000216-50) Moved by her repeated wish to be an author, he began to consider having it published.”
3. “The diary has been praised for its literary merits. The poet [John Berryman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Berryman) called the book a unique depiction, not merely of adolescence but of the ‘conversion of a child into a person as it is happening in a precise, confident, economical style stunning in its honesty. In her introduction to the diary's first American edition, [Eleanor Roosevelt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eleanor_Roosevelt) described it as ‘one of the wisest and most moving commentaries on war and its impact on human beings that I have ever read.’ [John F. Kennedy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_F._Kennedy) discussed Anne Frank in a 1961 speech, and said, ‘Of all the multitudes who throughout history have spoken for human dignity in times of great suffering and loss, no voice is more compelling than that of Anne Frank’.”
4. “Frank aspired to become a journalist, writing in her diary on Wednesday, 5 April 1944: I finally realized that I must do my schoolwork to keep from being ignorant, to get on in life, to become a journalist, because that’s what I want! I know I can write ..., but it remains to be seen whether I really have talent ...And if I don’t have the talent to write books or newspaper articles, I can always write for myself. But I want to achieve more than that. I can’t imagine living like Mother, Mrs. van Daan and all the women who go about their work and are then forgotten. I need to have something besides a husband and children to devote myself to! ...I want to be useful or bring enjoyment to all people, even those I’ve never met. I want to go on living even after my death! And that’s why I’m so grateful to God for having given me this gift, which I can use to develop myself and to express all that’s inside me! When I write I can shake off all my cares. My sorrow disappears, my spirits are revived! But, and that’s a big question, will I ever be able to write something great, will I ever become a journalist or a writer?” Anne Frank

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