

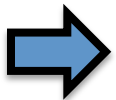
# Fun Facts About...

## Hannah Senesh

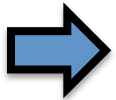
1921-1944



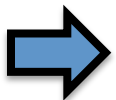
Senesh was a paratrooper trained to rescue Jews during the Holocaust. She was captured and killed by the Nazis in 1944 when she attempted to cross into Hungary.



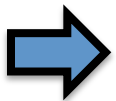
Senesh made aliyah to Israel in 1939. She settled at Kibbutz Sdot Yam.



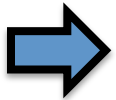
Senesh's idealism and commitment to her cause are memorialized in her poem, "Blessed is the Match": "Fortunate is the match consumed in kindling flame. Blessed is the match consumed by kindling flame. Blessed is the flame that burns the secret fastness of the heart. Blessed is the heart with strength to stop its beating for honor's side."



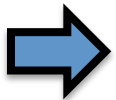
Senesh was 23 years old when she died. After her execution, a poem was found in her death cell: "...But death, I feel is very near. I could have been 23 next July. I gambled on what mattered most; the dice were cast. I lost."



Senesh was a poet and playwright, writing in both Hungarian and Hebrew.



Senesh's best-known poem is *Halikha LeKesariya* ("A Walk to Caesarea"), commonly known as "Eli Eli."



A film about Senesh's life was released in 1988 called "Hanna's War."

