



THE WHITE HOUSE



Mrs. Elly Gross



Thank you for your kind gesture and for your special remembrance.  
Your expression of friendship means a great deal to us, and we  
send you our best wishes.

for Bill

Laura Bush

## The Twin Towers, Our Jewel



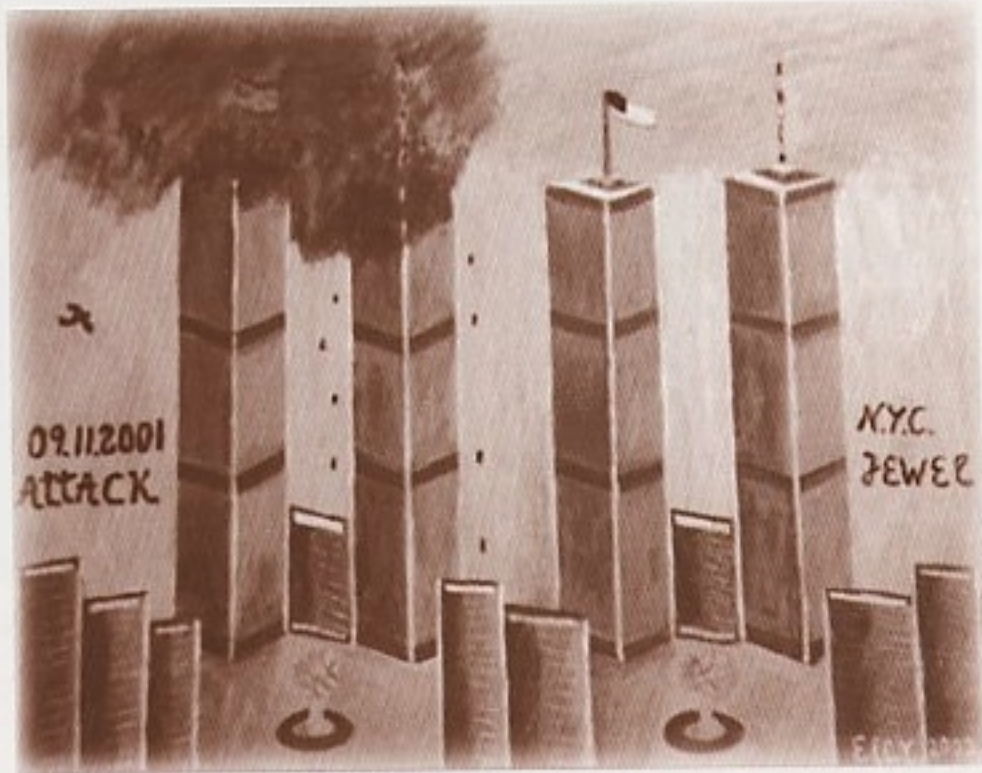
Photo and Painting by the Author

On the horizon are the Twin Towers, the shining jewel of New York City. From around the world visitors come to see the shining jewel of New York City. If anyone gets lost in the city, they look to the horizon for the Twin Towers and find the direction in which to go. Every American is proud of the Twin Towers. From the observation deck one can see far. Houses in the city look as small as match boxes. People, cars on the streets of New York City, and the boats on water look like miniature toys.

Many of us arrived in America from Europe to look for a better life for our children. America gave everyone freedom of religion and the opportunity for ourselves and our children to accomplish our dreams. New York City is the Capital of the World; it is a privilege to live in this beautiful city. While walking on crowded streets one can see on the horizon America's pride: the Twin Towers of New York City.

Then on September eleventh in 2001 a plane with terrorists hit the first Tower. Minutes after another plane flew lower





into the middle of the second Twin Tower. Smoke and fire crumbled America's pride and crumbled the jewels of New York City.

Terrorists destroyed our Twin Towers. America is mourning the loss of innocent people and the World Trade Center, jewel of New York City. Our Twin Towers and the number Seven magnificent pink marble building are gone. The financial loss is enormous. How can evil men murder so many innocent people, creating without warning such terrible destruction in time of peace. Are they killers or sadistic Devils?

Terrorist hate us so much they are ready to die. Why? All America is looking for an answer. Those terrorists did not care how many children became orphans. America is mourning the loss of many innocent lives. Smoke and fire destroyed the jewel of New York City. Without the Twin Towers how can we find our direction? With magic, even a magician cannot bring them back.



## New York City Mourns

Mothers are proud to give birth to a baby girl or a baby boy. Fathers are especially proud if the newborn is a boy. New parents make plans for their baby—how soon he/she will walk and talk. The families are happy and never think how many obstacles parents must face raising the new addition in their home. The new parents proudly take care of the baby and watch their child grow. They take the child to play in the park and be with other children of their age. The years pass by. Sometimes with worry, parents watch their child grow into adulthood, get married, and then have a child.

Tragedy hit the Towers of New York City. With broken hearts we witnessed on September 11, 2001 the sadistic attack and destruction of the World Trade Center. The Twin Towers collapsed with smoke. Fire destroyed the Twin Towers. Many families are mourning the loss of their loved ones. Parents lost their children, couples lost their spouses, and many children became orphans. Every worker came at the early hours, in a hurry to be on time at work. Professionals and people of all backgrounds perished in this monstrous terrorist attack. It was destroyed, the jewel of New York City.

Every person is affected in New York City with the loss of a relative, a friend or acquaintance. There is no trace of those who are missing. Memorial services are held in each borough of New York. We mourn the loss of each person.





## The Loss of Our Child Arlene\*



We survivors are proud to give birth to a baby girl; it is reliving our own dreams which were shattered by the tragedies of the Holocaust in our lifetime. We are the few who survived who lost parents, relatives, friends, homes and struggled to stand on our shaky feet. We got married, built homes, raised children.

We created a new life for ourselves and for our children. When they asked why some of their friends had grandparents and they did not, we could not answer. The baby girl grew, went to kindergarten, then to school. We did not even notice as she blossomed into a beautiful teenager. She got married and had her own children.

Tragedy hit the Towers of New York City. With broken hearts we witnessed on September 11, 2001 the sadistic destruction of the World Trade Center. Our girl, mother of three teenagers, a lawyer, went to work early in the morning at one of the Twin Towers. Our daughter arrived at work on time. And our girl perished somewhere in this disaster with so many others. We, the parents, are heartbroken and have many unanswered questions.

*(continued)*



Why we parents lost our jewel, our joy, our pride. She was the mother of three young girls who need their mother. G-d give us strength to bear our loss. To lose a child, to carry the burden, is more painful than to lose a parent. Our baby is lost, is missing. She can never be replaced. Oh G-d, pray for her soul.

\* Arlene Fried died September 11, 2001. Her parents, Roni and Mike Josp, are from my hometown Simleul-Silvaniei, Romania. On October 30, 2001, in New York, a symbolic funeral was held.

## The Nightmare of September 11, 2001

Terrorism attack in New York City! The destruction in lower Manhattan! Buildings were burning with heavy smoke. People jumped from windows to their death. The unimaginable terror is heartbreaking. We watched on television with sorrow the collapsing Twin Towers of New York City. It was painful to every person in New York and to every citizen of the United States. Also, people around the world felt sorrow.

As a child survivor of the Holocaust, the fire with heavy smoke affects me deeply. The terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 brings back the memories of fire with heavy smoke of the chimneys in Auschwitz-II/Birkenau.

For days and weeks I was glued to the television. I just could not believe what I saw. How could terrorism happen in our free country? In the United States each of us, as new immigrants, got an opportunity to create a better life.

I felt every family's pain that lost a child, a parent, a friend, a home, and even a pet. Some think time will ease the pain. It is not so. As time passes it hurts more. A loved one can never be forgotten.



When I worked, I did not have time to think. Since I am retired, I have more free time and I relive every episode of the tragic years of 1930-1945, with the daily torture and mass murders of innocent people in Europe.

The tragedy of September 11, 2001, brings back bitter memories of my past, the loss of everything that was dear to me. For days I can't sleep. I feel the pain of every child who lost a parent, a relative. I feel the pain and cry with each mourner. I had to see downtown Manhattan for myself. The destroyed buildings in time will be rebuilt, but the loss of human life forever remains an open wound to victims' families, to friends, and every American.



## A Hole in the Ground

Once upon a time there were  
Tower One, Tower Two, and other  
smaller buildings close to the Twin Towers.  
This is a real story, not a tale.  
In New York we had two tall Towers.  
They were unique in the World.  
Proudly they stood in downtown Manhattan  
illuminating the entire City of New York.

We who live in New York City always took  
for granted that the shining Twin Towers  
would stay forever in New York City.  
Around the world jealously arose.  
And they sent terrorists to destroy  
America's Twin Towers in New York City.  
In this tragedy families lost their loved ones.  
We cry with them forever.

Destruction of the surrounding buildings  
created enormous financial loss.  
The tragedy of September 11, 2001  
is imprinted on every American's heart.  
We remember and pray with relatives.  
We have a deep hole in our hearts forever.  
Where once the Twin Towers stood there is a hole.  
It is seven stories deep in the ground.

The hole in the ground is like a crater.  
It is as deep as after a volcanic eruption.  
It is the grave of innocent people who lost their lives,  
close to the Financial Center and Winter Garden.  
The people who perished during the destruction  
of New York City's Twin Towers  
will remain forever in every American's heart.



Years from now, the buildings of the Twin Towers  
will be seen only in photos and displays.

An earthquake covered the City of Pompeii with ashes.

In New York City the ashes and the debris were  
seven floors deep and as large as a football field.

Future generations will say that, "Once upon a time  
in New York City, there were Tower One and Tower Two."

Will New York ever have again its illuminating Towers?

