THE MURDERED JEWESS
for youth learners

Into the Light

A note: Because of the adult nature of the episode, this exercise is meant only to reflect on the themes contained therein, without an expectation that any youth learners will listen to it – the exercise is not dependent on knowledge of the episode or its contents.

1.) Invite your youth learners to reflect on something about which they are not proud.

For example:
• A time that they fought with their sibling
• When they yelled at their parent
• When they took an action that they knew could hurt somebody

2.) Ask participants to think about why they behaved the way they did. Were they scared? Were they angry? Did they feel hurt or worried? If age appropriate, they can now write down some of these feelings and observations.

3.) Invite participants to think about the factual details from the story.

These could include:
• the time of day
• the people involved
• where it took place
• how it began
• how it ended

Once again, if age appropriate, they can write down these details.

4.) Next, everyone can create something connected to this story in one of two ways:

a.) Draw two pictures: The first should includes the main factual details from the story; the second portrays the feelings and observations. (The second can be abstract and just expressed in colors and shapes, if needed.)
b.) Write two brief narratives: The first is the “just the facts” version, telling what occurred; the next is focused on the feelings and observations. (This second narrative could take the shape of a journal entry or even a poem.)

5.) Now, everyone can create either a new picture or a new piece of writing that brings together the two versions. If this is done in a drawing, it might borrow elements from both (figures from one, colors from another, for example). If this is done in writing, the task of combining is similar. (One might, for example, alternate between lines from each story.)

6.) The participants look at their drawings or read their writings, allowing time to notice what they have created. Ask them to identify one lesson the story has to teach them (how to behave towards others, the value of patience, the nature of how one’s feeling impact one’s actions, etc.)

7.) Invite all to create a title for their creation that reflects the lesson they identified.