

## **From Egodocuments to Autofiction: The Points of Overlap**

Leona Toker, *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

This paper attempts to trace a continuum between egodocuments by ordinary people, memoirs that carry literary value (those with a strong aesthetic function), fictionalized testimony by first-hand participants in the described events, and autofiction. It will dwell on the meaning of partial overlap between works written in these modes, especially in terms of the status of experience, as the foundation of knowledge or as the object of explanation in terms of cultural codification or underlying conceptual structures. One facet of the meaning in question is the specific affordances that influence reader response or point at attitudes expected of the reader; another facet is an object of microhistorical study, cultural-historical study, or other approaches to egodocuments in respect to historiography. There may be a fruitful overlap not only between the modalities of first-person narratives but also between the historiographical and literary-analytic methodologies of their study.