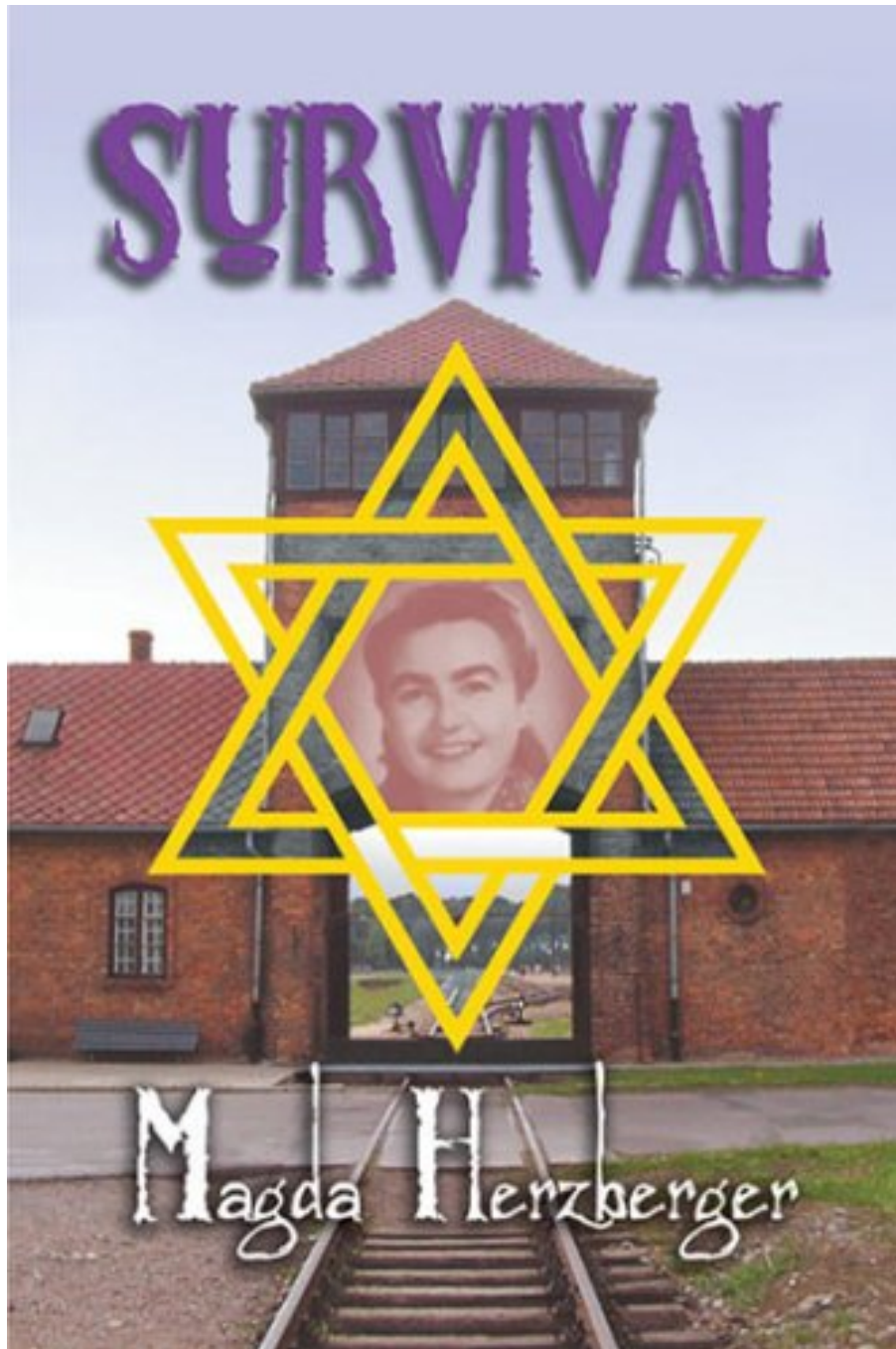


SURVIVAL BY MAGDA HERZBERGER



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The Autobiography of a Young Woman Who Survived the Horrors of the Nazi Death Camps. Survival is an autobiography in which the author relates her experiences and her struggle to survive during her captivity as a young, 18-year-old girl in the three German concentration camps: Auschwitz, Bremen, and Bergen Belsen. Being of Jewish descent she had been deported with her family and in the camps encountered the danger and the probability of being killed one way or another on a daily basis. She also depicts the senseless deaths of her fellow prisoners. The book gives an insight into the author's childhood and adolescent years, where the concept of anything like this happening was beyond belief. The reader finds out about her family background and the historical events that took place in her native city in Romania during that time. The political changes which occurred during World War II played a crucial role in her destiny and the fate of the Jewish people. Magda also conveys how she coped with the grief and pain of losing so many members of her family, including her father, in the Holocaust. Then she speaks about her gradual recovery from the wounds of the Holocaust and her ultimate reunion with her mother. Magda's poetry is included in the book.

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6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

An amazing testimony

By Gregory N. Shrader

Mrs. Herzberger's very powerful story bears eloquent witness to the innumerable atrocities of the Holocaust and her remarkable resiliency and tenacity. It is a testament to her abilities as a writer that we walk through her journey alongside her, all senses and emotions fully engaged. While displays of the worst results of dehumanization occur all around her, Magda retains her dignity and humanity, giving great honor to the memories of those who did not survive. More than a story of survival, her book is a profound spiritual experience about life and living. As groups of people continue to be marginalized, scapegoated and discriminated against today, SURVIVAL reminds us of the ultimate result of such folly. It should be required reading for all political leaders, teachers and students. I greatly admire Mrs. Herzberger for writing this book.

Gregory N. Shrader, Ph.D.

Psychologist

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful.

SURVIVAL by Magda Herzberger

By Gloria Graham

"Survival" is chilling! The contents give grisly details of three Nazi prison camps. But Magda Herzberger's superb ability to pen her thoughts takes the reader through her journey of awe and wonderment that led to her hell-hole of nearly unsurvivable torture. And then she brings us back to the real world.

When I read about Magda's background [off a well connected family with above average attitudes to make a positive difference in their community], I mentally engaged in that same strength. The when I read how she was shoved into the brink of near insanity, I felt her deep dark pain, and at the same time, I appreciated her tender-hearted goodness throughout the book. I applaud the author's courage to spill her gut-wrenching experiences onto the printed page and show the reader how she maintained her God-loving dignity.

Magda does not give a world-involved view of the war; she writes her daily account from the frame of a teenager. She places the reader within her, so we experience the pain of her flesh and the light of her soul. Her prose throughout the book captures additional heart-felt thoughts that give support to her storyline.

I recommend his book for teenagers as well as adults. We can learn from Magda Herzberger; she doesn't live in a prison of unforgiveness; instead, she looks for life and lives it. I suggest we all take a thankful attitude for the air we breathe.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Survival by Magda Herzberger

By Evelyn H. Vondran

Man's inhumanity to other human beings is forcefully delineated in Magda Herzberger's autobiographical

account as a member of the Jewish community. She grew up a very happy child in a sheltered environment in Cluj, Romania, shielded by the deep love and contentment of a devoted family. This congenial atmosphere was totally shattered by Hitler's Nazi persecution of the Jews when Magda found herself as a teenager uprooted from her serene surroundings to be suddenly transported to the inhumane treatment that was prevalent in the notorious concentration camps of Europe.

How Magda survived this harrowing ordeal keeps the reader spellbound throughout her entire story. Her deep abiding faith in an all-loving Supreme Being enabled Magda to pierce the darkness enveloping her and witness the emancipating light at the end of a long tunnel. Her subsequent accomplishments in poetry, prose and music attest to the indomitable spirit Magda possessed even as a child.

Magda's life story is truly a "magnum opus", so aptly described in the Foreword by Dr. Moshe Carmilly-Weinberger who knew Magda as a teenager. In addition, her book is rich with excerpts from Jewish culture and customs. SURIVAL is both an historical document while at the same time it is a pulsatingly human interest story.

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We entered the gate of the greatest annihilation camp in Germany: Auschwitz, situated forty miles from the Polish city of Krakow occupied by the Germans. A large sign on the gate declared "Arbeit macht frei" ("Work gives you freedom"). Crammed into railroad cattle cars, we had traveled for three days and three nights from my childhood home in the city of Kolozvár, Hungary. It was the intention of our captors to completely erase our identities. I decided not to let them. Who was that eighteen-year-old girl who stood before that ominous gate that May morning in 1944?

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