



The Courage to Care

By Carol Rittner, Sondra Myers

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The extraordinary story of a few non-Jews who risked their lives to rescue and protect Jews from Nazi persecution in Europe during World War II is told in *The Courage to Care*. It features the first person accounts of rescuers and of survivors whose stories address the basic issue of individual responsibility: the notion that one person can act—and that those actions can make a difference. These rescuers are true heroes, but modest ones. They did a thousand ordinary things—opening doors, hiding and feeding strangers, keeping secrets—in an extraordinary time. For this, they are known as "Righteous Among the Nations of the World."

The rescuers and survivors are from many countries in Europe—Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, France, Bulgaria, Poland, Germany—and they tell their stories with simplicity and dignity. Each story is interwoven with old snapshots of rescuers and survivors, their homes, their hiding places, and the communities in which they lived.

Noted author, teacher, and human rights activist, Elie Wiesel, helps us to ask: "what made these people different?" He points out how those who helped Jews during the Holocaust "changed history" by their actions. *The Courage to Care* reminds readers of the power of individual action.

This compelling book is the companion volume to the award-winning film, *The Courage to Care*, and includes the personal narratives of the same persons in the film and many others.

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The Courage to Care By Carol Rittner, Sondra Myers Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This companion volume to an Academy Award-nominated documentary of the same title is edited by the film's coproducers and celebrates those "righteous Gentiles" who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. The insightful, first-person oral reflections of rescuers, survivors and Holocaust scholars are eloquent and moving in their simplicity. Pacifism, Christianity, happy home lives, moral outrage and personal friendships are cited as factors in the acts of heroism performed by isolated individuals, as well as entire communities (the Dutch village of Nieuvelande; Le Chambon in France) and countries (Denmark). Particularly striking is the modesty of the rescuers who epitomize the "banality of goodness": "We still don't think what we did in the war was a big deal. . . . We don't like to be called heroes," says Johtje Vos, who hid 36 people in Holland. Photos.

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From Library Journal

A companion volume to the film of the same title, this collection of personal testimonies of rescuers and survivors recounts some of the heroic activities of non-Jews on behalf of Jews in various European countries during the Holocaust. Elegantly crafted with old pictures of the principals, this engaging but all-to-brief book provides a refreshingly uplifting record of truly compassionate people willing to risk their lives for their fellows. While some attribute their actions to parental upbringing, others to religious or humanitarian impulses, most see their rescue efforts as unspectacular and natural. Greenberg provides a historical overview and Wiesel and others reflect on why some took risks while most did not. This will appeal to scholars and laypersons alike. Benny Kraut, Judaic Studies Dept., Univ. of Cincinnati

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From the Back Cover

Personal narratives and essays that have been collected in an effort to preserve the memory of noble deeds, to bear witness to the world that it was possible to help Jews in Nazi Germany and occupied Europe during World War II.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Cary Burgess:

This *The Courage to Care* tend to be reliable for you who want to certainly be a successful person, why. The reason why of this *The Courage to Care* can be on the list of great books you must have will be giving you more than just simple looking at food but feed you actually with information that possibly will shock your previous knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions in the e-book and printed ones. Beside that this *The Courage to Care* forcing you to have an enormous of experience for example rich vocabulary, giving you test of critical thinking that could it useful in your day task. So , let's have it appreciate reading.

Michael Hamlin:

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