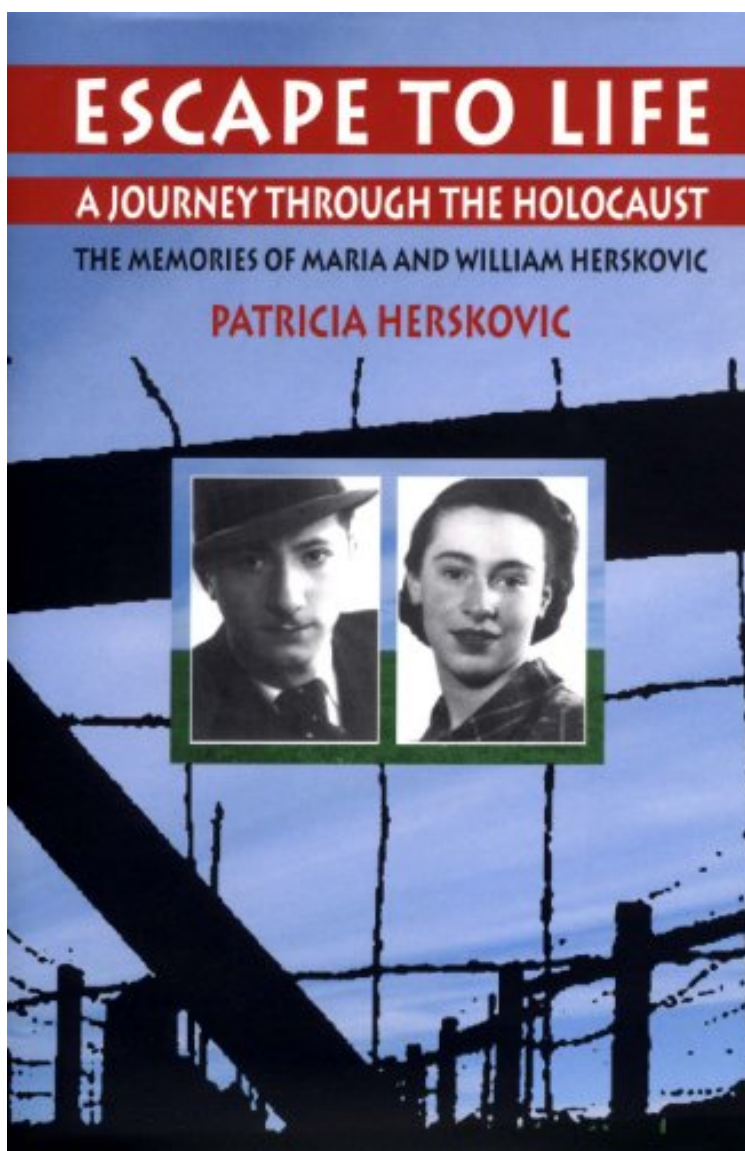


[Mobile book] Escape to Life: A Journey Through the Holocaust: The Memories of Maria and William Herskovic

Escape to Life: A Journey Through the Holocaust: The Memories of Maria and William Herskovic

Patricia Herskovic

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Patricia Herskovic : Escape to Life: A Journey Through the Holocaust: The Memories of Maria and William Herskovic before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Escape to Life: A Journey Through the Holocaust: The Memories of Maria and William Herskovic:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it's hard for me to say I loved this bookBy SpikeGiven the heartbreaking subject matter, it's hard for me to say I loved this book...but I did. Patricia Herskovic tells the story as only a daughter can. And what an amazing story! A love story, a story of courage, a story of the triumph of the human spirit...incredible to think it all really happened. Its simple yet emotionally wrenching optimism, written with understated elegance, reminded me of Viktor Frankl's Man's Search For Meaning.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Hate, love, and hope in such close proximityBy Kevin FroehlichEscape To Life follows one family's amazing, horrifying journey through the Holocaust. It is a firsthand account of awful events in human history that you will read and wish that they had not occurred on this planet. But they did, and this account is as tragic as it is ultimately triumphant and hopeful.Something I found truly amazing is how quick the victims in this book (of which there are many) are willing to offer kind excuses for the people who betray them and hurt them most. A Rabbi refuses Willy aid, and Willy's first thought is one of compassion and understanding. The Rabbi must be afraid. He's not a terrible person, he must just be as terrified as the rest of the poor victims. The same for neighbors who could have taken Willy and his fellow escapees in, but deny them. Again, Willy does not attribute this to hate or evil-doing. He attributes it to fear and paranoia. Where the victims could have been bitter and remorseless, they are forgiving and empathetic. Truly inspiring and downright amazing, coming from a man (Willy) who learns that his wife Esther and daughters were killed in the Auschwitz gas chambers. Amazing, considering that his future wife Mirele discovers that her first husband died right after the liberation as a result of the Nazi death camp.Hope is the message printed on every page. Hope that human beings are not evil, but they can be misled and coerced into doing evil things. Even the title of the book is positive and hopeful -- Escape To Life could have very easily been Escape From Death. But instead the message is upbeat. Life goes on, but the past cannot be forgotten. Life goes on, but the horrible truths from our past must be learned from so they never happen again.Personally, my heart beat faster with every flip of the page. I wanted every one of these kind, decent people to survive and live long, happy lives. But that was not the case. I wanted every married couple broken apart to be reunited with their children. But that was not the case. What does happen is people are horribly mistreated and withstand hate on an immeasurable scale, and ultimately succeed. William and Mirele survive and build a life and family together and are eternally grateful to those who aided them.I gained a lot from reading this book. 'Tragic' doesn't begin to describe it, yet 'hopeful' somehow describes it perfectly. It's a book you will read and never forget. I think that was the idea behind its existence.9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Absorbing, sometimes suspenseful, sometimes brutally severeBy Midwest Book ReviewEscape To Life: A Journey Through The Holocaust is an amazingly upbeat biography of Maria and William Herskovic, two remarkable and determined holocaust survivors. William escaped an Auschwitz labor camp and became one of the first recorded eyewitnesses to Hitler's crimes against humanity, and is credited with the rescue of hundreds from the gas chambers; Maria was a teenage girl who hid her parents from the Nazis and daily risked life to provide them with food. An absorbing, sometimes suspenseful, sometimes brutally severe account of the struggle to survive in the face of humans perpetrating inhuman cruelty, Escape To Life is a welcome and impressive contribution to Holocaust Studies collections and reading lists.

Caught in the crossfire of Nazi oppression, two people triumph in this story of courage, luck and passion during one of the darkest moments of the 20th Century. After surviving a perilous escape from the infamous death camps of Auschwitz, William Herskovic miraculously made his way across Nazi-occupied Europe. Becoming one of the first recorded eyewitnesses of Hitler's atrocities, he alerted the underground, and was eventually credited with the rescue of hundreds, perhaps thousands, bound for the gas chambers. Mireille, still merely a teenager, managed to hide her parents in attics and rural homes, risking her life daily to venture out for the food to keep them alive. The Herskovic family survived the perils of the Holocaust with their souls and spirits soaring.

"Herskovic takes us on a poignant journey of the heart. One of danger, loss, endurance, and ultimately triumph." -- David Brin, NY Times best-selling author of The Postman and Earth"I applaud [Herskovic's] invaluable contributions during one of the darkest periods of our history." -- Gray Davis, California Governor in a congratulatory letter --Simon Wiesenthal Center TributeAbout the AuthorPatricia Herskovic was born in Belgium and immigrated to the United States as a child. She received her degree in political science from UCLA. Currently a motion picture producer, she lives in Los Angeles with her husband and son.