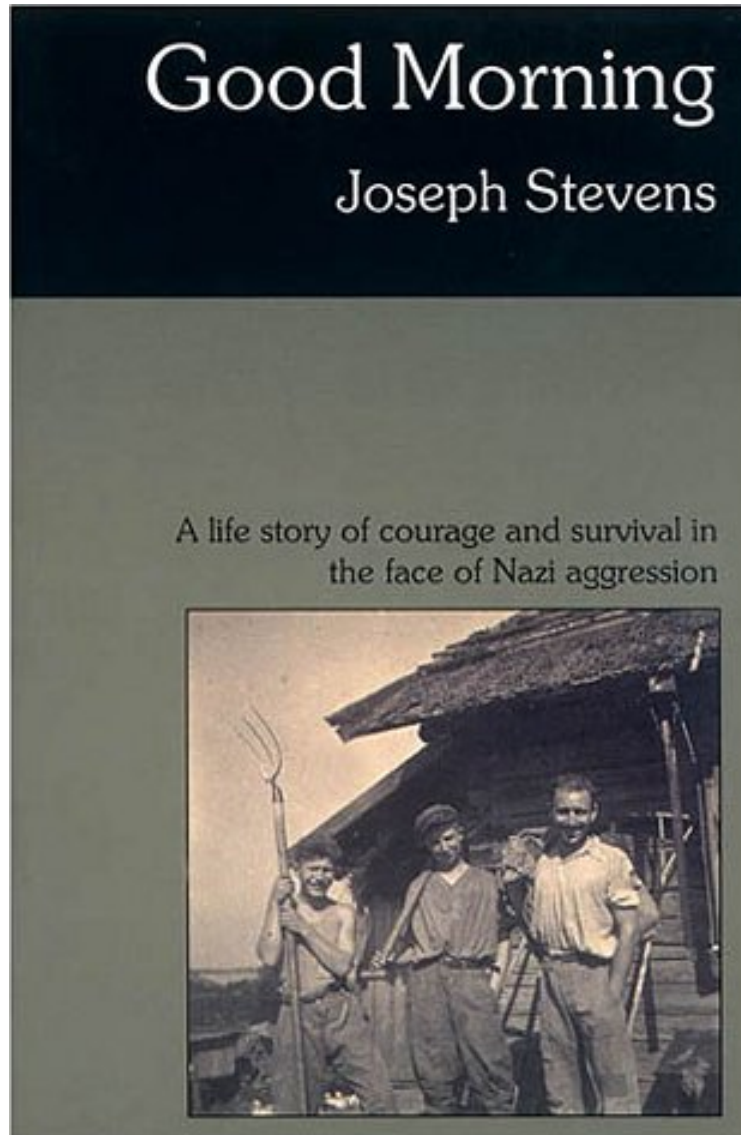


# Good Morning

*Joseph Stevens*

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**Joseph Stevens : Good Morning** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Good Morning:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful readBy CustomerLife changing... a wonderful read.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. AmazingBy BarbThis was an amazing story of personal loss and survival. Years ago I worked for a company that did business with Joe Stevens and saw him on a weekly basis. I never knew he had such a story to tell. He was such a kind, dignified man. It was an inspiring story of triumph over evil. I'm

so glad he shared his story with the world.

Joseph Stevens survived the Holocaust by outsmarting the Nazis: the young Polish Jew posed as a Catholic by day and fought in the underground resistance movement by night. Now a retired Michigan business owner, Stevens recounts his wartime experiences and their lessons for today in his new book, "Good Morning: A Life Story of Courage and Survival in the Face of Nazi Aggression." Stevens' parents and siblings died in concentration camps and he himself never expected to live through World War II. He did so by courage, luck and deception so brilliant that German soldiers befriended him and a local priest recruited him to teach catechism. Even his friends, who joined him in guerilla raids on German troops, had no idea he was a Jew. At all times he carried cyanide capsules with him in case he was captured and tortured, but Stevens survived the war to move to the United States, raise a family, and build a successful printing business. Forty years after the war, he finally began telling his story in classes on the Holocaust at Grand Valley State University, in west Michigan. Subsequently, "Good Morning" has become GVSU's first university-press book. All proceeds from its sales go to the Joe Stevens Freedom Endowment.

From the Publisher "Good Morning" is a tale of the 20th century, its author Joseph Stevens a child of that time's darkest hours. Beginning with Hitler's 1938 march into Vienna, the memoir takes us on a journey across Central Europe and through the worst years of Nazi rule, years in which Stevens lived among Lithuanian and Polish Catholics whose hatred for the Nazis was only equaled by their disdain for Jews. Like the hero of the film "Europa, Europa," then, in which a young Jew survives by playing the Nazi among Germans and the Communist among Russians, Joseph Stevens must become a consummate actor, assuming whatever role necessary to survive while always concealing his Jewishness. We have many accounts of Jews hiding from the Nazis, as well as memoirs of the various underground movements, but few have so well joined the survivor's with the partisan's tale, nor better illustrated the double-bind in which its Jewish author was caught. A narrative that Joseph Stevens has mostly shared with college students, "Good Morning," like all Holocaust memoirs, is a story of atrocity, yet detailing as it does his survival and ultimately successful life in America, it also serves as a testament to human resiliency. About the Author Joseph Stevens was born in Kalisz, Poland. Trained at the Federal Graphic Institute of Learning and Research in Vienna, he worked in his family's printing firm until the outbreak of World War II, when his world fell apart. The double life he led in order to survive is the story of "Good Morning." After the war, which claimed his entire family, Stevens moved to Detroit and later to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he founded his own successful printing company. He began sharing his wartime experiences in Grand Valley State University classes on the Holocaust. Subsequently, "Good Morning" has become the inaugural book of the GVSU university press. Proceeds from book sales will support the GVSU Joe Stevens Freedom Endowment, which supports guest speakers on human rights.