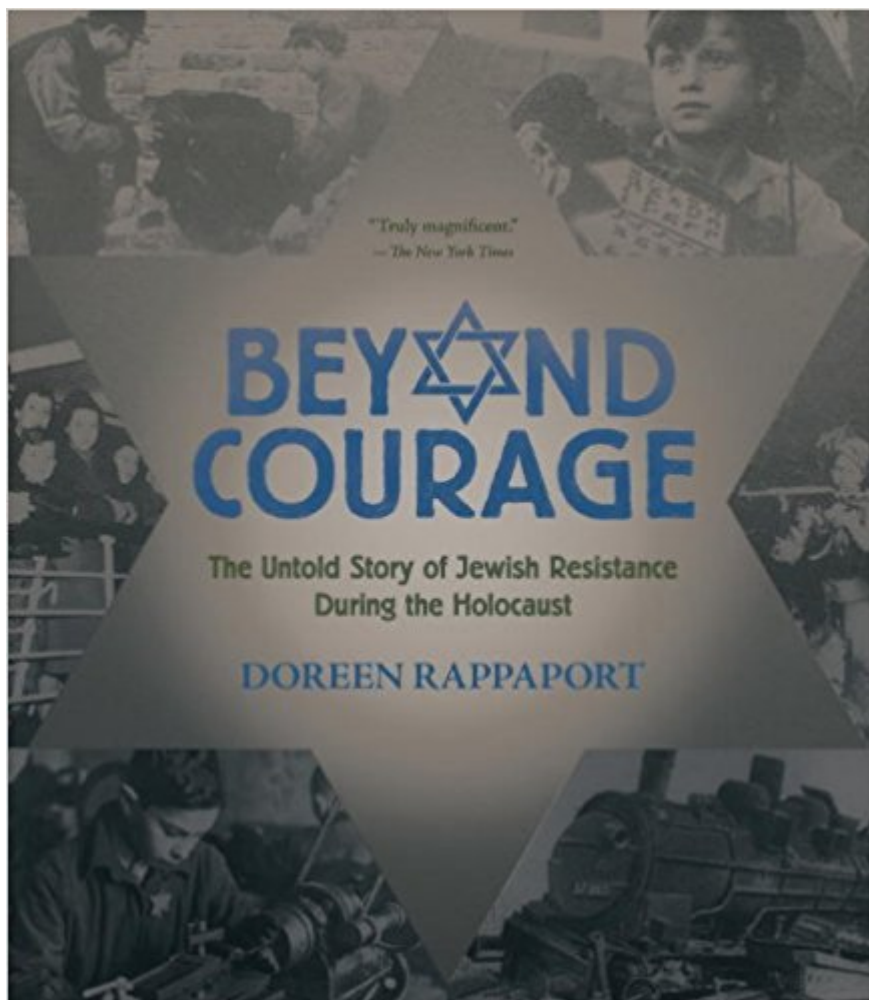




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# Beyond Courage: The Untold Story Of Jewish Resistance During The Holocaust



## Synopsis

In a stirring chronicle, Doreen Rappaport brings to light the courage of countless Jews who organized to sabotage the Nazis and help other Jews during the Holocaust. Under the noses of the military, Georges Loinger smuggles thousands of children out of occupied France into Switzerland. In Belgium, three resisters ambush a train, allowing scores of Jews to flee from the cattle cars. In Poland, four brothers lead more than 1,200 ghetto refugees into the forest to build a guerilla force and self-sufficient village. And twelve-year-old Motele Shlayan entertains German officers with his violin moments before setting off a bomb. Through twenty-one meticulously researched accounts – some chronicled in book form for the first time – Doreen Rappaport illuminates the defiance of tens of thousands of Jews across eleven Nazi-occupied countries during World War II. In answer to the genocidal madness that was Hitler's Holocaust, the only response they could abide was resistance, and their greatest weapons were courage, ingenuity, the will to survive, and the resolve to save others or to die trying. Extensive end matter includes: - timeline of important events - index - pronunciation guide - source notes - maps integrated throughout text

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Gr 6 Up-Well-researched, informative, and inspiring, Rappaport's book presents 21 true stories of defiance and heroism in Nazi-occupied Europe during World War II. Hearing the accounts of the survivors during the Holocaust will inspire and inform students of the struggles and choices people had to make in order to survive. Divided into five chapters-"The Realization," "Saving the Future," "In the Ghettos," "In the Camps," and "Partisan Warfare"-the book presents an account of Jewish

resistance attempts by courageous children and adults, from the well known Warsaw Ghetto uprising and the Bielski brigade in the Polish forest to the heroic actions of French resistance which led to the killing of over 3,000 Germans to an all-girl fighting unit in Greece. The narration by Emily Beresford and Jeff Crawford is clear and easy to understand, but the unaccented voices sound too modern to be authentic. A bonus CD includes the black-and-white archival photos from the book which are an essential, valuable visual aid for the audiobook. -Ellen Frank, Jamaica High School, NY  
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In a book that is the very model of excellence in nonfiction, Rappaport dispels the old canard that the Jews entered the houses of death as lambs led to the slaughter... Thorough, deeply researched and stylistically clear, this is a necessary, exemplary book. - Kirkus Reviews (starred review) With all the shelves of Holocaust books about the millions lost in the genocide, this is one of the few histories to focus in detail on Jewish resistance across Europe - those who fought back and saved others. The intricate deceptions are as compelling as the confrontations, and the underground escape stories make for thrilling adventure. . . An important addition to the Holocaust curriculum. - Booklist (starred review) This well-written and affecting volume is an excellent example of a history title with wide appeal. It belongs in every middle and high school library. - School Library Journal (starred review) These true stories . . . honor the incredible human spirit in the face of unimaginable suffering and torment. - Publishers Weekly (starred review) Rappaport's engrossing storytelling will entice many teens to read cover-to-cover, while the organization and rich supporting features will guide teen researchers to specific topics, and the brevity and substance of individual entries will be valued by history teachers for classroom oral readings. - Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books (starred review)

If you needed proof that many Jews fought back in World War II, this book leaves little doubt. Written for teens, it can be read by adults as well for the many instances where Jews willingly risked their lives for fellow Jews and non-Jews. The author cites numerous instances in detail from the Warsaw ghetto that everyone knows about to countless smaller acts of courage and bravery. Many lost their lives, but they didn't go without a fight.

This author has written many books for children. My favorite is "Secret Seder." But this book is different. It's aimed at middle school and above and tells a different story from the usual horrible

holocaust stories. This one tells about Jewish resistance against the Nazis. It would make a great Chanukah present for that middle or high schooler in your life

Rappaport has gathered, scrupulously, sensitively and with great power, what must be the comprehensive account of Jewish resistance during the Holocaust. There are the stories many of us know and those that were buried by history, all of them stirring, mesmerizing. The clear, sober telling underscores the extraordinary heroism of her subjects. Rappaport has honored their memory and ourselves by uncovering these episodes and presenting them with such care. The book is beautifully designed and produced, as well. It is essential for children and adults.

I bought this as an audiobook, so I could listen to it while commuting to and from work. I did not realize it was written for ages 10+. While the choice of words, and the sentence structure, may be at a Middle School level, it was quite well-written. Many of the stories were new to me, and, others were presented in a way that added new material. I would highly recommend this book, to adults.

In this incredibly well researched book, author Doreen Rappaport brings together the tales of heroic men, women, and children (unbelievably young children, in many cases) who bravely and ingeniously defied Nazi rule and domination during the Holocaust. Against all odds, and often without the basics of food, clothing, or shelter, they frequently outwitted and sometimes outlasted one of the most powerful and relentless military machines the world has ever known. The next time you hear someone ask, "Why didn't the Jews fight back?" hand them a copy of this book.

After reading *Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust*, I bought 4 more copies--and I expect to buy more. I want to encourage the grandparents and the parents that I know to share this book with their children. The stories told are inspirational. It is the kind of book that can affect people deeply and encourage them to think about themselves and their values. Having the archival photographs added so much to my getting to know the heroes and heroines so beautifully described in this book.

I lost most of my father's family who were killed by the Germans in concentration camps during the war! Doreen Rappaport has done a phenomenal job showing how much real resistance there was. The part of the book that deals with the Bielski Brothers was of particular interest since I know one of the sons of one of the brothers. I heartily recommend EVERYONE read this narrative to learn

how much real resistance occurred.

Concise, accessible and well laid out. Beyond Courage is a well balanced book that can appeal to a cross section of ages and interests in Holocaust studies. The photos are striking and provide an appropriate enhancement to the stories. I am considering a book club discussion of this book in March of 2016.

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