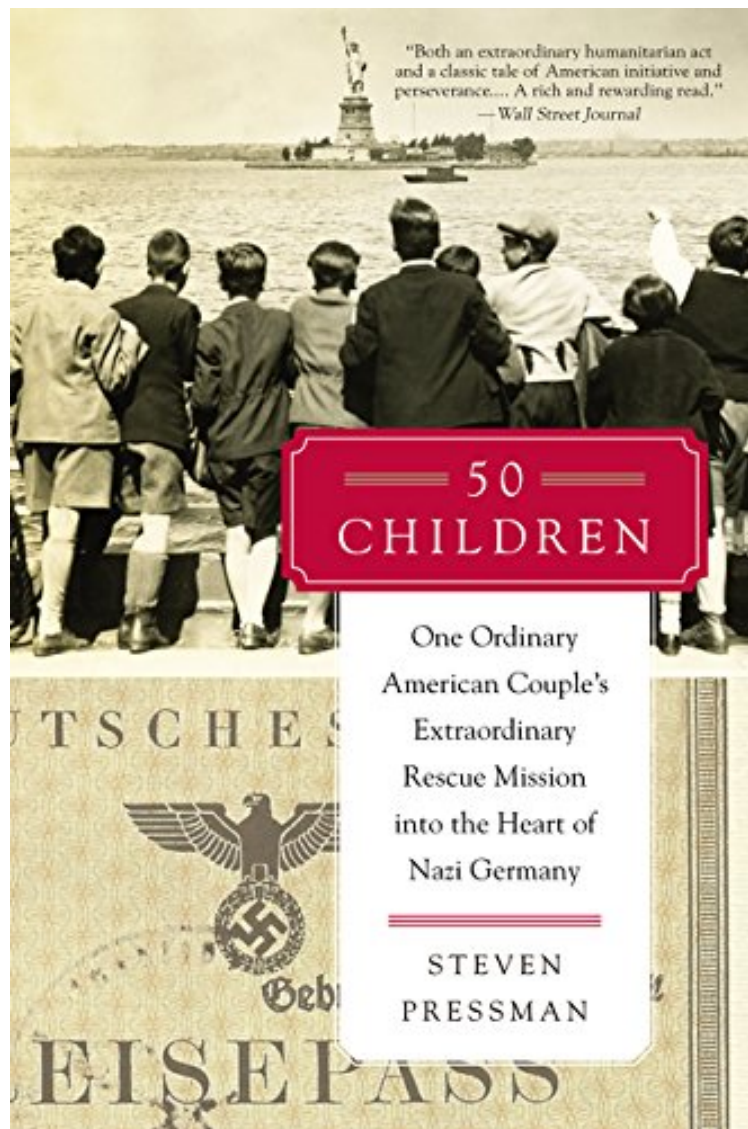


(Mobile book) 50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple's Extraordinary Rescue Mission into the Heart of Nazi Germany

50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple's Extraordinary Rescue Mission into the Heart of Nazi Germany

Steven Pressman

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#598279 in Books 2015-05-05 2015-05-05Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.00 x .76 x 5.311, .0 #File Name: 0062237489336 pages | File size: 21.Mb

Steven Pressman : 50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple's Extraordinary Rescue Mission into the Heart of Nazi Germany before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple's Extraordinary Rescue Mission into the Heart of Nazi Germany:

128 of 132 people found the following review helpful. Really Opened My EyesBy Joseph OppenheimFrom my

daughter: Everybody knows about the awful things Hitler and the Nazis did to the Jews, but I was shocked to find out that before concentration camps and murders began, Jews were given the option to leave Europe. Expecting someone to give up everything they have worked so hard for and leave their home with nothing, solely because they were Jewish, is horrible enough, but the fact that they couldn't find countries to take them in, sheds light on not just a problem with Europe, but the rest of the world. The US had allotted a certain amount of visas to give to Jews trying to leave, but only a small percentage were actually given out. I think this would be a great book to read for kids learning about the Holocaust. It gives a much better picture and world view of what happened, then just learning about how the Nazis killed millions of Jews. The Krauses story is truly remarkable and beyond inspiring. It makes me so sick to my stomach that there were Jews just like the Krauses in Europe (intelligent, hard working, generous, socially conscious, loving, and kind), that were put to death. Our country surely would have been better off if we would have given out more visas. The world could use more people like the Krauses.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Amazing StoryBy Cheryl J. LeslieIt is hard to imagine American Jews staying in Vienna and traveling into Germany during Hitler's Third Reich, but that is precisely what Gil and Eleanor Kraus had to do in order to save some children from certain annihilation as the Holocaust was ramping up. Through many travails and tribulations, these brave people, along with their backers were able to rescue many children from hardship and hatred.The author, Steven Pressman drew upon various resources, especially Eleanor Kraus's letters and diary. The story is compassionate, well-written and historically accurate, being based on first-person narratives. It is an amazing story, one that can only be true.One can imagine the heartbreak of parents when they found out their children were chosen or not chosen to come to America. Of course, at this time, no one knew the terrors Hitler was to release upon the Jews of Europe and many families did not wish to be separated from each other; fortunately for 50 children who had parents brave enough to willingly let them go, the Krauses were able to help.I would recommend this book to anyone interested in Holocaust history or would enjoy reading about how just a few people can work a miracle.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A truly marvelous storyBy VicI'm reading this book again for the third time. It is inspiring to read about the courage and determination that these people had to risk their own safety and perhaps their very lives to save 50 children from sure death. It is one thing to do a kind deed in the comfort of one's own environment, but for these people (who were Jewish) to have traveled to Nazi Germany with all the attendant danger lurking there, it is simply amazing. The book is very well written and a heady reminder of what happens in the world when evil goes unchecked.

Two Ordinary Americans. Fifty Innocent Lives. One Unforgettable Journey.In early 1939, few Americans were thinking about the darkening storm clouds over Europe. Nor did they have much sympathy for the growing number of Jewish families who were increasingly threatened and brutalized by Adolf Hitler's policies in Germany and Austria.But one ordinary American couple decided that something had to be done. Despite overwhelming obstaclesboth in Europe and in the United StatesGilbert and Eleanor Kraus made a bold and unprecedented decision to travel into Nazi Germany in an effort to save a group of Jewish children. This is their story.

.com An Best Book of the Month, May 2014: If you missed the highly praised HBO documentary 50 Children, you can get the whole story from this excellent chronicle by journalist Steven Pressman, who also wrote, directed, and produced the film. Gilbert and Eleanor Kraus were typical members of an affluent, educated Jewish community in Philadelphia in the 1930s; Gilbert was a lawyer, and Eleanor a bit of a shopaholic. Worried about what they were hearing from Europe by 1939, the Krauses set out to travel to Austria and Germany to save Jewish children from the advancing Nazis; they were not particularly religious or political and this was not an easy task in an era plagued by anti-Semitism and isolationism. But through careful readings of the law, loopholes in the visa-granting system, and plain old bravery, the Krauses managed to bring more than four dozen children to safety in the United States. Pressman, the Krauses grandson-in-law, used Eleanor Kraus's unpublished diaries as well as photographs, documents, and interviews to recreate a historical moment and a heroic act. Like Oskar Schindler and his list, the Krauses and their 50 children will now never be forgotten. --Sara NelsonFrom BooklistRescues and escapes from Nazi persecution are augmented by this well-crafted account. Based on a family typescript inherited by Pressman's wife, it describes a project taken on by her grandparents in 1939 to bring Jewish children out of Germany and to the U.S. Proposed to Gil Kraus, a Philadelphia lawyer, by a Jewish fraternal organization in which he was active, the plan entailed Kraus satisfying both American and German regulations and officialdom and ultimately traveling to Germany to select and chaperone 50 children across the Atlantic. His wife, Eleanor, wrote up her experience of the journey. Pressman's extensive quotations of Eleanor's account capture the immediacy of events, while his research into State Department communications with the Krauses contextualizes the principal challenge they faced, finding a legal loophole in the then-restrictive immigration laws. On the other side of the transaction, Pressman details Gil Kraus's activities in Berlin and Vienna to collect his charges, whose own memories of their rescue and relocation to America Pressman also relays. Multimedia marketing, including an HBO documentary, will heighten the prominence of this deserving work. --Gilbert Taylor Both an extraordinary humanitarian act and a classic tale of American initiative and perseverance....A rich and rewarding read.Pressman paints a moving picture of the rescue. (Wall Street Journal)Excellent. Pressman, the

Krauses grandson-in-law, used Eleanor Krauss unpublished diaries as well as photographs, documents, and interviews to recreate a historical moment and a heroic act. Like Oskar Schindler and his list, the Krauses and their 50 children will now never be forgotten. (Sara Nelson, Best Book of the Month Citation)A remarkable book. (Forbes)The astonishing story of a Philadelphia couples resolve to help bring Jewish children out of Nazi-occupied Austria. . . .With a careful eye to detail and dialogue, Pressman vividly re-creates this epic rescue. (Kirkus s)A brilliantly written book that takes the reader on a journey back in time. Yet, it is relevant today because Gil and Eleanors story proves that individuals with courage and strength can overcome the odds. A very insightful read. (Military Press)[A] stirring account of determination against overwhelming odds.[Pressmans] flowing narrative breathes life into the America and Europe of 1938-1939,.The whole makes for a story as troubling as it is inspirational. (Publishers Weekly)The portrait of the Krauses that emerges is one of incredible resourcefulness, perseverance, bravery, and motivation to save lives. Pressmans deeply affecting account is a tribute to a couple whose heroic efforts were a beacon of light during a time of unremitting darkness for the Jewish people. (Jewish Book Council)Well-crafted.[A] deserving work. (Booklist