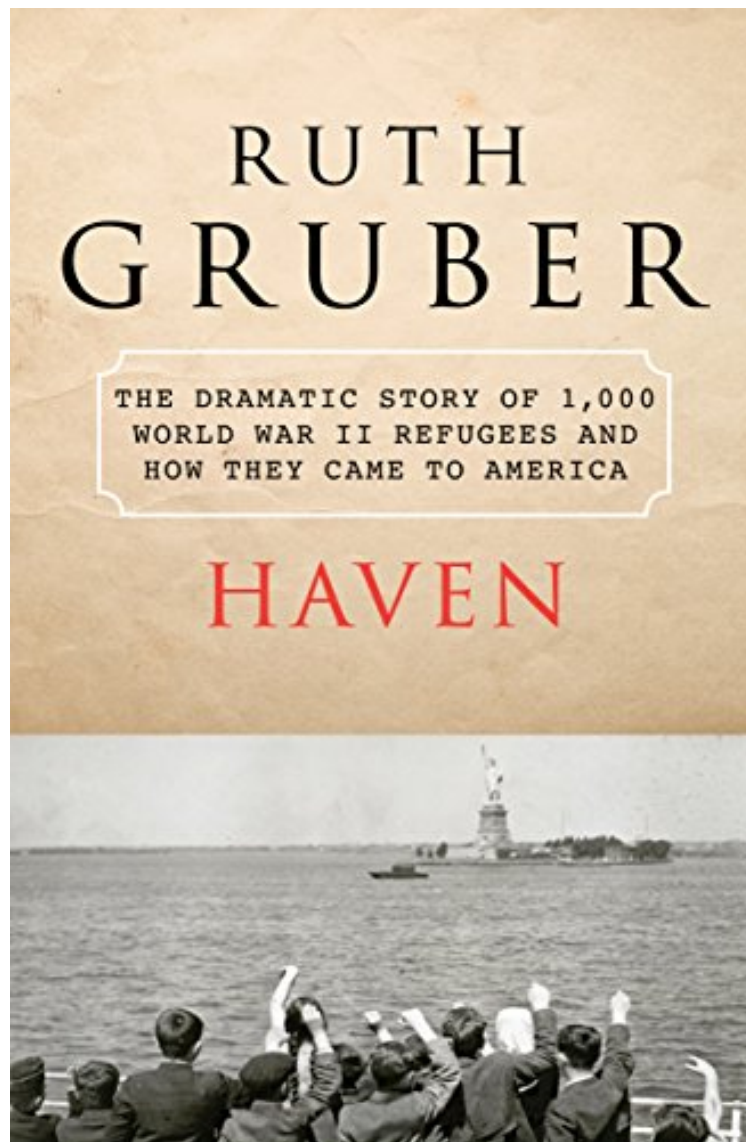


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Haven: The Dramatic Story of 1,000 World War II Refugees and How They Came to America

Ruth Gruber

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Ruth Gruber : Haven: The Dramatic Story of 1,000 World War II Refugees and How They Came to America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Haven: The Dramatic Story of 1,000 World War II Refugees and How They Came to America:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Insightful, melds history with personal participation in the making of it. By Karen History can be dry and leave one untouched encountering it. And then there are books like this that draw you in, making it more real, almost tangible. Ruth takes the reader on a journey that begins with the 1000 war refugees, or displaced persons, America allowed into America during WWII. With the expertise of a seasoned reporter, Ruth recounts her involvement in the project, the pathos, passion, and persistence involved in obtaining the freedom desired by each of those escaping Hitler's death grip, crossing the Atlantic with such high hopes, only to experience months in a camp encircled by fencing that emotionally echoed many of the very camps in Europe from which they had been "rescued." As always, politics pushes history into a form sometimes attractive, sometimes sordid, sometimes with twists unforeseen by those who create it--all reflected in Ruth's account. It's history, it's personalized, it's fascinating reading. In the end, Ruth is endeared to the reader for her impact for good--blessing many, including the reader with her warm, big-hearted embrace of those in need of need--need of home, need of significance, need for hope. I loved the book! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating By jo a. olson Fascinating story of a part of the US' response to the Holocaust, a story probably unknown to most Americans. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. History we need to know By J. Aronson Written by an extraordinary author whose career positively impacted on the lives of so many individuals, this book tells the largely unknown story of the only group of Jews and other displaced persons allowed into the US during WWII. While hundreds of thousands of German soldiers captured during the war were brought to the US and provided sanctuary as well as work and ultimately an opportunity for citizenship, less than 1,000 Jews were allowed into the US by President Roosevelt and the Congress. Read their personal stories and the contributions that these individuals made to our country. Think about whether US and world behavior was correct! Well written. Easy Read.

Award-winning journalist Ruth Gruber's powerful account of a top-secret mission to rescue one thousand European refugees in the midst of World War II. In 1943, nearly one thousand European Jewish refugees from eighteen different countries were chosen by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's administration to receive asylum in the United States. All they had to do was get there. Ruth Gruber, with the support of Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes, volunteered to escort them on their secret route across the Atlantic from a port in Italy to a safe haven camp in Oswego, New York. The dangerous endeavor carried the threat of Nazi capture with each passing day. While on the ship, Gruber recorded the refugees' emotional stories and recounts them here in vivid detail, along with the aftermath of their arrival in the US, which involved a fight for their right to stay after the war ended. The result is a poignant and engrossing true story of suffering under Nazi persecution and incredible courage in the face of overwhelming circumstances.

From Booklist Before and after World War II, Gruber was a journalist, chronicling, among other stories, the establishment and development of Israel. During the war, however, she worked for New Dealer Harold Ickes. When, in 1943, FDR decided to admit 1,000 war refugees to the U.S., Gruber volunteered, with Ickes' support, to accompany the group from Europe to their camp in Oswego, New York. Gruber's tale of that journey and its aftermath has long been out of print; this revised and enlarged edition coincides with a CBS miniseries on the subject to be broadcast in May_ 2000. Haven is a remarkable story, following a vivid cast of characters from their dangerous sea journey to Fort Ontario in upstate New York to the battle in Congress to allow these refugees to remain in the U.S. once the war was over. Gruber's involving story may offer evidence that literary skill is inherited: its introduction is provided by Gruber's niece, Dava Sobel, author of Longitude (1995) and, most recently, Galileo's Daughter. Mary Carroll Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved A visceral jolt. The New York Times