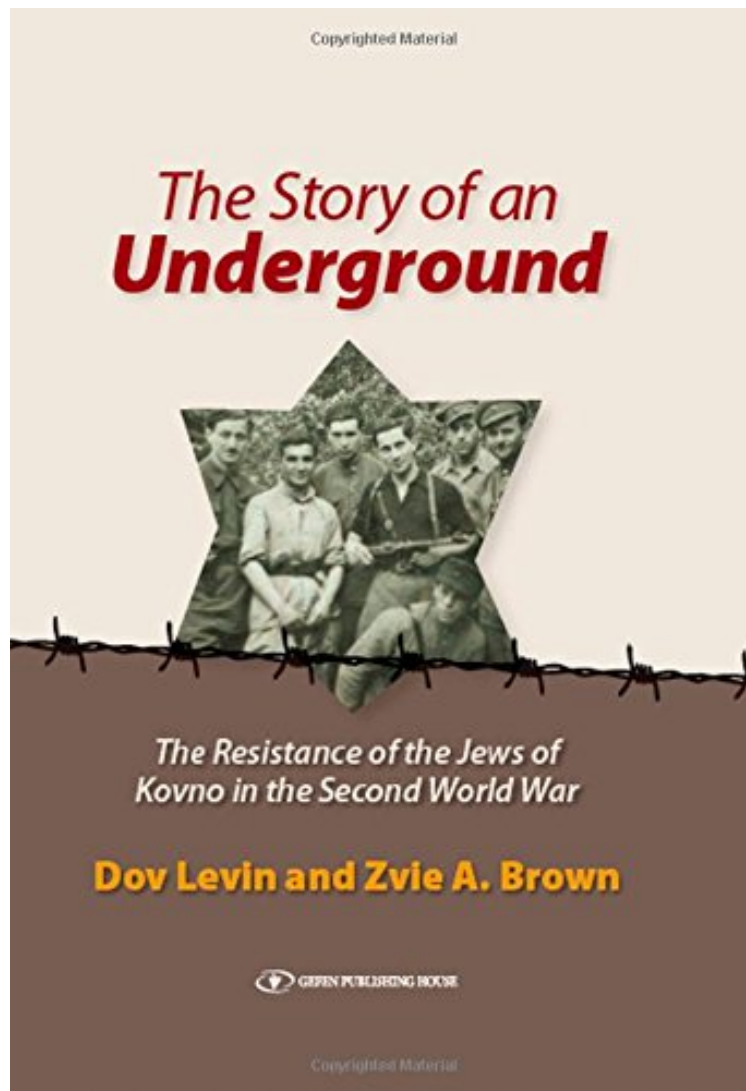


[Library ebook] The Story of an Underground: The Resistance of the Jews of Kovno (Lithuania) in the Second World War

The Story of an Underground: The Resistance of the Jews of Kovno (Lithuania) in the Second World War

Dov Levin, Zvie A. Brown
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Dov Levin, Zvie A. Brown : The Story of an Underground: The Resistance of the Jews of Kovno (Lithuania) in the Second World War before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Story of an Underground: The Resistance of the Jews of Kovno (Lithuania) in the Second World War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very important book about the Holocaust and how the Lithuanian Jews reacted to Hitler's systematic extermination of the JewsBy MariucciaI am not finished reading this book so I can

only give a partial review. The beginning is quite disturbing as the writer goes through describing the early stages of the German invasion into Lithuania and the complicity of factions there to exterminate the Jews. The fact that many found ways to protect and save others in the face of all the adversities the Jews had to cope with is a testament to their strength and courage as a people. This is an important subject especially and at a time when there are so many Holocaust deniers. This should be required reading for anyone that wants to understand the resilience of the Jewish people and why Israel needs to exist. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended! By Ian This is my 1st book review. This book is a Wow, and by far the most compelling read I have come across in a long time. Scholarly, well researched, imminently readable English translation, the authors (who were there) give detailed understanding into the various factions that vied for political and activist stature within the ghetto, against the backdrop of the Nazi regime. Stories go into the detail of conversations and meetings held, decisions reached by the leadership, taking into account the goals of resistance, without severe reprisals to the rest of the ghetto community. Included is the incredible story of 64 (everyone) prisoners assigned to dig up and burn previous murder victims, as it became apparent that the Germans needed to cover their tracks, escape from the 9th Fort. Every page is more thrilling than the last, with incredible bravery and sacrifice from people who were proud to die fighting. Highly recommended!

This is the story of the fighting underground of the Jews of Kovno, Lithuania, in World War II. The authors, historians Zvie A. Brown and Dov Levin, were themselves members of the Kovno underground, and this well-researched book based on documentary material, verbal testimonies, and written memoirs of witnesses, among other sources is supplemented by the authors own personal accounts. The authors here describe the first steps of the organized Jewish underground in the Kovno Ghetto, its desperate search for allies outside the ghetto, and its first bloodstained attempts to break through the ring of isolation and establish a base of support for partisan battle. They relate the insurgency at its height: contacts with partisans in the forest, acquisition of weapons and equipment, and training of fighters for partisan warfare. They also analyze the complex relationship between the Jewish fighting organization on the one hand, and the Council of Elders and the Jewish police on the other, as well as the active assistance these official organizations gave to the underground. The text goes on to describe the operations of the partisans, many of whom were fighters from the Kovno Ghetto, and the process by which the fighters were accepted into Soviet partisan units. The authors paint a picture of daily life in the partisan brigades, including the tense relationship between the Jewish and non-Jewish fighters. They relate the final days of the underground as the ghetto was being destroyed, and then the last journey of the Kovno brigades from the forest bases back to liberated Kovno.

" the more he became involved with it, the more he realized its significance and what an important learning tool it could be for countless people with gaps in their knowledge of the Holocaust years." "What is particularly crucial about this book is that Levin interviewed the partisans more than half a century ago, and was thus able to get firsthand stories of many [who have since died.]" --Greer Fay Cashman "Jerusalem Post" (08/19/2014) " the more he became involved with it, the more he realized its significance and what an important learning tool it could be for countless people with gaps in their knowledge of the Holocaust years." "What is particularly crucial about this book is that Levin interviewed the partisans more than half a century ago, and was thus able to get firsthand stories of many [who have since died.]" --Greer Fay Cashman "Jerusalem Post" (08/19/2014) About the Author Professor Dov Levin was born in Kovno, Lithuania, in 1925. He was in the Kovno Ghetto during the Nazi occupation, along with his father, mother, and twin sister, none of whom survived. After fighting as a partisan against the Nazis, he arrived in Palestine in 1945, participating in the War of Independence. He received his PhD in history from Hebrew University, was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Chicago and director of the Oral History Division of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at Hebrew University. Among Prof. Levin's many published books and articles is *Fighting Back: Lithuanian Jewry's Armed Resistance to the Nazis 1941-1945* (1985), for which he was awarded the Yitzhak Sadeh Prize in Military History. He is married to Bilha (Deutsch) and is the father of Nitzana Borosh, Basmat Levin, and Tzvi Levin. Professor Zvie A. Brown (d.1996) was born in Warsaw, Poland. He arrived in Kovno during the Nazi conquest of Eastern Europe where he joined the underground and then fought as a partisan against the Nazis. He subsequently studied at Hebrew University, receiving his BA (1952), MA (1957), and PhD (1964). In addition to serving as senior lecturer, he was a research fellow at Yale University (1965-1966) and guest lecturer at the University of St Andrews in Scotland (1970-1971). He went on to teach philosophy at Hebrew University and from 1977-1980 served as chair of the philosophy department. Prof. Brown was married to Varda Esther (Goldberg) and is the father of Moshe Brown and Urit Agami.