Together: A Journey For Survival

Ann S. Arnold
The only way they would survive, was if they stayed TOGETHER. Sala Schonwetter lived the perfect life. Married to the man of her dreams, mother to two beautiful children, and a member of one of the most respected families in town; she had it all. The year was 1939, and the world was about to change. In a heartbreaking instant, she had to trade her life of security, family, and simple pleasures—for one of unspeakable loneliness, hardship, and danger. Nothing more than hunted prey, she relied on her inner strength and indomitable will to keep her children alive. But would it be enough? How far would she have to go, and did she have the resolve to get there? One thing she knew for sure ... she and her children would live or die one way TOGETHER.

Manek was six years old when his world began to collapse. At first, his young eyes failed to see it, but reality came quickly into focus, when his loving gentle mother was forced to beat him in order to save his life. That is when he realized the Nazis wanted to kill him. Suddenly thrust into a new role as man of the house, would he be able to help keep his family safe? Was he strong enough to protect them? He knew only one thing ... they would survive if they could stay TOGETHER.

In Together: A Journey for Survival, Ann Arnold shares her family’s journey through Poland’s countryside as a war of nations thunders around them. The story displays the magnificent strength of a mother’s love and the incredible courage of good people during the worst of times. "An important work. Ann Arnold’s effort to both tell their tale of her family’s survival during the Holocaust while being a part of encouraging the next generation to embrace tolerance is inspiring." -Michael Cohen, The Simon Wiesenthal Center

"A fascinating story that takes a reader inside an already wounded family toiling through horrific difficulty in the pursuit of life itself. ... it forces readers to ask themselves if they could endure a struggle or whether they might support another person in a life or death battle. This angle makes the book valuable for teachers to use and beneficial for students to read at the high school level." -Lawrence M. Glaser, N.J. Commission on Holocaust Education

"Incredible Story" – Northern Valley Press

"Arnold’s perspective is colored not only by those non-Jews who saved her father’s family but also by her experience visiting Brzostek as an adult." – New Jersey Jewish News

**Book Information**

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If you don't read another book this year I so highly recommend this book. I don't read often as I'm not one to sit, always moving, so the few books a year I read have to really hold my attention for me to stop long enough. This book obviously did, I read a couple of chapters Thursday evening, picked it up again Saturday and read the whole book. A couple of times I thought I've got stuff to do, housework, laundry and so on. I'd shut my kindle off and in 15 or 20 minutes I had to read more. I could see in my mind what the words were saying, smell the smells, and feel the emotions throughout the book. Reading this book made me think of the woe is me times, which we all have. I actually was a bit ashamed of the woe is me's after reading this and what this family lived through. I've had the great good fortune to have met Manek, he is one of the happiest people I've met, always smiling, and his eyes twinkle. He Loves to meet new people and itâ€™s so genuine, seeing his love for life and family after reading his families story humbles me and inspires me to be grateful for all I have which is so much than I ever realized.

It is challenging to read all they endured, and yet In details are skimmed over to keep the narrative moving. The strength of this woman, her confidence in her love & instinct to protect her children, is one to which I believe all mothers can relate. It is also encouraging again to read of those who risked their lives and property to protect the persecuted. Those who do not learn from the past are doomed to repeat it; I hope many read this and learn from it to avoid the same path.
It's hard so say you enjoyed a book that covered the holocaust which was a horrific event but, ANNE did an incredible job in writing this story and capturing the journey her grandmother, father and aunt had to endure. I found it was heartbreaking what her family went through and was truly happy to know of their survival. Sharing their Story was brave and courageous. For those who like read this genre, this book is a must. It will leave you with an appreciation for love, life and the desperate measures one takes to survive.

After reading over 70 memoirs of holocaust survivors I continue to be amazed at the cruelty we can bestow on one another. But within this mix of terrible hatred - every so often miraculous inspiration emerges. This book makes me want t be a better man - and the unbelievable tenacity of Sala makes me ashamed of my petty concerns and bickering. Five stars ... You won't want to put it down. God bless the family and the poor grandfather.

This book provides an amazing and unique perspective from stories of the surviving members of a prosperous, jewish family living in Poland during WWII and the holocaust. It's a story about love and determination, but perhaps as importantly, it gives us a true and compelling look at their experience. Either way, a great read.

This book about a family surviving during the Holocoust and escaping near death had me feeling every emotion that I have. As I read it, It sort of made me be there with them with feelings of much anxiety cause your not sure what lies ahead in front of them. The feeling of suffocation for how they had to sleep at times. A feeling of anger for some of the family that didn’t give support and turned their backs on them and got extremely angry where a mother is watching out for her daughter by leaving her with a family to watch over her, however punished her on account she was crying. A feeling of joy and happiness because they did survive it and was able to go home. The father nothing more than a brave hero! He could have escaped but sacrificed his life so his friend didn’t die alone. You have heard about the Holicaust, you may even have been to the museum (s) and seen such horrific pictures but the way the author wrote about her father, aunt and grandparents, not to mention her cousins, now you can have a true feeling how ones actually lived through it. So should you ever come across a Holicaust survivor or know of one or more, you should show them your admiration of the bravery and strength for what they went through, because the ones that did escape the percentage is so small to the ones that were killed. The author and book are brilliant and no details are left out. You can't get any more realistic then this. Definitely a story that should be
I have read many books about the Holocaust. I really enjoyed this one. While it is about the atrocities that happened during the war, it is more about the love of a mother for her children and her determination that they will all survive. I highly recommend this book.

Powerful story of a mother and two young children who managed to avoid incarceration in Auschwitz. Their survival was due to their own determination and courage and help from a few Polish citizens. Their will to live in the most difficult and sometimes unbearable conditions shows the strength of human character.

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