

Margaret Schuette



"My most overwhelming impression was steaming by the Statue of Liberty. I was crying."

-Karola M. Schuette

Book

Journey Between Two Worlds

Journey Between Two Worlds is a compelling firsthand account of surviving the ravages and rubble of World War II, and ultimately gaining freedom and a resurrected life in America.

Journey Between Two Worlds is a compelling firsthand account of growing up in Germany during the poverty and despair of the Great Depression and the fear and oppression of Hitler's Nazi regime, surviving the ravages and rubble of World War II, and ultimately gaining freedom and a resurrected life in America. Karola Schuette describes in lyrical detail how her destiny is transformed forever when she meets a German-born US Army intelligence officer. Forging a life of new horizons and experiences in the United States, Karola opens our eyes to the liberties and opportunities that we may assume to be our birthright, and subtly and insightfully conveys that a democracy requires constant cultivation to sustain it.



Excerpt:

"The one important factor was that when I was with Bill and he put his arms around me, never before had I felt such a sense of being loved, secure and safe against anything and anybody. I had not ever thought of myself as being lovable, or that anyone could truly care about me. It was an overwhelming feeling."

Publisher: Koehler Books Distributor: Ingram PUB DATE: 07/15/21 SOFT COVER: \$16.95, 978-1-64663-351-7 HARD COVER: \$25.95, 978-1-64663-353-1 EBOOK: \$7.99, 978-1-64663-352-4 TRIM: 6"x 9", pages 186 BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / Personal Memoirs

Author and Editor

Karola M. Schuette



Karola M. Schuette, from Offenbach, Germany, brought her early skills as a legal secretary and interpreter to her venture as an author, but it was her life experience during the Depression and Hitler years of World War II that informed her distinctive, insightful voice. Crossing to this country as a war bride in 1947 and becoming an American citizen expanded her horizons and intensified her perceptions of both the new world she entered and the old one she left behind. In her capacity as

a customer service representative and notary at a Connecticut bank she wrote articles of historic and local interest for the bank's publication and started her own book club. She was engaged as a community leader, historical researcher, hospitality coordinator, security manager, beekeeper and singer, and advanced humanitarian causes throughout her life.

Margaret Schuette



Margaret Schuette, with a BA from Ohio University and MA from the University of California at Los Angeles, has for forty years flourished as a performer, choreographer, and dance educator on the West Coast and East Coast. She applied her skills and sensibilities in the language of dance to the editing of her mother's memoir, Journey Between Two Worlds. Margaret serves as an active board member president of a contemporary dance company, LaneCoArts, in New York City, where she resides and pursues her love of tango.





Talking Points

- What brought you to the point of publishing? To what degree was your mother involved with that?
- What did you expect, and learn, from the publishing process?
- How did you arrive at editing your mother's work? What was that like and what did you learn?
- Where did the title come from? Talk about the meaning of "two worlds."
- What message does the memoir give to those facing obstacles and hardships?
- How would you compare women's inner strength and resilience then to now?
- Following the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII do you see any parallels in history and society then and now?
- What do you hope readers come away with after reading the memoir?
- Any discoveries or realizations about your parents, or others in the memoir, during your multiple editing review?
- Have you extracted any further correlations of dates and events?
- Did you ever meet your mother's parents (your maternal grandparents), or other relatives in Germany?
- Survival and its aftermath.
- Karola's life before and after America (dictatorship vs. freedom).
- Freedom of speech (individual thought) vs. propaganda (organized doctrine).
- Finding new identity in a democratic society.







1) "The author invites us to be part of her kaleidoscope of life. She takes us by the hand and we travel with her, witnessing the different patterns...of colors. A brilliant read."

- HANS W. HUEBNER, Producer, RTL Television

2) "The detailed and in-depth descriptions of events, surroundings, circumstances, and emotions in Karola's life make this story a real page turner."

- HARRIETTE MISHKIN, The Village View Editorial Board, Penn's Village

3) "Journey Between Two Worlds is a moving chronicle of hardship, hope and renewal. Karola Schuette recounts her remarkable experiences with vivid details, engaging humor and, above all, unflagging courage."

- CHRISTOPHER PORTERFIELD, retired Executive Editor, TIME Magazine

4) "A delicate mosaic of daily-life detail...gives us humble insight into...world-historical events...From these modest, private writings comes a masterful picture of the twentieth century...An impressively moving read."

- PROFESSOR MARCIA PALLY, NYU, Humboldt University-Berlin. Latest book: From

This Broken Hill I Sing to You: God, Sex, and Politics in the Work of Leonard Cohen (Sept. 2021)

5) "Journey Between Two Worlds is a charming, evocative story illustrating the experiences faced by a brave, young German woman...Karola's voice is loud and clear, and her passionate devotion to her husband, family, and new country is vividly illuminated."

- CYNDE BLOOM LAHEY, Director of Library Information Services, Norwalk Public Library, CT

6) "During this dark period...between two world wars and the midst of the Great Depression...the author's understanding and compassion remain undimmed by the brutal hardships and losses she endures...An inspiring memoir."

- MADELEINE SCOTT, Professor Emerita of Dance, Ohio University





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7) "Couched in plain, unvarnished language, laced with a charmingly wry humor...[this is] and engrossing memoir of life transitions, both physical and personally transformative...an evocative recording of a way of life long disappeared...[and] a labor of love and a moving tribute by editor and commentator, daughter Margaret Schuette, to her author mother." - MAGDA SALEH, PH.D., NYU School of Education; Founding Director of the New Cairo Opera House National Cultural Center; Order of Merit Recipient, President Gamal Abdel Nasser; Former Guest Artist with the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow and the Kirov Ballet in Leningrad.





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