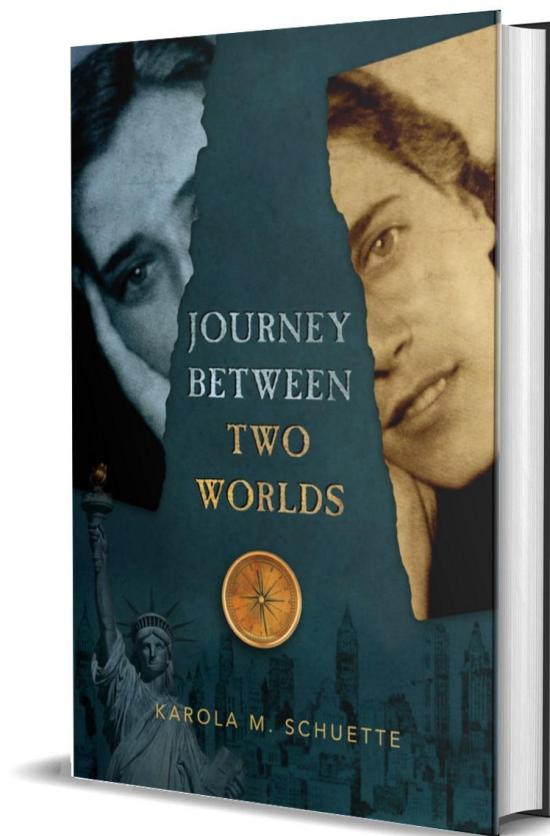


Media Kit

Margaret Schuette



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

- Karola M. Schuette

Book

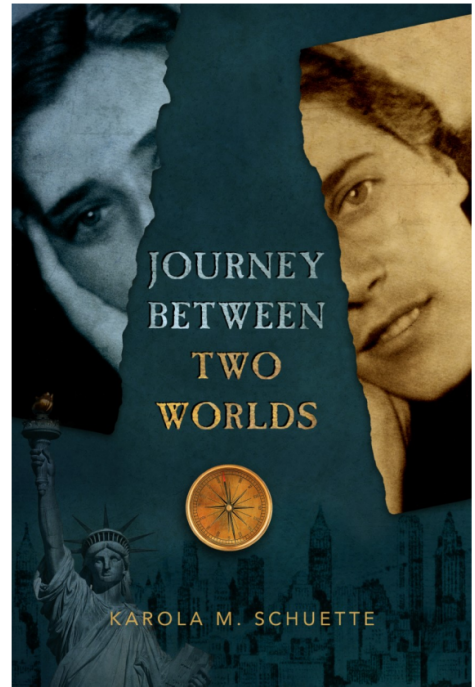
Journey Between Two Worlds

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 an award-winning first-hand 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

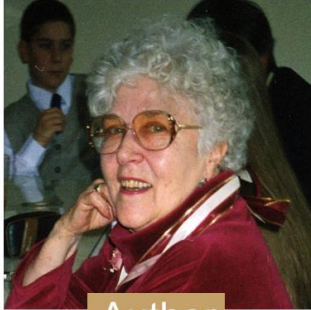
EBOOK: \$7.99, 978-1-64663-352-4

TRIM: 6"x 9", pages 186

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY /
Personal Memoirs

Author and Editor

Karola M. Schuette



Author

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



Editor

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.





Praise

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**





Praise

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.”

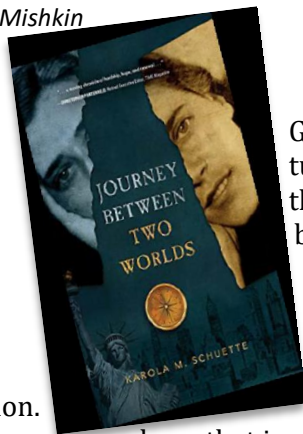
- MAGDA SALEH, PH.D., NYU School of Education; Founding Director of the New Cairo Opera House National Cultural Center; Order of Merit Recipient, President Gamal Abdel Nasser; Former Guest Artist with the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow and the Kirov Ballet in Leningrad.

BOOK REVIEW

Journey Between Two Worlds

by Karola M. Schuette

Reviewed by Harriette Mishkin



I often wish I had questioned my parents and grandparents about growing up in other parts of the world and what it was like coming to America. Now, when I stumble on new and confusing information during genealogy searches, there is no one left from that generation to ask for clarification.

Not so for Margaret Schuette. She edited her parents' diaries to produce a moving chronicle of Karola Friedmann's life in Germany during the Great Depression and World War II, who at war's end met William (Bill) Hermann Schuette, a German-born US Army Intelligence officer, and their subsequent move to New York.

(Full disclosure—Margaret was married to my husband's brother.)

Karola, born in Offenbach, Germany, lived through tumultuous times, and it's those descriptions that both engaged and disturbed me. My knowledge of the war's devastation mainly concerned the Holocaust rather than its impact on ordinary German citizens;

perhaps that is why Bill's October 6, 1946, diary entry, describing how every building had been damaged and that “one could see devastation along the way and the frail, bewildered condition of the people,” was so sobering.

Stationed in Offenbach and assigned to censor communications going in and out of the American-occupied zone, Bill met Karola, a translator between American-occupied forces and German employees. Smitten, he wrangled a Christmas

Eve dinner invitation, though Karola had told him her family lived in a war-damaged apartment with makeshift furniture, no heat, and nothing to offer in the way of food. Surprising and delighting, Bill arrived like Santa Claus with Danish pastries, bacon, butter, salami, and mayonnaise— all bartered for with cigarettes!

Married in Germany in 1947, they moved to New York to begin a new and different way of life. Karola had to borrow clothes and learn American customs; Bill had to find a job and, most importantly—with a baby on the way—a place to live. Many moves and four children later, Karola is widowed and living on her own as she begins another transition that will feel real and relatable to many Penn's Village members. For photos, a newsletter, videos, etc., [Journey Between Two Worlds by Karola M. Schuette](#)





Praise

- Judges Comments; Feathered Quill Book Awards 2022:
(Finalist in Memoir/Biography Category)

- *"The emotion is heartfelt, her trials through Nazi Germany, WWII, the Depression, and finding a way to freedom through marriage are very memorable"*
- *"A very honest and emotional story"*
- *"Well done!"*

<https://www.koehlerbooks.com/2022-feathered-quill-book-awards/>

- Excerpt from editorial review by "Reader Views", in praise of *Journey Between Two Worlds*:
"Journey Between Two Worlds is a wonderfully written memoir... we care because of the detailed and in-depth descriptions of the events, background, and emotions Ms. Schuette is feeling throughout the chapters... you feel like you are a part of the family, and she is telling you the stories face-to-face... inspiring... I would recommend it to everyone."

-Reviewed by Kathy Stickles for Reader Views

<https://readerviewsarchives.wordpress.com/2022/02/03/reviewschuettejourneybetweentwoworlds/>

★★★★★ - "Readers...won't want to put the book down." – Literary Titan

"Growing up under the dictatorship of Hitler, author Karola M. Schuette was accustomed to a life that seemed monotonous at best. Always tiptoeing, always careful of what you say or do. You don't want to be under surveillance, do you? She stayed affectionate to her aging parents as she developed into a young lady being the model German citizen to not attract attention. Around the same time, Hitler lost the war, and although she did not patronize their ruler's tyranny, she was still German. The allied forces made sure she never forgot that. To Karola, it was as amusing as it was unfortunate. She relied on humor at times to get through. Even after the war, the hopelessness and destruction it left behind seemed unsurmountable. Life was difficult, but Karola was still grateful even for the smallest things. But right when she least expected it, she met the man who would move heaven and earth, just to make her happy and keep her safe."

Journey Between Two Worlds is a retelling of her journey as a young girl who grew up in a nation that Adolf Hitler drove to the ground. Then unexpectedly, she was swept off her feet by a German-born American soldier. Marrying him would mean moving to another country, thus her





Praise

... Journey Between Two Worlds. I found it hard to put this book down for two reasons: one is a realistic account of a woman's adversities from girlhood to immigrating to another country, and two, Karola is hilarious. Her writing style feels as if you're reading a letter from an old friend. Talking about the absurd amount of paperwork to get from one place to another, how nosy her neighbors were and how cigarettes turned out to be such an invaluable commodity are just the start of the entertaining topics she remembers.

Journey Between Two Worlds is a captivating memoir that has the perfect blend of history, comedy, and a retelling of a love that is so certain and unwavering. Readers will find her true story an eye-opening experience told with such personality they won't want to put the book down." - Literary Titan

-The Eric Hoffer Book Award Grand Prize Short List 2022 and Winner of Honorable Mention in the Category of Memoir Review

"Journey Between Two Worlds, Karola M. Schuette, Köehler Books – An honest and heartwarming memoir of one woman's life, this book spans a war, two continents, countless moves, and over forty years of true love. This serves as an invitation to peer into a remarkable life through intimate letters and journal entries. Beginning with the author's formative years spent growing up in Germany during the Great Depression, it's followed by World War II, which ironically brought love into the author's life, forever altering its course. The inclusion of letters and journal entries from her late husband offers a delightful complement to the narrative."

– The Eric Hoffer Award





LITERARY TITAN

It Was Also A Revelation

APR 10

Posted by [Literary Titan](#)



Karola M. Schuette Author Interview

Journey Between Two Worlds follows your mom's life from growing up under Hitler in Germany to moving to America. Why did she feel her story was important to share?

My mother wanted us, her children, to know the circumstances of her upbringing and life in Germany, and to have an understanding of our heritage in its personal, historical, and cultural context. On a broader scale, she wanted to communicate a lived knowledge of the tyranny of authoritarianism versus the value of freedom she discovered in a democracy; those of us born into such freedom can easily take it for granted and be unaware of its fragility.

When editing your mom's memoir, what was something you learned that you had not previously known?

At the tail end of a long editing process, which felt akin to piecing together a puzzle, I was surprised how much of my father's diary entries were included. It felt so right having his presence and voice so prominent. It was also a revelation how instantly he took a shine to my mother. I never thought of my father in that way.

What is your favorite memory of your mom from reading her memoir?

My favorite memory is her memory of Christmas 1946. It is the title and subject of Chapter 2 and at the heart of her story, falling in love with my father. It touches me deeply and brings a tear to my eye every time I read it.

What do you hope is one thing readers take away from your mom's story?

With all the hardships and difficulties she endured throughout her life she remained a beacon of positivity and possibility, with courage and humor ever at the ready.

Author Links: [Website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#) | [GoodReads](#) | [YouTube](#)

Interview with Editor, Margaret Schuette

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Contact

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