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Auschwitz And After



Synopsis

In March 1942, French police arrested Charlotte Delbo and her husband, the resistance leader Georges Dudach, as they were preparing to distribute anti-German leaflets in Paris. The French turned them over to the Gestapo, who imprisoned them. Dudach was executed by firing squad in May; Delbo remained in prison until January 1943, when she was deported to Auschwitz and then to Ravensbruck, where she remained until the end of the war. This book - Delbo's vignettes, poems and prose poems of life in the concentration camp and afterwards - is a literary memoir. It is a document by a female resistance leader, a non-Jew and a writer who transforms the experience of the Holocaust into prose. "Auschwitz and After" speaks of the moments of horror and of heroism Delbo never left behind, of the everyday deprivation and abuse experienced by all the people in the camps. Delbo describes the suffering of the doomed children. She also recounts the collections of survivors of her own work unit and their difficulties in returning to normal life after Auschwitz. The book conveys how a survivor must "carry the world" and continue to live after surviving the greatest tragedy of the 20th century. Translated from French and now available in English in its entirety, "Auschwitz and After" began as three separate books published in France by Editions de Minuit: "None of Us Will Return", "Useless Knowledge" and "The Measure of Days".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

It's so beautifully written. Some of it is soulful poetry. It's the first of so many books that I read on this subject that truly mirrored how I would feel if I had gone through the same horrors. You should read A Train in Winter, by Caroline Moorehead. She writes about these women and their stories.

That's how I discovered Charlotte Delbo and this extraordinary book.

Brilliantly written and very depressing, although I got it for a class reading. It was a book to remember the poetic dialogue and the layout of the book was very intriguing.

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