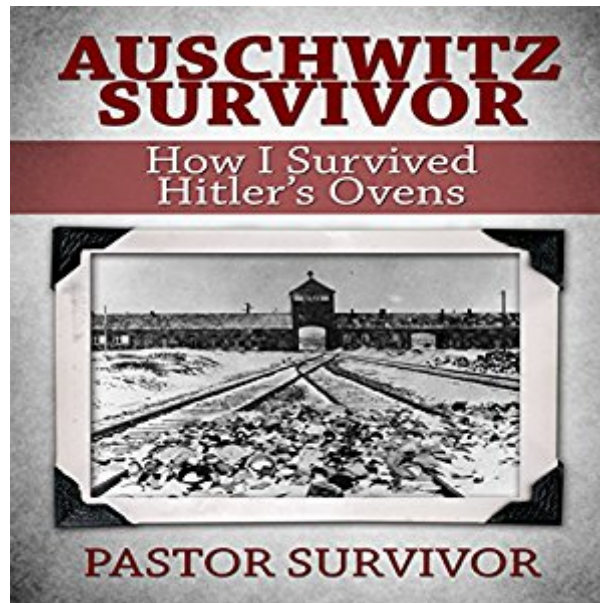




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Auschwitz Survivor: How I Survived Hitler's Ovens



Synopsis

I spent five years in five concentration camps. All the atrocities I saw haunt me, so I write to process the past. I will never be able to erase from my memory the picture of Birkenau, where one year seemed a thousand years, where thousands of men and women from all parts of the world found an untimely end. Five years seem a short space of time, but more crimes were committed during that period than during the past five centuries. At the time of my departure from Birkenau I noticed with dismay that only 25 men were still alive out of the total of 628 whom I met in the prison. Within two months, 600 men were exterminated in the Hitlerian hell. The surviving 25 prisoners did not last long. Several died in Sachsenhausen from typhoid fever. Others, whose physical endurance was at the lowest, died in Birkenau. A few weeks of hard labor proved sufficient to speed their end. I am the only one who survived.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 4 hours and 51 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: World War II Publishing

Audible.com Release Date: June 25, 2015

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B010EWI3S4

Best Sellers Rank: #88 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism #732 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > History #1017 in Books > History > World > Religious > Judaism

Customer Reviews

Powerful book written without prose, shows a side of the Holocaust that one does not usually learn about -- the priests and pastors. Often times it's hard to recall that the Nazi regime essentially viewed all religions as unwanted and attempted to remove their influence. Nazis found Roma, Jews, Slavs, homosexuals, alcoholics, the disabled, etc. as unwanted and aimed to exterminate them. The author gives great insight into the inner workings of the camps (he survived multiple) and the slow downfall of the Third Reich. I found this book powerful, moving, and honest without needing to wax poetic about the experience. The author gets to the point and does not color anything to make it

easier to handle. The only critique I have is that the author does skip back and forth through this time period, talking about various experiences out of chronological order, but stick with it. I definitely recommend this book.

"Old and young, grandfathers and grandsons, all got used to walking in blood. Concentration camps robbed men of thier conscience, turned their hearts to stone, made beasts of human beings" This passage stuck with me when I finished the book. The most horrifying thing about the concentration camps was not that people were murdered en masse. It was what the survivors endured and relive that is the true evil. The author of this books states that he is not a writer and explains that his account will be "plain and frank." This is what makes this work so powerful and thought provoking. No fluff. No gloss. Just the truth for it's own sake.

Hard to stomach some of it, had to stop a few times but the truth is often hard to hear. I would recommend the book just be aware some it will be extremely hard to read!

A good reminder of the horrors of the holocaust. We should never forget how degenerate mankind is. Only humans can act worse than animals toward other humans.

A vivid account of a holocaust survivors life inside Nazi concentration camps. I would like to see schools have required reading of such. It has come to my attention lately that some people don't believe in the holocaust that it's just a story. Not so sadly our youth are lacking knowledge and history has a way of repeating it self. Wise up and read this please.

Excellent book! I really felt for this man.

Gives an interesting perspective on Auschwitz, since it is told by a member of the clergy who was not immediately slated for the gas chambers. He was incarcerated for listening to a foreign news broadcast, and spent many months as a "guest" of Hitler. Worth reading.

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