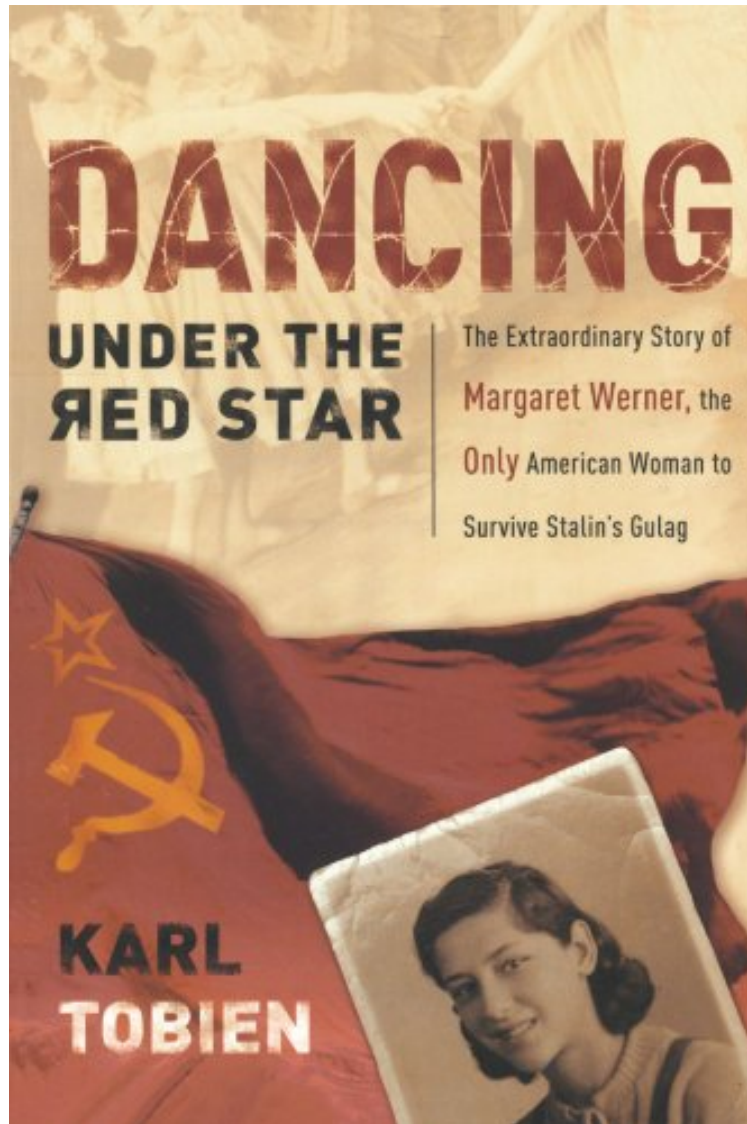


[Download] Dancing Under the Red Star: The Extraordinary Story of Margaret Werner, the Only American Woman to Survive Stalin's Gulag

Dancing Under the Red Star: The Extraordinary Story of Margaret Werner, the Only American Woman to Survive Stalin's Gulag

Karl Tobien

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#696464 in Books Karl Tobien 2006-06-20 2006-06-20Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.31 x .81 x 5.44l, 1.10 #File Name: 1400070783384 pagesDancing Under the Red Star The Extraordinary Story of Margaret Werner the Only American Woman to Survive Stalin s Gulag | File size: 59.Mb

Karl Tobien : Dancing Under the Red Star: The Extraordinary Story of Margaret Werner, the Only American Woman to Survive Stalin's Gulag before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dancing Under the Red Star: The Extraordinary Story of Margaret Werner, the Only American Woman to Survive Stalin's Gulag:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Expected moreBy Eva Aval was disappointed in this book. My family members were survivors of GULAG. One of them was 16 year old girl a daughter of well known person in Russia. It was so horrendous for her she would not talk about her experiences with anybody but her friends from these camps. In this book it feels almost too easy.Karl Tobien doesn't give clear information about his mother's family citizenship. It most likely that at some point her parents choose to get Russian citizenship. Margaret was probably too young and it wasn't her choice. She couldn't work in Russia during WWII without Russian passport! There is the reason why American Embassy couldn't help them!About Gunter, Margaret's husband, If I am right, he was about 7-8 years younger his wife! He was left behind in hated cold Inta to work and support family then he was only one working in W.Germany. I can understand why he wasn't happy and in relationship usually both parties are guilty.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An Amazing StoryBy Mike Blagg"Dancing Under the Red Star" is an incredible story about Margaret Werner, an American woman who travelled to the Soviet Union with her parents in the early 1930's, where her father went to work in a newly built Ford Motor Co. factory. Her father, a German immigrant, had socialist sympathies and thought he was going to a worker's paradise, hoping to make a better life for himself and his family. Upon arrival in the town of Gorky, and shown their humble and sub-standard apartment, they immediately knew this venture was not what they envisioned. The job at the factory was not what Carl Werner expected either. Some Americans returned home soon, but Carl Werner elected to stay, though he was openly critical of conditions at the factory. Maybe that is what got him in trouble, maybe it was just the fact that he was an American in Stalin's Soviet Union. Regardless, the Soviet secret police came for him in 1938, hauled him away, never to be seen or heard from again. His wife and teenage daughter, left to fend for themselves, struggled mightily.They moved to a smaller and even worse apartment, Margaret's mother found a humble job, and every day was a new struggle for survival. Margaret graduated high school, and having learned the Russian language, got a string of several good jobs. Then the Soviets came for her, on trumped up charges of espionage. Margaret spent ten years in Soviet prisons and labor camps, determined to survive, where so many others gave up and let themselves die. This book is written by Margaret's son Karl, though it is written in the first person, as if she is telling the story herself. While Karl is not a professional writer, he did a good job with the book, producing a very readable and compelling story. The Stalinist purges and Gulag prisons are not news, but reading a first-hand account from the inside is both gripping and educational. Margaret Werner was an amazing woman, intelligent, talented, determined. Her story could be repeated by millions of the victims of the Stalin purges, but she is one of the few who survived to tell the tale. This book is hard to put down, and is well worth reading.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing and repetitiveBy Attack HamsterI was very excited to read this book, but only a few chapters in, I'm disappointed. The author (or narrator, not sure which or why this wasn't edited out!) is incredibly repetitive. We hear over and over how awesome she is at sports, how competitive she is, how boys like her, and most of all, how awesome her dad is. The chapters I read could have easily been condensed into a few pages, and they would have been interesting! Sometimes less is more, but I don't think the author (or narrator) knew that. :(

The shocking and inspirational saga of Margaret Werner and her miraculous survival in the Siberian death camps of Stalinist Russia.Between 1930 and 1932, Henry Ford sent 450 of his Detroit employees plus their families to live in Gorky, Russia, to operate a new manufacturing facility. This is the true story of one of those families—Carl and Elisabeth Werner and their young daughter Margaret—and their terrifying life in Russia under brutal dictator Joseph Stalin. Margaret was seventeen when her father was arrested on trumped-up charges of treason. Heartbroken and afraid, she and her mother were left to withstand the hardships of life under the oppressive Soviet state, an existence marked by poverty, starvation, and fear. Refusing to comply with the Socialist agenda, Margaret was ultimately sentenced to ten years of hard labor in Stalin's Gulag. Filth, malnutrition, and despair accompanied merciless physical labor. Yet in the midst of inhumane conditions came glimpses of hope and love as Margaret came to realize her dependence upon "the grace, favor, and protection of an unseen God."In all, it would be thirty long years before Margaret returned to kiss the ground of home. Of all the Americans who made this virtually unknown journey—ultimately spending years in Siberian death camps—Margaret Werner was the only woman who lived to tell about it. Written by her son, Karl Tobien, *Dancing Under the Red Star* is Margaret's unforgettable true story: an inspiring chronicle of faith, defiance, and personal triumph

From Publishers WeeklyMargaret Werner (1921-1997), an American citizen living in the Soviet Union, was 17 years old when the secret police came for her father, whom she never saw again. Left destitute, she and her mother fought extreme cold and near starvation, taking whatever jobs they could find. Seven years later, in 1943, the police came for Margaret. Accused of espionage, she was sentenced to 10 years' hard labor. Tobien, her son, describes the appalling privations and backbreaking work in her Siberian prison camp, but also the prisoners' strong friendships and the dance troupe the women created with their guards' approval. A recurring theme is Margaret's growth in faith, culminating in her conversion to evangelical Christianity in 1991. Tobien tells his mother's story simply and chronologically, as if to a young audience. His use of a first-person point-of-view seems gratuitous, since he rarely explores Margaret's inner

life. Despite the ever-present backdrop of Stalinist Russia, WWII and postwar communism in Russia and East Germany, this is less an analysis of cold war politics than a tribute to a woman who survived unimaginable horrors with her optimistic spirit intact. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist: The bold claim of the subtitle notwithstanding, this is an exciting story and an overlooked piece of history. Margaret Werner, along with her mother, Elizabeth, and father, Carl, was among a group of Americans who emigrated to Russia in 1932 as part of a Ford Motor Company plan to assist the Soviet Union. Margaret was 11 years old when the family settled there, and her father soon became foreman of the tool and die department of the city's auto factory. He was arrested in 1938 and the family never saw him again. Margaret was arrested in 1945 on the trumped-up charges of treason and anti-Soviet propaganda. She spent the next decade in the "gulag archipelago," mostly in northern Siberia. After her release, she married, had a son, eventually was allowed to leave for East Germany, escaped to West Germany, and finally returned to the U.S. nearly 30 years after she first left for the Soviet Union. Margaret died in 1997. Her son wrote this book and it makes a compelling "memoir." Frank Caso Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved. "Very few stories rise to the level of stirring the deepest parts of my soul. But this is one. Some would call this a tragedy. That is not my sentiment. This amazing chronicle represents the power of the human soul and illustrates the unique potential in each of us. Margaret Werner's suffering has become a light encouraging us all that there are greater possibilities within each one of us."—Don Milam, author of *The Ancient Language of Eden* "This is the heart-stirring story of a young woman who lost everything and endured unspeakable horrors, yet lived to tell about it. Margaret's voice speaks for those who did not survive and tells how they were abandoned by American business interests. Her hope, courage, and faith will inspire you to triumph over hardship and injustice."—Melody Green, international speaker and author of *No Compromise* "Every once in a while a book grips one's heart because it seems more than humans are capable of imagining. This true story is remarkably compelling. Part heartrending biography, part epic documentary, *Dancing Under the Red Star* reads more like a spy novel and adventure film blended into an action movie script. Margaret Werner's life offers a valuable peek behind a part of the Iron Curtain that many Americans have never seen before. Read it, weep, and thank God you live in America today!"—Tommy Barnett, pastor of Phoenix First Assembly and author of *Hidden Power* "I loved this book! *Dancing Under the Red Star* grips your heart and forever changes your perspective of humanity, God, and the world. This book is destined to be a classic that will inspire generations to come to believe in one's dreams and have faith in the preserving power of God. A must-read for the progressive mind."—Dr. Myles Munroe, founder and president, Bahamas Faith Ministries International, author of *Rediscovering the Kingdom* "A must-read! A book that engulfs the reader and forces one to live through the terror that Margaret felt."—Ron Weinbender, presidential envoy, Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International "Karl Tobien shares with us a powerfully gripping narrative of God's grace, power and direction. Be sure to allow yourself plenty of time, because you won't be able to put this book down. It's definitely a once-in-a-lifetime reading experience!"—Pat Williams, senior vice president, Orlando Magic, and author of *American Scandal* "I am forever changed by the hope Margaret Werner displayed. Her story is truly inspiring for people in all walks of life; I am forever in love with this woman and her life!"—Donna Johnson, film producer