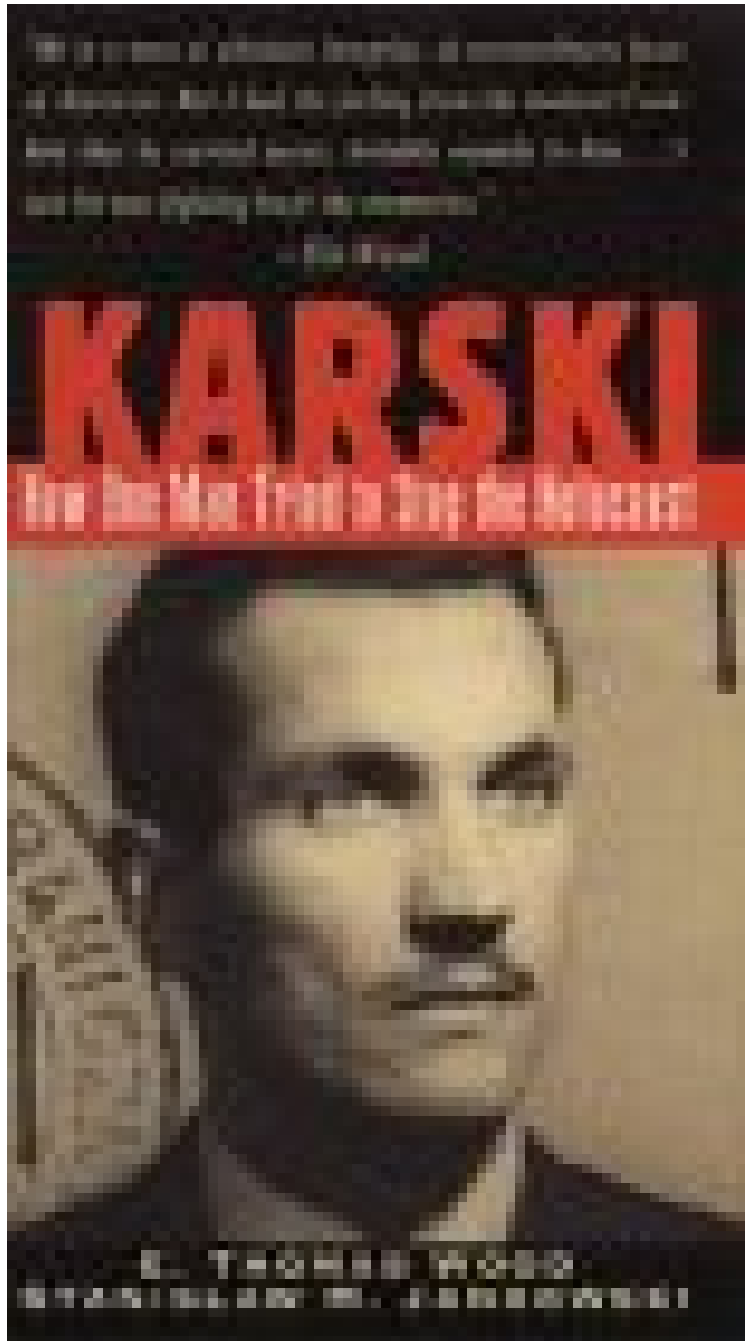


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Karski: How One Man Tried to Stop the Holocaust

E. Thomas Wood, Stanislaw M. Jankowski
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E. Thomas Wood, Stanislaw M. Jankowski : Karski: How One Man Tried to Stop the Holocaust before

purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Karski: How One Man Tried to Stop the Holocaust:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding biography of one of humanity's greatest people
By Greenadvocate
If you know nothing about Jan Karski -- who in 2012 was awarded a posthumous Presidential Medal of Freedom by Barack Obama for his mission to the West for the Polish resistance during World War II -- there is no better place to start than this gripping biography. 'Karski' details this extraordinary man's life, the spirit of the reborn Polish nation in 1918, the young boy's coming of age, the dual invasion of Poland and the utter decimation of war. Karski is most famous for his mission to the Western allies about the Holocaust taking place by Nazi Germans in occupied Poland. A combination of acuity and luck help to save this 'everyman,' who was first captured by the Soviets, then became a prisoner of the Germans and finally managed to join with freedom-fighting Poles to mount a huge and significant resistance to a brutal occupation. Karski's life-changing work takes place on behalf of the Polish Underground, for which he is a courier and witness. Wood does a remarkable job bringing Karski's life to life - first in Poland and later in America where Karski educated thousands as a professor at Georgetown. Highly recommended!
2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Must Read if you are interested in Jan Karski, the Polish Resistance, Human Courage and Heart.
By Janet Daley
I am a former student of Dr. Karski's. This book captures the heart and soul of a truly remarkable man and places his actions in perspective particularly in light of the circumstances of his beloved Poland after the war. I cannot give it higher praise. It is extremely readable, and I hope this re-issued and updated version finds great success. It should. It provides documentary support and explanation to the events Karski chronicled in *The Secret State*. I found it compelling. Karski's work and the reasons for his decades long silence are given voice.
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. haven't got one/
By Margot
the book is very interesting and well written, get the fact that it was published in 1944 and the americans had their say in censoring certain aspects, such as not to be anti Russian is of course problematic. Yet it is today actually better known and used as reference more than others. For the reader who is just interested, it will be quite fascinating and will give a good picture of that period, even tho' Karski was already quite a while in the States when he wrote it..

The story of a man who risked life and limb to expose the atrocities of the Holocaust to the world "I had the feeling from the moment I saw Karski that he carried secret, invisible wounds in him...I saw he was fighting back the memories."--Elie Wiesel "A significant account of personal heroism--not only dramatic as a story but also a compelling moral message regarding the human condition . . . a superb read."--Zbigniew Brzezinski NOW IN PAPER!
Working for the Polish Underground, Jan Karski witnessed first hand the horrors of the Holocaust. Surviving Soviet captivity and Gestapo torture, he escaped Poland in 1942 and embarked on a heroic crusade to give Allied leaders his eye witness report of Nazi extermination of European Jews. Karski is the first definitive account of the little-known episode--one of the earliest documentations of atrocities to reach the west and perhaps the most significant warning of the genocide to come. Karski's story introduces vital new insights about the Polish Underground, and about the Allies' reaction to the Holocaust. E. THOMAS WOOD (Nashville, Tennessee) is a journalist in Nashville. STANISLAW M. JANKOWSKI (Cracow, Poland) is a journalist and historian. He is a leading authority on the Polish Underground.

From Publishers Weekly
Jan Karski's brother, a police official, recruited him into the Polish underground, where he became a courier. Captured by the Gestapo, Karski escaped to bear witness of Nazi atrocities in the Warsaw Ghetto and elsewhere. Because written reports of the Germans' systematic attempt to destroy Polish Jewry were ignored in London and Washington, D.C., Karski went to both capitals, where he met Allied leaders. But his testimony was not taken seriously. Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter, for example, said he simply didn't believe Karski. Karski became an American citizen after the war and pursued an academic career (he is now professor emeritus at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service). In 1982 he was made an honorary citizen of Israel and recognized as one of the Righteous Among Nations. His engrossing biography is valuable, for it tempers the widespread contention that Gentile Poland was indifferent to the plight of the Jews. Wood is a Tennessee journalist, Jankowski a Polish journalist. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. "A book that is more than just an agent-thriller: Karski's report raises anew the question of why the Allies didn't make ending the mass-murder of the Jews a war aim." -- *Der Spiegel* (Germany), 27 January 1997 "A gripping biography.... worthy of the life it depicts. The authors write without jargon and with a breeziness that permits quick reading, but they have done their homework. Historians cannot answer 'what if,' but the question burns through each page of this book." -- Michael Berenbaum, President and Chief Executive Officer, Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation, in Polin, 1996 "A gripping documentary, which expresses the complexity of Polish politics under the Nazi regime and the dilemma of one of Poland's great heroes." -- *Jewish Chronicle* (London) 17 February 1995 "A record of extreme courage, desperate survival and moral heroism that is also a burning and all-too-relevant indictment of the world's ability to avert its eyes.... Read it." -- *The Good Book Guide* (England), March 1995 "An adventure... retold in a first-rate scholarly manner. It is a book all teachers of the period should read.... If a gentile hero is necessary, then the unqualified honor

should go to Jan Karski and not to the one-dimensional, hollow persona that was Oskar Schindler.... Jan Karski ranks with the Wallenbergs and Bernadottes, those who actively intervened in the Holocaust and actually saved lives at enormous risk to their own." -- The Genocide Forum, November 1995"Karski is the remarkable story of a modest man who has become a 'professional hero,' which the authors tell with sympathy and verve.... Economically written and well-researched. -- The Times Literary Supplement (London), 5 May 1995"Karski's is a fantastic story and the authors tell it well. This is a riveting as well as a harrowing read." -- The Times (London), 26 Jan. 1995"The biography of one Polish Catholic, Jan Karski, will enrich and edify anyone who reads it... highly dramatic... compelling and filled with moral lessons for today." -- Commonweal, 5 April 1996"This book is a must for any student of history who wishes to have some understanding of how the British and the Americans reacted to the news of the Holocaust, of what was done or not done to try and stop it, and of Polish-Jewish relations during the war." -- Australian Jewish News, 12 April 1996"Well-researched and unflinchingly interesting." -- The American Spectator, April 1995

From the Back Cover"Karski is a story of incredible valor, a story of personal courage and uncommon determination to bring to Allied leaders the awful truth about the mass murder of the Jews of Europe. It is the story of a man who understood the poisonous effects of bigotry and hatred. His fight against Nazi oppression came to an end in 1945. His fight against anti-Semitism has never stopped."Miles Lerman, Chairman, United States Holocaust Memorial Council

Praise for Karski: How One Man Tried to Stop the Holocaust"Karski's is a fantastic story and the author tells it well. This is a riveting as well as a harrowing read."The Times (London)"His [Karski's] engrossing biography is valuable, for it tempers the widespread contention that Gentile Poland was indifferent to the plight of Jews."Publishers Weekly"A significant account of personal heroismnot only dramatic as a story, but also a compelling moral message regarding the human condition. . . . A superb read."Zbigniew Brzezinski"Jan Karski emerges from these pages as truly one of the 'righteous among nations.' It is the shame of history that . . . none of the leaders of the free world would heed his call for help."Abraham Foxman, National Director, Anti-Defamation League"Karski[s] is a remarkable story . . . which the authors tell with sympathy and verve."The Times Literary Supplement (London)"