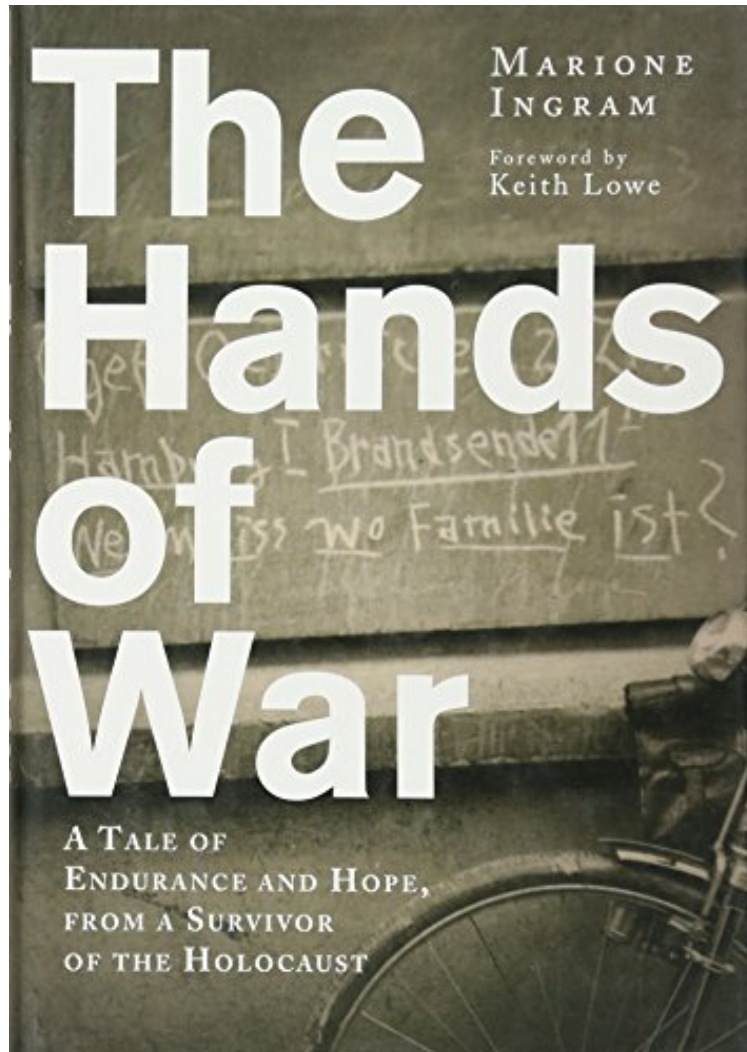


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# The Hands of War: A Tale of Endurance and Hope, from a Survivor of the Holocaust

Marione Ingram

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**Marione Ingram : The Hands of War: A Tale of Endurance and Hope, from a Survivor of the Holocaust** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hands of War: A Tale of Endurance and Hope, from a Survivor of the Holocaust:

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Hell made by ManBy Arlyne This book is an excellent window not only into the Holocaust, but the fire bombing of Hamburg. It is well told, extremely descriptive and holds your interest for every moment. It makes you wonder how humans can make each other suffer, without remorse. The mental image you get of the firestorm and bombing is incredible, and yet, it saved Marione Ingram's life and that of her mother and

sister's. The image of her father in the Luftwaffe, is so different and her life on the farm of Frau Pimber. The Frau, I believe, was kinder than she appeared. She kept them safe for over a year and really loved her sister Helga. A strange mix. Uri's story is set apart and it should have been. I am glad she did that as to weave in the pain inflicted on those who were not fortunate to have a Frau Pimber or a father in the Luftwaffe. I am sure that many consider the Hamburg Firestorm, just as evil as what the Nazi's did. I cannot. Yes, it bothers me that innocent children were murdered, but their mothers and fathers helped keep people like Marione and her family living in terror and losing everything, most times their lives. Thank you Marione for putting your story on paper. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Eye opening  
By Sharon S. Stewart  
This well written book really has helped me understand more deeply that history is indeed written by the victors and, therefore, how imperative it is to have first person accounts from victims of war. As an American born at the end of WW2 I learned this history from the victor perspective...never learning about the fear, anguish and suffering inflicted on helpless innocents except in an superficial way. I am grateful for the author's powerful and unflinching first hand account of her story. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An Important Book  
By Cindy A.  
I had been impressed by Marione Ingram's work as a fiber artist, so I was very appreciative when this book was recommended to me. When it arrived, I expected to read a few chapters at a time, but I ended up pulling an all-nighter to read it. I truly could not put it down. This book will make your heart ache for all children who are victims of war. Her writing style is excellent and her word choices were particularly affecting - she refers to family members who were killed as "murdered" and that brought the horror of her experience home to me. I recommend this book for anyone who has become complacent about the effects of war on our human family.

Marione Ingram grew up in Hamburg, Germany, in the late 1930s and early 1940s. She was German. She was Jewish. She was a survivor. This is her story. As a young girl, Marione was aware that people of the Jewish faith were regarded as outsiders, the supposed root of Germany's many problems. She grew up in an apartment building where neighbors were more than happy to report Jews to the Gestapo. Marione's mother attempted suicide after receiving a deportation notice. Marione revived her, but then the bombs started to fall, as the Allies leveled the city in eight straight days of bombings. Somehow Marione and her mother and sister survived the devastating firestorm. More than 40,000 perished, and almost the same number were wounded. Marione and her family miraculously escaped and sought shelter with a contact in the countryside who grudgingly agreed to house them in a shed for more than a year. With the war drawing to a close, they went west, back to Hamburg. There they encountered Allied troops, who reinstalled the local government (made up of ex-Nazis) in order to keep order in the country. Life took on the air of what it used to be. Jews were still second-class citizens. Marione eventually took shelter at a children's home in a mansion once owned by wealthy Jewish bankers. There she met Uri, a troubled orphan and another one of the Children of Blankenese. Uri's story, a bleak tale of life in the concentration camps, explores a different side of the Nazi terror in Germany. In this stirring account of World War II through the eyes of a child, the author's eloquent narrative elicits compassion from readers.

From Booklist  
The Allied bombing of Hamburg saved Ingram's family from their imminent deportation to the death camps. The anti-Fascists also saved them, and so did the vicious local anti-Semitism: denied access to the shelters (for Aryans only), Ingram was unharmed when the shelters were bombed, and thousands of civilians were killed in the firestorm. With such bitter irony, there is no slick relativism about the Holocaust in this stirring memoir, but the personal viewpoint confronts the history seldom told, including the horror of tens of thousands of German women and children slaughtered by the Allied firebombing. And Ingram is candid about the shocking postwar anti-Semitism (Genocide succeeded and attitude remained) and about prejudice in the West. Her triumph is that finally in the U.S., she moved unlike many survivors beyond victim identity to activism in the civil rights movement, where she was passionate about nonviolent resistance to racism. With lots of full-page photos of the Hamburg firebombing, this important historical account is bound to spark discussion. Pair it with accounts of the firebombing of Dresden. --Hazel Rochman  
[Ingram's] memoir is extremely well developed, well researched, and delivered with vivid, animated description. She induces a depth of passion into her childhood memories, an aspect lacking in many memoirs. (New York Journal of Books)  
Finely delineated details distinguish this memoir by Hamburg native Ingram, now an artist living in Washington, D.C. Ingram inserts some staggering details . . . A well-honed tale of momentous courage and strength. (Kirkus s)  
About the Author  
Marione Ingram is a writer, artist, and civil rights activist who survived the Holocaust, the fire-bombing of Hamburg, Germany, and the incendiary efforts of Mississippi's Ku Klux Klan. She immigrated to the United States and, having experienced racial discrimination in Europe, became engaged in the civil rights movement. Excerpts of her work have been published in The Best American Essays of 2007 anthology, Granta, and Women Writers: A Zine.