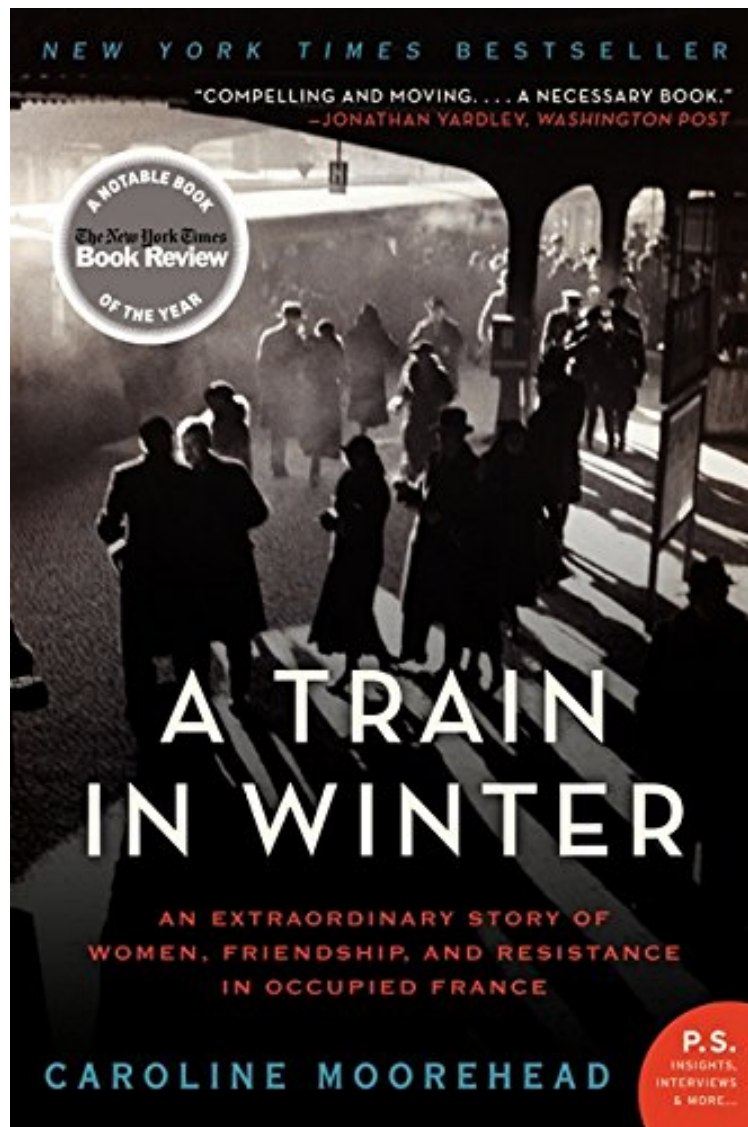


[Download] A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France (The Resistance Trilogy)

## A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France (The Resistance Trilogy)

Caroline Moorehead

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Caroline Moorehead : A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France (The Resistance Trilogy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France (The Resistance Trilogy):

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Not for the sensitive reader  
By Prudence Taylor  
A very difficult book to read and definitely not for the sensitive reader. Moorehead splits her book into 2 parts. The first part tells us how quickly the French Army collapsed under German attack, life in occupied France, the growth of the Resistance Movement, and the background of the Frenchwomen involved in the Resistance. It is the second part that becomes so difficult to read. The women are placed on a train that carries them to Auschwitz/Birkenau, and they develop a strong friendship that enables them to keep their humanity, their decency, and finally allows a very few of them to survive. Moorehead gives graphic descriptions of how prisoners in the concentration camps were made to suffer at the hands of the SS as well as by other prisoners who were trying to survive the terrible conditions of the camps. The last chapter is one of the hardest to read - the prisoners are free and have returned to their homes to learn that no one wants to listen to them, to hear their experiences. The general attitude is "the war is over, let's move on." One woman meets the gendarme who betrayed her to the Germans on the street, and is shocked when he smiles at her and holds out his hand. Another woman learns that the two gendarmes who betrayed her and her husband fought the Germans at the end of the war and are immune from prosecution. We get a sense of their frustration as many of the guilty are not punished but go on to have good lives. All in all, an important book but one that is hard to read and almost impossible to put down. Highly recommended but not for the sensitive reader. (less)  
8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. We didn't even know how to pull it apart to have a useful discussion. This book needed a strong editor at ...  
By Shawn  
Remarkable achievement to track down the few survivors. That said, the author took on too ambitious a project, and all these women's stories start to get muddled. Any ONE of these women's tales would have been poignant, even overwhelming, especially if told in the context of WWII and the setting of occupied France. My book club gave it a thumbs down. We didn't even know how to pull it apart to have a useful discussion. This book needed a strong editor at the start (BEFORE the author ever wrote a word!) to help shape the story and how to most effectively tell it. Too bad it wasn't taken more seriously by the publisher and shepherded through the publication process with more care.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book needed to be written and read.  
By Marigold  
Having read some of the negative reviews of this book, I agree with most of them; particularly about the author's over-use of French and German phrases which are frustrating for those of us who studied another foreign language.....Spanish and Latin, in my case.  
Part One of the book is tedious as it goes through the listing of the women who will be discussed in more detail in Part Two. I give this book four stars because, frankly, it is a book that needed to be written. The expression, "How soon we forget" is now happening, today, as I find few Millennials who have any real knowledge of the Holocaust; of German atrocities during WW2; of Japanese atrocities in China and the Pacific theatre in the 1930's and during the war; of the devastation that the war had on civilians even after the cessation of fighting and the trauma of the war years that people endured for the rest of their lives. This book and others like it must be written and must be read. If there are some peculiarities about the book that make it tedious or difficult to stay with it, then we must push through all that and be thankful that these particular women will, in a way, not have died in vain and their names and lives will be remembered and memorialized.

The New York Times bestseller, now available in paperback  
the riveting and little-known story of a group of female members of the French resistance who were deported together to Auschwitz, a remarkable number of whom survived. In January 1943, 230 women of the French Resistance were sent to the death camps by the Nazis who had invaded and occupied their country. This is their story, told in full for the first time  
a searing and unforgettable chronicle of terror, courage, defiance, survival, and the power of friendship. Caroline Moorehead, a distinguished biographer, human rights journalist, and the author of *Dancing to the Precipice* and *Human Cargo*, brings to life an extraordinary story that readers of Mitchell Zuckoff's *Lost in Shangri-La*, Erik Larson's *In the Garden of Beasts*, and Laura Hillenbrand's *Unbroken* will find an essential addition to our retelling of the history of World War II  
a riveting, rediscovered story of courageous women who sacrificed everything to combat the march of evil across the world.

By turns heartbreaking and inspiring. (Caroline Weber, New York Times Book Review)  
[A] moving novelistic portrait.... An inspiring and fascinating read. (Meredith Maran, *People* (3 stars))  
An extremely moving and intensely personal history of the Auschwitz universe as experienced by these women.... A powerful and moving book. (Natasha Lehrer, *Times Literary Supplement* (UK))  
[Moorehead] traces the lives and deaths of all her subjects with unswerving candor and compassion.... In Moorehead's telling, neither evil nor good is banal; and if the latter doesn't always triumph, it certainly inspires. (Elysa Gardner, *USA Today*)  
As chronicled by Moorehead with unblinking accuracy, their agonies are appalling to contemplate, their stories of survival and friendship under duress enthralling to hear. (More magazine)  
Haunting account of bravery, friendship, and endurance. (Marie Claire)  
Compelling... Moorehead weaves into her suspenseful, detailed narrative myriad personal stories of friendship, courage, and heartbreak. (Kirkus Reviews)  
Heightened by electrifying, and staggering, detail, Moorehead's riveting history stands as a luminous testament to the indomitable will to survive and the unbreakable bonds of friendship. (Booklist (starred review))  
Even history's darkest moments can be illuminated by spectacular courage, such as courage that Caroline Moorehead movingly celebrates in *A Train in Winter*.... Moorehead has created a somber account, sensitively rendered, of yet another grim legacy of war.

(Judith Chettle, Richmond Times-Dispatch)The first complete account of these extraordinary women and, incredibly, over 60 years later we are still learning new and terrible truths about the Holocaust.... An important new perspective.... Careful research and sensitive retelling. (Buzzy Jackson, Boston Sunday Globe)A necessary book.... Compelling and moving.... The literature of wartime France and the Holocaust is by now so vast as to confound the imagination, but when a book as good as this comes along, we are reminded that there is always room for something new. (Jonathan Yardley, Washington Post)As Moorehead delves deeply into the womens fight for survival, her narrative seamlessly comes together in order to share a significant part of history whose time has come to be heard. (Meganne Fabrega, Christian Science Monitor)A miraculous story about friendship and the will to overcome extraordinary cruelty, heartache and loss. (The Jewish Journal, "Best Books of 2011")From the Back CoverThey were teachers, students, chemists, writers, and housewives; a singer at the Paris Opera; a midwife; a dental surgeon. They distributed anti-Nazi leaflets, printed subversive newspapers, hid resisters, secreted Jews to safety, transported weapons, and conveyed clandestine messages. The youngest was a schoolgirl of sixteen, who scrawled "V" (for victory) on the walls of her lyce; the eldest, a farmer's wife in her sixties who harbored escaped Allied airmen. Strangers to one another, hailing from villages and cities across France230 brave women united in defiance of their Nazi occupiersthey were eventually hunted down by the Gestapo. Separated from home and loved ones, imprisoned in a fort outside Paris, they found solace and strength in their deep affection and camaraderie.In January 1943, they were sent to their final destination: Auschwitz. Only forty-nine would return to France.Drawing on interviews with these women and their families, and on documents in German, French, and Polish archives, *A Train in Winter* is a remarkable account of the extraordinary courage of ordinary peoplea story of bravery, survival, and the enduring power of female friendship.About the AuthorCaroline Moorehead is the New York Times bestselling author of *Village of Secrets: Defying the Nazis in Vichy France*; *A Train in Winter: An Extraordinary Story of Women, Friendship, and Resistance in Occupied France*; and *Human Cargo: A Journey Among Refugees*, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. An acclaimed biographer, Moorehead has also written for the New York of Books, the Guardian, the Times, and the Independent. She lives in London and Italy.