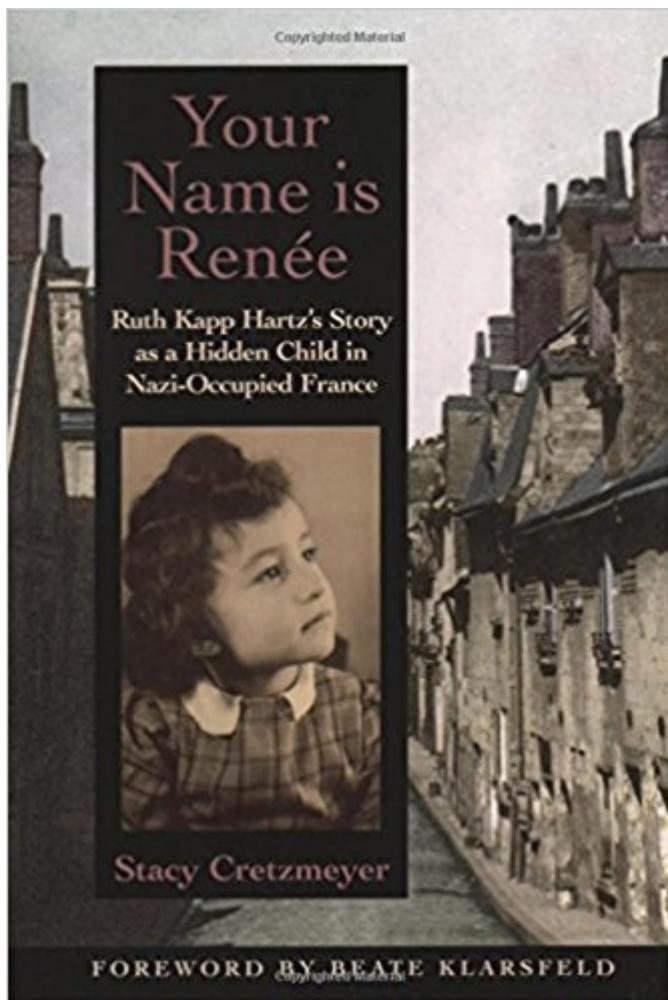


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# Your Name Is Renée: Ruth Kapp Hartz's Story As A Hidden Child In Nazi-Occupied France



## **Synopsis**

In Nazi-occupied France in 1941, four-year-old Ruth Kapp learns that it is dangerous to use her own name. "Remember," her older cousin Jeannette warns her, "your name is Renee and you are French!" A deeply personal book, this true story recounts the chilling experiences of a young Jewish girl during the Holocaust. The Kapp family flees one home after another, helped by simple, ordinary people from the French countryside who risk their lives to protect them. Eventually the family is forced to separate, and young Ruth survives the war in an orphanage where she is not allowed to see or even mention her parents. Without the trappings of lofty language or the faceless perspective of history, this first-person account poignantly recreates the terror of war seen through the eyes of an innocent child. *Your Name Is Renee* is a tale of suffering and redemption, fear and hope.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

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Grade 5-8-Because Ruth Kapp's relatives were German Jews, they were the targets of French as well as German anti-Semitism. Forced to hide their religion, they suffered many hardships, living meagerly and often fleeing from the Gestapo. They were aided by the French resistance as well as by ordinary men and women who took great risks to help them. As the danger increased, Ruth (called Renée during her years in France) was sent to an orphanage run by Catholic nuns; in an effort to shield her from German police, she was told to forget her family and faith. The family was

eventually reunited, although even after the war, their troubles as Jews were far from over. Although the facts of the story are gripping, and the child's ordeal is heart wrenching, the telling is less so. Frequent flashbacks and attempts to weave in historical information make the story hard to follow, and the narrative is sometimes overly detailed, slowing the pace. However, those who are already interested in Holocaust accounts will find enough here to make this a worthwhile read. Cyrisse Jaffee, formerly at Newton Public Schools, MA Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

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I heard Ruth speak so that made me very interested in this book. It is written from the viewpoint of Ruth (who had to use the name Renee) at her age at the time. So it is as if you are there then

Real story . told in a captivating style.

A brilliant true story of a Jewish family's struggle to survive the Nazi occupation of France during WWII as seen through the eyes of a child...in some ways tragic, in other ways inspiring. A poignant reminder of atrocities, collaboration, anti- semitism and friendship that existed during those five dark years of Nazi suppression. The story behind the writing of the book was as interesting as the story itself. Recommended for any reader interested in that dramatic period of the 19th century.

I thought of my grandparents during the war. It brought back memories of what they use to talk about. They also made it. As a child we went to Germany to see the area in which they were. Very heart warming to see what they had to endure.

Dramatic history of Nazi occupied France. Heart wrenching and Heart warming all at the same time.

This story of a family's survival in southern France during World War II is told through the eyes of a young girl. Her real name is Ruth and she is German-born, but to survive, she goes by the name of Renee. The writing is clean and direct, designed to capture the perceptions of a perceptive little girl. Like many Holocaust stories, this one drives home the endurance of the Jews being persecuted and the bravery of the non-Jews who risked their own lives to save someone else's.

This was about a somewhat distant branch of my family. Amazing I'm here to write this review. Thanks Ruth! I learned much!

This is a great addition to any holocaust collection. I am very into that time in history and love to read all the survivor stories so this was a great addition to my collection.

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