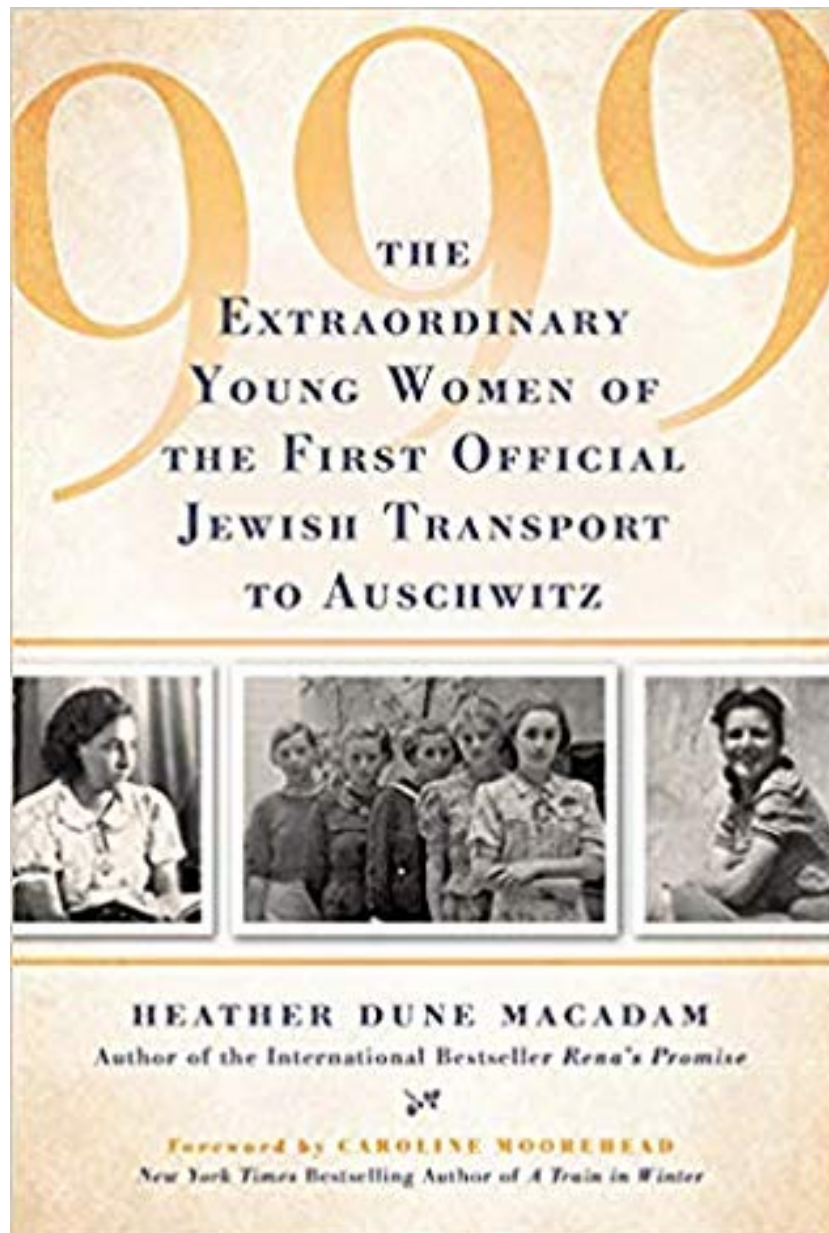


# 999: The Extraordinary Young Women of the First Official Jewish Transport to Auschwitz Book PDF Download



By:  
Heather Dune Macadam

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## What people Say:

### Jane Brewer

I won this through a Goodreads Giveaway. This is the startling story of the first women to be transported to Auschwitz. I read a lot of Holocaust literature and the story of those who survived (and even those who perished) never ceases to amaze me. Again, the fact that the Nazis went to such great lengths to dehumanize these women is stunning. Why? Just why? I will never understand how these men and women agreed to participate in such awful behavior.

### Jennifer (JC-S)

â€˜Why would anyone want to take away teenage girls?â€™™

I did not know what to expect when I read this book. I was unaware that the first official Jewish transport to Auschwitz contained 999 young Jewish women. And, as distressing as it is to read of yet another example of inhumanity, it is important that the stories of these women are not forgotten.

On the 25th of March in 1942, nearly one thousand unmarried Jewish women boarded a train in Poprad, Slovakia. They believed that they would be working

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On the 25th of March in 1942, nearly one thousand unmarried Jewish women boarded a train in Poprad, Slovakia. They believed that they would be working for the government for a few months, in a factory. Instead the young women (many still teenagers) were sent to Auschwitz. Few of them would survive. Their government paid 500 Reichsmarks per person for the Nazis to take them as slave labour. These women were powerless, both because they were Jewish and because they were female.

In this book, Heather Dune Macadam reveals some of their stories. To do this, she has drawn on interviews with survivors, witnesses and families and the USC Shoah testimonies. This is a harrowing read. In terms of survival, some work assignments were slightly safer and more comfortable than others. Some women survived, most did not. Illness was almost always a death sentence, as were the whims of the guards. Survival had its own cost for many.

There are few survivors now. And many of us, born after World War II, have limited knowledge of what happened. Accounts such as this are important: we need to remember their lives; we need to acknowledge the horror; we need to acknowledge the failings of so many who allowed (by ignoring what was happening) such a tragedy to occur.

These women were not fighters or prisoners of war. They were young women who thought they were helping the government. They were young women looking to the future. Their stories are important and should not be forgotten. Thank you, Ms Macadam for writing this book.

“A novel would end here. It would wrap up with everyone safe and happy and travelling home to be with loved ones. Fiction can do that. Nonfiction cannot. And that is not how wars end.”

## Natalyn Houk

Emotional. That's the one word I would use to describe "999: The Extraordinary Young Women of the First Official Jewish Transport to Auschwitz". Heather Dune Macadam paints a very realistic picture of the lives of these women, based on extensive interviews. Books like this are invaluable.

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One thing Macadam does extremely well is making sure her narration is as accurate as possible. It's extremely evident the time and research that went into writing this book. Repeatedly it is noted which things might have been true or which things were foggy in the memories of the survivors. This adds a layer of authenticity to the text that draws readers closer to the subject matter and makes it more personal.

Books like this can tend to be dense and full of despair. Macadam does good work on keeping the story moving, so no one aspect can be overly dwelt upon, but also nothing is overlooked or made to seem less important. The sheer number of subjects within the text makes the story move quickly from girl to girl and story to story. Also, the book has a relatable feeling. Young women with dreams and futures is something most readers can relate to. Leaning into this feeling carries the story like nature of the narrative.

Overall, this book was so good! Macadam takes serious subject matter and presents it in the most interesting way possible: giving names and faces to victims. Macadam makes readers take a moment to truly care and remember and reflect. This book is a must read.

Thanks to Netgalley and Kensington Books for the ARC of this book.

## S C Worrall

It's rare that you can say "untold story" about the Holocaust, but this really is one - the story of the first official transport of Jews to Auschwitz, and the 999 young girls and women who were taken on it. Most Holocaust history has tended to be male-centric ( think Primo Levi or Eli Wiesel), so until now the story of these young women had been ignored. Using previously overlooked archives in Slovakia, and the testimonies of survivors and their children, Ms. Macadam, an award winning Holocaust

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## **Nissa**

This was a very informative and descriptive book. I felt sorry for all of the pain and suffering that these heroic young Jewish girls had to endure during the Holocaust in WWII Europe. These girls had great strength and courage. I urge everyone to read this book and especially needs to be told to the younger generations although very sad because of what they went through. I would highly recommend this book if you like to read Holocaust literature.