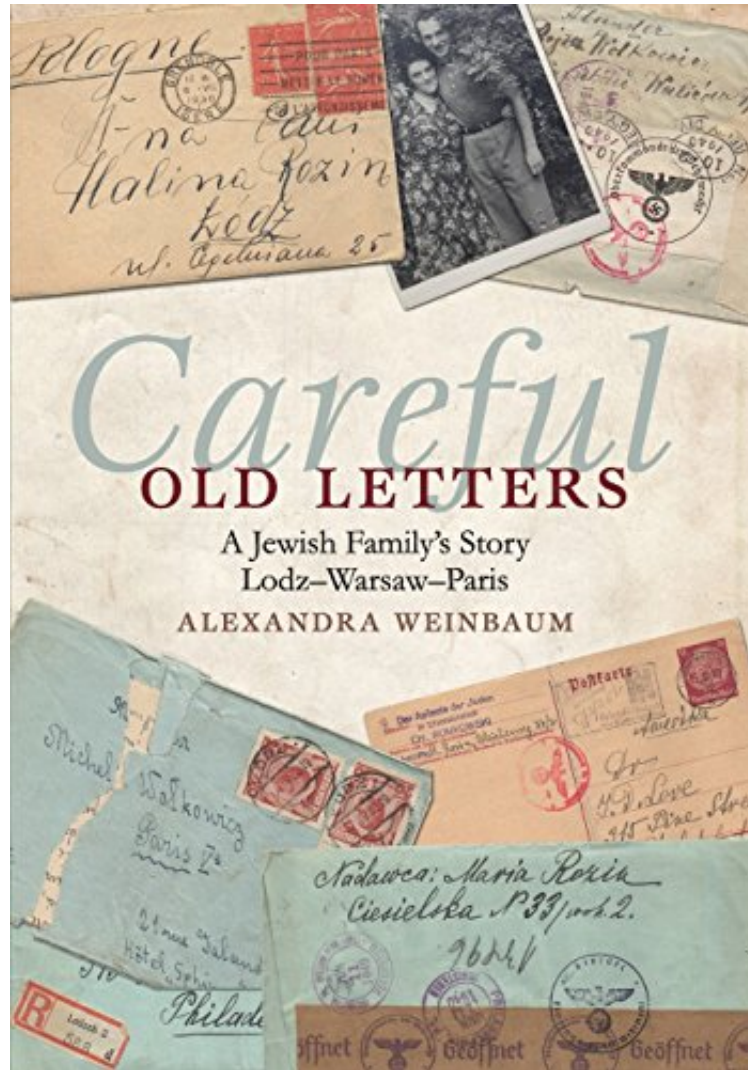


(Download free ebook) Careful Old Letters: A Jewish Family's Story: Lodz-Warsaw-Paris

Careful Old Letters: A Jewish Family's Story: Lodz-Warsaw-Paris

Alexandra Weinbaum

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Alexandra Weinbaum : Careful Old Letters: A Jewish Family's Story: Lodz-Warsaw-Paris before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Careful Old Letters: A Jewish Family's Story: Lodz-Warsaw-Paris:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring. Real story about real people by a real person. By Dr. Gabe Tzeghai This book captures an important piece of real history, about real people, by a real person. It is also a must read for anyone that wants more inspiration in their search to learn more about who they are and where they have come from and possibly where they are headed. Thanks to Alexandra Weinbaum we once again can see and be inspired by how love and family ties overcome boundaries of time, places, real life and death hardships to ensure continuity of life

and purpose. Alexandra has taken this extraordinary tough project and made it readily accessible to readers of today and tomorrow and possibly inspiring them, like it has with me, to search and discover more of their own family and love stories, assuring with confidence that life is indeed worth surviving and living. Thank you again Alexandra. Dr. Gabe Tzeghai, Cincinnati Ohio

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. the love, the sense of abandonment in so many iterations ...By Eva RichterThis is a book memory, of preserving the past, of facing the demons of personal and public history of a most turbulent time -- the period before and during World War II. I well understand that it took Alexandra Weinbaum twenty years before she could face what was there in that box of Careful -- Letters. All the sense of loss, the secrets kept and betrayed, the memories and the forgetting, the love, the sense of abandonment in so many iterations and the layers of complex relationships are here in all their raw power. This is not only a tribute to Ms Weinbaum's remarkable parents and a discovery of her family's tragic history but also an illumination of how terrible events reverberate, Aeschylus-like, down the generations marking all the relationships and creating in the author the sense that there must have been a secret, a sadness, a sense of loss at the center of her relationships, a sense that there were certain things best not talked about, especially with her parents, but which she finally confronts to mourn and perhaps to lay to rest. It is a beautiful and courageous book.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Speaking the unspoken through letters and picturesBy Nan Bauer-MaglinOf the 169 letters from Lodz, Warsaw, Grenoble and Paris found in Alexandra Weinbaums mothers house after her death, Weinbaum writes that it took time to understand these letters, to go beyond the surface meaning to the situation that lead to their writing. In addition, she understood that most Holocaust survivors prefer to close the book on such memories. We are so glad that Weinbaum did not close the book, that she opened it, putting these very personal letters in historical and political context. She has shared the deep grief and loss of this one family and added to the sad story of the Holocaust. Amidst hunger and separation, her father tenderly writes her mother how they are dancers for life. Weinbaum uses the image of the dance to take us through some very touching but disturbing personal and world history.

Careful Old Letters by Alexandra Weinbaum is a family history based on 169 letters and postcards from Lodz, Warsaw, Grenoble and Paris, before, during and after World War II. Her parents grew up in Lodz, Poland and studied and lived in Grenoble and Paris from 1928 to 1938, when they emigrated to the United States. Following her parents' deaths, her son discovered the letters, written in Polish, German and French, in a tattered carton box labeled "Careful Old Letters." The prewar letters provide a vivid picture of life in Paris for Polish migr students. The wartime letters written in desperate times tell the story of the family's internment in the Lodz and Warsaw Ghettos and the survival of two family members. "After her parents' deaths, Alexandra Weinbaum found a unique collection of her family's letters that document the love and anguish of a Jewish family trying to survive the horrors of the Holocaust in Lodz, Warsaw, and Paris. Careful Old Letters tells their story, providing useful historical context to situate these powerful letters in the desperate times in which they were written. It's also the author's own story, chronicling the complicated feelings as she slowly takes in the hidden story of her family's resilience and despair." -Lisa Moses Leff, American University, author of *The Archive Thief: The Man Who Salvaged French Jewish History in the Wake of the Holocaust*

ALEXANDRA WEINBAUM grew up Philadelphia, received her B.A. at Smith College, and a Ph.D. in Russian History from Columbia University. Much of her career has been devoted to improving educational opportunities for underserved and low-income students in K-12 education. For 20 years she developed and led educational initiatives at AED, now FHI360. She was the lead author of the book *Teaching as Inquiry* from Teachers College Press. In writing *Careful Old Letters* she has returned to her love of history through telling her family's story as revealed in the box of letters that was discovered 20 years ago.