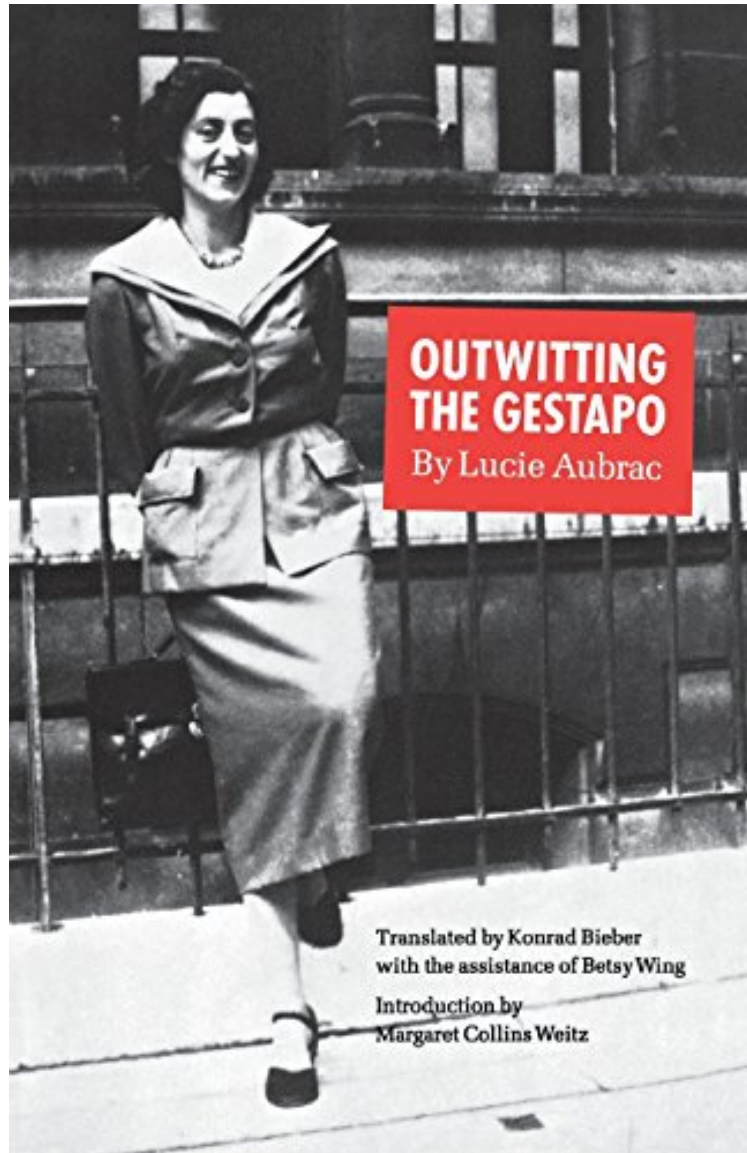


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Outwitting the Gestapo

Lucie Aubrac

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Lucie Aubrac : Outwitting the Gestapo before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Outwitting the Gestapo:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A wonderfully written biography detailing the all or every-day of spending ...By Kevin (Ric) Richardson The personal tale of one who was there and yes "Done that!". A wonderfully written biography detailing the all or every-day of spending one's time trying to outwit a smart enemy with a world of help behind them...a wonderful example of the horrors, despair and seeming hopelessness that can meld to drive one

on...especially one with children and expecting another! She takes you with her on every shadowy step, or that is how it read to me...an exciting experience indeed.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Memoir of meritBy M. SchwindtI love reading a serious yet engrossing memoir, in this case about a woman of the French Resistance. Most of us know of the time some of the activities---often those of men. Here, Lucie Aubrac is not only a serious resistance figure, she's an amazing author. Her book was even more fast-paced than the subsequent film made from it! I can only compare it favorably to Irene Nemirovsky and her *Suites Francaise*, published after her death in Auschwitz. If you are a history who needs time off from battle maps and generals, read Aubrac's memoir.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Those were the days my friendBy GopalDealing with the Gestapo in Vichy France was a challenge but Aubrac was equal to the task and seems to have not only enjoyed it but I think she even misses the exciting times she and her husband went through. There's a hint of the romantic in her descriptions and she clearly enjoyed sticking it to the Germans. It's as if she were born for the task and hasn't the slightest empathy with the German soldiers she killed. Aubrac is one tough cookie.

Lucie Aubrac (1912-2007), of Catholic and peasant background, was teaching history in a Lyon girls' school and newly married to Raymond, a Jewish engineer, when World War II broke out and divided France. The couple, living in the Vichy zone, soon joined the Resistance movement in opposition to the Nazis and their collaborators. Outwitting the Gestapo is Lucie's harrowing account of her participation in the Resistance: of the months when, though pregnant, she planned and took part in raids to free comradesincluding her husband, under Nazi death sentencefrom the prisons of Klaus Barbie, the infamous Butcher of Lyon. Her book is also the basis for the 1997 French movie, *Lucie Aubrac*, which was released in the United States in 1999.

From Publishers WeeklyThe stirring memoir of a French Resistance member was a BOMC and a History Book Club selection in cloth. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sA suspenseful rendering of Aubrac's experiences as a French Resistance fighter during WW II. This memoir owes its existence to the 1983 extradition to France of Klaus Barbie, the ``Butcher of Lyon": In order to refute Barbie's defenders and former collaborators, Aubrac told her story publicly for the first time- -and it became a bestseller in France. Focusing on a nine-month period that begins with the conception of her second child, Aubrac looks back 40 years at experiences of enduring intensity. During the war, the author, her Jewish husband Raymond, and other ``resistants" published and distributed underground newspapers, found new identities and homes for fugitives, forged permits, stole guns, and blew up roads and bridges--all routine Resistance activities. What makes this account special, however, is Aubrac's irrepressible energy and resourcefulness, and the graceful way in which she interweaves her separate but parallel lives. As a mother and wife struggling in a wartime economy, she bartered for hard-to-find items; as a devoted schoolteacher, she applied the lessons of history to current events; as a secret member of the Resistance, she couldn't disclose her true identity even to her most trusted colleagues, switching names and identities like a quick-change artist. Three times, she helped free her husband from prison. The last incarceration was the most harrowing: Walking into a trap, Raymond was arrested, tortured, and sentenced to die by Barbie himself. Despite her anguish, Aubrac tricked her husband's captors into meetings and masterminded an intricate rescue. The Aubracs' escape by airlift to London, where their baby was born, is tremendously exciting. A breathtaking account that feeds the soul as much as it satisfies the appetite for vicarious danger. (Seven bw photographs--not seen) -- Copyright 1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "A breathtaking account that feeds the soul as much as it satisfies the appetite for vicarious danger."--Kirkus s "This book is riveting. Adventure, terror, horror, and excitement are all here; it is a feminist class as well ... full of interesting information about wartime food, clothes, schooling and manners. It is also a sturdy tale of married love, sustained and requited. The translation is so good that it reads as if it had been written in English."--Times Literary Supplement "Lively and absorbing... [Aubrac's] book interweaves the everyday experience of incredibly hard times...with Resistance activities."--London of Books "There is a relish for the idiosyncratic ramifications of human character that reveal themselves in crisis... As the record of a female resistente's exploits, Aubrac's account is doubly valuable. [There is] a compelling sense of immediacy as events unfold."--Washington Post Book World "An excellent historical introduction on the Resistance movement ... and an appropriately taut translation ... enhance the impact of this stirring tale of heroism, which concerns not only Resistance members but ordinary citizens, notably women."--Publishers Weekly