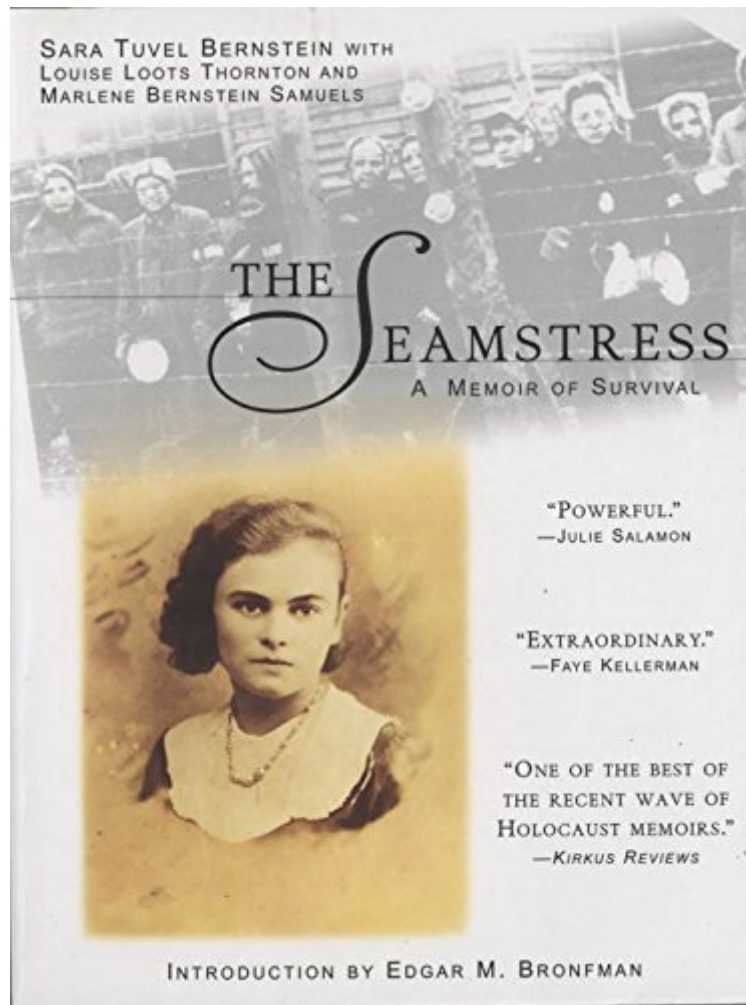


The Seamstress

Sara Tuval Bernstein

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#96487 in Books Sara Tuval Bernstein 1999-05-01 1999-05-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x 1.00 x 5.90l, .89 #File Name: 0425166309384 pages The Seamstress A Memoir of Survival | File size: 29.Mb

Sara Tuval Bernstein : The Seamstress before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Seamstress:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The Seamstress: Purchased at .comBy depThis is the story of Sara Tuval Bernstein and her experience in the Holocaust. Her original name was Seren which she changed after the war. Much of her experience was with the Holocaust in Romania. Sara was a very strong willed young lady, not afraid to stand up for herself even though she was Jewish. She had a talent for dress making which helped her survive much of her time in Romania. She spent a year doing forced labor and eventually ended up in the notorious women's camp of Ravensbruck. When Sara was rescued by American soldiers in April 1945 she weighed only 54 pounds. In spite of all she went through she did survive. A fascinating story and a great read.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An Interesting MemoirBy Michael FishmanThis was a good book and it's one I would certainly recommend to

anyone interested in reading about the Holocaust, but I can't say it's anything that's going to stick with me for very long. As much as I respect Seren Tuval Bernstein - and while I have nothing but admiration for her strength and her courage - I'm sorry to say that I wasn't very interested in the first part of the book that took place starting in 1929 and her reminiscences of her childhood and young adult years. While that doesn't take away from the importance of her memoir, or its historical significance, it wasn't until her memoir reached November 1943 and she and her sister were arrested in Budapest that her story really picked up speed for me. Still, this is an interesting memoir and just because it fell a little flat for me is no reason for anyone interested in World War 2 or the Holocaust to pass it by. Never forget. Thank you Ms. Tuval Bernstein for helping us remember that. May your memory always be for a blessing. flag0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Marvelous Tale of Survival. By motley reader I have read lots of Holocaust nonfiction and fiction. What sets this story apart and makes it unique is a female perception and it's post WWII material. I think it has a very slow start because the author starts with her earliest memories in Romania. If you decide to read, you will soon be swept into the craziness of WWII and bigotry. It has been a month since I read the book and I am still haunted by some of the experiences of the author. For me this is a must read for those interested in this topic.

"From its opening pages, in which she recounts her own premature birth, triggered by terrifying rumors of an incipient pogrom, Bernstein's tale is clearly not a typical memoir of the Holocaust. She was born into a large family in rural Romania and grew up feisty and willing to fight back physically against anti-Semitism from other schoolchildren. She defied her father's orders to turn down a scholarship that took her to Bucharest, and got herself expelled from that school when she responded to a priest/teacher's vicious diatribe against the Jews by hurling a bottle of ink at him. After a series of incidents that ranged from dramatic escapes to a year in a forced labor detachment, Sara ended up in Ravensbruck, a women's concentration camp, and managed to survive. She tells this story with style and power." --Kirkus Reviews

From Kirkus a striking Holocaust memoir, posthumously published, by a Romanian Jew with an unusual story to tell. From its opening pages, in which she recounts her own premature birth, triggered by terrifying rumors of an incipient pogrom, Bernstein's tale is clearly not a typical memoir of the Holocaust. She was born into a large family in rural Romania between the wars and grew up feisty and willing to fight back physically against anti-Semitism from other schoolchildren. She defied her father's orders to turn down a scholarship that took her to Bucharest, and got herself expelled from that school when she responded to a priest/teacher's vicious diatribe against the Jews by hurling a bottle of ink at him. Ashamed to return home after her expulsion, she looked for work in Bucharest and discovered a talent for dressmaking. That talent--and her blond hair, blue eyes, and overall Gentile appearance--allowed her entry into the highest reaches of Romanian society, albeit as a dressmaker. Bernstein recounts the growing shadow of the native fascist movement, the Iron Guard, a rising tide of anti-Semitic laws, and finally, the open persecution of Romania's Jews. After a series of incidents that ranged from dramatic escapes to a year in a forced labor detachment, Sara ended up in Ravensbruck, a women's concentration camp deep in Germany. Nineteen out of every twenty women transported there died. The author, her sister Esther, and two other friends banded together and, largely due to Sara's extraordinary street smarts and intuition, managed to survive. Although Bernstein was not a professional writer, she tells this story with style and power. Her daughter Marlene contributes a moving epilogue to close out Sara's life. One of the best of the recent wave of Holocaust memoirs. (bw photos, not seen) -- Copyright 1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. "There are many recent accounts of Holocaust victims, but this work stands alone as a testimony to personal strength and an independent spirit." ---Library Journal About the Author Sara Tuval Bernstein was born in Romania and attended school in Bucharest before being expelled after speaking out against anti-Semitism. She was liberated from the concentration camp Bergau by the Red Cross and then volunteered to teach sewing to fellow displaced women. She is known for her memoir *The Seamstress: A Memoir of Survival*.