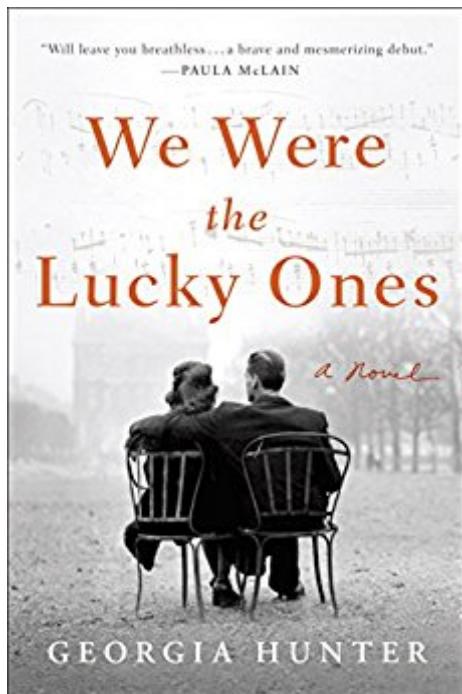


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We Were The Lucky Ones



Synopsis

Inspired by the incredible true story of one Jewish family separated at the start of World War II, determined to survive and to reunite. We Were the Lucky Ones is a sweeping novel spanning six years and five continents and a tribute to the triumph of hope and love against all odds. "Love in the face of global adversity? It couldn't be more timely."

Glamour. It is the spring of 1939 and three generations of the Kurc family are doing their best to live normal lives, even as the shadow of war grows closer. The talk around the family Seder table is of new babies and budding romance, not of the increasing hardships threatening Jews in their hometown of Radom, Poland. But soon the horrors overtaking Europe will become inescapable and the Kurcs will be flung to the far corners of the world, each desperately trying to navigate his or her own path to safety. As one sibling is forced into exile, another attempts to flee the continent, while others struggle to escape certain death, either by working grueling hours on empty stomachs in the factories of the ghetto or by hiding as gentiles in plain sight. Driven by an unwavering will to survive and by the fear that they may never see one another again, the Kurcs must rely on hope, ingenuity, and inner strength to persevere. An extraordinary, propulsive novel, We Were the Lucky Ones demonstrates how in the face of the twentieth century's darkest moment, the human spirit can endure and even thrive.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

400+ pages read in just 3 days.... yes it is that good. Such perseverance to survive against insurmountable odds .

While only the second month into the year, I can say with certainty that Georgia Hunter's debut novel WE WERE THE LUCKY ONES is my favorite book of the year. Definitely one of the books that I will cherish. It is not only a poignant story, written so eloquently and with such heart, but the fact that it is based on the true story of her family makes it that much more special. The book is about a family of Polish Jews who were separated during World War II and what became of them. At many times, this is a difficult book to read, as it should be, given the subject. But because it is so hard to read, all the more reason to do so. I don't remember the last time that I was so moved by words on a page, characters with such determination, and the evil that lay before them. To read page after page about the destruction of the war, the harsh reality of their living conditions, the brutality of the Nazi regime, and what the Jews were literally stripped of. It is a lesson in humanity, in history, and in how Poland was desecrated. As a third-generation immigrant, like Hunter, my grandparents came from Poland, and while they were in America before the war, nothing has impacted my heart more than reading this book. Surely my grandparents left behind friends and family and felt similar heartache as the Kurcs did with their beloved country. There are many lessons to be learned from reading this book other than how people cope with great sadness. It is about resilience, the strength of the human spirit, family, and love. Hunter is a writer to watch. Hunter's ancestors would be so proud of what she has done with this book. She has not only written a remarkable piece of literature but the effort that she put forth to gather her family's history seems to have been no small feat, as you will learn. As a Jew and a human, I feel it was an honor to read WE WERE THE LUCKY ONES, to learn about every member of her family. I feel like I know each of them. They were the lucky ones and so are we to be given this book.

I enjoy reading about the holocaust but am always so sad for the survivors. This book though gave hope that this family would survive

I had to finish this book in a hurry because it was so good. Because it was a true story it was even more intense.

Georgia Hunter pays tribute to her family who not only survived the Holocaust but reunited after the war was over and escaped the nightmares they would associate with their hometown of Radom, Poland. I enjoyed reading the stories of each character in a chronicled tale as they each found their way to escape but I am horrified by the reality. Thank you Georgia for sharing your family's experience.

all other books i've read about the holocaust focus on those who were interred in concentration and labor camps. i enjoyed reading about a family who survived it all. their resourcefulness and determination to remain a family was inspiring. i often wonder if i could do something like that and here's hoping i never have to find out. although they considered themselves lucky a lot of it was what they did to overcome their circumstances.

Thoroughly enjoyed this book based on true events of WWII. It's an incredible story of survival when members of a large Polish Jewish get separated during the war. Their bond is so strong giving them strength to endure the worst possible conditions and constant fear of death. I've come to admire those who lived through the war without phone calls, and the ways we communicate today. Truly I was sad when the book came to an end.

Loved this historical story of family survival. It is a story about how amazing we are as individuals and members of a family!

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