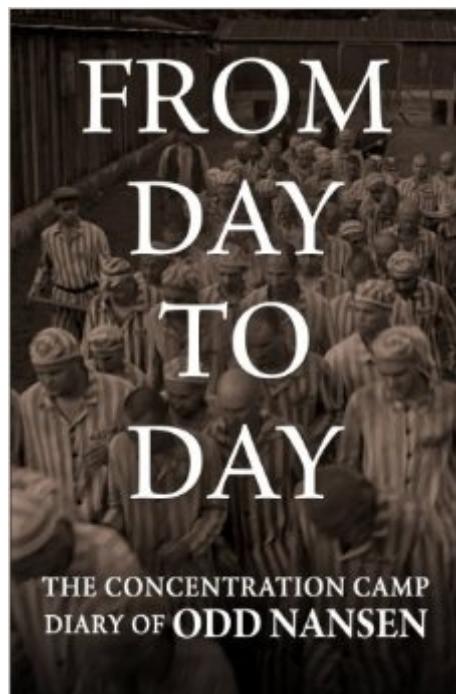


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From Day To Day: The Concentration Camp Diary Of Odd Nansen



Synopsis

From Day to Day, first published in 1949, by Norwegian architect Odd Nansen (son of explorer Fridtjof Nansen), is a meticulous account of his 40 month-long imprisonment by the Nazis during World War Two. During his captivity, Nansen kept a secret diary, first in Norway, then in Sachsenhausen and other concentration camps in Germany. Nansen's diary provides one of the most detailed descriptions of the German concentration camp system ever published. Camp routines, the brutalities, executions, inefficiencies, and the gradual worsening of living conditions in the camp are vividly described, as are the stresses and indignities imposed on the human will to survive. By means of his diaries and letters to and from his family in Norway, Nansen was able to maintain a semblance of dignity and humanity in the face of the unspeakably vile conditions he experienced. Included are 47 drawings prepared by the author during his confinement. Following the war, Nansen returned to Norway where he resumed his architectural career, while also starting several humanitarian efforts. He was the president of 'One World' from 1947 to 1956 and is considered a co-founder of UNICEF. Nansen passed away in 1973 at the age of 72.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Anyone who is considering the purchase of this book should give careful consideration to the fact that it is a facsimile reprint of the original version published in the US in 1949. It is not, I repeat, is not the most current version of the book re-published by Vanderbilt University Press and edited by Timothy Boyce. This facsimile, paperback reprint does not contain the extremely helpful and well written preface by Thomas Buergenthal and introduction written by Mr. Boyce both of which are

contained in the the Vanderbilt version. This paperback facsimile does not contain the photographs that are present in the Vanderbilt University Press edition. It does not contain previously untranslated diary entries, or the appendices or the index. It is missing nine of the sketches which appear in the Vanderbilt re-publication. The quality of the reproduction of the 31 sketches that this facsimile version does contain look as though they are the result of a poor quality scan. The vital footnotes contained in the Vanderbilt printing are critical to explaining the significance of the people, places, events and language used by Nansen in his diary. All those footnotes are missing from the facsimile version. Don't waste your money on this paperback version when there is a far better, high quality publication available!

Even though this was written over 70 years ago, it is a wake up call for how one segment of the human race can be turned against another. That the author managed to maintain his own sense of humanity, and survive the atrocious sorrow and horror of his surroundings is a testimony to the human spirit. That he could even at times engage in humor, sympathy and kindness, and not sink into vengeful desperation, is very uplifting. What we see happening in our world today, could use this as a guide to avoid the repetition of universal destruction that was inflicted upon the human race by the Nazis in WWII.

Incredible story of NAZI concentration camps from a daily diary. You feel the complicated existence of those inmates, some criminal, few saints, most being starved to death. The write is cool headed and philosophical amidst the cruel insanity.

I found this to be a very moving and factual account of the incarnation, torture and abuse of prisoners by the Germans during World War II.

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