

April 19, 2018

**My Dearest Krystyna,**

**My name is Amy Mueller. I'm from St. Louis, Mo, and I am a 50 year old wife and mother of two grown children. My husband and I recently watched the movie, "In Darkness," and read your book, "The Girl In The Green Sweater." I was so overwhelmingly touched by your story, your life, and your beauty that I had a deep desire to contact you. I found your son, Doron, on Facebook and he graciously gave me your address. Doron seems to be a wonderful man. He responded to me with kindness and sincerity, and I was honored to have communicated with him.**

**I would like to begin by saying how very sorry I am for all that you endured! My heart aches for what you, your family, and the Jewish people were forced to endure during Hitler's reign. My soul was shattered to have witnessed fellow human beings doing such torturous and horrible things to other human beings. I have wept uncontrollably time and time again after reading, watching or listening to a Holocaust survivor describe the unspeakable atrocities that were perpetrated upon them. How is it possible that such monstrous human beings exist among us?**

**When I was 9 years old, I watched a T.V. mini-series called, "Holocaust." It was the first time that I ever heard that word, and I was not prepared for what I was about to see. One evening, while watching the mini-series, there was a scene in which the SS took a man into a cell to be tortured. They strapped him down to a block-table and beat his back with a club. I was so horrified that I closed my eyes, held my ears, and ran into my bedroom sobbing. I couldn't sleep that night, nor could I ever remove that scene from my mind. From that day on I wanted to know, "how was this possible?"**

**As an adult, I sought to understand what I witnessed as a nine year old little girl while I watched that mini-series. I began a quest to seek out as much information as possible. I believe I've watched every movie ever made concerning the Holocaust, including foreign films. I've read every book I've ever come across. I've listened to hundreds and hundreds of survivor's testimonies on line, and I've watched every documentary that I could find. What have I learned? I learned that my quest to understand is impossible because there is no sense to be made of this brutal, inhumane act. I also learned treasured lessons that I hadn't set out to learn...things that changed my life. I learned the power of hate, and the even greater power of love. I learned the real definition of courage, fear, pain and grief. I learned the worst of humanity, and I discovered the very best of humanity.**

**Dear Krystyna, in the countless stories of survival that I have seen, I'm not sure I've heard of a more desperate situation than the one of this beautiful family who were forced to live, breathe, play, cry, love and survive in the darkness and filth of a sewer. Dear God in Heaven, tears stream down my face as I write these words. I am sincerely sorry that you had to go to such an extreme to live-- TO JUST LIVE!!! I cannot put into words the overwhelming sorrow this brings to my heart. At the same time, a depth of love enveloped my very soul for your dad, your sweet little brother, your mom, dear Mr. Socha, and you. You and your family have a resolve like no other. The admiration I feel for all of you is beyond words. You have gifted me an inspiration that has transformed my attitude in life.**

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*Your book was the first time I had heard about surviving the Holocaust, then only to become hunted and oppressed by Stalin. I had no idea! I was dumbfounded and sickened that such a fate awaited you when you were finally free. It is incomprehensible! As I read my heart sank and I was in disbelief as to the words that were on that page. How? How could that be? I thank you for opening my eyes to that part of history, as well as sharing the next appalling chapter of your lives.*

*As I continued listening to testimonies I began to realize, not only is it the least I can do, but it is my responsibility as a fellow human being to share in my "brother's" pain and to be as informed as possible as to such a savage and barbaric part of our history. I also found myself relating and feeling a connection with these survivors. I could truly identify with their torment, their heartbreak, and their sense of total isolation...believing nobody cared. I felt a compelling empathy as I was a prisoner of severe and endless child abuse. However, no abuse can genuinely be compared with the excruciating agony and murder of the Jewish race during the Holocaust.*

*As a child, I prayed for death every night as I lay in bed. Ultimately, I survived and it became my life's mission to break the cycle of abuse. I began to educate myself to be the best, most loving, nurturing parent I could possibly be. I desperately wanted to protect all children, and I began a crusade to change the laws. I wrote senators, congressmen, authors, and high profile people to help create a law that would give children rights... the right never to be struck by a parent or anyone. I sought to create a law to make mandatory education in our schools on parenting and healthy family living. This battle was long, futile and disappointing.*

*I accepted the fact that I had to do all that I could as a single individual to protect children. I simply started by sharing my knowledge and story with anyone who would listen. I began to see friends and family change their attitudes on parenting their children. Also, I never look away in a grocery store, or any public place, when I see a parent hit or humiliate their child. I don't speak to the parent, but I speak to the child... saying, "what your dad did is not okay, you're a precious child and I care about you." I pray and hope the planted seeds will grow in these children and possibly change the course of their lives.*

*The world can be transformed by simply sharing our hearts in love. Sharing our lives, our stories, our lessons, our pain with others is where change begins. As we pass our hearts onto our own children as well, we will be sure the next generation will continue to be reformed. I have two children. My daughter Melissa, who passes onto her friends all I have exposed her to about the Holocaust, is passionate and wants to educate all those around her. My son Matt, who is a minister in NYC, is an advocate for the oppressed and a strong voice for social injustice. Praise the Lord!*

*Dear dear Krystyna, we will NEVER forget, nor will we let our future generations forget. We will keep your personal story alive. It is powerful! It's impact is extraordinary, inspirational and exceptionally moving! I will be sure to repeat the names of Krystyna, Pawelek, Jerzy, Peppa Chiger, and Mr. Socha every time I relay your remarkable story. All of you bring an awakening to the soul and challenge the world to know the true meaning of*

**courageousness. I, for one, will not be the same as I will never see any circumstance in my life worth complaining.**

**Thank you Krystyna, for sharing your life and your heart with all of us! You are an inspiration to all of humanity. The Lord gave us a true, true treasure in you! We will continue to fight hate with LOVE! "Love hopes all things, endures all things... Love never ends."**

**May The Lord Pour His  
Blessings Upon You and  
Your Family...  
With My Sincere Love,**

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