



Escape from the Ghetto

John Carr

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Early in 1940 a thirteen-year-old Jewish boy and his eleven-year-old brother began to make their way through the barbed wire that surrounded the Lodz ghetto (in Poland) on their way to steal food for their family.

The younger brother got caught on the wire. The older killed the guard who came to shoot him. Thus began an Odyssey across Europe, first to the frozen river on the Russian border, where Soviet troops rolled hand grenades over the ice, then hidden in a German troop train to Berlin.

From Berlin to Alsace and a beautiful Roma girl, also fleeing the Nazis. Across the border into Vichy France concealed in a German jeep and over the Pyrenees, only to be arrested by Spanish police.

Saved by a British diplomat and finding his way to Gibraltar, Chaim Herszman (now Henry Karbowski and soon to be Henry Carr), returned to Germany in the British Army.

This extraordinary but true tale of a boy's escape from the ghetto and the prospect of extermination in the camps, and of his journey to adulthood as he, Henry Carr, made his way across Europe, is almost unbearably exciting while being at the same time, as all true stories are, complex and bitter-sweet.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: John Carr OBE grew up in Yorkshire. President of the University of London's students' union and a leading member of the GLC, he is now a campaigner and advocate for Internet security. In this capacity he has been an advisor to the UN, the EU, and the Council of Europe, as well as some of the world's largest technology companies. He is Henry Carr's eldest son.

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