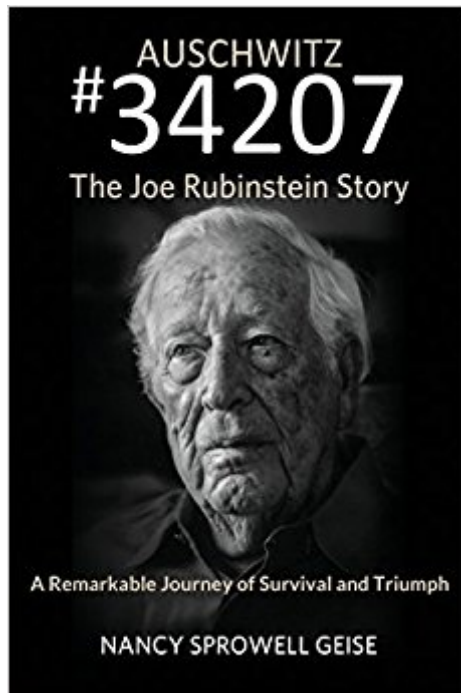


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# Auschwitz #34207: The Joe Rubinstein Story



## Synopsis

Bestseller: #1 in Holocaust Biography and #1 in Holocaust Memoirs. In May of 1945, Joe Rubinstein walked out of a Nazi concentration camp. For over 70 years, his remarkable story was hidden from the world. Shortly before dawn on a frigid morning in Radom, Poland, German soldiers forced twenty-one year-old Icek "Joe" Rubinsztein onto a crowded, open-air truck. The next day, several around him were dead. From there, things got worse for young Joe-much worse. Joe arrived at Auschwitz on April 30, 1942. It would be seven decades before he revealed how he survived several of the most notorious concentration camps. His is an inspiring narrative; a story of reliance, endurance, courage and faith. Barefooted when he was seized by the Nazis, Joe became one of New York's leading shoe designers-working with companies whose shoes were sought after by First Ladies and movie stars alike. Joe's story bears witness to the ultimate triumph of the human spirit. While the Nazis took everything else, they were unable to take his unassailable joy. Joe's story is one of discovering light in the darkest of places, an inspiration for us all. Auschwitz #34207 is garnishing high praise from leading Holocaust scholars, national reviewers and readers alike, and is a finalist for Foreword Reviews' 2015 Book of the Year in Biography. "A riveting, well-documented account of survival that's harrowing, inspiring and unforgettable." --Kirkus Reviews "A powerful story, worth being told and retold, one of authenticity and integrity, written so very skillfully." --Michael Berenbaum, Director Sigi Ziering Institute and Professor of Jewish Studies American Jewish University "A beautifully written, thoroughly researched and compelling story. I'm hooked." --Michlean Lowy Amir, Master of Library Science, Washington, D.C. "In sharing his story - with Nancy Sprowell Geise's help - Rubinstein has made an invaluable contribution to the literature of the Holocaust." --Blue Ink Review (Starred Review) "Author Geise has done an important job in presenting Joe's story to the world, and does justice to a generation whose voices deserve to be heard. A great read..." --Myles Friedman, Finelines Pubslush Review Blog "Auschwitz #34207 will join work by Primo Levi on a shelf of classic Holocaust narratives." --Foreword Reviews

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A fantastic book! Heartbreakingly descriptive and full of suspense, love, suffering, and victories large and small. It's an incredible story about a man full of love for life and others. I've never read about the Holocaust experiences before from INSIDE the suffocating box car rides, fatal separation lines, and frozen barracks like Nancy Sprowell Geise has described. It feels so painfully real, so tragic, and so inspirational all at the same time! It's a book I'll read over and over again. It is a gift to treasure!

When I told my sophomores in class about this book, I said only a few of them could read it because we only had three copies. Well, I had to order nine more copies! As I heard them discuss the book, a student from one of my classes said, "This is the best book I've read for school" and in a different class, I heard, "This is the best book I have ever read." Yes, they have read *Night* by Elie Wiesel, but they still had those comments for this book. They appreciated getting to know about Joe's life before the war, and they were especially interested in reading about his life after the war, his love for Irene, his wife, and that he was able to have a positive attitude. They really couldn't get enough of this book. They looked up the book's trailer on the author's website, and one student even found the author on Facebook and communicated with her. Read this book. It will inspire you and the next generation.

"We're free. We're free..." the phrase Jos and Irene Rubinstein whispered when their harrowing nightmare ended in New York grabs you. We're free. We're free ... a phrase that few Americans today can truly grasp as well as the torment that seeded it. *Auschwitz* #34207 is gripping, riveting, appalling. Biographer Nancy Geise mirrors the voice of Rubinstein as he survives the unspeakable torture and cruelty of the Holocaust. Later, he became one of New York's premier shoe designers. After reading *Auschwitz* #34207, you will never forget this number. The cover is haunting and

shouts out history, a person and great depth is within. Highly recommended. Judith Briles, author of Snappy Sassy Salty

The book is masterfully written-- and the story overwhelming. With skill and compassion, Ms. Geise has given us Joe Rubinstein's story, paying tribute to a remarkable man whose indomitable spirit offers us light and hope against a dark chapter of human history. Joe experienced an incomprehensible horror; that he survived and persevered to create a life filled with love is a testament to his incredible strength and courage.

I read Auschwitz #34207 The Joe Rubinstein Story on Memorial Day weekend. An appropriate time to read this grasping true story. I am thankful to Nancy Sprowell Geise for her talents in authoring this story of hopeful life. From the faith perspective this story will inspire forever. From tears to abundant pride in the joyful conquest of hope.....hope that goes deeper than the soul. Author Nancy Sprowell Geise captures the true story of Joe in writing we can all relate to. This is true story telling at it's finest. Reading of Joe's faith journey is chilling, strengthening and truly inspiring. The book is written to give the reader the opportunity to share in Joe's faith. The reader shares in moments of intimacy in Joe's rationalizing of life's circumstances explaining how faith guided his actions. You will be a better person for having read the contents of this book. Answer the discussion questions and lets get together and discuss:) Thank you Joe Rubinstein and thank you Nancy Sprowell Geise.

This book is wonderful if anything about such a horrible time could be called wonderful. It carried you through the beginning good times to the despicable and beyond. I felt I knew the guards, the pain, the hunger, the sorrow of loss, loneliness and struggle to start life anew. Buy this book!

The author recommends in her forward that you read this book slowly, resting when you need to, and I certainly agree with her. How Joe Rubenstein survived the loss of his family and the horrors of Auschwitz is a testament to what man can endure. And the aftermath of the war was almost as bad. I was so glad to learn that his wife has shared his long life with him. I felt very inspired by the things he learned and excelled at after coming to the US. He never took the time to be a victim of anyone. If you want inspiration, read this book.

Definitely a page turner and eye opener to the true brutality of a society that so far, I can not

understand. Mr. Rubenstein's survival was a true miracle. I would like to thank him for sharing his story, especially since there are so many that can not do the same. We all need to hear his story and that of other survivors to truly understand how history repeats and hopefully not make the same mistakes or at least be ready to face over-zealous powerful minorities that continue to destroy innocent people not of their own religious or political beliefs. Until I read his story, I was not fully aware of the brutality inflicted on so many innocent children during WWII in the camps. And the nature in which it was carried out by the cruel German guards. There could not possibly be a forgiving God for those heinous acts. How anyone could identify with the Nazi party today is beyond my grasp; It saddens me to think there are people walking this earth with the same hatred in their hearts.

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