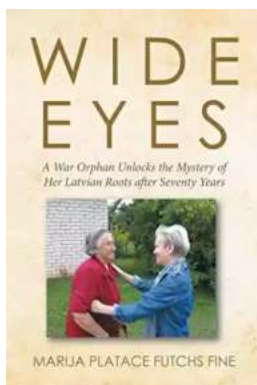


# War Orphan Unlocks The Mystery Of Her Latvian Roots After Seventy Years

A war orphan's journey to uncover her Latvian heritage after seven decades has captivated hearts and shed light on a hidden chapter of history.

Seventy years ago, a young girl named Anna found herself alone and destitute in the aftermath of World War II. She was one of the countless children who became war orphans, robbed of their families and left to fend for themselves amidst the chaos.

As the years rolled on, Anna was adopted by a loving family in a different country. She grew up, built a life for herself, and raised a family of her own. The horrors of war were never far from her thoughts, but she was always aware that a part of her past remained shrouded in mystery.



## Wide Eyes: A War Orphan Unlocks the Mystery of Her Latvian Roots After Seventy Years

by Rene Schreiber (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3418 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 243 pages



Curiosity gnawed at Anna throughout her life, until finally, at the age of 80, she embarked on a mission to uncover her Latvian roots. Armed with little more than a few photographs, fragmented memories, and an unwavering determination, Anna set out on a journey that would eventually lead her back to her homeland.

Anna's quest gained momentum when she discovered an online community of genealogists and history enthusiasts who were passionate about helping people reconnect with their ancestral roots. With their assistance, Anna began delving into archives, libraries, and online databases, piecing together fragments of her family's story.

Through diligent research and countless hours of detective work, Anna managed to trace back her lineage to a small village in Latvia. It was a bittersweet moment for her - the sorrow of the past mingled with the thrill of discovery. She realized that with each revelation, she was reclaiming a part of herself that had been lost for so long.

The village welcomed Anna with open arms as she arrived, a grey-haired woman who had weathered the trials of time. She stood on the soil that her ancestors had once walked upon, feeling a connection to her past that words could not do justice. The locals shared stories of her relatives, painted vivid pictures of a time long gone, and revealed secrets that had been buried with the passage of years.

Anna's journey also led her to a small cemetery where her grandparents were laid to rest. Standing before their gravestones, she experienced a deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifices they made and the indomitable spirit that had carried her through life.

Although her parents' fate remained unknown, Anna was now able to embrace the legacy left behind by those who came before her. Her Latvian roots had finally

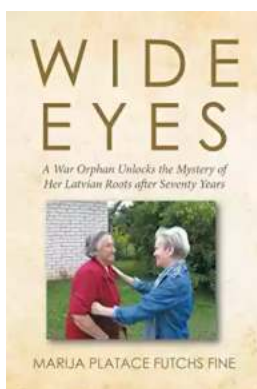
been uncovered, and she could now share her story with her children and grandchildren, ensuring that her family's past would live on.

Anna's story serves as a reminder that even in the darkest of times, the flame of hope can never be fully extinguished. It highlights the resilience of the human spirit and the power of determination, offering inspiration to all those who find themselves searching for their own truth.

And so, as Anna stood in Latvia, a war orphan who had unlocked the mystery of her roots after seventy years, she carried within her a newfound appreciation for the intricate tapestry of identities that make us who we are.

In a world where so many stories go untold and history fades into obscurity, Anna's journey reminds us of the importance of preserving our heritage and embracing the past. It is a testament to the transformative power of understanding our roots and the impact it can have on our present.

Anna's remarkable odyssey has not only brought her a sense of closure but also shed light on an often-forgotten chapter of Latvian history. Her determination and resilience have inspired others to embark on their own quests, reconnecting with their roots and uncovering the untold stories that lie dormant within."



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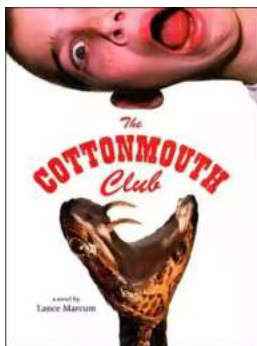


Nazi soldiers seized the baby Marija and her mother, Solomeja, on March 13, 1944 as reprisal for the father Bronislavs Platacs' partisan activities in Latgale, Latvia. Soldiers took mother and child as political prisoners to Rezekne Prison and Salaspils concentration camp. Solomeja was sent to German concentration camps; Marija was taken to orphanages in Latvia and Germany. In 1949 Marija was flown to America, adopted by American parents, and became a US citizen. For 70 years her origins were unknown to her due to the Soviet occupation of her native Latvia. A family detective in Riga unlocked the story about her parents in 2014, enabling Marija to be reunited with the one surviving member of her fathers family, Bronislavs' sister, Leonora. The discovery process opened Marijas eyes to her identity, true to her family name Platacs, which means wide eyes.



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