

Question 1

To be a Model German

Men trusted blindly as if they were dogs,

Friends carted away. They were slaughtered like hogs.

Glass fell like raindrops on Kristallnacht.

Synagogues shamed as destruction was wrought.

The model Germans saluted and shouted

“Hail Hitler!” With blond hair allegiance undoubted.

Many agreed with the Nazi beliefs,

Working the Jews, not a moment’s relief.

Swastikas ruled, the Jews they were marked

With pale Stars of David on shirts they stood stark.

All rounded up as they went to the ghetto,

Piled in trucks they all acted so mellow.

Families thought they’d be going back home,

But outside those fences the Jews could not roam.

And when they were hauled up to working camps

They were divided into separate ranks.

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The strong went to work while the weak and the old

Followed the Nazis, objective untold.

The doomed were lined up. They stood side by side.

The soldiers shot at them until all had died.

And back at the camp they did not mess about.

The living Jews labored 'til many passed out.

In some camps all of them worked to the death,

Hacking and digging until their last breath.

People they saw it, the fate of the Jews.

They chose to ignore it like it was a ruse.

Men had to work, put bread on the table.

They had their own problems, their stations unstable.

But some people listened, they did sympathize.

They knew what had happened, wrong in their eyes.

These people rebelled, helped Jew refugees,

Let them live in their attics, safe from Nazis.

Helene Von Schell saved a family of four.

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They hid in her house 'till the end of the war.

Feng-Shan Ho ferried 2,000 Jews

Out of the country they started anew.

Nazi himself, Duckwitz talked with Sweden.

He made it so Jews could access their freedom.

Because of these people, courageous, brave souls,

Thousands of Jewish left Nazi control.

For capture meant death for the Jew sympathizers.

German Gestapo could be none the wiser.

But in the end the danger paid off.

Although they were scorned by Nazis who scoffed,

Thousands of lives were spared by these folks

Thousands of humans with their dreams and hopes.