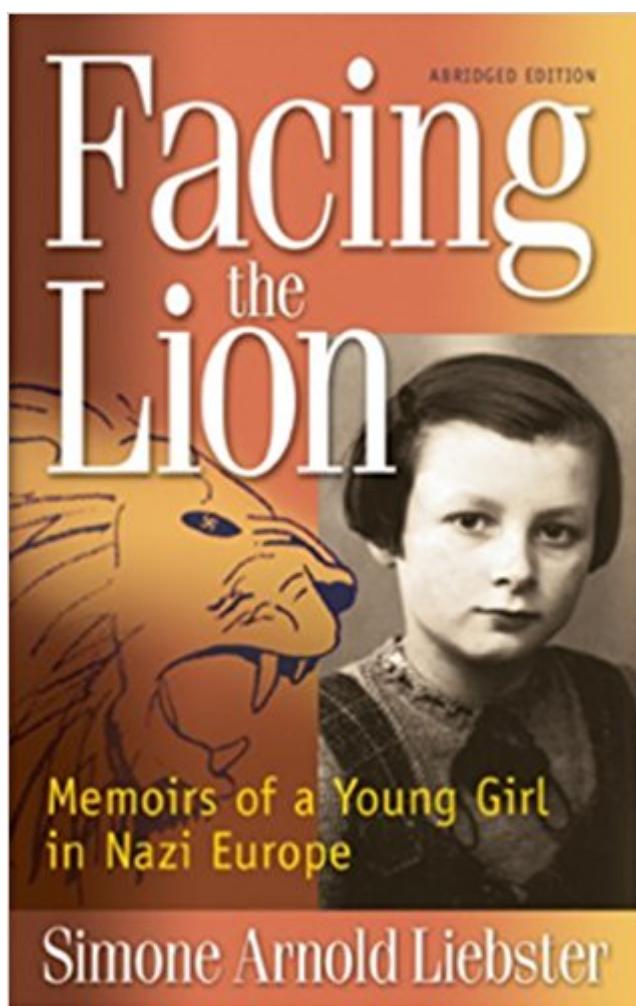


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# Facing The Lion (Abridged Edition): Memoirs Of A Young Girl In Nazi Europe



## **Synopsis**

Simone Arnold is an ordinary French schoolgirlâ "spirited and stubborn. Then the Nazis march in, demanding complete conformity. Friends become enemies. Teachers spout Nazi propaganda. School officials recruit for the Hitler Youth. Simone's family refuses to hail Hitler as Germany's savior. They are Jehovah's Witnesses, and they reject Nazi racism and violence. The Nazi Lion makes them pay the price.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Simone Arnold Liebster was born on August 17, 1930, and endured discrimination and persecution as a young Jehovah's Witness in Nazi-occupied France and Germany. In 1956 she married Max Liebster, who survived six years in five Nazi camps. The Liebsters have shared their experiences with educators, students, and the public in Europe and North America. They established the Arnold-Liebster Foundation in 2002 to educate future generations in the lessons of history.

This book is wonderful and well written. Its the true story of a young girl who was separated from her parents during Nazi regime. Her parents were sent to concentration camps because they refused to renounce their faith as Jehovah's Witnesses and support the Hitler regime. She was taken away and experienced tests to her faith and integrity to denounce her faith and confirm. She remained faithful, thousands of Jehovah's Witnesses died in Nazi concentration camps for maintaining their faith.

This book is one of the most touching books that I have read in a long time! Simone's experience is remarkable in many ways. She was a little girl when she was faced with one of the most difficult situations a human being can experience. She was separated from both her parents and taken to a "re education" center where she was supposed to realize that her beliefs were wrong and accept that she could have a better life if only she rejected her faith. The way she faced that, is a testimony to the Bible education she received at home and a strong proof that even when you are that young you can remain loyal to your faith under the most excruciating circumstances.

I've read dozens of books on the Holocaust and you can rate Ms. Liebster's right up there among the best. 'Facing the Lion' is Simone Arnold Liebster's personal account of a long struggle to maintain her integrity in the face of unrelenting persecution by the Nazi state. As a young girl Simone makes a sincere decision to become one of Jehovah's Witnesses and in a few short years, the idyllic world she grew up in is turned upside down. Taken from her family in an attempt at 're-education' Simone endures several years of hardships, some of which moved me to tears. The author writes with tremendous feeling and her style of prose is outstanding. The thing I find most compelling is that 'Facing the Lion' is never 'sugar coated' and you never forget that Simone's struggle to remain faithful is exceedingly difficult. You never get the sense that Simone is a religious fanatic. Even as a young teenager, it is clear that her decision is made with complete soundness of mind. And when you find yourself sometimes wishing that she would just sign the papers that would have given her release, you are ultimately moved by the moral stand she takes. A marvelous book and well worth your time.

Young people can have such courage as proved by Simone Arnold Liebster. Her courage in standing up for her faith in God is really outstanding. She had such good training at home and that enabled her to be brave and courageous. How many of us could take the same course of action she did. I truly do not know if I could.

I grew up in a principally Jewish community, with people my age having grandparents who survived the holocaust. For years I never realized there were non Jews who took a stand against Hitler, choosing by righteous Bible principles. This is that story

I loved this book as it shows a little girl other than the one we only hear about which was Anne Frank. This little girl, Simone, was from Alsace France. She was taken from her parents the Nazi's

because she was one of Jehovah's Witnesses. All she had to do is "heil Hitler" and sign a paper renouncing her faith and they would have let her go. She told the school teachers that the only saviour was Jehovah. Many people don't realize that JW's were true martyrs as they could have been released just by signing a paper to renounce their faith. Hitler himself said, "this brood shall be exterminated in Germany."

Fantastic book. Everyone should read. It clearly tells of the treatment of Jehovah's Witnesses under Nazi rule through the eye of a girl that lived it.

Exactly as described. Very happy with it.

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