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Women Heroes of World War I: 16 Remarkable Resisters, Soldiers, Spies, and Medics (Women of Action)

By Kathryn J. Atwood



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Women Heroes of World War I brings to life the brave exploits of 16 women from around the world who served their countries at a time when most women didn't even have the right to vote. Seventeen-year-old Frenchwoman Emilienne Moreau assisted the Allies as a guide and set up a first-aid post in her home. Russian peasant Maria Bochkareva joined the Imperial Russian Army, was twice wounded in battle and decorated for bravery, and created and led the all-women combat unit the Women's Battalion of Death. American journalist Madeleine Zabriskie Doty risked her life to travel twice to Germany during the war. Resented, watched, and pursued by spies, she was determined to report back the truth. These and other suspense-filled stories of daring girls and women from around the world are told through fast-paced narrative, dialogue, direct quotes, and document and diary excerpts. Historical background information opens each section, and each profile includes informative sidebars and "Learn More" lists of books and websites for further study, making this a fabulous resource for young history buffs or anyone who likes tales of bravery and courage.



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 6 Up—In this collective biography, Atwood chronicles the wartime exploits of 16 distinctive women from the United States, Europe, and Australia. The book is well balanced, covering women from the Central and Allied powers. Content is organized by the type of job the women performed—and there were many: resisters and spies, medical personnel, soldiers, and journalists. Their great contributions are made more vivid with Atwood's engaging narrative. She points out that while there were ideological, social, and economic differences among the women, there was also a commonality uniting them: patriotism. Readers get an idea of the intensity of these women's fervors through the quotes from diaries, letters, and interviews. Gabrielle Petit, a young woman who worked as a spy for Belgium, wrote in a letter, "My country! I did not think enough of it! I almost ignored it. I did not see that I loved her. But since [the enemies] torment her, the monsters, I see her everywhere. I breathe her in the streets of the city, in the shadow of our palace...she lives in me, I live in her. I will die for her singing." Woven throughout the stories is the larger history of the war itself—the causes, battles won and lost, and outcomes. Occasional black-and-white archival photographs, especially those depicting the women, add interest and immediacy.—Jennifer Prince, Buncombe County Public Libraries, NC

From [Booklist](#)

With the centennial of the start of the Great War upon us, Atwood commemorates 16 brave women who served in a variety of locations and capacities. An introduction provides a unifying theme, expounding upon many people's intense sense of nationalism—and misplaced excitement—at the outset of the war. The bios are organized into four themes: spies and resisters, medical personnel, journalists, and soldiers. Most fascinating are the stories of Belgian Gabrielle Petit, who fed information to British informants and was executed after refusing to apply for clemency before the Kaiser; Elsie Inglis, a Scottish surgeon who founded a mobile medical unit that would not leave behind wounded soldiers, even when ordered to retreat; and Maria Bochkareva, a founding member of the fierce Russian fighting force known as the Women's Battalion of Death. A fine survey of major events in WWI and a case study in the types of social changes that often occur because of war, this book is an ideal candidate for both research and recreational reading. Grades 7-10. --Erin Anderson

Review

"A fine survey of major events in WWI and a case study in the types of social changes that often occur because of war, this book is an ideal candidate for both research and recreational reading." —Booklist
"Atwood captures a range of wartime experiences across multiple countries in this excellent volume."
—Tammy M. Proctor, author of *Female Intelligence*

"Exciting, well-written, and fast-paced, *Women Heroes of World War I* will interest, educate, and inspire young adults interested in the Great War. Especially recommended for school classrooms and libraries." —William A. Hoisington Jr., professor emeritus of modern European history, University of Illinois at Chicago

"The fast-paced narratives recount the suspense-filled stories of these exceptional women." —The Nonfiction Detectives

"With interesting sidebars explaining important details in the stories, such as the use of poison gases in warfare or the popularity of the song 'Over There,' and with a generous use of photographs, *Women Heroes of World War I* is a good introduction to the war that started 100 years ago for readers of any age. It is also a helpful addition to the literature of women's studies. Look for it to be popular in school and public libraries."
—RickLibrarian.com

"Elegant, accessible biographies . . . together form a coherent history of a too-long-neglected window on World War I." —Elizabeth Wein, author of *Code Name Verity*

"Kathryn Atwood's fascinating survey helps reset our perceptions of women in the Great War." —Peter Doyle, author of *The First World War in 100 Objects*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Anthony Laflamme:

Now a day those who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by match the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not call for people to be aware of each data they get. How a lot more to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the answer then is reading a book. Studying a book can help individuals out of this uncertainty Information especially this *Women Heroes of World War I: 16 Remarkable Resisters, Soldiers, Spies, and Medics (Women of Action)* book because book offers you rich facts and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it everybody knows.

Barbara Spangler:

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Timothy Hawkins:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book can be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the guide untitled *Women Heroes of World War I: 16*

Remarkable Resisters, Soldiers, Spies, and Medics (Women of Action) can be excellent book to read. Maybe it can be best activity to you.

Ronda Hagerty:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with their household or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spend the whole day to reading a e-book. The book Women Heroes of World War I: 16 Remarkable Resisters, Soldiers, Spies, and Medics (Women of Action) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can more effortlessly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book possesses high quality.

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