

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF



EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US

“It has become the mission of my life to visit schools and talk about Raoul. Young people inspire me and I feel a surge of energy when I realize that Raoul’s message about tolerance, generosity, empathy, and willingness to help is as vital to them as it was to my brother. Standing up against evil was what drove Raoul Wallenberg. It is **the responsibility of each and every one of us** to keep that message alive in coming generations.”

—*Nina Lagergren,*
Raoul Wallenberg’s sister

During the final year of World War II, the Nazis occupied Hungary. They sent hundreds of thousands of Hungarian Jews to concentration camps. The remaining Jews, knowing they would be next, desperately begged other countries for help.

Raoul Wallenberg was a good speaker, and a good listener. He was brave and confident. He knew five different languages. And when the Swedish government needed a diplomat to send to Hungary, Raoul was the man for the job.

With his official-looking *schutzpasse*, documents that promised Swedish protection to the people who carried them, Raoul boldly saved thousands of lives.

HE WAS A HERO.

Today, Raoul Wallenberg’s fate remains unknown. But his name is one for the world to remember.

PJ Our Way is a fun and interactive Jewish program for kids by kids!

Go to www.pjourway.org to learn more. And spread the word!

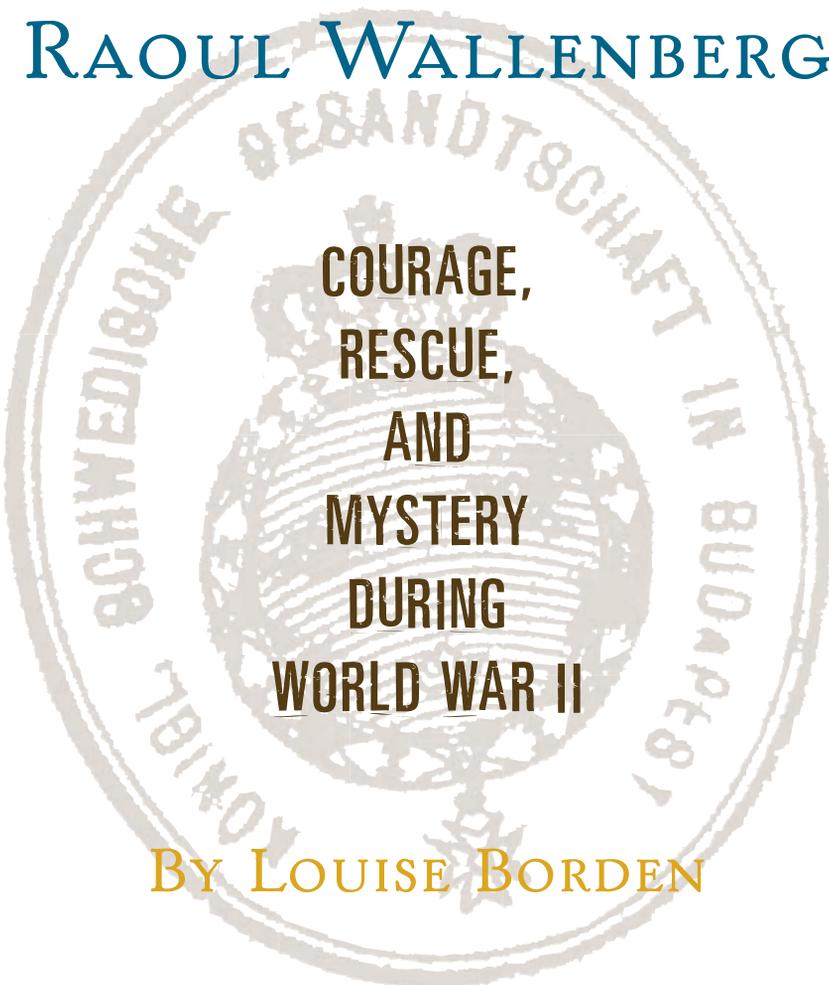


A program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation

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HIS NAME WAS RAOUL WALLENBERG



**COURAGE,
RESCUE,
AND
MYSTERY
DURING
WORLD WAR II**

BY LOUISE BORDEN



Houghton Mifflin Books for Children
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
Boston New York 2012



FOR NINA AND GUY
AND FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD

SCHUTZ-PASS

Nr. 46/75

Name: Frau Alexander Flamm
 Ne: geb. Gizella Scántó
 Wohnort: Budapest
 Lakás:
 Geburtsdatum: 3. Dezember 1913.
 Scántó idje:
 Geburtsort: Budapest
 Scántó helye:
 Körperlänge: 160 cm
 Magasság:
 Haarfarbe: schwarz Augenfarbe: braun
 Hajszín: Szemszín:
 Geleg Thomas Flamm 2.2.1940. Pest
 Steier Johann Flamm 24.12.1941.

KÖNIGLICH SCHWEDISCHE GESANDTSCHAFT IN BUDAPEST



Unterschrift: *Alexander Flamm*
 Aláírás: *Alexander Flamm*

SCHWEDEN

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Bis Abreise steht der Obengenannte und seine Wohnung unter dem Schutz der Kgl. Schwedischen Gesandtschaft in Budapest.

Gültigkeit: erlischt 14 Tage nach Einreise nach Schweden.

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Elutazásáig fentnevezett és lakása a budapesti Svéd Kir. Követség oltalma alatt áll.

Érvényét veszti a Svédországba való megérkezéstől számított tizenegyedik napon.

Reiseberechtigung nur gemeinsam mit dem Kollektivpass. Einreisebewisum wird nur in dem Kollektivpass eingetragen.

Budapest, den 27. August



KÖNIGLICH SCHWEDISCHE GESANDTSCHAFT
SVÉD KIRÁLYI KÖVETSÉG

Alexander Flamm
Vgl. Schwedischer Gesandte

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Raoul Wallenberg's class photo from Stockholm, circa 1921.

Look closely
at this faded school picture from Sweden.

Find the student whose number is 19
and match 19 to his signature.
Read it aloud. Let it echo.

19
Raoul Wallenberg.

It's a name for the world to remember.

Now you,
and others,
can become the storytellers
of this boy's remarkable life . . .

SWEDEN



1912–1922

Early one Sunday
in August of 1912,
a baby was born near Stockholm, Sweden,
on the island of Lidingö.

His grandmother Wising's summer house,
called Kappsta,
is no longer there.



Kappsta, the birthplace of
Raoul Wallenberg.

All that is left today
is an old foundation
open to the sky . . .



Foundation of Kappsta. The
summer house was destroyed
by fire in the 1930s.



Raoul as a baby.

and a path that winds to the Baltic Sea.
Nearby
in a stand of beech trees
lie the silent stones of Viking graves.

This Swedish boy,
born on an island,
would grow up
to become a hero to many.

His name was Raoul Wallenberg . . .



Raoul's father, Raoul Oscar
Wallenberg, circa 1911.

In 1912,
Wallenberg
was a famous family name in Sweden.
The Wallenbergs were bankers . . .
builders of industry . . .
diplomats . . .
and artists.
They took pride in the Swedish flag
and used their talents
and their wealth
in quiet ways.

The baby's mother, Maj,
named him Raoul Gustaf Wallenberg
after her husband,
a handsome officer in Sweden's navy.
But little Raoul would never know his father,
who died of cancer
three months before his son was born.

Maj Wallenberg,
a widow at age twenty,
hid her sadness and hung five small pictures
painted by her husband
on the walls of the baby's nursery at Kappsta.
She wanted her son to see the beauty in the world,
and the joy.



Raoul and his mother, Maj.

Raoul's homeland, in the north of Europe,
reached beyond the Arctic Circle.
Stockholm, its capital,
was nearly seven hundred years old,
built on fourteen islands.
Nearby in the Baltic was an archipelago,
one of the largest in the world:
24,000 more islands . . . and skerries with heather,
swept by the wind.



During the long Swedish winters,
thick ice locked in the boats against Stockholm's quays,
and in midwinter
there were only about six hours of light each day.
In spring and summer,
the city's gold spires gleamed in the sunshine
and its gardens were full of flowers.



An aerial view of Stockholm,
Sweden.

After the loss of her husband
and the birth of her son,
in late 1912,
Maj had another change in her life:
her beloved father, Per Wising,
passed away.
Now Maj's mother was also a widow.

Maj Wallenberg looked to the future.
She moved from Kappsta
to central Stockholm
and there she read stories to young Raoul
in her flat at 7–9 Linnégatan,
or took him by the hand
to explore the trees and paths in the Humlegården,
half a block from their apartment.



Childhood photos of Raoul.

Always,
he was her treasure.

Raoul's other grandfather,
Gustaf Oscar Wallenberg,
was to become an important guide
in the boy's life.

This grandfather was a man of bold ideas.

He'd already built a train tunnel,
a spa hotel near Saltsjöbaden,
and his own villa by the sea.

Now Gustaf lived in Tokyo
and was Sweden's minister to Japan.

He wrote letters of counsel to Maj in Stockholm,
and when Raoul was almost four,

Gustaf and his wife, Annie,
returned home to meet their grandson.

Raoul called Gustaf "*Farfar*,"
the Swedish name for grandfather.

Raoul with his
grandfather, circa
1916.



Raoul with his
mother, Maj, in
Stockholm.



Farfar was old, with his pocket watch
and silvery beard,
and Raoul was young.
But they were both Wallenbergs.
This was their strong bond.

In 1918,
when her son was six,
Maj remarried . . . to Fredrik von Dardel.
Now Raoul had a father in his life,
and Mr. von Dardel was like a *true* father.
Three weeks after Raoul's seventh birthday,
his brother,
Guy von Dardel,
was born.



And two years later, in 1921,
little Nina,
on an early March day.

On the fourth floor of 43 Riddargatan,
the “Street of the Knight,”
the von Dardel home echoed with the roar of a lion
or the chirping of birds,
for Raoul was an actor who could mimic animals
as well as the voices of people.
Nina and Guy were his loyal audience,
and as the oldest child in the family,
Raoul gave them both his patience and his love.

The apartment home of the von
Dardel family in Stockholm.



From his bedroom window high above the street,
Raoul could point to the stars on clear Swedish nights
and by day,
to the small statue that gave Riddargatan its name.



A statue on the street in Stockholm
where Raoul grew up.

He loved books, and discovering new facts,
and by his tenth birthday
Raoul had read every volume of the *Nordiska Encyclopedia*.

Raoul was also an artist . . .

like the father he'd been named for.

When he painted a picture of a horse

with unusual hues,

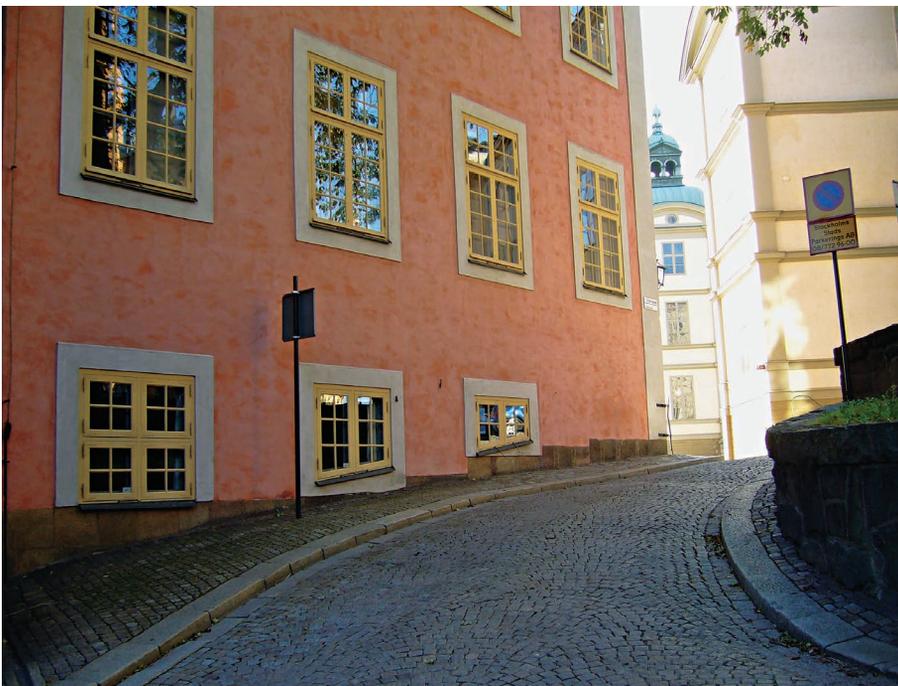
and gave it to Guy,

10 his family discovered that Raoul was colorblind.

But he never stopped drawing,
and his school papers were filled with scribbles and sketches.

With a good ear for music
and a fine voice as well,
Raoul joined the select boys' choir
of a famous Stockholm church.
He already knew stories from the Bible;
in the choir he sang soaring hymns.

Sweden's capital was growing with the new century
and its streets were busy with building and trade.
After school
Raoul often stopped to study an ancient doorway,
or tracked mud home from construction sites,
where he had asked carpenters and bricklayers
a dozen questions about their craft.



A street on Gamla Stan.

SWEDEN

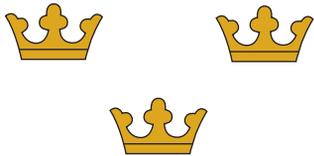
Indeed,
young Raoul Wallenberg stood apart from his classmates
in his constant curiosity.
He wanted to know how the world worked,
and he felt life in a deep way.

During his childhood years,
Raoul and his school friend Rolf af Klintberg
flew kites in the Baltic breezes
or bicycled through the King's Park,
the Kungsträdgården,
on their way to the harbor,
where Raoul could name every kind of foreign ship.
Sweden's king and queen lived at the Royal Palace
on Gamla Stan,
an island with a warren of medieval streets.
A few bridges away,
across the shimmering water,
was the new Stadshuset, the city hall.

Buildings on the waterfront in Gamla Stan, Stockholm, Sweden.



From its handsome brick tower,
Raoul could look down on a paint box of houses and boats.
Above him,
three gold crowns, the symbol for Sweden,
shone in the sun.



Stockholm.

This was the watery city where Raoul Wallenberg grew up . . .
and where white sails dotted the horizon
on blue sky days.



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