King of Children
The Life and Death of Janusz Korczak

Betty Jean Lifton
Introductions by Elie Wiesel; Curren Warf and Alison A. Eddy

• As featured in the major motion picture The Zookeeper’s Wife
• Korczak gave his life to continue protecting the children in his care

This is the tragic story of Janusz Korczak (as featured in the major motion picture The Zookeeper’s Wife), who chose to perish in Treblinka rather than abandon the Jewish orphans in his care.

Korczak comes alive in this acclaimed biography by Betty Jean Lifton as the first known advocate of children’s rights in Poland, and the man known as a saviour of hundreds of orphans in the Warsaw ghetto.

A pediatrician, educator, and Polish Jew, Janusz Korczak introduced progressive orphanages serving both Jewish and Catholic children in Warsaw. Determined to shield children from the injustices of the adult world, he built orphanages into ‘just communities’ complete with parliaments and courts. Korczak also founded the first national children’s newspaper, testified on behalf of children in juvenile courts, and, through his writings, provided teachers and parents with a moral education.

Known throughout Europe as a Pied Piper of destitute children prior to the onslaught of World War Two, he assumed legendary status when on August 6, 1942, after refusing offers for his own safety, he defiantly led the orphans under his care in the Warsaw Ghetto to the trains that would take them to Treblinka.

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Vallentine Mitchell
publishers
NBN International
10 Thornbury Rd, Plymouth, PL6 7PP
01752 202 300
orders@nbinternational.com

920 NE 58th Avenue,
Suite 300
Portland
OR 97213-3796
800 944 6190
marketing@isbs.com

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