



Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family

Miep Gies , Alison Leslie Gold

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The reminiscences of Miep Gies, the woman who hid the Frank family in Amsterdam during the Second World War, presents a vivid story of life under Nazi occupation.

Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family Details

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From Reader Review Anne Frank Remembered: The Story of the Woman Who Helped to Hide the Frank Family for online ebook

Edwina Callan says

Simply fascinating, as I knew it would be.

Tears in my eyes as I read that Peter van Daan survived "The Auschwitz Death March"

(as did Elie Wiesel who documented that nightmare experience in the book "Night"),

only to die in Mauthausen on the same day that the camp was liberated by the Americans.

David P says

In the flurry of anniversaries of World War II one stands out, the 50th anniversary of the passing of Anne Frank, who died of typhus and hunger in Bergen Belsen, around March 1, 1945. The anniversary was marked by a special performance in Washington of "The Diary of Anne Frank", and Miep Gies came to attend, a stocky gray-haired Dutch lady of 86. Miep Gies was the one who helped sustain the Franks in their hiding place, and who later, after the Germans found out about the "Secret Annex" and raided it, scooped up Anne's diary and notes, to save them for posterity. This is her story.

And some story it is. Of the many nations occupied by the Nazis, the Dutch earned an unequalled reputation for integrity, decency and heroism, and Miep's tale goes a long way towards explaining how and why it happened. It is much more than a spin-off of the diary of Anne Frank, though it does clarify some facets of Anne's story, too. Rather, it is the personal account of a decent young woman, caught up in a hateful occupation and determined to resist it.

It is story of kindness in the face of cruel oppression. Kindness was what brought Miep to Holland in the first place, the 10-year old daughter of a poor Vienna family, taken in as a foster child by a kind Dutch family during the hunger years that followed WW I. Raised in Holland, she was again treated kindly by Otto Frank, a refugee businessman who successfully rebuilt his business in Holland. But when the Nazis arrived, life turned grim--Jews were deported, Jews and also some Christians were driven into hiding, and food became increasingly scarce, until in the end even the Dutch were starving.

Miep's spirit prevailed through it all. This is a simply written book, clear and unencumbered, and it deserves to be remembered as long as Anne Frank's is. There was only one Anne Frank, yet we should never forget more than twenty thousand brave Dutch men and women, who risked their lives (and sometimes lost them) trying to hide Jews. Miep Gies speaks for them all.

Postscript

The diary of Anne Frank touches anyone reading it. It is a story most young people should know--but if exposed to it too early, it may well frighten them more than anything else. When should they be told? All depends on the child's personality and maturity, and no answer fits all cases. However, recently (2009) I found a short illustrated book about Anne Frank, aimed specifically at young readers, and it may be best if they read it first.

The book, which first appeared in 2004, is "Anne Frank--a photographic story of a life" by Kem Knapp Sawyer, 127 pp., published by DK books, New York. It is indeed "the story of a life," and covers much more

than the diary--telling about Anne's family and its life before going into hiding, clarifying what went on in "the secret annex," as well as what happened after the family was arrested. Grown-up readers not familiar with some of that may find this an interesting and touching story, too.

Miep Gies died January 11, 2010.

Doreen Petersen says

What a moving and inspirational book. A definite must read for all.

Chimera says

This is a book I discovered as a teenager and which soon became one of my all time favourites. Enthralled like so many others by Anne Frank's diary, I was even more fascinated by Miep Gies's account. So when the French television aired a new film version of the Diary a few weeks ago I hurriedly ordered a copy of Anne Frank Remembered on Amazon and dug into it as soon as it arrived.

Unfortunately I was at first disappointed as I found it difficult to get into. Having just finished *The Kite Runner*, a highly compelling read with which it is difficult to compete, was certainly partly to blame. But mostly I was surprised by the style of Miep's account which I hadn't remembered well. Having written it (shadow written with Alison Leslie Gold actually) as an old woman, she obviously didn't remember everything. But she did have many very detailed memories of incidents and episodes. As a result, some parts of her book are more like a collection of memories than a continuous account. A paragraph might get into a very detailed description of an apparently insignificant incident and the next jump to another subject, leaving the reader to wonder where she is going.

At first therefore I struggled to remember what had kept me so enthralled as a young girl. But then, as the book progressed and I got more and more absorbed into it, I found that all these recollections connected to paint a most vivid and sharp image of those times: the fear, tragedies and losses; the small miracles; the every day acts of bravery of those who fought against the Nazis with their meagre means; the short moments of joyous reprieve when a cup of real coffee, or a whole tray of strawberries, was found; the moments of despair and those of hope... Mostly, it shows the absurdity of those times when "thieves were safe but Jews were not" : how far the hatred went, how much the people changed, how deep everyone fell... and how despite all this life went on, those who had a job continued to go to work everyday and the Frank business ran all through the war.

In her diary Anne paints a unique picture of what it was like to grow up as a hidden Jewish young girl. Miep shows the rest. Once a refugee in the Netherlands, where she was sent by her Austrian family after WW1 (to be fed and safe), she witnessed how her adoptive country first became a safe haven for German Jews when Hitler came to power, before falling as well into his hands. And she tells us of the Frank's journey from their arrival in Amsterdam in 1933 to Otto's life after the war.

All in all, I find it to be an amazing read and a great companion to Anne's diary and would highly recommend it!

Brenda says

I read *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank some time ago, and purchased this one last year. I am so glad I have finally read it...it gives the other perspective completely on this heart-breaking story.

From the World Socialist Web Site on her death at age 101 – 15.2.1909 – 10.1.2010

<http://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2010/...>

“Meip Gies was born February 15, 1909, as Hermine Santrouschitz in Vienna. Her impoverished parents were barely able to feed their daughter due to the economic conditions, and sent her to the Netherlands in 1922 as part of an aid project. Her host family, who went on to adopt Hermine, gave her the nickname Miep.

In 1933, the young woman took up a job as an office assistant in the spice business of Otto Frank, who had emigrated to the Netherlands with his family following the Nazi takeover. After refusing to join a Nazi women’s organization in 1941, Miep only escaped deportation to Austria by marrying her Dutch friend Jan Gies.”

Meip’s new husband (named Henk in the books for the purpose of privacy) and Meip were not Jews, so therefore were supposedly protected from persecution. But the horrors the Nazis landed on most people (not just the Jews) in their little village after the occupation of the Netherlands in 1940 was shattering. Once Otto Frank and his family went into hiding on 5th July 1942, Meip, Henk and four others of Otto’s staff, were the ones totally in charge of the family and their safety; they provided food, news, books, blank paper for Anne and Margot, and cheerfulness in the face of their isolation...over the period of the next two years, the only faces the Frank family, plus another family also in hiding with them, saw, were Meip’s and Henk’s.

The incredible courage displayed by Meip and Henk over extreme diversity is amazing. The outrage they felt at the treatment their friends and the thousands of others, caused them to take many risks with their own safety, but with the end in sight, and the Allies not far away, the hidden families were betrayed by an unknown person for a total of only 60 guildens...a very small amount!

I highly recommend this book, written by a brave human being who lived a long and fulfilling life...only passing away in January of 2010. The atrocities of the German Nazis will hopefully never be repeated!

Correen says

The story as told by Miep Gies adds context and understanding to *The Diary Anne Frank*. I found it very satisfying to hear of Miep’s fondness for Anne and her entire family including the fact that Otto Frank came to live with Miep and her husband after the war. As I read the diary years ago, I wondered what was happening among their friends as they helped and felt deep concern for the eight persons in the attic. Miep tells not only that but also the experience she and her husband in the underground, their interactions with Nazis and their struggle to find food for themselves and others. Miep tells the story in a careful, considerate, and credible manner. I was touched by her precision and her courage.

Neil Coulter says

I am not a hero. I stand at the end of the long, long line of good Dutch people who did what I did or more—much more—during those dark and terrible times years ago, but always like yesterday in the hearts of those of us who bear witness. Never a day goes by that I do not think of what happened then. . . . I willingly did what I could to help. My husband did as well. It was not enough. There is nothing special about me. . . . I was only willing to do what was asked of me and what seemed necessary at the time. . . . My story is a story of very ordinary people during extraordinarily terrible times. Times the like of which I hope with all my heart will never, never come again. It is for all of us ordinary people all over the world to see to it that they do not. (11-12)

This autobiography by Miep Gies is quietly amazing. It is an excellent companion to Anne Frank's diary. The narrative in Gies's memoir is not directly linked to particular days Anne wrote about, but readers familiar with the diary will see some clear connections.

One of the things that's special about Gies's book is how it fills out the picture of what was happening when the Franks and others were in hiding. Reading only Anne's diary, one can get the feeling that life outside of the Annex was going on as normal. But Gies shows the increasing pressure that everyone in Amsterdam was under in those years. The details from Gies's story are overwhelming, and the last 50 pages of her book are hard to put down.

Of course, the biggest gap that Gies fills is the one that Anne's diary couldn't: What happened on that day? It's gripping, terrifying, and heartbreaking.

For me, the most impressive aspect of this story is what Gies summarizes in the quote above, from the preface to the book: that she was an ordinary person making the best choices she could in dark times. I love seeing Gies's character as she steadily pushes forward, speaking and taking action based on compassion. The same is true of her husband, Henk, who must also have been an incredible person. I was grateful for this reminder, through Miep's story, that who we become is based on those little choices we make every day. May I become a compassionate, wise person through my daily choices.

Jenny says

I really enjoyed getting this backstory on the Frank family and their friends. Haunting read, but anything concerning Anne Frank always is.

Sarah Marie says

Anne Frank Remembered by Miep Gies & Alison Leslie Gold
Narrated by: Barbara Rosenblat

5 stars

The story of Anne Frank has been told for many decades and is one that resonates with a lot of young people. Anne's story of survival in the Annex of her father's business along with her family, another family, and a doctor is famous for being a story of growth and hope. The world outside of the small prison keeping the Franks safe was horrifying and wrought with murder, starvation, and abuse. Miep Gies was one of the people who helped hide the Franks in the Annex and this is her story. We follow Miep as a young girl in Vienna, her love for the Dutch, her journey to become an official Dutch citizen during the Nazi regime, her relationship with the Franks (before, during, and after the war), her plight to feed the Franks and retain enough food for them as well as her and her husband, and the fear that lurked in her heart for the Franks and countless others she helped hide or knew were in hiding. I'm going to keep this review short because it's a nonfiction narrative I find those incredibly hard to review. This audiobook is fantastic. Rosenblat does a stellar job of capturing the emotions of Miep and those around her. It is important to note that this story will probably break your heart. Towards the end, I found myself crying a lot. My heart completely breaks for these people and the plights that were dealing with in the Annex and after in the camps. This story is just as important as Anne's because we are seeing the work that went into hiding these people from the Nazi Regime and the horrors of concentration and death camps. This novel is filled with sorrow and I will admit it made me quite depressed, but it also filled me with hope for humanity. Miep Gies never once saw herself as a hero, she saw herself as someone trying to save her dear friends' lives and that to me makes her one of the most heroic people in history. Her deep love for the Franks shined through this story and I was moved to laughter and to tears. This is a novel that I think everyone should read alongside *The Diary of a Young Girl*. It is important not only to history, but in inspiring people to put others before themselves.

Whimsical Writing Scale: 5

Character Scale: 5

Plotastic Scale: 5

Narration Scale: 5

Cover Thoughts: The cover is nice, but it's weird to critique the portrait of a young girl who changed the world.

Oziel Bispo says

Miep foi uma das pessoas que mais ajudou os moradores do anexo secreto onde Anne Frank ficou escondida. Ela além de trabalhar normalmente no escritório onde ficava o esconderijo, fazia o impossível para conseguir comida e tudo que os moradores escondidos precisavam. Seu esposo também através de um grupo secreto ajudava com cupons de racionamento que eram obtidos no mercado negro e eram trocados por alimentos. Neste livro Miep Gies conta sua história, tudo o que viveu naquela época sombria de guerra. Ela participou de todos os eventos e fatos importantes relacionados à Anne Frank; Esteve quando a família Frank foi para o esconderijo, foi ela que foi rendida no dia que a família Frank foi presa, Foi Miep que recolheu e guardou o Diário de Anne Frank .

Um livro magistral dessa heroína que morreu recentemente com mais de 100 anos !!!

Terri Lynn says

This is one of those books that both breaks your heart and uplifts you at the same time. Miep Gies does not see herself and her husband as "heroes" but they most certainly are. They are the couple who helped hide Otto Franks' family in Holland during World War 2. His daughter Anne did not survive the Nazi concentration camp but her diary, her thoughts, her words, and her heart will live forever. It was through the actions of Miep Gies who first hid the Franks and then rescued and saved Anne's diary and later gave it to her father Otto that we know Anne's deepest, more heartfelt thoughts.

This book documents the story of Anne from just before she went into hiding until her death and even beyond when Otto Frank returned to live with Miep and her husband and received the now-famous diary. I could feel my heart pounding with fear as Miep took me back to those dangerous times and she herself was almost arrested and possibly executed for harboring Jews.

Please read this book. It is something that will remind you that some people on this planet are not selfish. There are compassionate people who will risk their lives for others and to do the right thing. They are not about profit and selfishness but about love for others and truly live out their love. Miep Gies is one of those people.

Randy says

"I am not a hero. I stand at the end of the long, long line of good Dutch people who did what I did or more—much more—during those dark and terrible times years ago, but always like yesterday in the hearts of those of us who bear witness. Never a day goes by that I do not think of what happened then.

More than twenty thousand Dutch people helped to hide Jews and others in need of hiding during those years. I willingly did what I could to help. My husband did as well. It was not enough." (from the prologue.)

This is not a new book, but one of those to which I return. I even like holding it in my hands and just looking at the name of the woman whose journey it reveals: Miep Gies.

Miep is the woman who, with her husband Jan Gies, helped hide Anne Frank from the Nazis. Like so many young Jewish girls growing up I was more than a little obsessed with stories from the Holocaust; especially The Diary of Anne Frank. At the time she wrote in her diary, she was probably only a bit older than I was at the time I read the book, so, of course, I walked in her shoes. It certainly didn't seem long enough ago to not think about her as me, and me as her.

Was there a Jewish child growing up anywhere in the world who didn't think what if? Some, I imagine, averted their thoughts from the events of WWII and pretended it was all as far away as the Roman Empire. Others, went through life compulsively reading about it, breathing the lives of those who'd lived through it and those who had lost their lives.

On top of the obvious victims, were the other victims—those who were forced to witness the atrocity, those who participated. After visiting the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC, and I paraphrase here, what my husband and I remembered most deeply, were the audio-taped words of a survivor. In speaking about his

experience in a concentration camp, he related a story of being berated by a fellow internee for praying.

“Why are you thanking God?” he was asked.

“I am thanking him for not making me him,” the man said, pointing to a guard.

It is horror without relief to have been a slave, a concentration camp internee, and a victim in Darfur. It is another horror, to have been the victimizer.

Books like this, they always make me wonder, given the circumstances, on which side would I end up? We read the books, we watch the movies, and we assume we'd have the courage of the righteous, but I believe it bears remembering how brave people like Miep Gies had to be, and to remember all the Miep and Jans out there today. I pray that given the circumstances, we'd follow their path.

Scott says

Absolutely riveting autobiographical account of Miep Gies, the woman who (along with her husband, Jan) kept Anne Frank and her family in her attic during WWII in Amsterdam. From start to finish, this is very absorbing.

You'll also learn about Gies' life before the Franks came to her. This really helps to establish the setting of the story we're all familiar with in the attic. It's a great and moving narrative on its own, yet it also works to bring greater richness and atmosphere to Anne's diary. Reading both this and her diary together would be ideal as each account feeds into each other very effectively.

It's amazing that we're able to see the other side of Anne's diary told in this way. This book is a rare occasion to witness true bravery and compassion to highlight an already well-known series of events known for their humanity.

If you haven't read Anne's diary, read it before this one. It's absolutely recommended, as much as the original diary is.

Amanda Yeargin says

I decided to read Anne Frank as an independent reading book. This book is basically about a girl named Anne and she has to go into hiding with her family. She is struggling to survive. So if you want to find out more you should read this book. She has an external conflict with the Nazi's because she is hiding from them and is sort of fighting against them because by them hiding they aren't succeeding in catching all the people. I have an text-to-self connection. I had a relative that probably got captured in the war. That relative was Russian and he got captured in Russia. It was pretty sad. I found out recently and my aunt found it out because the relative didn't send any more letter during the war. So after the war she still didn't get any letters so probably that person died in the war.

I give this book ***** stars. I gave this book 5 stars because it really showed depth. It told her feelings and the details. It is a shame that these people died. So it really explained how this war was. I suggest this book to

people who are interested in the Holocaust.

Jeanette "Astute Crabbist" says

Wow! This story will teach you everything you need to know about true friendship, loyalty, and fortitude. It's better than any novel of World War II.

Chris says

If a person has heard Miep Gies speak, this book is exactly like her speech. She may have a co-author, but her voice comes through loud and clear.

Like the documentary about Anne Frank, this book does much in dispelling some of the myths that surround the Frank family and their associates. In many ways, Otto and Anne Frank still dominate the book. In part, this is because Gies had a closer relationship to Mr. Frank, and in part because of the popularity of Anne Frank's diary. Gies, however, brings a different perspective to several of the attic residents. The Van Dannels become more just Anne's fighting couple and are shown to be as intelligent and as generous as the Franks. Gies points out that Anne's diary was lucky enough to survive, while Margot's was not. She shows that Edith Frank was willing, encouraged, her husband and children to escape to America, even if it meant leaving her behind.

Gies expresses regret over how some of the residents, in particular Dussel, were portrayed in various film versions.

Additionally, Gies presents a good look at Amsterdam and the Netherlands during the war. From the mention of Rotterdam's destruction at the bombs of the Germans to Radio Orange to the struggle to find food, Gies paints a picture of life without getting bogged down in details. Even today, one can still see the Dutch anger at the Germans as evidenced by the party Rotterdam threw when Amsterdam's Ajax beat a German team for the Champions League crown.

The reader is also given examples of the fates of other Jewish residents, some who managed to go into hiding, some who did not. Gies and her husband, Jan (Henk), were far more heroic than any read of the diary knows.

There is no hubris in the story, and one has to wonder if Gies wrote because of her desire to set the record straight and to prove to all the slanderers that the diary recorded real life. The epilogue is one of the few places where she really sounds angry about those people.

Recently, historians have pointed out that stories such as Gies' make it sound as if the Dutch were far more subversive and saved more Jews than they actually did. Gies doesn't claim to speak for her country. In fact, she makes it quite clear that there was a large amount of betrayal going on, especially when food became hard to get. She mentions problems about what to do when someone in hiding dies.

While she never states the fact that she didn't have a child during the war, one wonders if the childless status of Gies and her husband made it easier for them to risk helping people. She never says, but the question hangs in the shadows of some passages.

This isn't to minimize her bravery or the bravery of the other helpers who did so much because it was the right thing to do. It simply, like the book, makes us consider the wider picture.

Negin says

This is an amazing book by Miep Gies. It was Miep and her husband who helped to hide the Frank family during WWII, and who provided food and comfort to them. It was heartbreaking and powerful. I admire the author and her husband – what brave heroes they were!

Maddie says

Ever since I was a little girl, I've had a fascination with European history. In particular, the first and second world wars interested me to no end. When I was nine years old, I was first introduced to the Holocaust in my fourth grade class. Every week, we were required to read a story out of an anthology and would study that story. These were sometimes short stories, sometimes excerpts from novels, and sometimes a retelling of historical events (I could recall that earlier that year we read about the first successful open heart surgery in the same anthology). It was through this collection of stories that I first read about Anne Frank, taken from the last diary entries she wrote before going into hiding and the first she wrote while there. The story didn't stick with me much until the following year, when I spotted *The Diary of a Young Girl* in our monthly book orders. I requested a copy from my mother and devoured it upon its arrival.

At the age of ten, I was obsessed with Anne Frank and her story. I spent countless hours researching the Holocaust and what happened to Anne and her family. I slowed down our family computer by downloading every picture of Anne I could find online and bookmarking any website that had new information about my new favorite person. It was because of Anne and her diary that I found my own love of writing, and decided shortly after I started reading the diary that I wanted to be a novelist (which remains to this day my biggest life goal and dream). From the ages of ten to fourteen, Anne Frank ruled my life.

It must have been around this time that I received a copy of Miep Gies' story. I never read it until this year, when somehow, the story of Anne Frank and the Holocaust popped back into my head. I found this book setting dejectedly on my bookshelf.

For anyone thinking about reading this book, be forewarned: it touches upon a lot of what Anne already covered in her diary. I feel odd putting historical events in spoiler warning tags, but just in case, (view spoiler) But there are parts detailing Miep's own story, about how she came to the Netherlands due to food shortages, just how she came to work for Otto Frank and how the hiding plan was introduced to her; how she met her husband, a story of her hiding people in her own home besides the eight in the famous Secret Annex, and yes, details of the inevitable arrest and following events.

We don't gain a lot of Anne's story in this, so the title was a bit misleading. However, Miep does tell a story that, to people interested in the history, is endlessly fascinating to read about. The story is of course sad, and it did bring tears to my eyes a couple times. Miep had fears that even Anne didn't dare mention in her diary. It was haunting to read about the night that Miep spent in the hiding place with the Franks, as well as when she wrote about people in other hiding places who died before they could be freed.

Miep's story is a haunting tribute to one of the most atrocious historical events that has ever occurred. If you are at all interested in history or in the story of Anne Frank, it is a must read. There's not a lot to be gained about Anne, but it is worth a read. It offers a unique perspective of what happened on the Prinsengracht canal and elsewhere.

One last note, in response to other reviews that I have read of Miep's story:

Someone said that all Miep was concerned about during the early days of the war was getting married. I don't think that this is actually a fair assessment of Miep's desire to get married to her husband. In fact, I'd venture to say that this person actually didn't read the story at all. This was the early days of the war, when people just didn't know what was going to happen to them. They had no idea what was going to transpire in just a few short years. Of course people thought about themselves. Also, if Miep and Jan (referred to as Henk in Anne's diary and Miep's story) didn't get married, she would have been forced to leave the Netherlands and return to Austria, which she had already said didn't feel like home to her anymore. Tell me how much you'd like it if you were being forcibly removed from your home country and shipped somewhere else, and you could stop it, but the way to stop it was immensely difficult? I'd wager that you probably wouldn't be able to think of much else for a while.

Another issue that I've seen people take with Miep's story is that she focuses solely on the persecution of the Jews during the war, and not the other groups targeted by Hitler. Now, I know that there were others who were persecuted during the war and that the Jews were not the only targets of the Nazis. However, Anne Frank's diary only focuses on the Jewish persecution as well, which makes me wonder if the other groups that were targeted were targeted on such a broad scale or as publicly. I don't know if there were laws against the other groups. I don't know if there was public opposition to them the way that there was to the Jews. I really don't know if Miep was ever aware until after the war that Hitler wasn't just focused on Jews. Let's also make another thing clear: I've read other personal accounts of the Holocaust, and the person who wrote said account typically only focuses on whatever group they are attached to. Night is the first example coming to mind, and though my memories of Elie Wiesel's book aren't exceptionally clear, I do know that Wiesel was imprisoned in the concentration camps because he was Jewish. I am nearly positive that most of the things he wrote about focused on the persecution of other Jews.

Miep is famous because she helped hide nine people throughout the war, and she very famously helped one person in particular: Anne Frank. All nine of the people that she helped happened to be Jewish. Her boss was Jewish. The woman she rented her apartment from was Jewish. Her dentist was Jewish. To me, it only makes sense that she writes about the Jewish suffering, because that was what she witnessed the most.

All in all, a remarkable account of a horrible event.

Megan says

I recently reread, "The Diary of Anne Frank" and while it is a very moving and wonderful journal it left me with so many questions about how the hiding place really worked out for so many months. The answer is Miep Gies. Now she was an amazing woman. Vienna born and Dutch by marriage she was a good friend to the Frank family and worked in Otto Frank's pectin store front for many years before they went into hiding. She shopped and came for visits and offered comfort and support to the people in the annex daily. Some days she would have to shop for hours before she found enough food with all the shortages and rationing to feed the group. Her husband Henk was a member of the resistance party and they had a Jew hiding in their own

apartment rooms too. I was just amazed at how devoted she (and the few other office workers who knew) was to those in her care. The business was changed into one of the office workers names so that it could continue to flourish even during the war. Mr. Frank would still make plans and decisions from the annex and Anne and Margot would come down at night and do office work for Miep and Elli (and office girl). Miep talks about the day the whole group was arrested and how she and Henk even twenty plus years later still observed a day of silence in memory of their friends. Miep went to Nazi headquarters and met with the highest ranked Nazi available and asked to buy the Franks back with no luck right after they were arrested. When Mr. Frank was released he lived with Miep, Henk, and their son Paul for eight years before he moved and remarried. During this time he was distributing Anne's diary which Miep had illegally recovered from the annex the day they were arrested. She kept all the pages in an unlocked drawer in her office desk and never looked at them. She safely returned them to Mr. Frank the day he was sent word that Anne and Margot had died in the prison camp. Such an inspiring woman and book.

Monica says

Audiobook. Enjoyed this very much. Excellent narrator. Anne Frank's familiar story told from the rescuer's viewpoint. I found most interesting the lives of the Dutch during the Nazi occupation, as I already knew the story of the Franks. This didn't add much to that knowledge, other than Meip's impressions of the family. She's mortified, for example, that the dentist is depicted in the play and movies as a difficult character. She insists he wasn't anything like those characterizations. She defends the family from criticism at every turn. Of course, she downplays her own courage in sheltering not only the Franks, but several others in hiding as well. She and her husband even hid a boy avoiding deportation for labor in Germany in their own home for awhile, and they sheltered other Jews as well. After her husband's death, she learned that he had been heavily involved in the Resistance, and probably saved many more people, both Jewish and Dutch.

There is a documentary film by the same name that interviews Meip herself, and others. I'd love to see that. All in all, very interesting, an excellent audiobook, highly recommended for those interested in the subject.
