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## World War II Novel Tells True Story of Refugee from Nazi Germany.

Herman Lang is swept along by the gathering storm of World War II, his life changed forever.

Laguna Beach, California, March 8, 2015 — World War II novel, *Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy* was released by publisher, Pacific Bookworks, last weekend.

On a cold November morning in 1938, Herman watches in horror as his cousin is arrested. He realizes it is past time to flee Germany, a decision that catapults him from one adventure to another, his life changed forever by the gathering storm of world events. Part coming of age story, part immigrant tale, part World War II adventure, *Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy*, written by Kathryn Lang-Slattery, was inspired by her uncle's true story.

Born during World War II and raised in 1950s Laguna Beach, Kathryn Lang-Slattery enjoyed a childhood filled with reading, drawing, and long days at the beach. She holds a BFA from UCLA and has been published in several highly rated magazines for the youth market, including *Spider*, *Ladybug*, *Jack and Jill*, *Boys' Life*, and *Faces*.

*Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy*, (Pacific Bookworks, 2015, ISBN 978-0-9906742-0-7, \$16.95, [www.klangslattery.com](http://www.klangslattery.com)) is Lang-Slattery's first adult novel. It is based on her uncle's World War II experiences as an interrogator of German prisoners of war, often working directly under General George Patton at his mobile headquarters. More than a decade spent researching, interviewing Ritchie Boys, and turning the true story of her uncle into fiction became an odyssey of discovery. "I wanted to tell his story," she says, "because it was different from any other Holocaust story I had read. The young Jewish hero is not a victim, but a young man who gradually grows from a frightened and frustrated teenager, looking for a place to belong, into a confident US Army intelligence officer who struggles with the conflicting emotions of hate and forgiveness."

As a child, Kathryn knew little of her father's family story other than his childhood in Germany and sudden emigration to the United States in the mid-1930s. Then, at the age of seventeen, she discovered her father's Jewish heritage. This sparked an interest in World War II and the Holocaust. She read everything she could about these subjects. Ten years later, she finally met her father's brother, who lived in New York. "We had an immediate rapport," Kathryn explains, "and I began visiting him and his family as often as I could. Sometime in the early 1990s, I asked him about his wartime experiences. When I learned of his role as an interrogator of German prisoners and his later work as an investigator for the Nuremberg Trials, I knew I had to tell his story."

Lang-Slattery recorded hours of interviews with her uncle and other relatives, did extensive research, and finally met and talked to many Ritchie Boys (men, including her uncle, who were trained during World War II for US Army intelligence at Camp Ritchie, Maryland.) She has become an expert on many aspects of the Ritchie Boys of WWII and has dedicated her novel to these men.

For more information about the author, the book, or the Ritchie Boys, the author's web-site ([www.klangslattery.com](http://www.klangslattery.com)) is the place to go. Kathryn Lang-Slattery is available to give talks on the Ritchie Boys

or the process of turning fact into fiction. She can be contacted through her web-site contact page.

<http://www.klangslattery.com/biography>

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#### About the Author:



Kathryn Lang-Slattery, a published author of fiction and nonfiction for youth, became fascinated with her uncle's World War II stories and began taping his conversations in 1996. Soon she knew she had found a fascinating untold story of Jewish refugees who became silent heroes. More than a decade spent researching, interviewing Ritchie Boys, and turning the true story of her uncle into fiction became an odyssey of discovery that resulted in the novel, *Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy*.

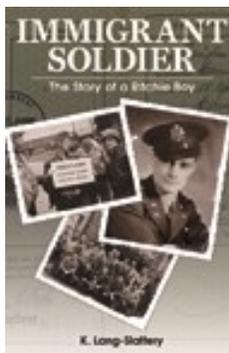
Born during World War II and raised in 1950s Southern California, Lang-Slattery studied art and English at UCLA, graduated with a BFA, and followed by graduate work in art and education at the University of the Americas in Mexico City. She has been published in several highly rated magazines for the youth market, including *Spider*, *Ladybug*, *Jack and Jill*, *Boys' Life*, and *Faces*.

Kathryn (who prefers to be called Katie) lives in Laguna Beach, only steps from her childhood home. She finds tranquillity simply by looking out the large windows of her living room toward a view of her garden and Aliso Peak beyond. Kathryn has become an expert on the secret heroes known as The Ritchie Boys and her experiences as an indie-publisher have given her insight into this long and complicated process. Always an educator, she is happy to share what she has learned along the way. You can contact Katie at [kt@klangslattery.com](mailto:kt@klangslattery.com) or visit her website at [www.klangslattery.com](http://www.klangslattery.com).

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#### About the Book:



*Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy* (Pacific Bookworks, 2015, ISBN 978-0-9906742-0-7, \$16.95, [www.klangslattery.com](http://www.klangslattery.com)), based on the true experiences of a refugee from Nazi Germany, combines a coming-of-age story with an immigrant tale and a World War II adventure. On a cold November morning in 1938, Herman watches in horror as his cousin is arrested. As a Jew, he realizes it is past time to flee Germany, a decision that catapults him from one adventure to another, his life changed forever by the gathering storm of world events. Gradually, Herman evolves from a frustrated teenager, looking for a place to belong, into a confident US Army intelligence officer who struggles with hate and forgiveness.

*Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy* is available for purchase at Laguna Beach Books, 949-494-4779, and through [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.ingramcontent.com](http://www.ingramcontent.com).

#### Review Copies and Media Interviews:

For a review copy of *Immigrant Soldier, The Story of a Ritchie Boy* or an interview with K. Lang-Slattery, please contact the author at 949-499-2574 or [klangslattery@outlook.com](mailto:klangslattery@outlook.com). When requesting a review copy, please provide street address.

If you would like to receive this information as a Word document, please let us know.