



'An extraordinary story of love, loss, and the power of friendship in the darkest time.'

**Jack Fairweather, Costa Prizewinning author of *The Volunteer***

'Hannah's story finally completes what Anne could not. Both heartbreaking and life-affirming, we need its truth now more than ever'

**Dr. Edith Eger, author of the international bestseller *The Choice***

'A profoundly moving account...an immensely valuable contribution not just to our knowledge of Anne Frank, but to the memory of the Holocaust itself'

**Dave Rich, author of *Everyday Hate***

'One of the most moving, profound and important books I've ever read'

**Rangan Chatterjee, author and podcaster**

## MY FRIEND, ANNE FRANK

**Hannah Pick-Goslar**

Publishing globally on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
(ahead of Anne Frank's birthday 12<sup>th</sup> June 1929)  
Rider Books, Hardback £22

**A never-before-seen memoir from Anne Frank's childhood best friend, sharing the final, untold first-hand account of her life**

In 1933, five-year-old Hannah Pick-Goslar and her family fled Nazi Germany to live in Amsterdam, where she soon struck up a friendship with a girl just like her: a precocious, outspoken and fun-loving girl named Anne Frank. For several blissful years, the girls were inseparable, enjoying carefree childhood games, sleepovers and treats in their neighbourhood of Rivierenbuurt.

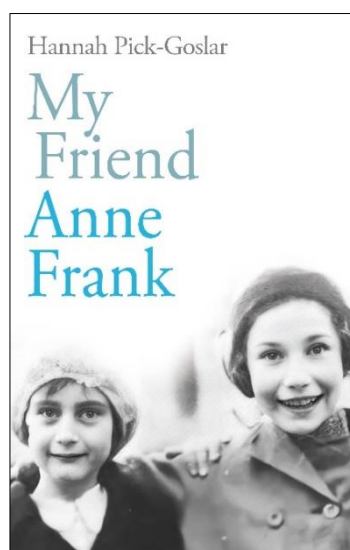
Then, in June 1942, as the Nazi occupation of Europe intensified, they were separated without warning. Anne and the Frank family seemingly vanished without a trace, leaving behind breakfast dishes in the sink and unmade beds. As Hannah puzzled over the fate of her friend, hoping she was safe, her own family's fate began to unfold: they were captured and taken to the Westerbork transit camp, before Hannah, her father, her younger sister Gabi and her grandparents were transported to Bergen-Belsen. Amid horrific conditions and surrounded by death, Hannah heard astonishing news about her dear friend. Desperate to save Anne who was weak and struggling to survive, Hannah risked her life to help her. In an incredible memoir of hope, strength and defiance, Hannah's story of survival against all odds is a testament to the enduring power of friendship, love and remembering.

The story of Anne Frank is of course one we all know, but here it's told from an entirely new perspective by Hannah, Anne's childhood best friend. The pre-war recollections of growing up next door to each other in Amsterdam, birthday parties at the Franks' and hot chocolates after school are juxtaposed with the creeping sensation of unease at political events, hushed conversations, and strained looks between adults. Hannah takes us through the disappearance of Anne and her family, wandering through their empty rooms imagining where Anne might be now, and her own eventual deportation to Bergen-Belsen where she is later briefly reunited with Anne in the camp. Beautifully and filmically told, it's impossible not to feel utterly moved by the strength, courage and resilience shown by two young girls who found themselves in the darkest of places.

**This is an incredible memoir of hope, strength and defiance** that will share the final untold portrait of Hannah's childhood friend Anne Frank as they navigated coming-of-age in Amsterdam.

*'At 10am on a Sunday morning, the 20th of June 1943, it is our turn. The dreaded pounding on the front door, an SS officer telling my father to open it... As we are walked out of our building, my eyes fix on Anne's building, and her door inside, closed and silent. Almost exactly a year ago I had knocked and knocked, wondering why there was no answer'*

**HANELI**



*'Last night, just as I was falling asleep, Hanneli suddenly appeared before me. I saw her dressed in rags, her face thin and worn. She looked at me with such sadness and reproach in her enormous eyes that I could read the message in them: "Oh Anne, why have you deserted me? Help me, help me, rescue me from this hell!"'*

**ANNE FRANK IN HER DIARY, NOVEMBER, 1943**



**Hannah Pick-Goslar**, known as Hanneli to her friends, was born in Berlin in 1928, as the eldest child of Jewish parents, Hans Goslar and Ruth Judith Klee. In 1933, after the election of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, the Goslars moved to Amsterdam, where Hannah attended the 6th Montessori School and became friends with a girl named Anne Frank. In Anne's diary, she recounts tales with Hannah, referring to her as 'Lies Goosens'. In 1943, Hannah, her father, her younger sister Gabi and her maternal grandparents were arrested and sent to Westerbork transit camp, before being sent on to Bergen-Belsen. Hannah survived 14 months until the camp was liberated in 1945. She emigrated to British

Mandate Palestine in 1947, shortly before it became modern-day Israel, and trained as a nurse. Once retired, Hannah enjoyed the company of her 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren. She passed away at home in Jerusalem on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022, just two weeks short of her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Hannah said of her book:

*"At a time when the world is taking a dark turn and we see millions of innocent people on the move and under attack, alongside a rise of antisemitic hate crimes and Holocaust denial, I feel my personal story takes on new urgency."*

**Dina Kraft** is a journalist based in Tel Aviv, where she lives with her family. A veteran foreign correspondent, she has written for *The Christian Science Monitor*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *JTA* among others. She is currently opinion editor for Israel's newspaper *Haaretz*'s English edition and is co-host of the podcast *Groundwork*.

**Relatives of Hannah are available for selective interviews.**

**Hannah's co-writer and key researcher for the book, Dina, is available for interview.**

**For all media enquiries please contact Ellie Crisp at Rider [Ecristp1@penguinrandomhouse.co.uk](mailto:Ecristp1@penguinrandomhouse.co.uk)**