

# REFLECTION

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**Extract taken from the book: 'Salonica. City of ghosts' by Mark Mazower, 2004, published by Harper Collins.**

## 1. The Genocide

Almost no Jew remained in Salonica. Fifteen or so were exempted because they were married to non-Jews – some well connected Greek men with Jewish wives had protested angrily to the Germans and managed to save their families – and up to one hundred were hiding with friends. Two women were helped by men they later married, another older woman was hidden by a Christian relative. An unknown number of children were adopted – five of these were returned by the city orphanage in 1947- despite stringent German prohibitions against doing this. All those left, faced a terrifying underground existence in the city itself as searches for hidden Jews continued until liberation. At least three Jewish men, married to Christian women, were later arrested and deported. Evgenia Abravanel, a Christian shopkeeper was blackmailed by one of her customers. 'She was taking my dresses, she was taking my robes' she recalled. 'Every time she wanted more money, so that she would not reveal that I have a Jewish husband and that I am hiding him' (438).

**Q: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE JEWISH CHILDREN THAT WERE LEFT BEHIND IN SALONICA?**

**COMMENTS/QUESTIONS**