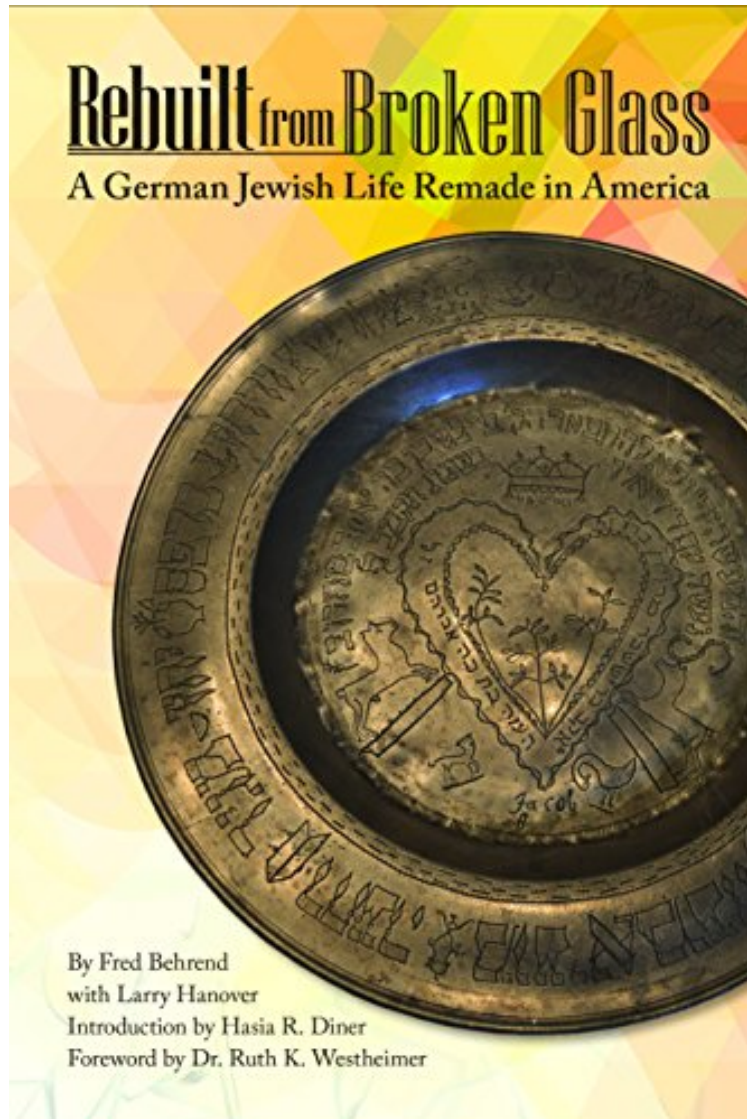


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## Rebuilt from Broken Glass: A German Jewish Life Remade in America (Shofar Supplements in Jewish Studies)

*Fred Behrend, Larry Hanover*  
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**Fred Behrend, Larry Hanover : Rebuilt from Broken Glass: A German Jewish Life Remade in America (Shofar Supplements in Jewish Studies)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rebuilt from Broken Glass: A German Jewish Life Remade in America (Shofar Supplements in Jewish Studies):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Wonderful True Story of a Jewish Family immigrating to the US right before WWII, escaping Hitler's "Final Solution."By ellen sue spicer-jacobsonFred Behrend's childhood ended with Kristallnacht, The Night of Broken Glass, the beginning of Hitler's "Jewish Solution." What followed was the nightmare of fear by all German Jews, who considered themselves Germans first and Jews second, but were not by the Nazis. Fred and his family fled to the US via Cuba and rebuilt their lives with thousands of others who escaped Hitler's Jewish Solution." The book is therefore not about the horrors of the Holocaust, but the personal story of an immigrant family's life in Washington Heights and the Upper West Side, sections of New York City where many German Jews fled to safety. The book chronicles Fred's fascinating life and also includes history of his family and of the war. Fred's memoir is written from his heart and from a viewpoint of optimism he learned from his father, who was interned for a few weeks in a German concentration camp before being forced to leave all behind in order to escape facing death, if his family stayed in Germany. Their difficult Exodus and resettlement to the strange, new world of the United States was not easy (anti-semitism did not disappear when the war ended), but living free in the US was their reward.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This wonderful book begins from the perspective of an innocent 12-year-old ...By Stephanie J Rathburn(8/18/17)...Tonight I had the privilege of attending a book signing event for "Rebuilt from Broken GlassA German Jewish Life Remade in America". This wonderful book begins from the perspective of an innocent 12-year-old boy (Fred Behrend) whose life gets turned upside down on November 9th and 10th, 1938 known as Kristallnacht Night of Broken Glass. In Germany, synagogues were burned, businesses destroyed, and Nazis pulled Jewish men out of their homes and put them in concentration camps.Fred Behrend's family loved their country. They were well respected in their community. His father was a highly-decorated World War I German veteran. Yet, that night a series of events began which took his father away to a concentration camp, then they ultimately moved on to new lives, first briefly in Cuba, then in the United States.When I read the book a few weeks ago, I found myself thankful that we live in the time and place that we do, but concerned about the growing boldness of racism and white supremacy in this country. Fast forward to the days post Charlottesville, and these concerns are much stronger.Fred and his family lost everything: family, friends, their money and business. They had to start their lives over in strange countries. But this story is ultimately a tale of exodus to freedom. Their lives were changed forever, but they had each other, their faith, and ultimately, their freedom.When speaking of his father, Fred said that he was more worried about the possibility that America might turn against its Jews in the way that Hitler did initially, through legal means. What happened in a highly intellectual, civil country like Germany only reinforced that point. To them, Germany was a more cultured place than the United States, and if it could happen in Germany, it could happen in the US too.My son is also 12 years old. As a parent, I can't imagine him ever having to suffer through what Fred did. I know I would do anything to protect him. And right now, I believe that means educating my children about the way people should treat each other and ensuring that goodness and love win out over hate.Thank you, Fred Behrend, for sharing your story with the world and Larry Hanover for doing such a wonderful job bringing the pages to life0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing StoryBy StacyI have met Fred a few times as I am friends with his daughter, and my daughter is friends with his granddaughter. When I heard Fred was writing a book about his escape from Germany and life in America I was eager to read it. Having just completed reading the his book, ( I waited until I was on vacation) all I can say is WOW. From the start to the finished I found myself captivated with each word. I highly recommend this book to anyone who understand what life was like before, during and after the Holocaust.

Symbolized by a three-hundred-year-old Seder plate, the religious life of Fred Behrend's family had centered largely around Passover and the tale of the Jewish people's exodus from tyranny. When the Nazis came to power, the wide-eyed boy and his family found themselves living a twentieth-century version of that exodus, escaping oppression and persecution in Germany for Cuba and ultimately a life of freedom and happiness in the United States. Behrend's childhood came to a crashing end with Kristallnacht (the Night of Broken Glass) and his father's harrowing internment at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. But he would not be defined by these harrowing circumstances. Behrend would go on to experience brushes with history involving the defeated Germans. By the age of twenty, he had run a POW camp full of Nazis, been an instructor in a program aimed at denazifying specially selected prisoners, and been assigned by the U.S. Army to watch over Wernher von Braun, the designer of the V-2 rocket that terrorized Europe and later chief architect of the Saturn V rocket that sent Americans to the moon. Behrend went from a sheltered life of wealth in a long-gone, old-world Germany, dwelling in the gilded compound once belonging to the manufacturer of the zeppelin airships, to a poor Jewish immigrant in New York City learning English from Humphrey Bogart films. Upon returning from service in the U.S. Army, he rose out of poverty, built a successful business in Manhattan, and returned to visit Germany a dozen times, giving him unique perspective into Germany's attempts to surmount its Nazi past.

Rebuilt From Broken Glass is, after all, not simply a memoir about family and faith, but a work of history, written by an eyewitness. (Kevin Riordan, The Philadelphia Inquirer 2017-08-11)About the AuthorBorn in 1926, Fritz Bernhard (now Fred) Behrend is a retired businessman and noted raconteur who frequently lectures on his experiences during

and after the Holocaust. Behrend was twelve when his family fled Germany after his father's arrest and detention in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in 1938. While serving in the U.S. Army, Behrend's skills as a translator led to positions overseeing captured soldiers being retrained to lead postwar Germany, as well as working with Wernher von Braun, the eventual catalyst for the U.S. space program. Behrend later owned a successful air conditioner and television business in New York. He lives in Voorhees, New Jersey. Larry Hanover was an award-winning reporter and editor for The Times of Trenton (New Jersey). He has written on subjects as diverse as the anthrax crisis after the 9/11 attacks, education, politics, and professional sports. Hanover currently works as an editor and writer and serves on Temple University's adjunct journalism faculty.