



Impact Statement

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Mother Bird, 2026

Digital Art

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Unsung Hero: Mother Matylda Getter

This is an interpretation of Mother Matylda Getter. As I read through the description of what she did, I felt very inspired but also amazed by the risks she was willing to take for others. Her kindness saved over 750 Jewish people during the Holocaust, and I wanted to draw her to bring her the recognition she deserves.

“All but my Life” is a memoir about a Holocaust survivor named Gerda Weissman that explains the hardships of the Holocaust. Gerda talks about the separation of her family; her older brother is deported for labor, while her mother and father are separated from her soon after. She stays in multiple camps throughout the Holocaust with her friend Ilse, and they end up walking the death march together. Unfortunately, the harsh conditions of the march were fatal, and it took Ilse’s life, once again leaving Gerda alone. This book highlights the hardships of the Holocaust and brings out how desperately the victims needed salvation. In some cases, Mother Matylda was that salvation. She saved multiple people from the Holocaust and even provided them with shelter and jobs. She knew that doing these things would put her in danger but decided to do them anyway, showing her heroism and strength.

One thing that really stood out to me is when Mother Matylda saved multiple children and provided orphanages for them. In this piece, Mother Matylda is leading a flock of doves to salvation. The doves serve as a metaphor to represent the innocent children that Mother Matylda is saving while wearing a calm, almost happy expression on her face. This is meant to show how she was able to reassure the children she saved, showing them how to feel safe in the face of danger. I wanted to end this statement with a quote from Mother Matylda. She says, “Whoever comes to our yard and asks for help, in the name of Christ we are not allowed to refuse.” Which shows her bravery and strength even during desperate times. Her heartwarming story truly touched me, and I hope that it can also do the same for you.