

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

“Porter’s captivating memoir describes her journey to find answers, noting how her fascination with Marcel proved infectious as she faces obstacle after obstacle and enlists the help of experts to discover the fate that awaited him. ... As impressive as her detective work is, it is Marcel and his letters—real, honest, heartfelt, and brave—that are undoubtedly the star of this marvelous book.”

—BOOKLIST ★ STARRED REVIEW *May 15, 2017*

“It’s a pleasure to read Porter’s romantic dive into the depths of the lost art of letter writing and contained worlds. Porter and Marcel both ask their readers to slow down, look closer and let passion persist, even if one is alone on a soulful search.”

—MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE *June 16, 2017*

“Regardless of your disciplinary tribe, I recommend reading *Marcel’s Letters* to learn more about designer-driven empathy in action. All design educators, whatever academic department, should add this book to their reading recommendations, even make it required, to provide a well-covered insider account of design as object-making adjacent to design as giving a damn.”

—DESIGNFEAST

“[A] tribute to the power of curiosity.” —GROWLER MAGAZINE

“*Marcel’s Letters* deftly portrays how a curiosity can grow into a search, and the search into an obsession. Carolyn’s story bursts with the excitement of discovery and culminates with the indescribable honor of returning fragments of a forgotten history to the people they were meant for.”

—GLENN KURTZ, author of *Three Minutes in Poland: Discovering a Lost World in a 1938 Family Film*

“We pick a font hoping it says something about us: that we are creative, intellectual, or have business know-how. But what happens when a font picks a graphic designer and turns her world upside down and inside out?”

In *Marcel’s Letters*, Carolyn rescues one man’s legacy, and ultimately gifts us with her own.”

—ELIZABETH RYNECKI, author of *Chasing Portraits: A Great-Granddaughter’s Quest for Her Lost Art Legacy*

“[An] intriguing memoir from a diligent researcher.” —KIRKUS REVIEWS

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Marcel's Letters

A FONT AND THE SEARCH FOR ONE MAN'S FATE

WWW.CAROLYN-PORTER.COM

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

“*Marcel's Letters* is a gripping page-turner about one type designer's efforts to uncover (and recover) the destiny of a French forced laborer during World War II.”

—YVES PETERS, type writer and producer for Type Network

“Carolyn Porter takes us on her offbeat quest to solve a transatlantic history mystery and unearths an intriguing pocket of our past along the way.”

—MEGAN SMOLENYAK, author of *Who Do You Think You Are? The Essential Guide to Tracing Your Family History*

“Quirky, heartfelt, and compulsively readable. *Marcel's Letters* is an inventive combination of memoir and amateur historical sleuthing. An unforgettable story.”

—THERESA KAMINSKI, author of *Angels of the Underground:*

The American Women who Resisted the Japanese in the Philippines in World War II

“In *Marcel's Letters* Carolyn Porter has plucked a powerful story from the recesses of history. After purchasing a trove of letters because of their elegant script, Porter embarked on a quest to solve the mystery of their authorship and in so doing embarked on a historical awakening of her own.”

—CATHRYN J. PRINCE, author of *American Daredevil: The Extraordinary Life of Richard Halliburton, the World's First Celebrity Travel Writer*

“I've made many fonts, but none of them has a story with as many unexpected discoveries and emotional turns as the story of Marcel.”

—MARK SIMONSON, Mark Simonson Studio,

designer of more than thirty fonts, including the iconic Proxima Nova

“Fascinated by the handwriting, Carolyn Porter's chance purchase of a few letters led her to a remarkable adventure in font design, research to understand the wartime separation of a father from his wife and children, and a quest to uncover Marcel's fate in the Second World War and that of his family. *Marcel's Letters* tells a compelling story of romance, perseverance, and discovery.”

—PROFESSOR KENNETH MOURÉ, historian of modern France, University of Alberta



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