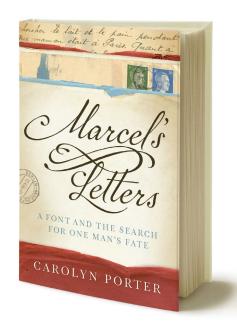
Marcels' Letters

A graphic designer's search for inspiration leads to a cache of letters and the mystery of one man's fate during World War II.



"Heartfelt and compulsively readable.

An unforgettable story."

—Theresa Kaminski, *Angels of the Underground*

"A dripping 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, producer for Type Network

"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, Three Minutes in Poland

SEEKING INSPIRATION for a new font design in an antique store in Stillwater, Minnesota, graphic designer Carolyn Porter found a cache of old letters and was immediately drawn to the expressive pen-and-ink handwriting. She could not read the letters—they were in French—but she noticed they had been signed by a man named Marcel and mailed from Berlin to France during the middle of World War II.

As Carolyn grappled with designing the font, she decided to have Marcel's letters translated. Reading words of love combined with testimony of survival inside a German labor camp transformed Carolyn's curiosity into an obsession, and she sought to learn why the letter writer, Marcel Heuzé, had been in Berlin, how his letters came to be for sale in a store halfway around the world, and, most importantly, whether he returned to his beloved wife and daughters after the War.

Marcel's Letters is the incredible story of Carolyn's increasingly desperate quest to find answers to the mystery of Marcel's fate. Simultaneously, she would continue to work on what would become the acclaimed P22 Marcel Script font, immortalizing the man and his letters that waited years to be reunited with his family.

SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS:

- How did this project get started?
- When you were in the antique store in Minnesota, what about Marcel's letters caught your eye?
- What are the challenges of designing a font based on handwriting?
- What compelled you to get Marcel's letters translated?
- Why had Marcel been in Germany?
- What did you learn about the labor camp where he was imprisoned?
- What are some of the most touching passages in his letters?
- What did you learn about his family?
- In your book, how do you weave together the two stories: the development of the font and the search for Marcel's fate?
- How has this experience changed you?

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CAROLYN PORTER is a graphic designer and self-professed typography geek who designed P22 Marcel Script. Released in 2014, this font has garnered four international honors, including the prestigious Certificate for Typographic Excellence from the New York Type Director's Club, typeface competitions by *Communication Arts* and *Print* magazines, and was a selection for the 2015 Project Passion exhibition. Carolyn lives in White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

