

Angel of Aleppo by Jon Cocks

A Story of the Armenian Genocide

Soldiers murder her mother. They force her from the family home.

Anoush must endure a death march through unforgiving desert, as Armenian refugees perish all about her, some of the million-plus whose blood forever stains the hands of the Ottoman Turks and the souls of their descendants.

Courageously keeping her small group of neighbourhood women together, Anoush endures the brutish guards driving a massive column of women, children, and old men south from Anatolia through Aleppo to the Mesopotamian desert. She learns to nurse against all odds in a city overflowing with diseased and starving refugees. She becomes the Angel of Aleppo.

In the years that follow, can she find the will to be the woman her mama raised her to be? Can she summon the strength to care?

From Anatolia to Aleppo and beyond, through the outrages and injustices of the 1915 Armenian Genocide, Angel of Aleppo, a Story of the Armenian Genocide is about losing everything but the healing power of love.

Review by Literary Titan: Emotionally charged historical fiction that feels like it's a true story... the writing is wonderful.

Review by Glam Adelaide: Reads like a thriller except that, tragically, it is based on truth...belongs on the big screen...How can so many of us not know about this?

Review by Readers' Favorite: A must-read for readers who enjoy historical fiction. I found it absolutely riveting and highly recommend it.



5 Stars: "For without love, where are we?"

'Angel of Aleppo' is a profoundly thought-provoking account that speaks to the horror of the Armenian Genocide, which preceded Adolf Hitler's Holocaust.

Author Jon Cocks demonstrates his impeccable research, as even today, there are those in Turkey who still deny their own history. With clarity of mind, heart, and soul this author masterfully brings his readers back to 1915. This story is so intense, the scenes so clear, your mind will act as the silver screen. For those of us who will never travel to the War Memorial on North Terrace in Adelaide, South Australia, Jon Cocks is on a mission to honor the estimated 1.5 million Armenians who were tortured and killed. Adelaide's memorial is like the Cenotaph in London. It carries the names of fallen SA soldiers. Anoush goes there as it is the only place, she can think of to honour Thomas, who was a belated war casualty.

It is important for you to know that 'Angel of Aleppo' was inspired by the author's wife Lilit's grandmother Anoush, a survivor of the Armenian Genocide, who lost her own mother in 1915. Every living Armenian remains affected by the genocide, now four generations ago.

As you read 'Angel of Aleppo' you will be reminded that "Faith's light can lift the darkest soul. Faith's fire can warm the coldest heart. Faith, it is said, can move mountains."

I invite you to walk alongside a nurse named Anoush, as this is her story. Watch her bring love and compassion to others, as horrific events unfold around her. 'Angel of Aleppo' is a brutally honest account that will stir deep emotion. It should serve as a stark reminder not to cover up or deny history.

The author has placed a wonderful glossary of Armenian, Turkish and German words at the end of this book. I suggest you familiarize yourself with it before you begin reading.

Jon Cocks taught secondary Drama and English for many years. He has unpublished cartoon strips, a long list of credits in community theatre, a long-running TV ad, several one-act plays written for students, and a novella about being a teacher called 'Duty of Care'. Other than an enduring love affair with his Armenian-born wife Lilit, Jon loves books, theatre, movies, the Adelaide Crows, cricket, and wine.

I highly recommend this book to those of you who want to know history and also those of you who are determined to teach upcoming generations about the horror of genocide and the value of faith.

Editorial Review (Book Marketing Global Network).

From the Author: The story of Angel of Aleppo was inspired by my Armenian wife Lilit's own grandmother Anoush, who witnessed a Turkish soldier murder her own mother in 1915. Few Australians know the other April 1915 story, the April 24, 1915 slaughter of Armenians in the Ottoman Empire, initially smoke-screened by the Dardanelles campaign. Turkish leaders instigated a long-formulated plan to begin murdering Armenians, because the world's attention was on the Dardanelles. Few Australians know of Armenia, let alone the unacknowledged genocide that tortures its national soul. Once I had come to understand the Australian connection, and mindful - in June 2014 - that the 2015 centenary commemoration of the Armenian Genocide was looming, the idea to stage a play formed in my mind. The Armenian Cultural Association of SA worked with me in Adelaide to stage my 75-minute play to commemorate the centenary of the Armenian Genocide in 2015. The play's action centred around a confrontation at the SA War Memorial on North Tce between an elderly Armenian woman and an elderly Turkish man on the fiftieth anniversary of the genocide: April 24, 1965. After the group performed the play successfully in Adelaide and to great acclaim for two performances in Sydney, Lilit and I agreed that the journey was not over. I decided to build on Anoush and write the novel.

Anoush is inspired by Lilit's grandmother, an indomitable woman who survived the genocide, lived into her eighties and imbued love, respect and family values into every one of her 37 grandchildren. The character is sixteen when a nightmarish day changes her life forever. She suffers alone and as a part of the greater Armenian suffering, but draws on the strength of her family background in her darkest moments to prevail. I began crafting the narrative of my literary Anoush's youthful trials during 1915-19, beginning by fleshing out experiences alluded to in her character's dialogue from the play. A great deal of research followed in the next year and there were numerous artistic choices made. Angel has a number of cameo appearances by characters who were real life historical figures, e.g., US President Woodrow Wilson. In those instances, I research their lives and study photos of them, looking for clues to their characters in their faces. In the case of characters who are literary constructs, like Anoush, I imbue them with character-appropriate physical qualities and personality traits from actual people I know or have known. I have an image of a beautiful blonde, blue-eyed woman in my head, which no artist can realise to my satisfaction. That is why there is no image of Anoush on the cover.

The novel's ongoing theme is the outrage that was the Armenian Genocide and the lack of recognition of it by the successors of its perpetrators. The fact that the Armenian Genocide was the first Genocide of the twentieth century is an indictment upon every overly ambitious leader who ever pulled on a jackboot and donned medals before ordering his army to murder civilians. Mass killings of people because of race or colour or other ideological and/or religious obsession are a stain what constitutes civilisation. They make a mockery of what 'civil' means. Those who do not study history, so the truism goes, are doomed to repeat its mistakes. And there is no shortage of well-fed, middle-aged men with imperatorial ambitions not averse to throwing the weight of their armed forces about to make an ideological point. And on a less murderous scale, but no less iniquitous, are the many neo-conservative leaders abroad today who, with the financial support and particular concerns of their billionaire friends as influences, use government machinery and ideological justification to deny a decent living to large sectors of their populations. Social

justice is a commodity sorely lacking in this post-modern world of materialist obsession that so often overshadows simple humanity.

And this brings me to the most important theme of all, that of love, an emotion so enduring and so powerful in its purest form that it can prevail against the most appalling disasters and hateful crimes. Anoush suffers like few have suffered, but the power of the love in her heart sees her through. For without love, were, are we?

Product Details:

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Fiction (Cultural Heritage)

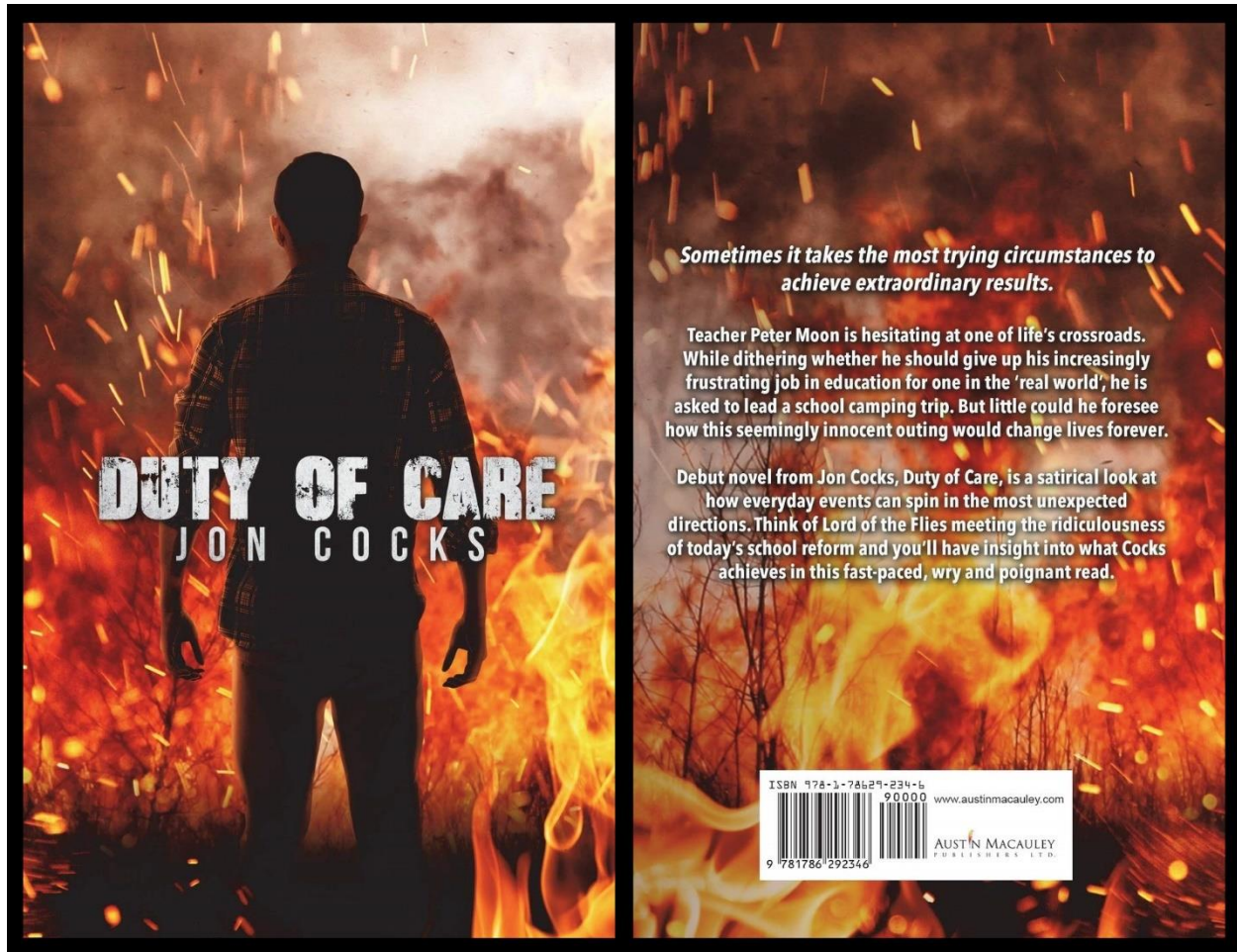
Armenian Genocide (Fiction Based On Truth)

Amazon Print:

https://www.amazon.com/Angel-Aleppo-Story-Armenian-Genocide/dp/0645123307/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1639669024&sr=8-1

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Angel-Aleppo-Story-Armenian-Genocide-ebook/dp/B094HW7Y9W/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=1639669024&sr=8-1



Duty of Care by Jonathan Gordon Cocks

Sometimes it takes the most trying circumstances to achieve extraordinary results.

Teacher Peter Moon is hesitating at one of life's crossroads. While dithering whether he should give up his increasingly frustrating job in education for one in the 'real world', he is asked to lead a school camping trip. But little could he foresee how this seemingly innocent outing would change lives forever.

Debut novel from Jon Cocks, 'Duty of Care', is a satirical look at how everyday events can spin in the most unexpected directions. Think of 'Lord of the Flies' meeting the ridiculousness of today's school reform and you'll have insight into what Cocks achieves in this fast-paced, wry and poignant read.

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https://www.amazon.com/Duty-Care-Jonathan-Gordon-Cocks/dp/1786292351/ref=tmm_hrd_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Amazon Softcover Print:

https://www.amazon.com/Duty-Care-Jonathan-Gordon-Cocks/dp/1786292343/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=



About Jon Cocks: Jon Cocks taught secondary Drama and English for many years. *Angel of Aleppo, a Story of the Armenian Genocide* is his first full-length novel. He has unpublished cartoon strips, a long list of credits in community theatre, a long-running TV ad, several one-act plays written for students and a novella about being a teacher called *Duty of Care*. Other than an enduring love affair with his Armenian-born wife Lilit, Jon loves books, theatre, movies, the Adelaide Crows, cricket and wine.

Amazon Author's Page:

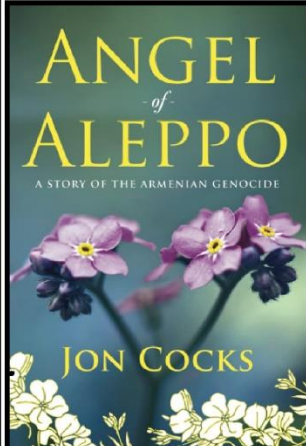
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ANGEL
of
ALEPPO
A STORY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE
JON COCKS

COULD YOU FORGIVE AND FORGET?

Soldiers murder her mother. They love her from the family home.


Amnah must endure a death march through unforgiving desert, as Armenian refugees perish all about her, some of them ethnically cleansed from Aleppo to the hands of the Ottoman Turks and the souls of their descendants.

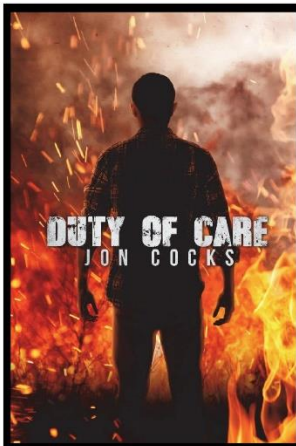
Conspicuously keeping her small group of neighbourhood women together, Amnah endures the brutal march driving a massive column of women, children and old men south from Aleppo through Aleppo to the Mesopotamian desert. She learns to survive against all odds in a city overrunning with disease and starving refugees. She becomes the Angel of Aleppo.

In the years that follow, can she find the will to be the woman her name asked her to be? Can she maintain the strength to care?

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DUTY OF CARE
JON COCKS

Sometimes it takes the most trying circumstances to achieve extraordinary results.

Teacher Peter Moon is hesitating at one of life's crossroads. While dithering whether he should give up his increasingly frustrating job in education for one in the real world, he is asked to lead a school camping trip, but time could be forever, how this seemingly innocuous outing would change lives forever.

Debut novel from Jon Cocks, Duty of Care, is a critical look at how everyday events can spin in the most unexpected directions. Think of Lord of the Flies meeting the ridiculousness of today's school reform and you'll have insight into what Cocks achieves in this fast-paced, witty and poignant read.





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