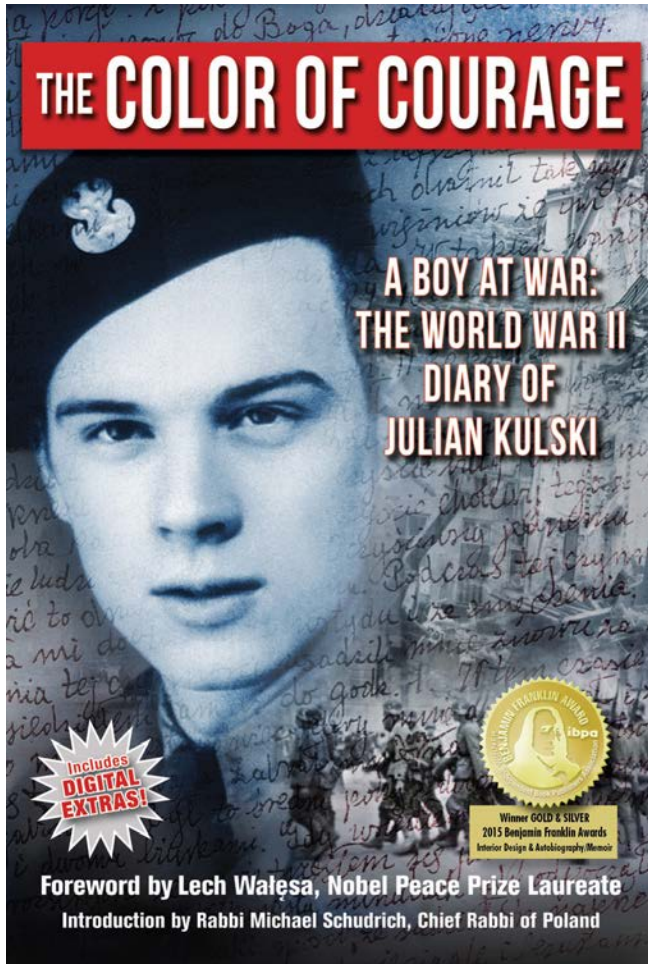


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**“If there is going to be a war,  
I do not want to miss it.”**

— Julian Kulski, age 10



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**THE COLOR OF COURAGE  
A Boy at War: The World War II Diary  
of Julian Kulski**

by Julian Kulski

Kulski, the son of the Deputy Mayor of Warsaw, is a 10-year-old Boy Scout when the Germans invade Poland in September 1939. He soon begins waging his own private war against the Germans with small acts of sabotage. At age 12, Kulski is recruited



into the clandestine Underground Army by his Scoutmaster and begins training in military tactics and weapons handling. At 13, he accompanies his commander on a secret mission into the Warsaw Ghetto to liaise with leaders of the Jewish resistance.

Arrested by the Gestapo at age 14, Kulski is incarcerated in the notorious Pawiak Prison, beaten, interrogated at Gestapo headquarters, and sentenced to Auschwitz. After being rescued, he joins the Ninth Commando Company of the Underground Army, and at age 15 fights in the Warsaw Uprising. Taken prisoner by the Germans, 16-year-old Kulski ends the war in a POW camp, finally risking a dash for freedom onto an American truck instead of waiting for “liberation” by the Soviets.

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## **AUTHOR BIO**

**Julian E. Kulski** (1929–2021) was born in Warsaw, Poland. He was descended from a 19th century Chief Rabbi of Warsaw, Dov Beer Meisels, and an 18th century King of Poland, Stanisław Leszczyński.

After the war, Kulski studied architecture in England and the U.S., receiving his B.Arch. in 1953 and M.Arch. in 1955 from Yale University, and a Ph.D. in Urban Planning in 1966 from the Warsaw Institute of Technology. He was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects (FAIA) (an honor bestowed upon less than 2 percent of American architects) and a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

After semi-retirement from a distinguished architectural career, Kulski led the urban and regional planning programs at Notre Dame University and at George Washington University, and later established the first city planning program at Howard University. For twenty years he served as a consultant to the World Bank, traveling around the world designing buildings in twenty-nine developing countries.

He is the author of several books, and has published more than a hundred articles in professional journals. Kulski also produced an award-winning documentary about World War II, titled *Legacy of the White Eagle*. He was a frequent speaker to audiences ranging in age from junior high school to adult.

Kulski was the recipient of numerous decorations awarded by the Polish government, including the highly prestigious Cross of Valor, the Commander’s Cross with Star of the Order of Merit, Silver Cross of Merit with Swords, the Home Army Cross, the Polish Army Medal (four times), and the Cross of the Warsaw Uprising.

Kulski made his home in Washington, D.C.

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