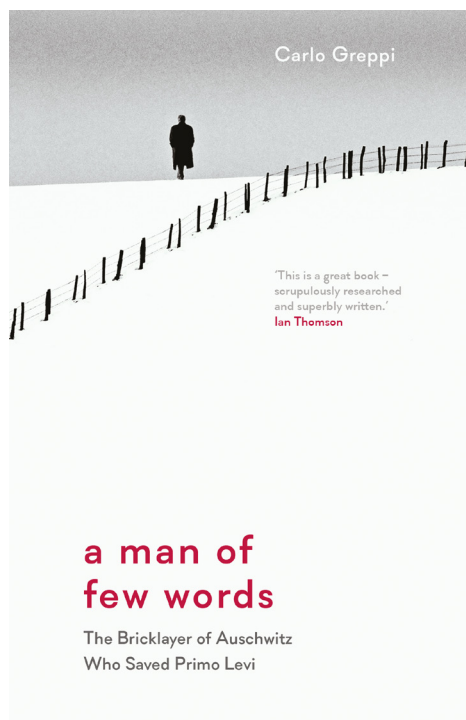




The Westbourne Press



January 2025
Biography / Social History / Holocaust
Studies
£16.99 / \$26.95
HB Demy 256pp
17 b&w illustrations
ISBN 978-1-90890-661-8

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Carlo Greppi is an award-winning historian and author. He is the author of fourteen books, including *Un uomo di poche parole* (*A Man of Few Words*), which has been translated into six languages and sold more than 20,000 copies in Italy.

ABOUT THE TRANSLATOR

Howard Curtis is a translator from Italian and French. His accolades include the Premio Campiello Europa, as well as numerous shortlistings for the John Florio Prize and the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize.

‘A marvel
of sympathetic insight’
TLS

ADVANCE INFORMATION

A Man of Few Words

The Bricklayer of Auschwitz
Who Saved Primo Levi

CARLO GREPPI

TRANSLATED BY HOWARD CURTIS

‘A great book – scrupulously
researched and superbly written’
Ian Thomson

KEY SALES POINTS

- The extraordinary true story of Lorenzo Perrone, who saved the life of Primo Levi, revered chronicler of the Holocaust
- Original Italian edition is a multi-award-winning bestseller
- Published in 2025 to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz

OUTLINE

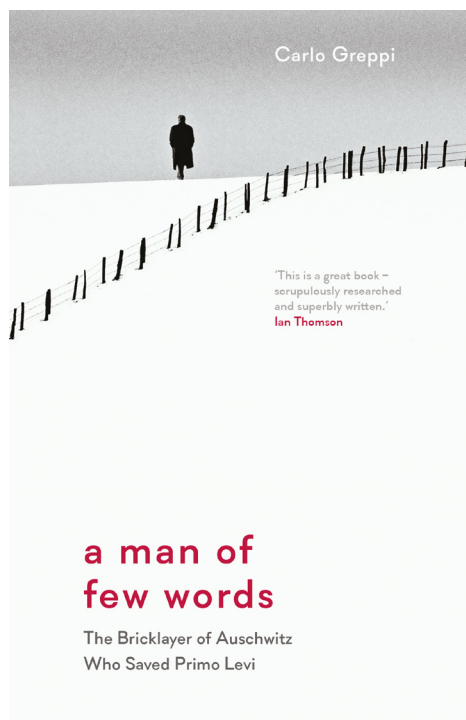
‘Nobody knows how much I owe that man,’ Primo Levi said of the bricklayer who saved his life at Auschwitz. ‘I could never repay him.’ Levi was referring to Lorenzo Perrone, who for six months risked his own life to smuggle food, letters and clothing to Levi, providing him with the sustenance he needed to survive.

In *A Man of Few Words*, Carlo Greppi pieces together the life of Perrone, a near destitute labourer with little formal education. Despite their stark differences, Levi and Perrone’s friendship survived the Holocaust and continued until Perrone’s tragic death. As Perrone withdrew from the world, Levi tried persistently to preserve the memory of this man of few words who had saved his life, but who left few traces of his own behind.

This is a universal story about an individual who kept hope alive in one of the darkest times and places known to man.



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PRAISE

A Man of Few Words

The Bricklayer of Auschwitz
Who Saved Primo Levi

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‘Much to admire ... an intriguing study.’

The Observer

‘A thoroughly moving read. Out of utter degradation, this inspiring story emerges to remind us that the spark of human decency can never be crushed.’

Julia Boyd, author of A Village in the Third Reich

‘Lucid, carefully researched pages ... Greppi’s biography, from start to finish a marvel of sympathetic insight, is a valuable addition to Levi’s writings on the human infamy that was Auschwitz.’

Times Literary Supplement

‘Read it twice, this splendid book: the first time to get to know Lorenzo and his story; the second time to get to know yourself and your memory.’

Francesco Filippi, author of Mussolini Also Did a Lot of Good

‘A story for all stories: Greppi has rescued it from oblivion. Inch by inch, Lorenzo Perrone has taken a little bit of evil out of the world.’

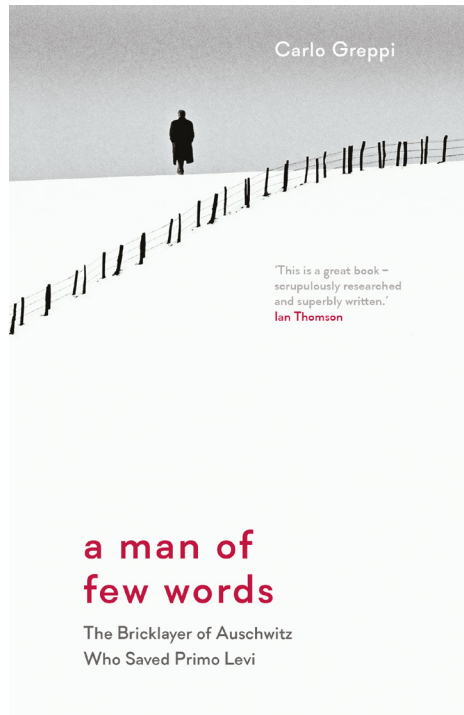
Mario Di Vito, Rolling Stone Italia

‘A great lesson in how much we don’t know about the past.’

Le Monde



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MARKETING

- Social media pre-order campaign to include promotional giveaways across Saki platforms (+ 40,000 followers).
- Amazon promotions AMS, A+ Content, Search Inside.
- Extensive proof and final copy mailout

PARTNERSHIPS

Wiener Holocaust Museum, Primo Levi Center, British Italian Society, and the London Jewish Cultural Centre.

PUBLICITY PLAN

A Man of Few Words

The Bricklayer of Auschwitz
Who Saved Primo Levi

CARLO GREPPI

TRANSLATED BY HOWARD CURTIS

TARGETS

REVIEWS AND OP-EDS

Broadsheets, journals and cultural and current affairs magazines, to include *The Guardian*, *The Times*, *Granta*, *Words Without Borders*, *Asymptote*, *The Tablet*, *Italics Magazine*, *Jewish Review of Books*, *New Internationalist*, *New Left Review*, *London Review of Books*, *Literary Review*

INTERVIEWS

History Today, *Independent*, *BBC History Magazine*, *The National*, *MEMO*, *al-Hayat*, *International Affairs*, *Monocle*, *Intelligent Life*, *The House*, *Total Politics*, *Jacobin*

RADIO

Times Radio, BBC World Service Witness History, BBC Radio 4 Religion & Ethics

PODCASTS

Peace in Their Time, Stories of the Second World War, Jewish Talk

EVENTS

March 2025 UK tour, to include Oxford Literature Festival and launch with the British-Italian Society, among others. The tour will be supported by the Italian Ministry of Culture.

PRIZES

Eligible for and to be submitted for Duff Cooper Prize, Christopher G Moore Prize, Historical Writers' Association Crown Awards, Hessel-Tiltman Prize, Jewish Quarterly Wingate Prize, PEN Ackerly Prize, Oxford Weidenfeld Translation Prize, The Orwell Prize for Political Writing, The Baillie Gifford Prize for Nonfiction, Wolfson History Prize, and Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography, among others.