

A True Story of Love and War from the Greek-Italian Front

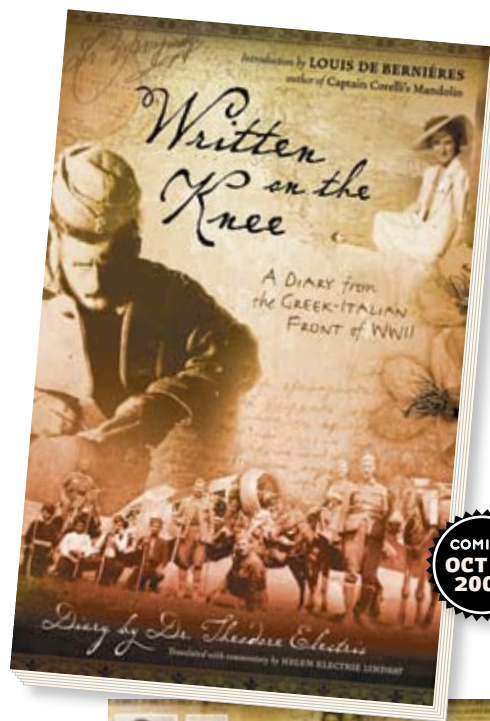
Introduction by Louis de Bernières

MINNEAPOLIS (JULY 21, 2008) – During the Greek-Italian conflict of World War II, a Greek doctor, Theodore Electrís, newly married and idealistic, found himself called up to the Greek-Italian front in the remote mountains of Albania. Homesick, hungry and desperately missing his young wife, Chrysoula, he kept an intimate journal to preserve his experiences for her.

Translated by his daughter, Helen Electric Lindsay, Dr. Electrís' entries and letters come together in *Written on the Knee: A Diary from the Greek-Italian Front of WWII*. Fully illustrated and accompanied by supporting reference material, including an introduction by the author of *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, Louis de Bernières, the collection serves as both an authentic historical document of Greek involvement in WWII and a story of love, separation and family ties threatened and strengthened by war.

"I remember vividly how closely my parents followed events in northern Greece ... but this book offers a dimension I never knew," said former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, whose maternal grandparents were from Epirus. "It explains the strategic and political importance of the Greek involvement in World War II through the personal love story contained within a fascinating diary, which brings the struggle and sacrifice of the Greek people to life."

Often overlooked in the scope of WWII, Greece's six-month conflict with Mussolini's forces played a pivotal role in the war's outcome. The country's fierce resistance against the Italians delayed Hitler's move into the Soviet Union, which many historians believe turned the war in favor of the Allies.



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PUBLICATION DATE	OCTOBER 28, 2008
TITLE	WRITTEN ON THE KNEE: A DIARY FROM THE GREEK-ITALIAN FRONT OF WWII
AUTHORS	DIARY BY DR. THEODORE ELECTRÍS TRANSLATED WITH COMMENTARY BY HELEN ELECTRIC LINDSAY
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From Dr. Electrís' first entry to his last, *Written on the Knee* captures the true story of love and war during a crucial time in modern history.

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Ochi Day

On October 28, 1940, Greek dictator Ioannis Metaxas rejected Mussolini's ultimatum to allow Axis forces to occupy Greece. The resistance launched Greece into World War II and forever changed the course of history for the Axis. Every year, Greeks around the world commemorate this courageous act on Ochi Day ("ochi" means "no" in Greek), and celebrate those who lost their lives defending their homeland.

"We will not say thereafter that the Greeks fight like heroes, but heroes fight like the Greeks!"

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

FROM LOUIS DE BERNIÈRES' INTRODUCTION

"In these pages the warm heart of a dead man beats again, his passions are relived, his pleasures, hardships and irritations unfold for us as if they were in the present ... like so many other worthy people of his generation, he was someone who put his shoulder to the wheel of history and made a difference. These are his stories, revealing that a soldier's heroism resides not so much in his flashes of glory, but in endurance sustained by hope."



FROM THE
INSIDE COVERS -
FOLLOW DR.
ELECTRIS'
JOURNEY



BIO INFORMATION

HELEN ELECTRIE LINDSAY was born in Thessaloniki, Greece. She graduated from Anatolia College in Thessaloniki and came to the United States on a Fulbright scholarship to study physics. She worked for Dayton Hudson and as an engineering product manager at MTS Systems in the Twin Cities. She is married with two children and lives in Wayzata, Minnesota.

LOUIS DE BERNIÈRES was born in London. His fourth novel, *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*, won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and was translated into more than 30 languages. His latest novel is *A Partisan's Daughter*.

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