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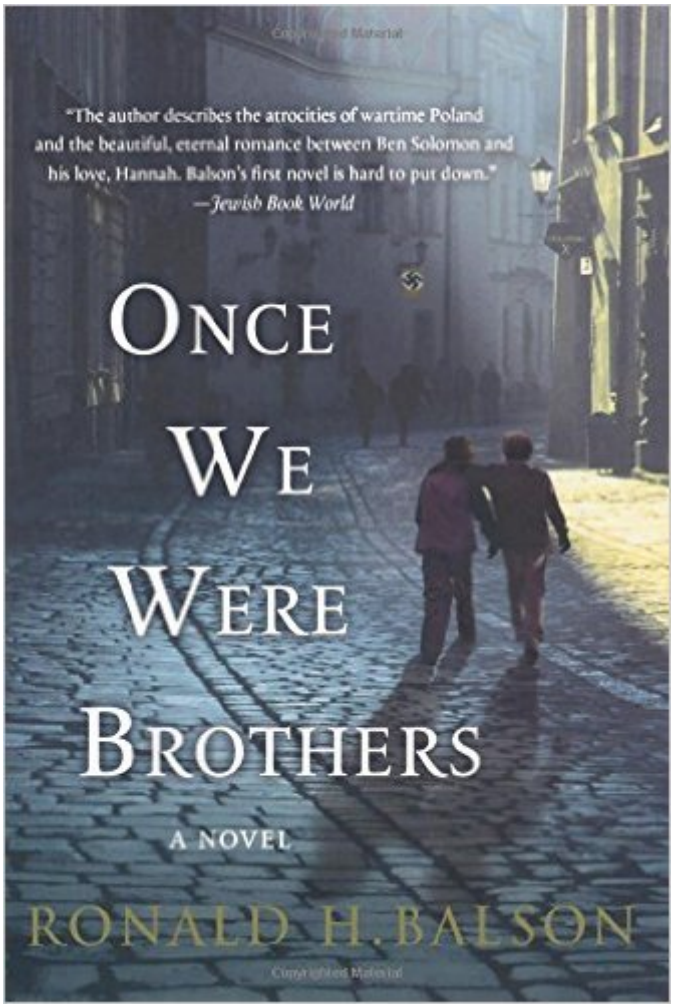
Once We Were Brothers



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Synopsis

The gripping tale about two boys, once as close as brothers, who find themselves on opposite sides of the Holocaust.Elliot Rosenzweig, a respected civic leader and wealthy philanthropist, is attending a fundraiser when he is suddenly accosted and accused of being a former Nazi SS officer named Otto Piatek, the Butcher of Zamosc. Although the charges are denounced as preposterous, his accuser is convinced he is right and engages attorney Catherine Lockhart to bring Rosenzweig to justice. Solomon persuades attorney Catherine Lockhart to take his case, revealing that the true Piatek was abandoned as a child and raised by Solomon's own family only to betray them during the Nazi occupation. But has Solomon accused the right man?Once We Were Brothers is Ronald H. Balson's compelling tale of two boys and a family who struggle to survive in war-torn Poland, and a young love that struggles to endure the unspeakable cruelty of the Holocaust. Two lives, two worlds, and sixty years converge in an explosive race to redemption that makes for a moving and powerful tale of love, survival, and ultimately the triumph of the human spirit.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I learned that my law school classmate, Ronald Balson, had written alegal novel entitled, Once We Were Brothers, I knew that I just had to read it. If Iexpected to read something along the lines of a Turrow, Grisham or Martini, legalthriller, I was pleasantly surprised - it wasn't.The story begins when Ben Solomon, an 83 year old retired city worker,appears at the opening night gala of Chicago's Lyric Opera and puts a gun to thehead of Elliot Rosenzweig, an insurance magnate and

one of Chicago’s mostprominent citizens and philanthropists. We learn that the gun was unloaded andBen says that his motive was that he wanted to exposed Elliot as being animpostor - that Elliot really was Otto Piatek, a former SS officer known in Polandas the "Butcher of Zamosc". It was at this time that Elliot Rosenzweig declaredfor the first time that he was himself a Holocaust survivor and definitely not anSS officer. He then revealed his arm which bore a concentration camp tattoo.Who would represent Ben? This crime was committed in front of hundreds ofpeople and Rosenzweig had been declared by the Mayor Chicago to be "Chicago’streasure."Attorney Catherine Lockhart, who was working for one of Chicago’s majorwhite collar firms, made the "mistake" that many attorneys do, by answering hertelephone. She was asked if she could do a favor for a friend - words an attorneyhates to hear.

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