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## REVIEW

# Local LIT

## Gulag: Memoirs of an American in Hitler's Army and Stalin's Gulag

By Peter Schwarzlose



There are some stories so fascinating they beg to be told. Here on Hilton Head, we have our share. It seems everyone you talk to has an intriguing background and a bewildering tale of their past exploits. Few on the island, however, can claim as unbelievable a backstory as Peter Schwarzlose, a story of world history which he lays out in unblinking detail in this riveting memoir.

Schwarzlose was born in Germany to an American mother and a German father.

His parents' marriage fell apart and he soon was spending his youth travelling back and forth between Germany and America. These trips were interrupted by the onset of World War II in 1939, and Schwarzlose soon found himself trapped in Germany, unable to return due to U-Boat threats on all passenger vessels.

Still considering himself an American, Schwarzlose was forced to take part in Hitler youth activities by his schoolmaster, and soon found himself dragged into the Germany army. What follows is a harrowing and tragic tale as Schwarzlose fights his way through Russia and around Europe, eventually being captured by American forces. Despite his pleas that he is an American, he is sent to a Soviet Gulag where he faces the real terror of war.

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## Home: Portraits from the Carolina Coast

By Vennie Deas Moore with William Baldwin

In a region as alive with color as the Carolina coast, it would almost seem like a waste to capture it in black and white photos. However, Moore's haunting images of the coast are imbued with a depth as her lens captures shrimp boats, ancient buildings and still water. It is the images of the people, however, that stand out. Captured in moments of toil, of celebration and at play, they speak volumes about life along the coast.

The majority of the photos are taken further north than the Lowcountry, in the Santee Cooper region of the state, but they evoke memories of the Lowcountry of days gone by. An excellent coffee table book for photography enthusiasts or those who simply love the south.

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