

4.4.2022

Thank you for the words of support and help.

Yes, my family and I are still in Kyiv.

The week before the withdrawal of Russian troops from the suburbs of Kyiv was very tense. Lots of shelling and air raids. There have been fewer of them over the past few days, but tensions remain. Particularly bitter feelings were caused by the news from Bucha. It is not far from Kyiv. Several of my good friends lived there. We have lost contact with them. What we saw is simply impossible to comprehend and understand. Murder, torture, rape, extreme cruelty, mass graves... This should not happen in the 21st century in Europe, in a beautiful modern and beautiful suburb of the capital. People went to Bucha to rest, there is beautiful nature, forest, rest houses, sanatoriums. And now the name of this small town will be associated with the word "massacre".

Now Putin is preparing a new wave of offensive. And we must do everything possible so that a new Bucha does not happen.

When it became known about the events in Bucha, it was very difficult to think and write about something. Believe me, it was very difficult to just gather my thoughts. I couldn't write anything to anyone. It must have been a shock. But we must live on and fight for victory. I think this should be our common victory. Because this wild and some kind of primitive terrible force that unleashed this war showed that it will stop at nothing. For it, neither European nor human values exist. Therefore, we must all work together to stop it.

In this letter, I shared my thoughts, because I think this is important - for our children and for our common future.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

20.3.2022

Thanks for the words of support. It's very inspiring and helps keep going. Yes, sometimes it is difficult to answer your letter right away, because the circumstances are different every day.

We all do hope that this will all end soon, although this inadequate person (Putin), unfortunately, has other plans. Here in Ukraine we understand very well that he is not going to stop in our country. So I think we, together with the entire European house, must stop

him here. It's scary to think if he crosses the border of our country to go further.

Another week of struggle has passed, which was filled with difficult events and difficult daily

life. So far, the situation with food in Kyiv is relatively good. Those who live here leave their

shelters in the morning and rush to buy food. There are problems with some products. But

the main problem is with drugs, because not all pharmacies work and not every pharmacy

has the necessary drugs. Apparently, there are problems with the delivery of products or

medicines, because the Russians are trying to encircle the city. So, we have to stand in line to

buy the necessary medicines. But, seeing in the news what problems residents of other

Ukrainian cities are experiencing, the people of Kyiv do not complain at all. Every day and

every night we hear the sounds of air raids. It is very scary to experience this not just

anywhere, but here, realizing that Ukraine is located in the geographical center of Europe.

Every time we pray that a rocket or projectile will pass us. We congratulate each other on

another night lived, on another day. We look forward to good news, we support each other,

we pray for our Ukrainian military forces, for everyone who supports us.

During this time, all

Ukrainians felt that the time of testing has changed us. We became closer to each other,

someone else's pain and grief became yours. And people in different parts of Ukraine are

now like your relatives. We think this is what our common European home should be like.

*11.3.2022*

For several days I was unable to write.

Thank you for your support and for your kind letters. It gives me strength I must say.

We really feel the support of many Europeans in these terrible days. Of course, we would

like the support of the governments to be more resolute, because the enemy is very cynical.

First they threaten us with a nuclear strike, now they threaten us with the use of chemical or

bacteriological weapons. This is very scary for us ordinary people.

Unfortunately, no civilized rules work for Putin. He methodically exterminates the civilian population. He cynically breaks agreements on "green" corridors for civilians. It bombs peaceful infrastructure, houses, hospitals, etc. Your sincere support gives us strength and hope. Everything you do in your place is very good, because there are a lot of refugees in Europe now. We are still in Kyiv. Every day and every night passes here at the cost of a great strain of strength and nerves. We all now must do everything so that this nightmare ends as soon as possible, but not at the cost of slavery, of course. So we will keep holding on.

*5.3.2022*

Thank you for your warm words of encouragement and support at Verlag der Autoren, and in Germany. They do help us to survive here. My family is still in Kyiv. Although we understand that the invaders will try to capture the capital. Everyone who stayed in Kyiv is trying to support each other. We have created chat rooms where we arrange a daily roll call to know who needs help, or any support, who else is here. Yes, of course, we would like to get more support from world governments, if only to stop the shelling of civilians. Because it is unbearable to see bombed out schools, hospitals, apartment houses, nursing homes (especially for those without legs, in wheelchairs), where there were helpless people. The thought comes that my house might be next... Anyway we do hope for the best. There were several air raid alerts in Kyiv yesterday, more than usual. Although the night passed relatively calmly, if I may say so now. Every night, the inhabitants of the city hide in shelters or in the subway, and in the morning they go to the store trying to buy the most necessary things (the main thing is bread, which is not always possible to buy). Due to the fact that the Russians are actively shelling the suburbs of Kyiv, there are difficulties with the delivery of products. But the

city authorities  
are doing their best to support us.  
We pray every day for this to end soon...

*3.3.2022*

Thank you so much for the words of support.  
It is very important for us to receive moral support, because many people  
feel fear during  
the shooting or bombing.  
Of course, I don't mind if you share my information about what is really  
going on here.  
But for now, I would not like my real name or my contacts to be  
mentioned. Thank you for  
your understanding on this matter.  
Because unfortunately, Kyiv is still unsafe. There are separate Russian  
armed sabotage  
groups in the city, which our volunteers from the territorial self-defense of  
Kyiv are trying to  
identify and eliminate. Therefore, we try not to walk the streets, but move  
only to the  
shelter or to the store for the most necessary things.  
We are also now advised not to disclose personal information.  
We made the decision to stay in the city.  
But, now the invaders are trying to capture Kyiv. Therefore, we  
understand that the most  
difficult test for us is yet to come.  
With your support we will resist together.

*1.3.2022*

What is happening now in Ukraine is very scary and unprecedented.  
All we need now from the whole world is support.  
I stayed in Kyiv with my children, my husband and my old mother.  
Every evening we go down to the subway to spend the whole night there.  
I never thought  
this would happen to me and my loved ones.  
When we run on the subway, we hear the sounds of explosions. It's really  
scary. We hope  
and pray that this ends soon. But the price is too high. They shoot at  
residential buildings, at  
hospitals, at historical monuments and museums etc.  
This morning they fired at the maternity hospital - without warning, so not  
everyone had  
time to evacuate.

We want you to know the truth about what's going on here.  
Tonight we will again go to spend the night in the subway, because this  
nightmare has not  
ended for us yet.  
I am in a hurry to send this letter, because at any time a shell can fly  
here.  
But we hope and believe that our army and the support of all of you will  
protect us. Thanks  
for having your thoughts with us, for staying with us...