Anna Makar (1918-1996)



Housewife

Married to Roman Makar; two children Wolodymyra (1941) and Orest (1943).

Together with her husband, she agreed to hide seven Jewish friends under her house in Boryslav – but thirteen came.

While Roman was at work, Anna had to get enough food for the hidden ones without arousing suspicion. Anna's sisters often came to visit with baskets of food.

Jurek Rotenberg and Rita Harmelin liked to come up into the house and play with Anna

and Roman's three-year-old daughter Woldoymyra, whom they called Lodzia. Because Lodzia could talk, the Jewish women hidden under the floor were given the name of Anna's sisters as a safety precaution.

After the war, Anna worked in a shoe factory in Boryslav.

On 28.07.2015 Anna and Roman Makar were honoured by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among the Nations

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On one occasion when Anna was returning home alone with supplies, some German police or soldiers took an interest in her and followed her into the house. It took great resourcefulness and courage for Anna to protect herself and the others.

»There were two German soldiers. We told Romek (our name for Roman) to come and hide with us under the floor. Romek had a hot temper! We didn't know what he would do. He stayed all night ... Anna gave them (the soldiers) something to drink I think. She put Orczyk (Orest) in the pram and wheeled the baby to sleep all night. There was one squeaking board. She made noise all night with the squeaking board and pram. The baby was probably asleep but she was very clever and made the noise so we would know she was all right. They (the soldiers) slept and left early in the morning to catch up. Anna was very young and pretty. She was twenty-four."

Rita Harmelin, survivor

Sources: Private archive and informations from Karen Bijkersma, Yad Vashem rescuer database