



LEWIS HELFAND

MOTHER TERESA

ANGEL OF THE SLUMS

A GRAPHIC NOVEL



ART SACHIN NAGAR

There are beautiful places in this world. Places filled with light, places where men and women journey to create a brighter future for themselves and their loved ones.

Places that fill your heart with joy and your soul with hope.

But all things have their opposites...

...places where the harsh realities of the world—violence and hatred, poverty and disease—can take control.

So much so that even the gentlest of souls may lose their way in the darkness.

And there were many of these lost souls in Calcutta*, India.

These souls were desperately trying to survive in a place where no one would willingly go...

*Now called Kolkata.

...almost no one.



In those forgotten slums where souls would perish without anyone lifting a finger... there was one woman willing to extend a helping hand. One woman who could not bear to see them suffer.





L-I-leave...
me... alone.
I'm... d-dying.

I'm not leaving
you, my child. If you
can't walk, I can push
you in this cart. But
we have to go.

Where?

To hospital.
Relax now. We'll
be there soon.



This woman is
dying. There is nothing
I can do to save her.
Anyway, we've no spare
beds. You'll have to take
her to another hospital.

No, I can't
leave. I won't
leave. Not until
you at least try
to help her.



To carry a dying woman from the
streets and demand help—what kind
of woman was this angel, this savior?



Who was she? Where
did she come from?

Why did she want to help? Why could she
not turn a blind eye to those in need?



Skopje. 1915.

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Macedonia, then part of Albania, on August 26, 1910. From an early age she seemed incapable of denying help to those in need.

Agnes, help! We need your help!

Even if it was just helping her big brother, Lazar and older sister, Aga steal jam from the larder.

Warn us if you see Nana coming, Agnes.

Why does this feel so wrong?

If she catches us, we'll be in trouble.

Will you have some jam, Agnes?

No, Lazar. Thank you for asking. The Priest says it's wrong to eat after midnight if you've got Mass in the morning.

Her mother, Dranafite, and her father, Nikola, always taught her the importance of helping others.

Nana Loke*, why do we always invite so many people to come and eat with us?

Because we are blessed, Agnes.

*Mother of My Soul.

'Your father earns more than enough so we should be able to help those in need.'



Hours later.

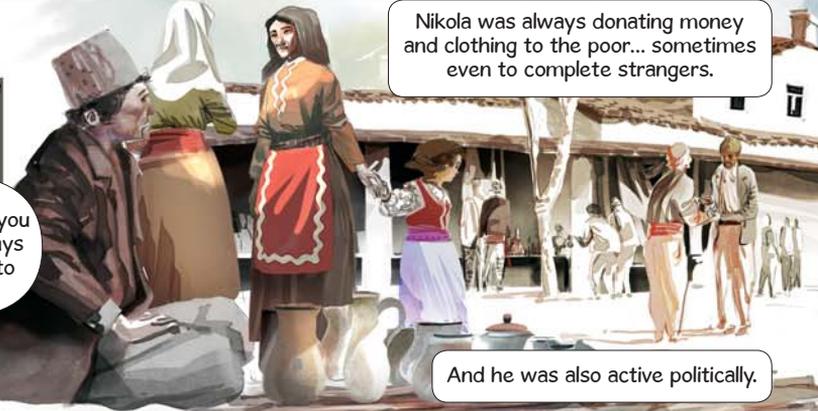


Papa? Nana says we have more than we need and can share with our neighbors. Is that true?

Yes, it's true Agnes. We have plenty of food, money and nice clothes. So why shouldn't we help others?



Agnes, remember, you should always be happy to share.



Nikola was always donating money and clothing to the poor... sometimes even to complete strangers.

And he was also active politically.



As a member of the town council he always spoke up for minority groups and the underprivileged.

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MOTHER TERESA

ANGEL OF THE SLUMS

Albanian-born Mother Teresa knew from a young age that she wanted to become a nun and devote her life to God. This devotion led her to the city of Calcutta, which in the 1940s was devastated by famine, poverty, disease, and war. Thousands of homeless, sick, and starving people filled the city's slums. Alone and forgotten, these poorest of the poor were desperate for someone to recognize their plight and help them.

With nothing but her faith to guide her, Mother Teresa took to the slums bringing hope and comfort to those at the very margins of society. With her pure heart and beautiful spirit, she touched the lives of millions.



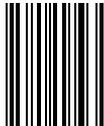
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