Two Villages and a Forest of Polish Heroes
reviewed by Mark Dillen

WAR AND RESISTANCE IN THE WILDERNESS by Donna B. Galwell
Blonden Woods Press
2019, 213 pgs.

The villages of Niwiska and Blizna lie a dozen or so kilometers east of Kolbuszowa in the Carpathian foothills. Niwiska is the larger of the two, with some 1,560 residents today compared to 250 or so for Blizna. From this area comes a new novel that captures a unique global aspect of the Polish experience—of Nazi terror during World War II, and the consequences of the Russian occupation that followed.

Polish-Swedish author Donna B. Galwell’s third book in two years focuses on some 1,560 residents—ancestral family and neighbors—survival in an area that, in the 18th century, was originally a holding of the noble Tarnowski and Jabłoński families, and later sold to the Hupka family. Battle of Modlin began near Warsaw in May 1920, and Ernest Hupka finds they world they know violently disrupted as a German tank column led by a strutting man tank officer with a man column composed of several other titles including The Other Side of the Screen, Legendary Blendon Woods Press, moderated by Katrina Shawverová.

Author Shawver is a Road Scholar for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The U.S. edition is available in hardcover, softcover, and eBook formats. It is available at most on-line booksellers, including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and others.

Found in Translation Award Ceremony
NEW YORK — In 2019, the Polish Book Institute, the Polish Cultural Institute New York, and the Polish Institute and Cultural Center in Washington chose to recognize Madeline G. Levine for her translation of Cold Colors by Bruno Szczepaniak, published by Northwestern University Press in 2018. The selection was the product of long deliberations. 2019 saw a range of masterful Polish works published in English and representing both the classical canon and the innovators shaping Poland’s literary landscape.

The translations eligible for this year’s award were rendered by promising newcomers as well as experienced translators with already lauded careers. The jury chose to recognize Levine’s translation for its fluency and fidelity to the rare and often elusive complexity of Schepaniak’s prose.

An award ceremony, held Dec. 10, 2019 at the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in New York, was accompanied by a panel discussion on translation with laureate Madeline G. Levine and Mike Levine, former editor at Northwestern University Press, moderated by Eliza Rose, Laszlo Birinyi Sr., Felicita Sch卯nberger.

Two New Works from the Contemporary Writers of Poland Series
reviewed by Mary E. Lanham

FLYING BETWEEN WORDS — CONTEMPORARY WRITERS OF POLAND Edited by Danuta Blazcak and Anna Maria Mickiewicz
Dreammeer Little City, 2015, 109 pgs.

Poetry, memory, historical statistics. Fill this aviation-themed collection in the Contemporary Writers of Poland series. The series is comprised of several other titles including The Other Side of the Screen, Legendary Blendon Woods Press, moderated by Katrina Shawverová.

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