

# Among Enemies on Silver Wings: The True Story of a Polish Pilot Who Escaped Nazi-Occupied Poland and Became a Spitfire Ace

In the annals of World War II, the story of Janusz Żurkowski stands out as a testament to courage, determination, and the indomitable spirit of freedom.



## Among Enemies (On Silver Wings Book 9) by Evan Currie

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2782 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 304 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Born in 1914 in the eastern Polish town of Kutno, Żurkowski grew up with a passion for aviation. After graduating from flight school in 1938, he joined the Polish Air Force, eager to serve his country.

But his dreams were shattered when Nazi Germany invaded Poland in September 1939. With the Polish Air Force decimated, Żurkowski was forced to flee to Romania, where he was interned for several months.

Undeterred, Żurkowski escaped Romania and made his way to France, where he joined the Free Polish Air Force. In June 1940, he was sent to England to join the Royal Air Force (RAF).

After completing his training, Żurkowski was assigned to the No. 303 Polish Fighter Squadron, one of the most successful fighter squadrons in the RAF. Flying the Supermarine Spitfire, he quickly proved himself to be a skilled and fearless pilot.

On one of his first missions, Żurkowski shot down a German Messerschmitt Bf 109, becoming the first Polish pilot to shoot down an enemy aircraft in the Battle of Britain.

Over the next few years, Żurkowski flew countless missions over occupied Europe, escorting bombers, strafing enemy targets, and engaging in aerial combat with German fighters.

He became known for his aggressive tactics and his ability to outmaneuver his opponents. By the end of the war, he had shot down 17 enemy aircraft, making him one of the top-scoring Polish aces of the conflict.

In addition to his combat achievements, Żurkowski also played a key role in the development of fighter tactics. He was one of the first pilots to use the "wingman" concept, where two planes would fly together, with one pilot providing cover for the other.

After the war, Żurkowski returned to Poland, where he continued to fly for the Polish Air Force. He retired from active duty in 1957 but remained involved in aviation throughout his life.

Janusz Żurkowski died in 2004 at the age of 90. He was a national hero in Poland and his story continues to inspire generations of Poles and aviation enthusiasts around the world.

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### **Long Tail Title:**

The Extraordinary True Story of Janusz Żurkowski: A Polish Pilot Who Escaped Nazi-Occupied Poland, Became a Spitfire Ace, and Fought

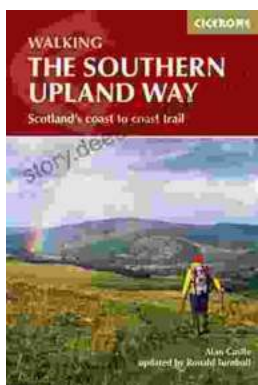
## Alongside the RAF in World War II



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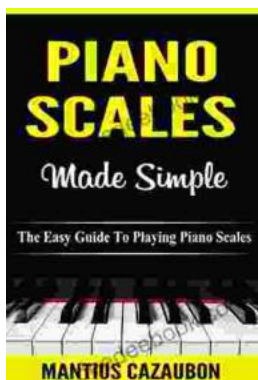
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