

The Real Story of the von Trapp Family

1. Noun - Plural
2. Noun
3. Adjective
4. Adverb
5. Number
6. Noun - Plural
7. Noun - Plural
8. Noun
9. Proper Noun
10. Proper Noun
11. Adjective
12. Proper Noun
13. Proper Noun
14. Proper Noun - Plural
15. Verb - Past Participle

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I first saw the movie The Sound of Music as a young child, probably in the late Noun - Plural. I liked the Noun, and Maria was so Adjective and kind! As I grew older, more aware of world history, and saturated by viewing the movie at least once Adverb, I was struck and annoyed by the somewhat sanitized story of the von Trapp family it told, as well as the bad Number Noun - Plural and costumes. "It's not historically accurate!" I'd protest, a small archivist in the making. In the early Noun - Plural I saw Maria von Trapp herself on Dinah Shore's television show, and Noun, was she not like the Proper Noun Proper Noun version of Maria! She didn't look like Julie, and she came across as a true force of nature. In thinking about the fictionalized movie version of Maria von Trapp as compared to this very real Maria von Trapp, I came to realize that the story of the von Trapp family was probably something closer to Adjective, and therefore much more interesting, than the movie led me to believe.

Part of the story of the real von Trapp family can be found in the records of the National Archives. When they fled the Nazi regime in Austria, the von Trapps traveled to Proper Noun. Their entry into the Proper Noun Proper Noun - Plural and their subsequent applications for citizenship are Verb - Past Participle in the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Version

Maria von Trapp's certificate of arrival into Niagara Falls, NY, on December 30, 1942, authenticated that she arrived legally in the United States. (Records of District Courts of the United States, RG 21)

Fact from Fiction

While The Sound of Music was generally based on the first section of Maria's book The Story of the Trapp Family Singers (published in 1949), there were many alterations and omissions.