Leesha Rose was brought up in The Netherlands. She was a teenager when the war broke out and later played an important role in the Resistance Movement. In her book, she describes the hardships of the Dutch Jews in the war, as well as the activities of the Resistance Movement.

The Dutch population became outraged and bitter. The events in Amsterdam brought their anger to the point of explosion. So the Dutch decided to fight back!

Pamphlets were distributed urging a one-day strike in protest at the treatment of Jews. Gentiles were encouraged to help the Jews to resist the Nazis. Dutch workers on their bicycles rang house-bells and stopped cars, calling out: “We are striking on behalf of the Jews, will you join?” On the main street, the Rokin, the Dutch strikers forced passengers to leave the streetcars.

February 25th, Amsterdam was on strike! Life in Amsterdam came to a standstill while the people of Amsterdam protested!

Employees of the streetcars and the sanitation departments went on strike first. Then the whole city followed.

Rauter was furious. He declared a state of siege and ordered work to be resumed immediately.

But the strike continued and spread to Hilversum, Haarlem, and Zaandam. The Germans were stunned and perplexed. They had never before experienced such behavior. This was the only time in Europe that the Gentile population had reacted so violently against the deportation of Jews.

This open demonstration against the Nazis was unprecedented. Rauter sent in his death-head battalions and ordered them to fire mercilessly into the crowds on the streets, thus killing and wounding many innocent people. Soon the strikes and demonstrations were crushed.