



The Hidden Children

By Howard Greenfeld

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Over a million Jewish children were killed during the Holocaust. From ten thousand to 100 thousand Jewish children were hidden with strangers and survived. In this powerful and compelling work, 25 people share their experiences as hidden children. Black-and-white photos.

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The Hidden Children By Howard Greenfeld Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Greenfeld (Marc Chagall) has a rare ability to focus on a very emotional topic and to convey that emotion to readers. Here he presents the stories of Jews who, as children, survived the Holocaust in hiding. Some posed as children of non-Jewish families, others were sheltered in religious institutions or orphanages, still others spent years in airless bunkers or attics. Some lived in constant fear, moving from place to place; others did not realize they were in danger and spent the war in relative peace. A few were resented and even betrayed by those who hid them; luckier children were welcomed as part of the family. Incorporating his subjects' testimonies into succinct accounts of individual survival, Greenfeld produces a well-rounded and varied picture of their collective experiences, from the first stirrings of war through their liberation and beyond. The volume's design intensifies the impact of the stories: contemporaneous photos of the subjects, distributed throughout the text, put faces with the words. This moving, thoughtful approach to the study of the Holocaust will help young readers grasp the horrors endured in those years by people their own age.

Ages 8-up.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 4 Up-The experiences of 15 children who survived the Holocaust in hiding are presented here within the historical context of the Nazi rise to power and World War II. These youngsters were sheltered in a variety of private homes and institutions by "righteous Gentiles," family friends, and those simply looking for additional money; some were resented, some treated compassionately, and others mistreated and abused physically. Greenfeld has interviewed these survivors, who are now living in the U.S., and has recorded their memories. Both the mundane and the unusual are remembered; the most commonly described feelings are the fear that family members would perish and the sense of guilt at having survived while others did not. There are reminiscences of narrow escapes and poignant remembered pleasures of edible treats. While the chronological arrangement of the book makes it difficult to follow a specific child's story (it is possible by using the excellent index), it succeeds admirably in allowing readers to place the experiences described within the framework of the Holocaust. An excellent selection of black-and-white photographs and an open design contribute to making this an important and accessible resource.

Susan Kaminow, Arlington County Public Library, VA

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 5-10. "I remember all the time being told to be quiet, the Germans will get you." In order to live, Jewish children had to go into hiding from the Nazis during the Second World War. Greenfeld has spoken to survivors now living in the U.S., and he weaves pieces of their painful personal narratives with a general account of what it was like to be a Jewish child at that time. Like Anne Frank, many were hidden by Righteous Gentiles, who often risked their own lives. Like the children in Vos' *Hide and Seek* (1991) and *Anna Is Still Here* (1993), they had to lie, to be always on guard. The individual voices are intense and quiet. They speak of hunger, cold, terror, and loneliness. They remember suddenly being ashamed of themselves. Boys had to hide that they were circumcised. These children witnessed courage and also horror, such as the father who had to strangle his screaming baby to save the others in hiding. They're honest about their difficult readjustment after the war ("My mother was in such bad shape . . . she had no teeth"). They will always feel guilty for having survived while others died. The slightly oversize book, printed on a fine vellum stock, is artistically designed, with clear type and wide margins, and the personal narratives are set off in italics, with occasional small black-and-

white family snapshots that frame moments of ordinary life. As always, what moves you is the terror in the mundane, the thought that it could be you. *Hazel Rochman*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Samuel Tapp:

This The Hidden Children book is just not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this publication incredible fresh, you will get information which is getting deeper an individual read a lot of information you will get. This The Hidden Children without we realize teach the one who reading through it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't become worry The Hidden Children can bring once you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' come to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even telephone. This The Hidden Children having excellent arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Betty Walsh:

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