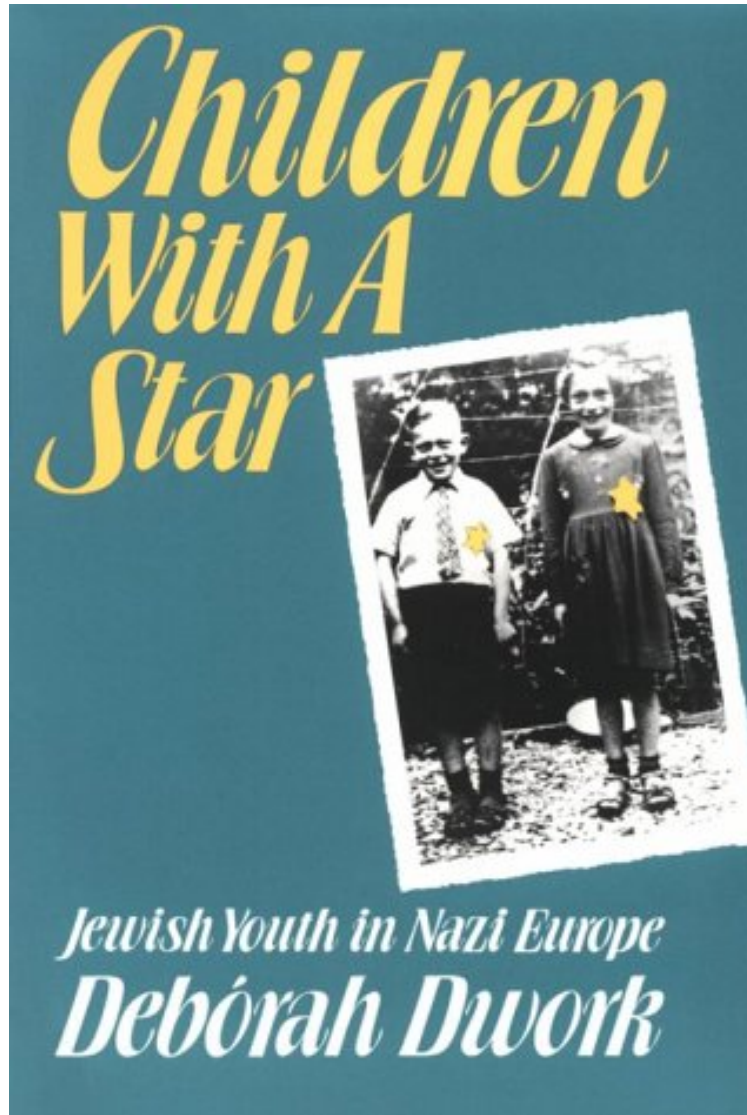


(Download) Children with a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe

Children with a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe

Deborah Dwork

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Deborah Dwork : Children with a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Children with a Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. VERY EMMOTIONAL BOOK!By Strong willedThis is a great read for any person and I highly recommended to anyone who wants to know what exactly happened during the Holocaust. Many of the stories that were told by adults who were just children at the time of the war are very sad. This book was well written and I strongly support the effort for those who suffered through the Holocaust to be given the chance to tell their story, for the truth must be told!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy aunt

debbiewonderful stories. book sent in a timely manner. book in good condition. price excellant.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Forgotten voices...By Sabrina Van GoethemPeople who know me personally, know that I have an interest in what happened during WWII, and more specifically the Holocaust. For years, I have been trying to find the psychological explanation behind the genocide. What turned ordinary people like you and me into monsters, capable of committing such crimes?There are many books about the Holocaust, but almost all of them are geared towards what happened to the adults. Very few books focus on the fate of children. 'Children with a Star' by Deborah Dwork tries to fill that gap.The book is divided into 7 chapters and each chapter deals with a certain aspect of children's lives. It starts out at the beginning of the war, when new rules such as not being allowed to go to school anymore would have affected the children. Later on, it moves towards transit camps and ghettos, until finally the life of children in slave labor or death camps is told.The book is also illustrated and the photos provide a face to put to the names mentioned in the book, making it much more personal. When I saw a group picture of children I found myself wondering how many of those happy little faces would still have been alive by the end of the war...Whilst it's obvious the author did a lot of research for this book, I'm not convinced she got it across to the readers very well. The sections which come from interviews with survivors were very clear, but the parts inbetween were often difficult to read. And with difficult, I don't mean because of the subject of the book. In my opinion, the author often uses a difficult way to tell something which could have been said more easily: sentences are way too long and use too difficult words. I have to admit I had to restrain myself from skipping parts.I think that if a different writing style would have been adopted, maybe it would make this book more accessible to a larger audience. The Holocaust is after all tough enough to read about as it is.I still haven't found the answer to my question: how? How were perfectly normal people brainwashed in such a way that they would forgo all humanity and act like animals? Maybe one day, I will have the answer...

The little children had little parents in the [twins] block [in Auschwitz]. For example, I was a little mama for twins, two girls named Evichka and HankaMy sister was the mother for Hanka and I was the mother for EvichkaEvichka told me that she got a mother and a father, but that they had gone away on transport. The twins were four years old. I said to her, I will be your mother. She said, But you are only sixteen years old; it doesnt matter? I said, No, it doesnt matter because it is more important that we are together and that we are not alone. You have a mother and I have a daughter. Magda Magda Somogyi Many books have been written about the experiences of Jews in Nazi Europe. None, however, has focused on the persecution of the most vulnerable members of the Jewish communityits children. This powerful and moving book by Deborah Dwork relates the history of these children for the first time. The book is based on hundreds of oral histories conducted with survivors who were children in the Holocaust, in Europe and North America, an extraordinary range of primary documentation uncovered by the author (including diaries, letters, photographs and family albums), and archival records. Drawing on these sources, Dwork reveals the feelings, daily activities, and perceptions of Jewish children who lived and died in the shadow of the Holocaust. She reconstructs and analyzes the many different experiences the children faced. In the early years of Nazi domination they lived at home, increasingly opposed by rising anti-Semitism. Later some went into hiding while others attempted to live openly on gentile papers. As time passed, increasing numbers were forced into transit camps, ghettos, and death and slave labor camps. Although nearly ninety percent of the Jewish children in Nazi Europe were murdered, we learn in this history not of their deaths but of the circumstances of their lives. Children with a Star is a major new contribution to the history of Europe during the Nazi era. It explains from a different perspective how European society functioned during the wary years, how the German noose tightened, and how the Jewish victims and their gentile neighbors responded. It expands the definition of resistance by examining the history of the peopleprimarily womenwho helped Jewish children during the war. By focusing on children, it strips away rationalizations that the victims of Nazism somehow allowed or deserved their punishment. And by examining the experience of children and thereby laying bare how society functions at its most fundamental level, it not only provides a unique understanding of the Holocaust but a new theoretical approach to the study of history.

From Publishers WeeklyThe Nazis' murder of 1.5 million Jewish children is the focus of this pioneering study. Expelled from school, forced to wear the yellow star, Jewish children in German-occupied Europe had their family lives shattered by anti-Semitic legislation prior to the outbreak of war. Later some hid in attics or forests; others concealed their identities but remained visible, constantly threatened by starvation, disease or selection for the gas chambers. Yet, Yale scholar Dwork demonstrates, Jewish children created their own mental space, where play, love and relationships continued amid the evil and horror. Tapping letters, diaries, drawings and oral histories of survivors, Dwork adds a poignant new dimension to Holocaust studies. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.From School Library JournalYA-- A poignant and gripping story by an author who writes with a heart. Dwork begins her history by reiterating the grim statistic that only 11 percent of European Jewish children survived the war and that over one and a half million children were killed. She documents her narrative by weaving personal recollections of survivors and entries from their diaries. Readers will be transfixed by the children's daily lives--the ordinariness as well as the atrocities. A new dimension in books about the Holocaust. --Mary Quinn, Fairfax County Pub . Lib . ,

VA Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal By focusing on the shattering experiences and daily routines of children during the period of Nazi domination in Europe, Dwork succeeds in illuminating a previously unexplored chapter of social history. Relying heavily on quotations from diaries, letters, and interviews, garnered through extensive research, Dwork describes daily living as seen through the eyes of children. She plumbs the sorrows of parents desperately trying to save their children by placing them with foster Christian families through various formal and informal networks that operated throughout Europe. And she chronicles the pitiful attempts to cling to some semblance of normalcy amidst the inhuman, bizarre conditions in the ghettos and the concentration camps. Only ten percent of Jewish children survived the Nazi onslaught. Dwork's powerful book gives new meaning to this numbing statistic. -Carol R. Glatt, VA Medical Ctr. Lib., Philadelphia Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.