



The Hidden Girl: A True Story of the Holocaust

Lola Rein Kaufman , Lois Metzger

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When her mother is killed by the Gestapo, a Jewish girl named Lola is sent into hiding. At first, Lola secretly lives in the home of a Ukrainian woman. But when someone threatens to expose her to the Nazis, Lola must flee again, this time hiding with another family in a dirt hole beneath a barn.

Struggling against cold and hunger, the hidden family lives under the constant threat of discovery. Lola has lost everything - her home and her family. All she has left is one article of clothing, a dress lovingly embroidered by her mother. Will Lola ever find safety - or freedom?

The Hidden Girl: A True Story of the Holocaust Details

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From Reader Review The Hidden Girl: A True Story of the Holocaust for online ebook

Sara says

I read this today in one sitting. And I cried heavy tears. The holocaust took so much from this little girl, just 5 years old when WW2 began. And yet she survived and found a way to experience happiness again. She shares a birthdate with my Oma, though 13 years younger and writes with the same European style. Like Oma, she fell asleep in snow and was rescued by others from freezing to death. This story connected with my heart and my heritage.

Sherrie Rebel says

Just finished reading this last night. I'm looking forward to sharing with my middle school students. This is just the right length for my intervention students. The author has used incredible details to transport the reader to the hiding places where they spent time avoiding the Nazis. Many of my students will have read a selection about Anne Frank so this is the perfect companion piece for them to learn more about the dangers the Jewish people endured.

Calina Benassa says

I don't remember much about this book for obvious reasons, but it was my first introduction to the horrors of the holocaust, which is very important to me now, in hindsight, as a descendant of a survivor. I do remember, however, that it was perfect for a child who is ready to graduate to a bit of a higher reading level; I was in fourth or fifth grade when I read it. I would definitely recommend this as a gift to parents who want to share their history with their children.

Jamiekid says

A very quick read. The story was, of course, sad but it moved so quickly that it seems like it skipped a lot of the story and made it difficult for the reader to really connect with the teller's story and her world as it changed.

Rissa Flores says

Found this at a book sale for only P50. This book is about 5-year-old Lola Rein Kaufman and how she survived the Holocaust by hiding continuously in different houses and other cramped spaces for many, many years. I vaguely remember reading about her before; or rather, about a girl who survived the Holocaust and had one single possession left that she managed to keep all those years--- a dress given by her mother. At first, I wish the book was longer but then I thought Lola Rein was only 5 years old when all of it happened,

and so I understood why the book I picked had only a hundred pages--so just the right exact amount of pages. Still very worth reading.

Shelly says

This is a very quick read.....I finished it in 30 minutes. Being it is published by Scholastic, I assume it is written for grade school age. None the less, it is a very good book. This is the true story of Lola, a child of Jewish heritage, who is kept hidden and sent several places to live to avoid persecution. Most Of her family is murdered. Her true freedom is when she gets on the boat and comes to live with her uncle in America. Despite her survival, the memories continue to haunt her today..

Mom2triplets04 says

I read this for #middlegrademay. It's a heartbreakingly true story. Lola is 7 years old when the war starts. She is living in Poland and her grandmother sends her off to hide. She survived the Holocaust during WW2 by hiding in a hole in the ground. During the war she lost most of her family except for two uncles. After the war she comes to America where she still resides. This is a great book for middle school children to learn more about what happened during WW2 and how some people were brave enough to help children survive during a tragic time in history.

~Bellegirl91~ says

3 1/2 stars in a good way considering how it's a REALLY short book and easy read, I'm a sucker for WWII stories whether it be adult or children book versions (like this one) of these Holocaust survivors, I love them and read what each one went through. Lola went through a TON for her age and one thing I did like was she showed you how to say certain letters sound in Polish for example she said the CZ makes a "CH" sound and the o in Kraków sound like "u" and the W sounds like a "v". SO Kraków is you figured out "KRAK-UV" so pretty neat to actually know that. And I do love that infamous phrase: you learn something new everyday (especially when you read books! ;))

So I did enjoy this book and did break my heart and makes me so glad I didn't have to live during those times and also have privileges in a country when there's those in others countries who don't have those freedom privileges like we do. So a good read for any age and would recommend this story. :)

Janet says

This is a short Scholastic book with not a lot of detail, but a powerful message. The author lost her parents in the holocaust during WWII and her grandmother sent her to a farm to be hidden. I wish the author had written more of her feelings and more description, but it is a book worth reading nonetheless. We must never forget that a wicked man set forth to destroy a whole people!

Damian says

I like this book a lot. It gives interesting, detailed, and important facts on what happened during the Holocaust. This book is mainly about this girl named Lola. It talks about the challenges she faced because of her religion. The book gives you a tiny glimpse of the struggles people and kids like her had to face.

Colin Hughes says

The Hidden Girl is an autobiography written by a Lola Rein Kaufman, a Jewish Holocaust survivor who had to hide from the Nazis in a small hole dug in a barn for nine months. The relatively interesting story of hiding and running is believable and nicely constructed, moving with relative ease from one event to another. The war-time setting of Poland was described by the author very well; it sounded authentic and real. Themes such as family and love emerged, as well as courage and bravery. Lola Kaufman doesn't do a great job describing characters, and I never really felt any connection to them, but the engaging writing and tone of the story made up for it. The first person views of Lola Kaufman provided a crystal clear window into the horrific prospect of being a hidden Jew during the Holocaust. Lola is a cultural insider who experienced everything she wrote about, and chose to write the book after she was asked to speak by the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C. She describes the "cloak" that was over her personality, preventing her from speaking, and how it was finally lifted. Lola now talks about her experiences nationwide; she wants everyone to know about her experiences.

Daniel L. says

A Continuous Fight to Hide from Evil

Because it was directed primarily against children, the Holocaust was unprecedented in its cruelty. This time, however, Lola's parents were the ones to be murdered by the Gestapo; as with a number of Jewish children, this little girl was rescued by members of the underground. She finds sanctuary at the home of a Ukrainian woman, putting both lives in jeopardy. Despite such heroic deeds, there were locals who threatened to expose this secret. Lola had to find another place of hiding, this time at a barn. All she has of her parents is a dress, beautifully embroidered by her loving mother. That and hope are all she has to hold onto. Young readers will learn a great deal about how children their age had to survive in the constant face of danger and hunger during the dark years of the Holocaust. As with many books of this genre, this one is part novel, part biography - the story of one child and her enduring will to live.

BELIEVESINMIRACLES says

Meh.

It was ok, not what I expected. It is clearly a child's book and why it was in the adult section under war with a YA label on it, I don't understand, this is a book suitably written for a 4th grader. I suppose the author did

not wish to write a full length book complete with details for an adult audience.

It is also very dead panned and unemotional. She simply states ' They shot my mother ' and that was that.

It is a good introduction to the horrors of Poland between 1939-1945 for a young reader, an adult with a need for or love of history or personal memoirs will be left wanting.

Laura Guilbault says

2 stars for "it was ok."

70% of the book was composed of dates and long town names I instantly forget after reading about. However, the story part was touching and sad. There was a bit of awkward sentence structure and unneeded exclamation points which I found took away from the flow a little, drawing me out of Lola's story, although I suppose for a younger reader it would be more appealing. There's no "mature content" but the subject matter is not light; there is a lot of death, starvation, isolation and darkness, which is sad and not the most pleasant read, but I think this would be the kind of book for a child who is interested in learning about the history of WW2.

Dayna Smith says

The true story of a Jewish child in Poland during WWII. After her parents were killed by the Nazi's, her grandmother arranges to smuggle Lola out of the ghetto and into the home of a woman named Anna who hides her. The book is written for younger readers so many of the brutal horrors of the War are glossed over, but readers will still feel for this small child who must struggle to find herself in a world that is not always a wonderful place. A good introductory novel of the Holocaust.
