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"Where's Sylvia? The Story Of An American Child Lost In Nazi Germany"



Linda LaMura McFadden



Synopsis

When only six "Little Sylvia" leaves her parents and their bakery in the Bronx, NY, to go to Germany with her Aunt Betty and Uncle Walter. They are supposed to bring her back before school starts in the fall. They don't. They can't. It's Autumn of 1939; Hitler's Blitzkrieg is in motion. Europe is at war! Sylvia is going to have to wait a lifetime. A US citizen, she will become an Enemy Alien when America enters WWII. Through the duration she lives with another aunt, a nun in a convent, has to go to German schools in the Rhineland then run east to Bavaria where her uncle is drafted into the German Army. Alone with Betty and her two babies she must survive the Allied invasion, her only hope of rescue. Her mother, deserted by her husband will go years without any knowledge of her only child. Everyone is waiting and wants to know, "Where's Sylvia?".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This wonderful narrative is exceptionally well edited, and reading it is like traveling in a kayak on down-hill, white water rapids. It is very informative of this period of history in Germany, but also has a "fleshed out" account of the subject's life as a small child during the 1930's in the Bronx. As a baseball fan, I was Innocence Lost: A true story of a young German girls surviving the horror of the Russian advance westward in the last months of world war two. From peace as an evacuee to

survival as refugee.Weeds Like Uspleased that the author made the effort to describe the culture surrounding a small family bakery on a street leading directly to the Polo Grounds, home of the New York Giants during the time of their most noted successes, including mention of the players like Mel Ott, and Carl Hubbard.But, this story quickly escalates into sheer fascination with the fast-moving account of how the little girl is influenced, mentally and physically, by her mother's attention to reality, and her father's devotion to his homeland of the past.The character development is superb with all the family members that were so crucial to the story, carefully described to the point that I felt as if I knew them.The time in Germany included a number of exciting, informative chapters that never lost sight of the personal dilemma involving "Sylvia", and her "misallocation.

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