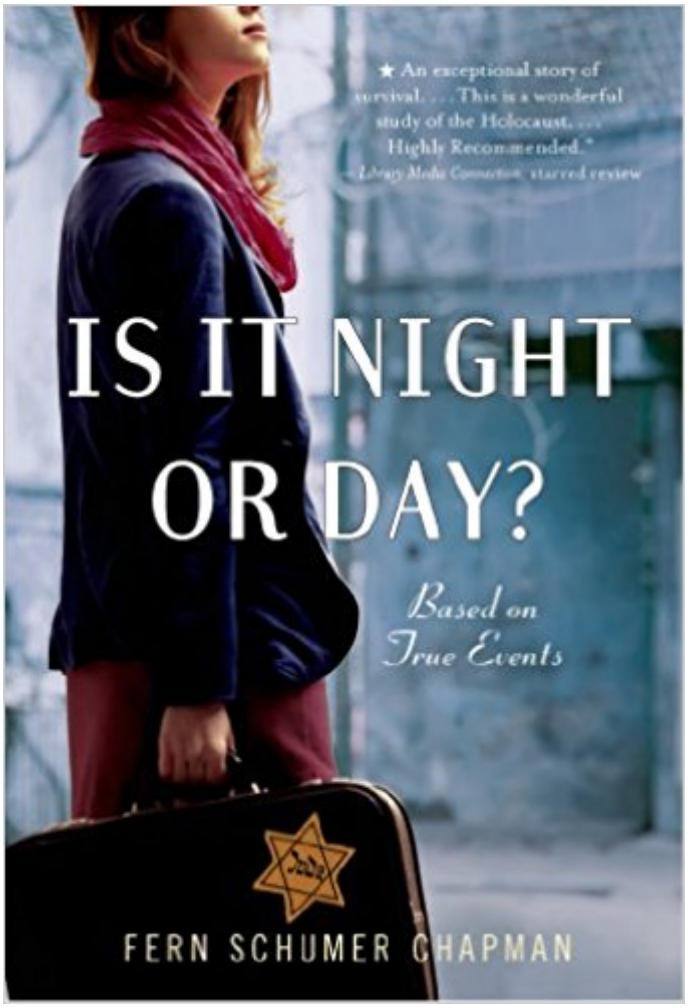
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Is It Night Or Day?: A Novel Of Immigration And Survival, 1938-1942



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Synopsis

It’s 1938, and twelve-year-old Edith is about to move from the tiny German village she’s lived in all her life to a place that seems as foreign as the moon: Chicago, Illinois. And she will be doing it alone. This dramatic and chilling novel about one girl’s escape from Hitler’s Germany was inspired by the experiences of the author’s mother, one of twelve hundred children rescued by Americans as part of the One Thousand Children project.This title has Common Core connections.Is It Night or Day? is a 2011 Bank Street Best Children’s Book of the Year.

Book Information

Paperback: 256 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 17.3 x 194.3 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #100,604 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Holocaust #75 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Europe #140 inÃ Â Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Prejudice & Racism

Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

Customer Reviews

Grade 5Ã¢â ¬â œ9Ã¢â ¬â •Tiddy, 12, can’t understand why she is being forced to leave her beloved family to go and live in a strange land. By 1938, anti-Semitism has taken hold in Germany and the Westerfields, "an old and once respected Jewish family of Stockstadt," are suddenly "filthy Jews." Grandmother refuses to leave, but Vati and Mutti fear for the lives of their daughters, so they send Betty to a family in Chicago. A year later Tiddy is put on a ship to America to live with her Onkel Jacob. She soon finds that her aunt and cousin do not want her there, and that her sister lives too far away to visit often. From her first day in her new home and school, Tiddy is stripped of her identity and connection to her homeland. She is horrified when Aunt Mildred throws away her beautiful handmade blouse. She faces the humiliation of being placed in first grade at the age of 12

because she can’t speak English. The final cord is severed when her parents die in a concentration camp. The author has "given voice" to her mother, Edith Westerfield, in this fictionalized account of her immigration experience. In doing so, Chapman has created an engaging memoirlike novel.Ã¢â ¬â •Wendy Scalfaro, G. Ray Bodley High School, Fulton, NY (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Starred Review Chapman based this spare historical novel on her motherÃ¢â ¬â„¢s experience of coming to America to escape Nazi persecution. At age 12, Edith is sent by her German Jewish parents to relatives on ChicagoÃ¢â ¬â„¢s South Side in 1937. Oppressed by her aunt, who makes Edith work as a maid, and teased at school, where she starts off in first grade until she learns English, Edith suffers prejudice, including anti-Semitism in the girlsÃ¢â ¬â„¢ locker room (Ã¢â ¬Å“Dirty Jew!Ã¢â ¬Â•); and after the U.S. declares war, other children view her as an Ã¢â ¬Å“enemy alienÃ¢â ¬Â• and call her Ã¢â ¬Å“Dirty Kraut.Ã¢â ¬Â• Even worse, she receives almost no word from her parents, until the final shocking news about the camps comes in 1945. In EdithÃ¢â ¬â„¢s bewildered, sad, angry voice, the words are eloquent and powerful. Did her parents want to get rid of her? Why does her older sister, also in Chicago, not call? Just as heartbreaking is an early letter from her mother: Ã¢â ¬Å“I open the door and no one is there.Ã¢â ¬Â• On a lighter note, baseball helps Edith, and her hero, Hank Greenberg, inspires her to take pride in her Jewish heritage. As with the best writing, the specifics about life as a young immigrant are universal, including the bookÃ¢â ¬â„¢s title, which is drawn from a quote by a Sudanese immigrant Ã¢â ¬Å“Lost BoyÃ¢â ¬Â• who arrived in the U.S. in 2001. Grades 6-10. --Hazel Rochman --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Really well written true-to-life historical drama novel about a Jewish girl sent to America from Germany prior to America entering WWII.

The package arrived on time and as described.

A simple story of the complicated life of a German child refugee. My heart aches for all the child refugees.

Excellent book describing a little known movement to rescue Jewish children pre-Holocaust

Germany. Written from a young teen’s perspecitve, it would be great for middle school children studying diverse cultures and religious persecution. Interesting read for adults seeking more info on this movement. Look forward to reading more in-depth study of the adult life of the teen featured in this book in Motherland..... by Fern Schumer Chapman

Excellent book. A very human way to learn of our history. To understand our reasons for World War II. Younger generations must learn why we value freedom so much and how Hitler put himself above human rights and religious freedom. A very high price was paid by many for religious freedom. Those that died and those that survived. Too few left to tell their story. Must never be forgotten

Great book for an excellent price! Shipped quickly!

I saw a special on the Oprah Winfrey Network channel about a group of 7th graders that set out to find the "lost" friend after reading the book. They found her and were able to reunite the two girls - now in their 80’s! Couldn’t wait to read the book after seeing the heartwarming story on OWN.

I enjoyed this book (on my Kindle) a lot. It was fast reading and very touching. I highly recommend it.

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