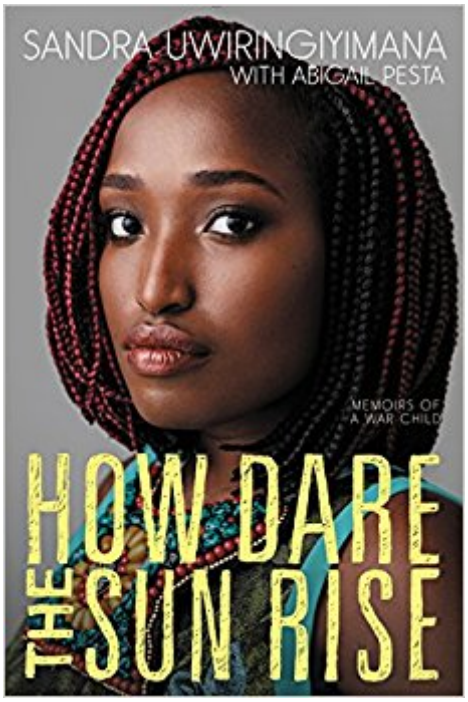
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How Dare The Sun Rise: Memoirs Of A War Child



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Synopsis

This profoundly moving memoir is the remarkable and inspiring true story of Sandra Uwiringiyimana, a girl from the Democratic Republic of the Congo who tells the tale of how she survived a massacre, immigrated to America, and overcame her trauma through art and activism.Sandra was just ten years old when she found herself with a gun pointed at her head. She had watched as rebels gunned down her mother and six-year-old sister in a refugee camp. Remarkably, the rebel didnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t pull the trigger, and Sandra escaped.Thus began a new life for her and her surviving family members. With no home and no money, they struggled to stay alive. Eventually, through a United Nations refugee program, they moved to America, only to face yet another ethnic disconnect. Sandra may have crossed an ocean, but there was now a much wider divide she had to overcome. And it started with middle school in New York.In this memoir, Sandra tells the story of her survival, of finding her place in a new country, of her hope for the future, and how she found a way to give voice to her people.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“This gut-wrenching, poetic memoir reminds us that no life story can be reduced to the word Ã¢â ¬Ëœrefugee.Ã¢â ¬â„¢ Uwiringiyimana weaves the pieces of her life into a fine tapestry that evokes deep empathy, even as it provides an excellent introduction for young readers to the political and economic climate in a conflict-ridden African region.Ã¢â ¬Â• (New York Times Book Review)Ã¢â ¬Å“The title is a critical piece of literature, contributing to the larger refugee narrative in a way that is complex and nuanced but still accessible for a YA audience. This poignant memoir is a

must-have for teen collections.Ã¢â ¬Â• (School Library Journal (starred review))Ã¢â ¬Å“As AmericaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s doors threaten to shut against refugees, this memoir could not be timelier. Her ability to summon the chaos and terror is extraordinary, but then, so is she. [Uwiringiyimana] has emerged as a powerful spokesperson for the plight of the dispossessed.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Booklist)Ã¢â ¬Å“With compassion and perspicacity, Uwiringiyimana shares the journey through which she became a courageous advocate for her tribe and refugees everywhere: Ã¢â ¬ËœThis is my story.... I must keep telling it, until the international community proves.... that my family and all others are not disposable.Ã¢â ¬â„¢Ã¢â ¬Â• (Publishers Weekly)Ã¢â ¬Å“SandraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s account of her transition to America is fully as engrossing as her familyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s escape from their war-torn homeland, and her memories of trying to navigate American culture...will provoke consideration even with readers who look upon immigrant classmates and neighbors with indifference.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Bulletin of the Center for ChildrenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Books)Ã¢â ¬Å“...the politically and culturally complex picture of Africa that the author paints is welcome, and the complexities of black identity for recent immigrants versus that of diasporic black people are not often touched upon in YA literature.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã Â (Horn Book Magazine)Ã¢â ¬Å“[A] story of tragedy, terror, survival, and hope. [Uwiringiyimana] becomes a powerful voice for many who are silenced: girls, women, and immigrants everywhere, refugees in particular. This hard-hitting autobiography will have readers reeling as it shows one young womanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s challenging path to healing.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Kirkus Reviews)Ã¢â ¬Å“A brave and honest story that puts a human face on the international refugee crisis-and asks us all to walk a mile in SandraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s shoes.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Patricia McCormick, author of Sold and Never Fall Down)Ã¢â ¬Å“SandraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s life story has profound power. From Africa to America, to the world-an inspiring tale and a riveting read.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Joanna Coles, Chief Content Officer, Hearst Magazines)Ã¢â ¬Å“In a world on fire, SandraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s story of survival delivers essential truths and a message of peace and unity that speaks to us all.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Tina Brown, founder and CEO of Tina Brown Live Media/Women in the World)

Sandra Uwiringiyimana was ten years old when she found herself with a gun pointed at her head. The rebels had come at nightÃ¢â ¬â •wielding weapons, torches, and machetes. She had watched as her mother and six-year-old sister were gunned down in a refugee camp, far from their home in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The rebels were killing people who werenÃ¢â ¬â„¢t from the same tribe.Ã¢â ¬Å“Good-bye, life,Ã¢â ¬Â• she said to the man ready to shoot her.Remarkably, the rebel didnÃ¢â ¬â„¢t pull the trigger, and Sandra escaped into the night.Thus began a new life for her and her surviving family members. With no home and no money, they struggled to stay alive.

Eventually, through a United Nations refugee program, they moved to America, only to face yet another ethnic disconnect. Sandra may have crossed an ocean, but there was now a much wider divide she had to overcome. And it started with middle school in New York.In this profoundly moving memoir, Sandra tells the inspiring story of her survival, of finding her place in a new country, and of her hope for the future. How Dare the Sun Rise shows the unrelenting strength of one incredible young woman and her family, unveiling how she found a way to give voice to her people and begin the path to healing through art and activism.

How Dare the Sun Rise is a heartwrenching story of how Sandra Uwiringiyimana managed to survive the massacre that took the life of her sister and countless other friends and family only to tackle obstacles once she arrived in America.It would have been all too easy for Miss Uwiringiyimana to just give up on life but instead she perseverance has helped carry her to a greatness. Her story is inspirational and should serve as an example to young people that yes, things may be difficult but through dedication, hard work and belief in yourself, anything is possible.

This is a riveting story that spoke to me in unexpected ways. This is not just about a girl surviving a terrible ordeal, it is about a young woman thriving without compromising. This book is a must-read for anyone trying to understand the refugee experience, from the horrors she faced as a young child to the challenges she survived in navigating life in a camp and eventually in America. Uwiringiyimana articulates the racial divide in the U.S. with the clear-sighted vision of someone who has seen the best and the worst of humanity.

I loved this book. Sandra’s writing is genuine and tells her story in a way that is easy to identify with. When I interact with a refugee or anyone who has been through a severe trauma or massacre, it’s easy for me to think that if they seem ok, they ARE ok. How Dare The Sun Rise helped me understand how complex, deep, and even delayed the struggles can be for someone in Sandra’s position. Her story also clearly revealed the things people said and did that eased her transition, or made it miserable. As someone who wants to welcome people in similar situations, I can see with more clarity how I might do that practically.

This is the most powerful and honest book I’ve ever read. Sandra is an amazing woman whose experience can teach us all how to live with compassion and resilience in circumstances many people could not imagine being faced with. She is hope and light in the world and I hope everyone

reads this book!

I initially chose this book because I wanted to better understand the thoughts and actions of a Congolese friend. This is a kind and loving person who sometimes, to me seemed detached.Thank you for this book. I know feel what he meant when he said, "I've cried enough." As an author you continue the call for justice for Deborah and the other 165 humans murdered in The Gatumba Massacre, and the many lives impacted by the hate that caused and continues to cause this and other atrocities. You also gave readers a precious window into the lives of people raised in war.

Everyone can relate to at least one portion of this book. The book had me laughing and crying throughoutthe whole text.

Sandra's account of her journey was heartbreaking and inspirational. I think here in America, in the land of the free, we have no idea of what refugees who come here have been through. This was a riveting and harrowing story of the strength of the human spirit. What an incredible young woman this author is.

This book, like the poised and courageous author, is full of authentic, meaningful insights into a world most of us can only imagine.The visceral description of her horrific losses are balanced with the honest and articulate descriptions that come from a young woman who had her life and family ripped away from her. Starting over, finding her way in new cultures, and using her voice as a call to action inspires me to be grateful and compassionate. Beautiful and real.

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