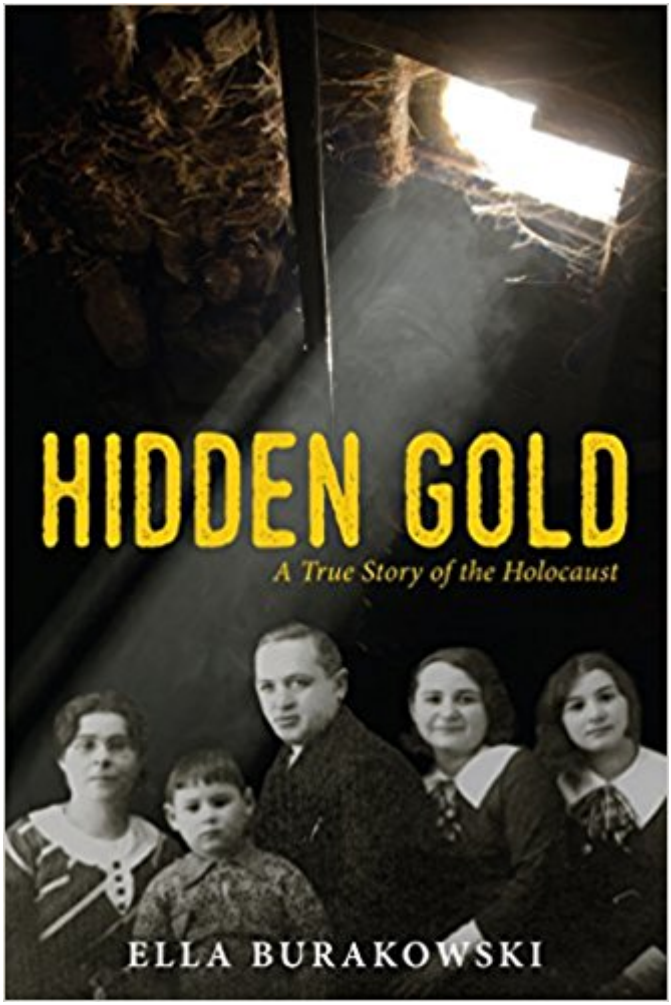
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Hidden Gold



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Synopsis

This true story follows the Gold family and the oldest daughter, Shoshana. The book begins with the Jewish family s idyllic prewar life in Poland. It then follows their journey during the war years, when they were forced to hide in a cramped, secret enclosure for twenty-six months, facing appalling conditions, starvation and fear of imminent betrayal and capture. A heart-stopping testament to the human spirit.

Book Information

Paperback: 348 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #683,466 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #61 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Holocaust #65 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Europe #81 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Social Issues > Prejudice

Customer Reviews

Gr 7 UpÃ¢â ¬â •The Gold family must navigate through the perils of Poland during the start of World World II. The family has many comforts and is considered quite wealthy; when Germany invades, readers see them stripped of their money and privilege as they endure a torturous hiding period lasting two years. Even though the subject matter is difficult, the portrayal of the characters is dynamic and heartwarming. Readers gain deep insight into Shoshana, the eldest daughter; Esther, her sister; and young David, as each sibling deals with fear and isolation in their own way. Burakowski’s novel, based upon her mother’s experiences growing up during World War II, will spark discussion and likely inspire further research into the Holocaust as well as serve as a springboard for critical examinations relating historical events to current situations around the globe. VERDICT A fine purchase to support curriculum related to World War II and Holocaust studies.Ã¢â ¬â •April Sanders, Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL

... an affirmation of human courage. (Kirkus Reviews 2015-07-15)The story of a Polish-Jewish

family forced into hiding from the Nazis is by its very nature compelling, and the Golds familial bond and undaunted spirits are commendable... (Publishers Weekly 2015-08-10)Infinitely stunning... Burakowski crafts an excellent story based on the recollections of her family. (Paper. Work. Blog. 2015-09-13)Even though the subject matter is difficult, the portrayal of the characters is dynamic and heartwarming... A fine purchase to support curriculum related to World War II and Holocaust studies. (School Library Journal 2015-10-01)Hidden Gold is a perfect title for this book that pays tribute to the strength of family and the resilience that each member drew upon to help them individually and collectively survive the ordeal. The book will nurture empathy in readers young and not-so-young alike. (CM: Canadian Review of Materials 2015-10-23)[Hidden Gold] is a simply told story that grabs at your heart and is a reminder of the horrors of war and the bond of family love. (Calgary Herald 2015-11-07)In this labour of love, Burakowski reminds us the millions who perished were all individuals who died horrible deaths, and that those few who survived owed their lives to a fate no less arbitrary than that which led others to their death. (Winnipeg Free Press 2015-11-07)...the well-developed characters and the bond between the Gold family members as they endure terrible hardships end up making this an engaging story.... The book also includes pictures of the Gold family, the barn where they hid, and various other objects and documents that help the reader understand this incredible true story. (Resource Links 2015-12-01) --Publishers WeeklyExceptionally well written and presented, "Hidden Gold" is a valued and welcome addition to the growing library of Holocaust literature. Very highly recommended for community and academic library Holocaust Studies collections. (The Midwest Book Review 2016-02-23) --The Midwest Book ReviewThis powerful book is presented like a mystery. The reader eagerly reads page after page in order to discover what will happen to the desperate characters. (Jewish Book Council 2016-06-03) --Jewish Book Council

I really love this book I had a hard time putting it down I don’t know how they survived as long as they did a must-read

Love the book. It is well written book about a sad series of our history, but one we must never forget and certainly never repeat. Very much worth the read. If you like this type of story, you must read this one.

This was a book that took you right into the terrible hatred of the Jews. The Germans and polish people too treated the Jews terrible.

Hidden Gold: A True Story of the Holocaust is by Ella Burakowski. Ella Burakowski has written this book about her Mother (Shoshana) and her familyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s struggle to survive the Holocaust. This book is written for young adults and it suitable for ages 14 through adult. Although it deals with a very harsh subject and details their struggles, it avoids graphic depictions and incidents. Yet as you read, you experience the horrors of the war, dealing with disreputable people, starvation and depravation. The book catches your attention from the first page and holds you in its grasp throughout the book. It is extremely difficult to put down as you keep wanting to find out what happens to the family. I was particularly intrigued by the rebbe who told David that he would survive. How was it possible that he knew this by looking at the young boy? Stranger things have happened, I guess; but this statement really made an impression on me as it did on David.This book is well-written and definitely deals well with a difficult subject. It is another view of being hidden with your family than that given by Anne Frank. Interestingly, David is about the same age as Anne Frank was at the start of the war. Their lives were not so different before the war; but their time in hiding was definitely different and, of course, the outcome was different. It is an action packed historical story that reads like fiction but is true.

I just finished reading 'Hidden Gold: A True Story of the Holocaust'. It gripped me right from the start! It was a book I could not put down! All I wanted to do was read read read! The characters were incredible & the fact that these were real people made it all the more heart wrenching. I could almost feel their pain. I cried with them & sometimes they even made me smile, but these were my people although I knew none of them. This is such a wonderful story of a mother's love for her family & the sacrifices she made to keep them all together. We know the stories that came out of the Holocaust & not all ended well. Somehow, throughout this book, there was always a glimmer of hope that all of these people would survive. I wanted to finish & yet, I wanted the book not to end because I wanted these people to always stay alive in my heart. They touched me to my very soul. This is a must read. I cannot say that the topic was enjoyable, but it is a book not to be missed. 10/10

The author did a wonderful job in writing an absorbing account of the Gold familyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s experiences in this horrible period of history. It is hard to imagine how awful those experiences must have been, and it is wonderful that we are able to hear about them from the memories of one of the survivors, David Gold. I never felt a sense of boredom; in fact, I was often on the edge of my seat

wondering what was going to happen next. I think that is a testament to Ella BurakowskiÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s talents as a writer. The story itself is, of course, extraordinary, but it also requires skillful writing to bring out the color and emotional immediacy of the experience. But beyond the technical aspects of the writing, the author has done an important service in keeping this story in the consciousness of the present generation. As the victims of the Holocaust have almost all died, it is very important that their stories remain alive. We owe the author a debt of gratitude in bringing this truly remarkable story alive for future generations to hear. I found this to be a moving and important book!

Advanced Review Copy provided by Second Story Press for an honest review.Original Review posted at Bookwyrming ThoughtsI'm generally not a memoir person. But if I'm going to read a memoir (or even nonfiction), I'll choose anything about the Holocaust (I find that time period sadistically interesting).Hidden Gold deserves about as much praise as Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl. A story set in another part of Europe (Poland) during Hitler's reign, Burakowski tells us her family's survival, hidden away from society in the hopes that they won't be found out.For two years, the Golds hid with the Lanskis in a small part of a barn in Kolkow, surviving with very little sustenance. During that time, their hope dwindles little by little, but the two families still cling on to their pasts, even if that life will be impossible to get back to after everything blows over.I loved how Burakowski introduces us to her family and the people that the Golds were involved with, giving us lots of background information on how Leib met Hanna and how the Golds lived their life in the early parts of the war. Burakowski also gives us insight on the growing hypocrisy and horrors among society as Hitler's power and anti-Semitism grew, giving us visuals on how life was like for the Jews back in the late 1930s and early 1940s. We're also shown the inner turmoils going on with those who had good relations with Jews and now having to choose whether or not they should help Jews, or give in to the propaganda.Shoshana, Hanna's daughter, is extremely admirable. She's willing to go out to the Germans, pretending to be one of them, to buy her family time. She is also willing to risk her life a few times to get her family's money from PiÃƒâ |Ã â czÃƒÂ w, and going back again while she felt ill. If I were in her place, I'd probably continue to curl up in a fetal little ball. (Despite the fact I'm considered living in "poverty," I'm pretty much a lucky duckling. Also, being an only child, I'm probably a little spoiled.)David is perhaps one of those where all the feels will come. Like any little kid, he's full of mischief and mayhem, but going through such a dark time at a really young age, he's extremely brave, confident, and has the most hope for the family getting out alive.Although most of Hidden Gold is focused on the Gold's survival during Hitler running rampant with the final solution,

Burakowski finalizes the story from David's viewpoint with how each of the family members were impacted years later in the future. For those interested in what happened in other parts of Europe or a survival story outside of concentration camps, Ella Burakowski's Hidden Gold makes a fantastic contribution depicting the horrors of the Holocaust.

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