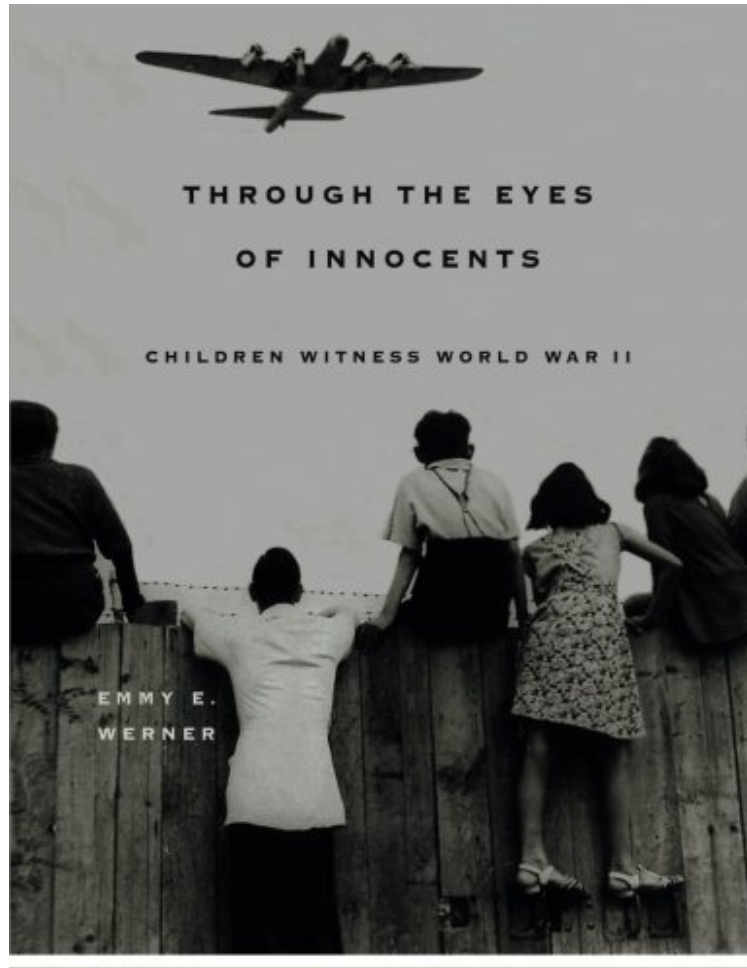


(Ebook free) Through The Eyes Of Innocents: Children Witness World War II

## Through The Eyes Of Innocents: Children Witness World War II

*Emmy E Werner*

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**Emmy E Werner : Through The Eyes Of Innocents: Children Witness World War II** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Through The Eyes Of Innocents: Children Witness World War II:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. World History Must Be Seen Through the Eyes of Children, Too By Kopykat I have been studying the history of WWII from a personal perspective for many years - my mother was a "Rosie the Riveter." What the children who actually lived through the bombing and horrors of war, went through, was never a realization to me. This book brought their experiences to life and actually shamed me for not considering them. A must read for anyone who wonders how children survive war and live on in normal lives. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Through the Eyes of Innocents: Children... By Kay Have only had it a day, so have not read more than a few pages, but it appears to be good over-view of children's experiences in WWII. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. holding on to this book, even though I give ... By Ingrid Brown holding on to this

book, even though I give most away. Trying to find myself in any of these stories.

World War II was the first modern war in which more civilians than soldiers were killed or maimed: When it ended in August 1945, more than thirty-nine millions civilians had died as a direct result of the war, and some thirteen million of these were children. In *Through the Eyes of Innocents*, Emmy Werner tells the story of the children of World War II through their own words. Drawing on diaries, letters, and journals kept by youngsters caught up in the war, Werner shows the universality of their experience. Children and teenagers from a dozen countries - England, Germany, France, Japan, the former Soviet Union, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Poland and the United States - are all represented in some 200 eye-witness accounts. Werner focuses on their shared reactions to the war, the hardships they endured, how they coped, and how the war experience shaped their lives. The message they share with other children in contemporary wars is an extraordinary affirmation of life and the sustaining power of hope and human decency.

.com Emmy E. Werner survived World War II on the ground, as a child living in Germany, with a family split over both sides of the conflict. That war set more than a few gruesome records, but perhaps the most tragic was that, for the first time in modern history, more civilians than soldiers were maimed or killed in the fighting. Thirteen million were children, and another 20 million were left orphaned by the war. As one of the survivors, Werner carries a unique qualification for crafting this moving and well-researched book, a sweeping, reverently assembled collection of children's eyewitness accounts of that traumatic and uncertain time. Pulling together contrasting experiences from over 200 different children and teens (drawing from diaries, letters, journals, and a handful of adult interviews), *Through the Eyes of the Innocents* paints an impressively rich and varied picture of the war. Children on every side of the conflict recount images and incidents ranging from the benign to the horrific, whether it was German youngsters in the Ardennes decorating Christmas trees with radar foil or a 12-year-old writing to MacArthur, begging him to let her "get down in the trenches and mow these Germans down 5 by 5." But Werner manages to temper the horror with hope, devoting much attention to postwar recovery and rebuilding (especially the efforts of CARE and UNICEF), and pleading that we remember the words of the "wide-eyed and defenseless" as we confront the violence of today. --Paul Hughes  
From Library Journal  
Having authored several books on children's ability to survive trauma (e.g., *Reluctant Witnesses: Children's Voices from the Civil War*), developmental psychologist Werner now turns to children's memories of World War II and her own reminiscences of growing up in wartime Germany during "a global conflict in which more children [were] killed and maimed than in all previous wars in the world." The result is surprisingly upbeat and utterly compelling: a story of children's resiliency in the face of repeated uprootings and batterings. In the middle of the fighting, Sandra, aged ten, wrote: "Don't ever hurt the children. They are not guilty of anything." Read this affecting book, and you will be hard-pressed not to agree. While there have been numerous first-person accounts of the war, this reviewer has not come across another with quite this angle. A simply wonderful book that deserves many readers.  
ADavid Keymer, California State Univ., Stanislaus Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. "...a captivating read." -- Harvard Book Review  
"In this absorbing book, Werner captures the innocence of children caught in the crossfire of social change wrought by the war..." -- Booklist  
"While there have been numerous first person accounts of the war, this reviewer has not come across another with quite this angle." -- Library Journal  
"[T]he cumulative effect of the book and its many photographs of war's children can move one to tears..." -- Philadelphia Inquirer  
"weaves children's letters, diaries and interviews into a spellbinding narrative that brings WWII's saturation bombing... into [a] focus..." -- Berkeley Express