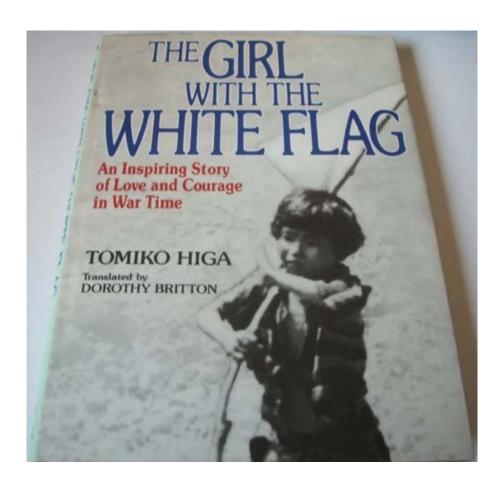


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From School Library Journal

YA-- Higa tells of her experiences as a seven year old wandering for seven weeks in battle-torn Okinawa in 1945. Her nine-year-old brother was killed beside her as they slept. Separated from her sisters, she survived on her own and then with an elderly, handicapped couple. Although bloody corpses are a common sight, the book is not depressing. Aspects of Oriental culture and religion, such as the importance of family and the relationship of man to nature, can be seen. Sentences are usually short, but they don't detract from the effectiveness of this moving, autobiographical memoir. Recent immigrants from countries ravaged by war will find it particularly meaningful. All will be touched by Higa's tenacity under impossible circumstances and will be reminded that children continue to be the worst victims of war. --Claudia Moore, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA

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Review

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A seven-year-old child experiences the American invasion of Okinawa.

Sales Rank: #1294121 in Books
Brand: Brand: Kodansha Amer Inc

Published on: 1991-06Original language: Japanese

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.50" h x 6.25" w x .75" l,

• Binding: Hardcover

• 128 pages

Features

Used Book in Good Condition

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..".an original, candid, and attention gripping autobiographical narrative which is superbly written and enthusiastically recommended..." -Bookwatch

Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Five Stars

By Klee

I Enjoyed this book very much. Being of Okinawan ancestry, it was not until I visited Okinawa that I took an interest in the Battle of Okinawa. The ravages of war on a country and its people is so horrible....This was a brave little girl, who lived to tell her story. This is NOT a book for elementary school children.

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful.

I read this book because she shares my last name ...

By higa

but is no relation. And found I enjoyed it more than I thought I would. There are many mentions in the customer reviews about it being middle school or young adolescent lit, so I was a little leery. And it is in a way, because the episodes in her life are just presented the way she remembered them. There is no tying it back to a larger political idea, no closure of narrative like one expect in an adult novel, and often "characters" in her story walk away never to be seen from or heard from again. So, in that way, if you are expecting an adult account with deep reflections, ramifications both political and social, and prescriptions and condemnations, then you need to read another book. But Higa's account was refreshing in that way that children are. She presents everything without guile or over-analysis. You feel the visceral experience with her as she climbs over the wasteland that her country becomes. She never sugar-coats anything because there is no need to when just presented factually. You feel her need, understand her young judgements, and are just charmed by her plucky character. In today's multicultural educational system, this book would be a good addition to any history of WWII.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A riveting and heartfelt novel on the Battle of Okinawa ...

By Nico Vela

A riveting and heartfelt novel on the Battle of Okinawa. It is a must read for anyone wishing to understand, at least in part, the Japanese side of World War 2.

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