



The Man from the Other Side

By Uri Orlev

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The Man from the Other Side By Uri Orlev

Marek has never thought about the Jewish people who live in the Warsaw Ghetto near his home—until he helps his stepfather smuggle food and guns through the sewer to sell there. Even then, he does not truly understand what it means to be isolated, persecuted, and faced with almost certain death at the hands of the Nazis. Then Marek meets a Jewish man on the run—and, in helping him, is thrust into the middle of an uprising.

“From the first page, this grabs you like a thriller.”—*Booklist*, starred review

“Subtle, beautifully crafted, altogether compelling.”—*Kirkus Reviews*, pointer review

"This is a story of individual bravery and national shame that highlights just how hopeless was the fate of the Warsaw Jews as they fought alone and heroically against the Nazi war machine." —*School Library Journal*, starred review

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The Man from the Other Side By Uri Orlev Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 9 Up-- Based on a true story of a Polish boy living in Nazi-occupied Warsaw just before the 1943 uprising, this understated but very revealing fictional memoir follows 14-year-old Marek through some harrowing experiences as he is drawn into this Jewish battle for survival--on both sides of the Ghetto wall. Until his Catholic mother informs Marek that his father was a Jew and had been killed in prison because he was a Communist, the boy has extremely negative feelings about Jews. When he helps Jozek, a Polish Jew hiding from the Nazis and anti-Semitic Poles in Warsaw, he begins a series of events that ultimately results in Jozek's violent death at the hands of the Nazis and Marek's narrow escape from the besieged quarter. Characterizations are vivid and finely drawn, even those of minor figures such as Marek's empathetic mother who is embarrassed by her countrymen's hatred of Jews; his crude, contradictory stepfather; and his grandparents, who treat Jozek as a family member, all the while hating Jews. This is a story of individual bravery and national shame that highlights just how hopeless was the fate of the Warsaw Jews as they fought alone and heroically against the Nazi war machine. --Jack Forman, Mesa College Library , San Diego
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From Kirkus Reviews

When Israeli author Orlev, who drew on his own ghetto experiences in *The Island on Bird Street* (1984; Batchelder Award), met a certain Polish journalist, they found that both had been boys in Warsaw during WW II; Orlev kept ``Marek's" extensive confidences secret (including his discovery in 1942 that his father--executed in 1934 as a Communist--was Jewish) until his death in 1987. Now, Orlev shapes Marek's account into a powerful novel about a devout 13-year-old Catholic in a virulently anti-Semitic society, responding to his experiences by coming to champion the Jews walled in near his home. With stepfather Antony, Marek already knows the ghetto: traveling through sewers, they take food to sell there at high prices, often returning with a baby to hide with the nuns (no charge). Still, Marek is casually anti-Semitic until he helps rob a Jewish escapee and is caught by his mother, who points out that ``You sentenced him to death" and reveals his own heritage. Deeply shaken, Marek sets out to make amends. He befriends a man he sees crossing himself the wrong way and ultimately leads him back, underground, to the ghetto, during the heroic ghetto uprising. Orlev's characters are sobering, believable blends: e.g., Antony dislikes Jews but, knowing Marek's background, wants to adopt him; he turns others' dire needs to profit but has ``nothing against human beings." Many others in this richly authentic story are equally complex. Subtle, beautifully crafted, altogether compelling. (Fiction. 10+) -- *Copyright ©1991, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Robert Burdette:

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your own free time/ holiday? May be reading a book is usually option to fill your free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the guide untitled The Man from the Other Side can be very good book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

Lawrence Elam:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try to and must have the time or they will get wide range of stress from both day to day life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity have you got when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative with spending your spare time, typically the book you have read is definitely The Man from the Other Side.

Carmela Williams:

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