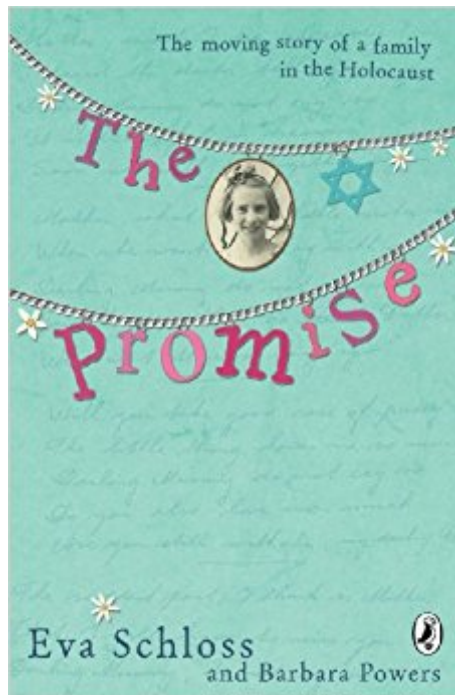




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The Promise: The Moving Story Of A Family In The Holocaust



Synopsis

This is the remarkable true story of a young Jewish girl and her brother growing up during World War II, caught in a world turned upside down by the Nazis. Written specially for children, Eva describes her happy early childhood in Vienna with her kind and loving parents and her older brother Heinz, whom she adored. But when the Nazis marched into Austria everything changed. Eva's family fled to Belgium, then to Amsterdam where, with the help of the Dutch Resistance, they spent the next two years in hiding – Eva and her mother in one house, and her father and brother in another. Finally, though, they were all betrayed and deported to Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland. Despite the horrors of the camp, Eva's positive attitude and stubborn personality (which had often got her into trouble) saw her through one of the most tragic events in history, and she and her mother eventually returned to Amsterdam. Sadly her father and brother perished just weeks before the liberation. Eva and her mother went back to the house where Heinz and his father had hidden, for Eva had remembered that Heinz had told her he had hidden his paintings beneath the floorboards there. Sure enough, there were over 30 beautiful paintings. Heinz hadn't wasted any of his talents during his captivity. For Eva, here was a tangible, everlasting memory of her brother, and a reminder of her father's promise that all the good things you accomplish will make a difference to someone, and your achievements will be carried on. Heinz's paintings have been on display in exhibitions in the USA and are now a part of a permanent exhibition in Amsterdam's war museum. Told simply and clearly for younger readers, *The Promise* is an unforgettable story, written by Eva Schloss, the step-daughter of Otto Frank and Barbara Powers, Eva's very close friend.

Book Information

Paperback: 160 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Eva Schloss regularly visits schools, universities, and other institutions to talk about her experiences during the Holocaust. A play, *And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank* by James Still deals with the lives of Eva and her posthumous step-sister, Anne Frank, and other teenagers in the Holocaust. Eva is a trustee of the Anne Frank Trust in London.

I read this book before I saw the play, which just premiered last weekend. I also had the honor to meet Eva Schloss herself at that time. It is a very moving book which brings to life the horrific experiences of a young girl during the Holocaust. I had never heard of this stepsister of Anne Frank's before which made it extra special. If you found reading Anne Frank's diary moving, you will also "enjoy" reading this book. It is a very easy but powerful read. I recommend this book highly.

This is a very moving account of strength and enduring love for a son who did not survive the cruelties of both the SS and fellow Jewish prisoners, who became what they had to in order to increase their own chances for survival. They surely be forgiven and not be judged harshly in view of their own circumstances during the Holocaust.

Not as graphic as Eva's story! It is appropriate for upper elementary and middle school students

This book gave me more details on Eva's brother's artwork and his natural abilities. It also showed this family determination to live on through future generations.

There were several books to choose from and not knowing the differences, I chose this one although I did read the reviews as well. Since then I have ordered one of the other books, i.e. *Eva's Story*, which I have since learned is more of an accurate account of the atrocities that happened during captivity, although I have not yet read it. *The Promise* was good but apparently written more for children.

A really good book, but really a kids book. This is a bit of a toned down version of the authors first book *Eva's Story*. I wish I had known what type of book it was before I bought it, but it was still a good read.

Moving book by Eva, written about her brother.

The Promise is Eva Schloss's second book which follows on from her autobiography, Eva's Story. It is about an Austrian family living throughout WW2. One main focus is on the young girl, Eva and her relationship with her elder brother, Heinz. Whilst this is a tale about young people, it is now told with the wisdom of an adult. Heinz died at Mauthausen Concentration Camp just days before the American liberation. His death haunts Eva and was one of the reasons why she wrote the book. Heinz Geiringer is a symbol of a lost opportunity as his musical and artistic talent was unnecessarily destroyed. I wondered with so many lives lost in the Holocaust, how many other geniuses have we been robbed of? With his untimely death, like everyone else, I have had no chance of appreciating a fine and cultured mind in its zenith. It is a children's book (and is on the same shelves as Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre) although there is an awful lot in it for adults. One of the things that the reader can take from the book is to gain an awareness of gratitude, especially with our modern day comforts and lifestyles. Another is living in peace; a thing that many peoples and countries in the West largely take for granted. Ignoring these things does not bring us happiness. After the rather depressing events of Eva's early life, the book ends with an uplifting last chapter that looks for new horizons. I think this was a wise choice, as we can look ahead with optimism alongside the author. I can recommend this book for many readers. Moreover, people who wish to follow up on this may be interested in the play based on the book, 'A Light in the Darkness'.

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