



Journey to the Soviet Union

By Samantha Smith

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In 1982, young American Samantha Smith worried about war and dreamed of peace. While the United States and the Soviet Union (Russia) were still locked in the grip of the Cold War, she wrote to the Soviet leader. His three-page reply and her response to his invitation to visit his country drew attention all over the world and became a significant part of the dramatic lowering of tensions between the two superpowers.

Illustrated with many photographs, this is a new edition of the inspiring story written by a young American girl whose historic trip in 1983 helped to end the Cold War. Samantha and her father died in a plane crash in Maine only two years later, but her gift to peace in the world remains an inspiration to all who yearn to bring our world together.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 3-6 In 1982, the author, then ten years old, wrote to Soviet President Yuri Andropov asking "why you want to conquer the world or at least our country." In his answer, Andropov explained that that was not the case, and he invited Samantha to visit the Soviet Union. This first-person narrative is the result of that visit, as Samantha takes readers from press hype, including a spot on the Johnny Carson show, through her visit to the Soviet Union. This is not a geography book; it makes no attempt to describe the land, the government, culture, holidays or recreation. Casting aside governmental and political differences, with no attempt to explain Communism, it shows similarities among people, particularly children, and promotes a sense of likenesses rather than differences. The glorious photographs, most in color, show Samantha with groups of children or major Soviet landmarksthe Kremlin, Red Square, the Hermitage. Granted, everything Samatha sees is favorable, and none of the food or housing shortages are mentioned, much less the lack of freedom. However, the book fills a gap in the much needed area of information about the Soviet people as opposed to the Soviet system. Trev Jones, "School Library Journal"

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Review

As long as children ask challenging questions and grown-ups respond, there will be hope for humankind. Samantha Smith has become a symbol of hope to all children. Her simple question...led to greater human understanding and has shown us the power of a child in lessening the tensions between two world powers. -- Lee Salk

About the Author

Samantha Smith was ten years old when she wrote to the Soviet leader Yuri Andropov of her concern about war between our nations. Andropov responded, and in 1983 Samantha made a highly-publicized goodwill and discovery tour of the famously closed Soviet Union. American and Russian media were enchanted by this outgoing, engaging and magnetic young girl, who helped thaw Cold War relations. She wrote this book, richly illustrated with many photographs, upon her return home to Maine.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Travis Davis:

As people who live in the actual modest era should be change about what going on or info even knowledge to make them keep up with the era and that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to you actually is you don't know what one you should start with. This Journey to the Soviet Union is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Michael Sweet:

Why? Because this Journey to the Soviet Union is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for

you to snap that but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book possess such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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