



The Girl with the White Flag

By Tomiko Higa, Dorothy Britton

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New York Newsday called this memoir of a warhood childhood in Japan "one of the saddest and yet most uplifting books about childhood you will ever encounter."

Separated from her family in the confusion and horror of World War II, seven-year-old Tomiko Higa struggles to survive on the battlefield of Okinawa, Japan. There, as some of the fiercest fighting of the war rages around her, she must live alone, with nothing to fall back on but her own wits and daring. Fleeing from encroaching enemy forces, searching desperately for her lost sisters, taking scraps of food from the knapsacks of dead soldiers, risking death at every turn, Tomiko somehow finds the strength and courage to survive.

Many years later she decided to tell this story. Originally intended for juvenile readers, it is sure to move adults as well, because it is such a vivid portrait of the unintended civilian casualties of any war.

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The Girl with the White Flag By Tomiko Higa, Dorothy Britton Bibliography

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Editorial Review

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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From Library Journal

Iwo Jima, Saipan, Okinawa. The names of Pacific War battlegrounds conjure up vaguely similar memories to Americans above a certain age. But there was a difference. On Okinawa for the first time U.S. forces encountered a large civilian population. Estimates are that at least 75,000 Okinawan men, women, and children perished, many of them committing suicide rather than surrender. This book tells the story of the climax of this battle from the perspective of a seven-year-old girl, the author, who struggled against the odds to survive and to lead others to survival. Some rare photographs illuminate the ending to this simply told story, as the girl in the title comes into camera range of an American soldier. A charming story, a quick read for young and old alike.

- John H. Boyle, California State Univ., Chico

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Review

"One of the saddest yet most uplifting books about childhood you will ever encounter. ... A powerful document as well as a completely engrossing adventure." -*Newsday*

"[A] moving memoir... 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." -*School Library Journal*

". .. her unaffected memoir serves as a reminder that in any war, 'noncombatants' suffer grievously." -*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"A gripping story." -*Mainichi Daily News*

"A testimony to the resilience of the human spirit. [It] is a short book that you will not be able to put down

once you start to read it." -*City life News*

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

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ellen Kelsey:

Here thing why that The Girl with the White Flag are different and dependable to be yours. First of all looking at a book is good but it really depends in the content from it which is the content is as tasty as food or not. The Girl with the White Flag giving you information deeper including different ways, you can find any e-book out there but there is no guide that similar with The Girl with the White Flag. It gives you thrill looking at journey, its open up your current eyes about the thing which happened in the world which is might be can be happened around you. It is easy to bring everywhere like in area, café, or even in your means home by train. Should you be having difficulties in bringing the branded book maybe the form of The Girl with the White Flag in e-book can be your alternate.

Randolph Dilworth:

Hey guys, do you would like to finds a new book to study? May be the book with the title The Girl with the White Flag suitable to you? The particular book was written by renowned writer in this era. The particular book untitled The Girl with the White Flag is the main one of several books that will everyone read now. This kind of book was inspired a lot of people in the world. When you read this e-book you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know prior to. The author explained their idea in the simple way, consequently all of people can easily to understand the core of this e-book. This book will give you a lot of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world in this book.

Michael Trejo:

The Girl with the White Flag can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but delivering the information. The copy writer giving his/her effort to put every word into joy arrangement in writing The Girl with the White Flag but doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource info that maybe you can be considered one of it. This great information may drawn you into new stage of crucial thinking.

John Fouts:

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