



The Upstairs Room

By Johanna Reiss

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The Upstairs Room By Johanna Reiss

A Life in Hiding

When the German army occupied Holland, Annie de Leeuw was eight years old. Because she was Jewish, the occupation put her in grave danger--she knew that to stay alive she would have to hide. Fortunately, a Gentile family, the Oostervelds, offered to help. For two years they hid Annie and her sister, Sini, in the cramped upstairs room of their farmhouse.

Most people thought the war wouldn't last long. But for Annie and Sini -- separated from their family and confined to one tiny room -- the war seemed to go on forever.

In the part of the marketplace where flowers had been sold twice a week--tulips in the spring, roses in the summer--stood German tanks and German soldiers. Annie de Leeuw was eight years old in 1940 when the Germans attacked Holland and marched into the town of Winterswijk where she lived. Annie was ten when, because she was Jewish and in great danger of being captured by the invaders, she and her sister Sini had to leave their father, mother, and older sister Rachel to go into hiding in the upstairs room of a remote farmhouse.

Johanna de Leeuw Reiss has written a remarkably fresh and moving account of her own experiences as a young girl during World War II. Like many adults she was innocent of the German plans for Jews, and she might have gone to a labor camp as scores of families did. "It won't be for long and the Germans have told us we'll be treated well," those families said. "What can happen?" They did not know, and they could not imagine.... But millions of Jews found out.

Mrs. Reiss's picture of the Oosterveld family with whom she lived, and of Annie and Sini, reflects a deep spirit of optimism, a faith in the ingenuity, backbone, and even humor with which ordinary human beings meet extraordinary challenges. In the steady, matter-of-fact, day-by-day courage they all showed lies a profound strength that transcends the horrors of the long and frightening war. Here is a memorable book, one that will be read and reread for years to come.

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The Upstairs Room By Johanna Reiss Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #5743237 in Books
- Brand: Brand: HarperTeen
- Published on: 1972-01-21
- Released on: 1972-01-21
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .77" w x 5.38" l, .94 pounds

- Binding: Hardcover
- 208 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this Newbery Honor book, Reiss writes a stirring, fictionalized account of her own experiences as a Jewish girl during World War II. Ages 12-up.

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Review

"In this fine autobiographical novel, Johanna Reiss depicts the trials of her Dutch-Jewish family during World War II. . . . The youngest of three daughters tells how she and her sister hid for more than two years in the upstairs room of the peasant Oosterveld family. . . . Offers believable characterizations of unremarkable people who survived, if not thrived, and displayed an adaptability and generosity probably beyond their own expectations." -- *SLJ*.

From the Publisher

In this teachers guide, you will receive easy to use, inspiring lessons plans. The legwork is done for you! The guide incorporates essential reading, writing and thinking practice.(This is NOT the actual novel.)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Yadira Singh:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to find out everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or even goal; it means that reserve has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time and energy to read a book. They may be reading whatever they consider because their hobby is definitely reading a book. Think about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, individual feel need book after they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you'll have this The Upstairs Room.

Theodore Parish:

What do you regarding book? It is not important with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your spare time? Or are you busy particular person? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. The doctor has to answer that question since just their can do that. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on pre-school until university need this specific The Upstairs Room to read.

Laura McLaughlin:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely 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? Can be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to test look for book, may be the guide untitled The Upstairs Room can be fine book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Sandra Leggett:

Many people spending their time frame by playing outside having friends, fun activity using family or just watching TV 24 hours a day. You can have new activity to invest your whole day by studying a book. Ugh, think reading a book can definitely hard because you have to use the book everywhere? It ok you can have the e-book, bringing everywhere you want in your Smartphone. Like The Upstairs Room which is obtaining the e-book version. So , try out this book? Let's observe.

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