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Annexed



Synopsis

Everyone knows about Anne Frank and her life hidden in the secret annex – but what about the boy who was also trapped there with her? In this powerful and gripping novel, Sharon Dogar explores what this might have been like from Peter’s point of view. What was it like to be forced into hiding with Anne Frank, first to hate her and then to find yourself falling in love with her? Especially with your parents and her parents all watching almost everything you do together. To know you’re being written about in Anne’s diary, day after day? What’s it like to start questioning your religion, wondering why simply being Jewish inspires such hatred and persecution? Or to just sit and wait and watch while others die, and wish you were fighting. As Peter and Anne become closer and closer in their confined quarters, how can they make sense of what they see happening around them? Anne’s diary ends on August 4, 1944, but Peter’s story takes us on, beyond their betrayal and into the Nazi death camps. He details with accuracy, clarity and compassion the reality of day to day survival in Auschwitz – and ultimately the horrific fates of the Annex’s occupants.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 470 (What’s this?)

Paperback: 352 pages

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Language: English

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up-Based on Anne Frank’s diary, Sharon Dogar’s compelling story (Houghton Mifflin, 2010) is told from the viewpoint of Peter Van Pels, the 15-year-old boy whose family joined the Franks in

hiding in an annex in Amsterdam during World War II. The close quarters and rationed food shared by eight people makes life difficult. At the outset, Anne drives Peter crazy with her energy and enthusiasm, but as the story progresses an adolescent attraction takes hold. The two spend a great deal of time together in the attic of the annex and confide in each other their thoughts on the ethnic cleansing of the Jews and what will ultimately become of them. Once the families are betrayed, the story continues beyond where Anne was forced to abandon it. We follow Peter to the concentration camps where he is separated from the Frank women and his own mother and experience life there through Peter's eyes until he, too, becomes a victim of the Nazis. The main narrator pulls listeners in with an urgent and whispery tone that highlights the danger faced by Peter and his family. The full-cast narration is pitch perfect and brings us a vivid sense of each character as an individual, in stark contrast to their lack of individualism in the hands of the Nazis. The narration is one of the best uses of a full cast since Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* series. Every library should have this audiobook as an example of excellence in narration and because this story of prejudice and hate can never be repeated too often. -Joan Kindig, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Joining the growing list of titles based on Anne Frank's diary, this novel is written from the viewpoint of Peter van Pels, who is nearly 16 in 1942 when he and his parents join the Franks in hiding in their Amsterdam attic. Meticulous about distinguishing fact from fiction, the author points out that Anne's view in *The Diary* may have contradicted Peter's story. Here, she irritates him at first, and she invades his privacy in the crowded space. Then he and Anne get closer, flirt, and kiss. Peter asks her not to put their relationship in her diary, which raises a crucial question: What did Anne leave out? Interspersed with Peter's first-person, diary-like accounts of life in hiding are searing reports of his last days in the death camps, where he remembers the attic as he witnesses the horrors at Auschwitz and Mauthausen. With its historical and intimate details, as well as the questions about *The Diary*'s connections and omissions, this moving novel is sure to find a wide YA audience. Grades 8-12. --Hazel Rochman --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

very good....

Really tells the history along with the story

I fell in love with The Diary Of Anne Frank, well mostly with Peter Van Pels, and this book is what i had ever dreamed, i wanted something like this, Peter's testimony. I had never cried with a book, and this made me cry. It has something that you can't stop. I Love it ! Best Book Ever! If you are looking for Peter Van Pels, this is for you. Im a bookworm and i have read a lot of books, but this, wow, you can feel it. Buy it!

Amazing book I advice everyone to read it!!! I loved it!!! I always wondered what Peter's point of view was on his stay in the Annex and this book gives you so so much more than that!!!

I purchased this book for my daughter for her class assignment. She found the book to be very interesting and informative. Thank you.

I loved annexed the love story between anne and peter was the best part of the book and was the main idea.

I'm very interested in reading young adult Holocaust literature. So when I read the description of this book, I was intrigued by the option of seeing the events surrounding Anne Frank told by a different point of view. What I found was a story that rather overemphasized Peter's experiences in dealing with puberty while living in hiding. While I have no doubt that this topic was likely an issue, it overshadowed other important elements in the book. With so many stellar Holocaust accounts and stories available, this is not one I would recommend. Interesting concept, but could have been much more profound...

i havent read this book just yet but im sure itll be great! cant wait to read it it sounds really good

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