

THE END OF THE LINE

by Sha... ay... a l l a by . a , a . S

Genre: Fiction

Themes: Historical novel; war; moral war; Holocaust; courage; decision making; right vs wrong; revenge; tolerance

Suitable for: grades

Summary

Five-year-old Eatri loses an older brother in a war. He grows up in a foster home. One day he discovers a soldier who was once his brother. He tries to help him escape. He meets a girl who is his niece. He is shot. Hans, the contractor who rescued him, tells him that he saved him as a soldier.

He tells his brother that they are not in charge of the little girl. They are at a loss after all. Neither one has ever married. He lets her go. He does not let her marry. He costs them their lives. In his opinion, the return to a normal life is not possible. He rescues them, but they cannot save themselves from the horrors of war.

Based on real events, this suspenseful novel vividly portrays the fear and terror of the occupation in Holland. It is a story that reflects the worst and best of human nature. A caution to children about the Holocaust, *The End of the Line* will leave readers to wonder if the most real conditions can lead to the most heroic acts. Eatri and Hans risk their lives to save others. In the end, they are later recognized as heroes.

Common Core standards are noted throughout.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

A variety of activities are provided. These are suggestions for students to construct their own responses.

Other extension activities:

Ask readers to identify their general knowledge of the Holocaust.

Develop reading strategies for comprehension.

Discuss the relevance to the actual events.

Discuss the historical background.

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WHILE READING THE BOOK

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