



I Was There

Hans Peter Richter , Edite Kroll (Translation)

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A young German boy narrates his experiences in the Hitler youth movement during the early years of the Third Reich.

I Was There Details

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From Reader Review I Was There for online ebook

Carrie Skelton says

Read this with my 6th grader for his LA class. very interesting and gives a good view into the Hilter Youth.

Maeya says

Found it a little bit boring to be honest

Trixi says

This follows the lives of 3 boys as Hitler took power in the early 30s through 1943. Hans, Gunther, and Heinz all are growing up in Germany and have decidedly different upbringings. Hans parents seem to be a typical German family, not really for Hitler, but not against him either, and have Jewish friends. Heinz's father is an early member of the Nazi party, and Gunther's father has been arrested for publicly speaking out against Hitler. Hans looks up to Heinz and eventually joins the Jugendvolk so that he can be with Heinz. Gunther does not join up right away and is eventually shunned at school for not belonging. The book is broken up into years and then has little stories that happen each year. As the children grow older, readers learn about how Germany is changing and how the boys are changing as well. Readers get glimpses into the lives of the families and how their thoughts have also changed. The boys eventually join the Hitler Youth and finally become soldiers during the war.

Melainebooks says

La jeunesse dans les jeunesses hitlériennes d'Hans Peter Richter avec ses deux amis Heinz et Günther. Roman autobiographique.

Krystal Loverin says

The book gives you a light insight into time turmoil of being a youth during Hitler's rise to power. I felt like it needed to include more back story within the story instead of the glossary at the back of the book. A good leeway into reading more information about WWII.

Alan Hughes says

I found this childrens' book when I had no book *on the go*. I was surprised that it was an engaging read which tackles an important subject well. It gives some useful insight into the generation who grew up under

Hitler's tutelage.

Jack says

made a big impression on me as a teenager.. keen to track down a copy and see if I still love it as an adult.

Kyle Pefley says

“I Was There”, by Hans Peter Richter, Is a story about a boy growing up during the years before and during World War 2 in Germany. The narrator and his friends join the Hitler Youth and devote their childhood to Germany. The narrator had to decide between doing what he thought was right and what other people thought was right. As the story progresses, he must survive in a world full of hate, nationalism, and discipline.

I would recommend this book who like to read about the time period, but that’s about it. I liked how the book gave a background to the people who blindly followed the ideas of Hitler and were only doing it because it was what they were told. Another thing I liked was how it progressed from when he was a little kid, all the way up to him being a young adult. Something I didn’t like was how the chapters are all separate events with large gaps of time between them. A couple times I found myself confused when it would switch from one event to another. It felt like the book didn’t flow together well.

Eris says

It was a very emotive story showing a era involving Germany under Hitler's power

Umit says

Eine sehr traurige doch wahre Geschichte die Einblicke in das damalige Geschehen bat. Die Story hatte mich ziemlich mitgerissen obwohl in damals noch nicht so viele Bücher las.

Jedem zu empfehlen!

Melanie says

A companion novel to Richter's Friedrich. Where Friedrich told the story of the friendship between the narrator and his childhood pal Friedrich, this story tells of the narrators compulsory membership in the Hitler Youth.

Eric The says

So far I had read the book up to page 40. I know that Hitler started off as a nice guy then ended up being a terrible man. So one of themes I think would be cleverness. Another thing is that Hans was suspicious and does not like Hitler from the start. So another one I think would be questioning. Because he makes an assumption that he is a bad man. I also think there will be another one, judgmental because Hitler thinks that all Jews are bad. I also think that Something bad will happen soon with WWII starting. I would suggest this book to someone who is interested interested in WWII or the Hitler youth.
