



The Silver Sword

By Ian Serraillier

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"If you meet Ruth or Edek or Bronia, you must tell them I'm going to Switzerland to find their mother. Tell them to follow as soon as they can."

Having lost their parents in the chaos of war, Ruth, Edek and Bronia are left alone to fend for themselves and hide from the Nazis amid the rubble and ruins of their city. They meet a ragged orphan boy, Jan, who treasures a paperknife -- a silver sword -- which was entrusted to him by an escaped prisoner of war. The three children realise that the escapee was their father, the silver sword a message that he is alive and searching for them. Together with Jan they begin a dangerous journey across the battlefields of Europe to find their parents.

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Editorial Review

Review

"One of the great and enduring tales of survival, courage and hope. Ian Serrailler tells this extraordinary wartime story simply and directly, so that we feel the full force of its truth" -- Michael Morpurgo "As a child I was tremendously moved by Ian Serrailer's *The Silver Sword*; the combination of childhood heroism in a bleak and horrific environment left me with many questions about the dichotomy of good and evil, as well as the importance of loyal friendship" -- John Boyne "One of the most exciting books I've read for a long while" *Daily Telegraph* "Old-fashioned storytelling about courage at its best" *The Times* "One of the most remarkable children's books since 1945" -- *Oxford Companion to Children's Literature*

About the Author

IAN SERRAILLIER was born in London in 1912, the eldest of four children. When he was only six years old, Ian's father died, and as his mother was often not very well, he looked after his younger siblings, especially during their long summer holidays in Switzerland. After university, he became a teacher and a writer. When the Second World War broke out, Ian refused to fight, because he believed it is wrong ever to kill another person. Many people who believed this were sent to prison, but fortunately Ian was allowed to continue to teach. After the war, the newspapers were full of pictures of the ruined cities of Europe, and the children who had been orphaned or made homeless by the war. Ian was determined to tell their story. Ruth, Edek, Jan and Bronia are all based on real children, and even the silver sword paper knife was real. Ian Serraillier wrote many children's books but *The Silver Sword* is his most famous and most beloved, and it has never been out of print.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Brian Lopez:

The book *The Silver Sword* gives you the sense of being enjoy for your spare time. You can utilize to make your capable more increase. Book can for being your best friend when you getting strain or having big problem together with your subject. If you can make studying a book *The Silver Sword* to get your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your own personal capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You could know everything if you like available and read a e-book *The Silver Sword*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science reserve or encyclopedia or other people. So , how do you think about this book?

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Barbie Brookins:

The reason? Because this The Silver Sword is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will zap you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such remarkable way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of gains than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Linda Matthews:

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