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# POST FULFILLMENT REPORT

Bookvertise Pro Package |  
Dr. Batya Casper



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Ebbie

★★★★☆ **Stories from the edges of war**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom on August 1, 2022

Verified Purchase

This book mixes different points of view of those observing the beginning of WWII as news of persecution and policy starts affecting their lives. An interesting story and original angle.



Anastasia Styles

★★★★★ **Well-written and engaging stories**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom on August 4, 2022

Verified Purchase

Here we have two novella-length stories, each with a similar overall feel: one of looking at the trees rather than the forest, taking us through the human thoughts and feelings about the little interactions of daily life as much as, if not more than, any grand sweeping international events—even when those events provide not only the backdrop for the story, but also fulfil an important narrative role.

A lot of stories set in Israel focus heavily on making the case for Zionism at the expense of Palestinians; I was glad to see that this was not really the case here, beyond that yes there was a conflict between Israel and—in the narrator's voice—"marauding Arabs", but there was otherwise no particular political or racial investment, just, there was war and bad things happen in war. The focus is consistently more on individual people, private motivations and fears, losses and hopes.

In the case of both parts of this book, the quality of the writing is excellent, the characterizations strong, and the plot sufficiently engaging to keep the reader turning pages. All in all, a recommendable read.



H.S

★★★★☆ **An interesting read!**

Reviewed in the United States on June 24, 2022

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The book is written by Batya Casper. It shows us the horrors and the effects of war tragedies witnessed by children. The impact is astonishing and eye-opening. The way she is able to capture the torment this child goes through after she has lost her parents due to war is remarkable. The way the child has been uprooted from a once familiar and kind environment to an unfamiliar and strange foreign country is rather jarring. It draws the reader to the plot even more! The child is lost in life and in despair due to the loss of her parents. The book shows us what the true effects of war are, and will always be. A must read for those who want to feel the despair, love, hope and hopelessness the child suffers through.



Grady Harp **Top Contributor: Children's Books** [HALL OF FAME](#) [TOP 100 REVIEWER](#)

★★★★★ **'Our whole world is a house of mourning' – the impact of war**

Reviewed in the United States on June 28, 2022

Verified Purchase

Israeli author Batya Casper, PhD now lives in both Israel and in California earned her bachelor's degree in English Literature her Masters and PhD in theater Arts for UCLA. She is an actor, director and theater educator as well as the author of three books – ISRAELA, ELECTRA, and HIDDEN:NISTAR.

Dr Casper's experience in theater, both as an actor and as a director, shines forth in these two novellas that address the impact of war, peace, prejudice and family connections. The initial novel is set in the 1960s in Israel, young Tikvah lives with her grandparents Baruch and Prina Lazamof. The story deals with death of the grandparents, the presence of mysterious Hannah, and how Tikvah copes with the loss of her grandparents by exploring the mystery of Hannah. The second novella deals with the WW II in England as Arthur and Inda, a couple, cope with the ravages of war, care of stray children, and other needy people, and how they all respond to the horrors of the war.

Dr Casper was raised in Israel, and has said, 'I have watched friends and family struggle, question, sacrifice their children. It is the reason I write.' She certainly achieves her goal in both of these very fine novellas – exquisitely written with a flair for the cinematic depiction of both character and plot lines. Strongly recommended. Grady Harp, June 22



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Nela

★★★★★ **A great historical fiction book**

Reviewed in the United States on June 29, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

Hidden: Nistar by author Batya Casper is a great historical fiction book that laces two novellas about the experience of living contemporary to the war, specially in children's life. Each chapter is told by each character's perspective. This kind of writing eases the understanding and empathy with the hope, anguish and other feelings that these young characters live.

I enjoyed this emotional and moving story, despite the fact that it touches deep and dramatic topics. But the narrative is clean, clear, and, at times, lovely. This is the first book I read from this author but it will certainly not be the last as I enjoyed very much her writing style as it is different from others.



quirru **VINE VOICE**

★★★★★ **Excellent and sad read**

Reviewed in the United States on August 6, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

An excellent and sad read

This read moved me. As I know people who have lived in a war, this novel reminded me that common things get worst because of it. The results of living in a war, are the same for all the implicated people, sadness and sorrow that stays in the soul of those who had this horrific experience, and the psychological harm will be there with them forever. This book describes all of it very well.



Grace Eliot

★★★★☆ **Entwined stories of the beginning of war**

Reviewed in the United States on August 5, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

The idea that WWII happened without people realizing what it would turn into is a compelling one. Would people have made different decisions if they had only know what was coming in Europe? Nistar, meaning hidden, is in the Jewish tradition a word that represents the mystical knowledge in the Torah, but can also mean the unknown energy at work in the universe. Here, it can mean the unknown fates of the people whose stories we hear as war is about to break. A very poignant book with a powerful message.



Veritas Vincit

★★★★☆ **A Powerful Pair of Stories**

Reviewed in the United States on July 28, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

Depicting the horrors of living adjacent to war, these two novellas are compelling peeks into struggle and resilience. "Hidden" shares a broad range of perspectives from Israeli children who have already known loss, but face even more when their grandparents are taken. Tikvah rises as a stunning character in this dramatically unraveled tale, penned with stoicism and tenderness. Her relationship with betrayal and kindness, upon discovering a dangerous secret, puts morality on the scales of life and death, which makes for a fascinating read. Sarah takes on a larger role later in the story, but Tikvah is the character that first grabs readers' attention. The second story changes time and place, to England during World War 2, and once again shows the impact of everyday violence on one's mental health and fortitude. The mood is somewhat lighter in Indra and Arthur's story, perhaps because of the anecdotal nature of the exposition, the flashbacks, and the looser writing style. Both novellas hit hard, and share perspectives that are rarely considered in war—those of the youngest eyes on the battlefield. Exploring trauma and healing atop richly painted backdrops makes for intense but pleasant reading, thanks to Casper's striking, subtle, and revelatory writing.





AliReads

★★★★★ **Really well written book about survival and perseverance**

Reviewed in the United States on July 23, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

The author Batya Casper has written a marvelous story describing how a child survived through every tragedy that she faced including death, despair, separation, and hopelessness during the war.

During reading, a person can feel the sadness or horrors that war can bring in the lives of people. The novel was full of lessons taught at every step due to the situations that the child got herself into. The story is very deep and intense which leaves a long-lasting impact on the reader. A good read for all the emotional people out there.



Fresa Wolf

★★★★☆ **Jewish stories of family and community**

Reviewed in the United States on July 22, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

This book is filled with details of Jewish family life and stories told between people remembering things about each other, and the sensory overload of their places in time, as kids in varying situations take in the events of WWII from their point of view. It's a very unique book, as it doesn't go into all that happened, but dwells on the people and their characters instead. It's a well-written book and I enjoyed it.



Piaras **VINE VOICE**

★★★★★ **A great story that is both heartbreaking and beautiful.**

Reviewed in the United States on July 9, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

Batya Casper's Hidden: Nistar combines two novellas that deal with the effects of war, peace, discrimination, and familial ties. The plot begins with a mystery about a neighbor's behavior. The reader is then taken back in time to discover more about who she is and the circumstances that molded her into the person she is now. This narrative contains numerous lessons, making it profound and significant. Fans of historical fiction will enjoy this book. Highly recommended and a well-deserved five stars from me.



Nicki

★★★★★ **A Story of Emotional and Physical Damages of War**

Reviewed in the United States on July 2, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

With the aid of first-person perception, the book shows the emotional and physical damages of war and how the scars remain well into late periods of life- even for people who didn't actually participate in war and whose family members retained their lives while all other families lost one or more as war casualties.



Carlitas

★★★★☆ **An absorbing and thought provoking story**

Reviewed in the United States on July 1, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

"Hidden" is a compelling and moving story penned by Batya Casper.

The plot revolves around Sarah, a child who has experienced dreadful situations due to the war. Being so young, she must overcome some losses that will mark her forever. But still, she tries to continue with her life.

While I was reading, I could experience the sadness, hopelessness or fear that war can bring to people, that was thanks to the way the author writes; she made me feel inside the story. It's a well-written and engaging novel with complex characters.

Not only does it deal with miserable events but also with hopeful ones. I really liked this story because it leaves a glimmer of hope to readers. I highly recommend it.



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Liz

★★★★★ **Great read!**

Reviewed in the United States on July 1, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

What an incredible story and what a great talent author Batya Casper has. She wrote this historical fiction "Hidden: Nistar", where the facts are seen through the eyes of children. In this book, you can see the effects of war, from losing your parents, to the psychological effects it leaves. I think it has not been an easy task to write these pages, and surely many readers shed a tear like me. It is a story full of emotions and the author managed to write it with such delicacy and sensitivity. I definitely recommend it and that is why I give it 5 stars.



Phil Bolos

★★★★★ **Tragic and beautiful**

Reviewed in the United States on June 29, 2022

**Verified Purchase**

Hidden: Nistar by Batya Casper is a short novella all about the tragedies of war and how those events can impact a people for generations to come. This story starts off with a mystery surrounding a neighbor and her actions. The author then takes the reader back in time to learn more about who she is and the things which took place to make her into the person that is today. There are many lessons being taught here which make the story deep and meaningful. I think that fans of novellas as well as those of historical fiction will find much to enjoy here.



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