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You Are My Sunshine: A Holocaust Novel. Book Two Of The All My Love Detrick, Series



Synopsis

“You Are My Sunshine” is the sequel to “All My Love, Detrick” this novel is set during the holocaust. When Helga Haswell becomes pregnant by a married SS officer who abandons her, she finds herself alone and desperate. She is afraid to tell her parents that she is pregnant out of wedlock, so her doctor suggests that Helga check into Heinrich Himmler’s home for the Lebensborn. This is a program, he explains, that has been instituted by the Nazis to create perfect Aryan babies. Since Helga is of pure German blood and the child’s father is an SS officer, she will be accepted, the doctor explains. Her child will have a good life because adoption is available only to the finest of Hitler’s Elite. Not only this, the doctor says but during her pregnancy, Helga will have the finest food and medical care available. And, instead of a life of shame, she will be honored for her efforts in producing a perfect Aryan child for the new world that Hitler is in the process of creating. Then after the baby is born, the Lebensborn will take the child and assume all future responsibilities releasing Helga to live her life without the burden of a fatherless offspring. In her desperation, all of this sounded perfect to Helga, that was of course before she felt life stir within her womb. However, by the time this occurred it was already too late. She had already moved into Steinhoring, home for the Lebensborn, and there was no possibility of turning back. The papers were signed. She could not escape. Hitler owned her unborn child. On a cold day in January Helga’s little girl came into the world. But instead of being sheltered by her mother’s arms, she was torn away by the nurses at the home for the Lebensborn and thrust into a treacherous world where the very people sworn to protect her were not what they seemed. The little girl was growing, and she was amongst some of the cruelest people on earth and subjected daily to the ideology of the Third Reich. But when Hitler became convinced that he was indestructible and, went to war on two fronts dividing his army, Germany began to fall. The Nazis became fearful as America entered the war joining Churchill against them in the west, while Stalin a formidable enemy with the brutal Russian winters on his side, ripped them apart in the east. And so, the tables turned on the Third Reich. The cruel Nazis, who believed they could not be defeated were about to swallow their pride and surrender at the feet of the Allies. The superior race would prove to be inferior after all. Hitler’s elite would run for cover, some would commit suicide; some would be tried in Nuremberg for crimes against humanity, while others would escape with their tails tucked between their legs and head for South America or other friendly ports. But God had other plans for Helga’s tiny innocent child, who had been born on that January morning. The child’s life was about to change in a very strange but significant way. Instead of becoming

whom and what the Nazis had hoped to create, this child would be befriended and nurtured by the most unexpected people.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the second book I've read by Roberta Kagan (1st was "All My Love, Detrick"), which completely captured my attention, with very realistic characters and a storyline evoking strong emotions on almost every level. This book was no less riveting and I cannot WAIT until "The Promised Land" is published! On the other hand, I must explain the reason for not giving this book a full 5 stars...the grammar and spelling were just atrocious! I found myself being constantly distracted from the storyline due to the number of spelling errors, commas in the wrong place (causing awkward pauses), or missing entirely, as well as apostrophes used incorrectly. Normally, I can overlook this aspect, if it is an occasional occurrence, but it was quite frustrating. I hope the next edition will be edited more carefully, as this seems to be (in my humble opinion) the only aspect preventing this author from becoming a best-seller. Review by Terry Dover

The plot was intriguing and I quickly scanned the book to reach the end, but the numerous (at least

in the hundreds) misspellings, comma splices, incomplete sentences etc etc were a terrible distraction. I also found some elements of the plot a little contrived. The author may have been inspired by Sophie's Choice when Zofia became a maid for Manfred's household at Auschwitz and took up residence in the basement. I also found Manfred's quick rise a little unbelievable, although from other reading, I know that there were many young people who rose quickly in the SS. As well, I didn't like the ending where the author left us hanging - waiting for the next book to come out. That being said, from reading other books about the Holocaust, I found the descriptions of the horrors of Auschwitz and the Nazi atrocities in general to be accurate.

I enjoyed this book, but I felt that it could have ended much sooner than it did. Near the end it seemed to drone on and on. Also, there are so many typographical and grammatical errors. Where was the proofreader??? Very disappointed to see that at the end the reader gets no resolution to the character's journey but instead is urged to read the next book to find out! I do not like cliffhangers and was quite upset to see this. I'm not even sure if I can dive into the next book. Disappointed!

Germany, Nazi eugenics developed & implemented programs to increase the population of pure Aryan children. 1936, Heinrich Himmler built homes where women of acceptable bloodlines were to be bred with SS officers. It was called the Institute for the Lebensborn, in Steinhilbering, Munich, Germany. The undesirables, such as: Jews, Gypsies, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, the physically or mentally handicapped, were brutally murdered, or gassed/burned alive by Adolph Hitler's regime. The journey of survival for pregnant Helga Haswell (wife/mother) abandoned by SS officer Kurt Haswell (husband/father, farmer) begins. 10/11/1946, The International Military Tribunal Nuremberg Germany (Palace of Justice) had begun. Zofia Zuckerman (nee Kowalsky, Fruma's daughter, seamstress, nee Weiss, Jewish), gave her testimony against former Untersturmführer Manfred Blau (husband, Treblinka), as Christa Blau (daughter, Manfred's wife, nee Henkener) sat & watched. Warning: This book is for adults only & contains extreme violent or graphic adult content or profanity &/or sexually explicit scenarios. It may be offensive to some readers. I did not receive any type of compensation for reading & reviewing this book. While I receive free books from publishers & authors, I am under no obligation to write a positive review. Only an honest one. A very awesome book cover, great font & writing style. Wow, a very well written WWII historical fiction book. It was very easy for me to read/follow from start/finish & never a dull moment. There were no grammar/typo errors, nor any repetitive or out of line sequence sentences. Lots of exciting

scenarios, with several twists/turns & a large set of unique characters to keep track of. This could also make another great WWII movie, or better yet a mini TV series. A very easy rating of 5 stars. Thank you for the free author; dailyfreebooks; captivatinghistory; Digital Services LLC.; bookTony Parsons MSW (Washburn)

This was a very interesting story. Sadly, it was full of grammatical errors. Commas in the wrong place, letters missing, and sometimes the wrong word entirely. In addition, the children in the story were not realistic. They stayed in their baby phase for much too long. In one passage, the author describes a child's third birthday party at which the mother is holding the child's waist so she won't fall over while playing with toys on the floor. All three year olds I have been around can easily do this or simply sit down to play. It is unfortunate that these errors occurred because despite feeling pulled out of the story several times, I did find it interesting and struggled to do anything other than read this story because I came to care for the characters and wanted to see how they would win over their struggles.

The story kept my attention throughout. I read it as the current events unfolded here in the USA with Charlottesville Virginia and the White Supremacist Rally. There is no place in the world for this hatred and lack of humanity in our world. This book opened my eyes and my heart painfully more to the evil that lurks in the "pride" of power hungry men bent on elevating their race over any other's. We should not tolerate these groups. This book reminds the world of what can happen when you turn a tolerant eye to such groups because it did happen and it's devastation was horribly incredulous.

I am still feeling my heart leap from this heart breaking story of several young women and their struggle under the yoke of Nazi Germany. It is sad how this story rings true. It was a terrible world under Nazi Germany and yet people still showed compassion to those most effected by this horror, the Jewish people. We should all promise that this can never again take place.

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