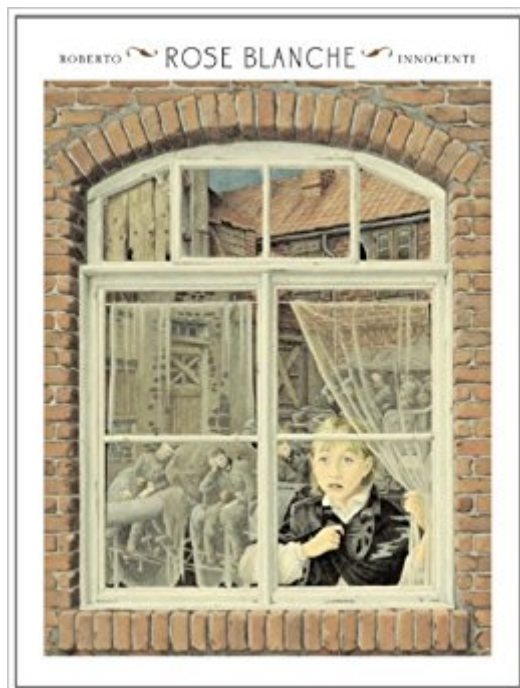


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# Rose Blanche (Creative Paperbacks)



## Synopsis

In wartime Germany, Rose Blanche witnesses the mistreatment of a little boy, and follows the truck that takes him to a camp. Secretly, Rose Blanche brings him and other children food. An excellent book to use not only to teach about the Holocaust, but also about living a life of ethics, compassion, and honesty.--School Library Journal. Full color.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 600 (What's this?)

Series: Creative Paperbacks

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Creative Paperbacks (February 2, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898123852

ISBN-13: 978-0898123852

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #334,536 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #247 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars](#)

Age Range: 10 - 13 years

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

Singling out the "astounding" paintings, PW called this WWII tale of a German girl who discovers the horrors of a concentration camp "a stunning book and a forceful argument for peace." All ages.

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Grade 5 Up During World War II, a young German schoolgirl, Rose Blanche, follows the soldiers when they arrest a boy and discovers a concentration camp in the woods. Thereafter, she takes food to the prisoners until the town is liberated. Ironically, when she travels to the camp on that day she is shot by the soldiers. The oppression of Fascism is shown through the powerful and realistic paintings. In Innocenti's large, meticulously detailed paintings, Rose Blanche is the only brightly colored individual, and her small figure is set against the drab colors of overwhelming buildings and

masses of soldiers and townspeople. No skyline is shown until a radiant spring bursts forth at the site of her death after the liberation. Although the story is simply told, it will require interpretation as details such as the concentration camp are not named nor explained, and the death of Rose Blanche is implied but not stated. This is a difficult book to classify, as the text is easy enough for a young child to read alone, and it has the appearance of a picture book but the content of the text and illustrations is full of emotional impact and subtlety. Takashima's *A Child in Prison Camp* (Tundra, 1971) and Maruki's *Hiroshima No Pika* (Lothrop, 1982) present the horrors of war, but from the perspective of a child who survives, whereas in Gallaz' book, the child does not survive and is not the recounter of the events. *The Children We Remember* (Kar-Ben Copies, 1983) by Abells is an easier book for children to understand. Rose Blanche tells of an individual's courage in the face of injustice, but this theme is more fully developed in Orlev's novel *The Island on Bird Street* (Houghton, 1984). Lorraine Douglas, Winnipeg Public Library, Manitoba, Canada Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a wonderful book to read to children especially in our times when there is so much hate.

Very sad, but beautifully written and beautifully illustrated. Highly recommend.

Great copy of this wonderful story.

This is a good introduction for a unit on WWII or the Holocaust for 5th grade and above. I was at a workshop on teaching reading comprehension and the instructor read it aloud to the adults. We were brought to tears by this story and it illustrated how important it is to use good read-aloud picture books even with older students to provide background knowledge about a topic. I finally ordered it to read with my own students.

The innocent Rose Blanche shows humanity to inmates of the concentration camps and pays for it. Innocenti's beautiful realistic pictures add so much to the story, making even the dreary wartime city interesting to pore over. Symbolism of spring growth softening the site of the camp inspires us with hope that the sacrifice of people like Rose Blanche is never in vain. The narrative by Christoph Gallaz switches from first to third person seamlessly to widen the significance of Rose Blanche's story. One of my favourite books.

It was recommended to me by teachers for their writing unit and is a fourth grade and up book about WWII and Nazi prison camps and occupation. It is a nice addition to my collection in the library.

This is one of the few stories of the Holocaust that is available for younger children, and is told with muted sad pictures and words in a way that a child would see and feel it. It is a good book to initiate discussion and it is not graphic. I have used it with first grade through sixth grade students and all were very moved and had many ideas and good discussions. This has been a difficult book to find and I was very happy to find it on .

Is it just me, or does this story seem overrated? I liked the lesson it teaches about integrity and helping those who are in need, especially when you put yourself at risk to do so. But in the end, her death seems accidental, like she was in the wrong place at the wrong time. It seems to miss the point of what to teach kids about the Holocaust. Shouldn't readers be invested in what happens to the prisoners? All these people die, brutally, but we're supposed to gloss over that and mourn for a little girl who was not, strictly speaking, a deliberate victim of the Nazis. It might be just a little too simple and, I fear, would give kids the wrong impression of life during the Holocaust and how the Nazis victimized people. I will admit, however, that introducing younger kids to such a big and serious topic needs to be done delicately. I just worry about starting them off with inaccuracy.

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