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Under a War-Torn Sky

By L. M. Elliott



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Under a War-Torn Sky By L. M. Elliott

When Henry Forester is shot down during a bombing run over France, the World War II pilot finds himself trapped behind enemy lines. In constant danger of discovery by German soldiers, Henry begins a remarkable journey to freedom. Relying on the kindness of strangers, Henry moves from town to town--traveling by moonlight, never asking questions, or even the names of the people who help him along the way. Each day brings him closer to home, yet every step in enemy territory invites new dangers.

Even as Henry fights for his own life, he quickly grows to realize the peril that surrounds all of the French people, and to admire the courage of the freedom fighters who risk death to protect him. Suspenseful and achingly true, this critically-acclaimed and deeply beloved novel explores the heartbreak of war, the strength of human spirit, and one young man's struggle to protect the things he loves



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up-In 1944, 19-year-old Hank is an American pilot flying his 15th bombing mission when his plane is shot down over Alsace, near the Swiss border. Locals assist him in getting to neutral territory. There, a Red Cross doctor advises him to attempt an escape from Europe across France with the help of the French Resistance. Hank's many adventures as he makes his way toward home and freedom comprise the rest of the story. This is a gritty, unblinking look at the horrors that the Nazis visited upon France during the occupation. Hank is a smart, strong, and courageous character who survives under the worst of conditions. He becomes closely acquainted with death as he sees men killed and learns that he, too, must kill in order to survive. As likable as he is, Hank is almost too good to be true. But the real heroes of the story are the French civilians who help Hank and many Allied soldiers like him to escape from the Nazis. There is a fair amount of French mixed into the telling of these stories. While this does lend authenticity, it may prove daunting to readers unfamiliar with the language. The ending seems rather romanticized, but the author's afterword explains that the story is based on some of her own father's experiences. Readers with an interest in warfare and adventure will find a sure winner here. Pair this novel with Don Wulffson's *Soldier X* (Viking, 2001) for a comparison with life as a young German soldier.

Bruce Anne Shook, Mendenhall Middle School, Greensboro, NC

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-9. It's packed with action, intrigue, and suspense, but this novel celebrates acts of kindness and heroism without glorifying war. American Henry Forester, a young flier with the RAF during World War II, is a complex mix of insecurities, unresolved feelings about his punitive father, and heroic aspiration. On his thirteenth bombing mission, he is shot down, having no idea where he has landed. His journey back through Nazi-occupied Europe and his involvement with members of the French resistance are depicted with chilling realism. Small details (bike wheels in France were made of wood because the Germans had confiscated all the rubber) add both credibility and appeal to this gripping adventure, inspired by stories told to the author by her father. An afterword concerns the resistance movement. *Connie Fletcher*

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Review

"An emotional, action-packed gem!" ---Kliatt Starred Review

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Ray:

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in each and every way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a reserve your ability to survive increase then having chance to endure than other is high. For you who want to start reading the book, we give you that Under a War-Torn Sky book as basic

and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is usually more than just a book.

Kathleen Duff:

The publication with title Under a War-Torn Sky possesses a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of help after read this book. That book exist new information the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world today. That is important to yo7u to know how the improvement of the world. That book will bring you inside new era of the the positive effect. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read the idea anywhere you want.

Jerry Blair:

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Guadalupe McCoy:

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