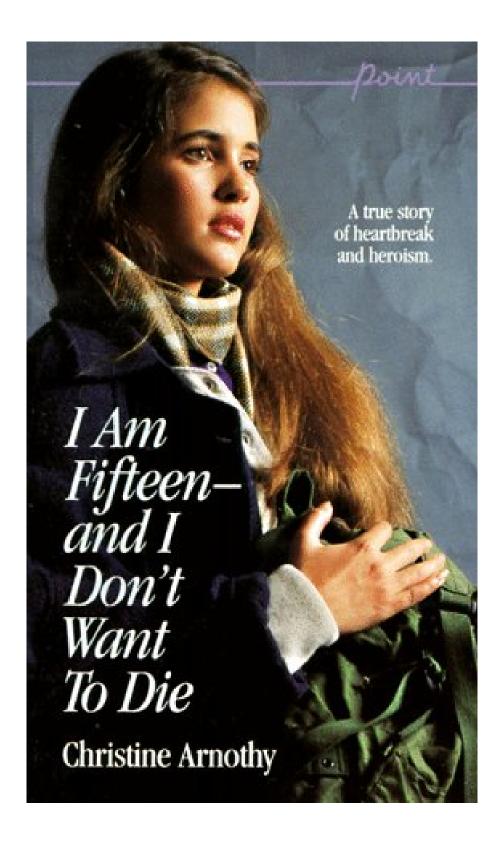


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Christine Arnothy tells her story about surviving in Budapest during World War II. She was fifteen at the time.

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- 128 pages

Features

• Great product!

Most helpful customer reviews

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Not a well written book

By E. K. Collins

The new version of Christine Arnothy's book is not currently available in the United States, but is available to purchase on UK Amazon. It has been translated to English from French. I was sent a new copy.

The frist half of the book is well written and very good. Christine describes where whe was living during the seige of Budapest. She is living in the cellar of their apartment house with several other tenants. They are starving and scared of the Russians who threaten to invade at any moment. She is desdcrives her plight in great detail with wonderful imaging.

Her family escapes to the country and lives in their country home for 3 years. At this time she is 18. For some unknown reason they must leave in a hurry taking practically nothing with them.

As the book goes on, the story becomes bland. She constantly complains about her employment and her first husband. The story ends with her giving birth to their daughter. In the afterword, she only talks about her second husband and son. Also, in the afterword, it becomes very confusing as she describes more about the things she wrote about in the main part of the book, but they are completely different. I am not sure if something was lost in translation or if it is purposely written this way. This is more of a refugee story than a story of wartime survival. The story starts at the end of the war and 60% of the book is about after the war and how irritated she is with her husband and employment and how she longs to be a writer.

I would have rather had a bit more pre-war background on the family, why they had to leave Budapest, and what her parents ended up doing. She goes into no detail about how she and her first husband part ways or how she meets her 2nd husband. Not even in the dedication in the front of the book does she mention her daughter, only her son. Very odd indeed.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Help - I Am Too Young to Die

By A Customer

Bang! Bombs went off just feet from the cellar. Cold, dark, and destroyed, families huddled together in the basement of their bombed-out apartment building.

I Am Fifteen - And Don't Want To Die is an extraordinary autobiography by Christine Arnothy. Christine is fiftee, living in Budapest, Hungary duriny World War II. She's growing up,, living in the middle of a wartorn city. her family is struggling to help others and to stay alive themselves. Really the only place to get water is across the road. Christine is horrified of getting bombed, while getting the water they desperately need. Throughout the many days Christine, her family and other families spent in the cellar, their world overhead was, being ddestroyed by raging bombs. They could only come out at desperate times. Her family needs to get out of the middle of this war, but when will they go, and how will they get out? Most of all where will they go?

I liked this particular autobiography because it is about Christine's hard times in life. Some books I've read about difficulties in life didn't seem real to me, but because this is a true story I could really get into it. I felt sorry for her because compared to her life, my life is perfect. The way Christine wrote this book was very interesting, she wrote this book from old diaries she kept when she went through all of these struggles. I likes the description, it is another reason why I liked this book so much. she describes the scenes she sees with great enthusiam. Like the day when she finds a wounded enemy soilder, I felt as if I was sanding right next to her looking over him.

Christine is a quiet girl, who tends to keep to herself. She also needs her parents and friends to comfort her, expecially now, living in the cellar.

Her story was a heart pumping adventure. She learned mant lessons about life and death. She lived to tell about her experience, the horror of living in the middle of a war-torn city.

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Hiding in Hungary during WW II

By Rebekah Sue Carolla

Christine Arnothy was fifteen when her family hid in the basement of their apartment building with the other tenants during the bombings. Mainly Christian, there was only one Jewish man hiding amongst them; this makes "I Am Fifteen--And I Don't Want to Die" different from a lot of the books that take place in World War II -ravaged Europe.

There is the numbress after seeing so many dead bodies; there is the horror when they finally receive flour; there is the lack of water and the trek to get it.

The book jumps around a bit; after they escape the city, there is a three year gap which is immediately followed by an escape to the frontier. The ending is very inconclusive, leaving the reader hanging.

This is a good book, because it gives a glimpse of a Christian teenager during the Second World War. Perhaps the most moving part of the book is Christine's time in the confessional, and the priest's touching response to her words.

However, the book lacks a lot of detail. I'd like to read a more fleshed-out version, because the story is incredible. This is a great reference book for a teenager writing about World War II; I may also lend it to a friend, whose father escaped Hungary much like Christine!

See all 26 customer reviews...

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