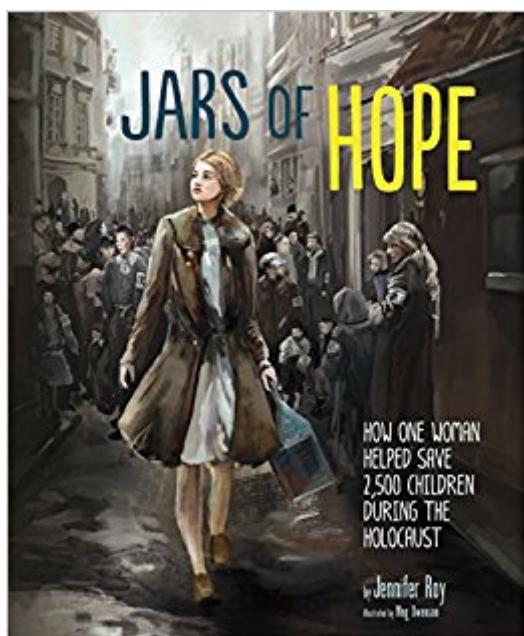


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# Jars Of Hope: How One Woman Helped Save 2,500 Children During The Holocaust (Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books)



## **Synopsis**

Amid the horrors of World War II, Irena Sendler was an unlikely and unsung hero. While many people lived in fear of the Nazis, Irena defied them, even though it could have meant her life. She kept records of the children she helped smuggle away from the Nazis' grasp, and when she feared her work might be discovered, she buried her lists in jars, hoping to someday recover them and reunite children with their parents. This gripping true story of a woman who took it upon herself to help save 2,500 children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Holocaust is not only inspirational; it's unforgettable.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 630L (What's this?)

Series: Encounter: Narrative Nonfiction Picture Books

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Capstone Press; Reprint edition (July 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1491465530

ISBN-13: 978-1491465530

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.2 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.3 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 32 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #74,685 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Holocaust #48 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Social Activists #113 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Women

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 5

## **Customer Reviews**

Gr 3-6 • Roy tells the story of Irena Sendler, a Polish nurse and social worker who saved many Jewish children during World War II. Sendler took the advice her father once gave her to heart ("If you see someone drowning, you must jump in and save them, whether you can swim or not") when she smuggled food, medicine, and supplies to Polish Jews in the Warsaw Ghetto and helped get Jewish children out. Sendler kept meticulous records of each of the 2,500 children she saved. She buried the lists in jars in her friend's backyard in the hope that the children could be reunited with their parents after the war. Though she was arrested and tortured by the

Gestapo, she refused to reveal any information. Readers learn from the afterword that Sendler survived the war and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize but that she never considered herself a hero, merely someone doing the right thing. Roy's text is enhanced by the somber, expressive illustrations, created digitally and traditionally drawn. Back matter is included, but readers will need to be familiar with World War II and Holocaust history to fully understand the risks that Sendler took and the profound impact of her actions. Susan Goldman Rubin's *Irena Sendler and the Children of the Warsaw Ghetto* (Holiday House) is more detailed and provides more historical context, while Marcia Vaughan's *Irena's Jars of Secrets* (Lee & Low, both 2011) is another illustrated biography similar in scope and content. **VERDICT** While effective, Roy's version does not offer anything new or different and isn't an essential purchase for libraries that already own the aforementioned titles. —Rachel Kamin, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park, IL --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Jennifer Roy is the author of the modern classic *Yellow Star*, the true story of her aunt's survival during the Holocaust; the award-winning *Mindblind* about a teen with Asperger's Syndrome; and the best-selling *Trading Faces* series co-authored with her twin sister, Julia DeVillers. Jennifer and her family currently reside in Saratoga Springs, New York. Meg Owenson is an illustrator and concept artist who works from her small seaside studio in Scarborough, UK. Since graduating with a degree in fine art she has worked on everything from computer games and film to books and apparel.

A truly great way to gently introduce WW2 with a perspective of hope and control. I find the topic of WW2 induces so much fear in children, which can close them off to learning more. This gives a sense of control. One woman chose to take the atrocity and not let it make her completely powerless. She used her knowledge and resources to save everyone she could. She made it her job, the work of goodness amidst the chaos and evil of the time. It speaks to morals and choices in the face of the unspeakable and standing up for what you believe in, holding fast to what you know to be good and right. I felt this was a great introduction to a very heavy topic that opened up inquiry and questions. It would also make a great addition to a balanced curriculum of WW2. The topic is overflowing with atrocities, so it needs a different take now and then.

What an incredible story! The author and illustrator really bring this tale to life. It is compelling, but not too scary or worrisome for younger children. Like *Yellow Star*, it makes an incredibly difficult

topic accessible for families to discuss and to find the heroines and helpers who are present, even in the midst of war and atrocities.

I got the book for a Children's lit class because I learned about WWII at a young age and I thought it would be a great way to talk about WWII to kids. The book does a good job of telling a positive story from the time period, it isn't very graphic. It talks about her getting lashed and struggling to walk a little. It also says that a lot of the people didn't live through the war. I think it is a good book for kids around 3rd grade. It tells the story by year, but I think a kid could really learn from the book and it is a great opportunity to explain some serious stuff.

Loved this story

beautiful story of bravery and hope!!!

Great story, very uplifting considering it is about WW2

Excellent book! A lesson from the horrors of the past to prepare us for the horrors of the future. To do God's good to do what we can to remember God's people and the freedom we all seek.

It is so wonderful to read about those who risked all to save the Jewish people. A well written children's story.

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