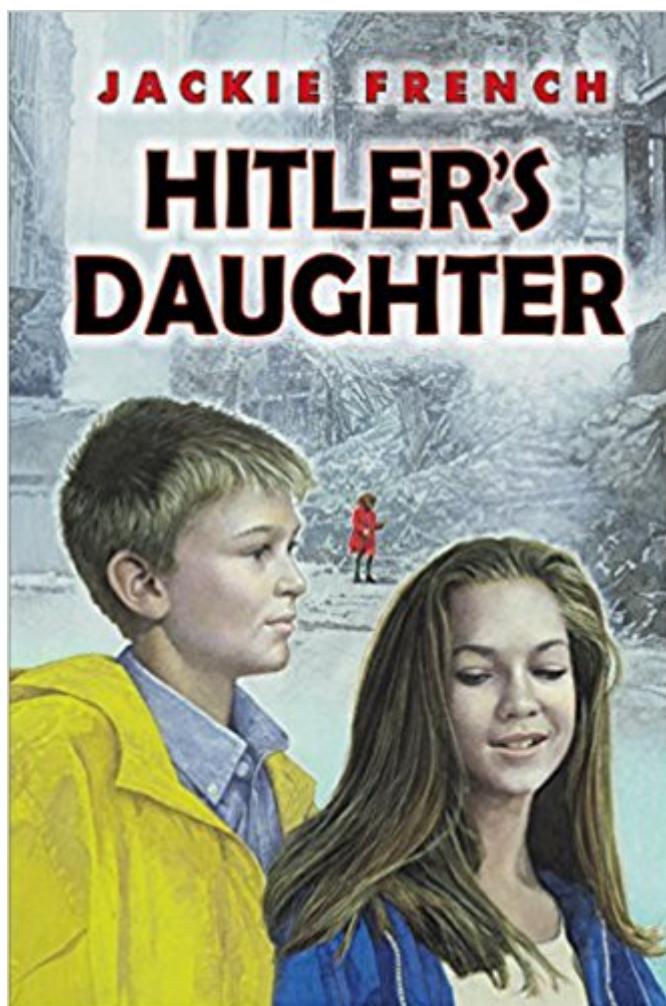


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# Hitler's Daughter (Bccb Blue Ribbon Fiction Books (Awards))



## **Synopsis**

Her name was Heidi, and she was Hitler's daughter. It began on a rainy morning in Australia, as part of a game played by Mark and his friends. It was a storytelling game, and the four friends took turns weaving tales about fairies and mermaids and horses. But Anna's story was different this time: It was not a fairy tale or an adventure story. The story was about a young girl who lived during World War II. Her name was Heidi, and she was Hitler's daughter. As Anna's story unfolds, Mark is haunted by the image of Hitler's daughter. He wonders what he would have done in her place if he had known his father was an evil man leading the world into a war that was destroying millions of lives. And if Mark had known, would he have had the power and determination to stop him? This intriguing novel poses powerful questions about a frightening period in history and will force readers to examine moral issues in a fresh, compelling light.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 600L (What's this?)

Series: Bccb Blue Ribbon Fiction Books (Awards)

Hardcover: 128 pages

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.6 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #946,237 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #137 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Holocaust #138 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Australia & Oceania

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 4-6-In order to amuse themselves while waiting for the school bus, a group of contemporary Australian children encourage their friend Anna to tell a story. "She always added details so you saw the story in your mind." But this time, the story has real characters in it. Anna imagines that

Hitler had a daughter whom he kept hidden, because of a large birthmark on her face and a lame leg. Heidi, the imaginary child, leads a protected life during World War II with her governess. As the days go by, the story grows in power for 10-year-old Mark. He begins to wonder what it must have been like to have an evil father like Hitler, and he begins to question his own parents and the fact that they live on land that was originally occupied by Aborigines. The two stories proceed in tandem at an uneven pace. Heidi is the most interesting character. Mark is the only contemporary character developed in any depth, but his growing conflict with his parents and the ethical issues tossed up by the story are cut short and don't lead anywhere. For most of the book, it isn't clear how Anna knows enough to tell Heidi's story, complete with details of Berchtesgaden and Hitler's bunker. The answer to this question comes at the end. While affecting, it is also a letdown. The implication is that Anna's grandmother, who told her the story, was, or could have been, Hitler's daughter. While it is based on an interesting idea and could be used as a discussion starter, this novel is ultimately unsatisfying.

Sue Giffard, Ethical Culture Fieldston School, New York City  
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Gr. 4-7. What if Hitler had a physically disabled daughter he kept hidden because she didn't fit his prototype for breeding a superior Aryan race? In Australia today Mark listens to his friend Anna make up a story about Heidi, a Nazi leader's child who knows her dad only as a kind visitor. Her story makes Mark ask questions about his own family. Would he know if his parents were doing something wrong? Would he go along with them? His mother doesn't understand why television programs about the Holocaust appear ("it's hard to watch that sort of thing"). Dad jokes around, but he gets furious when Mark asks whether his great-great grandfather stole their farm from the Aborigines. And what's that boring stuff about "genocide" on the news? The surprise ending is totally contrived, but the disturbing, fast-paced story, a prizewinner in Australia, makes clear the roles of perpetrator and bystander. When read with true survivors' accounts, this will be an excellent discussion title for the junior-high Holocaust curriculum. Hazel Rochman  
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I bought this book for my niece and she is loving it, can't put it down she is super interested in learning more about the war.

Interesting view of nurture versus nature and also structure of writing. Very good for a discussion group of teens.

Hitler's daughter begins with a harmless story game on the way to school. But the storyteller becomes more and more engrossed in the telling and so do her friends. It is as though they are living through the story. I cannot divulge the ending which comes as a total surprise, I give it 4 stars because having read French's companion book, "Making Pennies for Hitler" which rates five stars from me, this is a slighter book and I think written for the younger end of middle readers

Really good, very interesting how it has so many different points of views. It was very entertaining and creative. This book would definitely be a great read for people any age.

I heard about this book from a co-worker. She attended a production of this book at a local college on a field trip with her daughter's 7th grade class. She was overwhelmed by the production enough that I knew I had to read the book. After hearing about what she saw and reading the book it brought the story front and center. What if? is such a profound question and this book delivers on that. A must read.

it was good but a little short on Plot etc.

Beautiful story. Definitely should readWell done. Love it! The ending was amazing ! ! ! ! Recommend 10 / 10

I absolutely loved Hitlers Daughter. It is not for the people who don't think about what they read, there is a lot of thinking involved. I would recommend this book for ages 12-101 a younger children would not get the concept of the book and it has very heavy content. ELLA, 11

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