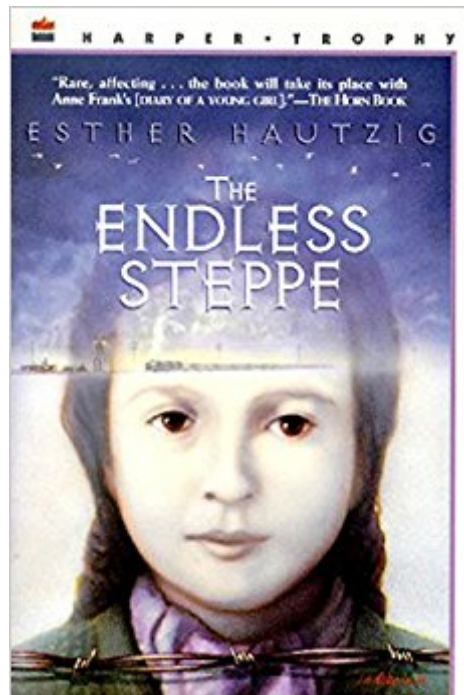




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The Endless Steppe: Growing Up In Siberia



Synopsis

Exiled to Siberia In June 1941, the Rudomin family is arrested by the Russians. They are "capitalists -- enemies of the people." Forced from their home and friends in Vilna, Poland, they are herded into crowded cattle cars. Their destination: the endless steppe of Siberia. For five years, Ester and her family live in exile, weeding potato fields and working in the mines, struggling for enough food and clothing to stay alive. Only the strength of family sustains them and gives them hope for the future.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ten-year-old Esther Rudomin movingly describes "the end of my lovely world" when her family is arrested in 1941 and taken from their home and exiled to Siberia. Ages 10-up. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"Radiates optimism "and the resilience of human spirit. A magnificent book."--" The Washington Post"Rare, affecting . . . the book will take its place with Anne Frank's "Diary Of A Young Girl"--" The Horn Book

This is a very special book. I read it in middle school over 20 years ago and it always stayed with me. My teacher had some WWII veterans come visit us and speak with us after reading the book. Now that I have my own daughter who is 9 I bought this book and read it to her. It was just as moving, educational, and an amazing true story as I remembered.

I got this book to read for my book club. I had never heard of it before. It was really good. I was interested especially in the history of Russia and the Jewish people there during World War II. I previously knew nothing about it. Would recommend this book to all, especially teens and young people.

I lost the copy that I had as a child, so I was thrilled to find it in print again. It was a book that I read over and over again. She puts her experiences in such a way that it captures your heart, and you feel for her. The fears, the disappointments, the joy, her accomplishments all define the person she was and she possessed a lot of inner strength. A great read for all ages!

A fantastic story. It is well written and it is true! My 12 year old boy read it and loved it and I couldn't put it down. I read it 5 months ago and every time I feel a chilly wind, I am transported back to Esther's story. A must read for everyone.

I read this book for the first time when I was nine years old, and it quickly became my favorite. Now at nearly 49 years old, I treated myself to a copy, since mine was lost decades ago. It is even more beautiful now, though in different ways. Now that I am raising a child, I am particularly impressed with the education Esther received in Siberia, in unheated classrooms, with only newspaper for writing essays. Her education in such humble surroundings far surpasses what children today receive.

I first read this book when I was in middle school. It made quite an impression on me. It helped me appreciate what I had: freedoms, family, an education. I kept the book for 40 years, and finally decided to replace it with a new copy, so I can continue to lend it out. I recommend it to all my students, and fellow parents. While it can be understood by young adults, it is a moving and profound (true) story for all to enjoy. I highly recommend it.

This is definately a coming-of-age tale. Young Esther has to grow up fast, and she does so, admirably. Going from privelidge only child to all but independent bread winner for her family, she shows the hardships faced by those in labor camps and general exile at the time. Only thing lacking? I wanted to know more at the end of the tale. Her family reunited (minus some members) I'd have loved to have an epilogue about their 'after exile' settlement back in Poland/Lithuania. Still, I highly recommend The Endless Steppe.

This is a little known areas of atrocities during WW II. The Russians were just as cruel to the Jews as the Germans. This a true story of one girl's experiences. I read this for the first time when it was first published and it has impacted me to this very day. I purchased this copy as a gift. I own a hardback copy on my library and have gifted other copies throughout the years. This is a Must Read.

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