

Title: White Bird: A Wonder Story (A Graphic Novel) Author: R.J. Palacio Imprint: Knopf Books for **Young Readers** Publisher: Random House Children's Books On sale date: October 1, 2019 **ISBN:** 9780593487785 Format: Paperback Age Range*: 8-12 years old Grade Range: Gr 4-6 (Recommended by School Library

Journal)

BOOK RESUME: WHITE BIRD: A WONDER STORY (A GRAPHIC NOVEL)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

In R. J. Palacio's bestselling collection of stories *Auggie & Me*, which expands on characters in *Wonder*, readers were introduced to Julian's grandmother, Grandmère. Here, Palacio makes her graphic novel debut with Grandmère's heartrending story: how she, a young Jewish girl, was hidden by a family in a Nazi-occupied French village during World War II; how the boy she and her classmates once shunned became her savior and best friend.

Sara's harrowing experience movingly demonstrates the power of kindness to change hearts, build bridges, and even save lives. As Grandmère tells Julian, "It always takes courage to be kind, but in those days, such kindness could cost you everything." With poignant symbolism and gorgeous artwork that brings Sara's story out of the past and cements it firmly in this moment in history, *White Bird* is sure to captivate anyone who was moved by the book *Wonder* or the blockbuster movie adaptation and its message.

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

 \star "A must-read graphic novel that is both heart-rending and beautifully hopeful." —*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"A story of resistance, bravery, and survival.... This compelling story is served well by the graphic novel format." *—Booklist*

"Sure to be popular among fans of Wonder and educators who want to connect past to present." —*School Library Journal*

"At once expressive and chaste, an elusive but ideal combination." —*New York Times*

"A story that shows the impact of the Second World War and the rise of fascism on what had been a pastoral, fairy-tale childhood, with White Bird pulling no punches in connecting that historical moment to what's happening in the world today." —*The Hollywood Reporter*

"Extraordinarily powerful.... White Bird does not shrink from depicting the terror and violence of the Nazi occupation for younger readers, and respects the ability of those readers to handle strong material." —*Forbes*

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*Publisher suggested age range covers the wide range of readers publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate range for their diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- WINNER Sydney Taylor Book Award
- A New York Public Library Best Book of the Year
- WINNER Sydney Taylor Book Award, Association of Jewish Libraries -Middle Grade
- WINNER Maryland Black-Eyed Susan Award
- SELECTION International Literacy Association Children's Choice Reading List
- NOMINEE Georgia Children's Book Award
- NOMINEE Missouri Mark Twain Award Grades 4-6
- NOMINEE Indiana Young Hoosier Book Award
- NOMINEE Wisconsin Golden Archer Award

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

<u>White Bird Educators' Guide</u> <u>White Bird Banned Books Club Guide</u> <u>R.J. Palacio on "White Bird" | 2019 National Book Festival - video</u> <u>A Reminder for Empa-thy: A Con-ver-sa-tion with R. J. Palacio</u> <u>MSNBC Velshi Book Club with R.J. Palacio - video</u>

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