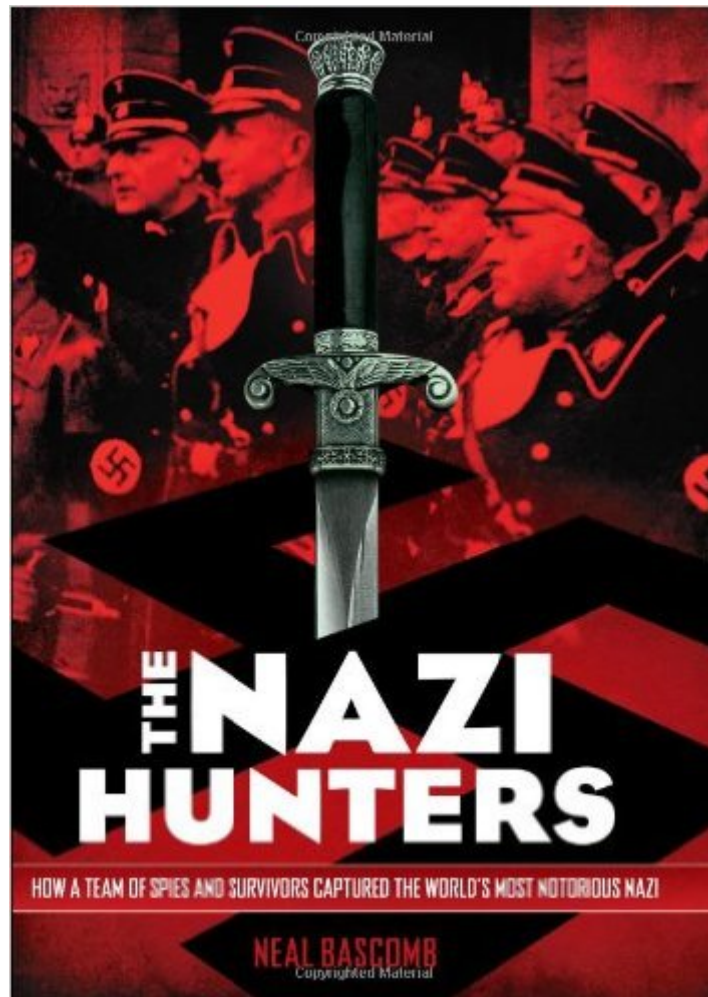


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The Nazi Hunters: How A Team Of Spies And Survivors Captured The World's Most Notorious Nazi



Synopsis

A thrilling spy mission, a moving Holocaust story, and a first-class work of narrative nonfiction. In 1945, at the end of World War II, Adolf Eichmann, the head of operations for the Nazis' Final Solution, walked into the mountains of Germany and vanished from view. Sixteen years later, an elite team of spies captured him at a bus stop in Argentina and smuggled him to Israel, resulting in one of the century's most important trials -- one that cemented the Holocaust in the public imagination. *THE NAZI HUNTERS* is the thrilling and fascinating story of what happened between these two events. Survivor Simon Wiesenthal opened Eichmann's case; a blind Argentinean and his teenage daughter provided crucial information. Finally, the Israeli spies -- many of whom lost family in the Holocaust -- embarked on their daring mission, recounted here in full. Based on the adult bestseller *HUNTING EICHMANN*, which is now in development as a major film, and illustrated with powerful photos throughout, *THE NAZI HUNTERS* is a can't-miss work of narrative nonfiction for middle-grade and YA readers.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1000L (What's this?)

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (61 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

This is coming from a somewhat knowledgeable 11 year old girl, but I absolutely LOVED this book. I have always been fascinated with WWII and I finally found another book about it. I really like how it explains the capture of the less famous, but much more evil of a person, Adolf Eichmann, who I

never knew existed. I also cannot believe how he stayed in hiding for 15 years until his capture. This book was a SMASHING read. I thought there was not a single part of the book that was boring or not interesting. I kept turning the pages on my iPad to see what would happen next. I can tell you, I really enjoyed this book and if you are interested in WWII and want a good book to read about it, choose this book to read. I highly recommend this book! I would also like to say thank you for writing it!:)

As someone who loves history I felt his very difficult subject was handled very well especially if sharing with younger readers such as middle or high school age kids. Well done!

Neal Bascomb has written a gripping account of an international effort to capture Adolf Eichmann – the SS official who basically visualized, organized, and ran the Holocaust. Eichman disappeared for over a decade and, while Europe and the U.S. got caught up in the Cold War, a tenacious few kept hunting for ex-Nazi officials who were responsible for the murder of millions of Jews and others. In a spy-like, action packed text, the author tells the story of how Eichman was discovered in Argentina, kept under surveillance and then captured through an elaborate plan by an international team led by the Israelis. What struck me were some of the thematic threads that ran through the book - Everyone involved (and there were dozens) had lost a relative in the Holocaust and was still suffering the loss (why wouldn't they be?) – this served as motivation, but also as an energy that sometimes had to be suppressed in order to pull off the mission successfully; Even when world powers like the U.S., Europe, and even Germany lost focus on pursuing these criminals, a tenacious few – a lawyer in Germany, leaders in Israel, every day people in Argentina including a teenage girl – continued this pursuit. To pull off this mission, meticulous care had to be taken as well as innovation – disguise, caution, use of new technology, etc. As well, collective thinking and collaboration and trust played an important role in the mission. Beautiful. Well written and thoroughly researched. Actually, I found this in a bookstore and had not heard of Neal Bascomb. I immediately turned to the author's note to check out his research and was impressed enough to pay. While the notes and research were extensive, Bascomb writes the following note: "Now, despite my best efforts, my reconstruction of these events is no doubt imperfect" – and then he goes on to explain. Great example for your middle school students to consider in thinking critically about the informational texts they are reading.

Wow. This is an amazing book. Not only is the story a fascinating one, but it is very well-written and quite compelling. Bascomb does a nice job of providing just enough background about the different people to provide understanding for why they behaved the way they did and why Eichmann's capture was so important. I was a bit surprised at my own reaction though to Eichmann himself. The man was responsible for doing some awful things and I expected to be rather disgusted with his actions and his rational for them, and I did feel that way. However, after I read about the conditions under which he was found and his continuing excuse that he was 'just following orders' I found myself pitying the man and his lack of humanity. How he could claim to believe in God and yet send millions of people to their deaths, I will never understand. The story of how Eichmann was discovered, captured, and tried is an intriguing story involving Holocaust survivors, spies, and intricate plans that had every chance of going wrong. What I found the most ironic though was that it was a mistake made by Eichmann himself that resulted in his capture. If he had had his sons use a different name (other than Eichmann), he most likely would never have been found. In the end his own arrogance doomed him. This is what nonfiction for young people should be and I highly recommend it.

I turned to this book in the middle of reading various Daniel Silva spy novels, including one involving the Holocaust. My wife and I are currently addicted to Silva, and I figured that The Nazi Hunters would be a break that would provide interest but not the sort of page-turning, late-at-night narrative that Silva's novels always give. Wrong! This book is gripping from start to finish. It is very well researched, and told with a storyteller's gift for narrative; I couldn't put it down. Bascomb brilliantly relates the details of the hunt for Eichmann, and the meticulous planning that went into his capture and secret smuggling out of Argentina. Eichmann was a monster, though of course he maintained till the last that tired defense: that in arranging the capture and transportation to death of millions of innocent people he was "just following orders". It is remarkable that the men involved in bringing him to justice - most of whom had lost family in the Holocaust - resisted what must have been the strong temptation to kill him, and instead gave him the kind of trial that he never permitted his victims. I've read a lot of Holocaust literature, and this is a worthy addition to the best of that genre.

The book has a lexile number of 1000L, which is above my grandson's (age 9) reading level. His class is studying non-fiction works, and though it was a bit of a challenge, he found it very informative and interesting.

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