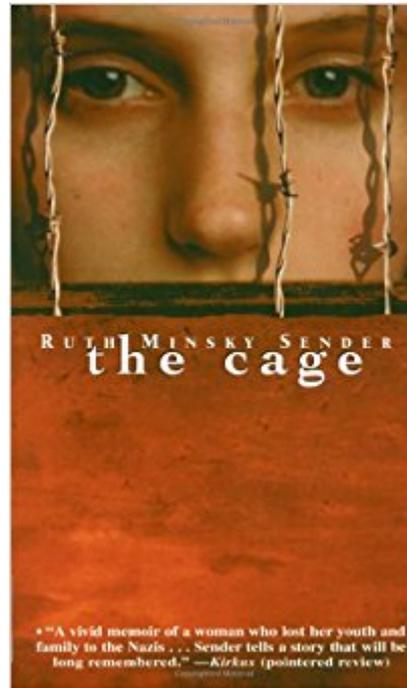


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# The Cage



## Synopsis

As long as there is life, there is hope After Mama is taken away by the Nazis, Riva and her younger brothers cling to their mother's brave words to help them endure life in the Lodz ghetto. Then the family is rounded up, deported to Auschwitz, and separated. Now Riva is alone. At Auschwitz, and later in the work camps at Mittelsteine and Grafenort, Riva vows to live, and to hope - for Mama, for her brothers, for the millions of other victims of the nightmare of the Holocaust. And through determination and courage, and unexpected small acts of kindness, she does live - to write the unforgettable memoir that is a testament to the strength of the human spirit.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sender writes a searing, memorable story of her years in the Lodz ghetto and in Auschwitz. Ages 10-up. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Grade 9 Up This reflective Holocaust memoir presents a series of brief scenes from 1939, when the author was 12 and Hitler invaded Poland, through the Russian liberation of the Mittelsteine labor camp in 1945. Like many other survivors of the Holocaust who have written accounts, Sender presents harrowing descriptions of life and death in the ghetto and concentration camps, and gives fervent testimonials to the love, strength, and dignity that helped make her survival possible. However, this telling stands out in other, equally important respects. Riva's widowed mother is arrested early on, and much of the first part of the book concerns the then 16-year-old's courageous efforts to preserve a family with her younger brothers. Later, after a brief ordeal in Auschwitz, Riva is

transported to a slave labor camp, where she becomes seriously ill. Remarkably, a camp doctor is able to convince the S.S. commandante that Riva should be treated in a hospital outside the camp. This extraordinary situation allows Riva, and readers, rare glimpses of wartime German civilian life, and of the small sparks of compassion and humanity still present in her Nazi captors. Older students with previous knowledge of the subject will find Sender's narrative moving and thought provoking. But because of the book's sparse, impressionistic writing style, and its highly selective content, *The Cage* should be purchased only as a supplement to well developed and much used Holocaust collections. Ruth Horowitz, Notre Dame Academy Girls High School, Los Angeles Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Needed this really quickly for my daughters homework shopped at several of our local chain store and couldn't find one, good read, easy to understand and chapters were short, nicely written, good book for 11-14 year old to read.

I first read this book as a child in 5th grade. It was the first book I read that dealt with the Holocaust; it ignited a lifetime passion for learning about holocaust survivor accounts. I cannot wait to share this book with my own children. My prayer for them is to be moved by its truths and to find a courageous compassion for anyone who is being mistreated. I wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone who finds it--young or old.

I was a little surprised as I had no knowledge of some of these other camps, perhaps because so many writers focused on Auschwitz and Birkenau. I enjoyed the sparseness of the writing but didn't feel the sorrow and suffering as I read. Perhaps this was because the author was trying to convey the strength of the human spirit and the power of hope. Still, the writing wasn't bad if not completely convincing. I feel that it is worth the read. Maybe more stories of the hope and humanity that existed along with the evil of hatred and ignorance need to be told about the Holocaust--particularly that from a young woman's point of view.

Great product.

Will have to rebuy this book eventually.

Or this one either.

Although this book states that it is for 12 year olds, I, a 29 year old, highly enjoyed it. It is a holocaust memoir about Riva and her life in the ghetto and concentration camps. Riva is only 16 years old, however when her mother is sent to a concentration camp, she becomes mother to her younger brothers. Joined by love, Riva is able to keep the family together for only a short time before she is separated and sent to a labor camp. Riva injures her hand and becomes seriously ill. Miraculously, the camp commandant allows her to leave the camp and meet with an outside doctor. This book is well-written and engaging. The reader comes to care for the family and pulls for their survival. Overall this is a good holocaust memoir, which I would recommend for anyone.

This is a wonderful book. I liked Riva's style of writing. I could imagine myself as another child there with her. I've read many books of the horrors inflicted on the Jewish people, and this would be at the top of my list of favorites. I don't want to give things away, so I can't say much... I wish more information had been given at the end of her freedom, reunions, moving to another country and her new life! I become so attached to the author that I want to continue on with her and see her progression in life. May God bless Riva (Ruth) and her family!

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