

Webster City, Iowa

Dear Carol Matas,

I liked your book, *Daniel's Story*, because it tells the truth. It reminds us of our mistakes, and the world's flaws. It reminds us of the pain a whole nation of the Jews people suffered for being who they are. The injustice of the price that they paid for just living. Your book reminds us that they were people who died those sad years. Every day a child died. A child with a name. A child with a family. A child who loved God. I think about how close I came to being someone else instead of me. I could've been George Washington. I could've been Bill Gates. I could've been anyone in the world, and my last choice probably would have been a child in the Holocaust. An innocent child born in the wrong time. A child whose life was robbed from them by a selfish act by one man. One man had enough nerve to blame an entire religion, and everyone followed him.

Anyone could have ended up as one of those children, going to bed hungry every night wishing that their horrible situation would end. Crying, and having no one listen. Struggling to live without the love of parents, or family to help them through. That person took away everything that the Jewish held dear. He took their clothes, their hair, even their lives. But worst of all, he tore apart families. He killed parents, and children, and siblings. He would have taken away memories if he could have. But that was the only thing that kept the Jewish going. Try as he might, no one can ever take away memories. Memories of childhood. Memories of happiness, and most of all, memories of a family who loved them.

We as a people don't realize how lucky we are to live in the times that we do. To have a family who loves them, who tucks them in at night, who is always there for them. I know that I don't appreciate my family as much as I should. I know that most of us don't appreciate our families enough. That's what your book taught me, to always love and appreciate my life, and my family.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Kay Louik