



## The girl with the white flag

By Tomiko Higa

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**The girl with the white flag** By Tomiko Higa

New York Newsday called this memoir of a warhood childhood in Japan "one of the saddest and yet most uplifting books about childhood you will ever encounter."

Separated from her family in the confusion and horror of World War II, seven-year-old Tomiko Higa struggles to survive on the battlefield of Okinawa, Japan. There, as some of the fiercest fighting of the war rages around her, she must live alone, with nothing to fall back on but her own wits and daring. Fleeing from encroaching enemy forces, searching desperately for her lost sisters, taking scraps of food from the knapsacks of dead soldiers, risking death at every turn, Tomiko somehow finds the strength and courage to survive.

Many years later she decided to tell this story. Originally intended for juvenile readers, it is sure to move adults as well, because it is such a vivid portrait of the unintended civilian casualties of any war.

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## **The girl with the white flag** By Tomiko Higa Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #3268586 in Books
- Published on: 1992
- Number of items: 1
- Binding: Hardcover
- 127 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### From School Library Journal

YA-- Higa tells of her experiences as a seven year old wandering for seven weeks in battle-torn Okinawa in 1945. Her nine-year-old brother was killed beside her as they slept. Separated from her sisters, she survived on her own and then with an elderly, handicapped couple. Although bloody corpses are a common sight, the book is not depressing. Aspects of Oriental culture and religion, such as the importance of family and the relationship of man to nature, can be seen. Sentences are usually short, but they don't detract from the effectiveness of this moving, autobiographical memoir. Recent immigrants from countries ravaged by war will find it particularly meaningful. All will be touched by Higa's tenacity under impossible circumstances and will be reminded that children continue to be the worst victims of war. --Claudia Moore, W. T. Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA

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#### From Library Journal

Iwo Jima, Saipan, Okinawa. The names of Pacific War battlegrounds conjure up vaguely similar memories to Americans above a certain age. But there was a difference. On Okinawa for the first time U.S. forces encountered a large civilian population. Estimates are that at least 75,000 Okinawan men, women, and children perished, many of them committing suicide rather than surrender. This book tells the story of the climax of this battle from the perspective of a seven-year-old girl, the author, who struggled against the odds to survive and to lead others to survival. Some rare photographs illuminate the ending to this simply told story, as the girl in the title comes into camera range of an American soldier. A charming story, a quick read for young and old alike.

- John H. Boyle, California State Univ., Chico

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#### Review

"One of the saddest yet most uplifting books about childhood you will ever encounter. ... A powerful document as well as a completely engrossing adventure." -Newsday

"[A] moving memoir... All will be touched by Higa's tenacity under impossible circumstances and will be reminded that children continue to be the worst victims of war." -School Library Journal

." .. her unaffected memoir serves as a reminder that in any war, 'noncombatants' suffer grievously." -Los Angeles Times Book Review

"A gripping story." -Mainichi Daily News

"A testimony to the resilience of the human spirit. [It] is a short book that you will not be able to put down once you start to read it." -City life News

..".an original, candid, and attention gripping autobiographical narrative which is superbly written and

enthusiastically recommended..." -Bookwatch

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Luisa Johnson:

Playing with family within a park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, then why you don't try matter that really opposite from that. One activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition info. Even you love The girl with the white flag, you are able to enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout men. What? Still don't obtain it, oh come on its known as reading friends.

#### Marjorie Cook:

The book untitled The girl with the white flag contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains your ex idea with easy method. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read that. The book was published by famous author. The author brings you in the new period of literary works. It is easy to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book in anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can open their official web-site in addition to order it. Have a nice learn.

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