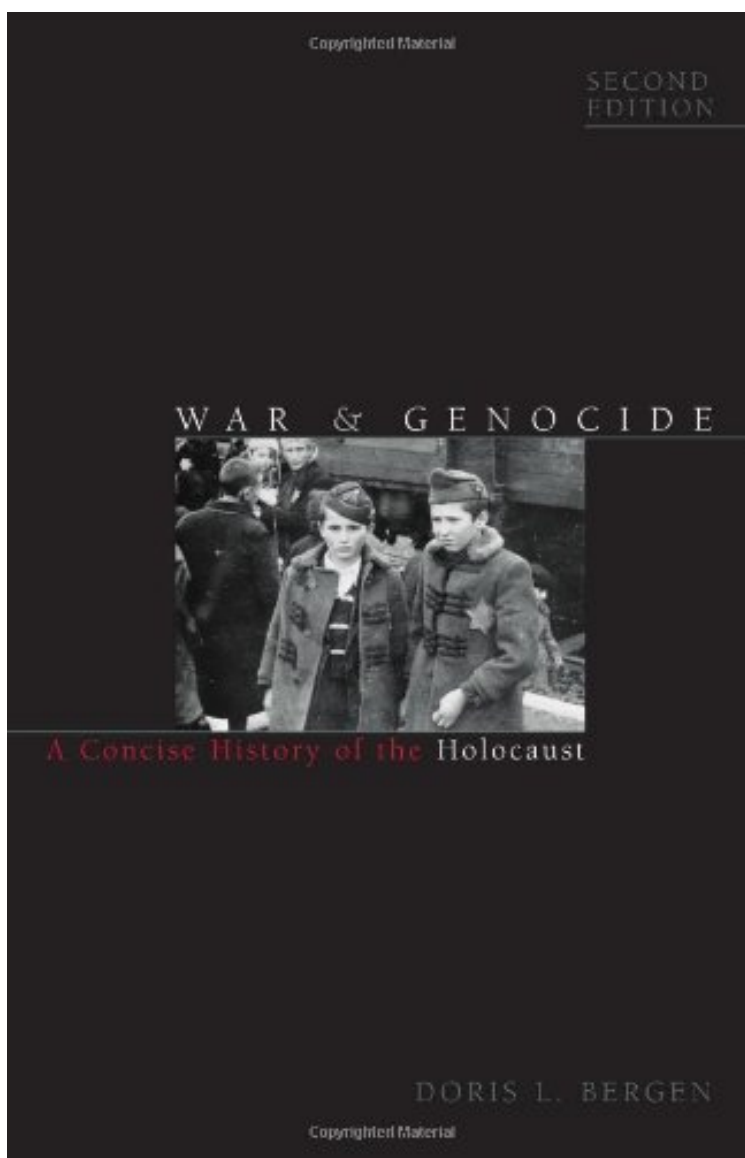


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War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust (Critical Issues in World and International History)

Doris L. Bergen

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Doris L. Bergen : War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust (Critical Issues in World and International History) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust (Critical Issues in World and International History):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. When in conversation about a subject as emotionally charged as ...By CustomerWhen in conversation about a subject as emotionally charged as the Holocaust, many individuals find themselves in a precarious balance between appeals of pathos and the empiricism of statistics in trying to convey their ideas. Though the depth per subject may not be ideal, the chronological, textbook-like approach and grasp on the importance of personal accounts roots War Genocide as a must-have for any individual interested in learning about the Holocaust. Because Bergen chose to cover the entirety of the Holocaust with a mind towards generalities for the sake of conciseness, there is a lack of deep interpretation that would be appropriate for something as complicated as the Holocaust. Indeed, content-wise, Bergens War Genocide only serves as an introductory piece to the Holocaust. However, as opposed to other scholarly texts that tend to tackle such a massively complex event per aspect, the chronological approach of War Genocide allows for an intellectual progression that is the most natural and intuitive for a novice scholar of the Holocaust. Though Bergen is limiting her ability to provide deep analysis due to her motivation to be concise, she excels in writing a history of the Holocaust by producing a logical flow within a series of events that many may consider to lack logic. Thanks to the inclusion of such intimate stories of the intense struggles of multiple victims, a reader may have the opportunity to fully grasp just the degree of loss that the world experienced during the Holocaust. It is these emotional appeals, and Bergens capacity to include them in what is regarded as only an introductory text, that make War Genocide a uniquely effective book in intellectually and empathetically appealing to the reader. . The major decision by Bergen to prioritize conciseness when writing War Genocide binds the text's purpose into that of an introductory reading, not containing the analytical proficiency that would be appealing to the more experienced Holocaust historian to mull over. However, this concession is in exchange for a chronologically-based retelling of the events of the Holocaust that a novice reader will become grateful for its ease to intuitively follow. In conjunction with the inclusion of emotionally appealing personal accounts of victims, any individual is encouraged to read Bergens War Genocide if they wish to gain an understanding of the Holocaust on both an emotional and empathetic level. However, they should also be prepared to look for further readings if they find any aspect especially appealing, for the conciseness of the text will leave any with such a specific scholarly focus wanting more.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. it is relatively easy to get lost in the numbers and overwhelming multitudes ...By ErinIn just under 250 pages, Doris L. Bergen investigates various aspects of the Holocaust in a concise and understandable manner for those just beginning their studies on its history. This addition to the subject matter not only serves as a textbook of important dates and events throughout Hitler's regime, but it is also a narrative with details from personal stories and accounts. She gives life and voice to those who underwent unimaginable anguish and presents it in a compassionate yet academic manner. This is especially noteworthy because in the study of history, it is relatively easy to get lost in the numbers and overwhelming multitudes of stories and experiences. Bergen reminds us as readers that we cannot quantify pain and that we should not approach this particular subject by debating who suffered more. In that sense, she goes beyond the call of duty required from a textbook and is able to find a balance in such a raw topic.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Overview of the HolocaustBy Samuel S.The author provides a very thorough overview of the Holocaust in WWII, and a brief history of Hitler's rise to power in Germany. The images used in the book are powerful, and well implemented. Highly recommend this book for anyone looking to read more about the Holocaust, or for readers that are just starting to learn about it.

In examining one of the defining events of the twentieth century, Doris L. Bergen situates the Holocaust in its historical, political, social, cultural, and military contexts. Unlike many other treatments of the Holocaust, this revised, second edition discusses not only the persecution of the Jews, but also other segments of society victimized by the Nazis: Gypsies, homosexuals, Poles, Soviet POWs, the handicapped, and other groups deemed undesirable. With clear and eloquent prose, Bergen explores the two interconnected goals that drove the Nazi German program of conquest and genocide: purification of the so-called Aryan race and expansion of its living space and discusses how these goals affected the course of World War II. Including firsthand accounts from perpetrators, victims, and eyewitnesses, the book is immediate, human, and eminently readable.

A book that will likely be required reading in college-level courses for years to come. . . . A detailed overview of the Holocaust. (History In)A meticulous, sensitive account of the Nazi race wars that combines a powerful narrative and explanatory drive at the same time as it illuminates individual lives and fates with searing precision. While giving full weight to the antisemitic core of Nazi racism, Bergen also shows why it claimed so many other groups of victims, and pursues it to its appalling climax in the wars of imperialist conquest and exploitation launched in 1939. This is a distinctive and remarkable achievement, as assured as it is readable. (Jane Caplan, University of Oxford)This precise textbook accomplishes much: it provides a wide-angle view of what the Holocaust was and is in clear historiographical terms, challenges students to think through facts and interpretations surrounding the historical study of the Holocaust, and complements and is short enough to allow the inclusion of primary sources in a course. I will use it as long as I can. (Jeanne Grant, Metropolitan State University)About the AuthorDoris L. Bergen is Chancellor Rose

and Ray Wolfe Professor of Holocaust Studies at the University of Toronto.