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Bomb: The Race to Build-And Steal-The World's Most Dangerous Weapon

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Book Review

Title: Bomb: The Race to Build-And Steal-The World's Most Dangerous Weapon

Author: Steve Sheinkin

Reviewer: Robyn Lee

Publisher: Flash Point

Publication Year: 2012

ISBN: 9781596434875

Number of Pages: 272

Interest Level: Young Adult

Rating: Outstanding



Review

Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon takes young adult readers through the years leading up to the first use of the atomic bomb by the United States against Japan in World War II. Bomb reads like a thriller as you follow the story lines about the scientists in the United States trying to build a functional bomb, their counterparts in Great Britain, and the espionage the Soviets used to successfully steam information. Steve Sheinkin takes you behind the scenes to learn about some of the most influential people in scientific history and what they had to sacrifice in order to reach their objective: the atomic bomb.

Sheinkin adds the perfect amount of thrill to this nonfiction story to keep the reader looking forward to the next chapter. Although physics surrounding the bomb construction is difficult and advanced, Sheinkin keeps his explanations basic, focusing instead on the political science, key people, and effect their work had on their lives and the country. This book brings an already interesting topic to life and would be a great addition to any classroom, either as a teacher reference or a classroom set for students to read. The author does a good job of including story lines from outside the United States, showing how much of a united effort winning World War II was and the international repercussions of the atomic bomb.