



2017

The Book Thief

Shelby Bunker

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr>

BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Bunker, Shelby (2017) "The Book Thief," *Children's Book and Media Review*: Vol. 38 : Iss. 12 , Article 53.
Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cbmr/vol38/iss12/53>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by the All Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Children's Book and Media Review by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact scholarsarchive@byu.edu, ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu.

Book Review

Title: The Book Thief
Author: Markus Zusak
Reviewer: Shelby Bunker
Publisher: Alfred A. Knopf
Year: 2005
ISBN: 9780375931000
Pages: 550
Interest Level: Young Adult
Rating: Excellent



Review

Death narrates the story of young Liesel Meminger. Liesel lives in Nazi Germany in the home of Rosa and Hans Hubermann. As the story progresses, her beliefs and morals are questioned and her life is threatened by the war. Her family hides a Jew for a brief spell, almost starving themselves on limited rations and little to no income. She steals books and learns to read, forming her own opinions in the process. Although she is just a child, Liesel matures quickly as she experiences the horrors of war.

For any young adult interested in World War II, this book is a fantastic read. It highlights the severity of the war without sugar coating any details, yet it is not overly gruesome or depressing. The message of the story is that books can resonate within us and provide us an escape in the most terrible situations. The book's message and its insight into humanity makes this book well worth the time and effort to read it. Readers should be aware that the book is rather long, and some may feel that the story drags a bit at times.