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# The Book Thief

Shelby Bunker

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# 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.