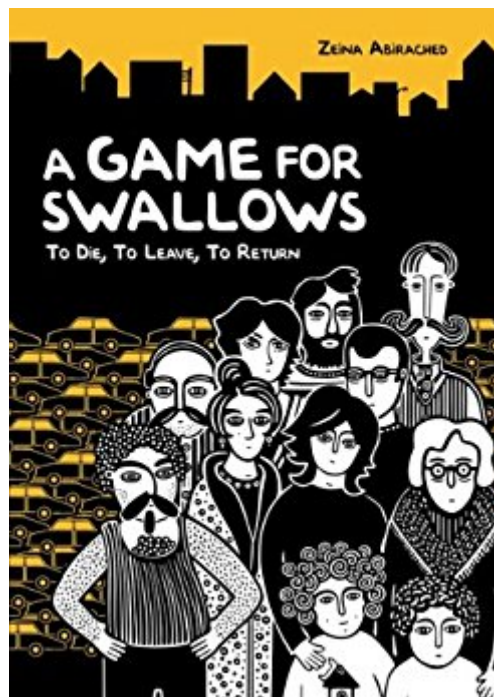




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A Game For Swallows: To Die, To Leave, To Return (Nonfiction - Young Adult)



Synopsis

When Zeina was born, the civil war in Lebanon had been going on for six years, so it's just a normal part of life for her and her parents and little brother. The city of Beirut is cut in two, separated by bricks and sandbags and threatened by snipers and shelling. East Beirut is for Christians, and West Beirut is for Muslims. When Zeina's parents don't return one afternoon from a visit to the other half of the city and the bombing grows ever closer, the neighbors in her apartment house create a world indoors for Zeina and her brother where it's comfy and safe, where they can share cooking lessons and games and gossip. Together they try to make it through a dramatic day in the one place they hoped they would always be safe—home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I love this book! I took a class on graphic novels in college last semester and this novel is the only one that I finished and actually liked! A great read and would be a great resource for a classroom!

Awesome story and way more fun to read than traditional story books. Has a comic type of layout that is easy to follow and illustrates the scenery as you read. Very interesting time to live in Beirut.

This graphic novel allows us to reach across the gulf that separates our safe western lifestyles from the terrors of ordinary people trapped in a war zone, to witness families surviving against all odds, and the depth of friendships that grow in such desperate circumstances... It would be an excellent addition to any library, school or public.

So realistically portrayed, I was transported back in time! I became Zeina, and her neighbours were mine! I laughed, I cried! I forgot it was black and white drawings on paper! It brought to life the optimism of the Lebanese in times of war and their humour in spite of the doom and gloom.

Told from a child's point of view, this story blends humor and sadness and love to show how family and friends live in terrible times. Symbolically, when a family chandelier is shattered, everyone knows it's time to move on. Still, the family survives. Must read.

My childhood friend's daughter wrote this book

As advertised.

Great

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