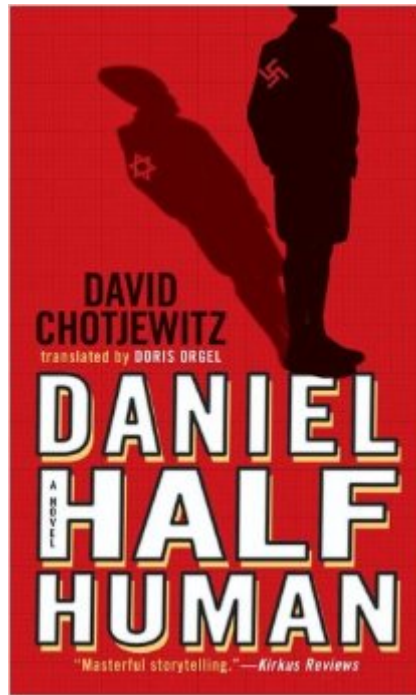


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# Daniel Half Human



## Synopsis

At the dawn of Hitler's rise to power in Germany in 1933 and a period of the most brutal, aggressive anti-Semitism the world has ever seen, two boys swear eternal brotherhood by slitting their wrists and mingling their blood. Having experienced so much together, even a night in jail after painting a swastika on a wall in the hated Communist section of Hamburg, Daniel and Armin had become the best of friends. But then, with the scar on his wrist still healing, Daniel receives some life-altering news: He is half-Jewish, and as such, half-hated by a growing number of neighbors, teachers, and friends. Quickly, he decides to keep his identity a secret, conspiring with Armin to join the Hitler Youth -- but only one of them can, and will, join, with terrible consequences.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740 (What's this?)

Mass Market Paperback: 325 pages

Publisher: Simon Pulse (March 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689857489

ISBN-13: 978-0689857485

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 1 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #124,660 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #46 in Â Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Holocaust #52 in Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Holocaust #91 in Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice & Racism

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Until the spring of 1933, Daniel has been lucky enough to enjoy a good German childhood with his well off and well educated family. Daniel has even enjoyed jail because one exciting night along with his best friend, Armin, they were caught painting a swastika on a wall in the hated Communist section of Hamburg. In their cell, the boys the boys swear lasting brotherhood but this camaraderie is soon threatened by a family secret for Daniel learns that his mother is in fact Jewish, that he is half-Jewish and therefore in the eyes of the Nazis who are rapidly rising to power in Germany,

half-human. Daniel decides to keep the truth a secret and he Armin excitedly talk of joining the Hitler Youth. Armin's father forbids it as he is a Socialist but Armin joins anyway and the seeds of tragedy are planted for both boys who remain friends despite everything but eventually their friendship is overrun by the times they are living in and Daniel is forced to make a choice, stay in German surely die or leave with his parents to a safe haven outside of Europe. The story shows the rise and fall of Nazi Germany and the rise and fall of a friendship that is destined to come full circle, for with the fall of Nazi Germany and the allied invasion a young American soldier (Daniel) is interviewing German soldiers who may or may not have been in the Nazi Party and among them is Armin and the young American soldier has a choice, should he ignore what he knows to be the truth despite Armin's protests, that the Armin was a member of the Nazi party or let him go. This is a book about friendship and what we do in the name of our beliefs, well written, totally haunting, this is a book that both adults and children can read and enjoy. Sometimes we have to stand up and be counted no matter what the consequences.

I bought one used one and one new one. They are the same, but one smells better than the other, lol My daughter needed the book for school. I think we will be donating them to the school library.

I was introduced to this book by a 6th grade student of mine after I had assigned the class to find a Holocaust related historical fiction novel. The student enjoyed it and so did I. It reveals a different perspective on the Holocaust as the main character, though not exactly anti-Semitic, is confused about his German identity when he discovers that he is half Jewish. This revelation changes his entire life, between friendships, school, family, etc., as he wrestles with his emotions and Nazi-German societal influences and pressures. Great story about family, friendship, and identity.

Daniel Half Human was a very good book about conflict with a Half-Jewish boy: Daniel. He wanted to join then Hitler Youth when he found this out. His friend, Armin, who already joined the youth stayed as his friend even when he found out about Daniel's secret. I would recommend this book if you like books about the holocaust or historical fiction. I rate this book a 5 out of 5 because even when I wanted to stop reading I couldn't. The story gets very suspenseful at points and keeps the reader on the edge of their seat.

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