



## My Brother's Secret

*By Dan Smith*

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### My Brother's Secret By Dan Smith

A fascinating new perspective on World War II; a fictitious, personalized take on the real-life rebel German youth group, the Edelweiss Pirates.

Karl Friedman is only twelve, but like all boys his age in Germany, he's already playing war games, training to join the Hitler Youth. Stefan, Karl's nonconformist older brother, wants nothing to do with it. Then their father is killed, and what had been a game suddenly becomes deadly serious. Karl's faith in the Fuhrer is shaken: Is Hitler a national hero--or a villain? What is the meaning of the flower symbol stitched inside Stefan's jacket, and what is the mission of the shadow group he belongs to? Karl soon finds out as he joins his brother in a dangerous rebellion against the burgeoning threat of Nazism.

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## My Brother's Secret By Dan Smith Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–8—Karl is a proud, patriotic 12-year-old boy living in Nazi Germany during World War II. He desires only to excel in the Deutsches Jungvolk and one day join the Hitler Youth. Karl is a dynamic character, whose mind gradually opens and opinions change through the course of the novel. A major catalyst for this change is the death of his father. Lisa, a new friend, and his own brother, Stefan, introduce him to a different way of thinking. This historical novel provides a vivid picture of what life was like for ordinary German citizens during this time period. Terrified that their own children who had been brainwashed by organizations like Deutsches Jungvolk, many adults lived in fear that the Hitler Youth would report them to the Gestapo if they did not demonstrate unwavering support to their Fuhrer. Additional themes include family, loyalty, friendship, and loss. VERDICT An exciting novel with compelling characters for those interested in historical fiction and Nazi Germany.—Tiffany Davis, Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY

Review

#### Praise for *My Brother's Secret*:

"[P]atriotism, courage, and compassion are presented through believable characters, gripping suspense, and an unflinching look at the lengths some will go to in order to retain control. A heartfelt look at coming of age in a time of war." --*Kirkus Reviews*

"An exciting novel with compelling characters for those interested in historical fiction and Nazi Germany." --*School Library Journal*

"It is breathtaking to see Smith open with a character who so clearly and yet innocently goes against the values of most readers, and the author handles Karl's growing realization of the truth beautifully. [T]his is clever, gripping storytelling--and the plot up to the climax is incredibly compelling[.]" --*VOYA*

#### About the Author

Growing up, Dan Smith moved with his family through Africa, Asia, and South America. He now lives in Newcastle, England, with his wife and two children. He made his publishing debut with the novel *My Friend the Enemy*, released September 2014. Find out more about the author at [www.dansmithsbooks.com](http://www.dansmithsbooks.com).

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

#### Pat Billings:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different

content. As it is known to us that book is very important usually. The book My Brother's Secret had been making you to know about other know-how and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The e-book My Brother's Secret is not only giving you more new information but also being your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your own personal spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship while using book My Brother's Secret. You never really feel lose out for everything in case you read some books.

### **Mary Andrade:**

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