



by Anne C. Voorhoeve
Ravensburger Buchverlag
Otto Maier
February 2008 / 480pp
Children's & Young Adults'

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Liverpool Street

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review

Ten-year-old Ziska (Franziska Mangold) never dares to touch the bannisters as she goes upstairs to her flat in Berlin. You can never know. One Sunday you are sitting happily in the park with your parents. Then on Monday it is all of a sudden forbidden. The whole park: 'No Jews or dogs'. She has learned that she is a Jew, although her parents are Protestants. Now she and her best friend Bekka (Rebecca Liebich) are hounded by the children who used to be their friends. Ziska is attacked. Rescued by a boy from her school, Ruben Seydenstücker, and taken to his home, she is amazed by the family – her first experience of orthodox Jews, so-called *Ostjuden*, their rituals, their extreme poverty, and their kindness.

Contained within this framework is a whole slice of prewar and wartime history, from *Kristallnacht* to Auschwitz, from the *Kindertransport* taking Jewish children to safety in England (hence the title 'Liverpool Street') to the varied fortunes of the young refugees, and from wartime sacrifices to deportations to the Isle of Man.

This stark, exciting and deeply moving novel portrays the growing up of a young girl amongst scenes of great tragedy. It is a magnificent effort, brave in every sense.

press quotes

'There is nothing comparable in children's or teen literature.' – *Berliner Zeitung*

'Penetrating and deeply touching writing.' – *Nürnberger Nachrichten*

'A very special reading experience' – *1000 und 1 Buch*

about the author

Anne C. Voorhoeve was born in 1963 in Germany. She studied Political Science, American Studies and Ancient History at the University of Mainz and Comparative Literature at the University of Maryland. She has worked as a newspaper and book editor, in public relations for a Lutheran monastery, and since 2000 as a freelance writer.

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Translation rights available from:

Ravensburger Buchverlag

Otto Maier GmbH

Robert-Bosch-Straße 1

88214 Ravensburg, Germany

Tel: +49 751-861240

Email: Florence.Christ@ravensburger.de

Contact: Florence Christ

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