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# Resistance: Book 1



## Synopsis

Fighting on a secret front of World War II Paul and Marie's bucolic French country town is almost untouched by the ravages of WWII, but the siblings still live in the shadow of war. Their father is a Prisoner of War, kept hostage by the Germans. When their friend Henri's parents disappear and Henri goes into hiding because of his Jewish ancestry, Paul and Marie realize they must take a stand. But how can they convince the French Resistance that even children can help in their fight against injustice? Resistance is the first volume of a trilogy written by acclaimed teen author Carla Jablonski and illustrated by Leland Purvis.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 200L (What's this?)

Series: Resistance (Book 1)

Paperback: 128 pages

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ISBN-10: 1596432918

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Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #115,316 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Holocaust](#) #49 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Holocaust](#) #69 in [Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Military](#)

Age Range: 12 - 18 years

Grade Level: 7 - 12

## Customer Reviews

Paul and Marie Tessier live in a small village in southern France during World War II. While not officially occupied by Germany, Germans are all around them. They worry for their Jewish friend Henri. Then Henri's parents go missing while he is away from home, and Paul and Marie find themselves hiding their friend while becoming a small part of the French Resistance. Resistance, Book 1 by Carla Jablonski and Leland Purvis is the first in a series of three graphic novels for young adults. It does an excellent job portraying the confusion, fear and uncertainty that were all part of everyday life at the time. Even young children saw friends turn on each other, and they had a hard

time knowing who they could confide in. Members of the Resistance took great risks upon themselves and their families to do what they considered to be right. Strict secrecy meant sometimes even family members didn't know they were each involved. So many books about World War II are written for adults; Resistance, Book 1 should be a great book to introduce this historical event to young adults. The images enrich the story beautifully and help keep the action moving along. The author's note at the back gives a brief description of the Resistance in France that should help fuel discussions. Issues include looking at war-time realities, deciding how much you are willing to risk to help your friends, and determining what you will do to resist something you consider wrong. I highly recommend it for mother-daughter book clubs with girls aged 13 and up.

Resistance is a graphic novel about three children in France during World War II who join the Resistance against the Nazis occupying their country. I say three children, but the eldest is a teen girl who is interested in local boys and is able to lead her brother and sister to Paris with a Jewish boy whose parents have escaped Nazi custody there. The youngest is Marie, a rather loud bossy youngster, and then there is Paul, her slightly older brother whose good friend Henri escapes being taken with his parents when he is away from home during the day. The two decide to hide Henri in a cave but also find out their sister and mother are helping the Resistance. With a rather scary train ride, the siblings must escort Henri to his parents. I had high hopes for this novel but ultimately I was let down. While I could see it perhaps appealing to a younger reading set, I didn't find the story especially intriguing and Marie was downright annoying (as little sisters can often be). The graphics themselves are all right but not really anything special; I did find some of the scenes drawn by young Paul to be enlightening. I suppose I was expecting to be drawn into this world completely, and I did not feel the story was realistic in how easily the children became involved in the Resistance. However, if the goal was to expose readers to the role of children during the French Resistance, its mission was accomplished, albeit in a light manner. Could be read by an adult in a very short sitting, and might possibly bring younger readers to want to learn more about France's World War II history.

[Resistance] by [[Carla Jablonski]][Defiance] by [[Carla Jablonski]][Victory] by [[Carla Jablonski]] This is a series of three graphic novels about the French Resistance written for young adults. I read them all one right after the other, in one day, and they read well as one book. I know nothing about the French Resistance other than a foolish romanticized notion and this gave me a lot of pretty good information quickly. Now I will be looking for a non-fiction memoir. This trilogy covered a surprising

number of aspects of resistance. How does a person make the choice to join a resistance movement? How do those actions affect families as a whole and as individuals? How old should an active member be? There were many factions of resistance - which philosophy fits your beliefs and how to work together well, or IF to work together. What is to be done with collaborators and how do you even identify them? As you can see, these books addressed many, many ideas and issues. It also involved me emotionally with the characters. How would it be to see your children involved? How would it be to see your parents involved? What if someone you love was starving or injured and collaborated? This series has managed to address all of those issues without simplifying them or making them black and white. After reading this and looking at the colored drawings, I feel as if I have just left an epic movie. And I want to tell all my friends to go see it.

My sons opinion: I got this book from my school library one day just because I liked the look of a kid pelting a Nazi in the back of the head with a slingshot. I started to read and after only the first three pages, I was hooked. The characters were great (A french family and one of their friends), the setting was good, but the big downside was that the ending has no action whatsoever. Earlier in the book the SS shoot a man with a pistol and kill him, but later at the end they simply meet the friends parents, pass off some papers, than leave Paris for home. It would have been better with some shooting and a bigger death toll. Other than this flaw, I would suggest getting this book from a local library, but don't buy it. It's not worth it.

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