

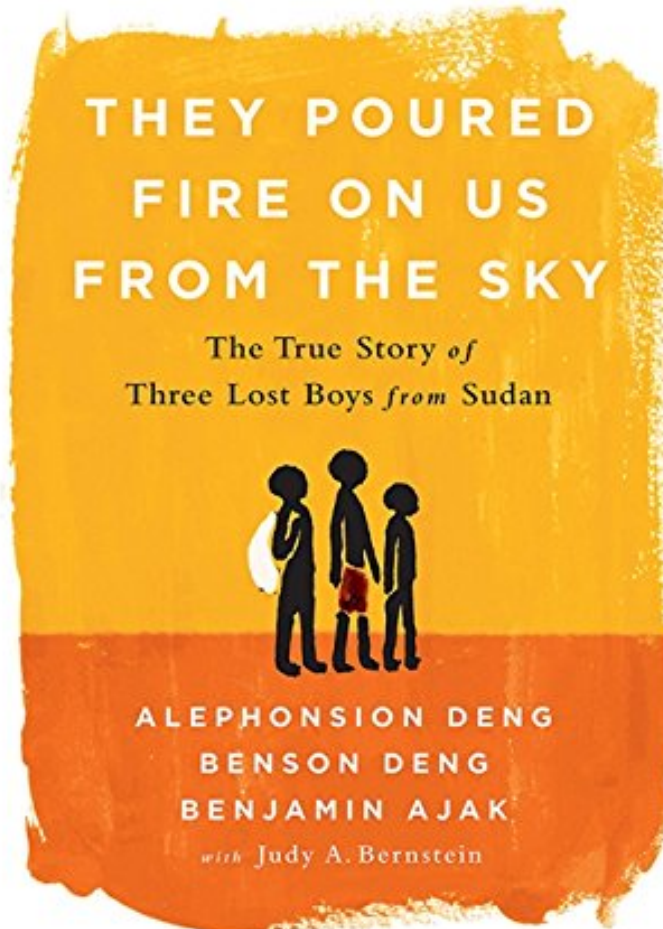
[Mobile ebook] They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan

They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan

Benjamin Ajak, Benson Deng, Alephonsion Deng, Judy A. Bernstein

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Benjamin Ajak, Benson Deng, Alephonsion Deng, Judy A. Bernstein : They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The True Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Chark Bought for a class 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great read for anyone unfamiliar with the crisis in Sudan By Emily *They Poured Fire on Us*

From the Sky is the captivating story of three boys: Benson, Benjamin, and Alepho, who must flee their homes when they are very young children due to a civil war between the Sudan Peoples Liberation Army and the country's government. The book follows the lives of each of the boys through alternating chapters, as the chaos of war separates and reunites them. They go days without food and water and walk thousands of miles, living on the edge of death as other boys die of thirst, malnutrition, war, and animal attacks. When they finally find relative safety and a home in the Kakuma refugee camp, they must contend with lack of food and water, corruption and oppression by the Kenyan camp workers. This is a book that will fill you with waves of emotion, from guilt to sadness to anger and amazement. Despite these varying emotions, I still could not put the book down. I found that it made my first world problems seem trivial in the face of what these children and this country has gone through. It was amazing that children as young as 8 or 9 had to act as adults and give up their own resources to help the younger children survive. Most surprisingly, I smiled at the optimism that the boys had despite their situation. They clung onto their childhood and were happy and played like children when they were able, even though they never stopped facing terrible adversity. The book is amazingly well written, with an authentic tone that reflects the authors' true connection to their childhood experiences. The only thing that subtracts from this novel's brilliance is that sometimes the changing narrators got a bit confusing, as the tone of the narratives sounded similar and there weren't very many striking differences between them. In the same vein, I feel that each of the characters were not as well developed as they could have been; although this may have just been a consequence of the situation as the characters were focused almost solely on survival. I believe that *They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky* is a must read. It is very important to know their story and learn about the genocide that is killing and displacing thousands of Sudanese people. I hope it will transform you the way it has transformed me. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Must read. By Lori CI have no words to describe what these courageous young men endured, horrors that no human being should ever see or experience. Please read, open your eyes, and then be a part of the solution. All the best to these outstanding, intelligent young men!

Christopher Award Winner Los Angeles Times Bestseller Washington Post Top 100 Books of the Year Selection A stunning literary survival story of three young Sudanese boys, two brothers and a cousin hailed by the Los Angeles Times as a moving, beautifully written account, by turns warm and tender. Between 1987 and 1989, Alepho, Benjamin, and Benson, like tens of thousands of young boys, took flight from the massacres of Sudan's civil war. They became known as the Lost Boys. With little more than the clothes on their backs, sometimes not even that, they streamed out over Sudan in search of refuge. Their journey led them first to Ethiopia and then, driven back into Sudan, toward Kenya. They walked nearly one thousand miles, sustained only by the sheer will to live. *They Poured Fire on Us from the Sky* is the three boys' account of that unimaginable journey. With the candor and the purity of their child's-eye-vision, Alepho, Benjamin, and Benson recall by turns: how they endured the hunger and strength-sapping illnesses dysentery, malaria, and yellow fever; how they dodged the life-threatening predators lions, snakes, crocodiles and soldiers alike that dogged their footsteps; and how they grappled with a war that threatened continually to overwhelm them. Their story is a lyrical, captivating, timeless portrait of a childhood hurled into wartime and how they had the good fortune and belief in themselves to survive.

From Publishers Weekly Raised by Sudan's Dinka tribe, the Deng brothers and their cousin Benjamin were all under the age of seven when they left their homes after terrifying attacks on their villages during the Sudanese civil war. In 2001, the three were relocated to the U.S. from Kenya's Kakuma refugee camp as part of an international refugee relief program. Arriving in this country, they immediately began to fill composition books with the memoirs of chaos and culture shock collected here. Well written, often poetic essays by Benson, Alepho and Benjamin, who are now San Diego residents in their mid-20s, are arranged in alternating chapters and recall their childhood experiences, their treacherous trek and their education in the camp ("People were learning under trees"). Other pieces remember the rampant disease and famine among refugees, and the tremendous hardship of day-to-day living ("Refugee life was like being devoured by wild animals"). When the boys arrived in America, Benson, upon seeing a Wal-Mart for the first time, remarked, "This is like a king's palace." Although some readers may wish for more commentary on what life in America is like for these transplants, this collection is moving in its depictions of unbelievable courage. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Bookmarks Magazine Many of the reviews simply summarize the book and plight of the "Lost Boys of Sudan," as if the reviewers were too awestruck by the story to criticize its telling. Critics describe the narrative as "numbing," "surreal," "amazing," "harrowing," and "haunting." Details of scrambling for food, crossing crocodile-inhabited rivers, suffering injuries, and joining the rebel movement against their will abound. One would have enjoyed reading more about the boys' culture shock upon arriving in America; one would have liked a map of the boys' journey. Yet all agree that this group memoir is moving and ultimately inspirational. Copyright 2004 Phillips Nelson Media, Inc. From Booklist In a harrowing account of children at war, three young refugees in California--Alepho Deng, Benson Deng, and Benjamin Ajak, two brothers and a cousin--remember how they were driven from their homes in southern Sudan in the ethnic and religious conflicts that have left two million dead. They tell their stories quietly with the help of their mentor, coauthor Judy

Bernstein, in clear, interwoven narratives that put a personal face on the statistics. Barely six years old when they were torn from their families in the 1980s, the three boys witnessed unspeakable atrocities and trekked nearly 1,000 miles, until finally they found refuge in a camp in Kenya. (A map of their journey would help). Always, the children have the same dreams: to find those they love and to go to school. Now the U.S. has taken them in, along with about 3,000 other lost boys of Sudan, living in 30 cities across the country. With their anguish, for these refugees, there is also the miracle of their reunion and finding home. Hazel Rochman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved