

Number the Stars

Background Information

The setting: This book was written about people living in the country of Denmark. Here's a map of Western Europe with an arrow to Copenhagen, Denmark



Information about Denmark: Denmark is a small country without a very big military. The people are called **Danish** and the language is **Danish**. The main religion of Denmark was Christianity. There were also a Danish Citizens who were Jewish. The symbol of the



Jewish religion is the Star of David.

The time setting: The year is 1943, which means it was during World War II, which lasted from 1939 – 1945. The rest of Europe and the other parts of the World were at war with Germany, Italy and Japan. These three countries wanted to rule the whole world so they invaded many countries. Germany was controlled by the Nazi party and its leader was Adolf Hitler.

More information about the Nazis and the Jews: The Nazi German government hated the Jewish people. The Nazis blamed the Jews for many things and wanted to kill all Jews who were living. They did this mainly by taking them to special camps and killing them with poisons. When the Nazis came to get the Jewish people, they told them they were being relocated. That was a lie because they were really taking them to these camps to kill them. During World War II, over 6 million Jews were murdered by the Nazis.

The Nazis left the Jews in Denmark alone until 1943 when they came to get them. This story is about how the Danish people protected their fellow citizens who were Jewish.

Sweden was not controlled by the Nazis. The Jews needed to escape to Sweden.

The secret Nazi police were called the Gestapo. They were the ones who came to collect the Jews.

The Bible is the special book for Jews and Christians who believe that it is the word of God written down for God's people. The Bible has an older part called the Old Testament which comes from the Jewish experience and a newer part called the New Testament which comes from the Christian experience.

In Number the Stars, they read from the Psalms, which are like poems or songs and are from the Old Testament. The title of the book and much of the symbolism and meaning comes from the Bible verse that they read in the Psalms. It is on pages 86-87.

Schedule of Assignments

Your job is to read the chapters and answer the discussion questions on the Angel Discussion web. Please read my questions and reply to at least 10 questions. Then read the replies of the other students and reply to at least 10 of the replies of the other students in the class. If you answer 10 questions and give 10 more replies, you will earn at least an 80% grade for this activity. You can earn a higher grade by responding to more questions, replying more to each other, and giving deep answers