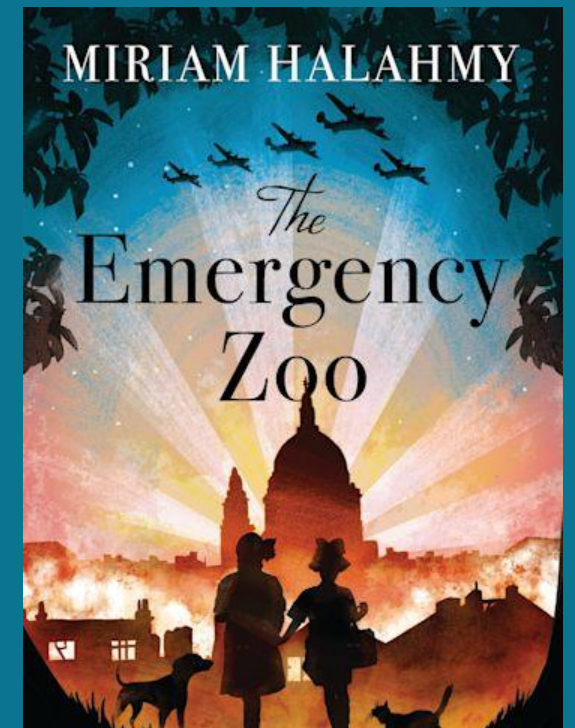


The Emergency Zoo

In late August 1939, as the adults around them prepare for a declaration of war, Tilly and Rosy are more concerned with their den in the woods and spending time playing with Tilly's dog, Bonny, and Rosy's little cat, Tinkerbell.

Amidst the digging of shelters and sewing of blackout curtains, the girls learn that London's children are to be evacuated to the countryside, and domestic pets are being put down. Horrified at the thought of losing their faithful companions, they take decisive action to try and keep them safe. Inspired by real events during the Second World War, this novel is a touching tale of courage. You won't be able to stop turning the pages!



Author

Miriam Halahmy is an author and a poet. She has published five novels and three collections of poetry, as well as short stories and education resources. Her YA novel, *Hidden*, was a Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week and nominated for the Carnegie Medal. It has been adapted for the stage and will tour schools and small theatres from Autumn 2018.



Key Vocabulary

Emergency—something dangerous or serious, such as an accident, that happens suddenly or unexpectedly and needs fast action in order to avoid harmful results

Strain—a force or influence that stretches, pulls, or puts pressure on something, sometimes causing damage.

SOS— A request for help due to danger.

Thicket— An area of trees and bushes growing closely together.

Inspiration—When you have an idea about something new. It could be from someone or something you see.

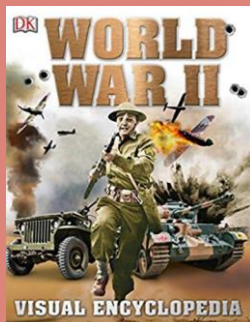
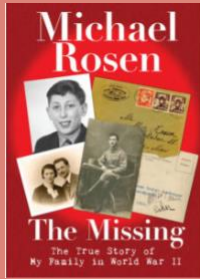
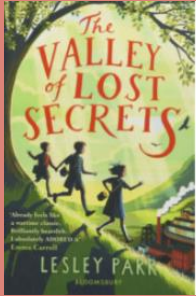
Withdraw—To take or remove

Agreement— The situation in which people have the same opinion, or in which they approve of or accept something.

Rations —A specific amount of an item. E.G food rations during WW2.

Insurmountable— A problem so great that it appears impossible to solve.

Other recommended reads...



Historical Background

By summer 1939, it was clear to the British government that war with Germany was inevitable. Extensive preparations had been underway for over a year.

Three million children would be evacuated from the cities to the countryside and the whole country would be blacked out from September 1st 1939. Every citizen, including children and babies, had been issued with gas masks. Public air-raid shelters, surrounded by sand bags, were built in the cities. Anti-aircraft guns were installed in the parks. White lines were painted around trees and lamp posts so that people wouldn't bump into them during the blackout. Many other changes could be seen in homes and streets all over Britain.

Use the QR Codes to find out more about World War II and what happened in Britain.



Scan the QR code to
listen to Chapter 1

