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THE SILVER SWORD

IAN SERRAILLIER



THE SILVER SWORD

This is a story about a family in Poland during the Second World War. The father and the mother are taken away to prison camps, and their house is blown up. Their three children, Ruth, Edek, and Bronia, are left alone and homeless among the ruins of bombed Warsaw.

Soon they join up with another boy, Jan, who has become a clever thief, able to steal food from all kinds of places. They live every day in danger of death by shooting, or from the cold, or from hunger. When the war ends, they leave Poland and begin to walk south to Switzerland, hoping to find their parents there. It is a long, hard journey.

But Jan carries with him all the time the silver sword, which the children's father had given him three years before. Jan knows he must never lose it, because the sword brings them luck . . .

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Thriller & Adventure

The Silver Sword

Stage 4 (1400 headwords)



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IAN SERRAILLIER

The Silver Sword

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The escape



This is a story of a Polish family, and what happened to them during the Second World War, and immediately afterwards. Their home was in Warsaw, and the father, Joseph Balicki, was the headmaster of a school. He and his Swiss wife, Margrit, had three children. In 1940, when the Nazis took Joseph away to prison, Ruth was nearly thirteen, Edek was eleven, and Bronia was three.

Joseph Balicki was sent to a prison in the mountains of South Poland. It was crowded with prisoners, but not many were strong enough to escape. Some did escape, but most of them were caught and brought back, and the others died from the cold in the mountains.