



In the Presence of Mine Enemies

By Harry Turtledove

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In the twenty-first century, Germany's Third Reich continues to thrive after its victory in World War II-keeping most of Europe and North America under its heel. But within the heart of the Nazi regime, a secret lives. Under a perfect Aryan facade, Jews survive-living their lives, raising their families, and fearing discovery...

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In the Presence of Mine Enemies By Harry Turtledove Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Despite its intriguing alternative premise, Turtledove's lengthy tale of Berlin's Jews hiding in the open long after the Nazis defeated all their WWII enemies plods along in a series of vignettes told from the viewpoints of six different Jewish characters passing as "good Germans": Wehrmacht analyst Heinrich Gimpel, his wife, Lise, and their precocious 10-year-old daughter, Alicia; medieval English scholar Susanna Weiss; and physician's receptionist Esther Stutzman and her husband, Walther, whose computer expertise has helped many Berlin Jews shed their "unclean" ancestry. But as the Gimpels and their friends struggle to keep their secret culture alive, all around them chinks are appearing in the very foundations of the Reich, starting with the death of Hitler's second successor and the selection of a progressive new Fuhrer. Tepid characterizations, clumsy plot devices, interminable bridge sessions between the Gimpels and their Aryan friends, even some dialogue seemingly better suited to a drawling John Wayne than a Wehrmacht panzer commander (who defies the SS with "you're going to be mighty sorry"), all dilute the author's message of hope for these downtrodden remnants of the Chosen People. Closing on a curiously inconclusive note—or is it a lead-in to an equally ponderous sequel?—this account of an unlikely political thaw dribbles off into a puddle of clichés, sentiment and unconvincing coincidence.

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From [Booklist](#)

Another magisterial alternate-history novel from the master of the form features a modest, middle-class family in near-future Berlin: Heinrich Gimpel; his wife, Lise; and their daughters Alicia, Francesca, and Roxane. He is a middle-level, civilian bureaucrat at army headquarters, and the only wrong note to contemporary this-world ears is that Heinrich's Berlin is the capital of a world-spanning Third Reich. The Gimpels, however, are covert Jews. From this dissonance, Turtledove builds a complete symphony expressing how the Third Reich's remaining Jews hide in plain sight, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. Heinrich's disguise nearly shatters when a coworker's impeccably Aryan wife tries to escape her troubled marriage by seducing him. Fortunately, the authorities soon not only lack evidence of his Jewishness but also have other fish to fry, one of them the new fuhrer, Heinz Buckliger, who remarkably resembles Mikhail Gorbachev. The countermeasures that the SS and the party hacks take against Buckliger resemble the efforts to overthrow the aforesaid Gorbachev, but even when one grasps the resemblance, the suspense of the confrontation of good and evil remains intense in Turtledove's hands. So does the impact of his handling of more cerebral matters such as the devolution of dictatorships and the survival of Jews and Jewish identity.

Roland Green

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About the Author

Harry Turtledove—the **New York Times** bestselling author of numerous alternate history novels, including **The Guns of the South**, **How Few Remain**, and the **Worldwar** quartet—has a Ph.D. in Byzantine history. Nominated numerous times for the Nebula Award, he has won the Hugo, Sidewise, and John Esthen Cook Awards. He lives with his wife and children in California.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Donna Clark:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Guide is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each publication has different aim or even goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people really feel enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. They are reading whatever they acquire because their hobby is definitely reading a book. How about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, person feel need book once they found difficult problem as well as exercise. Well, probably you'll have this In the Presence of Mine Enemies.

Guillermo Behler:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent all their spare time to take a move, shopping, or went to the actual Mall. How about open or read a book allowed In the Presence of Mine Enemies? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You realize beside you can spend your time along with your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have various other opinion?

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Lawrence Fox:

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