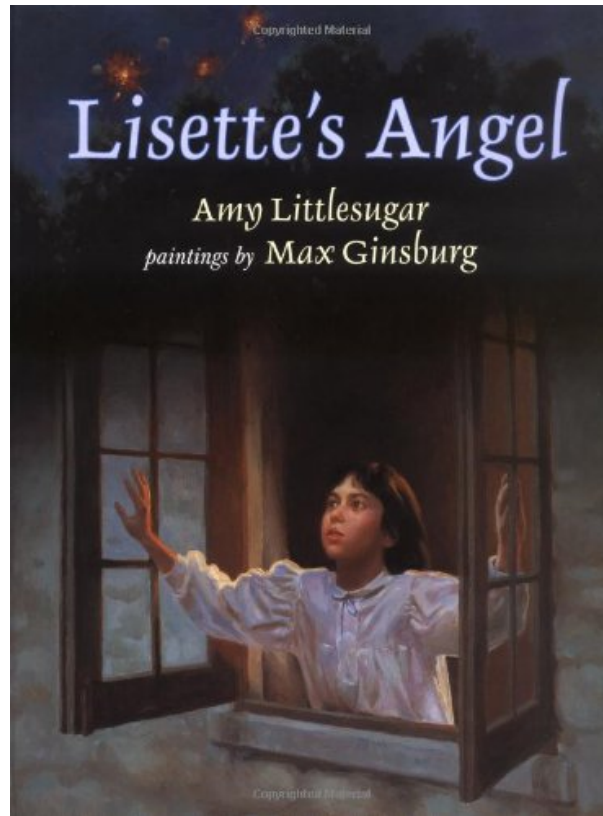
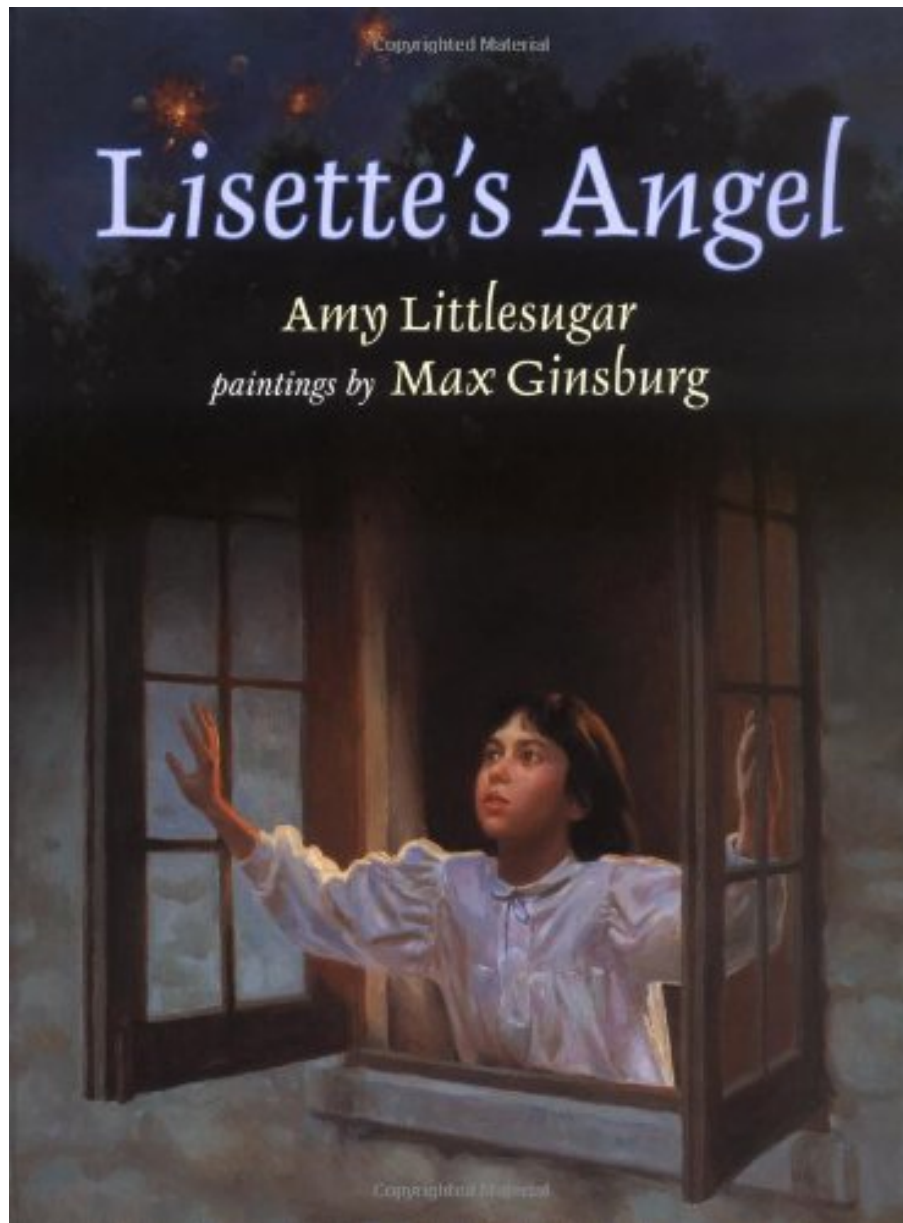


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From School Library Journal

Grade 2-4-*Lisette's* idyllic life in Normandy changes drastically when the Nazis occupy France. Food and fuel become scarce and, when the child outgrows her favorite dress, there is no cloth for a new one. The radio her family secretly listens to brings encouraging messages, but as time passes, hope wanes. Then, one night, her brother wakens her to hear the roaring of planes and they see stars (parachutes) falling from the sky with an angel (paratrooper) attached to each of them. One lands in the garden and the children help him hide. After giving her brother a chocolate bar, the airman escapes. With Liberation, Maman will make the parachute he left behind into a dress for Lisette. At one point, a storekeeper is arrested for hiding goods for friends and neighbors, and Papa tells his daughter that there is nothing they can do to help. This moral dilemma is not dealt with and is an upsetting moment in an otherwise reassuring tale that balances a child's beliefs and an adult's understandings. Ginsburg's paintings beautifully interpret the text. He depicts a vivid contrast between free France-bucolic, blue-sky scenes-and an occupied country in which dark grays and shadows predominate. As with other picture books about World War II, the audience is the question. This is a young child's story for older children. It is a worthy addition to the literature, sharing the limitations and possibilities of the best of these books.

Louise L. Sherman, formerly at Anna C. Scott School, Leonia, NJ

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From Booklist

Gr. 2-4. This glowing picture book for older children is pure nostalgia. A French woman remembers back to 1942, when she was six years old, and the Germans invaded her village on the Normandy coast. Before they come, life is beautiful: words and bucolic oil paintings show that everyone is always smiling and happy. Then the Occupation brings blood-red flags on the streets and barbed wire near the beach. The roses and dancing butterflies on the girls' favorite dress fade away. She prays for an angel to save them, and after three years an angel does land in their farmyard: he's an American paratrooper. The good guys defeat the enemy, and paradise is restored "in a beautiful land." The best war-at-home stories, such as Anita Lobel's *No Pretty Pictures* (1998), get beyond this simplistic sentimental view of innocence lost and regained. Still, there are very few children's books about what it was like for ordinary gentle families when the Germans came. The exciting GI rescue will have special meaning for kids whose own service veteran family members--like the author's father-in-law--were there. Hazel Rochman

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# LISETTE'S ANGEL BY AMY LITTLESUGAR PDF

Lisette lives in Normandy, France, a beautiful little town where "apple trees grow near the sea, and cows give the sweetest milk." But now the boots of German soldiers go click-clack! down the cobblestone streets, and tanks with big guns pierce the sky. Lisette and her family are hungry, cold, and always scared. She prays for an angel to help them. And on a moonlit night full of the roar and furor of planes overhead, she looks to the skies for some sign that the world will be right again.

As seen through a child's eyes, this dramatic, heartfelt story about the 1944 D-day invasion gives poignant expression to the conviction that even in the darkest hours, one can reach out and find a light.

Paintings by Max Ginsburg

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As Much for the Illustrations as for the Story

By Grady Harp

LISETTE'S ANGEL is a warmly informative book for children from grades 2 through 4. The story is one of survival during WW II and takes place in Normandy, France where the life of Lisette changes from the near-fairy tale existence of a child surrounded by nature and art only to be changed by the Occupation by the Nazi troops. The dark years hang heavily on the little girl's mind. Her 'angel' is an American paratrooper who comes out of the sky and eventually reorders Lisette's life to one of beauty: the Occupation is over.

The story is a lovely one, but one of the most fascinating aspects of this book is the art of illustration. Max Ginsburg is not only an apt illustrator - he is a gifted artist in the field of fine art. His works have graced many books but now it is time for a solid retrospective of his rather phenomenal gifts as a painter. This is a little book to purchase on many levels - both for the story by Amy Little sugar and for the art of Max Ginsburg. Highly recommended. Grady Harp, September 11

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Beautifully illustrated book for elementary age students beginning to learn ...

By Shelli

Beautifully illustrated book for elementary age students beginning to learn about World War II. Don't forget to read the "authors note" located in an odd place before the dedications in the beginning, which does a nice job of painting the setting and recent events in France.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Beautiful illustrations.

By D. Mack

Lovely story. Beautiful illustrations.

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