

# FREE SECRETS AND SHADOWS: TWO FRIENDS IN A WORLD AT WAR PDF



Brian Gallagher | 224 pages | 22 Feb 2013 | O'Brien Press Ltd | 9781847173508 | English | Dublin, Ireland

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Strand, Dublin in Grace Ryan is forced to move in with relatives.

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A story set in Dublin during the second world war. A boy and a girl have been moved away from their respective homes and are living with relatives as a temporary measure. Both suffer as a consequence of their new lodgings and the absence of one or more parents, and befriend each other. They suspect a teacher of being a spy and set about proving their theory. The story is full of adventure with plenty of tension.

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Brian lives with his family in Dublin Books by Brian Gallagher. Related Articles. Read more Trivia About Secrets and Shado No trivia or quizzes yet. Welcome back. Just a moment while we sign you in to your Goodreads account.

## **Secrets and Shadows: Two friends in a world at war by Brian Gallagher, Paperback | Barnes & Noble®**

By Brian Gallagher. When her home is destroyed in the Luftwaffe bombing of the North Strand, Dublin in Grace Ryan is forced to move in with relatives in a different part of the city. There she meets Barry Malone, an English boy sent to neutral Ireland to escape the terrible air raids on his native city of Liverpool.

Wary of each other at first, Grace and Barry become friends when she acts to stop him being bullied in his new school. Barry later saves Grace from losing her part-time job Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War a shop and, with school about to end, a summer of fun stretches before them in the sports club run by his teacher, Mr Pawlek. However, Barry begins to suspect Mr Pawlek of spying for the Nazis and he enrolls Grace in his attempts to find proof.

But what starts as an exciting challenge becomes increasingly risky, and their friendship is put to the test when their very lives hang in the balance. And, as ever, the greatest thanks of all go to my family, Miriam, Orla and Peter, for their unflagging support. Barry had never felt so frightened. He ran out the hall door, horrified to see that tonight Liverpool was ablaze. The city where he had spent all twelve years of his life had been bombed lots of times, but this was the worst raid yet.

High explosive bombs were raining down on the docks, on factories, on the city centre, on housing estates — in fact anywhere the German bombers felt like targeting. Barry had survived terrible raids coming up to last Christmas, but then in the New Year the attacks had eased off and life had mostly returned to normal. Now, though, the Luftwaffe bombers were back with a vengeance, and the air vibrated to the sound of aircraft engines.

Barry felt his heart pounding as he followed his mother out the gate of their small front garden while loud explosions filled the air. The nearest underground air raid shelter was about a quarter of a mile away. Even though his mother could run fairly quickly, that meant they were still going to be exposed while they sprinted through the blacked-out streets. Normally he would have hesitated to hold hands with his mother in public. In the early days of the war, when bombing and ack-ack fire were still a novelty, Barry and his friends collected pieces of shell casings and the sharp metal bomb fragments called shrapnel.

Suddenly there was a series of thunderous explosions, nearer this time, though still several streets away. Barry thought of the red hot shrapnel being unleashed and he picked up his speed, his chest heaving as he gulped Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War smoke-filled air. There was a glow in the sky from where fires were raging all across the Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War, but the street lamps were off, and every house was in darkness with blackout curtains preventing any light escaping.

There were few others on the streets, with most people already having Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War for the shelters. Barry felt bad, knowing that he had put both Mum and himself at risk by arguing with her about not wanting to go to the smelly, crowded shelter.

His father had joked in one of his letters that the Morrison shelter looked like a big rabbit hutch, and had asked Mum if they would have to eat lettuce when they were using it. He wished that Dad was here. He missed his jokes, and on a night like this he missed the comfort of Dad always seeming to make things right. There was just himself and Mum — he had been an only child since his baby sister died — and they had to look after themselves.

They continued running down the road, then turned the corner, heading in the direction of the river Mersey. Despite being anxious to reach the shelter they stopped dead on rounding the corner. The sight before them was breathtaking. A huge anti-aircraft barrage balloon had come adrift from its moorings and was burning furiously, while in the city centre and all along the docks countless fires blazed, with sparks erupting high into the air. Searchlights criss-crossed the sky, trying to locate the bombers, and the sky above Birkenhead, on the far side of the Mersey, was lit up by an angry red glow.

The air carried a smell of burning rubber, and even as they watched, further explosions erupted, reminding Barry of the fireworks displays on Guy Fawkes Night.

Barry loved his hometown and tried to console himself with the thought that it had come through other raids. He hoped that the huge statues of the two Liver Birds — the symbols of Liverpool — would survive atop their building at the Pierhead.

Right now, though, the priority was to reach safety. They went at a fast pace, occasionally encountering others scurrying for safety. Spurred on by the sound of exploding bombs they kept running, their lungs burning.

They approached another corner, about a hundred and fifty yards from the shelter. They rounded the corner at speed, almost colliding with a thin elderly woman who stood uncertainly on the edge of the pavement.

His mother had stopped now and she turned back to the older woman. Barry felt sorry for her. But if they stopped to escort her to the shelter it would take ages. And being exposed for that long could cost their lives. Barry remembered the promise he had made to Dad that he would look out for his mother. I visited my friend Mary. Why are they doing this? He had heard his mother saying that Adolf Hitler wanted to destroy the British way of life, and the way to defy him was by not changing, but behaving as decently as ever.

And this was what she was doing now, even though she was frightened. Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War being urged on, the woman was maddeningly slow. Then another stick of bombs exploded deafeningly, just a few streets away.

The air was filled with dust, and Barry felt the shock wave from the blast, but he made sure to keep supporting the old woman, and all three of them managed to stay on their feet. Barry was really scared now, but he tried hard to be brave. His thoughts were in turmoil, part of him admiring his mother for doing the decent thing, but part of him angry at the risk she was taking Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War a total stranger.

How could he face Dad if anything happened to her? They travelled on, passing a vacant lot where houses had been demolished after a previous raid. He got an idea, but before he could say anything the old woman turned Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War his mother. Before his mother could object, Barry set off for the vacant lot. Picking his way across the rubble, he headed for the back garden he had seen. There was a faint light from the fire-lit sky, then another burst of anti-aircraft fire illuminated the Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War briefly, and Barry saw what he had come for.

A wheelbarrow was propped against the back wall of a standing house, and Barry quickly reached out for it. He wheeled it off as quickly as he could across the vacant site and into the roadway.

His mother and the old lady had gone only a few more yards, and he swiftly caught up with them. Then before the woman could protest they held the wheelbarrow steady and lowered her into it. As if to underline the danger they were in there was another deafening bang. They got a smell of burning oil and felt the blast from the explosion. They made much faster progress now, and Barry was pleased that his idea had worked. The shelter was up ahead, and he felt his spirits rising.

At the same time he found himself getting more fearful. To have made it this far and then be hit on the last leg of the journey would be unbearable. They kept going, then Barry suddenly cried out in warning. His mother obeyed at once, and they shuddered to a halt. The old woman cried out, but Barry reacted quickly, wrapping his arms around her and holding her gently in place. He got the scent of moth balls from her clothing and felt her bony frame under her coat. Another couple of feet and they would have Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War into a crater where a bomb must have fallen on the road.

Barry peered into the dark, anxious to find a route that the wheelbarrow could negotiate. Instead Mum took charge. Grunting from the effort, they carried her across the broken ground of the Secrets and Shadows: Two Friends in a World at War. Suddenly an ARP warden came running from the entrance to the shelter. Upload Sign In Join. Find your next favorite book Become a member today and read free for 30 days Start your free 30 days.

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