



## Early Sorrows (For Children and Sensitive Readers)

By Danilo Kis



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Early Sorrows centers on Andreas Sam, a highly intelligent boy whose life at first seems secure. His mother and sister dote on him; he excels at school; when he is hired out as a cowherd to help with the family's finances, he reads the day away in the company of his best friend, the dog. He can only sense that terrible things may be going on in the world. Soon soldiers are marching down the road, and then one day, many people from the village are herded together and taken away, among them, his father, the dreamer.

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## Early Sorrows (For Children and Sensitive Readers) By Danilo Kis Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Never before translated into English, this collection of interconnected stories, originally published in Belgrade in 1969, form the poignant, lightly fictionalized account of the acclaimed late novelist's boyhood in Yugoslavia. With a remarkable combination of affection, whimsy and wretchedness, these 19 lyrical, very short stories tell a recurring tale of spiritual innocence tainted by shame and the terror of life in hiding. In addition to his finesse with language and sensory detail, Kis succeeds at rendering a precocious child's struggle to comprehend the world. In the characteristic "The Game," a father hiding his Jewish origins is proud but unnerved when he catches his fair-haired son pretending to be a Jewish feather merchant, like the grandfather whom the boy has never seen. Frightened by the uncanny spectacle, the boy's gentile mother spins a bedtime tale that subtly informs the boy of racism and its mortal consequences. In each brief vignette, the boy contemplates his own disappearance and death, which he sees foreshadowed in his father's deportation to Auschwitz. Though its subtitle pitches the book to a relatively limited audience, Kis's slim work will touch vestigial nerves in most readers.

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From [The New Yorker](#)

[A] subtle, heroic collection of connected stories...The coming horror [of World War II] is just beneath Kis's gently swelling prose.

Review

A slim intense book of stories by the late Yugoslavian Jewish writer Danilo Kis. The sweet, fragmented world of fiction woven with fact... -- *Jewish Experiment*, 29 April 1999

Written with a mesmerizing fluidity, the tales describe a young boy's experiences during World War II. This is a sad, lovely book, filled with phrases one cannot read only once. -- *Dodobobo*, Fall 1998

[Kis's] pen, often literally verging into eternity, does to his characters what nearly every known creed aspires to do to the human soul: it extends their existence, it erodes our sense of death's impenetrability. -- *Joseph Brodsky*

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Jere Araujo:**

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of the actual crowded place and notice by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. That's why, by reading a e-book your ability to survive boost then having chance to endure than other is high. For yourself who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this specific Early Sorrows (For Children and Sensitive Readers) book as beginner and daily reading reserve. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

### **Margaret Honig:**

The book Early Sorrows (For Children and Sensitive Readers) has a lot info on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was authored by the very famous author. This articles author makes some research before write this book. This specific book very easy to read you can obtain the point easily after perusing this book.

### **Ruth Mullins:**

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