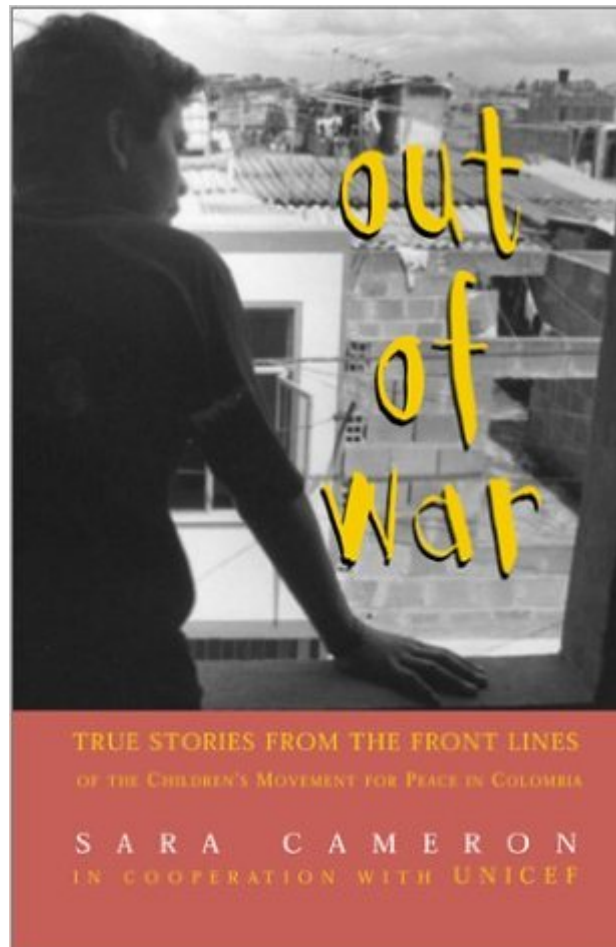


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Out Of War: True Stories From The Frontlines Of The Children's Movement For Peace In Colombia



Synopsis

Through nine intimate first-person narratives, *Out of War* tells the story of the Children's Movement for Peace, a network of organizations struggling against the forty-year civil war in Colombia. Readers will meet young people like Juan Elias, who decided he could best avenge his father's murder by fighting to end the war; Maritza, who found refuge in the peace movement after her family and friends abandoned her in the comunas of Medellin; and Beto, who works for the peace he never had in his abusive home. The voices of these children are raw and real, and their stories are nothing short of inspirational. In 1996, the Children's Movement for Peace helped organize the Children's Mandate, a referendum on children's rights in Colombia. Two million children turned out to vote for their right to peace, sending the Colombian government a powerful message about its inability to control the violence within its borders. Since then, the Movement has worked to help children cope with loss, displacement, poverty, and other effects of the war. It has also taught children how to resolve conflict without fighting. The movement's work is impressive, yet *Out of War* is really about the individual children who lead the group. Through them, readers will learn not only about the tenuous life of children in Colombia, but about what it means to give back to your community and face adversity with true courage and hope.

Book Information

Age Range: 12 and up

Lexile Measure: 910L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 186 pages

Publisher: Scholastic (August 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0439297214

ISBN-13: 978-0439297219

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 5.8 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #506,216 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Teens > Social Issues > Violence](#) #33 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Central & South America](#) #123 in [Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Military](#)

Customer Reviews

This nonfiction book is a collection of personal accounts of nine children who took one look at their

beloved war-torn Columbia, saw how it was affecting the people around them and their families, and walked down the path to the right to live in a peaceful environment. From each body comes a different voice, a different problem. Even though these nine children live in Columbia, each of them is affected, and how each child chooses to go about solving their problem is different. Some of these children face abuse by their parents or siblings, other face the travesties of watching a loved one being tortured to death by the local gangs. Through thick and thin these children fight for peace in their country. That's one of the things that make this book a good one. I think that it's really cool how all the children who were involved in the Children's Movement stood up for what they believed in, even though that they knew the dangers of trying to stand up to the dangerous rebels. That takes true courage for kids to take on a cause that involves a whole country. One of the things that I gained from this book is that I think that American news is drummed up a little too much. All channels like NBC 5 report about what is bad in America because it will sell, and when they report on something good like medicinal breakthroughs, the medicine has all the weird side effects that might possibly kill you. I thought that watching this at 10' o clock was depressing, but then in one child's section I read a description of the news. Basically it showed me how many people had been captured by the rebel gangs, the truly sad part was when the rebels allowed their prisoner's of war to speak on television. I would hate to see one of my loved ones on T.

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