That Mad Game: Growing Up in a Warzone, An Anthology of Essays from Around the Globe

Anne M Giangiulio, University of Texas at El Paso
COMING-OF-AGE DURING A TIME OF WAR:
FIGHTING, DYING, SURVIVING.
FIRST-PERSON ACCOUNTS
FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

There is heartache in the stories J.L. Powers has assembled here, as well as loss and pain and death. They are about war, after all. But there is humor too, also love and faith and hope because these are human stories. And, as each one testifies in its own way, humans are able to heal.

— Charles London, author of One Day the Soldiers Came: Voices of Children in War

I was sent to the war in Afghanistan with a lot of slogans in my head about freedom and fighting terrorism. What I found instead was a tremendous respect for the good Afghan people, a deep sympathy for the Afghan children struggling for better lives, and a profound hatred of the Taliban for the way they brutalized their own people. That Mad Game is a reminder that such hatred is the same mistake from which all the world’s wars are born. The fact that That Mad Game can steer my hard heart toward sympathy for a young Talib is a sure sign of this book’s tremendous potential to foster a spirit of peace and understanding in readers everywhere.

— Trent Reedy, author of Words in the Dust and Stealing Air

A portion of the royalties for That Mad Game will be donated to the Palestinian section of the International Board on Books for Young People for its work with children who have experienced war in Gaza.
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