

A Book Review by Arran Ó Cuilinn

The book I have chosen is called *The Guns of Easter* by Gerard Whelan. Gerard is an amazing author who writes fictional historical books for children. The words he uses in the book really shows the whole story and it would feel like your one of the people just watching the whole story like it is on a big screen. He won the Bisto book awards a few times for his books.

It is an awful year for the Irish and the rest of the world in 1916 because everywhere is at war including. The IVF and the IRB are fighting for freedom against the British and a young boy whose father is off fighting in the war is left to look after his family and is literally going through the wars, going street by street dodging bullets, soldiers and bombs looking for food and medication. He has a hard time deciding whether to route for his father who is currently fighting in France for the British, or his uncle that fights for irish freedom.

Jimmy Conway is my favorite character because he is just like any other boy my age and he is a very thoughtful, brave person and he would do anything to save his family. I would feel bad for him because he wouldn't have anyone left to love if he hadn't gone out looking for supplies because his sisters were very sick. His "da" james

Conway, who is fighting for the British army, would have been a big idol for him if he hadn't gone away. His uncle Mick on the other hand is a great idol for Jimmy because for one he is still in Ireland and fighting for Ireland and two he always comes to his tenement to check on the family. His "ma" Lilly Conway is also very nice. She is always talking about how good of a son he is and how proud she is about him to all of her friends.

I think the book gave a good description of the soldiers and people back then because everybody thought soldiers were big, grumpy, drunk and scary but in this book the soldiers were quite nice because they gave Jimmy 5 shillings and gave him the safest route for Jimmy to get to his destination. I also think the book gives the reader a feeling for what it was like to live in Ireland during that time.

I recommend this book to all readers because it really shows how the world was back in the days in Ireland. I would recommend this book for age 10+ because it was a bit gory and stuff about war and people killing other people. I myself really enjoyed this book and it is definitely an award-winning book.

