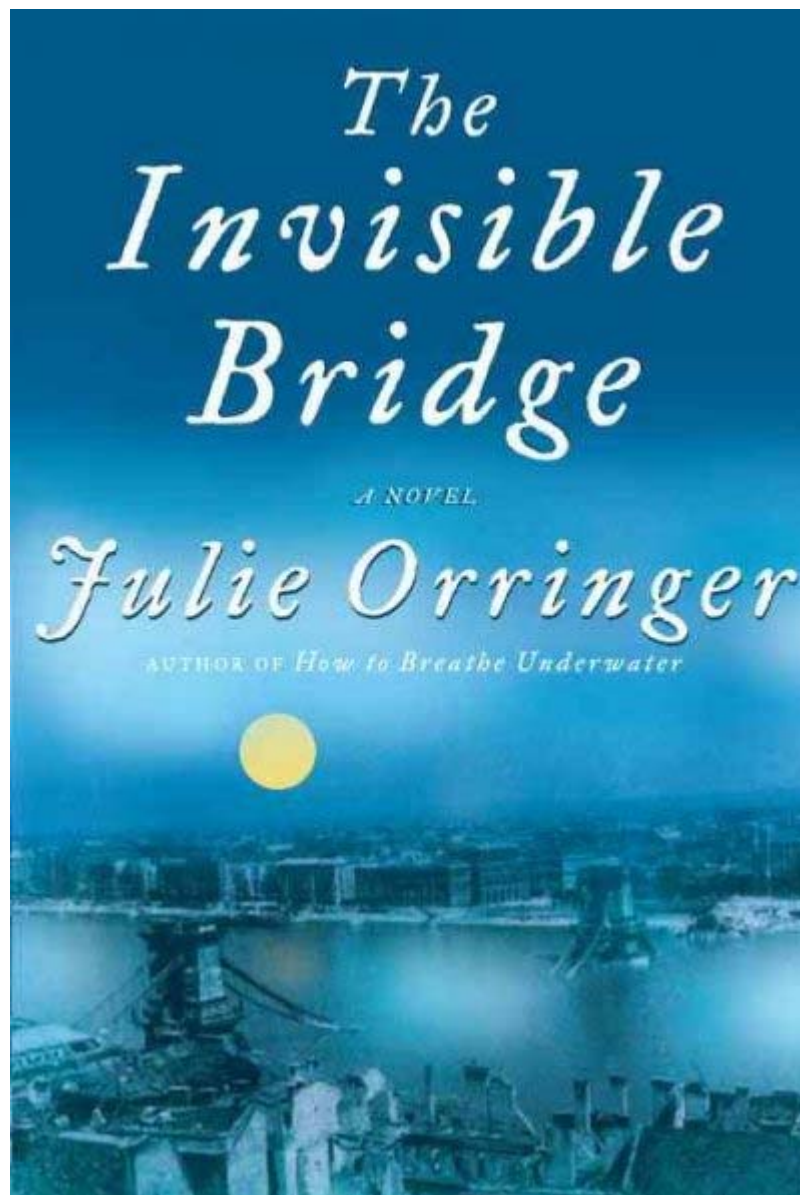


Reader's Roadmap

Helping you navigate the world of books



F O75i

Book of the Month
November 2010



Reader's Roadmaps enable readers to pursue threads of interest inspired by a book they've just read.

The Invisible Bridge F O75i

The Invisible Bridge is a layered novel that combines a coming-of-age story, an epic love story, a family saga, while at the same time being an unflinching portrait of the destruction brought on by war.

The Invisible Bridge is the story of Andras Levi, his long journey from a small village in Hungary to Paris after having earned a scholarship to study architecture. His life in Paris is full of intriguing lessons and cosmopolitan pleasures. Along with initiations in the mysteries of architecture, and a meeting with Le Corbusier, he takes French lessons from Pierre Vago (an important figure in postmodern architecture), he develops friendships, and falls in love with Klara, a former ballerina with a secret past. The start of the Second World War fractures the fragile life Andras and his friends have built in Paris, and threatens the safety of his beloved brothers, Tibor and Mattias.

Throughout the novel, Andras struggles to keep his family whole, to protect his loved ones, and ultimately to maintain his dignity when subjected to remarkable trials and suffering. Through his eyes, first as a young naive and promising architect, then as a hardened soldier in the Hungarian army, where he faces discrimination and hatred, an entire era takes shape in all its complexity and nuance. Andras learns about love, kindness, as well as the magnitude of human cruelty.

About the author

Julie Orringer graduated from Cornell University, and was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford University. She is the recipient of numerous literary awards. Her published collection of short stories, *How to Breathe Underwater* (2003) received critical acclaim. *The Invisible Bridge* is her first and highly anticipated novel.



Student Life in Paris

Fireworks at Dusk: Paris in the Thirties by Olivier Bernier

944.36 B528

Americans in Paris : life and death under Nazi occupation by Charles Glass.

944.36 G549

Hungarian Jews

Jewish Budapest: Monuments, Rites, History by Kinga Frojimovics

909.09J J59bu

Apprentice in Budapest : Memories of a World that Is No More by Raphael Patai

92 P294

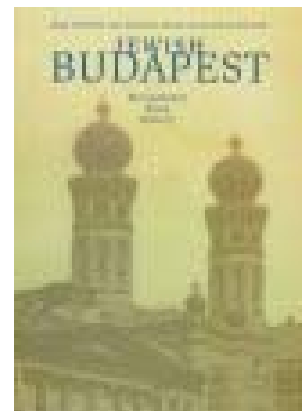
Stories of Survival

The Great Escape: Nine Jews Who Fled Hitler and Changed the World by Kati Marton

940.5318092 M387

Castles Burning: A Child's Life in War by Magda Denes

940.5318092 D392d



Reclaiming the Past: Memoirs of a Survivor / by Emery Gregus

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Brothers in fiction

Anansi Boys by Neil Gaiman

F G141an

Bearing the Body by Ehud Havazelet

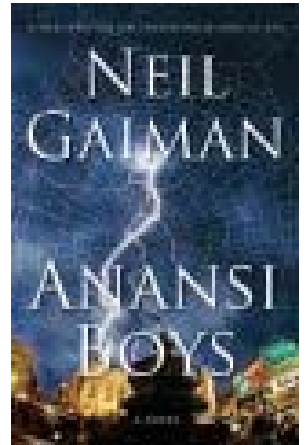
F H3834b

The children of Freedom by Marc Levy

F L6684c

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese

F V496c



Architecture

50 great adventures : extraordinary places and the people who built them by Jonathan Lee

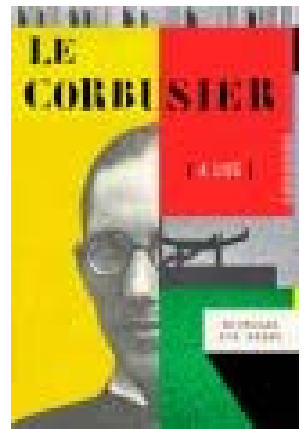
720.9 L478

Le Corbusier : a life by Nicholas Fox Weber.

720.92 L467w

How to read buildings : a crash course in architectural styles by Carol Davidson Cragoe

720 C885



Budapest in Fiction

Fateless by Imre Kertész

F K415

Battlefields and Playgrounds by Janos

F N994b

Coming-of-Age During War Fiction

The art student's war by Brad Leithauser

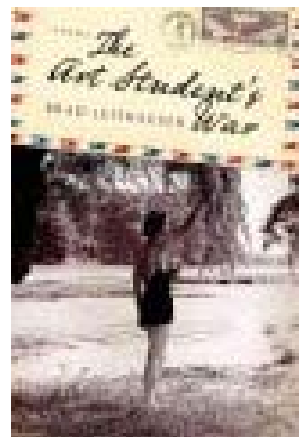
F L533a

Reading by lightning by Joan Thomas

F T4582r

Truelove knot by Arturo Vivante

F V855t



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