

Oranges in No Man's Land



Characters

Ayesha: A brave young girl who risks her life to help her grandma.

Latif and Ahmed: Ayesha's brothers.

Granny- Ayesha's grandma who takes care of them after the death of their mother.

Mrs. Zainab: a kind woman who offers the family shelter.

Samar: Ayesha's best friend.

Doctor Leila: a doctor working for the U.N.

Plot

Ayesha lives in a battle torn building in the middle of Beirut (the capital city of Lebanon). A civil war is ripping apart the city, but Ayesha doesn't even understand why the two sides are fighting.

Life becomes even worse for Ayesha when her granny falls ill. Desperate for medicine, and running out of time, Ayesha makes the dread journey across no man's land to find help.

Setting

The story takes place in Beirut, the capital city of Lebanon, torn apart during a vicious civil war.

Author

Elizabeth Laird lived in Lebanon during an earlier civil war. She witnessed the destruction of the peoples' homes and how they had to flee, often risking their lives and wanted to do something. She worked with teachers who had had to escape the war and they encouraged her to write a story based on their experiences.

Vocabulary:

Civil war – people in the same country are fighting each other.

UN – United Nations, a charity that supports refugees

The Green Line- a line of trees and vegetation separating the two halves of Beirut.

Politics – the way people living together make decisions.

