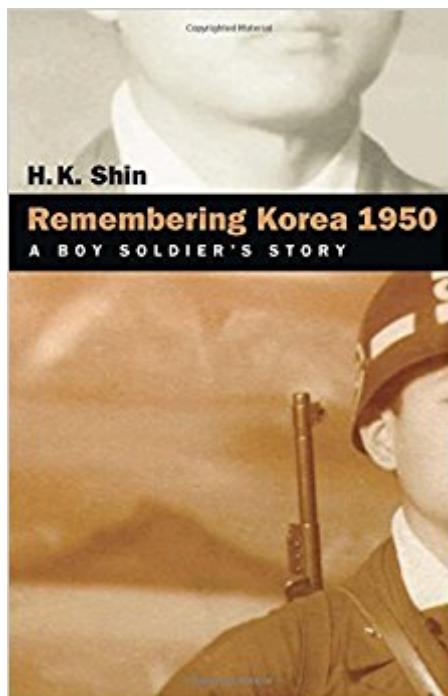


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Remembering Korea 1950: A Boy Soldier'S Story



Synopsis

When the North Korean army invaded South Korea in 1950, H.K. Shin was a 16-year-old high-school student. He ended up alone in Pusan, a refugee without resources or any means of support. To save himself from destitution, he lied about his age and volunteered for service in the South Korean army.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Remembering Korea 1950 fills a unique and important gap in Korean War literature. Particularly interesting is H.K. Shin's description of the effect of war on civilians. Their homes obliterated, their possessions looted, and their family structures destroyed, they mixed with soldiers as they fled and, with the soldiers, died in air raids and artillery barrages. This is an important book for anyone striving to understand the Korean conflict. It is equally valuable in presenting an unsanitized picture of warfare as it actually affects people—soldiers and civilians alike. — William Dannenmaier, author of *We Were Innocents: An Infantryman in Korea* Without question, Shin's memoir is an important book This inside view and Korean perspective of the conflict yields a unique voice that has been sadly missing in much of the translated literature. Similarly, it is an extremely important narrative for anyone who wants to understand the human dimensions of the Korean conflict, especially the plight of refugees on both sides of the 38th Parallel. Despite its brevity, it's a powerful chronicle of those events. — Jeffrey Miller, *The Korea Times* Putting memories to paper after fifty

years, Shin writes as clearly as if he witnessed the events just yesterday . . . an eyewitness account of the real cost of war. *Korean Quarterly*

H. K. Shin is a Professor Emeritus of chemistry at the University of Nevada, Reno. He received his B.S. and Ph.D. at the University of Utah, and has conducted postdoctoral work at Cornell University and the National Bureau of Standards.

Sensitive and compassionate autobiography of a boy coming of age when the Korean War breaks out. Enlistment in order to eat gives an idea of his family's economics. Resolution to survive and immigrate to the US to get a PhD are moving and not self-congratulatory. Jewel of a story.

It was as good as new!

I thoroughly enjoyed this moving story of a boy removed suddenly and without ceremony from high school and thrown at an all-to-early age into combat and all variety of other circumstances of war. While we in the USA have a tendency to dwell on the impact to the USA and our soldiers, here is a local perspective. Ironically, in addition to seeing Korea through the eyes of this young soldier, we see the UN troops from his perspective and so get an additional point of reference on ourselves. In addition to being a great, fresh perspective, what happens to Private Shin is incredible. It is a laugh, cry and be moved type of adventure that compells you to read it in one sitting.

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