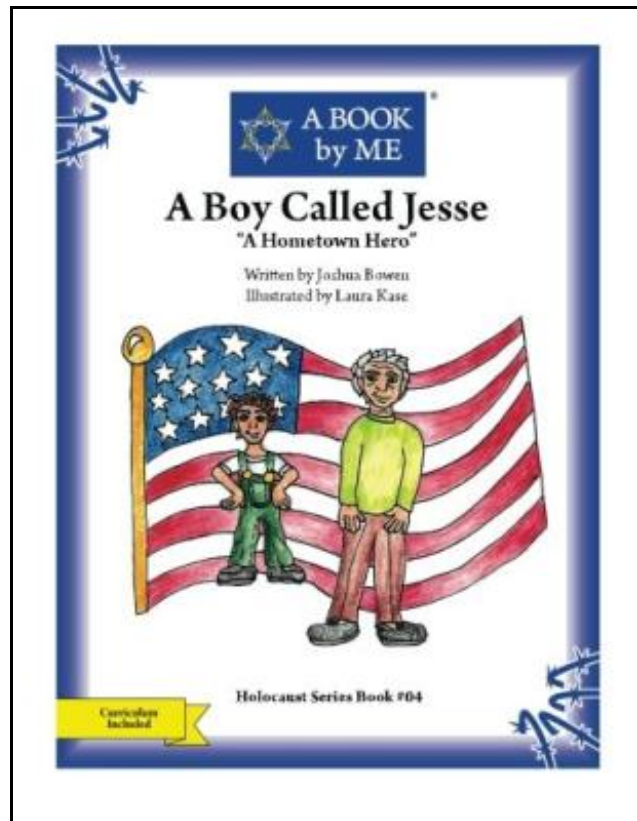


A Boy Called Jesse: A Hometown Hero



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A BOY CALLED JESSE: A HOMETOWN HERO



Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Laura Kase (illustrator). 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Earl Crawford Jr. was born and raised in Aledo, Illinois. As a small boy, he liked to dress up as the famous bank robber Jesse James, so his teacher nicknamed him Jesse. Jesse was nineteen years old when he shipped out to Le Havre, France. From there, his unit was sent to Munchengladbach, Germany. They traveled in small boxcars that were called 40 and 8s, because they held forty men or eight horses. Like most of the American soldiers, Jesse had lived a happy and free life in the United States. He was unprepared for all the suffering and destruction he would witness. As the Allies won battles throughout Europe, the soldiers came upon the prison camps that we now call the Nazi concentration camps. They had heard rumors of horrific treatment of the Jews, but they didn't know if the prisoners they were seeing were criminals or innocent people. Jesse's unit was sent to an open field near Sinzig, Germany, where they were told they would guard prisoners who would be brought in. When Jesse first saw the walking skeletons coming off the train, he felt sick. Jesse was so sickened and distraught he couldn't work with the prisoners the first day. The second day, he dreaded what he had to do and took a shot of whiskey to bolster his nerve. The people from the train were so starved that he didn't think they could possibly survive. The American soldiers knew only that the prisoners were Jews from a nearby Nazi work camp. Emaciated and sick, some were too weak to live, but some did survive. The soldiers built...



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