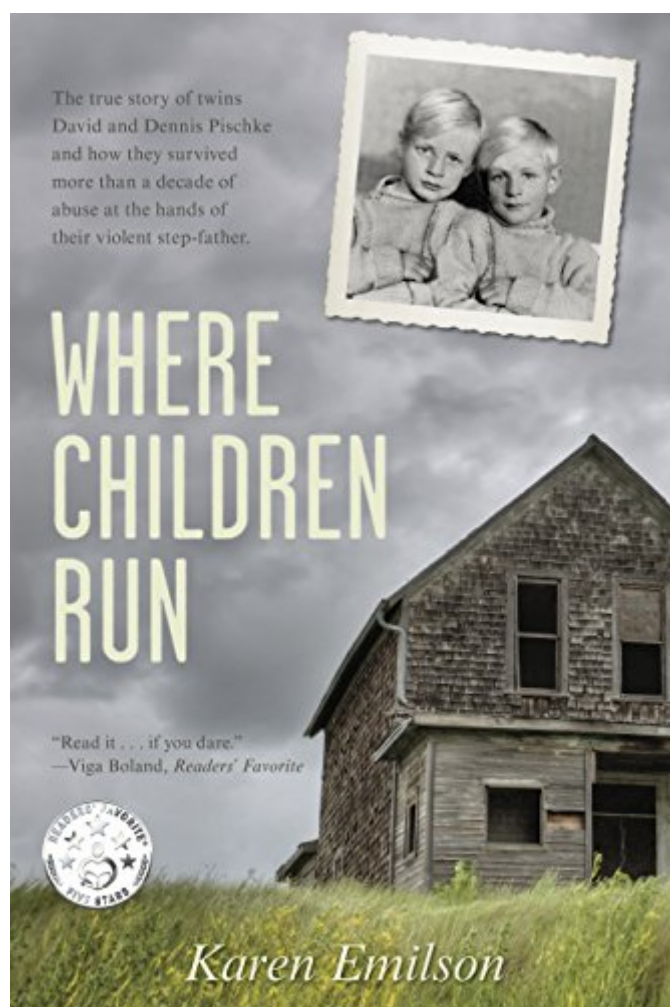


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# Where Children Run



## Synopsis

The true story of David and Dennis Pischke and how they survived more than a decade of starvation and abuse at the hands of their violently unstable step-father. A disturbing, heart wrenching account of survival that becomes a surprising testament to the strength and adaptability of the human spirit. A timeless, important book that once picked up, can't be put down until the final page is turned. A story not easily forgotten. First released in 1996, *Where Children Run* became an instant bestseller. Now back in print, this 15th Anniversary collector's edition features an updated epilogue, readers' letters plus current photos.

## Book Information

File Size: 3188 KB

Print Length: 420 pages

Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform (November 6, 2012)

Publication Date: November 6, 2012

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00C5H8R10

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #4,357 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #5 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Nonfiction > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Dysfunctional Relationships #6 inÂ Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Relationships > Abuse > Child Abuse #61 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Memoirs

## Customer Reviews

Excellent Read! David and Dennis Pischke survived violent abuse that is unheard of in this day. I read the book cover to cover in disbelief, shock and amazement at the treatment of the boys and their siblings at the hands of a man who could only be described as a monster. Through it all, the love for each other and the kindness from a few individuals is proof of the depth and endurance of the human spirit. Emilson draws the reader into the story where the reader feels the emotions, hunger and the Manitoba cold as David and Dennis felt it. Also, by Karen Emilson, "When Memories

Remain" is the poignant follow up of David and Dennis as adults, trying to live normal lives with the emotional, psychological and physical scarring from their childhood. Trying to answer the question "Why?". Reading the set back to back is an absolute must.

A title can make or break a book. This book was made all the more powerful by its title. "Where Children Run" yet these children had nowhere to run and no one who cared. Their story is one that is so commonplace in modern times that the abuse they suffered only shocked me in that I didn't know such things happened a half century ago or that a White church going family has the same issues stereotyped to minorities. A woman who can't live without a man in her life though that man hates her children. It is more important to be in a relationship than to save her children. Shameful. Though these little boys survived their ordeal and received no justice if anyone had ever bothered to step in and throw that PSYCHO stepfather in jail their mother should have been tossed in right along side him! A man is NOT a plan! How they found the strength to forgive for all they went through while she stood idley by is mindblowing, because she was certainly no kind of mother to let this madness go on under her OWN roof!

It is difficult to read this book knowing that the events described really happened and were brought about by one sick and depraved individual. It is equally a misfortune that the children suffered so severely day after day after year after decade. So many times I told myself I just couldn't read anymore but that would be so unfair to the memory of these two boys who endured this hell and brought it to our attention. And so I continued to read and I cried and was sickened by the treatment of their poor animals and pets that died only because they brought happiness to these children. I was so relieved to read about the lives of this family after living thru this hell. Knowing David and Dennis went on to live a good life in spite of their hardships lifted my spirits, and I thanked God their strength remained to carry on. May God be with you always and I'm sorry you ever had to live like this but you lived to save others I'm sure because of this book and your story. R.I.P. David and thank you both.

This story was much deeper and sadder than I expected it to be. Very sad tale about a large sibling group (Norman, Walter, Steven, Eunice, twins David and Dennis, Rosalie, and Kathy), who suffered horrible abuse at the hands of their maniac step-father, Boleslaw Domko, while their mother, Caroline, did little or nothing to stop it. How any of them survived is a miracle in and of itself. I seriously doubt any of them were able to escape without severe mental and/or emotional damage

due to the brutality that was inflicted upon them for so many years. The story starts in 1953. The children's kind and gentle father, Bill Pischke, had died, leaving their mother a widow with 7 children. She ends up getting pregnant and having a baby (Kathy) with a farmhand, (Domko). Domko moves in and takes over the household and nearly kills the baby in a rage one day, throwing her against the wall because she wouldn't stop crying. The mother thought the baby was dead or near death, but even though she didn't die, the baby became blind as a result of that abuse. Domko finally realizes that the baby is truly his and treats her better, spoiling her and the son they have later (Raymond), but continues to treat the Pischke children like dogs. The story seems to focus largely on the mistreatment of the twin boys, David and Dennis, although all of the Pischke children were not only starved, but beaten in the most horrific ways on a daily basis. Were it not for the kindness of their various neighbors, they would have all starved to death. Attempts to get the law involved always backfired and the kids paid for it dearly. Poor little Rosalie seemed to get the worst treatment and was beaten most severely by the step-father. There is a follow-up story about the twins (When Memories Run) written by the same author but it is not yet available on Kindle, but I plan to get it as soon as it is. The author did a great job with this story and I look forward to the next.

The story itself is very interesting. I'm glad I read this book, but the countless typos and clear lack of professional editing made it a little disappointing. I would also have liked information on how the author came to know the story and given the opportunity to relay the story.

This was a very difficult story to read because of the abuse of children and animals. The only part of the story that was in the least bit happy was towards the end when we find out what happens to the children after they are grown. Definitely depressing, especially because the story is true.

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