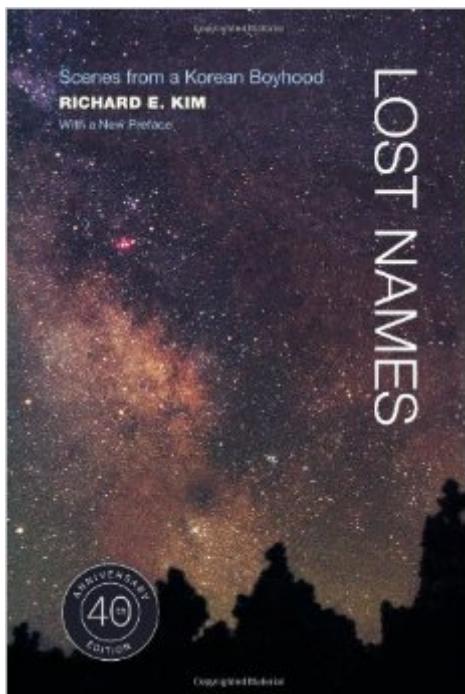


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# Lost Names: Scenes From A Korean Boyhood



## Synopsis

In this classic tale, Richard E. Kim paints seven vivid scenes from a boyhood and early adolescence in Korea at the height of the Japanese occupation, 1932 to 1945. Taking its title from the grim fact that the occupiers forced the Koreans to renounce their own names and adopt Japanese names instead, the book follows one Korean family through the Japanese occupation to the surrender of the Japanese empire. Lost Names is at once a loving memory of family and a vivid portrayal of life in a time of anguish.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

My review is from a previous edition. I'm so very fond of this book, and want to encourage others to read it. So I'm posting my previous review here. It gratifies me that they republished "Lost Names." It's a book that should remain in print and available. This novel would be a great read for a high school literature class. The entire story is told from the perspective of a child who struggles to understand what happens to his world, and his family, during World War II. There are some difficult scenes and mature subjects, but it's appropriate for teen readers. The details of the boy's escapades and adventures provide some whimsy. Descriptions of homes, food, school and village life add flavor.\_\_\_\_\_I collect books about Korea, and have read many novels, poems and non-fiction works. But Lost Names is certainly one of the best. Small details and major characters both help to build an accurate, emotional depiction of Koreans and the struggle to live during the brutal Japanese occupation of World War II. I read this book in one sitting, mailed it to one of my

sisters, and have bought a copy for another sister. Some passages are humorous, and others are painfully sad...but the author infuses the entire work with hope and forgiveness. The main character's father is a memorable study of dignity, wisdom and strength. My 13 year old son has read this book four times! It is slightly mature for a young reader, but if you or your child have any interest in Asian history, Korea or warm stories of childhood, you'll love it. A must-read for any Korean-Americans wanting to understand the deprivation, tenacity and social conditions forced upon their parents or grandparents, who survived the harsh conditions of life in Korea during WWII.

This was an extremely emotional book. This is a story of a young boy growing up in Korea and having to deal with Japanese influence. Family names are something that are important and this memoir reiterated the harsh realities of oppression. He recalls events from his adolescence. This was an extremely easy read and flowed very smoothly. Though it may be difficult to comprehend this as a historical document, it serves well to underscore the nature of Japanese occupation.

Bought it for a class on World War II, thoroughly enjoyed reading this novel, provided a unique perspective on the Japanese occupation of Korea

The book is very good condition as like a new one. No tears No underlines. It was very useful book and I liked it.

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