



## The Last Mission (Laurel-Leaf Historical Fiction)

*By Harry Mazer*

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In 1944, as World War II is raging across Europe, fifteen-year-old Jack Raab dreams of being a hero. Leaving New York City, his family, and his boyhood behind, Jack uses a false I.D. and lies his way into the U.S. Air Force.

From their base in England, he and his crew fly twenty-four treacherous bombing missions over occupied Europe. The war is almost over and Hitler near defeat when they fly their last mission -- a mission destined for disaster. Shot down far behind enemy lines, Jack is taken prisoner and sent to a German POW camp, where his experiences are more terrifying than anything he'd ever imagined.

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## **The Last Mission (Laurel-Leaf Historical Fiction) By Harry Mazer Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Publisher

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From the Inside Flap

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About the Author

Harry Mazer's *The Last Mission* is drawn closely from his experiences as a seventeen-year-old in the Army Air Corps. Like Jack, he was a Jewish boy from the Bronx full of fantasies about heroism, and like Jack, he became a waist gunner and never fired his guns. He remembers, "I was scared every time we flew....On our 26th mission we flew over Pilzen, Czechoslovakia, to bomb the Skoda Munitions Works. We missed our target, turned over the target again, and were hit. I saw Mike, who was our radio operator, frozen in the door of the radio room. He never made it out of the plane. Only three of us parachuted....No one in the plane lived." ( *ALAN Review*, Fall 1980)

Harry Mazer is the editor of *Twelve Shots: Outstanding Short Stories About Guns*, where twelve authors explore the extreme emotions that guns provoke in all of us. Walter Dean Myers, Rita Williams-Garcia, Richard Peck and other well-known authors create a riveting collection of short fiction that explores the emotion-driven world of guns.

## **Users Review**

**From reader reviews:**

**Della Richardson:**

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#### **Claudine Currie:**

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#### **Hazel Makowski:**

Is it you who having spare time and then spend it whole day through watching television programs or just lying down on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This The Last Mission (Laurel-Leaf Historical Fiction) can be the answer, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this completely new era is common not a nerd activity. So what these books have than the others?

#### **Amy Arwood:**

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