

The Power of Loyalty and Sacrifice in Wartime in *All the Light We Cannot See*

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Abstract- Anthony Doerr's book "*All the Light We Cannot See*" was released in 2014. In the book, a blind French girl named Marie-Laure LeBlanc and a German boy named Werner Pfennig are described as having a chance encounter during World War II. The daughter of a locksmith employed by the Parisian Museum of Natural History is Marie-Laure. She develops cataracts at the age of six, which cause her to lose her vision. Her father creates a scale model of their neighbourhood for her so she can have a feel for it. Marie-Laure and her father flee to Saint-Malo, a walled seaside city in Brittany, where they live with her great-uncle Etienne, during the German occupation of Paris. Together with his sister Jutta. Werner grew up in a German coal mining community. He and his sister enjoy listening to international music and science programmes since he is attracted by radios and electronics. Werner is recruited by the Nazis to attend a brutal military academy, where he excels as a technician and is sent to track the resistance using his expertise in radio technology. As the war progresses, Marie-Laure and Werner's paths eventually cross in Saint-Malo. The novel mainly depicts the themes of morality, empathy, and the power of human connection, as well as the devastating effects of war on both individuals and society as a whole. "*All the Light We Cannot See*" is a impressive and stimulating novel that has received critical applaud for its beautiful writing, richly-drawn characters, and exploration of complex themes.

Indexed Terms- Loyalty, World War II, Morality, Human connection.

I. INTRODUCTION

"*All the Light We Cannot See*" is a novel written by Anthony Doerr that was published in 2014. In the book, a blind French girl named Marie-Laure LeBlanc

and a German boy named Werner Pfennig are described as having a chance encounter during World War II. The novel explores themes of family and loyalty, morality, empathy, and the power of human connection as well as the devastating effects of war on both individuals and society as a whole. It is a Pulitzer Prize-winning historical fiction that has received critical acclaim for its beautiful writing, richly-drawn characters, and exploration of complex themes.

The novel is divided into short chapters that alternate between Werner's and Marie-Laure's perspectives. The chapters are ordered in a non-linear fashion and forth in time to gradually reveal the characters' backstories and the events that lead them to meet in the city Saint-Malo in the year 1944. It is a moving and thought-provoking novel that has resonated with readers around the world.

"*All the Light We Cannot See*" is titled "June 1940". Werner Pfennig, a young German youngster growing up in the little mining town of Zollverein, was introduced by the researcher in this study. After their mother abandoned them and their father passed away in the mines, Werner and his younger sister Jutta now reside in an orphanage. Her father, a locksmith at the Paris Museum of Natural History, is where Marie-Laure resides. After seizing control of Paris, the Nazis fled to Saint-Malo, bringing with them a priceless diamond known as the Sea of Flames, which is claimed to grant its owner eternal life. Werner, though, is a gifted radio technician who enlists in the Nazi army and is transported to Saint-Malo.

As the war rages on, Werner and Laure's paths cross, and their lives become intertwined in unexpected ways. Father of Marie-Laure creates a town model of Saint-Malo for her to navigate with her heightened senses, and she becomes a valuable asset to the resistance movement. Werner, meanwhile, begins to

question his allegiances and the morality of the war he is fighting.

The novel is beautifully written and intricately plotted, with Doerr skillfully weaving together the lives of his two protagonists. The book explores themes of war, loyalty and morality. Although it is a story of war, it is also a tale of humanity, devotion, and the strength of love amidst conflict. The protagonist, a young blind girl named Marie-Lure LeBlanc, resides with her father, the Master of Locks at the Paris Museum of Natural History. Prior to the Nazi invasion, the museum director commissions several copies of a significant artifact and distributes them among his trusted colleagues, including Marie-Lure's father, with the hope that they will keep the original safe from harm. As the Nazis advance into France, Father and her daughter Marie flee to the island of Saint-Malo in the hopes of finding refuge with her uncle. Simultaneously in Germany, a young boy and his sister who have lost their parents, tune in to the war updates on the radio and hear fascinating stories that take them to faraway lands. Werner Pfenning discovers his aptitude for repairing radios, and his skill earns him admission to a military academy. However, the academy proves to be a merciless place where his closest friend is devastated.

This narrative revolves around the lives of two individuals and the people who either wish to harm or cherish them. The reader is aware that Marie-Lure and Werner will cross paths, but the outcome of their encounter remains uncertain. The book caters to readers who enjoy reading about ordinary lives embroiled in significant events.

Finally, "*All the Light We Cannot See*" is an engrossing and moving book that will likely linger with readers long after they have turned the final page

CONCLUSION

In the end, the novel reaches a bittersweet conclusion. Marie-Laure and Werner both face significant challenges and heartbreak throughout the war, and their paths eventually intersect in a dramatic and tragic way. However, even in the darkest moments of the book, there are glimpses of hope, loyalty and love as

characters demonstrate acts of courage, kindness, and compassion.

The novel's title, "*All the Light We Cannot See*", refers to the invisible forms of communication that exist in the world, such as radio waves, and also to the unseen aspects of human experience, such as emotions and thoughts. Ultimately, the book suggests that even in times of great darkness and turmoil, there is still beauty and goodness to be found in the world, if we look for it.

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