



# Truce

*By Jim Murphy*

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## Truce By Jim Murphy

On July 29th 1914, the world's peace was shattered as the artillery of the Austria-Hungary Empire began shelling the troops of the country to its south. What followed was like a row of falling dominoes as one European country after another rushed into war. Soon most of Europe was fighting in this calamitous war that could have been avoided. This was, of course, the First World War. But who could have guessed that on December 25 the troops would openly defy their commanding officers by stopping the fighting and having a spontaneous celebration of Christmas with their "enemies"?

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## Truce By Jim Murphy Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

Best Books for Young Adults, 2010 American Library Association  
Best Children's Books of the Year, 2010 Bank Street College of Education  
Booklist Editors Choice: Books for Youth, 2009 American Library Association  
Bulletin Blue Ribbons, 2009 Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books  
Choices, 2010 Cooperative Children's Book Center  
Notable Books for a Global Society, 2010 Children's Literature Special Interest Group IRA  
Notable Children's Books, 2010 ALSC American Library Association  
School Library Journal Best Books, 2009  
YALSA Best Books for Young Adults, 2010 American Library Association

\* "Well organized and clearly written, this presentation vividly portrays the context and events of the Christmas Truce." -- *Booklist*, starred review

\* "Drawing on a wealth of primary sources, from letters home, diaries and recollections of combatants to archival photographs and prints, the author allows the principles to speak...he leaves kids with the provocative thought that war need not be inevitable, that the truce 'offered reassurance that a kinder, humane spirit could prevail.'" -- *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

### From the Inside Flap

On July 29, 1914, the world's peace was shattered as the artillery of the Austro-Hungarian Empire began shelling the troops of the country to its south. What followed was like a row of falling dominoes as one European nation after another rushed into war. Soon most of Europe, and other faraway countries joined in this calamitous conflict that could have been avoided.

But who would have guessed that, on December 25, the troops would openly defy their commanding officers by stopping the fighting -- and spontaneously celebrating Christmas with their "enemies."

In a stunning narrative illustrated with archival photos, two-time Newbery Honor Book author Jim Murphy weaves the voices of World War I soldiers with historic background and riveting accounts of a miraculous Christmas Truce. This beautiful, heartrending narrative will remind everyone how brotherhood and love reach far beyond the boundaries of politics and war -- and how history can teach us life-altering lessons, even today.

### About the Author

Jim Murphy is the celebrated author of more than thirty-five books for young readers, most notably *TRUCE: THE DAY THE SOLDIERS STOPPED FIGHTING* and *THE GREAT FIRE*, a Newbery Honor Winner. His carefully researched, engaging, and elegantly written nonfiction has garnered the most prestigious awards in the field. He lives in Maplewood, New Jersey, with his wife and their two sons.

## **Users Review**

### From reader reviews:

**Frank Huynh:**

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