

SVIATOSLAV AND VITA OSINSKI, *10 and 7 years old*

City of Irpin, Kyiv region



On February 24, Sviatoslav and Vita were awakened by their mother when it was still quite dark outside. She said they were going to visit their grandparents. And yet - that the war began... Parents busily walked around the apartment and packed in large bags of clothes and shoes. The children were allowed to pack their favorite toys in backpacks... They picked up their favorite cat Puff, got in the car, and set off.

It was very noisy in Irpen. People were fleeing somewhere, hundreds of cars had accumulated on the roads. Loud signals were heard, and drivers for some reason quarreled with each other... The news came from the radio that the attackers were already in our area and were moving to our city. My mother did not let go of the phone and read something there all the time, telling Dad.

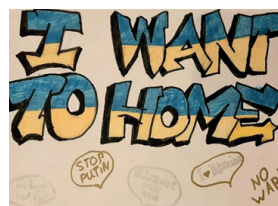
After standing for more than an hour in a long traffic

jam, the family was never able to leave the city. The parents decided to return home and try to get out the next morning. That day was very long. Fighters and helicopters flew over their house. My mother said that the enemies were trying to capture the airport in nearby Gostomel. There, the battle began...

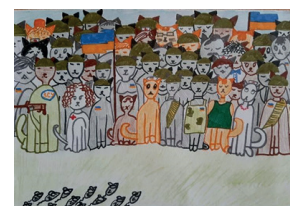
And then, in the evening, Svyatoslav and Vita heard loud explosions for the first time in their lives. They were somewhere very close. It was scary... Vita cried and huddled with her mother... Children and their parents hid in the neighbors' apartment, which was on the ground floor of the house. There, they spent the night. Before going to bed, my mother promised Svyatkov and Vitus that everything would be fine... And she kept her word.

Svyat and Vita went with their mother to the city of Born in Germany. The children really wanted their father to go with them. But he couldn't...

Vita, Sviatoslav, and their mother haven't been home for two months. They spent Easter alone. They could not hug her grandmother on her birthday. Soon it will be my mother's birthday and they all dream of celebrating it at home, in the family circle, in the family home, with dad and ottoman...



Picture of Svyatoslav



Picture of Vita

For reference

The Osinski family: father Vadym (computer specialist, 36 years old), mother Yulia (journalist, 35 years old), children - Sviatoslav (10 years old) and Victoria (7 years old). They lived in Irpen. We left the city on February 25. The family is divided by war.