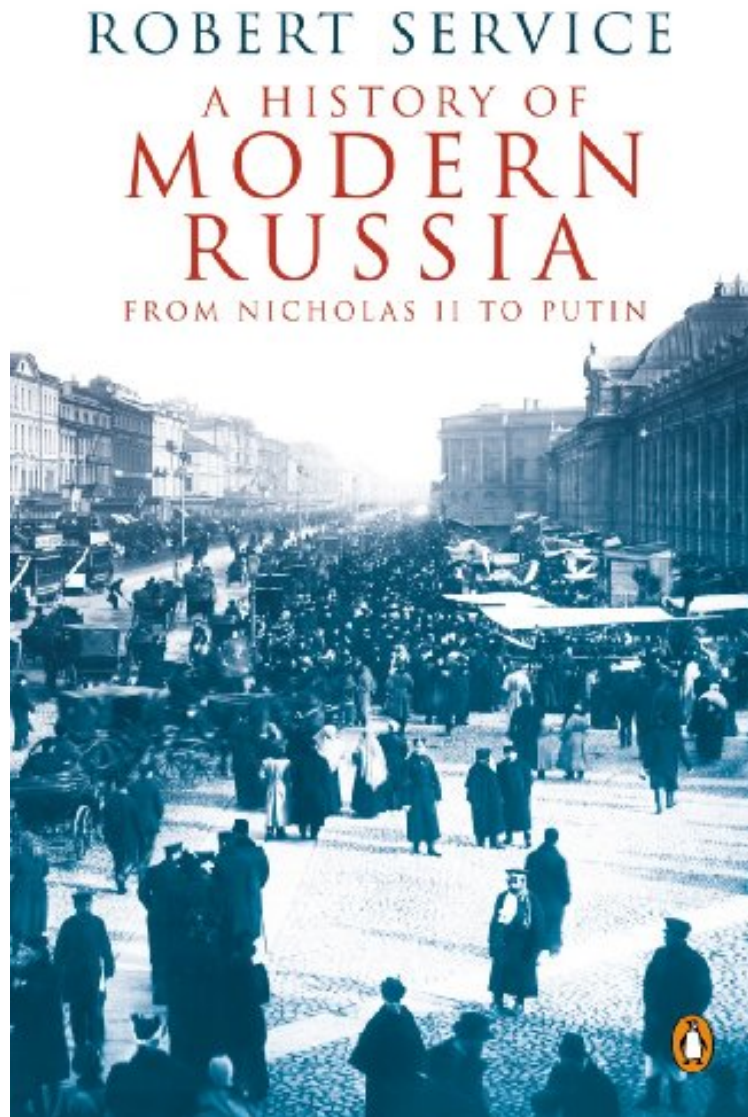


[PDF] A History of Modern Russia: From Nicholas II to Putin

A History of Modern Russia: From Nicholas II to Putin

Von Robert Service

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Von Robert Service : A History of Modern Russia: From Nicholas II to Putin before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A History of Modern Russia: From Nicholas II to Putin:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Awful prose, discombulated; not a good narrative historyVon A_2007_readerI tend to agree with the LA Times review of this book. Also Service's writing style for this book was not fluid, it was too disjointed. Let me try and give an example

(from the book). On second thought, it would be too wordy. The best I can say is that the prose just doesn't flow for me. This is not good in a narrative historical book like this. Writing style would not matter if it was an "encyclopedia", like Oxford puts out, as in a "Who's Who in the USSR", etc. On the other hand, there are a lot of facts crammed in lots of pages, and the index is not bad. Further, Service does hit a few home runs with opinionated paragraphs that are quite funny (e.g. "flying coffins", how Stalin's Air Minister was executed for making a bad joke; "chemically treated corpses", how Stalin's body lying in state caused a stampede that killed people, which the author attributes satirically to Stalin ruling from the grave; Brezhnev being plopped into his grave uncerimoniously to indicate he has fallen out of favor (literally) with the Kremlin. Also the author seems to rely too much on secondary sources it seems (then again, I suspect with the Soviets often destroying evidence, this is not unexpected in the field). 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An Amazing Book on Russia Von Ein Kunde Robert Service does an excellent job his history of 20th Century Russia. His book is extremely detailed, yet it is so well written that the reader absorbs almost everything. Service ties in agriculture, economics, Russians, and most importantly Soviet leadership, to create a vivid story about why the Soviet Union became such a major power, and how it lasted seven decades on such a precarious pedestal. Everyone who wants to learn about Russia should have the History of Twentieth-Century Russia on their bookshelf.

Kurzbeschreibung A comprehensive overview of twentieth-century Russian history that treats the years from 1917 to 2000 as a single period and analyses the peculiar mixture of political, economic and social ingredients that made up the Soviet compound. It takes the reader from the age of communist rule to the changes that occurred in 1991 and the more uncertain world of Yeltsin and Putin..de From the Bolshevik revolution in 1917 to the collapse of communism in 1991, from Lenin to Yeltsin, the history of Russia in the 20th century is a complex, tumultuous story of social, geographic, and political upheaval. Robert Service, a professor at the University of London's School of Slavonic and Eastern European studies, closely looks at this period in A History of Twentieth-Century Russia. Starting with the armed revolution between 1918 and 1921, Service examines the influence of Leninist philosophy on the Bolshevik movement, while at the same time analyzing the complex social dynamics taking place in the background. His intention is to understand the ingredients of "The Soviet Compound"--the synthesis of social and political Leninist techniques--and how it perpetuated the Soviet state for more than half a century. Service is also keen to debunk the theory that it was merely fear and intimidation that explains the endurance of the state. He cites welfare reforms, education, and significant economic progress as a unifying force that brought a share of betterment into Russian society. Students of Russian history will find this book informative and surprisingly powerful, in particular, Service's narrative on the causes of the Soviet collapse, which he believes Gorbachev's radical social reforms brought about by inadvertently opening the door for dramatic change to take place. --Jeremy Storey Pressestimmen A fine book...It is a dizzying tale and Service tells it well; he has none of the ideological baggage that has so often bedeviled Western histories of Russia...A balanced, dispassionate and painstaking account.--Brian Moynahan "Sunday Times "