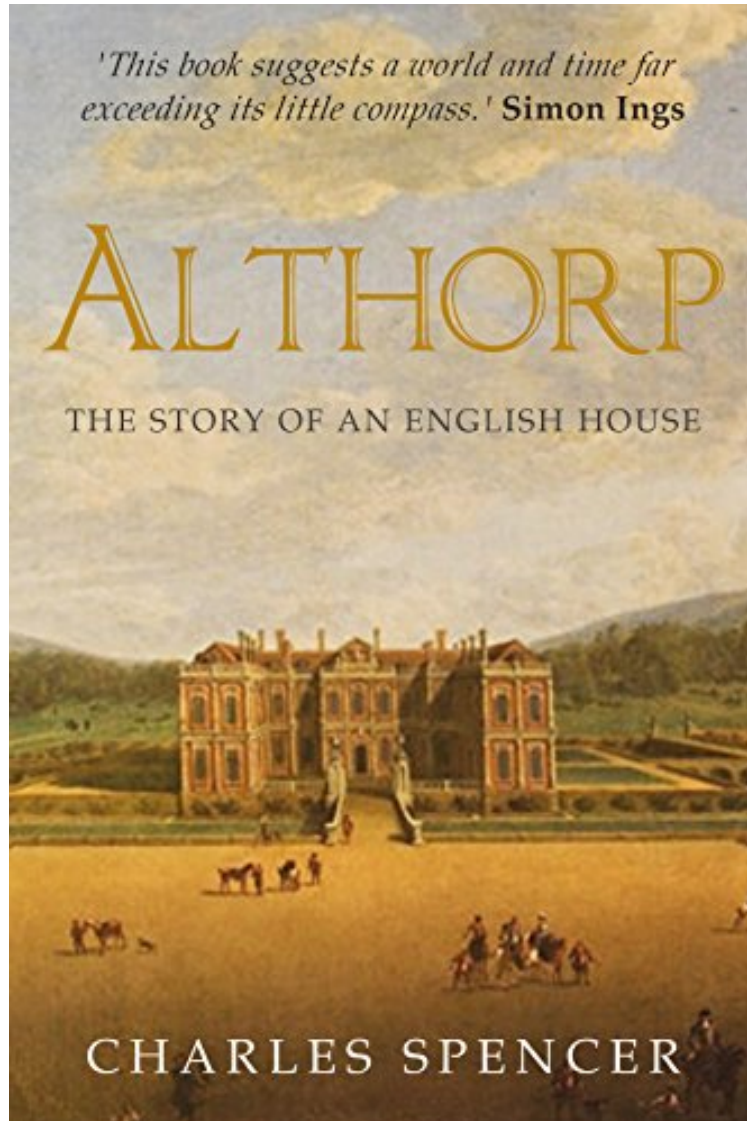


(Download) Althorp: The Story of an English House (English Edition)

Althorp: The Story of an English House (English Edition)

Von Charles Spencer

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Von Charles Spencer : Althorp: The Story of an English House (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Althorp: The Story of an English House (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A unique, warm account of a man's extraordinary inheritanceVon Ein KundeCharles, the ninth Earl Spencer, has written a moving and often amusing account of the history and content of the ancestral home which he inherited in 1992 upon

the death of his father. He describes with obvious love, pride and disarming honesty the lives of the people at Althorp over a period of five hundred years. His book is quite unique in this genre in that this particular stately home remains in his private ownership and is, of course, now the final resting place of Diana, Princess of Wales. Earl Spencer has, however, successfully resisted any temptation to make his much-loved, late sister the main feature of his book. Instead, he takes the reader through each room of the house, as if they were a visitor, accompanied by fascinating history and sumptuous colour photographs of the fabulous art treasures and antiquities, whilst also allowing an insight, via personal anecdotes, into his own childhood and upbringing at Althorp. He also tells of the considerable restoration and redecoration work he commenced in 1992 which was finally completed in 1998. The last chapter is devoted, fittingly, to the creation of his memorial to Diana after her tragic and untimely death in August 1997, which the public are now admitted to view in July and August each year. Finally and touchingly, he writes of how he feared he would "never be able to make [his] own mark" on Althorp. Reading his book and visiting Althorp, people will, of course, be able to judge for themselves. But I don't believe he should be unduly concerned - his mark is there, forever.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Althorp, The Story of an English House Von Ein Kunde This is a wonderful book! In particular enjoyed the way that Charles Spencer brought his ancestors "to life." He gave some very personal and fascinating anecdotes about his ancestors. The pictures of Althorp were absolutely beautiful, and he went into great detail explaining the history of the contents of the rooms and the history that took place in them. Charles Spencer stated that he was afraid, at one point, he would not make his mark on Althorp. He certainly has made a significant mark for the better. It is amazing what he has done in such a short period of time. I would recommend this book to anyone looking for a great read. It is entertaining, funny, informative, creative and fascinating.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Althorp, great history Von Customer That's it, I'm going to be a history major. I loved this book. Who says you can't write history in the first person? I laughed, I cried, I could relate to the author at times. I too love fine houses. I found it most amusing, all the tales he told about selling furnishings just to keep the house. I mean this book is part history, part autobiography, and it reminds us all of the bond we have with our house, our ancestors, our land, and the pictures we hang on the wall. I highly recommend it.

Kurzbeschreibung The story of the great house and grounds of Althorp is the story of a family, a family whose driving passions include art and the enjoyment of books: the Spencers. Acquiring the 300-acre Northamptonshire estate in 1508, Sir John Spencer built the first house, and for over 500 years twenty generations of the Spencer family have lived and died at Althorp. In recent times it has taken on added significance as the burial place of the most loved princess of the twentieth century, Diana. In 1998 there was further major work with the adapting of the quite beautiful Stable Block once home to 100 horses and forty grooms into a centre for visitors incorporating an exhibition celebrating the life of Diana. This fascinating account, written by one who acted as a guide there at just twelve years old, ripples with both personal insights and an appreciation for the architecture, art and characters of Althorp, and is a perfect guide to one of England's greatest houses. Charles, Viscount Althorp, became the ninth Earl Spencer on the death of his father in 1992. Since then, he has undertaken extensive refurbishment of the house and supervised the changes made to accommodate the many thousands of people who wish to visit the home and grounds following the death of his sister. An acclaimed, bestselling historian of works regarding Althorp and his family's history, he founded the Althorp Literary Festival in 2003. He was educated at Eton College and obtained his degree in Modern History at Magdalen College, Oxford. He is the author of five books, including the Sunday Times bestseller *Blenheim: The Battle for Europe* (shortlisted for History Book of the Year, National Book Awards), *Killers of the King: The Men Who Dared to Execute Charles I* and *The Spencer Family*. Endeavour Press is the UK's leading independent digital publisher. For more information on our titles please sign up to our newsletter at www.endeavourpress.com. Each week you will receive updates on free and discounted ebooks. Follow us on Twitter: @EndeavourPress and on Facebook via <http://on.fb.me/1HweQV7>. We are always interested in hearing from our readers. Endeavour Press believes that the future is now.

deAt 168 illustrated pages, Charles, the Ninth Earl Spencer's account of Althorp, his family seat, can only scratch the surface of its 500-year history. Nevertheless, whether he is describing the sleepless nights of his childhood, the ticking of clocks "always... too subtle a sound, getting absorbed in the oak of the floorboards and the fabric of the tapestries", or appraising the forbidding character of his grandfather, the "Curator Earl", Spencer casts a candid, evocative light on his subject. Indeed, Spencer's own efforts on the estate have been considerable. First came the business of repairing the predations of his "short-termist stepmother" Raine, Countess of Dartmouth--she who carpeted a 115-ft long Tudor picture gallery with a wall-to-wall oatmeal carpet. Now comes the death and burial on the estate of his sister Diana, Princess of Wales. That Charles must now curate the family home as a site of global mourning is a trial quite the equal of anything the estate has ever faced. Subtitled *The Story of an English House*, the book's structure, covering buildings, grounds, family history and collections, is entirely conventional. What does surprise is the way Spencer packs in so much about the social and political vicissitudes that shaped his family's wealth and taste. In doing so, he eschews his grandfather's regrettable elitism, while losing none of the old man's dedication to

the family's heritage. Like all good introductions, this book suggests a world and time far exceeding its little compass. --Simon Ings

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