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Diaries, 1910-1923 (The Schocken Kafka Library)



Synopsis

These diaries cover the years 1910 to 1923, the year before Kafka's death at the age of forty. They provide a penetrating look into life in Prague and into Kafka's accounts of his dreams, his feelings for the father he worshipped and the woman he could not bring himself to marry, his sense of guilt, and his feelings of being an outcast. They offer an account of a life of almost unbearable intensity.

Book Information

Series: The Schocken Kafka Library

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Schocken (October 30, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805209069

ISBN-13: 978-0805209068

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 1.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Franz Kafka's diaries were never meant to be published. Yet his diaries are spread across the internet, the actual published diaries translated into many languages and countless printings. These diaries are very personal, and the gentle Prague Jew would certainly be appalled. Why do we continue to find these writings so fascinating? Well, simply, they're terribly honest. Kafka never meant for these diary entries to be published, let alone read by another person. For those interested in the mechanics and soul of writing, Kafka's diaries are a source of true wonder. A confessional of a gentle soul, a man trapped in an insurance job, staying up through the night writing his heart-out, his thoughts, pains and acute observations of a time on the brink of great and terrible change, the death and cruelty of two world wars. When reading Kafka, there is an overwhelming darkness, loneliness, a strong shadow that continually hovered around him, a "something" he tried to rid himself of through intense self reflection, which the reader of these diaries will discover. Kafka's life story is, for the most part, a tragedy. A painful experience as one, sometimes, can feel his self

consciousness, that subtle pain at the back of the neck, when, you know, you're being stared at...and his continued bad health. I've attempted to read Kafka's diaries many times, and only now, for some reason, can withstand the pain of his perceptions, his precarious relationship with his father, and the few women he loved and the true love he never married.

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