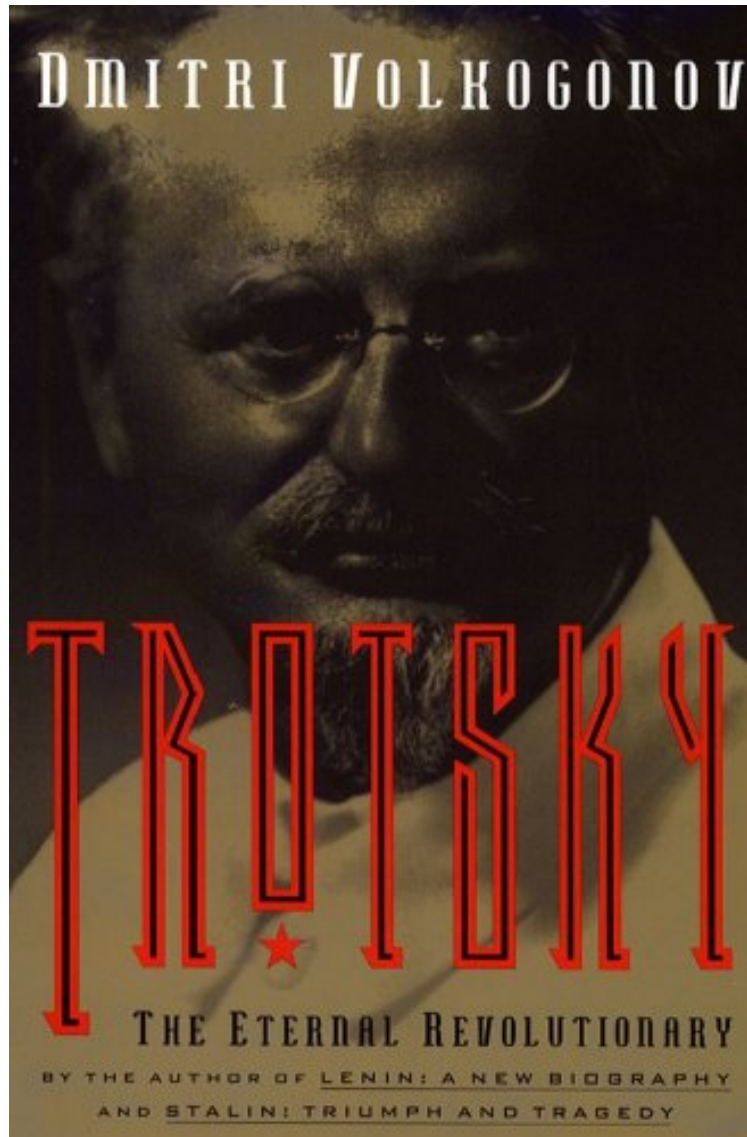


(Download) Trotsky: Eternal Revolutionary (Media and Communications; 49) (English Edition)

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Von Dmitri Volkogonov
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Von Dmitri Volkogonov : Trotsky: Eternal Revolutionary (Media and Communications; 49) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Trotsky: Eternal Revolutionary (Media and Communications; 49) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very poorly written bio of a great manVon Yuli MartovAttempting to make the most interesting political figure of the

twentieth century seem absolutely boring would be quite an obstacle for most people, especially when you have access to the Soviet Presidential Archive, but Dmitri Volkogonov has somehow achieved this task with flying colors. The historian Isaac Deutscher wrote a three-volume biography of Leon Trotsky in the 1950's, and his writings were far superior to this biography of Trotsky by Volkogonov, which was written within the past decade! The playwright Edvard Radzinsky had the same access to the Presidential Archive that Volkogonov had, yet his biography of Stalin was one of the most informative books I have ever read. Perhaps Volkogonov attempted to take advantage of the newly established market economy in Russia by producing as many books as he could (at the expense of research and lucidity of writing), and after they attained a respectable amount of success, he walked away with all the money (of course he died in 1995, so I guess his family now is now taking the money). He tells the reader everything they could have found elsewhere (even on Microsoft Encarta!), such as Trotsky's birth in Yanavka in 1879, the Russian Social Democratic split in 1903, his first encounter with Lenin, his role as the founder of the Red Army, etcetera, and etcetera. This is all fine if you're not familiar with Trotsky life, but it's not fine if the author has access to as exclusive as documents as the Presidential archive. A prospective reader would have expected a book that claims to be a "breakthrough reinterpretation" of Trotsky to live up to its name, but I found that it almost certainly didn't. Although [this] is a good price for a Hardback book with a dustjacket, I would still recommend that you just look at MSN Encarta's description of Trotsky, you learn all of the same stuff that Volkogonov somehow crammed into 488 pgs (maybe this is what he did to write the book, who knows?). Edvard Radzinsky has written books about Rasputin, Nicholas II, and Stalin, so there's always the possibility that he'll write a biography of Trotsky, and maybe even Lenin (tasks which would undo all of the damage that Volkogonov has done to the prestige of the Presidential Archive).

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Trotsky - A Fitting Life for Shakespearean Tragedy Von Paul J. Rask If Shakespeare had been of an era after Trotsky, the immortal playwright could have added another classic to his grand tragedies about Caesar, Lear, Macbeth, Hamlet. The life of Lev Davidovich Bronshtein -- Trotsky -- had all the elements that Shakespeare found essential for his great dramas: a larger-than-life personality, magnificent talents, gigantic flaws, monumental historic wars, pursuit by an incarnate villain and a tragic, violent death. The Shakespearean Trotsky would have lived for ages. Dmitri Volkogonov's biography of the Number Two man (after Lenin) of the Bolshevik Revolution would have given grist to Shakespeare's mill for the Russian biographer's study of Leon Trotsky gives a good view of the man caught up in the spell binding events that shaped Trotsky's time. Volkogonov, a former general in the Soviet army, became chairman of the Russian Declassifying Commission after the collapse of the Soviet Union and thus had access to the super secrets of the old regime. But it is not necessarily the revelations of some of those ultra secrets which makes this biography such a compelling drama. It was Trotsky himself, his life, his great talents, his impossible dreams and his pursuit by one of the Twentieth Century's most vile villains which rivets the attention, plus Volkogonov's hard-driving narrative so admirable translated by Harold Shukman. A leading member of the October Revolution which abruptly transformed Russian history, Trotsky was one of the most prominent Marxist intellectuals. He was considered by many to have been Lenin's heir-apparent. Writer, historian, spell-binding speaker, Trotsky led the Red Army in the Civil War which followed the Revolution and was one of those in the inner circle who helped create the disaster that became the Soviet Union. Early on, however, he saw Joseph Stalin as his nemesis. And Stalin recognized Trotsky as an obstacle to his own ambitions. Thus began an historic persecution, and finally the international flight of Trotsky to avoid being killed by Stalin's doctrinaire assassins. Oh, this is high drama, indeed, and the Volkogonov-Shukman description makes the most of it. The electrifying description of Trotsky's ultimate death in the surrealist surroundings of Mexico after a zealot Stalinist jams an ice-pick into his skull reads like a movie script -- as the actual event certainly must have seemed. This book is a must for the general reader interested in Russia of the 20th Century and a valuable addition to those who are serious historians.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very very very good!!! Von Ein Kunde Highly recommended for all those really interested in soviet History. Academically well researched. should make a special discount for it.!!!

Kurzbeschreibung Together with Lenin, Trotsky was the most charismatic and dominating figure of the Russian revolution. A dynamic public speaker, a brilliant organizer and theorist, he was largely responsible for advocating the system of state terror which was ultimately to lead to the nightmare of Stalinism. This biography describes Trotsky's career as a revolutionary before World War I and his roles successively as chief organizer of the October revolution, military hero of the Russian civil war and outspoken critic of the Stalinist style of leadership. Widely regarded as Lenin's likely successor, Trotsky was outmanoeuvred by his enemy, Stalin and found himself expelled from the Communist Party, written out of the history of the revolution, exiled and finally murdered in Mexico by Stalin's agents. The author tracked down members of Stalin's overseas hit-squad and found relatives of Trotsky in Russia. Combined with his access to Soviet archives, this biography lends insight into one of the most influential figures of the 20th century, whose faith in the world socialist revolution remained undimmed to the end. From Publishers Weekly Although for years Trotsky had condemned Lenin as a potential dictator, in 1917 he became a radical

Bolshevik, a hard-line Leninist committed to a one-party state with a monopoly of power sustained through terror and violence. Together with Lenin, the military leader and fiery orator (born Lev Davidovich Bronstein in 1879) liquidated opponents, inaugurated forced collective labor and unleashed a violent campaign against religion. Using hitherto unavailable materials from Soviet archives, Volkogonov, special assistant to Boris Yeltsin, persuasively argues that Trotsky, while preaching global revolution, helped Lenin lay the foundations of a repressive domestic system that grew organically into the totalitarian dictatorship presided over by Stalin, Trotsky's rival. Assassinated in Mexico in 1940 by one of Stalin's henchmen, Trotsky, according to this meticulous, dense political biography, shares responsibility for the Red Terror that claimed him as victim. Complementing Volkogonov's recent critical biographies of Stalin and Lenin, this compelling study lays to rest the image of Trotsky as a persecuted idealist, blameless victim of Stalin's duplicity. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From BooklistCreator and leader of the Red Army, Trotsky earned his mystique by rushing to threatened fronts in his armored train, delivering inspiring speeches, and shooting counterrevolutionaries and deserters by the thousands in prosecuting the proletarian cause. It was his political ineptness that caused him to lose the postwar power struggle to Stalin. The late Volkogonov wrote this biography directly for Russian readers, many of whom knew Trotsky only as the archfiend of Stalinist demonology. Interested Westerners will also find this work extremely valuable as a counterpoint to the hagiographic *The Prophet* trilogy by Isaac Deutscher. Clearly the most colorful, literary, and oratorical of the Bolsheviks, Trotsky gets his due from Volkogonov (who quotes many fascinating extracts from the once-forbidden Soviet archives). As the lava of the revolutionary eruption cooled, Trotsky's bewitchment with world revolution became sorely dated. In this milestone portrait, Trotsky regains both his heroic and flawed aspects as a larger-than-life historical figure. Gilbert Taylor