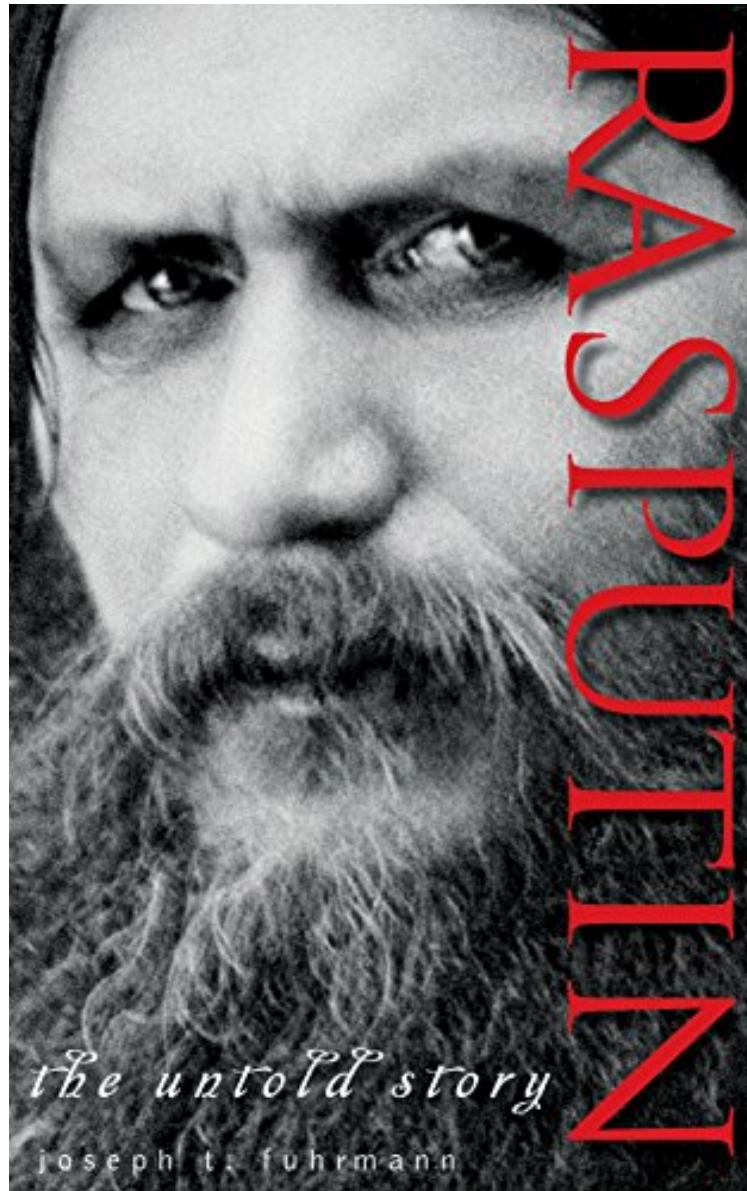


(Mobile ebook) Rasputin: The Untold Story

Rasputin: The Untold Story

Joseph T. Fuhrmann

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Joseph T. Fuhrmann : Rasputin: The Untold Story before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rasputin: The Untold Story:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Very good, accurate biography By Robert Malone Excellent biography, probably exceeded only by a more recent, and extensive (nearly 3 times the length) by Douglas Smith Rasputin: Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs . This is actually the better of the two for any reader simply

looking for a fairly accurate biography employing recent discoveries unearthed from Russian records following the Soviet collapse (the Smith is more for the specialist who wants to look very deeply into the subject). This first major Rasputin biography to use some of these records was that by Edvard Radzinsky (2000) *The Rasputin File*, that one a rambling tome, sometimes near impossible to follow, and which inserted some unsupportable speculations on the part of the author -- the Radzinsky is, in fact, a valuable research product but also one with serious flaws. The Douglas Smith book is probably the most advanced and accurate yet, at least of those available in English. This one by Joseph Fuhrmann is highly readable and simply replaces all others written over the years for popular consumption, including an earlier one by the same author *Rasputin: A Life* (that one, published 1989, was a very good one at the time, but a lot of new information has become available since then and must now be regarded as dated). Many earlier biographies were based on incomplete information, rumors, and self-serving accounts and the present author does provide a review of the prior books as to their reliability. The nature of the subject invites, almost requires, some degree of speculation regarding some features of this individual's life -- such as, the true nature of his relationships with the Imperial family, was he a member of an heretical sect, did he actually perform miracles, what happened on the night of his murder, etc.; and, in that regard, this book comes off better than most in avoiding some of the more sensational topics, though not completely free (the Smith book does the best in that regard). Anyone with an interest in this subject, one of the most fascinating human beings of all time, should turn first to this book as a general biography, then to the 2016 more comprehensive study by Douglas Smith. These two books in some ways compliment each other -- Fuhrmann telling you who Rasputin was and what he did, then Smith - with almost 700 pages of text - for filling in what might be more details than one is really interested in, unless you are one of those who just cannot know enough.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Was LGBT society widely accepted in pre-revolutionary Russia? By Philip L. Tudor I've read numerous books on Rasputin, and the primary things that this book adds are the author's conclusion that homosexuality was open and accepted in all levels of pre-Revolutionary Russian society, an idea that has never really been explored in depth before, and that the Royal Family accepted it. The author also adds his definitive opinion on an open question in the world of pre-Revolutionary Russia addicts on whether Rasputin's killers, Prince Yusopov and Grand Duke Dmitri Pavlovich had a homosexual relationship. His conclusion is that they did not, but he does not explore comments from others at the time that Dmitri was devastated when Yusopov got engaged. The author's conclusion on gay life is supported by a plethora of other sources, including Bryan Boyd's biography of Vladimir Nabokov. However, the Empress was quite stuffy, and I doubt if she knew that many of Rasputin's friends that she socialized with were gay. It's a good book that looks at an overly discussed topic in a new way, and will probably be the last book to receive public notice on Rasputin, as after now the topic will have been overworked. Every possible angle on Rasputin has already been explored in the numerous biographies about him. I would have liked it if the author had been a little more descriptive about the surroundings Rasputin lived in, besides his apartment, so that the reader could have felt like they were actually there at that place and time. However, over all, the author treated the subject in an interesting and readable manner.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good book but leaves gaps By MichaelRI just finished reading the book and it is eye opening. The picture on the cover really does give you a glimpse into this fascinating character's life. The book was about him but gives plenty of Russian history along the way. (Although I wish it had gone one chapter further and discussed the Czar's assassination and murder of his family). The book is a historical piece and although it reads easily it is meant for people interested in history. It begins with his early years (kind of light in this area) and proceeds to his years with the czar. My only real complaint is that although it is written well and gives plenty of historical reference I finish the book still not understanding the man. If you are looking for explanations of how he cured the hemophiliac prince- look elsewhere. I don't think anyone knows the answer and the book sheds no new light on the subject. Although he is a fascinating man the book leaves me looking for more- how did he do what he did, who was he and what did he really think? It does provide insight into what the Czar and his wife were thinking but leaves too many gaps.

Based on new sources—the definitive biography of Rasputin, with revelations about his life, death, and involvement with the Romanovs A century after his death, Grigory Rasputin remains fascinating: the Russian peasant with hypnotic eyes who befriended Tsar Nicholas II and helped destroy the Russian Empire, but the truth about his strange life has never fully been told. Written by the world's leading authority on Rasputin, this new biography draws on previously closed Soviet archives to offer new information on Rasputin's relationship with Empress Alexandra, sensational revelations about his sexual conquests, a re-examination of his murder, and more. Based on long-closed Soviet archives and the author's decades of research, encompassing sources ranging from baptismal records and forgotten police reports to notes written by Rasputin and personal letters Reveals new information on Rasputin's family history and strange early life, religious beliefs, and multitudinous sexual adventures as well as his relationship with Empress Alexandra, ability to heal the haemophiliac tsarevich, and more Includes many previously unpublished photos, including contemporary studio photographs of Rasputin and samples of his handwriting Written by historian Joseph T. Fuhrmann, a Rasputin expert whose 1990 biography *Rasputin: A Life* was widely praised as the best on the subject Synthesizing archival sources with published documents, memoirs, and other studies of Rasputin into a single,

comprehensive work, *Rasputin: The Untold Story* will correct a century's worth of misconception and error about the life and death of the famous Siberian mystic and healer and the decline and fall of Imperial Russia.

* Using material from newly opened Soviet archives, particularly the correspondence of Czar Nicholas II and his wife, Alexandra, Fuhrmann, an emeritus professor of history at Murray State University in Kentucky, extends the range of his *Rasputin: A Life* (1990). He shows how an obscure Russian Orthodox monk became a close adviser to the czar and czarina, particularly after he predicted the recovery of their son, Alexis, from a possibly fatal illness in 1909. Alexandra turned to him for advice on Russia's WWI military campaign, and he influenced the appointment of high officials. This outside influence, and rumors that Rasputin was pro-German, impelled a cabal of members of the nobility to assassinate him in December 1916. Fuhrman provides graphic details of the murder and weighs the evidence that the British Secret Intelligence Service participated in the plot. Fuhrmann draws a complex portrait of a dissolute alcoholic figure who allegedly raped at least one woman, yet he was seen by his many followers as a starets (charismatic holy man). Fuhrmann does not provide a final appraisal of Rasputin's significance in the immediate prerevolution period. Still, this vivid, briskly written biography brings to life one of the most colorful and sinister figures in modern Russian history. Illus. Agent: Andrew Lownie, Andrew Lownie Literary Agency. (Nov.) (Publishers Weekly, August 2012)