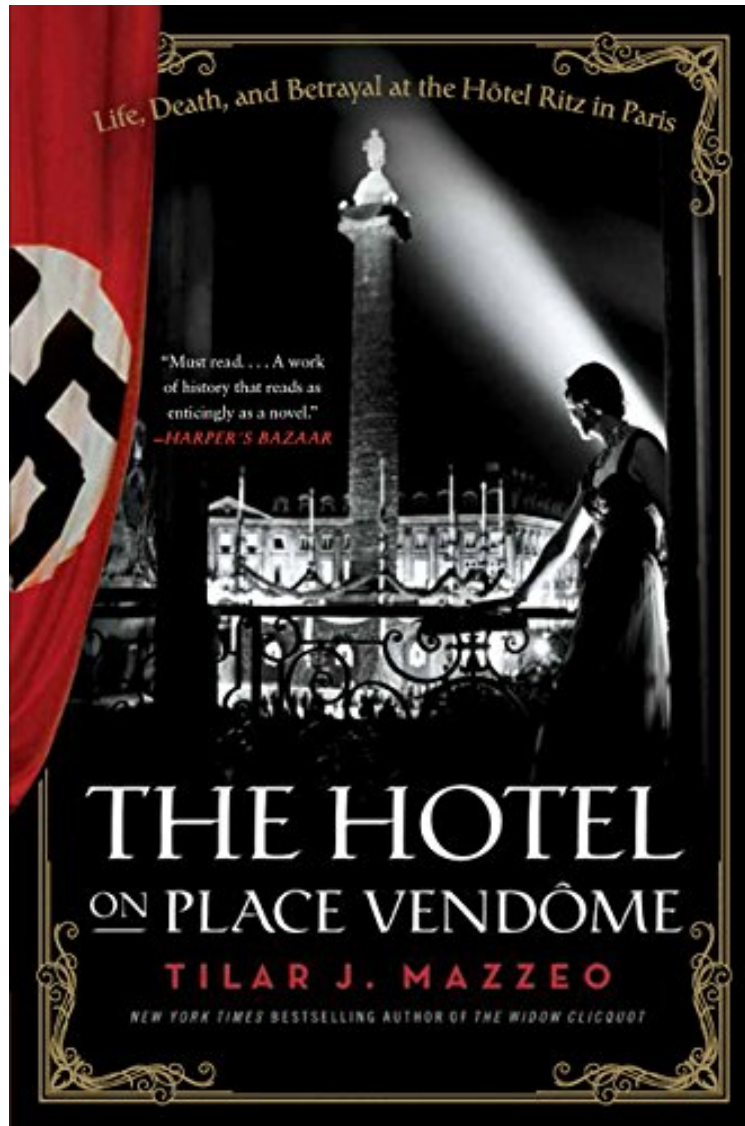


(Download ebook) The Hotel on Place Vendome: Life, Death, and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris

The Hotel on Place Vendome: Life, Death, and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris

Tilar J. Mazzeo

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#242250 in Books Mazzeo Tilar J 2015-02-24 2015-02-24 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.00 x .72 x 5.311, .0 #File Name: 0061791040320 pages The Hotel on Place Vendome Life Death and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris | File size: 50.Mb

Tilar J. Mazzeo : The Hotel on Place Vendome: Life, Death, and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Hotel on Place Vendome: Life, Death, and Betrayal at the Hotel Ritz in Paris:

133 of 141 people found the following review helpful. A Reprint of "Much Ado About Nothing" By Richard L.

Harrell This is the most poorly written and superficial "history" book that I have ever read. It is so full of factual errors that it is almost impossible to absorb them, and the author makes statements throughout the book which have no truth whatsoever. They are far too numerous to mention, but a few of them include her statement that the American Assimilated Colonel Fred Wardenburg was called away from a hotel in Washington late one evening in 1944 and was at the Ritz Hotel in Paris the following morning. If his aircraft had flown by the fastest possible route, stopping only at Gander or Goose Bay, and then at Shannon or Prestwick, he would not have arrived in Paris until the following night. This may seem trivial, but it is an example of the author's complete disinterest in facts. Another is her claim that Ernest Hemingway committed suicide at his home in Key West. He did not. It was at his home in Ketchum, Idaho. The author makes statements as though they were facts, when there is not a shred of truth to them. It is beyond pitiful, and a disgrace to literature. It is sad that anyone would publish such a book. The publisher's proof reader left an unnecessary "t" after the word "only" on page 16. Very sloppy this. I wish I had my money back. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful stories By Bio nerd Riveting stories centered around a famous Paris hotel around WWII. The pace is fast with facts bounced along as the stories unfold of famous liaisons and intrigues are laid out. Lots of recognizable names such as Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Duke of Windsor, plus notable Nazis are mentioned. Highly recommend this book for history buffs. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. French history contained in a hotel. By Marge L The Hotel on Place Vendôme provides a glimpse of the history of Paris through the lives of those who made it their home. I found insights into famous people as well as the infamous ones. The most interesting time period for me was during the Second World War when the Nazis made it their headquarters. This was also the most disturbing. Celebrities such as Hemingway left before they arrived and returned afterward. People such as Coco Chanel stayed and found ways to survive and avoid retribution after the occupation. Many did not. What made the hotel attractive to those who could afford it was that it truly had luxury accommodations and a staff which took pride in serving regardless of the occupants personal behavior.

Set against the backdrop of the Nazi occupation of World War II, *The Hôtel on Place Vendôme* is the captivating history of Paris's world-famous Hôtel Ritz—a breathtaking tale of glamour, opulence, and celebrity; dangerous liaisons, espionage, and resistance—from Tilar J. Mazzeo, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Widow Clicquot* and *The Secret of Chanel No. 5*. When France fell to the Germans in June 1940, the legendary Hôtel Ritz on the Place Vendôme—an icon of Paris frequented by film stars and celebrity writers, American heiresses and risqué flappers, playboys, and princes—was the only luxury hotel of its kind allowed in the occupied city by order of Adolf Hitler. Tilar J. Mazzeo traces the history of this cultural landmark from its opening in fin de siècle Paris. At its center, *The Hotel on Place Vendôme* is an extraordinary chronicle of life at the Ritz during wartime, when the Hôtel was simultaneously headquarters to the highest-ranking German officers, such as Reichsmarshal Hermann Göring, and home to exclusive patrons, including Coco Chanel. Mazzeo takes us into the grand palace's suites, bars, dining rooms, and wine cellars, revealing a hotbed of illicit affairs and deadly intrigue, as well as stunning acts of defiance and treachery. Rich in detail, illustrated with black-and-white photos, *The Hotel on Place Vendôme* is a remarkable look at this extraordinary crucible where the future of post-war France—and all of post-war Europe—was transformed.

From Booklist Similar to her work in *The Secret of Chanel No. 5* (2011), Mazzeo's latest threads a great many strands—stories of a war, a people, a city, a time and place—through a single bead: Paris' Hotel Ritz. In a narrative style, Mazzeo holds a dizzying cast of persons of interest under glass as they sleep and work, meet and seek refuge in the then-Swiss-owned hotel, beginning with its grand Belle Epoque opening and focusing mainly on WWII and Paris' German occupation. Truly, fiction could not write betrayal, resistance, collaboration, or celebration with more robustness or with a more alluring who's-who of writers, artists, and military powers than history did in this single hotel. Amid chilling tales of the terrible ambiguities of war and the treatment and purging of enemies on all sides, Mazzeo offers lightness in her biography of an inarguably dark time through obvious care for her subjects. Friends and lovers abound, and all but the worst villains are showed multidimensionally, as Mazzeo contemplates the Ritz, Paris, and Europe in flux. --Annie Bostrom "This gorgeously written (and photographed) book is a feast for readers wanting to be swept away this summer. . . . Tracing the captivating history of Paris's world-famous Hôtel Ritz, Mazzeo reveals a hotbed of illicit affairs and deadly intrigue, as well as stunning acts of defiance and treachery." (Brad Thor, *The Today Show Summer Reads*) "Stolen art, double agents, a legendary bartender passing notes to the resistance: This is a rich, messy history." (Kirkus s) "Mazzeo pulls back the heavy curtains of the Ritz in Paris to reveal a steamy world of sex, drugs, partying and political intrigue." (Alan Riding, author of *And The Show Went On: Cultural Life in Nazi-Occupied Paris*) "Mazzeo enthrallingly depicts a hotbed of both the magnificent and the mundane. . . . Readers will enjoy Mazzeo's fascinating collection of secretive, scheming historical characters, all under one elegant roof." (Publishers Weekly) "Fiction could not write betrayal, resistance, collaboration, or celebration with more robustness or with a more alluring who's-who of writers, artists, and military powers than history did in this single hotel." (Booklist) "Tilar J. Mazzeo tells the tale of the Hotel Ritz, a landmark so imbued with glamour that it was the only hotel in Paris the Nazis ordered to stay open during the war. The antics at and around it during World War II were

often shocking.” (New York Post)“Must read. . . . Mazzeo artfully transports readers to the Nazi occupation of World War II . . . The Hôtel on Place Vendôme contextualizes the opulence of 1940s Paris, making for a work of history that reads as enticingly as a novel.” (Harper's Bazaar)“An illuminating history of the intrigue and drama taking place inside its elegant façade. . . . The narrative reads like fiction, with the difference being accurate testimony from well-researched documents and interviews.” (Bookreporter)From the Back CoverEstablished in 1898 in the heart of Paris on the Place Vendôme, the Hôtel Ritz instantly became an icon of the city frequented by film stars and celebrity writers, American heiresses and risqué flappers, politicians, playboys, and princes. In June 1940, when France fell to the Germans, orders from Berlin specified that the Hôtel Ritz would be the only luxury hotel of its kind in occupied Paris. Tilar J. Mazzeo traces the history of this cultural landmark from its opening in fin-de-siècle Paris to the modern era. The Hotel on Place Vendôme chronicles life at the Ritz during wartime, when the hotel simultaneously served as headquarters to the highest-ranking German officers, such as Reichsmarschall Hermann Göring, and home to wealthy patrons (and the spies among them) who stayed on in Paris. Mazzeo takes us into the grand palace's suites, bars, dining rooms, and wine cellars, revealing a hotbed of illicit affairs and deadly intrigue, as well as stunning acts of defiance and treachery, in which refugees were hidden in secret rooms, a Jewish bartender passed coded messages for the German resistance, and Wehrmacht officers plotted to assassinate the Führer. The result is the story of The Hotel on Place Vendôme—a singular season at the world-class hotel, an intimate and riveting portrait of the last days of the Second World War.