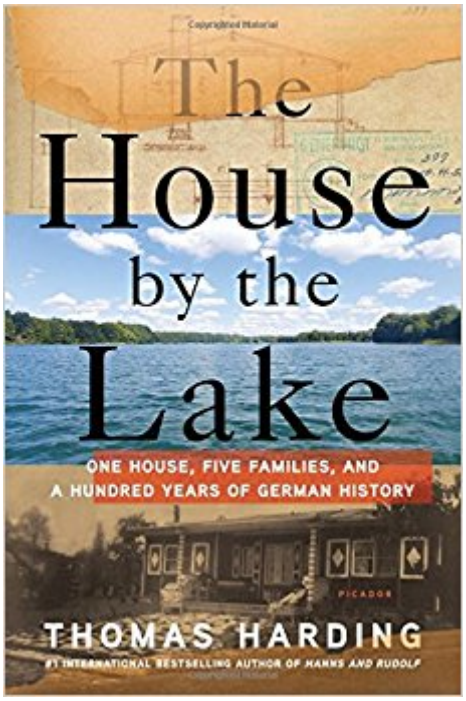
The book was found

The House By The Lake: One House, Five Families, And A Hundred Years Of German History



PDF
Adobe
DOWNLOAD EBOOK

Synopsis

A Finalist for the Costa Book AwardLonglisted for the Orwell PrizeNamed a Best Book of the Year byThe Times (London) â ¢ New Statesman (London) â ¢ Daily Express (London) â ¢ Commonweal magazine In the summer of 1993, Thomas Harding traveled to Germany with his grandmother to visit a small house by a lake on the outskirts of Berlin. It had been her â œsoul place,â • she saidâ •a holiday home for her and her family, but also a refugeâ •until the 1930s, when the Nazisâ ™ rise to power forced them to leave.The trip was his grandmotherâ ™s chance to remember her childhood sanctuary as it was. But the house had changed, and when Harding returned once again nearly twenty years later, it was about to be demolished. It now belonged to the government, and as Harding began to inquire about whether the house could be saved, he unearthed secrets that had lain hidden for decades. Slowly he began to piece together the lives of the five families who had lived there: a wealthy landowner, a prosperous Jewish family, a renowned composer, a widow and her children, a Stasi informant. All had made the house their home, and all but one had been forced out.The house had weathered storms, fires and abandonment, witnessed violence, betrayals and murders, and had withstood the trauma of a world war and the dividing of a nation. Breathtaking in scope and intimate in its detail, The House by the Lake is a groundbreaking and revelatory new history of Germany, told over a tumultuous century through the story of a small wooden house.

Book Information

Hardcover: 464 pages
Publisher: Picador (July 5, 2016)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1250065062
ISBN-13: 978-1250065063
Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.6 x 9.5 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (37 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #33,865 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential #53 inÂ Books > History > Europe > Germany #278 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Home Improvement & Design

Customer Reviews

British author Thomas Harding has traced the history of a section of Berlin by tracing the history of the house his family had lived in before WW2. The book, "The House by the Lake: One House, Five

Families", is a nuanced look as much at the politics of the times as of the families who had lived in the house. Harding's own family had built the house on a lake side area in the southwest section of Berlin, near Potsdam, in the 1920's. They lived in Berlin but used this lakeside house as their weekend and summer retreat. But as the 20's ran into the 1930's, the Jewish Alexander family was hit by the anti-Semitic laws of the time and regretfully abandoned the lakeside house - and Germany - to safety in England. The house was taken over by other families during WW2 and the post-war years. Since the house was literally on the border between West Berlin and East Germany, the occupants lived behind the Berlin Wall. After the Wall came down in 1989, the family living there was reunited with friends and family in the west. The house is now a property of the state but Harding's family is trying to fix it up.Okay, we've all read books that trace a family by looking at the houses in which they've lived. This is just the opposite; examining the house by looking at who's lived there. (Another good book to read if you find this book interesting is "Home: The Story of Everyone Who Ever Lived in Our House", by British author Julie Myerson.) Thomas Harding's book turns the history of the house into a history of the times. Harding does provide pictures of the house as it went through physical changes as new owners and tenants came and went. It's a good book, for the right reader.

WARNING: ONE READER OF THIS REVIEW HAS COMPLAINED THAT IT GIVES AWAY TOO MUCH.The author is the great-grandson of Alfred Alexander, a Jewish Berlin doctor who took a 15 year lease of a plot of land on the Western shore shore of Gross Glienicke Lake, then just outside of Berlin and about 25 km south-west of the city centre, and had a summer house built there in 1927 during the most optimistic period of the Weimar Republic. The book is a history of that house and of its successive owners.It is also a history of Germany: as will be seen, those who lived in the house would be living at one of the hubs of post-war German history.Five families have lived in the house.The Alexander family managed, almost all of them, to emigrate to England by 1936. (One of Alfredâ ™s sons was the Hanns of â œHanns and Rudolphâ •, Hardingâ ™s earlier book about Hanns the Nazi hunter who would hunt down Rudolph HÃ¶ss, the commandant of Auschwitz.)They rented the house to a Berlin composer and publisher of light music, Wilhelm Meisel, who used it as a holiday home. Before 1933 over 80% of the music he published had been written by Jews. That had had to stop, and to protect himself Meisel had joined the Nazi Party in the summer of 1933. When the Nazis State expropriated the house in 1939, and in 1940 Meisel was able to buy it from the State. For a time he let his collaborator, Hanns Hartmann and his wife (whom Meisel knew to be Jewish) live in the house.Gross Glienicke was captured by Soviet troops in April 1945. When the

Allies met at Potsdam (just two km from Gross Glienicke), they drew up the borders of the four sectors of Berlin.

Download to continue reading...

The House by the Lake: One House, Five Families, and a Hundred Years of German History German baby book: Animal Counting Fun. SpaÃ beim ZÃ¤hlen: Childrens German book. Children's Picture Book English-German (Bilingual Edition). German picture ... books for children: 2) (German Edition) Ich habe meinen Papa lieb I Love My Dad (german english bilingual, german children's books): german kids books, kinderbuch, german childrens stories ... Bilingual Collection) (German Edition) Kids german book: Ich rÃ¤ume mein Zimmer gerne auf-Kinderbuch (german children's books, KinderbÃ cher, german kids books) (German Bedtime Collection) (German Edition) Where is the baby - Wo ist das Baby: (Bilingual Edition) English-German children's picture book. Children's bilingual German book. German books for ... for children) (Volume 1) (German Edition) Bilingua German book: My Daddy is the Best.Mein Papa ist der Beste: Children's English German Picture book (Bilingual Edition),German childrens books,Bilingual ... books for children: 7) (German Edition) Learn German III: Parallel Text - Easy Stories (German - English) Bilingual - Dual Language (Learning German with Parallel Text 3) (German Edition) German children's book: My Daddy is the Best. Mein Papa ist der Beste: German books for children.(Bilingual Edition) English German children's picture ... for children:) (Volume 7) (German Edition) Children's German books: Where is Santa. Wo ist der Weihnachtsmann: Children's English-German Picture book (Bilingual Edition) (German Edition),German ... for children: Easter, Christmas etc. 1) I Love to Keep My Room Clean Ich rÃ¤ume mein Zimmer gerne auf (English German Bilingual): German bilingual childrens books (English German Bilingual Collection) (German Edition) 97 Orchard: An Edible History of Five Immigrant Families in One New York Tenement Little House 5-Book Collection: Little House in the Big Woods, Farmer Boy, Little House on the Prairie, On the Banks of Plum Creek, By the Shores of Silver Lake Mountain Biking Lake Tahoe: A Guide To Lake Tahoe And Truckee's Greatest Off-Road Bicycle Rides (Regional Mountain Biking Series) Grand Lady of the Lake: The Remarkable Legacy of Yellowstone's Lake Hotel Famous Bears and Friends: One Hundred Years of Teddy Bear Stories, Poems One Hundred Years of Solitude (Harper Perennial Modern Classics) Pineland's Past: The First One Hundred Years Cartoons: One Hundred Years of Cinema Animation Rice University: One Hundred Years in Pictures One Hundred Years of Solitude

Dmca