The Czar s Madman (Paperback)



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Reviews

It is really an incredible publication which i actually have possibly read through. It really is writter in easy phrases and not confusing. Once you begin to read the book, it is extremely difficult to leave it before concluding. (Jodie Wehner)

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Vintage Publishing, United Kingdom, 2001. Paperback. Condition: New. Revised ed.. Language: English . Brand New Book. Timo von Bock s release by the Czar from nine years incarceration does not spell the end of the Baron s troubles: he is confined to his Livonian estate to live under the constant eye of police informers planted among his own household, and is subjected to endless humiliations. It is claimed that he is a madman and in need of protection: a man would need to be insane, after all, to have taken a Czar at his word when asked for a candid appraisal of the state s infirmities. From the year of his release from prison and return to his wife Eeva, a woman of peasant stock to whom, with her brother Jakob, he has given a solid education, the Baron s life is recorded in a secret journal by this same Jakob, a shrewd and observant house-guest. Reconstructing the events leading up to the Baron s incarceration in 1818 and subsequent to his release in 1827, Jakob little by little brings to light mysteries surrounding the Czar s madman. Was his madness genuine? What was the secret understanding between him and his boon companion Czar Alexander I, who committed him to prison? In The Czar s Madman Jaan Kross weaves together the elements of intrigue surrounding those historical characters who survived in post-Napoleonic Russia, and by a skillful shifting of chronology and viewpoints, creates a superbly rich and moving narrative. Winner of France's Best Foreign Book Award.



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