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Von Len Deighton

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LEN The master of fictional espionage DEIGHTON WINTER

The Tragic Story of a Berlin Family 1899–1945



'A monumental work... brilliantly executed' DAILY TELEGRAPH

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Von Len Deighton : Winter: A Berlin Family, 1899-1945: A Berlin Family, 1899-1945 (Samson) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Winter: A Berlin Family, 1899-1945: A Berlin Family, 1899-1945 (Samson):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A Fine Historical Novel Of An Unusual PeriodVon Michael BowenOne of the pitfalls of historical fiction is the tendency for the author to put too much explication of historical events into the mouths of his characters. Deighton occasionally stumbles here, but his gift for characterization and his terse, lucid style carry the reader through a period of history few Americans know anything about. I recommend this book heartily to all the readers of Deighton's Bernard Samson books (to which Winter is a sort of prologue; almost all the characters appear here) as well as people who would like to understand German history in the first half of the 20th century.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The rise and fall of a Berlin familyVon Mark O'NeillI've never been too keen on Len Deighton's work but a friend recommended "Winter" and I decided to give it a go. That was a week ago. 536 pages later, I've finished.The book is a lot like Jeffrey Archer's "Kane and Abel". The book charts the highs and lows, the triumphs and the crises of the Winter family from 1899 till 1945. That covers a lot of German history including the two world wars, the Weimar Republic and the Freikorps chaos in 1919-20.The head of the family is Harald Winter, a successful and hard-working businessman with connections to Count Von Zeppelin, the man who invented the airships. The story sees Winter's two sons being born - one is intelligent and articulate and the other is not too bright academically. But both sons end up in the German military in 1914. Then from there until 1945, their paths widen then intertwine as each son goes through good times and bad times. One son chooses to be an anti-Nazi and become a US Army colonel while the other becomes a high-ranking Gestapo lawyer.The story does drag in places as pieces of a story are told that doesn't seem relevant. I also didn't like how Deighton skimmed past important sections and missed out a lot of important events in the life of the Winters. I know he can't write everything but he seemed to write more about unimportant things and rush over the important stuff.A good book but it is quite a thick doorstopper of a novel which will take you some time to read properly. This would be a good holiday novel for sitting on the beach.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The story that got me hooked.Von dkshaer@aol.comI found this novel in a condo we were renting in Florida last spring. I hadn't read any of Len Deighton's books in at least a decade, though I had read many of the earlier books.Anyway, this book got me hooked on the whole Bernard Samson saga. It's a great set of stories, small and large, in and of itself, and I found myself compelled to read the first trilogy next, and then the next one and then the next.I love the way the major character decendents are minor characters in the later stories and vice versa.

KurzbeschreibungEpic prelude to the classic spy trilogy, GAME, SET and MATCH, that follows the fortunes of a German dynasty during two world wars.Winter takes us into a large and complex family drama, into the lives of two German brothers - both born close upon the turn of the century, both so caught up in the currents of history that their story is one with the story of their country, from the Kaiser's heyday through Hitler's rise and fall. A novel that rings powerfully true, a rich and remarkable portrait of Germany in the first half of the twentieth century.In his portrait of a Berlin family during the turbulent years of the first half of the century, Len Deighton has created a compelling study of the rise of Nazi Germany.With its meticulous research, rich detail and brilliantly drawn cast of characters, Winter is a superbly realized achievement.From Publishers WeeklyModern history and suspenseful fiction are here brilliantly combined by a master of both. The plot revolves around two brothers, sons of a wealthy Berlin banker and his American wife, whose conflicting destinies are the means by which Deighton (Blitzkrieg, The Ipress File) tells the story of Germany from 1900 to the end of World War II. Peter Winter, who flies zeppelins in World War I, becomes a staunch anti-Nazi and then a colonel in the American Army; Paul, charming, ambitious and psychologically flawed, becomes a top legal adviser to the Nazi regime. They finally confront each other at Nuremberg. Though Paul is not entirely convincing as a basically "nice" Nazi, who has conscience enough to save his brother's Jewish wife yet gives spurious legal sanction to Hitler's atrocities without a qualm, both he and his brother are handy pegs on which Deighton hangs accurate, exciting and cleverly selected dollops of social, political and front-line military history, while highlighting the tensions between Prussian and Bavarian, Wehrmacht and SS that hastened the nation's rush toward suicide. 100,000 first printing; BOMC alternate. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalBrothers Peter and Paul Winter, separated by World War II, are reunited at the Nuremberg trials. Peter, a U.S. army colonel, is on the staff of prosecuting attorneys; Paul, a former influential Gestapo lawyer, may soon be on trial for his life. Through the Winter brothers, their influential financier father and American-born mother, their friends and colleagues, Deighton gives a recognizably human form to the shape of German history from 1900 through 1945 and makes comprehensible the awful appeal of Nazism to people of different persuasions. The somewhat contrived ending does not diminish the power of this fine novel, which again shows that Deighton's mastery is not limited to the spy story. BOMC alternate. Charles Michaud, Turner Free Lib., Randolph, Mass.Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.