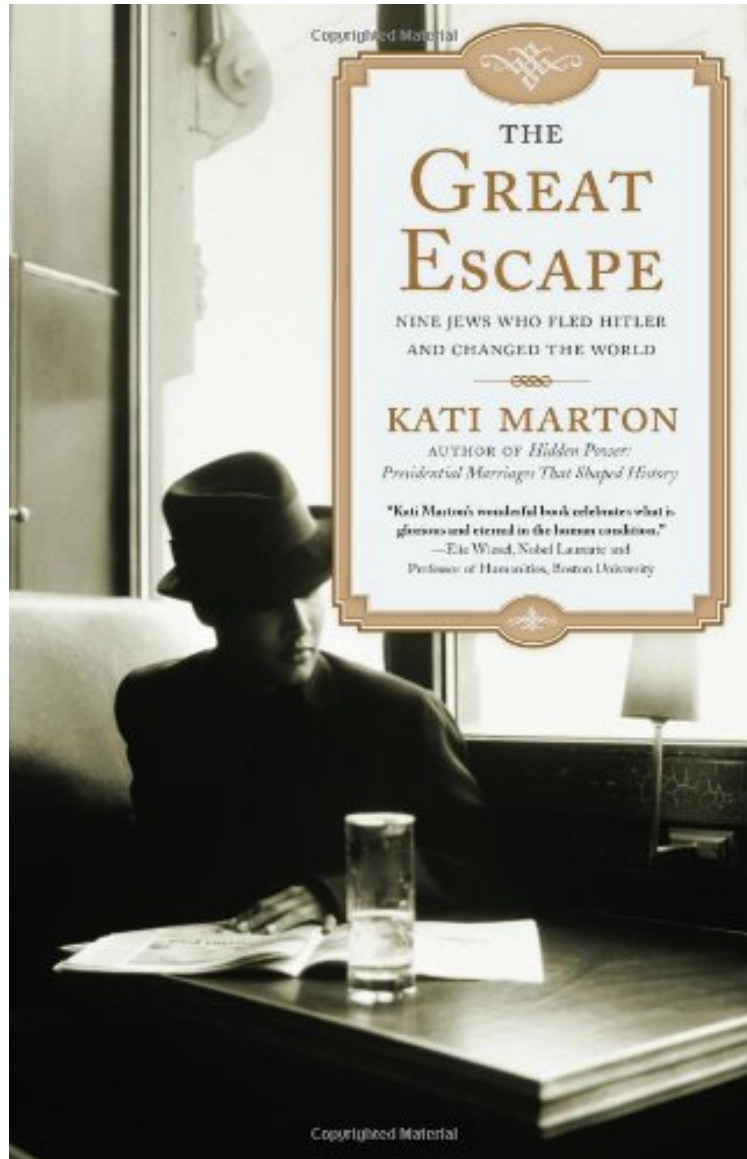


(Ebook pdf) Great Escape

Great Escape

Kati Marton

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#645039 in Books Marton, Kati 2007-11-06 2007-11-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x .80 x 6.121, .79 #File Name: 074326116X288 pages | File size: 32.Mb

Kati Marton : Great Escape before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Great Escape:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Focus is on Nine Hungarian Jews By JonDSThis is a well-written work. It gives a lot of detail that gets left out of history books dealing with "the big picture". I'm glad to have bought the book. How she shifts between the nine primary subjects as she moves along a time line is impressive writing. Keeping the shifts easy to handle and keeping the reader moving along is not a feat that many authors can manage so

well! It is important to note that "The Great Escape" is about nine Hungarian Jews who fled for their lives. That the focus is on Hungarian Jews is fine. Does the word "Hungarian" belong between "Nine" and "Jews" in the book's subtitle? Until starting the book, I was under the impression that the book was about nine Jews from several European countries. While the Hungarian focus is quite OK, I did find myself having to switch thinking upon realizing that the book includes interesting details about Hungarian history. I wonder if the subtitle's wording was an editorial rather than author decision. Ultimately a word in or out of the title is no big deal; Kati Marton is an excellent author - I'll keep an eye out for her other books when browsing stores and libraries. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Men, Great Events, and the Great War By Meryl Excellent historical description of the contributions of a group of brilliant and creative individuals whose impact on the world of physics, photography, cinematography, war correspondence, and literature from the period of Pre-WWII to the Cold War was enormous. A part of history that should not be forgotten. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating book about genius Hungarian emigres in the 20th C By Victor Bloomfield If you're interested in physics, photography, movies, or literature, this book looks at 9 of the most important practitioners of the past century: Physics: von Neumann, Szilard, Teller, Wigner Photography: Kertesz, Capa Movies: Korda, Curtiz Literature: Koestler All grew up and were educated in Budapest while it was co-capitol of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, all were Jewish (though mainly non-observant), all escaped to the West and played important roles in combatting the Nazis, and all were geniuses. The book is a lively read, and is well worth reading.

Extravagantly praised by critics and readers, this stunning story by bestselling author Kati Marton tells of the breathtaking journey of nine extraordinary men from Budapest to the New World, what they experienced along their dangerous route, and how they changed America and the world. This is the unknown chapter of World War II: the tale of nine men who grew up in Budapest's brief Golden Age, then, driven from Hungary by anti-Semitism, fled to the West, especially to the United States, and changed the world. These nine men, each celebrated for individual achievements, were part of a unique group who grew up in a time and place that will never come again. Four helped usher in the nuclear age and the computer, two were major movie myth-makers, two were immortal photographers, and one was a seminal writer. The Great Escape is a groundbreaking, poignant American story and an important untold chapter of the tumultuous last century.

From Publishers Weekly Starred . Noted journalist and bestselling author Marton (Hidden Power) offers a haunting tale of the wartime Hungarian diaspora. The nine illustrious Hungarians she profiles were all "double outsiders," for, as well as being natives of a "small, linguistically impenetrable, landlocked country," they were all Jews. Fleeing fascism and anti-Semitism for the New World, each experienced insecurity, isolation and a sense of perpetual exile. Yet all achieved world fame. The scientists Leo Szilard, Edward Teller and Eugene Wigner, along with game theorist and computer pioneer, John von Neuman, spurred Albert Einstein to persuade Franklin Roosevelt to develop the atomic bomb. Robert Capa and Andre Kertesz became legendary photojournalists. Alexander Korda was the savior of the British film industry, and Michael Curtiz directed Casablanca. Arthur Koestler penned the monumental anti-Communist novel Darkness at Noon. Marton intricately charts each man's career in the context of WWII and Cold War history. Herself Hungarian-born, the daughter of journalists who escaped Soviet-occupied Hungary in 1957, Marton captures her fellow Hungarians' nostalgia for prewar Budapest, evoking its flamboyant cafes, its trams, boulevards and cosmopolitan Jewish community. Marton writes beautifully, balancing sharply defined character studies of each man with insights into their shared cultural traits and uprootedness. 16 pages of photos, map. (Nov.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From The New Yorker Among the Hungarian Jews who made their way to England and America as Hitler rose to power were four scientists, two filmmakers, two photographers, and a writer. These men, products of the same few Gymnasien and cafes, delivered the Manhattan Project, game theory, and "Casablanca." Marton, who fled Hungary as a child in 1957, illuminates Budapest's vertiginous Golden Age and the darkness that followed (a darkness that some of her subjects, notably Arthur Koestler, never shook). Seeing how abruptly the world could change, the Hungarians didn't doubt that they could change it. They also stuck together; even Leo Szilard, who crusaded against the bombs that he made possible, and Edward Teller, who sold Reagan on missile defense, stayed friends. By looking at these nine lives - salvaged, and crucial - Marton provides a moving measure of how much was lost. Copyright 2006 Click here to subscribe to The New Yorker From Booklist Cast out of the cafes of cosmopolitan Budapest by the war, each of the nine extraordinary and ambitious men portrayed in this account would become a household name by the end of the twentieth century: Manhattan Project physicists Leo Szilard, Edward Teller, and Eugene Wigner; computer inventor John von Neuman; writer Arthur Koestler (Darkness at Noon, 1940); filmmakers Alexander Korda (The Third Man) and Michael Curtiz (Casablanca); New York photographer Andre Kertesz; and D-Day photographer Robert Capa. Each has a fascinating trajectory, worthy of its own volume. Woven together, however, the lives of these nine Hungarian Jews constitute a unique and inspired testament to creative genius born of adversity. As the title indicates, much of this adversity is brought on by the war, and much of this book is dedicated to its cast's efforts to escape Hitler

and, in the case of the physicists, to bring about his defeat. But Marton's narrative is also a perceptive study of the abiding and perhaps particularly Hungarian loneliness that haunts and propels each man. Herself of Hungarian descent, Marton has affection for her subjects, enhancing her captivating prose. Brendan Driscoll Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved