

Rasputin The Biography

Grigory Efimovich Rasputin came to St. Petersburg from his Siberian cabin in 1903 like a projectile from the medieval past, tattered, black-clad, muttering. By the time he was murdered thirteen years later, the peasant was the "beloved" Friend of Tsar Nicholas and Empress Alexandra and the sponsor of the most powerful officials in Russia. He had become, a society lady wrote, "a dusk enveloping all our world, eclipsing the sun. How could so pitiful a wretch throw so vast a shadow? It was inexplicable, maddening, almost incredible." Rasputin's name has become synonymous with evil, but his legend has obscured the facts of his life. In this evocative biography, Brian Moynahan presents us with a flesh-and-blood Rasputin, more fascinating than the myth--a man in whom debauchery coexisted beside a real (if erratic) spiritual sense, a man whose coarseness hid a savvy awareness of human psychology. Drawing on confidential police reports, cabinet meeting memos, and other documents, some available only since the fall of the Soviet Union, Moynahan sheds new light on Rasputin's life and disputes some of the widely held details of his death. The young Rasputin was a drinker, thief, and womanizer. He claimed to have religious visions and became a wandering holy man, preaching that exposure to sin could drive out sin. He stormed the fashionable salons of St. Petersburg, and in 1905 he met Nicholas and Alexandra, who, increasingly despised by the sophisticated, found in Rasputin reassurance that the "real Russia, the simple and pious peasantry, loved them. Rasputin's mysterious ability to stop the bleeding attacks of their hemophiliac only son, Alexis, sealed the approval of the domineering Alexandra. With royal patronage, Rasputin became increasingly reckless, partying with prostitutes, peddling influence, plotting the disgrace of those who crossed him. Ever contradictory, he was also a devoted family man, a defender of the poor, and a figure of immense charisma. As Germany battered Russia during World War I, as Nicholas's ineptitude as a leader became ever more rampant and the masses went hungry, Rasputin seemed to monarchists to be the cause, and not just the symptom, of corrupt government. A group of conspirators gathered--among them a grand duke and a scion of the richest family in Russia--and one of the most famous murders in history was planned. Set against the vivid backdrop of prerevolutionary Russia, Rasputin is a portrait of an age as well as of a man. NOTE: This edition does not include photographs.

The murder of Rasputin on the night of 16-17 December 1916 has always seemed extraordinary: first he was poisoned, then shot and finally drowned in a frozen river by Russian aristocrats fearful of his influence on Tsar Nicholas II and Tsarina Alexandra. Or was he? Dramatic new evidence from previously unpublished documents, diaries, forensic reports and intelligence records now means the plot takes a remarkable twist. Grigori Rasputin is probably one of the best-known but least understood figures in the events that ultimately led to the downfall of the Russian tsars. His political role as the power behind the throne is obscured today, as it was then, by the fascination with his morality and private life. Andrew Cook's re-investigation of Rasputin's death reveals for the first time the real masterminds behind the murder of the 'mad monk'. Why does the story of a peasant from a distant Siberian village becoming the all-powerful favourite of the last Russian tsar excite us more than almost any other episode in Russian history? Why are there more lies and concealment than truth in the story of his murder? Was this extraordinary man an evil demon who brought down the royal family, or somebody who could have been its saviour? 'To Kill Rasputin' finally provides the answers to the many mysteries surrounding this pivotal moment in Russian history.

Traces the life of the nineteenth century libertine and religious figure who gained influence over the Russian nobility, and discusses the reasons for his murder

A "biography of Rasputin, spiritual guide to the Romanovs and source of great political intrigue, based on many new documents"--

From the bestselling author of *Stalin and The Last Tsar* comes *The Rasputin File*, a remarkable biography of the mystical monk and bizarre philanderer whose role in the demise of the Romanovs and the start of the revolution can only now be fully known. For almost a century, historians could only speculate about the role Grigory Rasputin played in the downfall of tsarist Russia. But in 1995 a lost file from the State Archives turned up, a file that contained the complete interrogations of Rasputin's inner circle. With this extensive and explicit amplification of the historical record, Edvard Radzinsky has written a definitive biography, reconstructing in full the fascinating life of an improbable holy man who changed the course of Russian history. Translated from the Russian by Judson Rosengrant.

On 17 July 1918, four young women walked down twenty-three steps into the cellar of a house in Ekaterinburg. The eldest was twenty-two, the youngest only seventeen. Together with their parents and their thirteen-year-old brother, they were all brutally murdered. Their crime: to be the daughters of the last Tsar and Tsaritsa of All the Russias. In *Four Sisters* acclaimed biographer Helen Rappaport offers readers the most authoritative account yet of the Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia. Drawing on their own letters and diaries, she paints a vivid picture of their lives in the dying days of the Romanov dynasty. We see, almost for the first time, their journey from a childhood of enormous privilege, throughout which they led a very sheltered and largely simple life, to young womanhood - their first romantic crushes, their hopes and dreams, the difficulty of coping with a mother who was a chronic invalid and a haemophiliac brother, and, latterly, the trauma of the revolution and its terrible consequences. Compellingly readable, meticulously researched and deeply moving, *Four Sisters* gives these young women a voice, and allows their story to resonate for readers almost a century after their death.

"[A] superb history.... In these thrilling, highly readable pages, we meet Rasputin, the shaggy, lecherous mystic...; we visit the gilded ballrooms of the doomed aristocracy; and we pause in the sickroom of little Alexei, the hemophiliac heir who, with his parents and four sisters, would be murdered by the Bolsheviks in 1918." —The Wall Street Journal Here is the tumultuous, heartrending, true story of the Romanovs—at once an intimate portrait of Russia's last royal family and a gripping account of its undoing. Using captivating photos and compelling first person accounts, award-winning author Candace Fleming (*Amelia Lost*; *The Lincolns*) deftly maneuvers between the imperial family's extravagant lives and the plight of Russia's poor masses, making this an utterly mesmerizing read as well as a perfect resource for meeting Common Core standards. "An exhilarating narrative history of a doomed and clueless family and empire." —Jim Murphy, author of *Newbery Honor Books An American Plague* and *The Great Fire* "For readers who regard history as dull, Fleming's extraordinary book is proof positive that, on the contrary, it is endlessly fascinating, absorbing as any novel, and the stuff of an altogether memorable reading experience."

—Booklist, Starred "Marrying the intimate family portrait of Heiligman's *Charles and Emma* with the politics and intrigue of Sheinkin's *Bomb*, Fleming has outdone herself with this riveting work of narrative nonfiction that appeals to the imagination as much as the intellect." —The Horn Book, Starred Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Young Adult Literature Winner of the Boston Globe–Horn Book Award for Nonfiction A Robert F. Sibert Honor Book A YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Award Finalist Winner of the Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction

At last a book about the "Mad Monk" of Imperial Russia that lays to rest the myths and reveals the truth about one of the most controversial characters in human history while exploring the impact his murder had on a dynasty, a people, and a country. Magarita Nelipa presents readers with documents and photos, some published for the first time.

Traces the life of the a poor peasant who became one of the most powerful men in Russia by claiming to have mystical powers.

The story of the love that ended an empire In this commanding book, Pulitzer Prize–winning author Robert K. Massie sweeps readers back to the extraordinary world of Imperial Russia to tell the story of the Romanovs' lives: Nicholas's political naïveté, Alexandra's obsession with the corrupt mystic Rasputin, and little Alexis's brave struggle with hemophilia. Against a lavish backdrop of luxury and intrigue, Massie unfolds a powerful drama of passion and history—the

story of a doomed empire and the death-marked royals who watched it crumble. BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Robert K. Massie's *Catherine the Great*. Praise for Nicholas and Alexandra "A larger-than-life drama."—*Saturday Review* "A moving, rich book . . . [This] revealing, densely documented account of the last Romanovs focuses not on the great events . . . but on the royal family and their evil nemesis. . . . The tale is so bizarre, no melodrama is equal to it."—*Newsweek* "A wonderfully rich tapestry, the colors fresh and clear, every strand sewn in with a sure hand. Mr. Massie describes those strange and terrible years with sympathy and understanding. . . . They come vividly before our eyes."—*The New York Times* "An all-too-human picture . . . Both Nicholas and Alexandra with all their failings come truly alive, as does their almost storybook romance."—*Newsday* "A magnificent and intimate picture . . . Not only the main characters but a whole era become alive and comprehensible."—*Harper's*

This book is an account of Rasputin as a healer, equal rights activist and man of God, and why he was so vilified by the aristocracy that their libelous and slanderous rumors became accepted as history. For nearly a century, Grigory Rasputin, spiritual advisor to Russia's last Tsar and Tsarina, has been unjustly maligned simply because history is written by the politically powerful and not by the common man. A wealth of evidence shows that Rasputin was discredited by a fanatically anti-Semitic Russian society, for advocating equal rights for the severely oppressed Jewish population, as well as for promoting peace in a pro-war era. Testimony by his friends and enemies, from all social strata, provides a picture of a spiritual man who hated bigotry, inequity and violence. The author is the great-great niece of Aron Simanovitch, Rasputin's Jewish secretary.

From the author of the national bestseller *The Kitchen Boy* comes a gripping historical novel about imperial Russia's most notorious figure. Called "brilliant" by *USA Today*, Robert Alexander's historical novel *The Kitchen Boy* swept readers back to the doomed world of the Romanovs. His latest masterpiece once again conjures those turbulent days in a fictional drama of extraordinary depth and suspense. In the wake of the Russian Revolution, Maria Rasputin—eldest of the Rasputin children—recounts her infamous father's final days, building a breathless narrative of intrigue, excess, and conspiracy that reveals the shocking truth of her father's end and the identity of those who arranged it. What emerges is a nail-biting, richly textured new take on one of history's most legendary episodes.

Available and annotated for the first time in English, Aron Simanovitch's memoirs offer an intimate view of Rasputin through the eyes of his dear friend and secretary. Simanovitch reveals Rasputin's progressive ideas for social and economic reform that outraged the nobility. In the process, he depicts the underbelly of early twentieth-century Petersburg society, with its gossip, plots and intrigue. But more importantly, his revelations about Rasputin's humanitarianism lend a three-dimensional view to this controversial figure of Russian history.

Told with humor, intrigue, and a shrewd eye for detail, this riveting short biography sheds much-needed light on the life of nineteenth-century Russian icon Grigory Rasputin. Grigory Rasputin, a Siberian peasant turned mystic and court sage, was as fascinating as he was unfathomable. He played the role of the simple man, eating with his fingers and boasting, "I don't even know the ABC." But, as the only person able to relieve the symptoms of hemophilia in the Tsar's heir Alexei, he gained almost hallowed status within the Imperial court. During the last decade of his life, Rasputin and his band of "little ladies" came to symbolize all that was decadent, corrupt, and remote about the Imperial Family, especially when it was rumored that he was not only shaping Russian policy during the First World War, but also enjoying an intimate relationship with the Empress. . . . Rasputin's role in the downfall of the tsarist regime is beyond dispute. But who was he really? Prophet or rascal? A "breath of rank air...who blew away the cobwebs of the Imperial Palace," as Beryl Bainbridge put it, or a dangerous deviant? Writing for historical aficionados and curious readers alike, Frances Welch turns her inimitable wry gaze on one of the great mysteries of Russian history.

Errors, omissions, rumors and fabrications abound in retellings of the life story of Grigori Rasputin. Born to a peasant family in a small village in Siberia, Rasputin was an unusual child and, like many unusual children, believed that he was going to change the world. From a young age, Rasputin believed himself to be a mystic, a spiritual being who was closer to God than anyone else he encountered. Rasputin never held an official position in the Orthodox Church in which he was raised. Instead, he followed his own spiritual code and quickly amassed a dedicated group of followers who believed him to be a true stare (holy man). Had Rasputin's followers been exclusively of the peasant class his life would likely have had little impact on modern Russian history. But, through a series of introductions and invitations, Rasputin eventually made the acquaintance of the most powerful couple in the country, tsar Nicholas II and tsarina Alexandra. Rasputin's remarkable ability to seemingly heal the tsar and tsarina's son, and heir to the Russian throne, Alexei, who suffered from hemophilia, made him indispensable to the imperial couple. Over the years of Rasputin's friendship with Nicholas and Alexandra he increasingly used his influence to meddle in the affairs of both Church and State, accruing a number of powerful enemies in the process. With Russia's entry into the First World War, the popularity of the tsar and tsarina reached an all-time low. Rasputin too had a terrible reputation as a drunkard, an abuser of women and an opportunist who readily took bribes, even from German sympathizers. All of this may have been true. The Russian people couldn't understand the hold Rasputin had over the imperial couple and, when Rasputin finally met his violent end, the nation rejoiced. The story of Rasputin's death is almost as difficult to unravel as that of his life. The most reliable account of Rasputin's murder describes him being lured to the palace of Prince Felix Yusupov where he was poisoned, shot and badly beaten. Presumed dead he was thrown into the icy Neva River where he eventually drowned. A Soviet policy that aimed to strictly control how information about the Soviet Union circulated in the world and sought to limit what we know about Nicolas II and his reign has made it difficult for biographers to confirm details about Rasputin's life. The date he was born, details about his parents, how he lived and, finally, how he died, have been debated by scholars over the years until archival information released by Russia in the early nineties helped to give clearer answers. The question of whether Rasputin was a saint or satanic, whether he was a holy man or a debauched lunatic, cannot be answered satisfactorily using archive material. Although undeniably a spiritual man, Rasputin was painfully human and the trajectory of his life entered its downward spiral due to painfully human failings. Lust, greed and a desire for power brought Rasputin down, as it has done many men and women throughout history. We may never understand why

Rasputin reached the heights he did, nor why he became so reviled, but we can at least understand how.

Reveals the story of Tsar Nicholas' wife, a major force in the destruction of the Russian Empire, and her involvement with the infamous Rasputin

Profiles the woman who, for sixty years, claimed to be Russia's Grand Duchess Anastasia, discussing the famous murder of Russia's royal family, the evidence debunking her claim, and the people who lent support to her fantasy.

Sensational new biography - using the discovery of long lost contemporary documents - of the Russian peasant mystic whose malign influence helped lead to the downfall of the Romanovs. An unprecedented insight into the most enigmatic of men thanks to the use of previously unavailable sources and interviews.

A hundred years after his murder, Rasputin continues to excite the popular imagination as the personification of evil. The spectre of the lustful Siberian holy man and peasant still casts its eerie shadow over Russia's bloody twentieth century. Numerous biographies, novels, and films recount his mysterious rise to power as Nicholas and Alexandra's confidant and guardian of the sickly heir to the throne. His debauchery and sinister political influence are the stuff of legend, and the downfall of the Romanov dynasty was laid at his feet. Even during his lifetime Rasputin was shrouded in myth and his true story remains obscure today. Douglas Smith's Rasputin separates fact from fiction to reveal the true life of one of history's most alluring figures. Rasputin draws on a wealth of forgotten documents from archives in seven countries and is the most thoroughly researched biography ever written. Demolishing the caricature of the holy devil, Smith's account presents Rasputin in all his complexity - man of God, voice of peace, loyal subject, adulterer, drunkard. More than just the story of an extraordinary life, Rasputin offers a fascinating portrait of the twilight of Imperial Russia as it lurched towards catastrophe.

Russian playwright and historian Radzinsky mines sources never before available to create a fascinating portrait of the monarch, and a minute-by-minute account of his terrifying last days.

Grigori Rasputin Rasputin began life as a peasant in the poorest reaches of Siberia and ended his life as the virtual second-in-command of Tsarist Russia. How did he achieve such a rapid change in fortunes? Was it through palace intrigue or magic and mind control? Or perhaps, the causes were a combination of hypnosis and haemophilia? The tsar's son Nicholas had been born with the dreaded "royal disease" otherwise known as the blood clotting deficiency named haemophilia. The slightest cut or scrape could be life-threatening for the young boy. The self-proclaimed healer managed to convince the royal family that he was the only way that their son would stay alive. With a role this vital, there was no way that Rasputin would be dropped from the imperial payroll anytime soon. Inside you will read about... - From Peasant Monk to Royal Holy Man - Rasputin's Miracle - Immoral Rumors - Rasputin's Banishment - Rasputin During World War I - The End of Rasputin's Reign And much more! Through intrigue, divine intervention, or perhaps just the sheer force of his personality, he forever cemented his place in Russian history. Read about the mad monk turned master minister-read about the astonishing rise and fall that comprised the life of Grigori Rasputin.

An entirely original account of the life of Gregory Rasputin that goes beyond legend, myth and misunderstanding to reveal the tragedy of the peasant who befriended the tsar and the empress, healed their son, and helped to bring down the Russian Empire. In Fuhrmann's skilled hands, Rasputin becomes a vital and exciting human being, not just a symbol of dissolution and sexual excess. The author considers a number of fundamental questions: How did Rasputin heal the Tsarevich's bouts of haemophilia? What were his mysterious religious teachings? How great was his power in the Russian state? What was the secret of his appeal to women? Were foreign agents involved in his murder? Fuhrmann also lays to rest an old question that still fascinates many people: Does Rasputin's murder suggest that his mystical powers included some mysterious ability to resist death? No one intrigued by the last years of Imperial Russia will want to miss this book. "This vivid, briskly written biography brings to life one of the most colorful and sinister figures in modern Russian history." Publishers Weekly "A vivid if not lurid portrayal." Boston Globe "Extremely well written, concise, and as promised in the foreword, he leaves the reader to draw their own conclusions." Alexander Palace Forum

Masha, the eighteen-year-old daughter of Rasputin, is sent to live in the imperial palace with Tsar Nicholas's family, where she tends the ailing Prince Alyosha, with whom she exchanges comforting family stories when the royal family is arrested.

CONTENTS NOT TO BE REVEALED UNTIL SIMULTANEOUS WORLD-WIDE RELEASE.

Biografi om prins Feliks Jusupov (1887-1967), der i 1916 myrdede Rasputin i St. Petersburg, og senere under revolutionen flygtede til Paris

A recreation of the plot to murder Rasputin chronicles the life of Felix Youssoupov, a Russian nobleman who led the murderers

Provides an account of the life of the Siberian mystic who gained the favor of the Imperial Court, considering how he shaped Russian foreign policy, his relationship with the Tsarina, and his role in the tsarist regime's downfall.

Rasputin Faith, Power, and the Twilight of the Romanovs Macmillan

"The acclaimed author of *Young Stalin* and *Jerusalem* gives readers an accessible, lively account--based in part on new archival material--of the extraordinary men and women who ruled Russia for three centuries."--NoveList.

Epic in scope, precise in detail, and heart-breaking in its human drama, *Former People* is the first book to recount the history of the aristocracy caught up in the maelstrom of the Bolshevik Revolution and the creation of Stalin's Russia. Filled with chilling tales of looted palaces and burning estates, of desperate flights in the night from marauding peasants and Red Army soldiers, of imprisonment, exile, and execution, it is the story of how a centuries'-old elite, famous for its glittering wealth, its service to the Tsar and Empire, and its promotion of the arts and culture, was dispossessed and destroyed along with the rest of old Russia. Yet *Former People* is also a story of survival and accommodation, of how many of the tsarist ruling class—so-called "former people" and "class enemies"—overcame the psychological wounds inflicted by the loss of their world and decades of repression as they struggled to find a place for themselves and their families in the new, hostile order of the Soviet Union. Chronicling the fate of two great aristocratic families—the Sheremetevs and the Golitsyns—it reveals how even in the darkest depths of the terror, daily life went on. Told with sensitivity and nuance by acclaimed historian Douglas Smith, *Former People* is the dramatic portrait of two of Russia's most powerful aristocratic families, and a sweeping account of their homeland in violent transition.

Rasputin's is one of the most famous deaths in history. Now, his assassin's thrilling memoir is finally back in print. Born to great

riches in the days before the Russian Revolution, and married to the niece of Czar Nicholas II, Prince Felix Youssouppoff observed at close range the rampant corruption and intrigues of the imperial court, which culminated in the rise to power of the sinister monk Rasputin. In 1916, Prince Felix and several aristocratic cohorts killed Rasputin, which more than any other single event brought about the cataclysmic upheaval of Tsarist Russia.

Examines the life, political career, and significant influence of Walt Rostow, a professor of economic history at MIT and foreign-policy advisor to presidents Kennedy and Johnson, critically analyzing his impact on presidential decision-making, especially in terms of the escalation of American military involvement in Vietnam.

Alexei Romanov, heir to the Russian throne, is in deadly danger. It's 1916, the struggling Russian people are tired of war and are blaming their Romanov rulers for it, and some are secretly plotting to murder the young heir and his family. But nobody outside the palace knows that Alexei suffers from a terrible bleeding disease, hemophilia, which threatens to finish him off even before the family's enemies can. The only person able to help Alexei is the evil and powerful religious mystic Rasputin -- and now Rasputin is trying to kill him too! Desperate, Alexei flees through time to New York City in 2010, using a method taught to him by the mad monk himself. In New York, Alexei meets smart and sassy Varda Rosenberg, and discovers she is a distant cousin. Varda is working on a gene therapy cure for hemophilia, as the disease still runs in the family. When Alexei learns that history shows that his entire family will be assassinated in 1918, he and Varda travel back in time to the Russian Revolution, with Rasputin hot on their heels. Will they be able to rescue Alexei's family before it's too late? Staton Rabin lets Alexei tell his own riveting story in a rousing adventure with stunning surprises -- a movingly authentic look at royalty and revolution in the days of the tsars.

Rasputin the Rascal Monk (1917) is a work of historical nonfiction by Anglo-French writer William Le Queux. Published at the height of Le Queux's career as a leading author of popular thrillers, Rasputin the Rascal Monk indulges in the paranoid atmosphere of the First World War to weave a sinister tale of espionage and political conspiracy. Despite the popularity and accessibility of his work, Le Queux was genuinely concerned—and immensely paranoid—about the realities of international espionage, using his own research and experience to piece together otherwise shadowy narratives for his readers. Toward the end of the First World War, William Le Queux turned his attention from Germany to the looming threat of Russia. In this dedicated—though factually loose—recreation of the life of Rasputin, Le Queux investigates one of history's great anomalies: the ability of a rough, Siberian peasant to ascend to the highest echelon of Russian society. In Rasputin the Rascal Monk, which incorporates years of research and experience to weave a tale of fear and intrigue, Le Queux makes his case for the possibility that Rasputin was not only a confidant of the Tsar and Tsarina, but that he was a spy for Kaiser Wilhelm himself. Ever paranoid about the threat of German political influence worldwide, Le Queux provide the reading public with violent, disturbing, and fanatical tales of the infamous Rasputin while forwarding his own agenda. While not much is known about the author, it is possible his claims of firsthand knowledge regarding the murky movements of spies and diplomats throughout Europe and Britain were true. One thing, however, is certain: his paranoia was far from unfounded. With a beautifully designed cover and professionally typeset manuscript, this edition of William Le Queux's Rasputin the Rascal Monk is a classic work of historical nonfiction reimagined for modern readers.

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