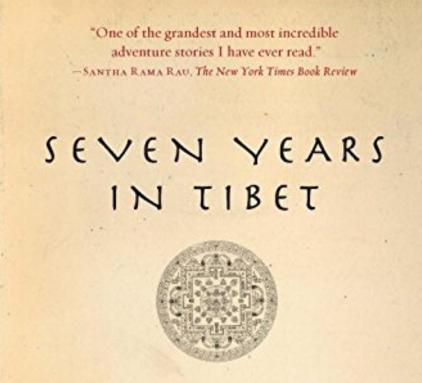


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HEINRICH HARRER Foreword by His Holiness the Dalai Lama

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Amazon.com Review

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"One of the grandest and most incredible adventure stories I have ever read."

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Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

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The astonishing adventure classic about life in Tibet just before the Chinese Communist takeover is now repackaged for a new generation of readers.

In this vivid memoir that has sold millions of copies worldwide, Heinrich Harrer recounts his adventures as one of the first Europeans ever to enter Tibet and encounter the Dalai Lama.

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- 368 pages

Features

• Great product!

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Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: German Most helpful customer reviews

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

A special glimpse into Tibetan life

By Bish Denham

I read this a long time ago, and remembered enjoying it. It was a pleasure to read again. Harrer did an excellent job of observing Tibetan life from 1944 to 1950 being careful to keep his own personal opinions/beliefs out of the way. By the time he was forced to leave because of the Chinese invasion, he was deeply attached to the people and the country. Though he didn't actually meet the Dalai Lama until late in his stay in Lhasa, Harrer and the young boy (he was just 15/16 years old) became fast friends and remained so throughout Harrer's life. He tried to visit the Dalai Lama at least once every year or two and several times the Dalai Lama visited Harrer in his own home.

This is a very special glimpse into a way of life that was about to come to a sudden and violent end. It is difficult to comprehend that over 6000 monasteries were destroyed and only 12 remain. Thousands of years worth of Buddhist art and literature was destroyed or sold.

If you want to know a little about The Roof of the World, then read Seven Years in Tibet. (Forget the movie.)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A glimpse of Tibetan life in the 1940's

By F. Moyer

This book has two distinct parts: [1] the difficult journey that Heinrich Harrer (author) and Peter Aufschnaiter had reaching the Tibetan capital, Lhasa and [2] Heinrich's experiences and observation of Tibetan life while living in Lhasa.

In the first part, their difficulties were many – and it was, among other things, fortuitous breaks in the weather and chance encounters with kind Tibetan nomads that allowed them to even survive the journey. During this time, you see how difficult it was to travel at "the top of the world", and you get a glimpse of the lives of the average Tibetan.

In the second part, Heinrich (and Peter) soon become welcome guests of the Tibetan upper class. At this point, the book switches to glimpses of the life of the upper class, the religious pageantry displayed for the devout (and superstitious) multitudes and cloistered life of the Dali Lama.

The book ends with the Chinese conquest of Tibet – and so the start, I assume, of the wholesale dismantling of the rich historical Tibetan culture described in this book.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A very pleasant surprise

By Amazon Customer

For various reasons I was reluctant to start reading this book. However, once I started reading it, I could not put it down.

The author obviously loved Tibet. You can feel his love of this country and the respect of its traditions and people.

Very educational and enlightening book.

I am amazed at what he and his friend had to endure in order to achieve their dream of seeing the Forbidden City.

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