
Franz Kafka

Diaries of Franz Kafka



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Author: Franz Kafka

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Description

These diaries cover the years 1910 to 1923, the year before Kafka's death at the age of forty. They provide a penetrating look into life in Prague and into Kafka's accounts of his dreams, his feelings for the father he worshipped and the woman he could not bring himself to marry, his sense of guilt, and his feelings of being an outcast. They offer an account of a life of almost unbearable intensity.

From the Trade Paperback edition.

*The Diaries of Franz Kafka 1910-13 translated from the German by Joseph Kresh
The Diaries of Franz Kafka 1914-23 translated from the German by Martin Greenberg with the cooperation of Hannah Arendt*

Insightful reviews

Duaa Ahmed: ?????? ?????? "?????" !!

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Sunil: Anais Nin once wrote that a personal world lived deep enough transcends the truth in all universes. Those words have never been more applicable to any writer other than Franz Kafka. And in this book you can see why.

I remember reading it throughout a whole couple of nights, unable to force myself to stop, absolutely fascinated by a world constructed so delicately, yet unabatedly-sentence by sublime sentence into a marvellous prose edifice.

I can still recall one entire setting where he just describes a billowing shawl of a woman waiting in winter for a train. This is not art but is simply beyond art.

We can never be grateful enough to Max Brod for preserving the manuscript against Kafka's wishes, which I regard as one of the two most significant events in twentieth century literature. The other of course being Sylvia Beach deciding to publish *The Ulysses*.

Deborah: I was not pulled in by these diary entries. In fact, a bit repulsed. Self-absorbed and a bit misogynistic.

I write this very decidedly out of despair over my body and over a future with this body.

I passed by the brother as though past the house of a beloved.
Writers speak a stench.

[1910] Night of comets, 17-18 May.

Abschied von der Jugend - Farewell to Youth

27 May Today is your birthday, but I'm not even sending you the usual book, for it would be only pretence; at bottom I am after all not even in a position to give you a book. I am writing only because it is so necessary for me today to be near you for a moment, even though it be only by means of this card, and I have begun with the complaint only so that you may recognize me at once.

24 October. Mother works all day, is merry and sad as the fancy strikes her, without taking advantage of her own condition in the slightest, her voice is clear, too loud for ordinary speech but does you good when you are sad and suddenly hear it after some time.

How bruised the actors appeared to me after the performance, how I feared to touch them with a word.

In order not to forget it, should my father once again call me a bad son, I write it down that, in the presence of several relatives, without special occasion, whether it may have been simply to put me in my place, whether it was supposedly to rescue me, he called Max a 'meshuggener ritoch (crazy hothead).'

Before falling asleep.

It seems so dreadful to be a bachelor, to become an old man struggling to keep one's dignity while begging for an invitation whenever one wants to spend an evening in company, having to carry one's meal home in one's hand, unable to expect anyone with a lazy sense of calm confidence, able only with difficulty and vexation to give a gift to someone, having to say good night at the front door, never being able to run up a stairway beside one's wife, to lie ill and have only the solace of the view from one's window when one can sit up, to have only side-doors in one's room leading into other people's living-rooms, to feel estranged from one's family, with whom one can keep on close terms only by marriage...

Forough: ????? ????? ??? ? ???? ???? ? ???? ?????? ?????! ????????????? ? ??? ? ? ???? ??
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Dan: In what number methods is it attainable to precise one's discontent? conserving in brain Chomsky's observations in regards to the facility of the human brain to build new sentences,

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