

[PDF] The Man Without A Face: The Unlikely Rise Of Vladimir Putin

Masha Gessen - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: The Man Without a Face: The U
Author: Masha Gessen
Released: 2013-03-05
Language:
Pages: 352
ISBN: 1594486514
ISBN13: 9781594486517
ASIN: 1594486514

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Description:

Look out for Masha Gessen's new book, *The Future is History*, coming October 2017

From journalism's bravest, Masha Gessen—whose regular appearances on Samantha Bee, Rachel Maddow, the pages of the *New York Times*, and more have been a beacon of clarity in our troubled times -- comes a portrait of a ruthless man's ascent to near-absolute power.

In 1999, the “Family” surrounding Boris Yeltsin went looking for a successor to the ailing and increasingly unpopular president. Vladimir Putin, with very little

governmental or administrative experience—he'd been deputy mayor of St. Petersburg, and briefly, director of the secret police—nevertheless seemed the perfect choice: a “faceless” creature whom Yeltsin and his cronies could mold in their own image. Russia and an infatuated West were determined to see in him the progressive leader of their dreams—even as Putin, with ruthless efficiency, dismantled the country's media, wrested control and wealth from the business class, and destroyed the fragile mechanisms of democracy. Within a few brief years, virtually every obstacle to his unbridled control was removed and every opposing voice silenced, with political rivals and critics driven into exile or to the grave.

Masha Gessen has experienced and reported this history firsthand, and brings it up to its present moment of unrest and uncertainty. Her spellbinding account of Putin's rise and reign will stand as a classic of narrative nonfiction.

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