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Journal Of My Life



Synopsis

An eighteenth-century Frenchman describes life in Paris, the events of the French Revolution, and his own fondness for pranks and jokes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The autobiography of an 18th-century Parisian glassworker, this book provides a fascinating glimpse into working-class culture during the Enlightenment and a street-level view of the French Revolution. Traveling on foot for seven years on a journeyman's tour of France, Menetra details a worker's everyday experience and what it meant to be a man two centuries ago. Three themes predominate: male friendship and the ties created by laughter and good times; the violence and brutality of lower-class life; and the amazing degree of sexual freedom accorded to men in a sexually segregated culture. Although well-placed footnotes and an extensive commentary by French historian Roche could assist general readers, this is a book to be treasured by scholars and specialists. Marie Marmo Mullaney, History Dept., Caldwell Coll., N.J. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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brutality of lower-class life; and the amazing degree of sexual freedom accorded to men in a sexually segregated culture. Although well-placed footnotes and an extensive commentary by French historian Roche could assist general readers, this is a book to be treasured by scholars and specialists. (LIBRARY JOURNAL)

This is a unique document, the autobiography of a working-class Frenchman in the decades leading up to the Revolution. It gives us invaluable insights into society as seen from the street. Unfortunately, it seems to be lightly fictionalised, but even this does not really detract from its historical value. Too bad that Dumas didn't have a copy upon which to base a novel.

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