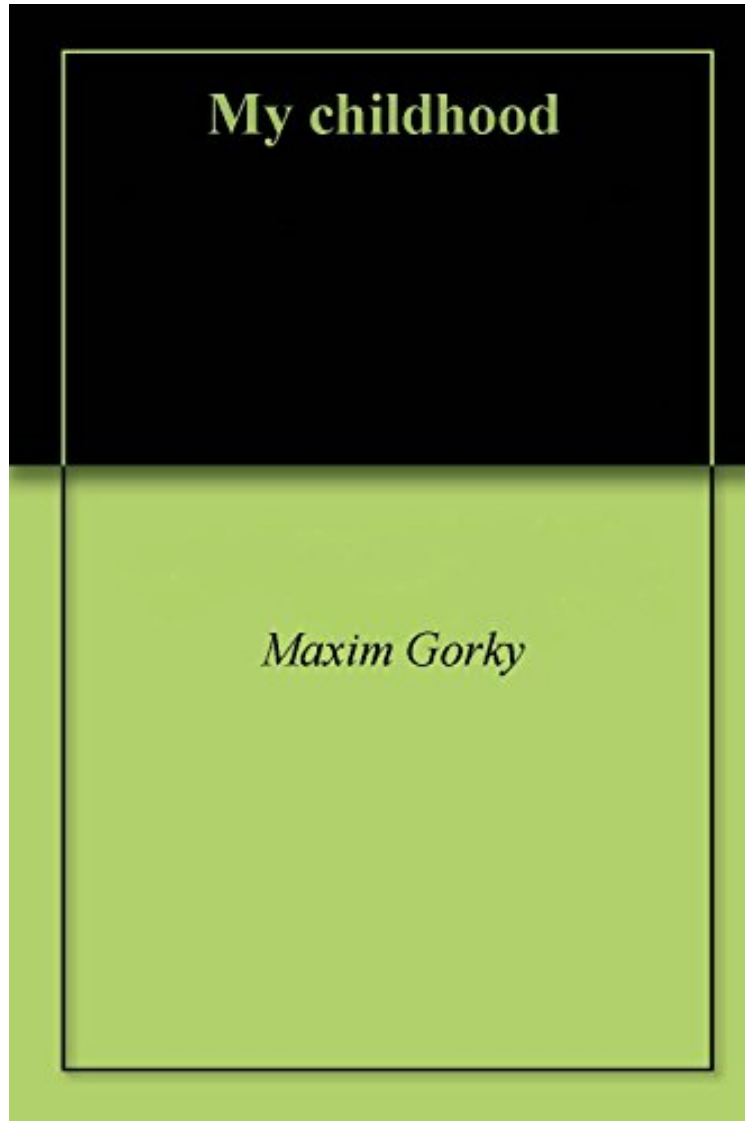


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My childhood (English Edition)

Von Maxim Gorky

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KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. true-to-russian-authors-realismVon Tonyalthough not all of the material contained in this book is nofictional, it does grasp at what is true for russia as a whole. i read this book while i was studying abroad in nizhnii novgorod, the town named after gorky in the soviet years. his descriptions are rich and haunting and his survival over odds is amazing(re: a day in the life of ivan denisovich, solzhenitsyn)0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Please accept this

revised version and replace the old one Von Felix@radiochinese.com Probably because of his being labeled a "revolutionary writer" of the Russian Communist Revolution -- though his aversion to the mass killings conducted by the Bolsheviks led him to eventually commit suicide -- Maxim Gorky has remained an obscure name to the American readers. Fewer still have read or heard of his autobiographical trilogy: *My Childhood*, *My Apprenticeship* and *My Universities*. Those who haven't read his books have missed out on the classic literary production at its best. Comparable to Dickens's *David Copperfield*, Gorky's *My Childhood* is a powerful work of a child's journey in life in the wake of his father's death against the backdrop of the tumultuous 19th century Russia. With depictions so beautifully vivid and forceful, it recounts the touching relationship between the unforgettable grandmother and the child Gorky who is put into custody at his grandparents's home. The image of his multi-faceted grandfather, who can be fiercely brutal and childishly tender will leave an indelible memory to the reader. For an author like Gorky who has received no more than two years of formal education, and whose poverty-stricken childhood formed his life-long compassion for the underdog, his *My Childhood* is embellished with nostalgic reminiscences of lower class people whose qualities of integrity and dignity shine through the pages. There are the half-blind Gergory who works at the grandfather's dye factory and who is taunted by his co-workers before finally succumbing to total blindness to become a down and out beggar, the foolhardy and rough captain of the ship who enjoys a good night's reading from Gorky and shares generous tears at the depiction of the death of a national hero in the book, and Gorky's little orphaned friends who live out of garbage cans dreaming of a utopian neverland ... these characters help generate greatest impact upon the readers of today where child poverty is as rampant as the epidemic AIDS. The seemingly hermetic world of the grandparents's house leads us into a panoramic view of human conditions and conflicts. The grandmother, being the consummate incarnation of good, beauty and truth, a simple woman who knows how to make people laugh, provokes the reader to reexamine one's own selfish nature. Rarely in literary characterization can we experience in such conviction in the character of the grandmother the genuine beauty of optimism in the direst situations, the honesty in a world of deceit, the unselfishness and total sacrifice around treachery and hatred, and fighting spirit in defense of values and dignity. This book and the other two in the trilogy written a century ago will guarantee an unforgettably cathartic reading. It is every bit as relevant to readers of our age as *Internet for Dummies*. Well, without enriching ourselves from the past literary treasure, aren't we all going to become dummies!?

von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A "Childhood" unlike any other, a treasure you can't miss Von Felix@radiochinese.com It's probably because of his being labeled as a "revolutionary writer" of the Russian Communist Revolution -- though his aversion to the mass killings conducted by the Communists led him to eventually commit suicide -- Maxim Gorky has been a rather obscure name to the American readers. Fewer even have read or heard of his autobiographical trilogy: *The Childhood*, *My Apprenticeship* and *My Universities*. To these people I say you have missed the classic human literary production at its best. Comparable to such classics as Dickens's *David Copperfield*, Gorky's *The Childhood* is a powerful work of a child's journey in life in the wake of his father's death against the backdrop of the tumultuous 19th century Russia. With depictions so beautifully vivid and forceful, it recounts the touching relationship between the unforgettable grandmother and the "I" who is put into custody at his grandparents home. The image of his multi-faceted grandfather, who can be brutally fierce and childishly tender at the same time will leave an indelible memory to any reader for the rest of his life. For an author like Gorky who has received no more than two years of formal education, and whose poverty-stricken childhood formed his life-long compassion for the underdog, *The Childhood* is embellished with nostalgic reminiscences of lower class people whose qualities of integrity and dignity shine through the pages. There are the half-blind dye factory worker Gregory who finally succumbs to total blindness as a down and out beggar, the foolhardy and rough captain on the ship who enjoys a good night's reading from Gorky and shares generous tears at the depiction of death of a national hero, and Gorky's little orphaned friends who live out of garbage cans dreaming of a utopian netherland create greatest impact upon the readers of today where child poverty is as rampant as the epidemic AIDS. The seemingly hermetic world of the grandparents' house leads us into a panoramic view of human conditions and conflicts. The grandmother, being the consummate reincarnation of good, beauty and truth, a simple woman who knows how to make people laugh, provokes the reader to reexamine one's own selfish nature. Rarely in literary characterization can we experience in such conviction in the character of the grandmother the genuine beauty of optimism in the direst situations, the honesty in a world of deceit, the unselfishness and total sacrifice around treachery and hatred, and fighting spirit in defense of values and dignity. This book and the other two in the trilogy written a century ago will guarantee an unforgettable cathartic reading. It is every bit as relevant to readers of our age as *Internet for Dummies*. Well, without enriching ourselves from the past treasures, aren't we all going to become dummies!?

Kurzbeschreibung My childhood 408 Pages. Kurzbeschreibung My childhood 408 Pages. Synopsis Maxim Gorky, pseudonym of Alexei Maksimovich Peshkov, Soviet novelist, playwright and essayist, who was a founder of social realism. Although known principally as a writer, he was closely associated with the tumultuous revolutionary period of

his own country. "My Childhood", the first volume of Gorky's autobiographical trilogy, was in part an act of exorcism. It describes a life begun in the raw, remembered with extraordinary charm and poignancy and without bitterness. Of all Gorky's books this is the one that made him the father of Russian literature. See other titles by this author available from Kessinger Publishing.