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My Grandfather's House: A Genealogy of Doubt and Faith (English Edition)

Von Robert Clark

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Von Robert Clark : My Grandfather's House: A Genealogy of Doubt and Faith (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Grandfather's House: A Genealogy of Doubt and Faith (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Fine spiritual biography/embarrassing religious historyVon Ein KundeClark has deep knowledge of his forebears' stories, an open way of telling his own story - which seems to be quite relevant to the experience of many 'boomers' in its search for spiritual grounding - and a really wonderful and subtle way of tying the two together so that the past becomes alive in and to the present.Perhaps inevitably for someone who feels that he has undergone a spiritual hegira culminating in attainment of his proper place, Clark shows a good deal more insight into and sympathy for his childhood days and current condition than for the states of mind and being in between, which tend to become mere waystations (viewed rather unsympathetically) en route to the present.When Clark ventures beyond attesting to these stories and attempts to speak more globally of the nature and defects of Protestantism vis-a-vis Catholicism the incompleteness and defectiveness of his grasp of the subject are unfortunately clear. The only branches of Protestantism actually considered are Lutheranism (the picture drawn quite miss the essence) and his own Anglican-Puritan-Harvard-Unitarian ancestry, which is clearly too small a slice of the Protestant pie (despite Mayflower-descendants' tendency to think themselves the pinnacle of intellectual and spiritual progress) to justify the sweeping statements made, which mar (and were quite unnecessary to) Mr Clark's otherwise interesting and lively book.

KurzbeschreibungFinalist, Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Biography"To revive the confessio tradition at this moment in our cultural history is no small thing. But that is what Robert Clark has done in this beautiful, captivating memoir."George Weigel, The Washington Post"In this rare work of personal narrative that truly achieves historical significance, Robert Clark's family becomes our own. A fascinating work of history as well as a moving, and often hilarious, account of his own religious struggles, My Grandfather's House immediately presents itself as one of the rare American autobiographies that will endure."Patricia Hampl, author of A Romantic Education"For those not sure what to make of the God question, Clark has given us a rock-solid place . . . to start. Though we might find a different resolution from his, his search parallels our own: how to gain peace, where to find faith, and what to pass on to our children, who will face the same age-old questions in the new millennium."Mary Ann Gwinn, The Seattle Times"This is an odd platypus of a book, a dreamlike hybrid stitched together from half a dozen literary species including autobiography, intellectual and social history, literary criticism and Sunday school sermon. Like a platypus, it is gawky and beautiful, cuddly and off-putting and curiously compelling."Philip Zaleski, The New York Times Book "Elegantly written and historically informative, My Grandfather's House is a fascinating, passionate, and inspiring spiritual autobiography."Ron Hansen, America"An imaginative spiritual autobiography . . . The book is a true 'genealogy' in the sense that Clark traces many diverse religious manifestations through five centuries of his own family history."Kirkus s.deTracing his ancestry back 500 years, PNBA book award-winner Robert Clark (Mr. White's Confessions) maps a legacy of religious belief, disbelief, and faith that mirrors his own spiritual quest. Although he speaks to his recent re-entry into the Catholic Church (the original church of his 500-year-old ancestors), Clark has not written a predictable "I once was lost but now I'm found" autobiography. Rather, he examines a familiar English-American religious legacy. "Like my forebears, I have been variously, and sometimes simultaneously, a Catholic, a Protestant, a Puritan, a Transcendentalist, an agnostic, and an atheist," Clark explains in the introduction to the book. Using his own journey of doubt and faith as the narrative framework, Clark weaves in the religious stories of his ancestors. We meet the Clark family members as inquisitors during the rein of Henry VIII, as Puritan settlers, as accusers in witch trails, and as cohorts of Emerson and Thoreau. Clark has great command over his ancestors' stories, his own story, and his story-telling ability. As a result, he has pulled this ambitious autobiography together in a way that is historically informative, consistently entertaining, and personally meaningful. Deftly and often humorously, he helps us see how our ancestors' religious conversions, confusions, and conquests often reflect our own. --Gail HudsonPressestimmen"Robert Clark has written an utterly captivating book about his religious conversion. That--and his elegant writing--would be enough to applaud, but My Grandfather's House is also a high-spirited tour of the spiritual contortions of his ancestors from the days of Henry VIII through the colonial Puritans and mystic Transcendentalists into our own secular, seeking age. In this rare work of personal narrative that truly achieves historical significance, his family becomes our own. A fascinating work of history as well as a moving, and often hilarious, account of his own religious struggles, My Grandfather's House immediately presents itself as one of the rare American autobiographies that will endure." --Patricia Hampl, author of A " Romantic Education," "Virgin Time," "And I Could Tell You Stories"