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Ein moderner Klassiker der Geschichtsschreibung Bestsellerautorin Barbara Tuchman schuf mit »Der ferne Spiegel« einen modernen Klassiker der Geschichtsschreibung. Mit sicherem und kundigem Blick für die »große« politische Geschichte und feinem Gespür für die Alltags- und Mentalitätsgeschichte gelingt es ihr, das pralle Leben im dramatischen 14. Jahrhundert und damit im Herbst des Mittelalters einzufangen. Im Mittelpunkt von Barbara Tuchmans faszinierender Schilderung des 14. Jahrhunderts steht die Lebensgeschichte des französischen Adligen Enguerrand de Coucy VII. Im zarten Alter von 15 Jahren zieht Coucy das erste Mal als Ritter in die Schlacht, erlebt den Hundertjährigen Krieg hautnah mit und wird schließlich vom englischen König als Geisel genommen. Coucy wird im Laufe seines Lebens Zeuge dramatischer, ja scheinbar apokalyptischer Ereignisse: Die Pest sucht Europa heim, religiöse Fanatiker hetzen die Menschen auf, Papst und Gegenpapst bekriegen sich, auf Frankreichs Thron sitzt ein Wahnsinniger, und im Osten rücken die Osmanen vor. Gleichzeitig kannten die Kreativität und das Kunstschaffen der Menschen nun, gleichsam auf der Schwelle vom Mittelalter zur Neuzeit, keine Grenzen. Boccaccio schuf sein epochemachendes Werk Decamerone, Giotto bereitete in Italien den Weg für die Renaissance und in ganz Europa entstanden Kathedralen von ungekannter Größe und Pracht. In this book, we have hand-picked the most sophisticated, unanticipated, absorbing (if not at times crackpot!), original and musing book reviews of "The Guns of August." Don't say we didn't warn you: these reviews are known to shock with their unconventionality or intimacy. Some may be startled by their biting sincerity; others may be spellbound by their unbridled flights of fantasy. Don't buy this book if: 1. You don't have nerves of steel. 2. You expect to get pregnant in the next five minutes. 3. You've heard it all. **Zeitreise ins Mittelalter: Eine andere Betrachtung der Kreuzzüge In seinem Monumentalwerk rückt Thomas Asbridge die Geschichte der Kreuzzüge zwischen dem 11. und 13. Jahrhundert in ein neues Licht: Denn im Gegensatz zur gängigen Vorstellung war dies keineswegs ein unvermeidlicher Kampf des Westens gegen den Orient. So erzählt der britische Historiker erstmals gleichberechtigt von den von Christen und Muslimen verübten Grausamkeiten und erduldeten Leiden. Auf Basis einer Vielzahl von Quellen entfaltet der Mittelalterexperte ein gewaltiges Panorama, das sowohl die politischen als auch die religiösen Motive aller Seiten beleuchtet. Dabei rekonstruiert er die Brutalität der Kämpfe und spürt den militärischen Strategien von Feldherren wie Sultan Saladin und Richard Löwenherz nach. Asbridge schildert nicht nur überraschend friedliche Begegnungen zwischen Kreuzfahrern und Sarazenen, sondern erzählt auch von Gesten der Freundschaft und der religiösen Toleranz über die feindlichen Lager hinweg. Eine Darstellung, die neue Maßstäbe setzt. The fourteenth century was a time of fabled crusades and chivalry, glittering cathedrals and grand castles. It was also a time of ferocity and spiritual agony, a world of chaos and the plague. Here, Barbara Tuchman masterfully reveals the two contradictory images of the age, examining the great rhythms of history and the grain and texture of domestic life as it was lived: what childhood was like; what**

marriage meant; how money, taxes and war dominated the lives of serf, noble and clergy alike. Granting her subjects their loyalties, treacheries and guilty passions, Tuchman recreates the lives of proud cardinals, university scholars, grocers and clerks, saints and mystics, lawyers and mercenaries, and, above all, knights. The result is an astonishing reflection of medieval Europe, a historical tour de force. Writing with a clarity, grace, and novelistic sweep rare among historians, Barbara W. Tuchman (1912-1989) distilled the complex interplay of personalities and events into gripping narratives that fuse rigorous scholarship with elegant literary art. An astute portraitist, she brilliantly laid bare the all-too-human failures of leaders subject to the pull of historical currents and prone, often tragically, to the ingrained biases of culture and temperament. Her Pulitzer Prize-winning best seller *The Guns of August* (1962) offers a majestic orchestration of the diplomatic and military history of the crucial first weeks of World War I. Tuchman's observations about the irrational escalation of conflict made a deep impression on President John F. Kennedy and influenced his actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis; fifty years later, *The Guns of August* remains an exemplary study of events propelled headlong by their own internal logic and momentum. Some of Tuchman's finest writing is contained in her following book, *The Proud Tower: A Portrait of the World before the War, 1890-1914* (1966), a fascinating kaleidoscope of eight precisely drawn essays on subjects ranging from international socialism and anarchism to the Dreyfus Affair in France and the birth of American imperialism that collectively set the stage for the cataclysm of 1914. Presented in one volume for the first time and released to mark Tuchman's centennial year and the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of *The Guns of August*, here is a vivid, indelible panorama of an epoch in transition.

LIBRARY OF AMERICA is an independent nonprofit cultural organization founded in 1979 to preserve our nation's literary heritage by publishing, and keeping permanently in print, America's best and most significant writing. The Library of America series includes more than 300 volumes to date, authoritative editions that average 1,000 pages in length, feature cloth covers, sewn bindings, and ribbon markers, and are printed on premium acid-free paper that will last for centuries.

Viele Darstellungen behandeln die sichtbaren Aspekte der stalinistischen Diktatur: die Verhaftungen und Prozesse, die Versklavung und das Morden in den Gulags. Kein Buch hat jedoch bislang die Auswirkungen des Regimes auf das Privat- und Familienleben der Menschen untersucht, den "Stalinismus, der uns alle ergriff", wie es ein russischer Historiker einmal formuliert hat. Auf der Basis von Hunderten Interviews mit Zeitzeugen und zahllosen bislang unbekanntem Dokumenten liefert nun Orlando Figes in *Die Flüsterer* erstmals einen unmittelbaren Einblick in die Innenwelt gewöhnlicher Sowjetbürger und zeigt an zahlreichen eindringlichen Beispielen, wie Einzelne oder Familien in einem von Misstrauen, Angst, Kompromissen und Verrat beherrschten Alltag um ihr Überleben kämpften. Für die Zeit der Revolution von 1917 bis zu Stalins Tod und darüber hinaus rekonstruiert Figes das moralische Gespinnst, in dem sich die allermeisten Russen gefangen sahen: Eine einzige falsche Bewegung konnte eine Familie zerstören oder am Ende womöglich deren Rettung bedeuten. Keiner konnte sich sicher fühlen, nicht einmal die überzeugtesten Anhänger des Regimes. Wahrheit und Wahn, Schuld und Unschuld waren in diesem Unterdrückungssystem immer wieder auf fatal miteinander verquickt. Orlando Figes' neues Meisterwerk - in seiner erzählerischen Wucht und Aufrichtigkeit vergleichbar mit Grossmans Jahrhundertroman *Leben und Schicksal* - ist das breit angelegte Porträt einer Gesellschaft, in der jeder nur noch flüstert - entweder um sich und andere zu schützen oder um zu verraten. Ein ebenso schonungsloser wie ergreifender Bericht davon, wie schwach - und wie unvorstellbar stark - Menschen in einer von Paranoia geprägten totalitären Gesellschaft werden können. Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Barbara W. Tuchman, author of the World War I masterpiece *The Guns of August*, grapples with her boldest subject: the pervasive presence, through the ages, of failure, mismanagement, and delusion in government. Drawing on a comprehensive array of examples, from Montezuma's senseless surrender of his empire in 1520 to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, Barbara W. Tuchman defines

folly as the pursuit by government of policies contrary to their own interests, despite the availability of feasible alternatives. In brilliant detail, Tuchman illuminates four decisive turning points in history that illustrate the very heights of folly: the Trojan War, the breakup of the Holy See provoked by the Renaissance popes, the loss of the American colonies by Britain's George III, and the United States' own persistent mistakes in Vietnam. Throughout The March of Folly, Tuchman's incomparable talent for animating the people, places, and events of history is on spectacular display. Praise for The March of Folly "A glittering narrative . . . a moral [book] on the crimes and follies of governments and the misfortunes the governed suffer in consequence."—The New York Times Book Review "An admirable survey . . . I haven't read a more relevant book in years."—John Kenneth Galbraith, The Boston Sunday Globe "A superb chronicle . . . a masterly examination."—Chicago Sun-Times

In the summer of 2008, a conflict that appeared to have begun in the breakaway Georgian territory of South Ossetia rapidly escalated to become the most significant crisis in European security in a decade. The implications of the Russian-Georgian war will be understood differently depending on one's narrative of what transpired and perspective on the broader context. This book is designed to present the facts about the events of August 2008 along with comprehensive coverage of the background to those events. It brings together a wealth of expertise on the South Caucasus and Russian foreign policy, with contributions by Russian, Georgian, European, and American experts on the region. Barbara Tuchman's The Guns of August is a spellbinding history of the fateful first month when Britain went to war. War pressed against every frontier. Suddenly dismayed, governments struggled and twisted to fend it off. It was no use . . . Barbara Tuchman's universally acclaimed, Pulitzer prize-winning account of how the first thirty days of battle determined the course of the First World War is to this day revered as the classic account of the conflict's opening. From the precipitous plunge into war and the brutal and bloody battles of August 1914, Tuchman shows how events were propelled by a horrific logic which swept all sides up in its unstoppable momentum. 'Dazzling' Max Hastings 'Magnificent' Guardian 'Fascinating, splendid, glittering. One of the finest works of history' New York Times 'A brilliant achievement' Sunday Telegraph Barbara Tuchman achieved prominence as a historian with The Zimmerman Telegram and international fame with the Pulitzer-Prize winning The Guns of August. She is also the author of The Proud Tower, Stilwell and the American Experience in China (also awarded the Pulitzer Prize), A Distant Mirror and The March of Folly. She died in 1989. The Proud Tower and The Zimmerman Telegram are published by Penguin.

SuperSummary, a modern alternative to SparkNotes and CliffsNotes, offers high-quality study guides for challenging works of literature. This 76-page guide for "The Guns Of August" by Barbara W. Tuchman includes detailed chapter summaries and analysis covering 22 chapters, as well as several more in-depth sections of expert-written literary analysis. Featured content includes commentary on major characters, 25 important quotes, essay topics, and key themes like Mistakes and Supplies.

Europa am Abgrund Das europäische zwanzigste Jahrhundert war geprägt von kriegerischen Auseinandersetzungen. Europa erlebte gewaltige Turbulenzen, die Hölle zweier Weltkriege in der ersten Jahrhunderthälfte und tiefgreifende Veränderungen. Der britische Historiker Ian Kershaw erzählt in einem meisterhaften Panorama die Geschichte dieses Kontinents vom Vorabend des Ersten Weltkriegs bis in die Zeit des beginnenden Kalten Kriegs Ende der vierziger Jahre, nachdem die europäische Zivilisation an den Rand der Selbstzerstörung gelangt war. Ethnische Auseinandersetzungen, aggressiver Nationalismus und Gebietsstreitigkeiten, Klassenkonflikte und die tiefe Krise des Kapitalismus waren die treibenden Kräfte, die Kershaw dabei besonders in den Blick nimmt. Neben den großen Entwicklungslinien in Politik, Wirtschaft, Kultur und Gesellschaft schildert er auch immer wieder Erlebnisse und Erfahrungen einzelner, die einen Eindruck geben vom Leben im Europa der ersten Jahrhunderthälfte. Lucid examination of the critical moves of August, 1914--the carefully-planned strategies, first bloody clashes, and shocking realizations of prolonged battles Im

Sommer 1969 erschüttert eine Reihe bestialischer Morde Los Angeles und die USA. Sharon Tate, die schwangere Ehefrau von Roman Polanski, ist eines der sieben Opfer des Serienmörders Charles Manson. Vincent Bugliosi war leitender Staatsanwalt in diesem spektakulären Fall. In seinem meisterhaft geschriebenen Buch berichtet er, wie es ihm in minutiöser Detektivarbeit gelang, Charles Manson und seine ihm blind ergebene Hippie-Kommune für das Massaker hinter Gitter zu bringen. Die akribischen Ermittlungen, der komplexe Prozess, die kranke Weltanschauung, die Manson seinen Anhängern einflößte ... all dies macht diesen atemberaubend spannenden Weltbestseller aus. Seit 1971 sitzt Manson im Hochsicherheitsgefängnis, doch vergessen ist er noch lange nicht. Er ist zu einer diabolischen Kultfigur geworden, deren apokalyptisches Szenario und verschrobene Weltanschauung auch heute noch eine makabere Faszination ausüben. Dies ist eine Neuauflage des 2010 erschienenen Buchs Helter Skelter - Der Mordrausch des Charles Manson. A definitive Pulitzer Prize-winning recreation of the powderkeg that was Europe during the crucial first thirty days of World War I traces the actions of statesmen and patriots alike in Berlin, London, St. Petersburg, and Paris. Reprint. Barbara Tuchman's Pulitzer Prize-winning classic about the opening of World War I beautifully reissued and repackaged with The Proud Tower and The Zimmerman Telegram as a Modern Library set: Barbara Tuchman's Great War. In einem spannenden Epos lässt Hochschild diesen Krieg, dessen Echo bis in unsere Zeit nachhallt, anschaulich, lebensnah und erschütternd wie nie zuvor lebendig werden. Er richtet seinen Blick auf das Kriegsgeschehen und die diplomatischen Verwicklungen der großen Mächte. Im Zentrum der Darstellung stehen nicht nur die prominenten Befürworter des Krieges (u. a. Rudyard Kipling, H. G. Wells, Conan Doyle und John Galsworthy); viele, wenig beachtete Kritiker und Gegner aus allen Schichten kommen zu Wort. Zahlreiche meisterhafte Porträts von Kaiser Wilhelm II., Kaiser Franz Joseph, den Romanows und der -Generäle wie von Hindenburg, von Moltke, Ludendorff, French, Haig, Milner und des jungen Churchill runden das Panorama ab. Hunderte von Soldatenfriedhöfen säumen die Felder in Belgien und Frankreich; dort kamen Millionen Soldaten in dem Krieg ums Leben, der allen Kriegen ein Ende machen sollte. Gelingt es uns, die Wiederholung dieser Geschichte zu vermeiden? Das Standardwerk zum Ersten Weltkrieg Lange Zeit galt es als ausgemacht, dass das deutsche Kaiserreich wegen seiner Großmachtträume die Hauptverantwortung am Ausbruch des Ersten Weltkriegs trug. In seinem bahnbrechenden Werk kommt der renommierte Historiker und Bestsellerautor Christopher Clark zu einer anderen Einschätzung. Clark beschreibt minutiös die Interessen und Motivationen der wichtigsten politischen Akteure in den europäischen Metropolen und zeichnet das Bild einer komplexen Welt, in der gegenseitiges Misstrauen, Fehleinschätzungen, Überheblichkeit, Expansionspläne und nationalistische Bestrebungen zu einer Situation führten, in der ein Funke genügte, den Krieg auszulösen, dessen verheerende Folgen kaum jemand abzuschätzen vermochte. This book is centered on the first month of World War I. Tuchman describes in great detail the opening events of the conflict. In this Pulitzer Prize-winning classic, historian Barbara Tuchman brings to life the people and events that led up to World War I. This was the last gasp of the Gilded Age, of Kings and Kaisers and Czars, of pointed or plumed hats, colored uniforms, and all the pomp and romance that went along with war. How quickly it all changed--and how horrible it became. Tuchman masterfully portrays this transition from 19th to 20th century, focusing on the turning point in the year 1914: the month leading up to the war and the first month of the war. With fine attention to detail, she reveals how and why the war started, and why it could have been stopped but wasn't, managing to make the story utterly suspenseful even when we already know the outcome. In the summer of 2008, a conflict that appeared to have begun in the breakaway Georgian territory of South Ossetia rapidly escalated to become the most significant crisis in European security in a decade. The implications of the Russian-Georgian war will be understood differently depending on one's narrative of what transpired and perspective on the broader context. This book is designed to present the facts about the events

of August 2008 along with comprehensive coverage of the background to those events. It brings together a wealth of expertise on the South Caucasus and Russian foreign policy, with contributions by Russian, Georgian, European, and American experts on the region. From Barbara W. Tuchman, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Guns of August, comes history through a wide-angle lens: a fascinating chronicle of Britain's long relationship with Palestine and the Middle East, from the ancient world to the twentieth century. Historically, the British were drawn to the Holy Land for two major reasons: first, to translate the Bible into English and, later, to control the road to India and access to the oil of the Middle East. With the lucidity and vividness that characterize all her work, Barbara W. Tuchman follows these twin spiritual and imperial motives—the Bible and the sword—to their seemingly inevitable endpoint, when Britain conquered Palestine at the conclusion of World War I. At that moment, in a gesture of significance and solemnity, the Balfour Declaration of 1917 established a British-sponsored mandate for a national home for the Jewish people. Throughout this characteristically vivid account, Tuchman demonstrates that the seeds of conflict were planted in the Middle East long before the official founding of the modern state of Israel. Praise for Bible and Sword “Tuchman is a wise and witty writer, a shrewd observer with a lively command of high drama.”—The Philadelphia Inquirer “In her métier as a narrative popular historical writer, Barbara Tuchman is supreme.”—Chicago Sun-Times

Barbara Tuchman's The Proud Tower is a haunting account of Britain on the cusp of total war - reissued for the 2014 Centenary. The last government in the Western world to possess all the attributes of aristocracy in working condition took office in England in June of 1895 . . . In this now classic work, Pulitzer prize-winning historian Barbara Tuchman explores the quarter century leading up to the First World War, from the dying embers of the British aristocracy to the fitful eruptions of the anarchist movement. She provides a compelling portrait of the key figures and conflicting ideologies of this time, giving an intimate view of an epoch that was soon to be swept away by the tide of history. 'Her intention is to make the age alive for us, and in that she abundantly succeeds' Daily Telegraph 'Tuchman has a gift of recreating a period and a mood by an inspired selection of detail and sheer narrative sweep. A volcano of a book' Evening Standard 'Impeccable scholarship and literary polish. Impossible to read without pleasure and admiration' New York Times

Barbara Tuchman achieved prominence as a historian with The Zimmerman Telegram and international fame with the Pulitzer-Prize winning The Guns of August. She is also the author of Stilwell and the American Experience in China (also awarded the Pulitzer Prize), A Distant Mirror and The March of Folly. She died in 1989. The Guns of August and The Zimmerman Telegram are published by Penguin.

A journalistic tour de force, this wide-ranging collection by the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning biography Stilwell and the American Experience in China is a classic in its own right. During the summer of 1972—a few short months after Nixon's legendary visit to China—master historian Barbara W. Tuchman made her own trip to that country, spending six weeks in eleven cities and a variety of rural settlements. The resulting reportage was one of the first evenhanded portrayals of Chinese culture that Americans had ever read. Tuchman's observations capture the people as they lived, from workers in the city and provincial party bosses to farmers, scientists, and educators. She demonstrates the breadth and scope of her expertise in discussing the alleviation of famine, misery, and exploitation; the distortion of cultural and historical inheritances into ubiquitous slogans; news media, schools, housing, and transportation; and Chairman Mao's techniques for reasserting the Revolution. This edition also includes Tuchman's “fascinating” (The New York Review of Books) essay, “If Mao Had Come to Washington in 1945”—a tantalizing piece of speculation on a proposed meeting between Mao and Roosevelt that would have changed the course of postwar history. “Shrewdly observed . . . Tuchman enters another plea for coolness, intelligence and rationality in American Asian policies. One can hardly disagree.”—The New York Times Book Review

Barbara W. Tuchman, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of the classic The Guns of August, turns her sights

homeward with this brilliant, insightful narrative of the Revolutionary War. In *The First Salute*, one of America's consummate historians crafts a rigorously original view of the American Revolution. Barbara W. Tuchman places the Revolution in the context of the centuries-long conflicts between England and both France and Holland, demonstrating how the aid to the American colonies of both these nations made the triumph of independence possible. She sheds new light on the key role played by the contending navies, paints a magnificent portrait of George Washington, and recounts in riveting detail the decisive campaign of the war at Yorktown. By turns lyrical and gripping, *The First Salute* is an exhilarating account of the birth of a nation. Praise for *The First Salute* "Nothing in a novel could be more thrilling than the moment in this glorious history when French soldiers arrive [to] see a tall, familiar figure: George Washington. . . . It is only part of Tuchman's genius that she can reconstitute such scenes with so much precision and passion."—People "Tuchman writes narrative history in the great tradition. . . . A persuasive book, which brings us entertaining pictures, scenes and characters."—Chicago Tribune "[A] tightly woven narrative, ingeniously structured."—The Christian Science Monitor PULITZER PRIZE WINNER • "A brilliant piece of military history which proves up to the hilt the force of Winston Churchill's statement that the first month of World War I was 'a drama never surpassed.'"—Newsweek Selected by the Modern Library as one of the 100 best nonfiction books of all time In this landmark account, renowned historian Barbara W. Tuchman re-creates the first month of World War I: thirty days in the summer of 1914 that determined the course of the conflict, the century, and ultimately our present world. Beginning with the funeral of Edward VII, Tuchman traces each step that led to the inevitable clash. And inevitable it was, with all sides plotting their war for a generation. Dizzily comprehensive and spectacularly portrayed with her famous talent for evoking the characters of the war's key players, Tuchman's magnum opus is a classic for the ages. The Proud Tower, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Guns of August*, and *The Zimmermann Telegram* comprise Barbara W. Tuchman's classic histories of the First World War era Celebrated for bringing a personal touch to history in her Pulitzer Prize-winning epic *The Guns of August* and other classic books, Barbara W. Tuchman reflects on world events and the historian's craft in these perceptive, essential essays. From thoughtful pieces on the historian's role to striking insights into America's past and present to trenchant observations on the international scene, Barbara W. Tuchman looks at history in a unique way and draws lessons from what she sees. Spanning more than four decades of writing in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Harper's*, *The Nation*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*, Tuchman weighs in on a range of eclectic topics, from Israel and Mao Tse-tung to a Freudian reading of Woodrow Wilson. This is a splendid body of work, the story of a lifetime spent "practicing history." Praise for *Practicing History* "Persuades and enthralls . . . I can think of no better primer for the nonexpert who wishes to learn history."—Chicago Sun-Times "Provocative, consistent, and beautifully readable, an event not to be missed by history buffs."—Baltimore Sun "A delight to read."—The New York Times Book Review

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