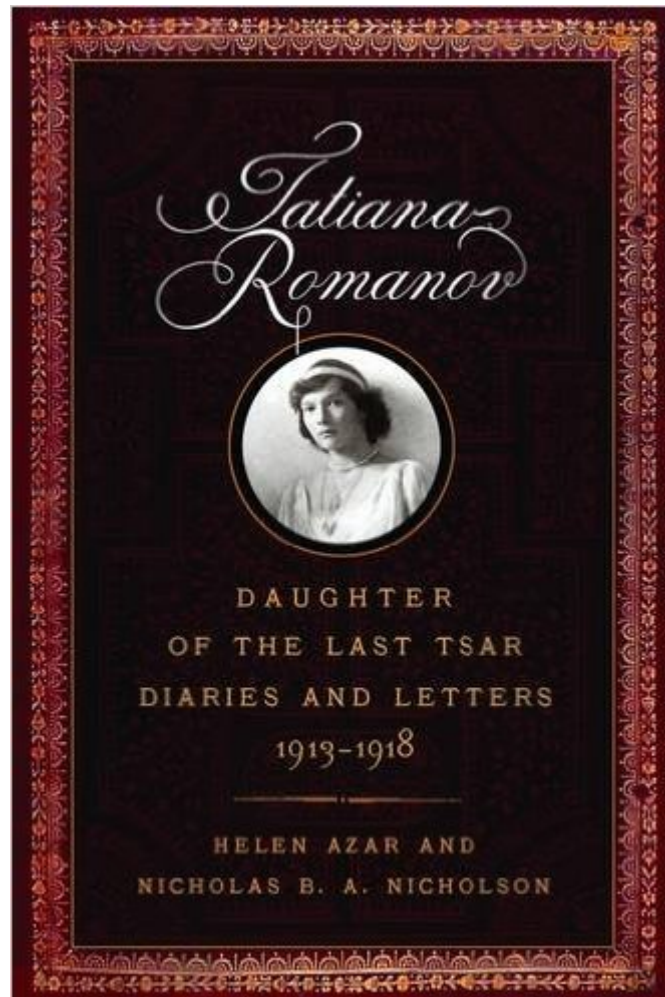


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Tatiana Romanov, Daughter Of The Last Tsar: Diaries And Letters, 1913–1918



Synopsis

Translated for the First Time in English with Annotations by a Leading Expert, the Romanov Family's Final Years Through the Writings of the Second Oldest Daughter Grand Duchess Tatiana Nikolaevna of Russia was the second of the four daughters of Tsar Nicholas II and his wife, the Empress Alexandra Feodorovna. Long recognized by historians as the undisputed beauty of the family, Tatiana was acknowledged for her poise, her elegance, and her innate dignity within her own family. Helen Azar, translator of the diaries of Olga Romanov, and Nicholas B. A. Nicholson, Russian Imperial historian, have joined together to present a truly comprehensive picture of this extraordinarily gifted, complex, and intelligent woman in her own words. Tatiana Romanov, Daughter of the Last Tsar: Diaries and Letters, 1913-1918, presents translations of material never before published in Russian or in English, as well as materials never published in their entirety in the West. The brisk, modern prose of Tatiana's diary entries reveals the character of a young woman who was far more than the sheltered imperial beauty as she previously has been portrayed. While many historians and writers describe her as a cold, haughty, and distant aristocrat, this book shows instead a remarkably down-to-earth and humorous young woman, full of life and compassion. A detail-oriented and observant participant in some of the most important historical events of the early twentieth century, she left firsthand descriptions of the tercentenary celebrations of the House of Romanov, the early years of Russia's involvement in World War I, and the road to her family's final days in Siberian exile. Her writings reveal extraordinary details previously unknown or unacknowledged. Lavishly annotated for the benefit of the nonspecialist reader, this book is not only a reevaluation of Tatiana's role as more than just one of four sisters, but also a valuable reference on Russia, the First World War, the Russian Revolution, and the people closest to the Grand Duchess and her family.

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Customer Reviews

I read this remarkable book in one sitting. I literally could not put it down. From reading the fascinating diary entries and letters written by Grand Duchess Tatiana, I was swept into her world and felt a true connection to her personality and spirit. I feel as if I have always known her, a bright, witty, compassionate, warm young woman who, in my opinion, would have been a force to reckon with on an international scale, had she not been a victim of her family's fate. Kudos to the superbly talented Helen Azar for bringing Tatiana to life so vividly. This book is a must-read for every Romanov aficionado!

Romanov author and historian Helen Azar can truly now be called the "voice of the Romanovs". In this, her 5th book on Russia's last Imperial Family, Helen has painstakingly translated the diaries and letters of Grand Duchess Tatiana, second daughter of the last Russian Emperor Nicholas II. The 100 year old translations from script Cyrillic into English for the "Western" audience is truly an accomplished feat all on its own. Helen has brought to life an exquisite young woman who was born to the world's most powerful and wealthiest man, a role she did not choose but embraced with refinement, elegance, sincerity and dedication. The period Azar covers in the book are the most tumultuous of Tatiana's young life. The eloquent Grand Duchess was a teenage girl who, in an idealistic world, should have been enjoying her youth, beaux and balls but instead was thrust into an international spotlight as a royal and caught in the middle of war, revolution and personal tragedy. For 100 years, the children of the last Emperor and Empress of Russia were overshadowed by their famous parents and the events which would tragically end all their lives in 1918. We meet not only the daughter of the last Russian Emperor but a young woman with her own thoughts, yearnings, fears and aspirations. The guarded palace doors are opened to us by Tatiana's words and we, the reader, enter into the private realms and drawing rooms of one of the world's most famous and tragic families. Helen's co-author Nicholas B. A. Nicholson, a noted Romanov expert, beautifully complements Azar's translations weaving an intricate fascinating and heartbreaking story that sadly, is more dramatic than Hollywood could ever produce in fiction. Azar's series of books are truly set apart from the many readily available for the Romanov enthusiast because we meet this very famous but so very normal family

â œin their own wordsâ •.

This detailed account makes it clear that Tatiana was by no means cloistered. Quite to the contrary, she was engaged, active and intelligent. Which makes her execution all the sadder. Excellent read, well researched.

This is a wonderful, readable book that gives us new insights into the life of Grand Duchess Tatiana of Russia, who was murdered with her family in 1917. This daughter has always been somewhat of an enigma to me, but this book fills in so much of the details of her life and who she really was. I finished it feeling my I knew her much better and that this well written book that of course includes GD Tatiana's own words, is an absolute must have for anyone interested in the last Romanov family - or the last years of the Romanov Dynasty. Excellent book!!!

Length: 2:50 Mins

Helen Azar's marvelous series of books bringing to the West translations of the actual diaries and letters of the Last Russian Imperial family continues with another fine publication, "Tatiana Romanov, Daughter of the Last Tsar:" The Last Tsar's second daughter. This time Ms. Azar has as co-author; the noted Romanov expert Nicholas B. A. Nicholson. Mr. Nicholson's comprehensive foot notes add immeasurably to the passages and are a kind of translation themselves, adding even more to our understanding of Grand Duchess Tatiana's words. Azar and Nicholson are truly a dream team for the Romanov / Imperial Russian history enthusiast. The book is handsomely published by Westholme Publishing Press with many photos ...Not to be missed!

This book is a must have for all Romanov fans and those interested in late Imperial Russia. Author Helen Azar's series on presenting the family of Tsar Nicholas II in 'their own words' continues to grow strength by strength and this latest volume is the best to date. Grand Duchess Tatiana's diaries and letters are perfectly complemented by contemporary memoirs which have never before been published in English. They reveal an intelligent, caring and diligent young woman who despite shyness made a strong and positive impression on all who met her. As readers we are thrown into her nursing duties, social duties and her everyday family life. Her letters are full of detail and life. Highly recommended.

Author and translator, Helen Azar, has once again produced a captivating and utterly accessible volume on the Imperial Romanovs. This edition is part of a series dealing with the primary sources on the last Russian tsar's daughters. Tatiana was the second oldest daughter, yet played a leadership role in her family. Popularly considered the elegant, remote Grand Duchess, Azar once again pulls back the curtain to reveal a much more complex, and admirable young woman, thoroughly modern to her times and in possession of a sharp wit and humor. One of the most appreciated aspects of Azar's work is how she teases out the primary sources available (diaries, letters, postcards, and rare photographs) by providing contextual support. In other words, the reader learns much about Tatiana's world as well as the Grand Duchess' own thoughts and experiences. Through Tatiana's lens readers gain new and welcome insights. I was especially struck by how her words convey both a certain pride in her role as family "governess," advisor/supervisor, as well as that role becoming a burden at times. For the first time, I think I understand who she really was, and why. highest recommendation to all who love Imperial Russian history.

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