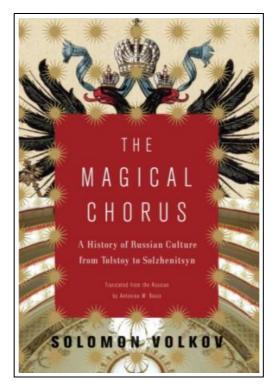
The Magical Chorus: A History of Russian Culture from Tolstoy to Solzhenitsyn



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THE MAGICAL CHORUS: A HISTORY OF RUSSIAN CULTURE FROM TOLSTOY TO SOLZHENITSYN



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Alfred A. Knopf, Borzoi Books, Random House, Inc., New York, 2008. Hardcover. Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. 1st Edition. New stated 1st edition hardcover (2008), new unclipped mylar-protected jacket showing \$30.00 price at top right inside front flyleaf, handsome slate-crimson paper-over-boards cover w/ sharp new edges & corners & titles elegantly gold-stamped on spine, immaculate text-block exterior w/ smooth-cut top & bottom edges & cut-page-style deckle side-edging, immaculate cream-white end-papers on heavy stock, new sewn binding w/ tight signatures & yellow & olive-checked cloth bands at spine-caps, pristine interior handsomely printed in Palatino on excellent unblemished paper * 16 pages of b-w photographs * Introduction (vii), Notes (299), Index (317) * 6.50" x 9.50 x 1.25", 0.74 kg, xii+333 (345) pp. * From the reign of Tsar Nicholas II to the brutal cult of Stalin to the ebullient, uncertain days of perestroika, nowhere has the inextricable relationship between politics & culture been more starkly illustrated than in 20th-century Russia. In the first book to fully examine the intricate & often deadly interconnection between Russian rulers & Russian artists, cultural historian Solomon Volkov (who experienced firsthand many of the events he describes) brings to life the human stories behind some of the greatest masterpieces of our time. Here is Tolstoy, who used his godlike place among the Russian people to rail against the autocracy, even as he eschewed violence; Gorky, the first native writer to openly welcome the revolution & who would go on to become Stalin¿s closest cultural advisor; Solzhenitsyn, who famously brought the horrors of the Soviet regime to light. Here. too, are Nabokov, Pasternak, Mayakovsky, Akhmatova. In each case, Volkov analyzes the alternate determination & despair, hope & terror borne by writers in a country where, in Solzhenitsyn¿s maxim, "a great writer is like a second government."...



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