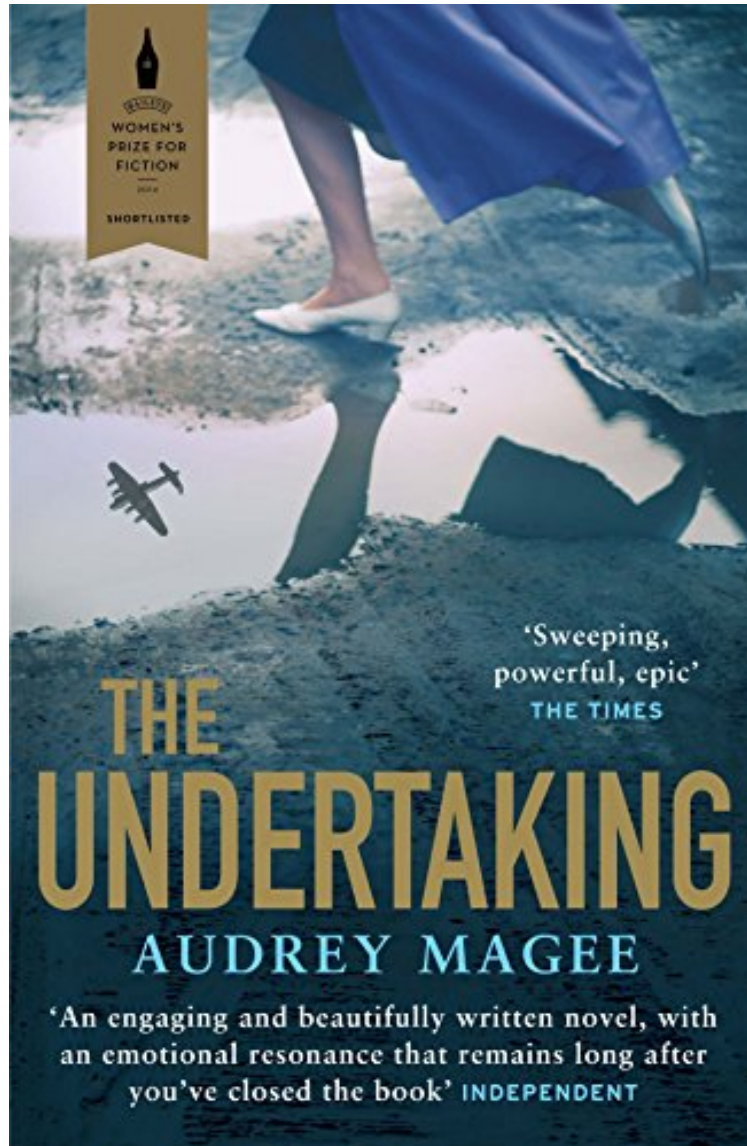


(Download) The Undertaking (English Edition)

The Undertaking (English Edition)

Von Audrey Magee

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Von Audrey Magee : The Undertaking (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Undertaking (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I expected more...Von V. P. StephanAs a German I have already read my share of 2nd world war literature. Most of the books I have read, however, were written by German authors. So I was particularly interested in the book to see how a non-German author treats the subject from the point of view of two ordinary Germans. And exactly here I got

somewhat disappointed, because the story does not delve into the protagonists' feelings or motivations. The bleak language may fit the subject, but I would have liked to know why the character does what she/he does, how did she/he feel about doing it. I can read a history book to know that Germans did horrific things during the 2nd world war. I read a novel because I want to know how an individual may have come to participate and how they possibly justified their participation to themselves. And I find this lacking here. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A wonderful book Von German Roger I would recommend this book to everyone. A book about normal people in strange, distorted times. A book about survival, disillusion and forced acceptance of fate. A masterpiece.

Kurzbeschreibung A soldier on the Russian Front marries a photograph of a woman he has never met. Hundreds of miles away in Berlin, the woman marries a photograph of the soldier. It is a contract of business rather than love. When the newlywed strangers finally meet, however, passion blossoms and they begin to imagine a life together under the bright promise of Nazi Germany. But as the tide of war turns and Allied enemies come ever closer, the couple find themselves facing the terrible consequences of being ordinary people stained with their small share of an extraordinary guilt...
Pressestimmen Praise for THE UNDERTAKING: Longlisted for the 2015 Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction A Finalist for the 2014 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction "To write a story that doesn't allow for much sympathy, that keeps readers at a remove from the central characters, is one of the greatest challenges an author can undertake. That Magee succeeds as well as she does is impressive. Her terse style, cross-cutting between the narratives of Katharina and Peter, generates its own tension and momentum. Although Magee stays on the surface of things, she gives those surfaces traction and textures: The face of grief, dull and yet affecting... We can't see inside Peter and Katharina, but, then again, history is partly the story of people who don't look inside themselves." Louise Thomas, New York Times Book "A common structural problem for a novel comprising two perspectives is that one tends to be more absorbing than the other. Not so here. Magee skillfully distributes equal weight, meaning equal pathos and intensity... Magee adds layer upon layer of moral complexity... Deeply impressive... Magee gives us an uneasy read, but it is hard to pull away. This is a devastating but quite stunning first novel. Malcolm Forbes, Minneapolis Star Tribune "Irish journalist Magee's first novel depicts with uncanny perception the rigors of war contrasted with life on the home front. Her compelling but realistic love story presents characters for whom most readers will feel little sympathy because of their unquestioning belief in the German cause, yet the story is all the more fascinating as related entirely from the Nazi viewpoint. Highly recommended; this is one of the most riveting accounts of love in time of war that this reviewer has ever read." Library Journal (starred review) A bold, honest novel about Nazi greed and moral blankness Magee's cool, precise tone recalls Hans Fallada's *Alone in Berlin*, and, like Heinrich Bll, Magee is haunted by the everyday and the small people who are inseparably part of a great ravagement. Helen Dunmore, The Guardian (UK) A powerful creation. Its denouement, which dramatizes the brutal behavior of Russian troops as they advance into a stricken Germany at the end of the war, is profoundly moving. Ms Magee's willingness to examine the darkest elements of the conflict in a novel that still asserts the redeeming power of love is commendable. We should keep an eye out for her future work. The Economist Sweeping, powerful, epic Magee's writing is fast-moving, with a great visual sense, and conversations so believable that you can almost hear them. Kate Saunders, The Times (UK) A powerful and unusually intimate glimpse into lives we rarely read about in fiction direct, shocking, unflinching. Frances Itani "The Undertaking is written with sympathy and skill. The narrative is tense and engaging, filled with complex undertones, impelled by an urgency and a deep involvement with the characters." Colm Toibin Absorbing original eloquent a poignant reminder of the ferocious struggle for Stalingrad and its aftermath. [A]n impressive debut. Lucy Popescu, The Independent (UK) "A violent, elegant, unsentimental journey through hell and halfway back. This is an outstanding novel by a writer of huge talent and unusual candour." Chris Cleave, author of the international bestseller *The Other Hand/Little Bee* This is Audrey Magee's first book and a foray into a hotly contested historical event, the Battle of Stalingrad. She makes it fresh through a tight focus on the alternating experiences of Peter and Katharina, cleverly resisting the temptation to describe places and events beyond their necessarily circumscribed viewpoints. Magee makes exciting use of dialogue... the voices shine from the page... The Undertaking is an engaging and beautifully written novel, with an emotional resonance that remains long after you've closed the book. It succeeds in doing what only the best historical novels can do making the past feel present. Kate Williams, The Independent (UK) "A bold and unsettling feat of empathy, all the more daring for its taut, beautifully understated style." A D Miller, author of *Snowdrops* "Audrey Magee is a writer with great understanding for the force of history impacting on the lives of ordinary German people during World War 2. The story of a proxy marriage offers a perfect view into the urgency and magnitude of life with its doomed interior landscape of wartime necessities and moral ambiguities under Hitler's Reich. The Undertaking is a novel of wonderful subtlety and acceleration." Hugo Hamilton An ambitious and atypical first novel. The Irish Independent "Audrey Magee is one of the most exciting new talents to arrive on the literary scene. There is an emotional depth to her writing which elevates her to the top rank of contemporary novelists. I read her

book with awe and gratitude."Fergal Keane