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Amateurs in Eden: The Story of a Bohemian Marriage: Nancy and Lawrence Durrell

By Joanna Hodgkin

Little, Brown Book Group, United Kingdom, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 194 x 126 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Nancy Durrell was a woman famous for her silences. Anais Nin said I think often of Nancy s most eloquent silences, Nancy talking with her fingers, her hair, her cheeks, a wonderful gift. Music again. As the first wife Lawrence Durrell, author of The Alexandria Quartet, it is perhaps surprising that she is an unknown entity, a constant presence in the biographies of Durrell and others in the Bloomsbury set, yet always a shadowy figure, beautiful and enigmatic. But who was the woman who was with Durrell during the most important years of his development as a writer? Joanna Hodgkin decides to retrace her mother s fascinating story: the escape from her toxic and mysterious family; the years in bohemian literary London and Paris in the 1930s; marriage to Durrell and their discovery of the Eden of pre-war Corfu and her desperate struggle to survive in Palestine alone with a small child as the British Mandate collapsed. Amateurs in Eden is a fascinating biography of a literary marriage and of an unusual woman struggling to live an independent...

Reviews

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