

Fear No Evil

By Natan Sharansky



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Temperamentally and intellectually, Natan Sharansky is a man very much like many of us—which makes this account of his arrest on political grounds, his trial, and ten years' imprisonment in the Orwellian universe of the Soviet gulag particularly vivid and resonant.

Since Fear No Evil was originally published in 1988, the Soviet government that imprisoned Sharansky has collapsed. Sharansky has become an important national leader in Israel—and serves as Israel's diplomatic liaison to the former Soviet Union! New York Times Jerusalem Bureau Chief Serge Schmemann reflects on those monumental events, and on Sharansky's extraordinary life in the decades since his arrest, in a new introduction to this edition. But the truths Sharansky learned in his jail cell and sets forth in this book have timeless importance so long as rulers anywhere on earth still supress their own peoples. For anyone with an interest in human rights—and anyone with an appreciation for the resilience of the human spirit—he illuminates the weapons with which the powerless can humble the powerful: physical courage, an untiring sense of humor, a bountiful imagination, and the conviction that "Nothing they do can humiliate me. I alone can humiliate myself."



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Fear No Evil By Natan Sharansky Bibliography

Sales Rank: #333588 in Books
Brand: Brand: PublicAffairs
Published on: 1998-11-27
Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.50" h x 1.00" w x 5.50" l, 1.39 pounds

• Binding: Paperback

• 464 pages



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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Sharansky writes of the nine years he spent in the Soviet gulag. "Told with remarkable calm, even with harrowing humor, Sharansky's gripping and deeply moving account of his prison years is a tribute to human resilience. His sheer courage and moral stature are matched only by his literary skill at conveying the nightmare he endured," praised PW .

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From Library Journal

In 1977, Sharansky, a Jewish dissident, was arrested by the KGB on a charge of spying for the CIA. After 16 months of interrogation, he was sentenced to 13 years in prison, where he remained until 1986, when he was exchanged for a Soviet spy held by the United States. This is a riveting story, told directly and without selfpity, of the Soviet Union's attempts to crush political opponents. Unlike many others, Sharansky retained a sense of self by refusing to acknowledge that physical domination implied moral superiority, an opposition symbolized by his refusal to give up his Psalm book. A compelling account of numbing privations, hunger strikes, and especially of courage, this book will have wide appeal. Scholars will also gain insight into the reformed, but essentially unchanged, post-Stalin KGB and penal bureaucracies. Mark C. Carnes, Barnard Coll., Columbia Univ.

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Review

"A story . . . of personal transcendence. The author . . . is a person of great courage, keen insight and dazzling moral lucidity. . . Fear No Evil stands in an inspiring tradition . . . one of those books that must make us wonder about the firmness of our own beliefs." (Robert Stone, The New York Times Book Review) "When Natan Sharansky was celebrated both for his imprisonment and for his eventual freedom, everyone's unspoken question was: What is so special about this man? Fear No Evil answers that question. It is a brilliant account of courage in the prison state, but the truly great power of the book lies in Sharansky himself. He shows all the fascinating complexities of a hero of Russian fiction. But, of course, Sharansky is real. His story is real. It brings you to your knees." -- Roger Rosenblatt

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jorge Hinkley:

Fear No Evil can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary which could increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining however delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing Fear No Evil but doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest as well as based confirm resource details that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information could drawn you into brand new stage of crucial pondering.

Corey Valenzuela:

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Chris Wolf:

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Jessica Hurst:

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