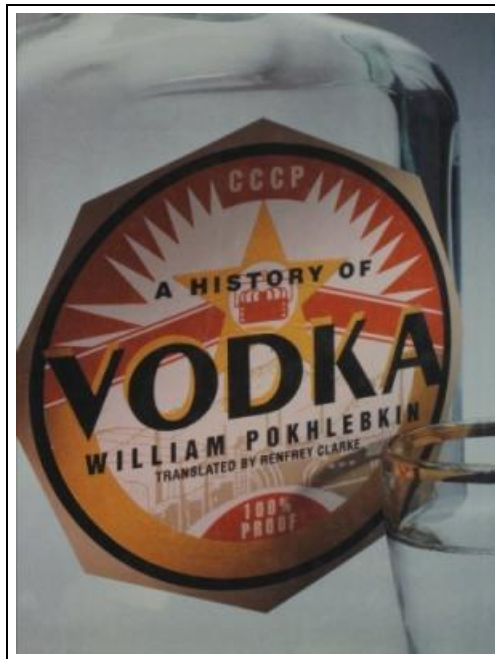


A History of Vodka



Filesize: 8.68 MB

Reviews


It is one of my favorite books. Sure, it is actually engaging, nonetheless an interesting and amazing literature. I am happy to let you know that this is basically the finest book I have got to study inside my very own existence and might be the finest publication for ever.
(Randal Reinger)

A HISTORY OF VODKA



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Verso Books, United Kingdom, 1992. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 274 x 208 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Savoured by peasants and Tsars, condemned by clerics and the architects of perestroika - vodka has been the joy and scourge of the Russian nation for centuries. But what are the origins of the Russians favourite drink? Did vodka emerge as an authentic national discovery from the brewing-shops of the monasteries of medieval Russia, or was the secret of its preparation imported from elsewhere? When was it that people first experienced vodka's now famed property of knocking drinkers off their feet? With formidable scholarship and considerable dry wit, William Pokhlebkin, one of Russia's best-known historians sets out on the detective trail. His aim: to reveal the strange truth about his country's most famous tippie. The result is a triumph of historical deduction. As he uncovers the social economic and technical background to the emergence of vodka, and indeed tells us how and with what the spirit should be drunk, the author creates an unconventional but true-to-life portrait of the society and society and social psychology that gave birth to today's Russia. He argues that those who have controlled the vodka stills have controlled the density of Russia - first the Boyars, then the Tsars, and in this century the Bolsheviks. In Pokhlebkin's view Gorbachev unwisely attempted to suppress vodka, allowing the Mafia to seize control of its production and distribution. Perestroika was thus doomed. Pokhlebkin believes that both prohibitionism and drunkenness are scourges which encourage one another. He insists that vodka itself doesn't make people drunk, only irresponsible and uncultured ways of consuming it. A History of Vodka is the work not only of a fine scholar but of a passionate advocate of the...

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