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Over the Ocean (Paperback)

By Erika Fischer

Hesperus Press Ltd, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. From the author of Aimee and Jaguar comes the extraordinary true love story of a couple who were separated during a shameful and fascinating chapter of British history. Erica Fischer tells her own parents' astonishing story and at the same time sheds light on a little-known, little-discussed chapter in British history. Fischer's parents met in Austria in the early 1930s. Her mother, Irka, was a Polish Jew and her father, Erich, was a Viennese lapsed Catholic. In 1938, Irka fled to the United Kingdom, to be followed the year after by her husband. By no means a rarity as refugees, they found work in southern England. However at the outbreak of war, Erich was arrested as an enemy alien, which was then common practice in time of war. After being interned, he was transported to Australia in July 1940, along with 2,500 other deportees. The conditions were appalling on board the Dunera; the men were locked up below decks with overflowing latrines and only seawater to clean themselves. Faced with unimaginable hardships, the deportees banded together in solidarity to face their new life. Erich and...



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