



Shush! Growing Up Jewish under Stalin: A Memoir (Hardback)

By Emil Draitser

University of California Press, United States, 2008. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. Many years after making his way to America from Odessa in Soviet Ukraine, Emil Draitser made a startling discovery: every time he uttered the word Jewish - even in casual conversation - he lowered his voice. This behavior was a natural by-product, he realized, of growing up in the anti-Semitic, post-Holocaust Soviet Union, when Shush! was the most frequent word he heard: Don t use your Jewish name in public. Don t speak a word of Yiddish. And don t cry over your murdered relatives . This compelling memoir conveys the reader back to Draitser s childhood and provides a unique account of midtwentieth-century life in Russia as the young Draitser struggles to reconcile the harsh values of Soviet society with the values of his working-class Jewish family. Lively, evocative, and rich with humor, this unforgettable story ends with the death of Stalin and, through life stories of the author s ancestors, presents a sweeping panorama of two centuries of Jewish history in Russia.



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