

Acknowledgments

This is not a work of fiction; it is history. But since history is also shaped by memory and memories colour the facts, some readers, especially those with a personal connection to the events described, may think they are reading fiction. That is inevitable and there is little help for it. Yet somewhere in the back of beyond, there is a telling historical reality. The historian's challenge is to discover that larger, more subtle, objective past which encompasses the experience of individual lives but is not bounded by it. Through this process of discovery, it is my hope that one may be able to recognize patterns of the past, become aware of historical continuities, and achieve heightened readiness for things to come.

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