



Gudula Walterskirchen

MY HOMELAND IN RUINS

1918 - End of war and new beginning in letters, diaries and recollections

With numerous illustrations
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1918 was a year of radical change and big emotions in Austria. How did the contemporary witnesses experience this time? The aristocracy, bourgeoisie and working classes have their say in authentic accounts. The book brings to light the extremely diverse assessments of that great upheaval. For some it signified the downfall of their homeland and their personal ruin, for others a hopeful new beginning: the mourning of Old Austria and the monarchy, hate for the aristocracy and the Habsburgs, the shock of having been defeated in war, embitterment and resignation, joy over the ending of the war and hope for better times. Gudula Walterskirchen has gathered previously unpublished letters, diaries and recollections which bring that year of great turmoil back to life.

GUDULA WALTERSKIRCHEN

born 1967, studied history and art history in Graz and Vienna. The historian and freelance journalist was an editor for politics at the daily newspaper "Die Presse" and is the author of numerous works of non-fiction, satire and fiction. The history of Austrian nobility has been her specialty for many years.