



Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature)

By Maxim D. Shrayer

Download now

Read Online 

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer

A memoir of coming of age and struggling to leave the USSR. Shrayer chronicles the triumphs and humiliations of a Soviet childhood and expresses the dreams and fears of a Jewish family that never gave up its hopes for a better life. Narrated in the tradition of Tolstoy's confessional trilogy and Nabokov's autobiography, this is a searing account of the KGB's persecution of refuseniks, a poet's rebellion against totalitarian culture, and Soviet fantasies of the West during the Cold War.

 [Download Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story \(Library of Modern ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story \(Library of Moder ...pdf](#)

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature)

By Maxim D. Shrayer

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer

A memoir of coming of age and struggling to leave the USSR. Shrayer chronicles the triumphs and humiliations of a Soviet childhood and expresses the dreams and fears of a Jewish family that never gave up its hopes for a better life. Narrated in the tradition of Tolstoy's confessional trilogy and Nabokov's autobiography, this is a searing account of the KGB's persecution of refuseniks, a poet's rebellion against totalitarian culture, and Soviet fantasies of the West during the Cold War.

**Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer
Bibliography**

- Rank: #1590520 in Books
- Brand: Shrayer Maxim D
- Published on: 2013-12-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x 1.20" w x 6.20" l, 1.40 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 376 pages

 [Download Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story \(Library of Modern ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story \(Library of Moder ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer

Editorial Review

Review

"... [an] exquisite memoir ... [an] unforgettable first-person account of Jewish life and Jewish suffering during the final years of Russian Communism.

-- Jonathan D. Sarna, Brandeis University, author of *When General Grant Expelled the Jews*

"In his eloquently written memoir ... Maxim D. Shrayer takes readers on a moving journey back to his Soviet childhood behind the Iron Curtain. ... One might see "Leaving Russia" as a bitter book, filled with traces of trauma the author experienced during his Soviet years. He does not try to hide his emotional scars, still present 25 years later. Yet, the autobiography, written in the narrative styles of Tolstoi and Shrayer's favorite author, Nabokov, depicts many happy moments of love, friendship, family vacations, travels and literary growth."

-- *Jewish Journal*

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story, Maxim Shrayer's nuanced memoir of his youth in the Soviet Union, reads less like the nonfiction account that it is, and more like a literary work. ... Shrayer carries over the landscapes he loves, the many attitudes toward Jews and being Jewish he experienced, the meaning of coming of age as a refusenik during the waning days of the Soviet Union, and his own complex ... emotions about being both Russian and Jewish.

-- *New Jersey Jewish News*

Maxim D. Shrayer's stunning memoir *Leaving Russia* is an engaging story of growing up as the son of Jewish intellectuals in Moscow who applied for emigration when he was ten to give him a future as a Jew. Their request was refused, and thus they became the "refuseniks." Shrayer's parents were stripped of their academic careers, and the narrator embarked on a ten-year battle to make the Soviet system work for him. Individuals sometimes gave him a chance, but the system never did. His father was banned from publishing, yet the son attempts, in vain of course, to find a publisher for his first poems. He weathers anti-Semitic jeers at school, but he is never ashamed of being Jewish. His family's cohesion is admirable, and their concrete-tower apartment, where they host refusenik salons, becomes a palpable home for the reader.

Summers spent at the Baltic seaside resort of Pärnu provide respite; Jewish families from across the USSR reunite every summer and the narrator meets his two best friends there. Shrayer captures the glassy leisure of Estonian summers spent in the company of artsy friends, while Moscow looms as a pressure cooker of majestic beauty and harsh realities.

Later, Shrayer surprises with a homage to Russia in his atmospheric account of a summer expedition to the Caucasus as a Soil Science student. He takes the reader along to experience Mother Russia in the vastness of the steppe, the forbidding mountains along the Georgian border, and the crumbling country estates where fruit trees have avoided collectivization and the youths can gorge on cherries. Clearly he is grateful for seeing the country beyond the urban realities and the Baltic idyll. Upon his return to Moscow, his refusenik conscience swings into place. He resigns from the Komsomol (Soviet youth organization) after his mother is beaten during a demonstration for the release of refusenik hero Yosef Begun. When the family is finally granted permission to emigrate in 1987, the absurdities they endure show that here a Jewish family had to leave not because they hated Russia, but because life in the Soviet system had become untenable. Often, in discussions of twentieth-century Jewish history, the plight of Soviet Jewry recedes behind the calamity of the

Holocaust. Leaving Russia should be assigned reading for anyone interested in the Jewish experience of the twentieth century. (Annette Gendler *Jewish Book Council Reviews*)

About the Author

Maxim D. Shrayer is a professor at Boston College and a bilingual writer and translator. Shrayer has authored ten books, among them the memoir *Waiting for America*, the collection *Yom Kippur in Amsterdam*, and the Holocaust study *I Saw It: Ilya Selvinsky and the Legacy of Bearing Witness to the Shoah*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Katherine Sherrer:

Nowadays reading books become more and more than want or need but also get a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. The benefits you got of course the knowledge your information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The info you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want drive more knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want sense happy read one having theme for entertaining including comic or novel. Often the *Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story* (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) is kind of guide which is giving the reader erratic experience.

Sarah Maddocks:

Reading a e-book tends to be new life style in this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Publications can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the textbooks. But also they write about advantage about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some study before they write for their book. One of them is this *Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story* (Library of Modern Jewish Literature).

Cornell Smith:

The book *Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story* (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) has a lot details on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was compiled by the very famous author. The writer makes some research prior to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you may get the point easily after reading this book.

Joan Ortega:

Do you have something that you want such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to opt for book like comic, small story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not hoping *Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story* (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) that give your fun preference will be satisfied simply by reading this

book. Reading behavior all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world far better than how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading habit only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So , for every you who want to start reading through as your good habit, you can pick Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) become your own starter.

**Download and Read Online Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story
(Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shroyer
#NOTHWBVU640**

Read Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer for online ebook

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer books to read online.

Online Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer ebook PDF download

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer Doc

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer Mobipocket

Leaving Russia: A Jewish Story (Library of Modern Jewish Literature) By Maxim D. Shrayer EPub