

Russia: A 1,000-Year Chronicle of the Wild East

By Martin Sixsmith

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Russia is a country of contradictions, a nation of cultural refinement and artistic originality and yet also a country that rules by 'the iron fist'. In this riveting history, Martin Sixsmith shows how Russia's complex identity has been formed over a thousand years, and how it can help us understand its often baffling behaviour at home and abroad. Combining in-depth research and interviews with his personal experiences as a former BBC Moscow correspondent, Sixsmith skilfully traces the conundrums of modern Russia to their roots in its troubled past, and explains the nation's seemingly split personality as the result of influences that have divided it for centuries. "A Sunday Times" bestseller, Russia is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the complex political landscape of this country, and its unique place in the modern world.

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Review
"Sixsmith has the knack of delivering complex material with a clear voice" The Times "A lively chronicle" -- Orlando Figes Sunday Times "Russia, a 1,000 Year Chronicle of the Wild East contains many of the required ingredients to become the leading popular history of Russia. Colloquial, personal and anecdotal in style ... well researched and factually sound." TLS "Russia" delivers a thoroughly satisfying history...a lively opinionated narrative." Publishers Weekly

About the Author
Martin Sixsmith studied at Oxford, Harvard and the Sorbonne. From 1980 to 1997 he was the BBC correspondent in Moscow, Washington, Brussels and Warsaw. From 1997 to 2002 he worked for the Government as Director of Communications and Press Secretary to Harriet Harman, Alistair Darling and Stephen Byers. He is now a writer, presenter and journalist. He has written two novels, Spin and I Heard Lenin Laugh, and is the author of three non-fiction titles - Moscow Coup: The Death of the Soviet System, The Litvinenko File: The True Story of a Death Foretold and The Lost Child of Philomena Lee: A Mother, Her Son and a Fifty Year Search. He lives in London.

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