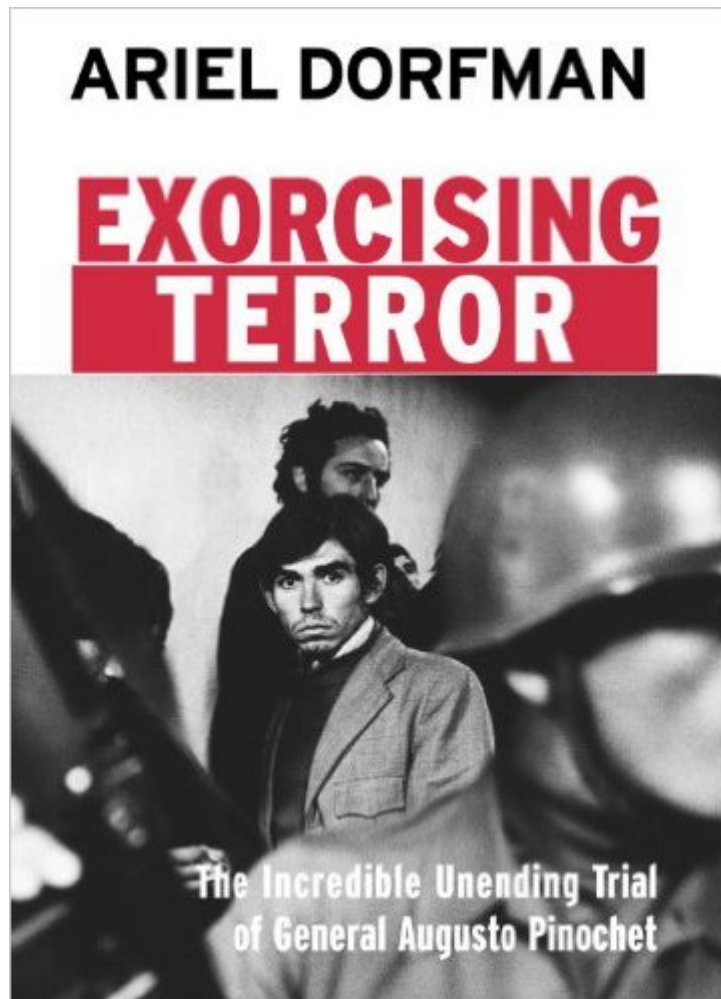


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Exorcising Terror: The Incredible Unending Trial Of General Augusto Pinochet (Open Media Series)



Synopsis

Renowned author Ariel Dorfman, obsessed for twenty-five years with the malignant shadow General Pinochet cast upon Chile and the world, followed every twist and turn of the four year old trial in Great Britain, Spain and Chile as well as in the U.S., the country that had created Pinochet. Told as a suspense thriller, filled with court-room drama and sudden reversals of fortune, the book at the same time addresses some of today's most burning issues, made all the more urgent after the terrorist attacks of September 11th 2001. What are the limits of national sovereignty in a globalizing world? How does an ever more interconnected world judge crimes committed against humanity? What role do memory and pain and the rights of the survivors play in this struggle for a new system of justice? But above all, the author, by listening carefully to the voices of Pinochet's many victims, explores how can we purge ourselves of terror and fear once we have been traumatized, and asks if we can build peace and reconciliation without facing a turbulent and perverse past.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Although Dorfman's views of the years of dictatorship are driven as much by emotion and opposition as they are by fact, his book about the Pinochet regime and the subsequent human rights trial

serves as an interesting document to the Chilean experience of dictatorship. The true extent of the horrors that occurred in Chile may never be fully known but Dorfman's book about his experience of the dictatorship and his emotions as a Chilean is an essential document to the Chilean healing process. Some of the passages are extremely well written and the end of the book in particular raises some interesting questions. There are without question finer books concerning the period, but this is the most emotional work available and Dorfman's lament for Chile is at times very powerful.

This is essential reading for anyone wanting to comprehend the crimes of Pinochet and the complicity of the United States government. As is always the case with Dorfman's books, it is beautifully written.

This is informative only for someone who has slept through the past 3 decades. It starts out promising as a personal account but never goes beyond that.

A well written history of the dark side of recent Chilean events by an experienced writer who actually lived through those perilous times - and who survived to tell the story as well as keep alive a chapter in the country's past that, once again, has to remind everybody of: "Never Again!"

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