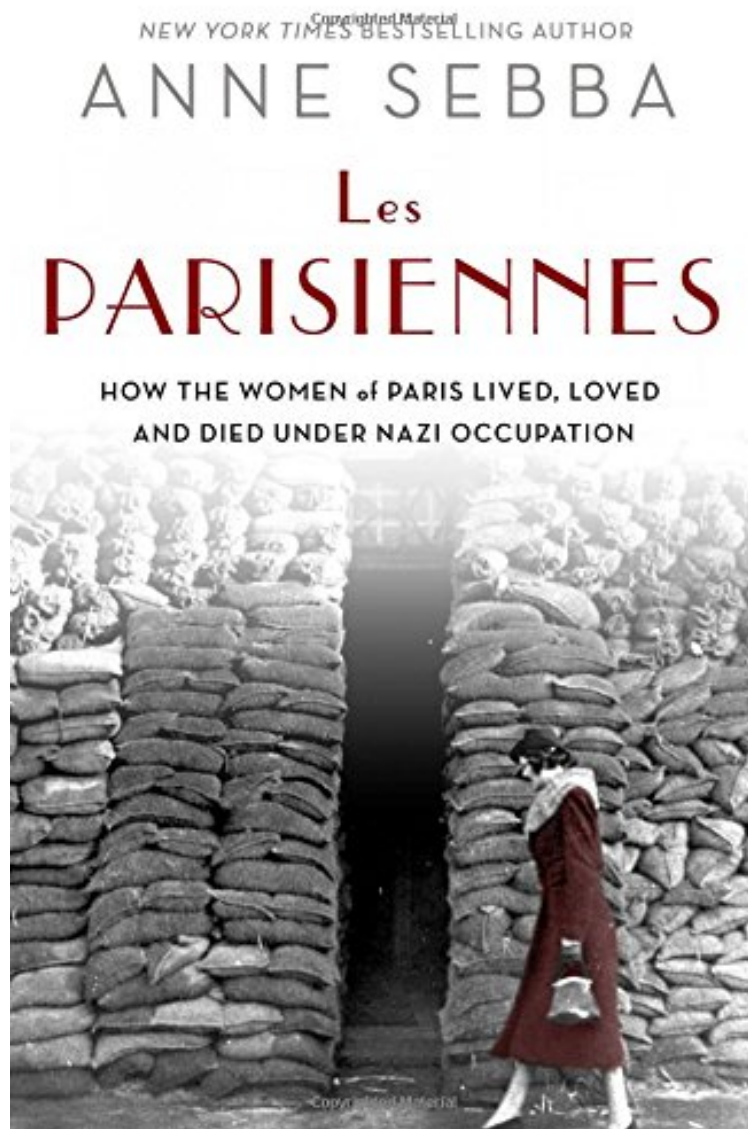


(Library ebook) Les Parisiennes: How the Women of Paris Lived, Loved, and Died Under Nazi Occupation

# Les Parisiennes: How the Women of Paris Lived, Loved, and Died Under Nazi Occupation

Anne Sebba

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#99468 in Books Sebba Anne 2016-10-18 2016-10-18 Format: Deckle Edge Original language: English PDF # 1 9.39 x 1.50 x 6.481, .0 #File Name: 1250048591480 pages Les Parisiennes How the Women of Paris Lived Loved and Died Under Nazi Occupation | File size: 78.Mb

**Anne Sebba : Les Parisiennes: How the Women of Paris Lived, Loved, and Died Under Nazi Occupation** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Les Parisiennes: How the Women of Paris Lived, Loved, and Died Under Nazi Occupation:

67 of 71 people found the following review helpful. Like Walking Through Tar!By Anna V. CarrollOther readers beat me to it when posting they thought they were buying a book about women in German-occupied Paris when it was a trudge through hundreds of snippets about people we never heard of. I pre-ordered this book months before it came out and was excited to finally read it. After the first 50 pages I literally had a headache and had to put the book down. If I had written this book I would have narrowed it down to 20 women and devoted whole chapters to their lives. You read about a woman and her trials for a couple of paragraphs and, without warning, another woman comes on the scene. The almost 400 page book hops back and forth to the point where you have to make a decision: do I want to finish this book or just put it in the book case. At around page 200 I had a dreadful thought! Instead of showcasing the plight of the French Jews, she painted a picture that is right out of the Hitler Playbook! They owned everything. They had all the money. They ran all the top businesses, regardless of what they were. They owned all the mansions. They owned all the priceless artworks. The wives and daughters were spoiled with everything their hearts desired. They went to the finest private schools. They knew everyone in society world-wide worth knowing. The smart Jewish families saw the writing on the wall fairly early and left France for England and the US. They were spared the death camps. This woman's husband was Jewish. This man's wife was half-Jewish. This Jewish family considered themselves French first, Jewish second. Guess what? In Hitler's war it didn't matter. They were Jewish. Only one Rothschild actually perished in a camp. The others escaped. Isn't this precisely what Hitler wrote about in his famous autobiography? They (Jews) owned everything in Germany, Austria, France etc. Non-Jews had an almost impossible chance of ever owning these businesses or go into competition with them. She did a great disservice in writing this book. She, unfortunately, fortified the Hitler myth that they ruled Europe through business, the arts, banking. By the end of the book, which felt like walking through five feet of tar, I was exhausted and deeply frustrated. I learned nothing from reading this book. Where is the chapter on the women who dated German soldiers during the war and were held accountable at the end of the war? A few paragraphs about how some went to jail, others never regained their reputations or jobs. Someone should write a book about the women who befriended, dated, and had children with the German soldiers. It is reported there were thousands of French-German children born during the Occupation. That would be an interesting story. She did not concentrate on that aspect of the war. There were the prerequisite tidbits about Coco Chanel and the Duchess of Windsor. All of which we have read a thousand times in other books. She must have spent a fortune hiring people to research this information for her. And, by all means, buy an English-French dictionary so you can translate all the numerous French sentences she does not bother to translate for the reader herself. She assumed everyone on earth speaks fluent French. Deeply disappointed in this book. It disappoints on many levels. I am giving it away at a book fair this month. Maybe someone else will enjoy it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding tale of women in Paris during WWIIBy Bernard . PuckerTotally remarkable volume. Well researched and thorough retelling of the unknown and unrecognized women who resisted and made courageous choice that made an important difference to each person almost daily. It is an important book about being an up stander. \*1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A WinnerBy Sandra RobinsonThis book is full of history and great anecdotes about the various (and numerous) people in the book. It is thoroughly engrossing and so very interesting. It is a slow read due to all the details, but I am thoroughly enjoying the book. I'm so glad I bought it.

Anne Sebba has the nearly miraculous gift of combining the vivid intimacy of the lives of women during The Occupation with the history of the time. This is a remarkable book. Edmund de Waal, New York Times bestselling author of The Hare with the Amber EyesNew York Times bestselling author Anne Sebba explores a devastating period in Paris's history and tells the stories of how women survived or did not during the Nazi occupation. Paris in the 1940s was a place of fear, power, aggression, courage, deprivation, and secrets. During the occupation, the swastika flew from the Eiffel Tower and danger lurked on every corner. While Parisian men were either fighting at the front or captured and forced to work in German factories, the women of Paris were left behind where they would come face to face with the German conquerors on a daily basis, as waitresses, shop assistants, or wives and mothers, increasingly desperate to find food to feed their families as hunger became part of everyday life. When the Nazis and the puppet Vichy regime began rounding up Jews to ship east to concentration camps, the full horror of the war was brought home and the choice between collaboration and resistance became unavoidable. Sebba focuses on the role of women, many of whom faced life and death decisions every day. After the war ended, there would be a fierce settling of accounts between those who made peace with or, worse, helped the occupiers and those who fought the Nazis in any way they could.

A fascinating account of how the buildup to WWII, the war itself, and its aftermath marked the lives of Parisian women . . . A standout social history. Booklist (starred review)Sebba burrows into the lives of women in the City of Light during WWII to reveal their captivating and complicated stories . . . Sebbas clear-eyed narrative concludes, correctly, that these women deserve understanding, not judgment. Publishers WeeklyFascinating . . . Anna Sebba knows everything about Paris during the war and she relates in Les Parisiennes the end of all the whispered stories I've been hearing all my life. She understands everything about the chic, loathsome collaborators and the Holocaust

victims, and their stories are told in an irresistible narrative flood. Edmund White, bestselling author of *Our Young Man* Wonderfully researched, this is an important retelling of *Les Annees Noires* in Paris which puts women's stories, and the complications of their lives under Occupation, centre stage. Sebba reminds us that we should listen and put ourselves in their shoes, before leaping immediately to judgement, and backs this up with testimonies from many women whose voices have remained unheard. Kate Mosse, Author of *Labyrinth* and *Citadel* Impressive . . . Sebba offers balance to the plethora of war histories featuring the roles of men. Kirkus sThe further readers delve into the book, the more theyll become entranced. . . . Sebbas work delivers an intriguing perspective of an overlooked group during a time when all were tested beyond their limits. Library Journal On *That Woman* A solid biography of the woman who became the King of England's excuse for abdicating his throne . . . depicts Wallis as a woman who sought power and privilege but never expected the damage she wrought or the wrath she engendered. The New York Times *That Woman* goes a long way in explaining how a not-quite-divorced, not-quite-beautiful American bedazzled a king out of his kingdom. Vogue Salacious and consuming, this well-researched biography will appeal to readers interested in British political and women's history. Kirkus sSmart, eloquent, and unafraid to go beyond the myth of the duchess of Windsor. Publishers Weekly Brought to brilliant light in this responsible, respectful biography. Booklist on *Jennie Churchill* A rigorously objective book Fascinating. Financial Times on *Mother Teresa* About the Author ANNE SEBBA is a biographer, lecturer, and former Reuters foreign correspondent who has written several books and is a member of the Society of Authors Executive Committee. She lives in London.