
Miklós Vámos

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Description

When in 1705 Kornell Csillag's grandfather returns destitute to his native Hungary from exile, he happens across a gold fob-watch gleaming in the mud. The shipwrecked fortunes of the Csillag family suddenly take a new and marvelous turn. The golden watch brings an unexpected gift to the future generations of firstborn sons: clairvoyance. Passed down from father to son, this gift offers the ability to look into the future or back into history—for some it is considered a blessing, for others a curse. No matter the outcome, each generation records its astonishing, vivid, and revelatory visions into a battered journal that becomes known as *The Book of Fathers*. For three hundred years the Csillag family line meanders unbroken across Hungary's rivers and vineyards, through a land overrun by wolves and bandits, scarred by plague and massacre, and brutalized by despots. Impetuous, tenderhearted, and shrewd, the Csillags give birth to scholars and gamblers, artists and entrepreneurs. Led astray by unruly passions, they marry frigid French noblewomen and thieving alehouse whores. They change their name and their religion, and change them back. They wander from home but always return, and through it all *The Book of Fathers* bears witness to holocaust and wedding feast alike.

Insightful reviews

David Rohov: Vermi Dobre!!!

Lizixer: Picked this book almost at random off the shelves of the local library. The mixture of history and family saga appealed. I wasn't disappointed.

This is a book infused with magical realism which seems to diminish the closer we get to the modern day and our loss of faith and spirituality. It all but disappears after the horrors of the second world war and the sterile world of post-war communist Hungary. It returns in horoscopes and late 20th century mysticism but magic lacks power as the modern world encroaches.

It is an ambitious novel. Its very language evolves as the Hungarian nation develops. Images and symbols from Hungarian culture begin each chapter. Lacking the knowledge to write his father's history, Vamos writes the history of 12 generations of fathers and their place in the history of the Hungarian nation. Birth, death, love and hate, success and failure, tragedy and comedy. All human life is here.

A book that deserves to leave the library shelves many times.

Wicca: Generations of a family - translated from Hungarian.
Interesting, a bit dark. But like falling into another world.

Greg: How was once this book?The ebook was once fine.The booklet used to be nice. It used to be ok. The publication used to be inoffensive, that is an odd factor to claim a few e-book that bargains with the subjects integrated in it. The e-book of *Fathers* tells the tales of twelve generations of sons in a Hungarian family. The scope of the publication is set 400 years. The

booklet itself is 460 pages. a few math tells me that the common variety of pages for every sons' tale is 38.33. no longer very long. The e-book is infused with a paranormal element, that's perhaps out of Marquez (I have no idea simply because i am a petulant asshole who refuses to learn Marquez (I don't have any stable reason behind this)), or even it's only Marquez-esque. the 1st born son is presented with the mystical present of having the ability to determine the earlier and occasionally the longer term in the course of the eyes of different first born sons within the family. This magical caliber is a fascinating plot equipment that after validated permits the writer to zip during the tales with no need to account for a way yes issues can have occurred or been recognized to a character. The collective tale starts to break down in the direction of the tip of the novel, curiously adequate (for me at least) at a time while the Hungarian a part of my very own ancestors looked as if it would have built a little bit amnesia approximately its personal past. This forgetting occurs in a time while theoretically it truly is changing into markedly more straightforward for issues to be remembered, in a technological and institutional manner. this may no longer be make a lot experience to you, the reader of this review, yet that is okay simply because i am type of scripting this paragraph as a word to myself. i used to be going to pass this concept within the review, yet i do not are looking to disregard those tough ideas as they have been encouraged by way of the e-book (add be aware in regards to the additional use of expertise in reminiscence here. Gotcha, it truly is done). in addition to being a quirk the place my family, the narrative family, and the authors kin kind of all collide with forgetfulness, what does this inevitably suggest in an even bigger picture, is it whatever common approximately this time. the arriving of excessive Modernism? yet what may that suggest to those that usually are not like that? Collective loss? Anyway, you could rejoin the overview now. when you are so susceptible and that i have not disgusted you with that final paragraph. This ebook is nice, as I acknowledged above. the matter with it truly is that it finally ends up being a suite of brief tales that retains beginning and stopping. it is the literary an identical of riding with somebody as they discover ways to use a clutch. there's feeling within the publication that it truly is attempting to be BIG, however the themes, or at the very least the remedy of them isn't really grand sufficient for an enormous book. however the booklet is enormous adequate that it'll in all probability flip off readers who locate titanic books to be unappealing (Big books right here I suggest the large books, the hefty tomes that individuals combat with, not only lengthy books yet huge of their web page count number and ideas). So what i feel i am attempting to say this is that the booklet is a section too formidable yet even as no longer bold enough, and it makes the ebook a delightful ebook to read, yet not likely an excessive amount of greater than that.

John T: i have continually had a fascination for Hungary; in my imagination, its regularly appeared darkly romantic, and Budapest is on my bucket checklist of towns i would like to go to ahead of I die. From a historic perspective, this was once a really fascinating read, and that i beloved the fictitious body paintings it was once hung on. it is not a beautiful book; there is a lot of violence and conflict, and it appears like the writer ran out of steam on the end. might absolutely suggest it, even though

Paul: This book, which spans twelve generations of first born sons in Hungary, took it slow for me to get into. since it is going via such a lot of generations so quickly, these trying to find in-depth personality improvement could be disappointed. However, whilst I bought to the top I nearly begun correct over. I could suggest studying the epilogue earlier than the book. it may

well damage a pair small things, however it tells of ways Miklos Vamos got here to write down the book, the way it connects to his life, and the way he dependent it, and it fairly helped carry the entire tale jointly – a narrative that's approximately Hungarian fathers in general, and in addition approximately history, reminiscence and loss. hugely recommended.

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