



Borderland: A Journey Through the History of Ukraine

By Anna Reid

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Borderland tells the story of Ukraine. A thousand years ago it was the center of the first great Slav civilization, Kievan Rus. In 1240, the Mongols invaded from the east, and for the next seven centuries, Ukraine was split between warring neighbors: Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, Austrians, and Tatars. Again and again, borderland turned into battlefield: during the Cossack risings of the seventeenth century, Russia's wars with Sweden in the eighteenth, the Civil War of 1918–1920, and under Nazi occupation. Ukraine finally won independence in 1991, with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Bigger than France and a populous as Britain, it has the potential to become one of the most powerful states in Europe. In this finely written and penetrating book, Anna Reid combines research and her own experiences to chart Ukraine's tragic past. Talking to peasants and politicians, rabbis and racketeers, dissidents and paramilitaries, survivors of Stalin's famine and of Nazi labor camps, she reveals the layers of myth and propaganda that wrap this divided land. From the Polish churches of Lviv to the coal mines of the Russian-speaking Donbass, from the Galician shtetlekh to the Tatar shantytowns of Crimea, the book explores Ukraine's struggle to build itself a national identity, and identity that faces up to a bloody past, and embraces all the peoples within its borders.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Borderland tells the story of Ukraine. Centre of the first great Slav civilisation in the tenth century, and divided between warring neighbours for the next thousand years, Ukraine finally won independence with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Bigger than France and as populous as Britain, it has the potential to become one of the leading states of Europe. Talking to peasants and politicians, rabbis and racketeers, dissidents and paramilitaries, survivors of Stalin's famine and of Nazi death camps, Anna Reid combines historical research and her own experiences to dissect the bloody and controversial past of this little-known land.

'If you think you couldn't be interested in Ukraine - and I thought I couldn't - you should read this book'
Matthew Parris, A Good Read, Radio 4

'A beautifully written evocation of Ukraine's brutal past and its shaky efforts to construct a better future...Borderland is a tapestry woven of the stories of all its inhabitants, recording their triumphs and their conflicts with the fairness of a compassionate outsider' Financial Times

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About the Author

Anna Reid was Kiev correspondent for the *Economist* and the Daily Telegraph from 1993-5, and has since covered the country for *Newsweek* and the *Spectator*. She is the author of *The Shaman's Coat: a Native History of Siberia*, and *Leningrad: Tragedy of a City under Siege, 1941-44*, which was published in ten languages and shortlisted for the Duff Cooper Prize. From 1992-6 she ran the foreign affairs program at the London-based think-tank Policy Exchange.

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Vickie Duke:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because if you are reading a book specially book entitled *Borderland: A Journey Through the History of Ukraine* your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in every aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging just about every word written in a book then become one type conclusion and explanation that maybe you never get ahead of. The *Borderland: A Journey Through the History of Ukraine* giving you an additional experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful data for your better life with this era. So now let us demonstrate the relaxing pattern the following is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

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