



Engelhardt

by Gisella Engelhardt

000 pages

Autobiography

US\$9.95

ISBN: 978-0-0914672-4-5

Fireside Book # 2203

Engelhardt follows the amazing life of Gisela Engelhardt from her birth in a village outside of Berlin, through her childhood where she shows us the city of Berlin with the eyes of a child and through the incredible and horrible years living under Hitler during WWII,

This courageous woman tells of the heart-wrenching decision to leave her Mother, Father and young brother to travel to the United States; a journey at the end of which she arrived in New York Harbor at age 25 with one dollar in her pocketbook and with only a few English words at her command.

Living with an aunt and uncle, Gisela worked as a maid at a dude ranch in North Carolina and at a hotel in Dania, Florida before landing a job on the soda fountain of a Howard Johnson's where the manager took her under his wing and taught her to speak English.

Gisela's life in America then unfolds with all of its beauties and tragedies. In the final section, this now thoroughly American woman traces the ancestry of a strong family back to its roots.

Engelhardt will make you see the Berlin of her youth, shudder at the inhumanity of war, laugh at the foibles of a young immigrant, smile at the joy she encounters, cry at the tragedies and come to know an exemplary woman and her family.

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