

My Father's Country: Story of a German Family

Wibke Bruhns



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On August 15, 1944, Major Hans Georg Klamroth was tried for treason for his part in the July plot against Hitler. Eleven days later, he was executed.

Wibke Bruhns, his youngest daughter, was six years old. Decades later, watching a documentary about the events of July 20, she saw images of her father in court suddenly appeared on-screen. "I stare at this man with the empty face. I don't know him. But I can see myself in him—his eyes are my eyes; I know I resemble him. I know I wouldn't be here without him. And what do I know about him? Nothing at all."

How could her patriotic family succumb to Nazi sympathies? And what made her father finally renounce Hitler? With a wealth of letters and diaries documenting the story of her family, from the time of Kaiser Wilhelm to the end of the Second World War, and with her own coruscating intelligence, she unravels her family's unique and unforgettable history.

My Father's Country tells an astounding story—gripping, startlingly intimate, emotionally riveting—of three generations. A huge best seller in the author's native country, it offers unparalleled insight into the experience of being German in the last century. A real-life *Buddenbrooks*.

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