



Fear in Chile: Lives Under Pinochet

By Patricia Politzer

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“Like a García Márquez novel that has suddenly, horrifyingly, come to real life” (*New York Newsday*), *Fear in Chile* is an extraordinary collection of firstperson accounts of life under dictatorship. In the 1980s, shortly after Chile emerged from one of the century’s most notorious reigns of terror, Chilean journalist Patricia Politzer interviewed figures including a revolutionary activist, a military leader loyal to General Augusto Pinochet, a bank clerk concerned with the status quo, the mother of one of the “disappeared,” as well as a dozen other men and women from every political position and social stratum of Chilean life. The result is a broad, vivid, yet nonideological view of modern life under military rule, about which Ariel Dorfman writes, “I can think of no better introduction to my country.”

With the October 1998 arrest of General Pinochet in Great Britain and renewed world awareness of the horrendous crimes committed during his regime, *Fear in Chile*, updated with a new afterword by the author that considers the recent attempts to prosecute Pinochet for human-rights violations, offers a vivid portrait of Chile’s Pinochet era.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Must-reading for would-be dictators. . . . Chileans had always thought 'it can't happen here'; Politzer, one of Chile's best opposition journalists, shows how it did." —*The New York Times*

"Every story has revealing, touching moments. . . . The voices in *Fear in Chile* tell about events in Chile but say much more about the human spirit." —*The Boston Globe*

"Vivid. . . . Politzer's interviews weave a chronicle of sustained horror." —*Los Angeles Times Book Review*

"A remarkable and moving document about life under military dictatorship." —*Newsday*

"Dramatic. . . . A timely, balanced report." —*Kirkus Reviews*

About the Author

Patricia Politzer was, in a national radio broadcast in 1978, one of the first journalists to speak out against the Pinochet coup, and for many years she had a weekly political interview column in the opposition newspaper *La Epoca*. She is now a cabinet member in the Chilean government under President Lagos.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Steven Stockton:

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