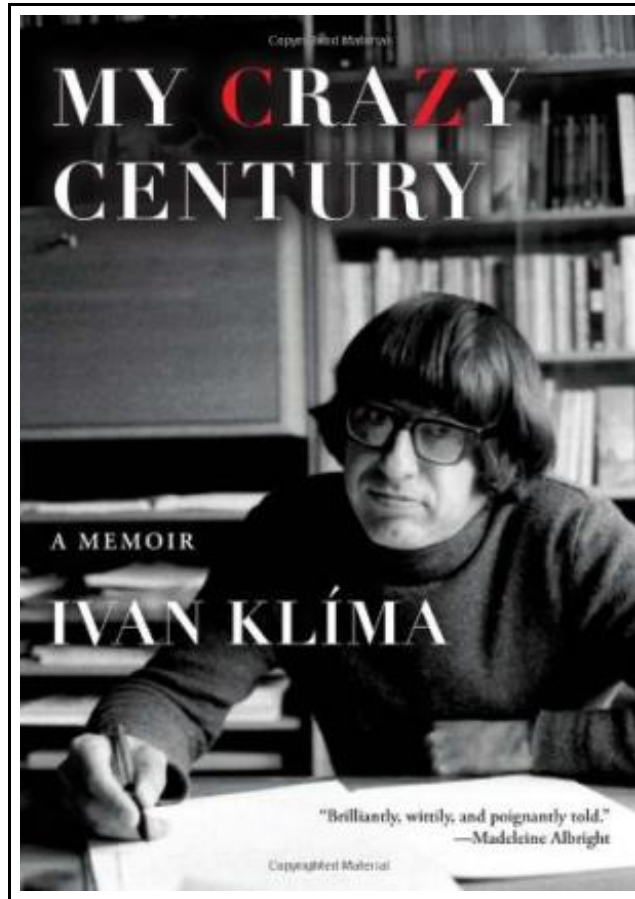


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Grove. 1 Cloth(s), 2013. hard. Book Condition: New. In his intimate autobiography, spanning six decades of war, totalitarianism, censorship, and the fight for democracy in the 20th century, Czech writer Ivan Klímaauthor of four New York Times Notable Books, *Waiting for the Dark*, *Waiting for the Light*; *No Saints or Angels*; *The Ultimate Intimacy*; and *Lovers for a Day*reflects on a remarkable life in remarkable times. His story begins in the 1930s on the outskirts of Prague, where he was unaware of his Jewish heritage until he was transported to the Terezín concentration camp. Miraculously, most of his family survived, only to return to a shattered country falling into the grip of totalitarian communism. A writer who counted Josef Kvasil, Milan Kundera, and Václav Havel among his peers, Klíma gives us a profoundly rich and personal account of life behind the Iron Curtain."Renowned Czech writer Ivan Klíma masterfully recounts, first, what it was like for him as a Jewish child confronting with his family the inhumanities of the Theresienstadt concentration camp situated at the edge of their hometown, Prague. Then, more fully, he painstakingly recalls what it was like for him and his countrymen after the Nazi thugs were driven out by the Soviet Army and replaced for four decades by the Communist thugs. How Klíma and his Czechoslovakian colleaguesamong them some of the best writers in postwar Europeendured the relentless infringement of their fundamental rights is chronicled here through the private history of one who steadily stood up to his oppressors and who has thought deeply about the degradation and deformation conferred on a decent society by the lawless thuggery of Europe's twentieth-century ideological monsters, one who preached racial purity and the annihilation of the Jews, the other working-class purity and the annihilation of the wealthy, the bourgeoisie, and...

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