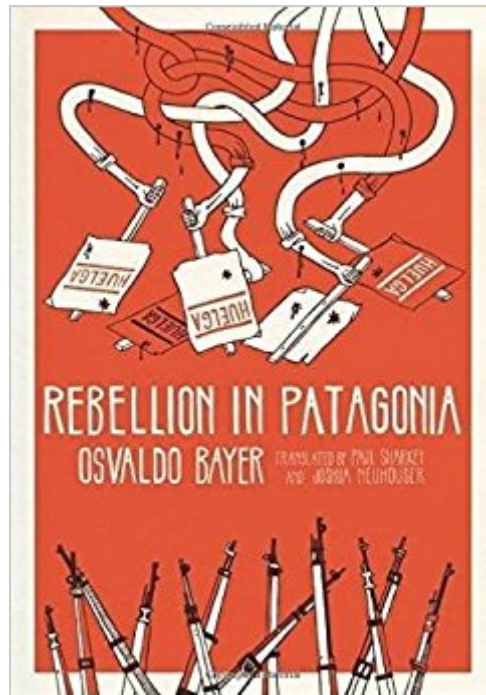




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Rebellion In Patagonia



Synopsis

At the very end of Rebellion in Patagonia, Osvaldo Bayer writes: 'Time always tears down the curtain that tries to hide the truth. A crime can never be covered up forever.' He demonstrates that principle in this moving and nuanced study of strikes led by the powerful anarcho-syndicalist labor union FORA against the despotic landowners and industrialists of Argentina's Patagonia region in 1921-1922. The tale ends tragically, with thousands slaughtered, but Bayer's detailed descriptions and first-person testimonies capture the beauty and heroism of the struggle. Banned and publicly burned in the 1970s, this is the book's first English translation; with a new introduction by Scott Nicholas Nappalos and Joshua Neuhouser. Praise for Rebellion in Patagonia The recovery of a historic struggle of the importance of Rebellion in Patagonia by Osvaldo Bayer is a decisive contribution to the social struggles of today. It offers not just a reconstruction of the past, but an example of what we, ordinary people, can do, and what we will continue to do, for our collective dignity. Raïf Zibechi, author of Territories in Resistance: A Cartography of Latin American Social Movements 'Genocide against the militant left in Argentina did not begin in 1975 with Isabel Perón or the military dictatorship of 1976-1983. Disappeared people and hidden bodies were the norm even fifty years earlier, when the Argentine army's murder of 1,500 agricultural workers was ordered by democratically elected, pseudo-progressive President Yrigoyen. The scandal was silenced until Osvaldo Bayer, journalist and historian, wrote this courageous investigative work (which also led to a 1974 whistleblowing film) in the middle of another of Argentina's most repressive eras.' Frank Mintz, translator of the French edition, La Patagonie rebelle 1921-1922: Chronique d'une révolution des ouvriers agricoles en Argentine Osvaldo Bayer is an author, journalist, and scriptwriter who was exiled from Argentina during the years of military dictatorship. His works include The Anarchist Expropriators and Anarchism & Violence. He currently lives in Buenos Aires.

Book Information

Paperback: 425 pages

Publisher: AK Press; Tra edition (August 9, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1849352216

ISBN-13: 978-1849352215

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,027,539 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in [Books > History > Americas > South America > Chile](#) #111 in [Books > History > Americas > South America > Argentina](#) #279 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Anarchism](#)

Customer Reviews

Osvaldo Bayer: Osvaldo Bayer is an author, journalist, and scriptwriter who was exiled from Argentina during the years of military dictatorship, when his books were banned and burned. He currently lives in Buenos Aires.
Joshua Neuhouser: Joshua Neuhouser is a writer and translator currently living in Mexico.

Rebellion in Patagonia is an instant classic nearly 50 years in the making. The original 4-volumes were published in Spanish in the 1970s, but proved so incendiary that the Argentine military actually ordered all copies burned in 1976. Finally, a beautiful translation makes available to an English-speaking audience the tragic story of the 1921-22 genocide of poor farm workers naive enough to believe that they had rights and the audacity to organize to demand them. Bayer's historical account reads like the most compelling murder mystery - fast-paced and compelling. It is impossible to put down - from the opening scene in which the anarchist Wilkens waits, bomb in hand, to kill the officer responsible for the Patagonian massacres to the final heartbreaking moment in which the author meets the daughter of one of the victims - a father killed in cold blood before she could even meet him. Despite the agonizing descriptions of violence, betrayal, and death, the most compelling and enduring theme of the book is the awesome idealism, courage, and honor of those poor, rural workers who together struggled heroically to create a more just world. This book will inspire all who read it to honor the heroes of Patagonia by finding ways to continue their struggle. For readers unfamiliar with this period of Argentine history, there is an extremely helpful Introduction that provides the necessary historical context.

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