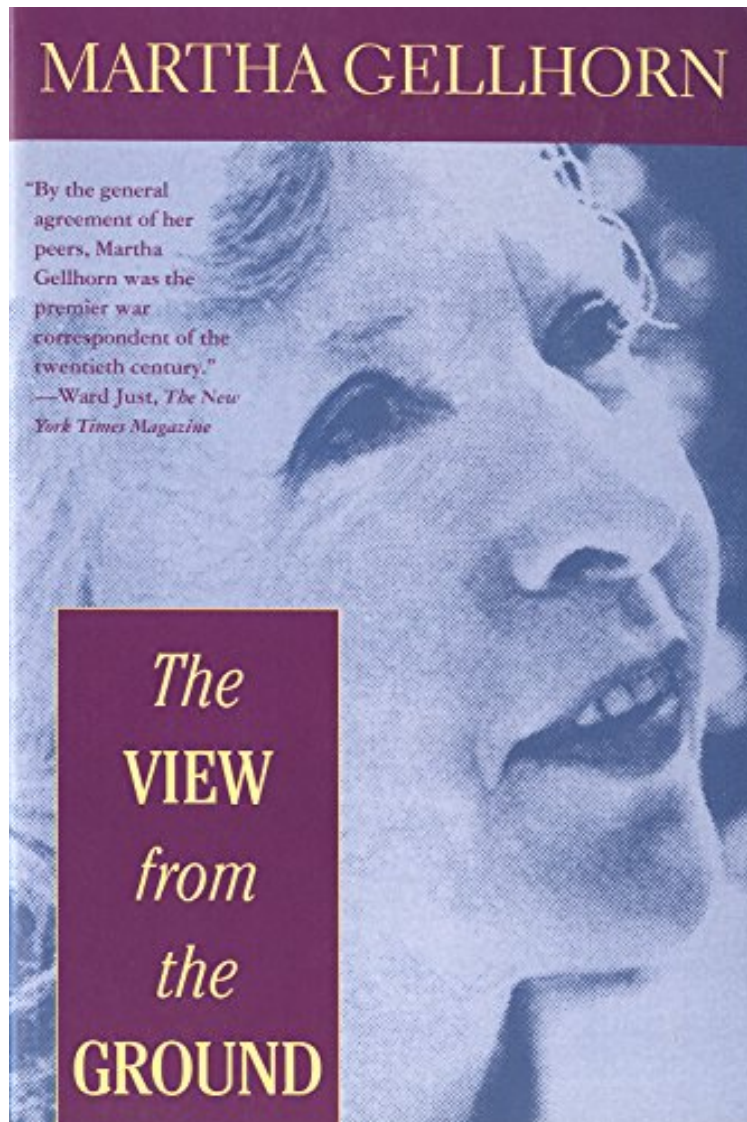


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The View from the Ground

Von Martha Gellhorn

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Von Martha Gellhorn : The View from the Ground before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The View from the Ground:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A chronicler of the 20th Century Von Ein Kunde Martha Gellhorn has two books of journalism out, one called The Face of War, and this book, The View From The Ground. She has covered everything from the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s through to the American invasion of Panama in the eighties. She refused to believe in "that objectivity crap" and wrote what she saw. She was that curious product that only America produces: the unaligned radical liberal. She

thought that nations should be judged on the same ethical grounds as people, and this was how she approached her journalism. An example of this view is shown in her piece covering the Israeli trial of Adolf Eichmann: "Adolf Eichmann is the most dire warning to us all. He is a warning to guard our souls; to refuse utterly and forever to allegiance without question, to obey orders silently, to scream slogans. He is a warning that the private conscience is the last and only protection of the civilized world." Gellhorn cut through the crap and got to the core of the issue. She had a cold eye, a tough spirit, and a compassionate heart. She was unflinching in what she said. She reported back what she saw. She thought that the American invasion of Vietnam was wrong, and said so. She was banned by America from entering Vietnam as a result. Gellhorn was a compelling writer, who wrote in a beautiful clear prose. We don't see her type any more, which is a great shame. She was, above all, a great chronicler of the 20th century.

Kurzbeschreibung As Martha Gellhorn explains, This book is a selection of articles written during six decades; peace-time reporting. That is to say, the countries in the background were at peace at the moment of writing; not that there was peace on earth. America during the Depression, Spain in the anxious aftermath of Franco's death, a Christmas with the have-nots in London and a weekend in Israel, the magnificent protests at the White House, a memoir of domestic life in Africa and an account of returning to Cuba after a forty-one-year absence . . . these writings are as wide as Martha Gellhorn's life as a writer for nearly sixty years, and all of them are marked by her grace, her passion, her fierce belief in the right, and her loathing of the wrong. Informed by the horrors of fascism in Spain and Germany as well as the highly modern terror in Central America, and by the courage of those defenders of decency who stand up to the thugs both in and out of government, *The View From the Ground* is a singular act of testimony that like its companion volume, *The Face of War* is unique in our time.