



reading

A U S T R I A

BOOKS ABOUT AUSTRIA

Edmund De Waal 2010 "The Hare With The Amber Eyes"

Edmund de Waal writes this memoir as he discovers the story of his family, the Ephrussi, and their collection of 264 small Japanese wood and ivory carvings ("netsuke") over five generations. A nineteenth-century banking dynasty in Vienna, the Ephrussi were as rich and respected as the Rothschilds. Yet by the end of the World War II, when the netsuke were hidden from the Nazis in Vienna, this collection was all that remained of their vast empire.

Viktor Frankl 1946 "Man's Search For Meaning"

Between 1942 and 1945 the psychiatrist – and the founder of logotherapy - Viktor Frankl survived four different camps, including Auschwitz. Based on this experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose.

Frederic Morton 1989 "Thunder at Twilight"

The author, born as Fritz Mandelbaum in Vienna in 1924, sets *Thunder at Twilight* against the background of the year 1913, when young Stalin, Trotzky and Hitler happened to be in the Vienna of emperor Franz Joseph and Archduke Franz Ferdinand at the same time. Frederic Morton evokes the opulent, elegant, incomparable sunset metropolis – Vienna on the brink of WWI.

Stefan Zweig 1942 "The World of Yesterday"

Stefan Zweig's final work, sent to his publisher the day before his suicide, gives us insight into a world brutally destroyed. Written as both a recollection of the past, and as a warning for future generations, *The World of Yesterday* recalls the golden age of literary Vienna and its devastating fall in a time of horror that tore apart the European culture.