

# Madame Proust and the kosher kitchen

Chatto & Windus - Madame Proust And The Kosher Kitchen : Kate Taylor : 9780099441984



Description: -

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Science fiction.

Recreation areas -- United States -- Management

Jewish women -- France -- ParisMadame Proust and the kosher kitchen

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## A rewriting of things past

There's some hope, I guess. The first is presented mainly in the form of diaries written by Jeanne Proust, the doting mother of the famous French novelist.

### Kate Taylor

The historical figure, Captain Alfred Dreyfus, was found guilty of spying for the Germans and sentenced to Devil's Island, one of the toughest penal colony in history. The diary part sounded very modern and written by a younger person than Proust's mother this is not an actual diary.

## A rewriting of things past

Sunday Telegraph London, England, February 9, 2003, Jessica Mann, review of Madame Proust and the Kosher Kitchen. Learning these details made me wonder what elements were sacrificed from a story that could have achieved literary perfection to make the novel more broadly appealing? Let me say at the outset that it is well written overall but falls down in achieving what is promised a coherent knitting together of the various threads that make up the novel.

### Kate Taylor

There's enough historical detail to create the scenes, but not so much to bog down the story. As he comes closer confirming Dreyfus's innocence, several around him die from mysterious causes, the French government willing to continue a conspiracy rather than to admit that it had imprisoned an innocent man.

## A Man in Uniform by Kate Taylor

Taylor: Yes, it can be very funny, and bitter too.

## Mme Proust and the Kosher Kitchen by Kate Taylor

The Madame Proust of the title is the real Madame Proust. And yet, some motivations remain weirdly obscure to me - it's not clear to me why Current Marie pines after a gay man for so long, and 5 years after cutting off the friendship, makes an impulsive decision flee to France! All these strands are brought poignantly together - the new world and the old, the Seine and the St Lawrence, mothers and sons, outsiders and insiders - in this intelligent and beautifully judged debut novel.

## **Indigo**

I thoroughly enjoyed the historical diaries of Mme. Sarah Bensimon is a young Parisian Jew who marries into an orthodox family and takes refuge in her kitchen, recreating a kosher version of classic French cuisine.

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