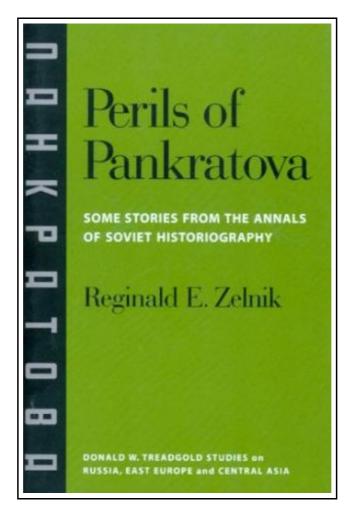
The Perils of Pankratova: Some Stories from the Annals of Soviet Historiography



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THE PERILS OF PANKRATOVA: SOME STORIES FROM THE ANNALS OF SOVIET HISTORIOGRAPHY



University of Washington Press, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 224 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Renowned Russian historian Reginald E. Zelnik s final manuscript is a biography of Anna Pankratova, a woman from Odessa who became a leading labor historian and academic administrator in the Soviet Union from the 1920s to her death in 1957. Drawing upon archival materials once inaccessible to Western scholars, as well as memoirs published since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Zelnik conceptualized his study as one of constrained dissent, in the sense that Pankratova, a Communist scholar loyal to the Party, nevertheless courageously sought to protect her colleagues, students, and friends from disaster. Portraying Pankratova as both victim and victimizer, Zelnik treats in evocative detail several revealing episodes in her career as the most powerful woman in the Soviet Union s history profession. These episodes include her husband s arrest, her own exile, and the ruin of many scholarly colleagues during the Stalinist purges. One particularly interesting part of Pankratova s life was her experience during World War II in Kazakhstan, in Soviet Central Asia, which led her to champion the national rights of the Kazakhs. Zelnik s last monograph marks his first examination of issues of ethnicity and nationalism in the Soviet period, and in the Central Asian context in particular. Five essays that address Zelnik s scholarship as a labor historian who approached the central question of class formation through his investigation of participants personal experience, as well as his teaching and citizenship, accompany the monograph. Contributors include Laura Engelstein, David A. Hollinger, Benjamin Nathans, Yuri Slezkine, and Glennys Young. The volume also encompasses excerpts from two Soviet texts, including Pankratova's historic 1956 speech on the menace of Stalinist legacies in history...

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