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(English Edition)

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Von Mike Ormsby

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Von Mike Ormsby : Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania: Close your guidebook and meet the people! (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania: Close your guidebook and meet the people! (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Several espressos and an icy showerVon Maria4 a.m. After finishing its last page, I close Mike Ormsbys Never mind the Balkans, heres Romania letting the book rest in my hand. It feels like holding the fragile and limp hand of my wondrous (quoting Mike) but still suffering mother country. Many minutes pass and I still cannot fall asleepthe books effect on me equals several espressos and an icy shower. Painful. Painfully true. Painfully realistic. And painfully necessary. The contents of this book should be served to each Romanian abroad or at home in exact doses before their morning coffee. Because so many of them run through their lives and through this fabulous homeland of ours eyes wide shut.We, Romanians, need you Mike Ormsby! We, Romanians, need your incisive journalistic style and your British humour! Hold us the mirror! Hard words break no bones! Thank you, Mike Ormsby!1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I'm in two minds about this bookVon MoritzOn one hand, it offers an interesting insight. As a man in a long term relationship with a Romanian woman, a lot of the short anecdotes ring incredibly true. Having been to Romania several times for extended periods, I saw a lot of what is described first hand. Infuriating paperwork, lack if any interest in service and a huge 'why should I do it?' Attitude.The problem I have is that the author occasionally becomes the villain (I use the term loosely) in the stories. He becomes unlikable to the reader, or at least he did to me on occasion, pushing situations further than need be and, worst of all, seemingly considering himself god's gift to mankind (or at least Romania). He makes Romanians out to be real idiots sometimes, and I feel it may have helped to clarify early on how many positive experiences he's had. I know that probably wouldn't have been as good a hook as nearly getting run over by everyone though.Anyway, worth it for anyone who enjoys a couple of laughs, and has had some form of contact with Romanians, you'll find at least one story you can imagine those Romanians you know being at the centre of.1 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Never mind the BalkansVon MaryIch habe viele Jahre in Rumaeninen gelebt und das Buch mit einem lachenden und einem weinenden Auge gelesen. Meist beides zur gleichen Zeit. Die Kurzgeschichten von Mike Ormsby beschreiben sehr treffen typische rumaenische Gewohnheiten und Eigenheiten, mit liebevollem Blick und gutem Humor. Lustig und traurig und sehr treffend.Besonders hat mir die Geschichte von 'Mr. President - der Gebaeude Administrator' gefallen. Wir hatten genau so eine 'Frau Praesidentin' in unserem Haus. Vielleicht seine Schwester?

Kurzbeschreibung'Never Mind the Balkans, Heres Romania' has been described as one ofthe best guide books on Romania. If you want to discover Romania withsomeone who knows it well, Mike Ormsbys travel writing is for you.Whilst the average Romania travel guide provides details of places tovisit, this writer takes a different approach. Ormsby gets up closeand personal, blending journalistic objectivity with dry wit to crafttrue-life stories about the people who live in Romania: from friendlyhikers and shepherds in Transylvania, to exasperated taxi drivers andbossy bureaucrats in Bucharest.Ormsby's bittersweet short stories are a quick and easy read yet offerfascinating glimpses of an enthralling land that Vlad The ImpalerTepes - real life inspiration for gothic legend Dracula - once ruledwith an iron fist.Mike Ormsbys first visited Romania in spring 1994 as a BBC reporter.Touched by the hospitality and wry humour of the local people, he soonreturned to teach journalism at BBC World Service School in Bucharest,and remained in that post for several years, writing in his sparetime.Published in 2008, Never Mind the Balkans, Heres Romania, was wellreceived by Romanias literary critics, several of whom dubbed Ormsby'The British Caragiale', in deference to their beloved fin-de-siclesatirist and playwright. Ion Luca Caragiale shone a humorous andaffectionate light on Romania in his era, and Mike Ormsby does thesame in ours.Numerous expats and visitors have also welcomed the book as a uniqueand modern variation on the more conventional Romania travel guide.Never Mind the Balkans, Heres Romania is a memorable collection oftravel writing that provides a unique insight into this irresistiblecountry, where locals say, "Ca la noi, la nimeni - there's nobodyquite like us."So, close your guide book and meet the people! Ormsby's cast ofcolourful characters will entertain, educate, and even enrage - itdepends whos reading.Many reviewers praise the books frank and funny descriptions of lifein Romania:This chronicle of slightly agonised passion for a country and itspeople is exactly the kind of Romania guidebook that a visitor needs -an insight into the culture's paradoxical heart.Wonderfully captures many aspects of living and working in Romania -funny, frequently frustrating and uniquely Romanian.A good read on the cultural changes in post-communist Romania with acomical slant. An interesting piece of social commentary.A fascinating view of Romanian people, witty and readable.If you enjoy honest travel writing this is definitely worth a read.If you're planning a trip or have already been, this is aninsightful, informative, and funny book on Romania and Romanians.The book is a series of short witty essays about everyday life andfriendships in modern Romania. Ormsby skilfully brings out thecontradictions, contrasts, warmth, and beauty of a fascinating countryand its colourful people.Never Mind the Balkans, Heres Romania is an intimate tour ofRomania with an expert guide. Perfect for the truly adventurous aswell as the armchair traveller. Ormsby smuggles you deep inside thisextraordinary country and into the minds of its people. A brilliantread.A fascinating journey through Romanian geography and culture, toldwith warmth and hope.I loved this book. An anecdotal review of life in Romania from theperspective of an Englishman with typically dry humour.

Highly recommended, a great read, and I was laughing from beginning to end. A realistic and very humorous insight into the Romanian psyche. As someone who has travelled extensively in Romania I could relate to many incidents. Never Mind the Balkans has become one of the best-selling books ever written about Romania by a foreigner. Romania is the protagonist of the book, not Mike Ormsby. Kurzbeschreibung 'Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania' has been described as one of the best guide books on Romania. If you want to discover Romania with someone who knows it well, Mike Ormsby's travel writing is for you. Whilst the average Romania travel guide provides details of places to visit, this writer takes a different approach. Ormsby gets up close and personal, blending journalistic objectivity with dry wit to craft true-life stories about the people who live in Romania: from friendly hikers and shepherds in Transylvania, to exasperated taxi drivers and bossy bureaucrats in Bucharest. Ormsby's bittersweet short stories are a quick and easy read yet offer fascinating glimpses of an enthralling land that Vlad The Impaler Tepes - real life inspiration for gothic legend Dracula - once ruled with an iron fist. Mike Ormsby's first visit to Romania was in spring 1994 as a BBC reporter. Touched by the hospitality and wry humour of the local people, he soon returned to teach journalism at BBC World Service School in Bucharest, and remained in that post for several years, writing in his spare time. Published in 2008, Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania, was well received by Romania's literary critics, several of whom dubbed Ormsby 'The British Caragiale', in deference to their beloved fin-de-siècles satirist and playwright. Ion Luca Caragiale shone a humorous and affectionate light on Romania in his era, and Mike Ormsby does the same in ours. Numerous expats and visitors have also welcomed the book as a unique and modern variation on the more conventional Romania travel guide. Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania is a memorable collection of travel writing that provides a unique insight into this irresistible country, where locals say, "Ca la noi, la nimeni - there's nobody quite like us." So, close your guide book and meet the people! Ormsby's cast of colourful characters will entertain, educate, and even enrage - it depends who's reading. Many reviewers praise the book's frank and funny descriptions of life in Romania. This chronicle of slightly agonised passion for a country and its people is exactly the kind of Romania guidebook that a visitor needs - an insight into the culture's paradoxical heart. Wonderfully captures many aspects of living and working in Romania - funny, frequently frustrating and uniquely Romanian. A good read on the cultural changes in post-communist Romania with a comical slant. An interesting piece of social commentary. A fascinating view of Romanian people, witty and readable. If you enjoy honest travel writing this is definitely worth a read. If you're planning a trip or have already been, this is an insightful, informative, and funny book on Romania and Romanians. The book is a series of short witty essays about everyday life and friendships in modern Romania. Ormsby skilfully brings out the contradictions, contrasts, warmth, and beauty of a fascinating country and its colourful people. Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania is an intimate tour of Romania with an expert guide. Perfect for the truly adventurous as well as the armchair traveller. Ormsby smuggles you deep inside this extraordinary country and into the minds of its people. A brilliant read. A fascinating journey through Romanian geography and culture, told with warmth and hope. I loved this book. An anecdotal review of life in Romania from the perspective of an Englishman with typically dry humour. Highly recommended, a great read, and I was laughing from beginning to end. A realistic and very humorous insight into the Romanian psyche. As someone who has travelled extensively in Romania I could relate to many incidents. Never Mind the Balkans has become one of the best-selling books ever written about Romania by a foreigner. Romania is the protagonist of the book, not Mike Ormsby. ber den Autor und weitere Mitwirkende British writer Mike Ormsby is the author of best selling travel book 'Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania'. His two-part travel novel - Child Witch Kinshasa and 'Child Witch London - has been widely praised for its authentic and humorous insight into the life of a Congolese street kid who heads west. Spinner the Winner, Mike Ormsby's illustrated eco-book for children, has been translated into Romanian, Serbian, and Spanish. Several international utility providers use it in educational activities to raise awareness of how wind turbines create both energy and controversy. Mike's screenplay 'Hey, Mr DJ!' was filmed in Kigali and topped the bill at Rwanda's first Hillywood Film Festival. His script 'Enfants dits Sorciers' was filmed in Kinshasa. A former BBC journalist/World Service trainer, Mike Ormsby lives in Transylvania with his wife Angela Nicoara, five cats, three dogs, and the occasional bear.