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Paolo Rumiz : The Fault Line: Traveling the Other Europe, From Finland to Ukraine by Paolo Rumiz (2015-03-03) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fault Line: Traveling the Other Europe, From Finland to Ukraine by Paolo Rumiz (2015-03-03):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Borderlands and frontiers have long fascinated me. Paolo Rumiz ...By L. A. RobinsonBorderlands and frontiers have long fascinated me. Paolo Rumiz, long time Italian journalist and world traveler, has journeyed the traditional borderlands of Europe made new by the European Union; what Rumiz calls "fortress Europe." Rumiz and his traveling companion prefer their Europe wild and raw which is why they commit to traveling the non-EU side of the vertical border from Murmansk Russia to Istanbul by train and bus for most of their journey. Through a portion of Europe which is little written about we meet gregarious grandmothers, gangsters, surly youth and back-to-the-land authors who share their stories about life and history.Rumiz and his companion have an open attitude to the people and places they experience which is very refreshing. They also understand the deep historical and cultural nuances of lands where there is a deep void resulting from the forced deportations, relocations and exterminations of peoples over the last century. About the market square in Chernivtsi Ukraine, the former Czernowitz, center of Jewish culture and learning, Rumiz has to say: "All around are Cossack butchers with cascading mustaches, buxom Moldovian farm women, vociferous Romanians selling strings of braided onions, bony-faced Carpathian natives with baskets of mountain herbs and greens. The only missing player in this

chaotic scene is the Hassidic Jew with his wide-brimmed black hat, black long coat, and curls down to his shoulders." He understands what has been lost. And the rich strangeness that yet remains.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I think that his translator had a lot of fun with his job and when I read it a ...By Linda KentroThis is one exquisite book. For those who feel solace by walking the earth, expanded by recapturing history, and nourished by tales of those who connect with a hallowed spirit, this will please you. Did I leave out humor? The charm in his insights made me smile and read aloud to others. I grew up in the US and have lived half my life in Asia, but my heart yens to understand the Slavic Mittel Europa of my ancestry and to visit Karelia, in particular. I think that his translator had a lot of fun with his job and when I read it a second time it will be with a dictionary. It's not often that I read a book with English words I've never seen but somehow that was just right when reading insights so rare as these. Please give your English language readers more, Paolo.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. North to South along the Russian European frontier of 2000By Larry SollerThis remarkable journey captures something that we all dream about. Along with his Russian translator Monica, the writer takes us from the far northern reaches of the Baltic to Istanbul. The writer's willingness to participate in difficult travel, being with the people of the earth... Jewish, orthodox Christian, Russian and Polish, Latvian and Estonian,to name a few, makes our own, very safe and carefully planned journeys seem unimaginative. Courageous, Vividly descriptive, and heartwarming because of the people, make this a must read for all serious travelers... this is my second time through this remarkable book whenever I am unable to sleep at night, I open this book on my iPad with the Kindle app and I read a chapter or 2... Pablo does what all great travel writers do Bring us to that space I'm help us understand what it's like to be part of the local culture. I'm continuing to look for some of the photo memories that Monica recorded while they were traveling, but nevertheless his description of these wonderful Russian Jewish, russian, latvian and northern european people and places is remarkable...forgive typos