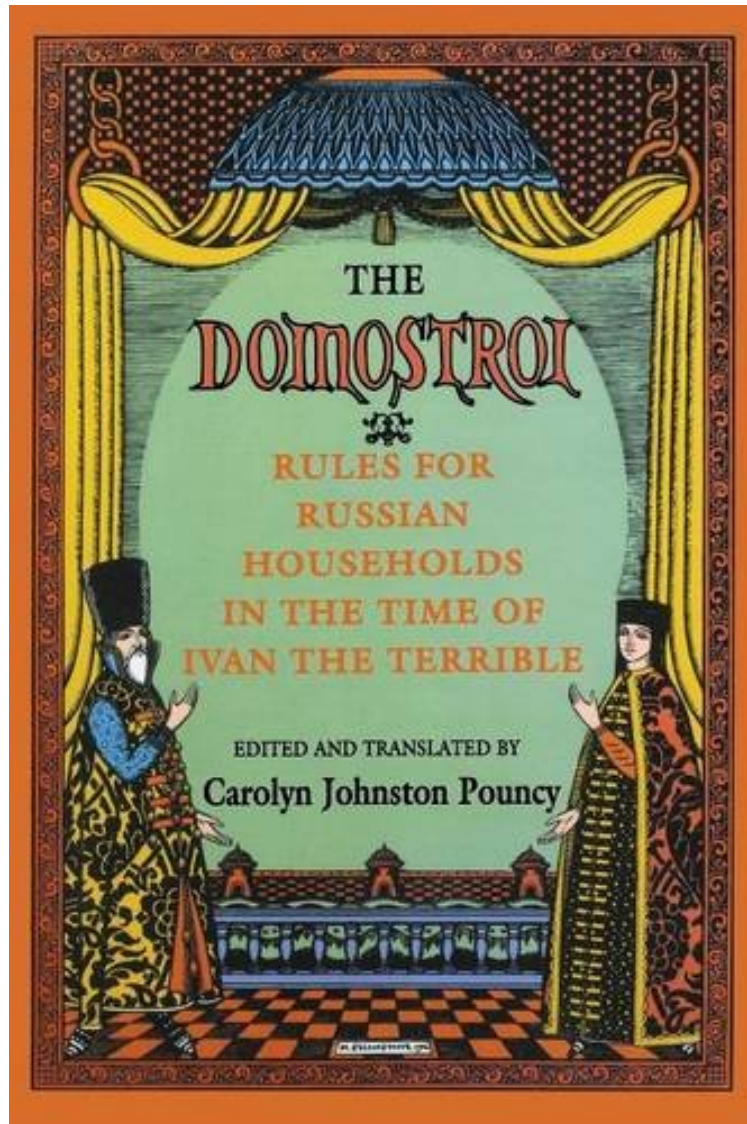


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## The Domostroi: Rules for Russian Households in the Time of Ivan the Terrible

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**From Brand: Cornell University Press : The Domostroi: Rules for Russian Households in the Time of Ivan the Terrible** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Domostroi: Rules for Russian Households in the Time of Ivan the Terrible:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Long Time Ago in a Land Far Away By M. Hughes I bought this book while researching a novel I was ghostwriting set in sixteenth century Russia. The book was immensely helpful.

The "Domostroi" was the "bible" for behavior among noble families in Russia at the time. The book was packed with all sorts of obscure information ranging from how to beat servants to how to clean up a bride after her wedding night. It was a fascinating look at a "long time ago in a land far away." I'll be reading it again. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. rulesBy maQuite an expose of life and how one is to conform to be accepted - even today. But Russia is far from an exception to these rules of play2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Have Wondered for Years About ThisBy Eliz-RFor many years, I have wondered about this book. I have heard it referenced, and wanted to read it for myself. As a Russian Orthodox Christian, I was particularly interested in descriptions of how 17th century Russians incorporated their faith into their daily lives. The translation seems to be accurate, and the book is, for the most part, readable. I am becoming more and more intrigued with the way the 17th century Russian culture supported the faith of the people, and how the faith of the people supported their culture. It is a fascinating study in cultural and religious anthropology.

A manual on household management, the Domostroi is one of the few sources on the social history and secular life of Russia in the time of Ivan the Terrible. It depicts a society that prized religious orthodoxy, reliance on tradition, and absolute subordination of the individual to the family and the state. Specific instructions tell how to arrange hay, visit monasteries, distill vodka, treat servants, entertain clergy, cut out robes, and carry out many other daily activities. Carolyn Johnston Pouncy here offers, with an informative introduction, the first complete English translation.

"The Domostroi, which literally means 'household order,' is a 16th-century Russian guide to life for noblemen, an exhaustive inventory of homilies, rules and recipes ranging from how to instill obedience in a wife to instructions for making mead and storing cabbage. Students of Russian history have long valued the Domostroi for its insights into how society was ordered in the early days of czarist rule. But even the merely curious can revel in the domestic preoccupations and atavistic advice in this ably translated and annotated edition .... Much of the Domostroi reads like a kind of 'Hints from Heloise' and Abelard." Alessandra Stanley, New York Times Book "The Domostroi is a wonderful resource for the social history of the Muscovite period that is, sadly, little seen by any but the most serious specialist. . . . This translation goes a long way toward opening the Domostroi to a wider audience. . . . The translation itself reads well a difficult feat, considering the abstruse style of the original. Throughout, Pouncy uses footnotes to educate readers with fuller information about the history and society of Muscovy, controversies among modern historians, choices she made for the translation and bibliographic citations for her work." Russian Language Notes Text: English (translation) Original Language: Russian