



Adoption Reckonings

For Three Refrigerators and a Washing Machine

By Gonda Van Steen

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RIGHTS

Exclusive: WORLD

Presents the play For Three Refrigerators and a Washing Machine, which explores the emotional challenges of international child adoptions from Greece in the 1950s and 1960s and sheds light on the untold stories of loss and displacement.

This book presents a new theater play, titled For Three Refrigerators and a Washing Machine, along with a thorough introduction that provides historical context and theoretical framing of the “historic” child adoptions from postwar Greece.

Readership

The book is aimed not only at general readers but also at school and university libraries. It speaks to anyone with an interest in adoption, identity quests, reproductive methods, family formation strategies, social and child welfare work, the intersections of private and public law, postwar and Cold War history and bilateral relations, humanitarian aid schemes, international adoption scandals and investigations, current adoptee activism and advocacy for identity rights, broader policy work, and so on.

Key selling points

Presents an authentic playscript in the form of “testimony theater”

Imparts critical reflections on “historic” adoptions of the postwar era

Comes in highly readable and relatable format

Includes pictures from the premiere play production (London, 24–26 October 2024, Greenwood Theatre)

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Gonda Van Steen holds the Koraes Chair of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature in the Department of Classics at King’s College London.

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