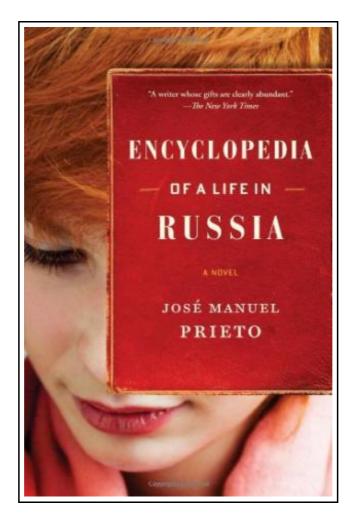
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Grove Press / Atlantic Monthly Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Encyclopedia of a Life in Russia, Jose Manuel Prieto, In "Encyclopedia of a Life in Russia," acclaimed author Jose Manuel Prieto has masterfully crafted a kaleidoscopic portrait of post-Communist Russia. Strikingly poetic and cleverly humorous, it's the story of two misfits caught between old world traditions and the lure of contemporary Western influences as they set off on an adventure to immerse themselves in the beauty of the world. Thelonius Monk (not his real name) and Linda Evangelista (not her real name) meet in Saint Petersburg after the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991. They journey to Yalta, where Thelonius promises to make Linda famous in the fashion magazines. But in fact, he's drafting a novel about her. Over the course of their travels, the two indulge in all sorts of sensual amusementsextravagant dinners, luxury automobiles, seaside hotelswhile they engage in grand discussions of love, art, celebrity, and other existential polarities. Alphabetically organized from Abacus to Zizi, this book defies chronology and conformity. Finding the sublime in the trivial through meditations on wildly varied subjects of fact and fancyfrom Bach and Dostoyevsky to Italian alligator shoes and fluoride toothpastePrieto ardently explores the crossroads of literature, philosophy, history, and pop culture in this singular novel that captures a nation straddling custom and innovation."

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