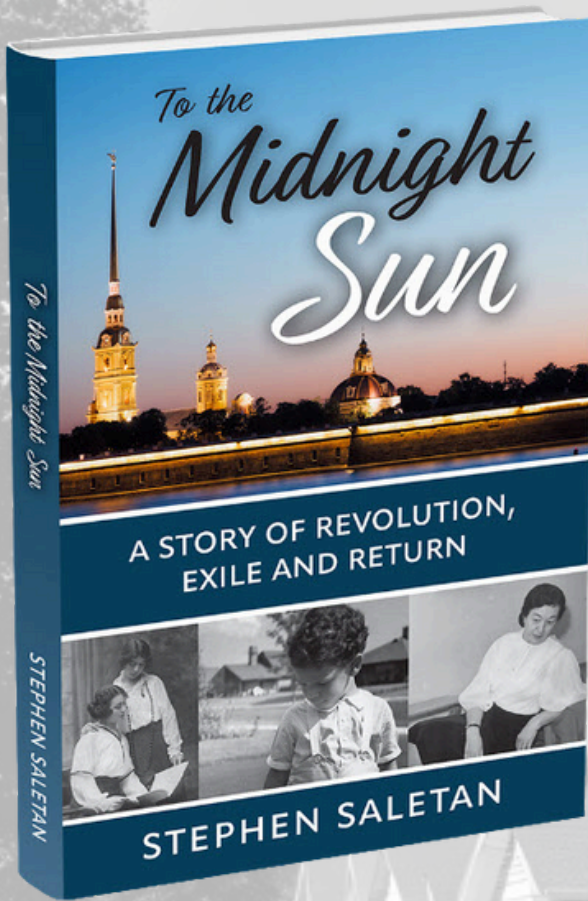


# Memoir



In a quiet midcentury American suburb, a young boy waits eagerly every Friday for a visit from his Russian grandmother and tales of her youthful exploits with fellow revolutionaries fighting the oppressive regime of the Tsar. At the age of thirteen, he travels with her to the crumbling but beautiful city of Leningrad, where he meets his Russian relatives living under the shadow of Communism in a ramshackle communal apartment in a once grand apartment house from the city's cosmopolitan golden age. Thirty years later, after the breakup of the Soviet Union, he returns once again to the newly renamed city of St. Petersburg to seek the deeper truths behind his grandmother's stories and to reconnect with the legacy that shaped him as a child.

*To The Midnight Sun* is an inspiring story of family, history, and the search for connections across place and time that help make us who we are.

## Book information

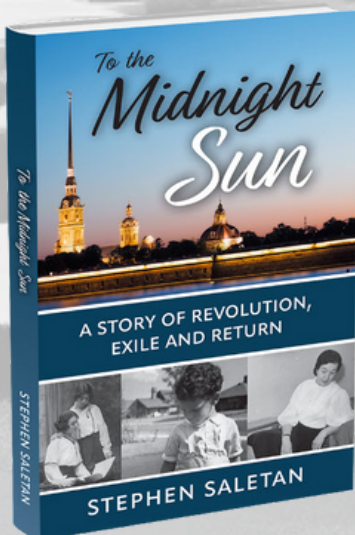
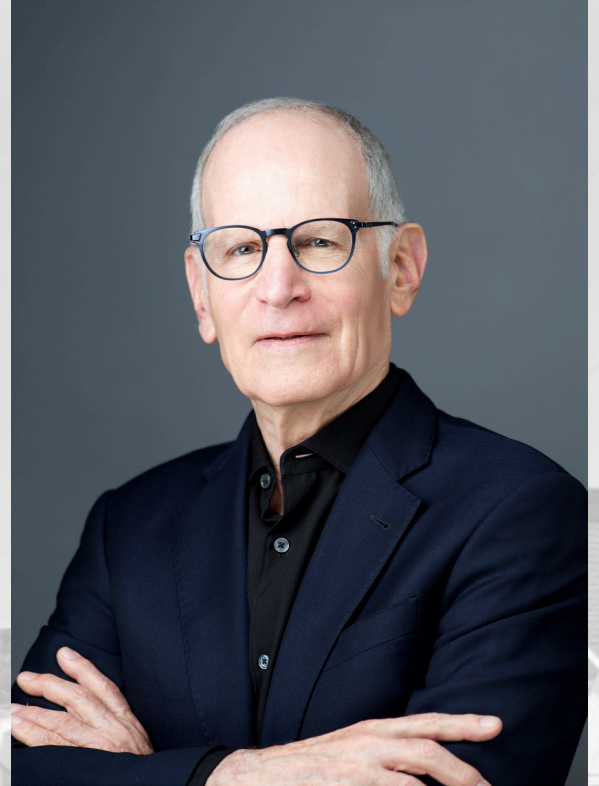
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# About the author

Stephen Saletan was born in New York City and raised in the suburbs of Long Island. As a young child he was captivated by his Russian grandmother's stories of her youth in the old Russian city of Pskov and the revolutionary activities that led to her emigration to America. At the age of thirteen he traveled with her to the Soviet city of Leningrad, where he met his Russian relatives and learned more about the family's past.

After finishing his undergraduate work, he attended Harvard Medical School and completed his post-graduate training in oncology. In the 1990s he earned a degree in journalism from Columbia University, studied Russian at Middlebury College, and returned to Russia to research his family's story. He is the author and co-author of numerous medical research articles and reviews. *To the Midnight Sun* is his first book.



**"A captivating and propulsive book—an important, deeply felt account of one facet of Russian-American history."**

— John Pym, author of *Merchant Ivory's English Landscape*

**"A fascinating and delight-filled book. Stephen Saletan is dazzling at rendering the significance of place, of a landscape, in carrying a story."**

—Leslie Daniels, author of *Cleaning Nabokov's House*



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