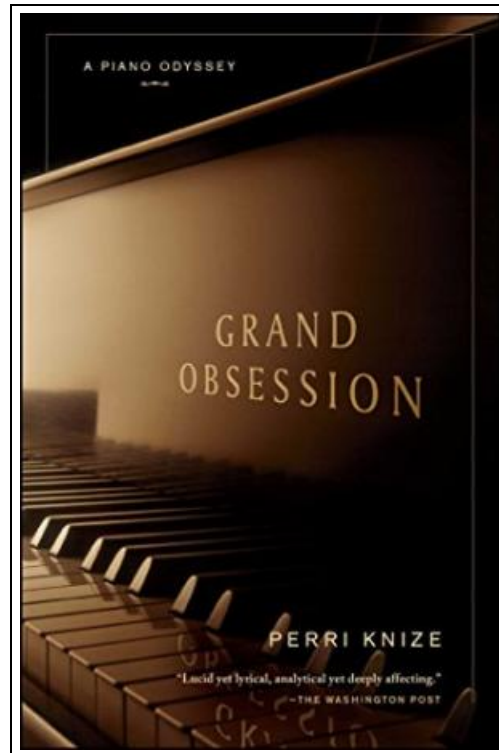


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SIMON SCHUSTER, United States, 2009. Paperback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. Now available in paperback, the critically acclaimed, lyrical, analytical, yet deeply affecting (The Washington Post) memoir about one woman s obsessive search for the perfect piano--and about finding and pursuing passion at any age. The daughter of a professional musician, Perri Knize was raised in a home saturated in classical music, but it wasn t until adulthood that she returned to the one instrument that mesmerized her most: the piano. When, in her forties, Perri decides to buy a piano of her own, she begins by searching for a modestly priced upright, but falls madly, illogically, in love with a rare German grand she discovers in a New York showroom. After a long dalliance, Knize refinances her house to purchase her piano and has the instrument shipped to Montana. But when it arrives, the magical sound that enthralled her is gone, and the tone is dead and dull. One piano tuner after another arrives to fix it, but no one can. Knize sets out on an epic journey to restore the instrument to its rightful sound and to understand its elusive power. This quest leads her into an international subculture of piano aficionados, all intriguing and eccentric characters--concert artists, dealers, technicians, composers, designers, and builders--whose lives have been transformed by the spell of a piano. She even hikes into the Austrian Alps to learn how the special trees used to build her piano are grown and harvested. Beautifully composed, passionately told, Grand Obsession is itself a musical masterpiece--and will resonate with anyone who has ever experienced deeply passionate desire.



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