

[PDF] Second Violin: An Inspector Troy Thriller

John Lawton - pdf download free book

Books Details:

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Author: John Lawton
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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Lawton's engrossing sixth entry but the first chronologically in his Inspector Troy thriller series (*Black Out*, etc.) chronicles the major events leading up to WWII--Germany's annexation of Austria, Chamberlain's peace efforts, *Kristallnacht*--while providing a disturbing picture of anti-Semitism and class frictions in England at the time. As part of Scotland Yard's murder squad, Insp. Frederick Troy investigates a series of slayings of London rabbis, but various subplots equally intrigue, notably one that unfolds in an internment camp for Germans, Jews and foreigners--including Troy's Austrian-born brother, Rod--rounded up after Britain's entry into the war. At one point, Troy and a lady friend discover the "aphrodisia of war" in Hyde Park, a spot popular with couples for copulation during the blitz. Lawton does a fine job of incorporating such lesser known period details into his saga, though some readers may find he relies too often on deus

ex machina for their taste. (Nov.)

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Review 'Lawton's writing is hypnotic...he deserves to be ranked with the best' Birmingham Post
'Unputdownable narrative of spying, sexual intrigue, political scandal and murder...a haunting novel, transcending the bounds of genre fiction' A.N. Wilson, Daily Telegraph * 'Flawlessly recreates the tensions of a society teetering on the brink of a social and sexual revolution. Lawton's trick is to take the threads of history and weave them into his own tapestry' The Times"

Lawton's sixth installment of Frederick Troy's adventures not only goes back in time from previous entries (A Little White Death, 2006, etc.) but also expands its scope from Frederick alone to the equally active lives of his father and brother. In Vienna in the late 1930s, as the violence of the Nazi Party is growing more virulent, the story is covered by Rod Troy, a reporter for The Sunday Post, a newspaper owned by his eminent father, Alexei. Decades ago, Alex also spent years in Vienna, some of them, Rod learns, as a psychiatric patient of the energetic Sigmund Freud. In London, Alex has encounters of his own with Winston Churchill, Harold Macmillan et al., concerning the threat of Hitler and the looming war. Alex, himself a Russian emigre, writes a bristling editorial about Russia for the Post as his son Frederick, Rod's brother, continues his ascent to Scotland Yard's Murder Squad. On the eve of Kristallnacht, Rod contemplates ensuring the safety of his family by fleeing Vienna. In London, Alex continues to have Churchill's ear as the government prepares to incarcerate recent immigrants deemed suspicious - a program to be carried out by Frederick and his colleagues. In the midst of this turmoil, as the bombing of London begins, Frederick probes the hit-and-run death of a rabbi that seems an ordinary crime until another rabbi is killed in his own synagogue. History and politics again add depth and texture to Lawton's impressively complex thriller. (Kirkus Reviews) --This text refers to an alternate edition.

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