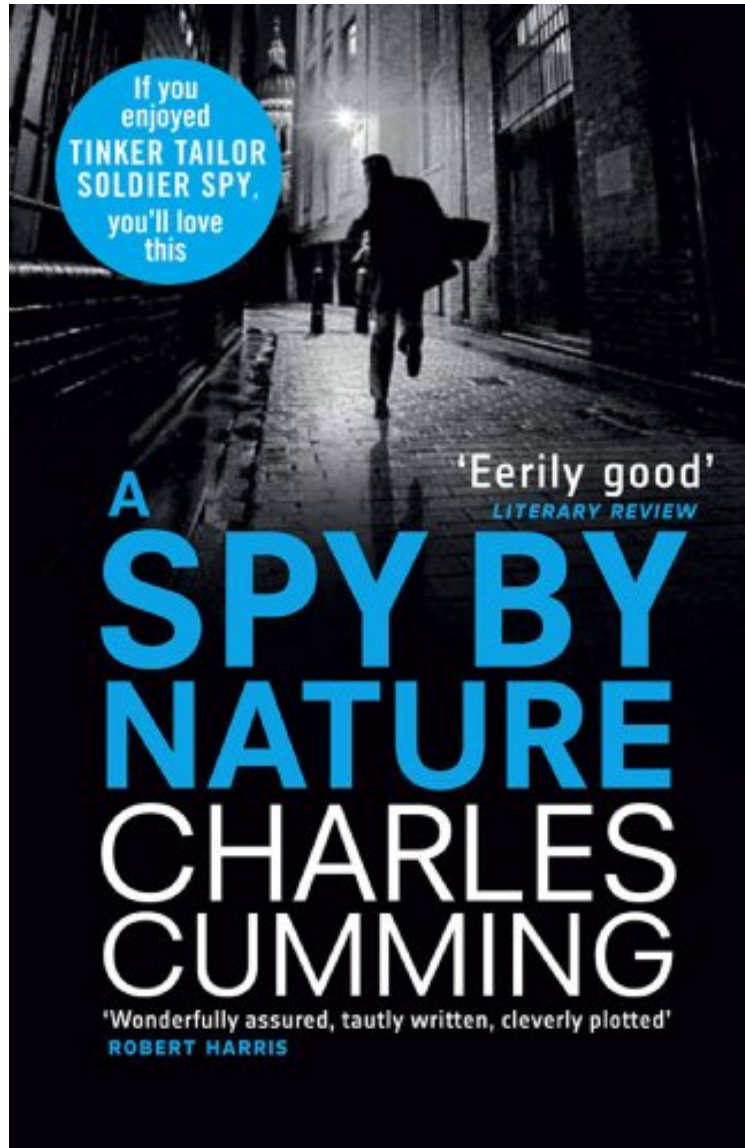


[Download] A Spy by Nature (Alec Milius)

A Spy by Nature (Alec Milius)

Von Charles Cumming
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Von Charles Cumming : A Spy by Nature (Alec Milius) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Spy by Nature (Alec Milius):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A gripping weekend read!!Von Ein KundeVery good first book by Cumming. Fast-paced, a perfect read for a grim, drizzly autumn weekend, cos that's all you need to devour this 500+ page novel. Cumming describes the recruiting process to MI6 in an extremely detailed manner, almost makes the reader nervous as if HE were experiencing the

pressure of the various tests!! Not a terribly complicated plot, but nonetheless a great read and, for once, an unconventional ending which makes it all the more interesting..but I won't give it away, you'll just have to turn those pages yourself, now won't you?!0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Too much psychologyVon Alfred J. KwakMuch acclaimed 2001 debut novel situated mainly in London during 1995-7. A blurb from 'The Mail on Sunday' on my paperback's cover likens it to John Le Carr's early novels. How so? Reading on and on right to the end, 511 pages later, this reader concludes that CC is a splendid writer indeed, but that 'The Mail''s comparison is dead wrong. Readers will glean plenty more insight about what is at stake from the book's abstracts and other reader comments'The book is quite unlike early JLC, who never wrote so many pages, in the I-form, about a scheming, chatty, ambitious, self-conscious, insecure and opinionated proto-spy such as Alec Milius here. In addition, everything Milius says or does is immediately followed by him commenting or explaining why he acted as such, adding easily 150-200 pages to the narrative, slowing everything down, making for overlong, sometimes tedious chapters. JLC also never mentioned infamous spies by name, nor made chance remarks on e.g. ongoing elections, political parties, politicians, the NHS, phone bills, landlords with foreign names or call the French or the EU names that cannot repeated here. Such opinionated padding makes books rapidly appear dated, although the state of the NHS appears unchanged, twenty years later.The basic plot is quite good and style wise there is nothing wrong. The book just suffers from too much self love of the author projected onto his main protagonist. However, if 'A Spy by Nature' is meant to show deep professional incompetence, its message has come across loud and clear.

KurzbeschreibungFor all fans of TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY comes this masterclass in suspense about a spy caught up in his own web of deceptionAlec Milius is young, smart and ambitious with a talent for deception. When a chance encounter opens the door to a career with MI6, he is desperate to make his mark.But life as a spy begins to take a terrible toll on himself and those around him, and soon Alec is chasing not just success but survival. Forced to work alone, he spins a web of deceit that traps him centre stage in a game of global espionage.In this new job, the difference between truth and a lie can be a matter of life and death. And for Alec, its getting harder to tell them apartA Spy By Nature is the bestselling novel with which Charles Cumming announced his arrival as heir apparent to masters like John le Carr and Len Deighton; compellingly told, utterly authentic and heart-racingly intense, it will grip you till the very last page.From Publishers WeeklyStarred . Loosely based on the author's real-life experience of having been recruited by the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) in 1995, Cumming's supremely intelligent and utterly readable debut will delight fans of such British masters of spy fiction as John le Carr, Robert Ludlum and Len Deighton. Alec Milius, a 24-year-old marketing consultant for a tiny London company that solicits business people in central and eastern Europe to advertise in a dubious publication called Central European Business , welcomes the chance to join the SIS, which after an exhausting selection process places him as a support agent with a British oil company. Alec initially thrives in his new job, but as he becomes increasingly entangled in his mission, he begins to face unexpected dangers as well as the loss of his identity. Smartly paced and intricately plotted, Cumming's decidedly unglamorous look at industrial espionage provides plenty of elaborate deceptions, double crosses and other trappings of a first-class spy thriller. (July) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.From BooklistIndustrial espionage is where aging cold warriors go to die and where silly, young twits with illusions of grandeur go to feel like contenders. Alec Milius is one of the twits; when he is turned down for Britain's SIS, he lands with a quasi-rogue offshoot whose mission is to steal secrets from an American oil company. It all seems glamorous enough at first, albeit without any Bondish derring-do, or even much le Carr tradecraft, but gradually the dirt comes to the surface, and young Alec has been reduced to a piece of detritus floating in an ocean of hazardous waste. Cumming, who survived a tour with the SIS in the 1990s, appears to speak with authority, and he certainly amasses a convincing array of details to support his view of industrial espionage as a soul-destroying exercise in postmodern absurdity. Although he never quite succeeds in making his twit-hero altogether sympathetic, he comes remarkably close: poor Alec Milius gets sucker punched just like Alec Leamus in le Carr's Spy Who Came In from the Cold,but the more gullible the sucker, the less we feel the punch. Ott, Bill