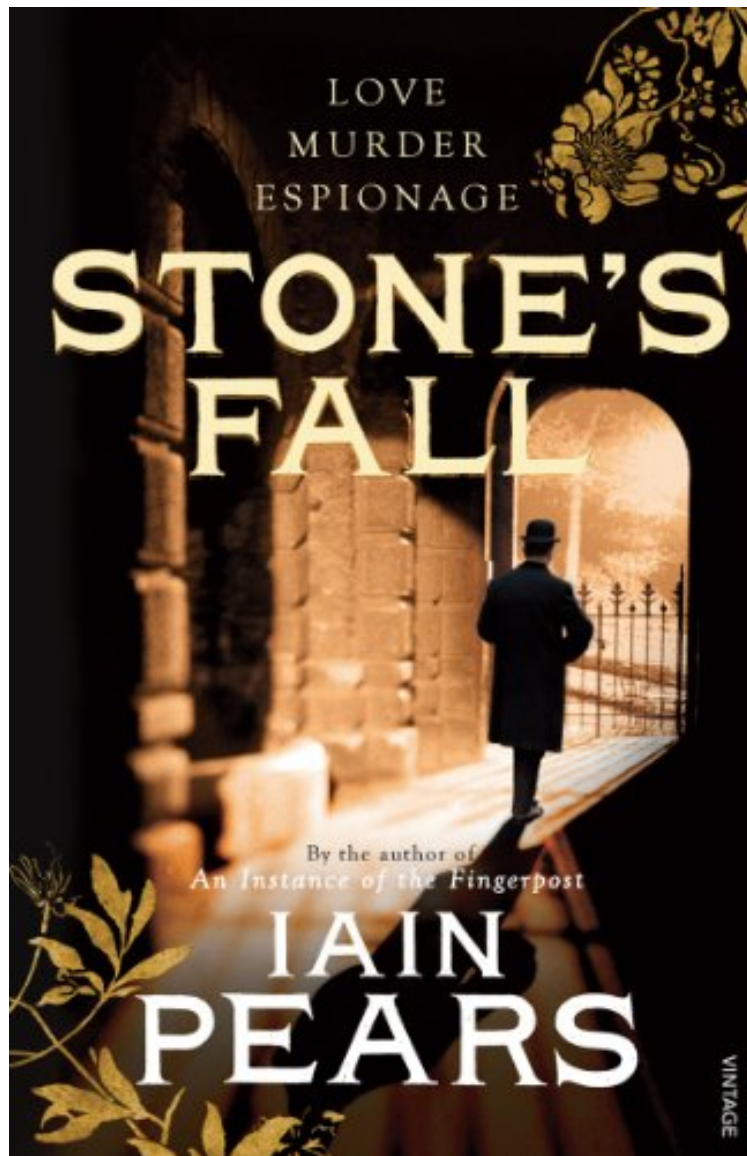


[Ebook free] Stone's Fall

Stone's Fall

Von Iain Pears

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Von Iain Pears : Stone's Fall before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stone's Fall:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One of the best in a long time...Von Nicolas RadulescuI just finished reading Stone's Fall - at first, I have to admit, I found the similarities in the way the story is told to An Instance of the Fingerpost a bit too close for comfort - or so I thought... On reflection, this is not true.There are decided differences - whereas the unbelievably intricate plot in "Fingerpost"

was all about playing with the narrators' unreliability (I won't say more in case you haven't read it yet), here, in a plot probably even more complicated, each single narrator tells what he believes to be the truth. This is only set into the right perspective by time - each narrator tells the story as he believes it to be true *at the time of writing* (which varies in closeness to the time of the actual events recorded); and only at the end (and a rather disturbing end it is), we find out what really happened. Another difference: in "Fingerpost" all four narrators deal with the same set of events, here the three narratives are three parts of a larger narrative - told deftly backwards in time: we start out with the most recent events and then move backwards to the roots. Enormously satisfying, too, that these three narratives could almost be read individually, without the others (almost, because there *are* some loose ends in the first two, but they can easily be overlooked or discounted as red herrings) - the first part is an accomplished whodunnit set in Edwardian London, the second a spy thriller set in Paris, and the third a story of love and obsession with undertones of - yes! - the supernatural, set in Venice. All three narratives share a background of 19th-century high finance, economics, industry and politics which, especially in part two, comes uncannily close to being a reflection of the current economic crisis (although the precise events are historical facts). That the author is as proficient as ever in giving his characters depth goes without saying; and his dry humour, which had made his earlier art history crime novels such a pleasure to read and which had been notable for its near absence in his longer and more recent works, is back; there are many little humorous gems in these many pages. His singular ability to capture the atmosphere, mentality and way of life of Italy remains astounding. In all, I think this is Ian Pears' best novel yet. It is to be hoped that his brand of intellectually challenging writing is able to transcend, in readers' views, the bounds of genre fiction and is recognized as highly accomplished literature per se. This is not a crime novel, it is a novel.

Kurzbeschreibung John Stone, a man so wealthy that in the years before World War One he was able to manipulate markets, industries and indeed whole countries and continents, has been found dead in mysterious circumstances. His beautiful young widow commissions a journalist to carry out an unusual bequest in his will but as he begins his research he soon discovers a story far more complex than he could have ever imagined... As the story moves backwards through time, from London in 1909 to Paris in 1809, before concluding in Venice in 1867, the mystery of John Stone's life and loves begins to unravel. The result is a spellbinding novel that is both a quest for the truth, a love story that spans decades and a compelling murder mystery..deStones Fall is another novel to add lustre to a career that has had few missteps and it is a book that shows no signs the authors skill is waning. Iain Pears writing wont be to everyones taste, but isn't that true of anything of quality? This is historical crime of an intelligent order, with a wide, time-spanning canvas that moves from London in the Edwardian era to Paris and Venice. In 1909, a rich manufacturer of weapons has purloined the concept of the torpedo from another man, one of the reasons for his fabulous wealth. But he falls to his death from a window, and his widow, the Countess Elizabeth, commissions a journalist to investigate her late husbands life and death with the mystifying will he left as the fulcrum. As the journalist, Braddock, digs deeper, he uncovers very little -- and fifty year pass before a remarkable revelation comes his way. A glance at Iain Pears earlier novels such as An Instance of the Fingerpost and The Portrait reveals the customary impeccable craftsmanship, on display once again in the new book. With his admirable skill at matching clever plotting with strikingly drawn characters, Pears is clearly a different commodity from his contemporaries (a conclusion also demonstrated by the beguiling The Dream of Scipio, set in Provence at three key points of Western civilisation). What is most encouraging about the critical and (to some degree) the commercial success of Iain Pears books is the encouraging signal it sends about readers willingness to engage with fiction that demands more than just easy acquiescence. A novel such as Stones Fall will not reveal its secrets to you without a certain commitment which is why the author is something special in a dumbed-down, Big Brother-watching world. --Barry Forshaw.co.uk Stones Fall is another novel to add lustre to a career that has had few missteps and it is a book that shows no signs the authors skill is waning. Iain Pears writing wont be to everyones taste, but isn't that true of anything of quality? This is historical crime of an intelligent order, with a wide, time-spanning canvas that moves from London in the Edwardian era to Paris and Venice. In 1909, a rich manufacturer of weapons has purloined the concept of the torpedo from another man, one of the reasons for his fabulous wealth. But he falls to his death from a window, and his widow, the Countess Elizabeth, commissions a journalist to investigate her late husbands life and death with the mystifying will he left as the fulcrum. As the journalist, Braddock, digs deeper, he uncovers very little -- and fifty year pass before a remarkable revelation comes his way. A glance at Iain Pears earlier novels such as An Instance of the Fingerpost and The Portrait reveals the customary impeccable craftsmanship, on display once again in the new book. With his admirable skill at matching clever plotting with strikingly drawn characters, Pears is clearly a different commodity from his contemporaries (a conclusion also demonstrated by the beguiling The Dream of Scipio, set in Provence at three key points of Western civilisation). What is most encouraging about the critical and (to some degree) the commercial success of Iain Pears books is the encouraging signal it sends about readers willingness to engage with fiction that demands more than just easy acquiescence. A novel such as Stones Fall will not reveal its secrets to you

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