

The Dogs of Riga

By Henning Mankell



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From the dean of Scandinavian noir, the second riveting installment in the internationally bestselling and universally acclaimed Kurt Wallander series, the basis for the PBS series staring Kenneth Branagh.

On the Swedish coastline, two bodies, victims of grisly torture and cold execution, are discovered in a life raft. With no witnesses, no motives, and no crime scene, Detective Kurt Wallander is frustrated and uncertain he has the ability to solve a case as mysterious as it is heinous. But after the victims are traced to the Baltic state of Latvia, a country gripped by the upheaval of Soviet disintegration, Major Liepa of the Riga police takes over the investigation. Thinking his work done, Wallander slips into routine once more, until suddenly, he is called to Riga and plunged into an alien world where shadows are everywhere, everything is watched, and old regimes will do anything to stay alive.



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The Dogs of Riga By Henning Mankell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Set against the chaotic backdrop of eastern Europe after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Mankell's intense, accomplished mystery, the last in his Kurt Wallander series (Firewall, etc.), explores one man's struggle to find truth and justice in a society increasingly bereft of either. Here the provincial Swedish detective takes on a probably fruitless task: investigating the murders of two unidentified men washed up on the Swedish coast in an inflatable dinghy. The only clues: their dental work suggests they're from an Eastern Bloc country; the raft is Yugoslavian. But their deaths mushroom into an international incident that takes Wallander to Riga, Latvia, and enmeshes him in an incredibly dangerous and emotionally draining situation, battling forces far larger than the "bloodless burglaries and frauds" he typically pursues in Sweden. In Riga, Wallander must deal with widespread governmental corruption, which opens his eyes to the chilling reality of life in the totalitarian Eastern Bloc: grim, harrowing and volatile. Wallander's introspection and self-doubt make him compellingly real, and his efforts to find out what happened to those men on the life raft makes for riveting reading. There's a pervasive sense of Scandinavian gloom, in Wallander and in the novel, that might be difficult for some American readers, but this is a very worthy book-a unique combination of police procedural and spy thriller that also happens to be a devastating critique of Soviet-style Communism. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Review

"A tale rich in gritty local culture. . . . The plot is satisfyingly seamy, Wallander is, as always, discombobulated and astute." –Los Angeles Times

"Apart from his uncommon skill at devising dense, mulilayered plots, Mankell's forte is matching mood to setting and subject." –The New York Times Book Review

"The writing is spare, the characterization deft, the atmosphere strong and the suspense overwhelming."

—Times Literary Supplement

"A gripping, thoughtful police procedural that engages from the first page." - Irish Independent

From the Inside Flap

Second in the Kurt Wallander series.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Carpenter:

This book untitled The Dogs of Riga to be one of several books that best seller in this year, that is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit into it. You will easily to buy that book in the book shop or you can order it by way of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smartphone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this guide from your list.

Frances Wiggins:

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