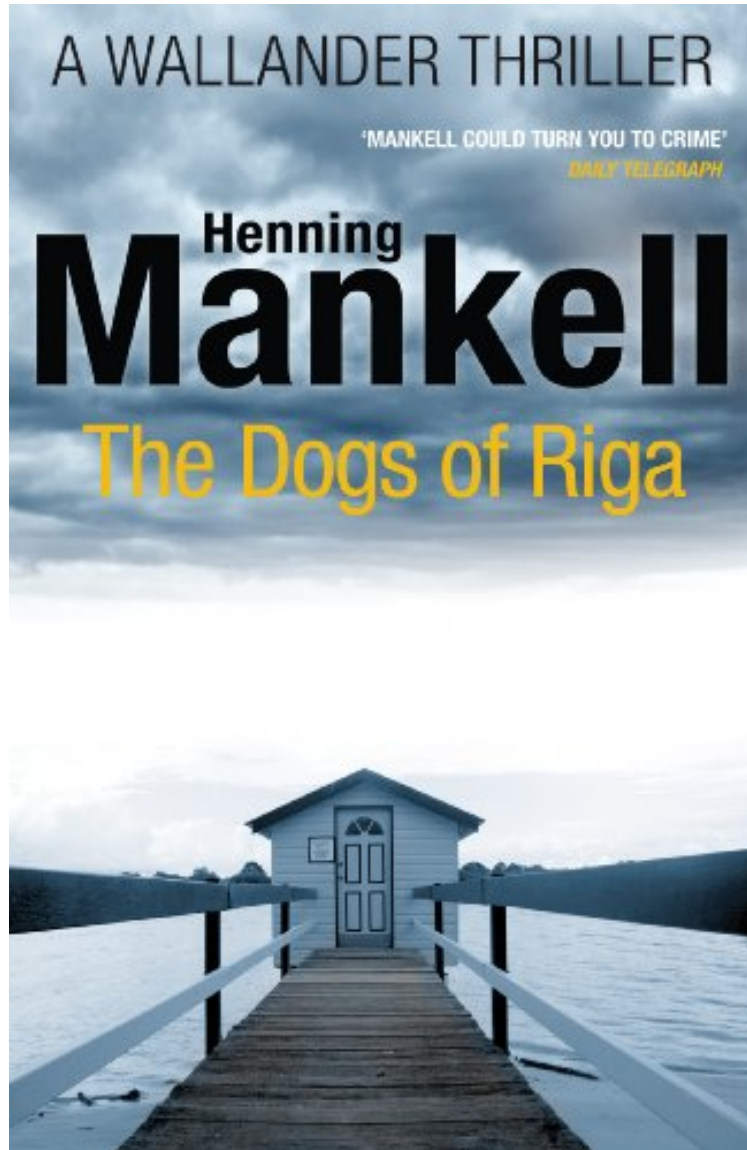


[Download free pdf] The Dogs of Riga: Kurt Wallander (English Edition)

The Dogs of Riga: Kurt Wallander (English Edition)

Von Henning Mankell

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Von Henning Mankell : The Dogs of Riga: Kurt Wallander (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dogs of Riga: Kurt Wallander (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Political crime meets love storyVon Andy KnoopIn The Dogs of Riga, Mankell sets out to explore the explosive political situation of the former Soviet Republic Latvia in the beginning 1990s.Still, the political scales are in full swerve and political power has to be distributed among Communist hardliners versus advocates of Latvian independence from

Moscow. Inspector Wallander comes into the play investigating a seemingly unimportant murder of two Baltic citizens who have drifted towards the Swedish coast in a boat. He is helped by the Riga Police Major Karlis Liepa, a chain smoker whom Wallander comes to like. Soon after Liepa's short visit to Ystad has come to an end, Wallander is informed about the murder of his colleague in Riga. Liepa's wife, unknown to Wallander, implores him to cast light on the case. Wallander travels to Riga and is soon drawn into the both diffuse as well as confusing political situation of Latvia. It is getting ever clearer that Liepa's death is linked to the fact that he did not wish to cover up corruption of the Latvia police corps and thus had to be sacrificed. Wallander's task is supremely aggravated by the fact that his knight moves have to be executed in darkness for the official police hierarchy must not know of his plans. Wallander, again, commits dreadful errors which on several occasions nearly kill him off; but there is something to stay alive for...the energetic widow of Major Liepa, Baiba by name. Again, as in the case of *The White Lioness*, Mankell focuses societal actors and the social and political situation of a newly liberated country which has to find political peace. To my mind, a good piece of work, carefully researched!

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ambitious, but somewhat failed book

Von Alfred J. Kwak

This 1991 thriller is situated in Ystad, Sweden and Riga, Latvia just before the end of the SU. This 2nd of 10 police procedurals about chief inspector Kurt Wallander (KW) finds the hero in poor shape: only 43 and overweight, left by his wife, mourning for his dead mentor. Has little contact with his daughter who studies in Stockholm, plays cards with his quirky father once a week. Sleeps badly, is prone to stress, thinks he has heart trouble and about leaving the force (he applies for a security job in a factory). Then one day, a rubber boat with 2 dead men lands on a beach near Ystad and a classical police procedural begins. This is the most satisfying part of the book. They turn out to be criminals from Latvia, executed and left to be discovered as a warning to others. The breakthrough and much additional background comes from a Latvian police major sent to Sweden to identify the bodies and help repatriate their remains. KW hopes he will take the murder case with him as well... But he likes the Latvian, whose English is even poorer than his own. One night, while killing a bottle of JB, KW learns about the links between drug dealing mafia-type gangs, the political elite and the KGB. And what it means for Latvia, which yearns for independence. Alas. Two events scupper KW's hope. First, the rubber boat disappears from the basement of the police station. No breakage, keys were used. Earlier, details of the murder investigation were leaked to the media: the Ystad police force has a mole... Next, he learns his Latvian police friend was beaten to death on the day he arrived home. Now the police in Riga requests KW's presence to help them investigate his murder. Its investigation disgusts KW because of its sloppiness. After lots of intrigue, KW and his dead friend's superiors part company, leaving KW with a feeling of failure and a yearning to help the widow of his dead friend. KW is in love with her... In Sjöwall Wahl's second book about Martin Beck, the hero was sent to Budapest. In this second book about KW, his creator sent him behind the Iron Curtain too. Coincidence? Both heroes come across as helpless. But KW returns to Latvia in a clandestine manner, aided by the Latvian diaspora. During his infiltration many good and bad people are killed. The book has several issues: too much introspection, too long and slow moving, and too many loose ends. The killers of the two men in a rubber boat are not found. Neither are the mole or spy inside KW's police station. Etcetera. And did he get the factory job? Stupid question!

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Politics, love and crime

Von Marit

Years ago, I listened to the earbook. *Dogs of Riga* at that time forced my decision to travel once to Riga. So did I last week. Besides; i bought this edition of the story to memorize story's details. To my opinion, this Mankell story is his most multifaceted one. To some extent, he seems to be inspired by cold war- la Carr crime. Maybe it is a bit stereotype, going to Riga and reading this book. But it might tell you more of historical mental heritage in Riga and Latvia than traveler's guides. Still to mention: the translation should be revised into an english that is no noticeable as translated english. But don't hesitate: go to Riga. Read this book.

Kurzbeschreibung

Sweden, winter, 1991. Inspector Kurt Wallander and his team receive an anonymous tip-off. A few days later a life raft is washed up on a beach. In it are two men, dressed in expensive suits, shot dead. The dead men were criminals, victims of what seems to have been a gangland hit. But what appears to be an open-and-shut case soon takes on a far more sinister aspect. Wallander travels across the Baltic Sea, to Riga in Latvia, where he is plunged into a frozen, alien world of police surveillance, scarcely veiled threats, and lies. Doomed always to be one step behind the shadowy figures he pursues, only Wallander's obstinate desire to see that justice is done brings the truth to light. 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. Pressestimmen "Atmospheric and gripping" (Independent) "Mankell could turn you to crime" (Daily Telegraph) "Riga is a haunted place, and Mankell describes it with the sort of creepy detail that one shudders to believe is accurate" (Sunday Times)