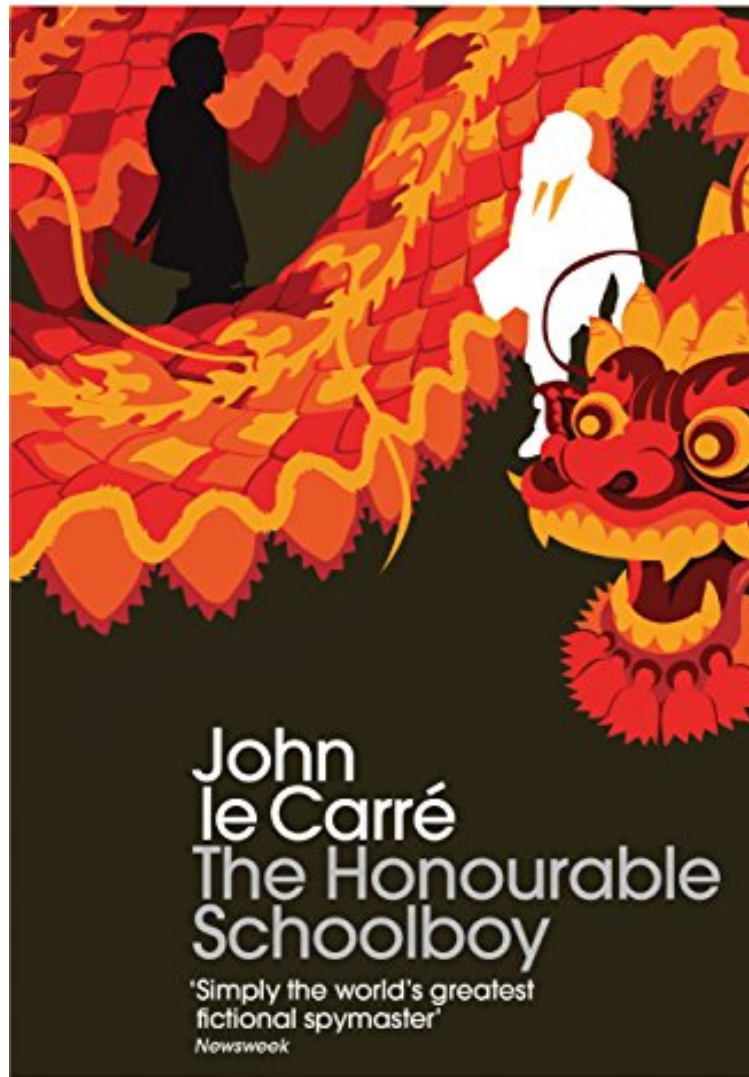


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## The Honourable Schoolboy (George Smiley Series)

Von John le Carré

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**Von John le Carré : The Honourable Schoolboy (George Smiley Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Honourable Schoolboy (George Smiley Series):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen7 von 7 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Essential Le CarreVon C H HallJohn Le Carre's mistakes (e.g., "Naive and Sentimental Lover") are more interesting than most other writers' crowning achievements, but "Schoolboy" is as good an intrigue and adventure novel as one will ever find.Le Carre is the bravest popular novelist around. He panders to no one's politics; he doesn't care how much work a

reader might normally choose to invest in a book; and he adheres to no formulae. You either trust him utterly, and let him take you where he's going, or you read Grisham. "Schoolboy" features a Le Carre regular character, George Smiley, and centers on a bit character from earlier work, Jerry Westerby. In a sense, the novel is a contrast between, on the one hand, the bluff, hearty, athletic, noble, and, well, superficially superficial Westerby; and on the other, the deepest and most complicated character in the genre, George Smiley. But there's so much more here: the contrast between Eastern and Western cultures; between England in its late-twentieth century posture and the then-seeming decline in influence of the U.S.; between the young Turks at the Circus and its old guard. What unites it all is Le Carre's remarkable gift at storytelling, dialogue, and character development. I read many authors in the intrigue, mystery, and crime fields. But they're all just faint echoes of Le Carre. If you want real gold, and not just cheap imitation, he's your man.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Welch eine Sprachgewalt!! Von Miezekatze Nachdem ich "Tinker Taylor Soldier Spy" gelesen hatte, war ich erst mal vom Nachfolger "The Honourable Schoolboy" berrascht, dessen Umfang mit fast 700 engbedruckten Seiten in etwa bei den "Buddenbrooks" liegt. Whrend "Die Buddenbrooks" jedoch drei Generationen umspannen, erzht le Carr von wenigen Monaten, in denen George Smiley Karlas chinesischen Top-Maulwurf nach Hongkong locken will, um ihn dort einzukassieren. Dabei muss Smiley notgedrungen nach Bill Haydons Entlarvung auf den unbekanntem Gelegenheitsspion Jerry Westerby zurckgreifen, der als Journalist den Fernen Osten wie seine Westentasche kennt. In einem Plot, der an Komplexitt kaum zu berieten ist und von George Smiley aus dem Circus heraus orchestriert wird, reist Jerry von Hongkong aus an jeden Hot Spot, den Indochina damals zu bieten hat (Saigon Tage vor dem Abzug der Amerikaner, an den Mekong, zu den Roten Khmer, Phnom Pen, Vientiane, Battambang etc etc). Dabei gelingt es le Carr unaufdringlich, aber zunehmend deutlich zu zeigen, wie tief durchdrungen der Ferne Osten damals noch von einer stichpunktartigen amerikanischen Prsenz ist, die jedoch berall als schmerzhafter Fremdkrper wirkt. Obwohl die Briten in Hongkong die Oberhand haben, ist Smiley gezwungen, auf seiner Suche nach dem Maulwurf mit den amerikanischen Vettern zusammenzuarbeiten - und die Reibereien zwischen dem steifen Briten Smiley und den hemdsrmligen Amerikanern sind ein Highlight des Romans. Das umfangreiche Konvolut an Roman lebt fr mich vor allem durch le Carrs Sprachgewalt. Die ersten 170 Seiten haben mich erst mal wenig berzeugt, und ich hab das Buch zweimal schon aussortiert gehabt, bis ich mir ein drittes Mal einen Ruck gegeben habe. Dann hat mich der Plot nicht mehr losgelassen, aber noch mehr war es fr mich der einzigartige Sprachstil, der dem Buch sein Leben einflt. Ganz herrlich der trockene Humor, oft nur in einem Satz oder einer Phrase. Smileys superbritische public school Sprechweise des Understatements ist superb eingesetzt. Zum Beispiel: Selbst als sich die Ereignisse auf den allerletzten Seiten in krzester Zeit berschlagen, verliert Smiley nicht die britische Faon: "Peter," Smiley said quietly. "I see there's a telephone behind you. Perhaps you'd be good enough to hand it to me." Da wundert es wenig, wenn Smileys bodenstndige amerikanische Pendants in der Krise ihre Faon verlieren! Ein cleverer Zug le Carrs ist es, die Handlung im Rckblick zu erzhlen - die ersten 4 Seiten deuten schon eine Interpretation der Ereignisse in den folgenden 700 an, die unklar ist, aber doch irgendwie unheilvolle Schatten vorauswirft. Solche immer in Rckblicke gewandeten ominosen Andeutungen flieen ab und zu ein, meist nur als ein Satz, so dass man was ahnt, ohne was zu wissen, z.B.: "It has been laid at Smiley's door more than once since the curtain was rung down on the Dolphin case that now was the moment when George should have gone back to Sam Collins and hit him hard and straight just where it hurt." Dieses unterschwellige Gefhl von Momenten des Scheiterns pointiert die Ereignisse im Roman gekonnt, so dass immer mehr Spannung erzeugt wird und immer mehr Neugier aufkommt, was wohl am Ende passiert. Und hier enttuscht le Carr nicht, mehr soll nicht verraten werden! Eigentlich 5 Sterne, aber da es mir das Buch anfangs ber viele Seiten schwer gemacht hat, einen Zugang zu finden, 1 Stern Abzug.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. George Smiley challenges Karla in the Far East Von Alfred J. Kwak After the disastrous outcome described in "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy", Part 1 of the "Karla Trilogy", the Circus lies in tatters. It is a leper among fellow services, understaffed and physically gutted. From its ruined premises and compromised archives, George Smiley (GS), caretaker chief of the Circus, leads his skeleton staff to study and evaluate the nature of things missing in the archives. It could provide leads to Karla's intentions and interests, and through studying what has been destroyed, learn perhaps why it was. The best leads of the search point to the Far East, where Moscow might be planning something devious. In comes the honourable schoolboy Jerry Westerby (JW), aristocratic newshound and Occasional in the Circus jargon. He has plenty of experience and credibility in the region and is also motivated, at this stage of his life, to test his skills again, having burnt plenty of ships behind him, and in need of a challenge that would make his daughter proud of him, posthumously or not. What follows is a superior account of intelligence gathering, committee meetings, dealing with the Cousins (CIA) in London, along with a formidable description of what happens in the Far East. John Le Carr can characterise a person by letting him say something. His cast of characters is totally convincing, each has his own song and register. The plot and the description of different local settings is unsurpassed. While GS does his bureaucratic battles and coordinates his motivated staff, JW romps through Hong Kong, Phnom Penh, Saigon and other places in order to provoke a reaction from Karla. Incredibly well plotted and written. Chapeau.

Kurzbeschreibung George Smiley has become acting Chief of the Circus, or rather what remains of it. For the credibility of the British Secret Service has been shattered by his unmasking of a traitor within. It is being starved of funds by Whitehall, and sidelined by its American cousins. Smiley's appointment, therefore, seems more like retribution than promotion. Yet from the first he goes onto the attack. His adversary is Karla, workname of the Soviet case officer who masterminded the Circus's ruin. His battleground is Hong Kong, and his choice of weapons is the Honourable Gerald Westerby, Eastern hand and Fleet Street hack. Westerby's odyssey takes him to collapsing Cambodia and Vietnam, to the insurgency area of North East Thailand and finally to the southernmost tip of the Hong Kong archipelago, to the very edge of the China Sea. His belated coming of age, his bounding humanity striving to get out, his courage and his recognition of love, are set in mounting dramatic contrast to the ever-growing needs of the service that claims his allegiance. Pressestimmen 'His command of detail is staggering, his straightforward, unaffected prose is superb. In short, wonderful value' -- The Sunday Times 'Simply the world's greatest fictional spymaster' -- Newsweek 'Energy, compassion, rich and overwhelming sweep of character and action ... one of the finest English novels of the seventies' -- The Times Werbetext One of John le Carr's best loved novels, now in a wonderful new hardback edition