



And to my nephew Albert I leave the Island what I won off Fatty Hagan in a poker game ...

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No one, not even Fatty Hagan himself, could have imagined that this lonely rock in the middle of the Channel would cause such a stir. But, when a Soviet spy ship runs aground in one half of the island and the Marines of the U.S. Sixth Fleet occupy the other half, this insignificant territory becomes the subject of intense confrontation between Washington and Moscow.

And to my nephew Albert I leave the Island what I won off Fatty Hagan in a poker game ... Details

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From Reader Review And to my nephew Albert I leave the Island what I won off Fatty Hagan in a poker game ... for online ebook

Tom Wing says

Very funny, and charming at the same time. I accidentally discovered this book, as it was next to the Hornblower series in the Sandpoint, Idaho, library. It was one of the first more adult, non-military, books I ever read, and it opened up a whole new world. I recommend it!

Helena says

I couldn't stop laughing out loud, when I read this many years ago. Takes place during the height of the cold war.

MJ says

This book was hilarious !!! I really need to read other books by these authors but they've been out of print for a long time ! let the hunt begin.

Un livre hilarant ! sur fond de guerre froide une île minuscule perdue se retrouve coupée en deux : russes d'un côté, américains de l'autre. Les livres écrits par ces auteurs ne sont plus réédités depuis longtemps ... je pars donc à la chasse pour les trouver !

Sam says

Wonderful Cold War satire!

ao says

Lettura inutile ...

... ma me ne assumo la responsabilità: devo smetterla di farmi abbindolare da certe descrizioni e commenti. Eppure il titolo mi era parso promettente. Ma è l'unica cosa che ho trovato divertente. Per il resto, noia totale.

Marisolera says

El nombre completo de esta novela es "Y a mi sobrino Albert le dejo la isla que le gané a Fatty Hagan en una partida de póquer". La leí hace muchísimo tiempo y recordaba que me había parecido muy divertida. Y al encontrarla en el ciberespacio la he vuelto a leer.

Albert hereda una isla en medio del Canal de La Mancha. Apenas un islote del tamaño de la isla de Perejil. Cuando va a tomar posesión de ella, encuentra a una chica desnuda tomando el sol. Es Victoria. Obviamente, él se enamora como un becerro de ella. Van juntos cada día a la isla hasta que de pronto un día, cuando están a punto de consumar su amor, un buque "pesquero" soviético embarranca en la isla. Como en realidad no es un pesquero sino un buque espía (aunque la mayoría de sus tripulantes sean pescadores), los soviéticos deciden alquilar la parte de la isla en la que el barco ha encallado para poder esconder sus intenciones hasta conseguir sacar el buque, pagándole a Albert una cantidad escandalosa de dinero. Enterados los estadounidenses de que los rusos han instalado una base soviética en medio del canal, deciden alquilar la otra mitad de la isla y la llenan de marines.

Lo que al principio es casi una declaración de guerra se va volviendo, poco a poco, una convivencia pacífica, en la que comparten suministros, ideas, vestuario, conocimientos... creando una "entente cordiale" que para sí quisieran los estados implicados. Con algunos sustos, eso sí, pero con mucho humor. Hasta se montan su propia destilería clandestina para tener reservas de alcohol suficientes para soportar la "dureza" de la estancia. Pero es la destilería la que acabará por hacerlo reventar todo.

Muy, muy divertida.

VASH1291 says

A good read overall with a some of the humour going over my head due to the issues it deals with so a second read is in order sometime in the future with the only thing I really didn't like was the ending as I would have liked a little more closure for main characters.

Ingo says

Today (November, 2nd 2012) I received this book. Used, of course, it is out of print a rather long time. As a teenager I was regularly lending books from the library, as a school-kid the library was free when you brought the books back in time.

Born and living in Germany, I read at that time mostly in German (reading in English started at the end of my school years).

This was one of books I remember most fondly and I searched for it, surprised to find it was out-of-print and even used

rather expensive. But I regularly checked on Amazon.de, co.uk and com and finally got the paperback for a good price in a very good edition.

As I prefer paperbacks and hardly buy any hardcover, that suits me.

I am fondly looking forward to reading this funny little book.

Reading mostly ebooks nowadays this book shows what publishers are doing wrong. Instead of me having to hunt down a cheap used edition and paying a high amount of money for shipping the publishers should look at the used book market and decide to offer books like this cheap as an ebook.

No publisher get's any more money from a used book!

Started reading it November, 3d 2012. Could not wait!

And it starts as good, as I remember.

Now at 50%. Typical British humor which reminds me of Tom Sharpe or P.G. Wodehouse. Or M.A.S.H. (I only know the movie and the tv-series, not the book). As much as it pains me to say, I only have read both Sharpe and Wodehouse in German translation (and only a few books of Wodehouse).

This book is not as bloody as some of the books of Sharpe (the bloody messes in Sharpes books may be disturbing for some readers).

Finished it just now. Well, maybe I remembered it still, but I saw the end coming a long way. No real surprise there, but a good conclusion.

Is worth the high price some people want for it used (50 to 200 Us\$ + p&p)?

Probably not. I paid way less and am glad I could wait for a cheap one to surface. Even then it was probably too much.

Mary says

Read this too many years ago, the librarian was horrified my parents let me read it! Fun!

Lila says

Me ha resultado algo inverosímil. Para pasar el rato

Amanda Allen says

Best book ever. Funniest book. Laugh out loud and split your sides laughing funny.

Vintagebooklvr says

I love this book for an entertaining, humorous and fun read. Like many great comedies it is based on something you can see happening--particularly in the 60s--but it is only brought to the extreme.

What more can you ask for: young love, international politics, stupid politicians, misunderstandings, a mistaken kidnapping and return, an illegal alcohol run, the mother-of-all-hangovers, friendship and cormorants. And of course the dog. And you can't forget the ducks.

A great beach read or if you are having a bad day...you will finish with a smile or two if not a laugh out loud.

Ann aka Iftcan says

The titular island in this book is an empty rock off the coast of Cornwall, just barely inside of international waters. Thus, when a 1960's Cold War Era Russian spy trawler smashed into it while traveling through a fog

bank Albert was able to rent them half of the island for an exorbitant amount of money. This then led to the U.S. Marines leasing the other half of the island. If you've ever seen the old comedy "The Russians are Coming, The Russians are Coming" you'll know what to expect. And, if you haven't seen it, after reading this you definitely should.

A fun summer read for when you want something light hearted and breezy.

Domenico Cinalli says

Quello che stupisce di questo divertente romanzo umoristico non è tanto il fatto che sia sparito per anni dalla circolazione, che in effetti non è un caposaldo della letteratura mondiale, quanto che non ne sia stato tratto un film: di fatto fornisce un soggetto e una sceneggiatura pressoché pronti per una leggera commedia anti-militarista: inglesi, russi e americani, in piena guerra fredda, a condividere un fazzoletto di roccia in mezzo al mare, con l'inevitabile discesa dal sospetto alla complicità. In fatto di inventiva e situazioni comiche magari non reggerà con i grandissimi del genere, soprattutto britannici, ma comunque è un'ottima e gradevole lettura estiva.

Danny Martin says

This is a totally hilarious book. David Forrest is the pseudonym of a writing duo who only wrote four novels, all currently out of print and selling, if you can track down a copy, for phenomenal prices.

The book was written at the height of the Cold War and is of it's time.

It is laugh out loud funny. The thrust of the story is the battle between the superpowers to gain control of a strategically placed island inherited by our eponymous hero.

It is Goonishly funny, one passage describing a mute guard dog whose handler has to do all the barking for it remains with me still.

It was in a Men's Book Club edition that I came across this. Both that version and a subsequent retail version disappeared into the 'borrowed' void. Oh, how I wish I had them now.

Why this book is out of print is a complete mystery to me. We should all lobby for this to be reprinted, or at the very least available on e-book, without delay. A collectible copy will fetch £150 to £200 and even an indifferent one is in the £60 to £100 region.

If it ever becomes available grab it up. You won't regret it.

As an update it is now available on Kindle from Amazon for a very reasonable £5.99. As indeed are the other books I believe/

Elchamaco says

Novela de humor muy divertida. Recomendable, la isla perejil pero un montón de años antes entre rusos y

americanos.

Jesper Nielsen says

This has to be one of the best books I have ever read.

Imagine the Coldwar set on a 150 x 75 yards big rock. Have the Soviet Union rent half of the Island, the USA rent the other half. Add drunk sailors, a distilleri and alcohol. Shake!

And you'll be laughing all the time while reading this book.

Chandra says

A parody on the Cold War written with very dry humour. Absurd, imaginative and absolutely hilarious. One of the very few books that made me laugh out loud.

gufo_bufo says

In casa nostra è amatissimo. Riletto talmente tante volte che le citazioni sono entrate a far parte del lessico familiare.

Francesca Ponassi says

Una satira antimilitarista, sempre attuale. E un romanzo comico che è riuscito a farmi divertire (solo questo vale la lettura).

<http://libri-letti.blogspot.it/2013/0...>
