

[PDF] A Case Of Two Cities: An Inspector Chen Novel (Inspector Chen Novels)

Qiu Xiaolong - pdf download free book

Books Details:

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Author: Qiu Xiaolong
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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Starred Review. Chinese expatriate Qiu's gripping fourth Inspector Chen novel (after 2004's *When Red Is Black*) captures an honest detective's struggle to be true to his professional ideals under a repressive regime. The Communist Party leadership appears to be vigorously investigating rampant corruption among the profligate power elite during China's economic reforms of the recent past. After the head of the Fujian special case squad is murdered in sordid circumstances, Chen Cao of the Shanghai police bureau discovers that the dead man had been probing a wealthy businessman, Xing Xing, who fled to the United States to escape prosecution. Chen himself is then given the highest authority to carry on the investigation, which takes him to the U.S., but he soon realizes he's not meant to succeed. Chen stands in a class with

Martin Cruz Smith's Russian investigator, Arkady Renko, and P.D. James's Scotland Yard inspector, Adam Dalgliesh. (*Dec.*)

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From Whether set in the U.S., Europe, or Asia, crime novels offer a lens with which to look at societies and the dynamics that shape them--and few locales can offer the kind of dynamics that Shanghai can, a city being transformed by the introduction of market economics. Beijing assigns Detective (and poet) Chen Cao of the Shanghai police the task of investigating Xing Xing, who has amassed a fortune while corrupting various party officials, but the detective has no sooner begun his investigation than he is told to lead a delegation of writers to the U.S. for a cultural exchange. Concerned that Xing may have fled to the U.S and requested asylum, Chen agrees to lead the delegation. Plot is secondary, or even tertiary, here. Character, poetry, insights into Chinese society and culture, and food all come before story in this unusual and compelling crime novel, the fourth in a fascinating series. *Thomas Gaughan*

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