



The Lisbon Crossing

Tom Gabbay

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Teeming with Nazis, spies, and ambiguous loyalties, the early days of World War II come alive with dark intrigue and heart-stopping action in this brilliant second tale from the author of the hit thriller *The Berlin Conspiracy*.

It's the summer of 1940 and Europe is in the grip of the Nazi war machine. Jack Teller arrives in neutral Lisbon on the arm of international screen legend Lili Sterne, to help her search for her childhood friend, Eva Lange. Having escaped Germany, staying one step ahead of the Nazi terror, Eva is believed to be hiding among the thousands of desperate refugees who have descended upon Lisbon. But Jack isn't the first on her trail. Top Hollywood detective Eddie Grimes had been on the case--until he turned up dead.

Instead of answers, Jack uncovers a series of lies that leads from Estoril's glittering nightclubs--rubbing elbows with the likes of Edward, Duke of Windsor, and his scheming wife, Wallis Simpson--into Lisbon's dank and dangerous backstreets. Along the way, Jack makes a shocking discovery that takes him from Portugal to the perilous boulevards of Nazi-occupied Paris, where his actions could change the course of the war.

The Lisbon Crossing brilliantly evokes a time of terror and uncertainty, and establishes Tom Gabbay's place among the best of modern suspense novelists.

The Lisbon Crossing Details

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Author : Tom Gabbay

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From Reader Review The Lisbon Crossing for online ebook

Will Byrnes says

Jack Teller is a bit player in 1940 Hollywood, but he managed to befriend a Marlena Dietrich type named Lilli Sterne and alienate the head of production, a hard-nosed type not averse to calling in some broken bones, when he enjoyed some excellent sex with the guy's wife. Lilli offers him a gracious way out of town when she asks him along to help her retrieve a long-lost childhood friend who had escaped to Lisbon.

Gabbay must have been watching too many old movies. He has practically cast the thing with the crew from Casablanca. His lead, Jack, seems too young, at 25, to handle the task required of his role here, the Humphrey Bogart role, a sort of ersatz investigator. His street cred is supposed to be the result of some difficulties with a New York mobster, the spur to his relocation to Hollywood, and having run the Kit Kat Klub, which seems very unlikely for someone of such tender years. The corrupt asst chief of police in Lisbon is clearly Claude Rains. A large reporter for the Times can be none other than Sidney Greenstreet. A nervous con man has to be Peter Lorre. The list goes on. This is not to say that it isn't fun. It is. But one does pine for a bit more off-the-track work once the conceit has been established.

There is intrigue up the wazoo, a few twists including an excellent one at the end, and some interesting speculative payload concerning Edward, Duke of Windsor and his lovely bride. It was a fun read, summoning those actors and that time. It could make a fun film.

Russ Pavlik says

1st i've read of this offer. entertaining quick read

Jeff Dickison says

Good WWII spy story set in Lisbon & Paris. Hollywood stunt man accompanies an award winning actress to Lisbon to rescue her childhood friend who, as it turns out, does not want to be rescued. She is involved in the resistance. Lots of action and plot twists, but the best scene describes English & American tourists in a Lisbon hotel, listening to a live broadcast of the Germans bombing England and the ensuing dogfight that occurs. Recommended.

Richard says

Thriller set in Lisbon in the summer of 1940 with Jack Teller accompanying an international actress who lives in the U.S. who is trying to find a childhood friend who has escaped the Nazis. There are many twists and turns in this fast-paced story.

Oel Wingo says

Excellent Historical Action Fiction

I have now read two of Tom Gabbay's books. They provide a very interesting historical viewpoint of WWII. I particularly enjoyed the twists and turns that left me totally surprised at the end!

Viva says

2 stars = it was ok.

My first book by Gabbay. The book is not bad, he appears to be a good writer, the book is easy to read, the characters are mildly entertaining, the book is a great period piece and captures the period nicely....., but it just isn't thrilling.

Lisbon during and just before WWII must have been a fascinating place. Lots of intrigue and spies. This book has something of the movie Casablanca.

I don't know, maybe Gabbay is taking too long to get to point(s). The book just doesn't make me want to turn the pages, to get to the next chapter. The characters are entertaining but they could be more so. I think he needs to put more effort into them. Books captivate me because I want to see what happens to the characters but I'm at the halfway point and I just don't really care anymore what happens to them in rest of the book, so I'm just going to quit here.

I got this as a free ARC.

Ozzie Cheek says

A fan of Allan Furst's WWII thrillers, I was both delighted and skeptical to stumble upon Tom Gabbay's "The Lisbon Crossing" while wandering through the stacks at my local library. Furst sets the bar very high when it comes to WWII espionage novels. As it turns out, Tom Gabbay is up to the challenge. While Allan Furst strikes me as the John Le Carre' of WWII fiction, Tom Gabbay writes with a lighter, wittier touch - a little Raymond Chandler, some Robert Ludlum, plus a dash of Julius Epstein (screenwriter of "Casablanca").

Gabbay's plot is simple: in the summer of 1940, while the US remains a spectator and Nazi Germany sweeps through France and threatens England, Hollywood stunt man, Jack Teller, accompanies screen legend, Lili Sterne, to Lisbon to search for Sterne's childhood friend, Eva Lange. Apart from being the stunt double for Errol Flynn, whom Teller dislikes, Jack holds his own as an amateur detective and reluctant spy. Double-cross in Lisbon is as common as port wine, and it's up to Teller to figure out who is spying for whom.

One intriguing plot line in "The Lisbon Crossing" involves Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor, and his American born wife, Wallis Simpson. Gabbay portrays Edward as a Nazi appeaser while Simpson is portrayed as a woman fond of playing musical beds. In general, writers try to have some historical basis for their portrayal of real, historical characters in fiction. Gabbay's portrayal of Edward and Wallis interested me enough to search the Internet for details. While Gabbay's plot line involving Prince Edward goes beyond what can be proven, Prince Edward's attitude toward Nazi Germany was of sufficient concern that Edward

and Wallis were shipped off to the Bahamas and muzzled.

As a former screenwriter, I recognize the influence of Hollywood scripts in Gabbay's writing, and that influence works well in "The Lisbon Crossing". Gabbay keeps the plot moving forward, the characters ready to surprise us, and the ending bittersweet and believable.

Comment

Larry Lange says

Long way around to get the story. First half of the book seemed to be about finding Eva which seemed like a cheap deceive novel from the 30's or 40's. Second half of the book got more interesting with more intrigue. Not as good as the first Jack Teller book, but good enough for me to read the next one.

Ann Tonks says

I read this book because it was set mainly in Lisbon and I wanted to get a sense of the city and the culture during the 1940s and therefore, it didn't work for me. But if you're looking for a rollicking story and nazis and spies and dukes and duchesses and filmstars, it might work for you.

Barb says

this mystery set in lisbon is much easier to read than A SMALL DEATH IN LISBON, but does not offer the detailed info re: ww2 and portugal. the hero is a stunt man from hollywood. actual people, such as king edward and wallis simpson, are characters in the novel. entertaining.

Kim says

This spy novel is based in Lisbon just after the French invasion during WWII. The writing kept me interested and wanting to find out who was responsible for what. It got a bit confusing but that was probably because I read into the early morning hours. It was quite enjoyable. I wouldn't mind reading Gabbay's The Berlin Consprincy.

Jim says

A prequel to Gabbay's THE BERLIN CONSPIRACY, this is a terrific WWII-era thriller. One head-scratching plot point is the only flaw in this engaging read, which is very much like CASABLANCA set in Lisbon. In fact, where CASABLANCA is concerned, a number of subtle homages lead to one blatant one in the story's final pages. Lots of fun. If you're the type who'll never get your fill of Ilsa and Rick, you owe it to yourself to read this one.

Charles Kerns says

Nice try. The plot works hard playing the historical friendship of England's self-exiled ex-King and his maybe-buddy Hitler. (Remember, many home-grown Brit fascists dilly-dallied in the aristocracy) Characters: a too predictable Bernie Gunther/Phil Marlow lead, a Lili-Marlene Dietrich play-partner, a Prince of Wales two-stepper, and your basic, Nazi, SS, Gestapo badguy. Gabbay's writing covers its bases but nothing more. For example from page 1: "Tinseltown wasn't all it was cracked up to be, not by a long shot but it had given me a good run for my money..." Sounds like Gabbay copied the '30s detective mag's language all too well. Along with their gradeschool morality. I prefer my thrillers to have some sophistication--more Graham Green for me, less pulp fiction.

I like the idea; it could have been a champ of a book.

Maria Carmo says

An exciting adventure during second world war, where Hollywood and the Gestapo come cross each other in Lisbon and, at the very end, in Paris. The meanders of the art of spying during the time when France fell under Hitler's armies and the former King of England, Edward, had sympathy for the Nazi cause... Characters quite believable, presumably a lot of good research from the Author to be able to recreate atmosphere and credible plot, a vivid rhythm and a touching outcome. Marvelous, inspiring cover which is also an inspiration and inductive of the imagination...

Maria Carmo,

Lisbon, 14Th. June 2013.

Paul says

A great and well written historical fiction. I enjoy Tom Gabbay writing style. This book, like "The Berlin Conspiracy", flows well and is very enjoyable.
