

Our Friends in Berlin by Anthony Quinn

5 stars

Nazi spies in war-torn London

I really enjoyed this book. It is one of those stories that starts quite slowly but you get drawn into the plot and really want to know the ending.

Jack Hoste is in charge of running various British citizens who are sympathetic to Nazi Germany and gathering information for Hitler and the Reich to help them win the war. In reality however, Jack is working for the British Government and is treading a very fine line in ensuring his real sympathies are kept secret.

His main priority is to find the most dangerous Nazi spy in England, Marita Pardoe. He discovers that she had had a friend in her student days who went on holiday with her to Germany. Amy Strallen is now co-running a marriage bureau so Jack arranges to meet her by pretending to be a client. These two totally different characters feel a connection between each other and Amy is drawn into the plot.

The storyline is fast moving with many twists and turns and a very surprising ending. However this book is so compelling to read because of the way the author brings you into London during the blitz. The descriptions of some of the raids and the aftermath really make you feel how it must have been for everyone at that time.

There is also a description of how Amy and Marita first met and what they did in 1935 which helps you to realise why the ending happened as it did.

I would like to read more by this author as he has a very readable style and although this was quite a long book I finished it within a few days. Highly recommended.

Dexter

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review