

Librería
Bonilla y Asociados
desde 1950



Título: Zoo Station. A John Russell World War II Spy Thriller

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Precio: \$203.00

Editorial:

Año: 2007

Tema:

Edición: 1ª

Sinopsis

ISBN: 9781569479711

As 1939 opens, war looms over Europe. Anglo-American journalist John Russell has lived in Berlin long enough to have a German ex-wife and an eleven-year-old son there. He also has a longtime girlfriend, a beautiful German film star. Hoping to stay in Germany as long as possible, he writes human interest pieces for British and American newspapers, avoiding the investigative journalism that could get him deported.

But playing it safe turns out to be more difficult than Russell expected. He is approached by an acquaintance from his old communist days who asks him to write some articles for the Soviets. Russell is initially reluctant, but the work seems safe enough. At the same time, he becomes involved in more dangerous activities, helping a Jewish family as well as an idealistic young American reporter who is investigating Nazi secrets.

Soon British and Nazi intelligence become aware of Russell's involvement with the Soviets. All three want to use him as he is dragged into the murky world of warring intelligence services.