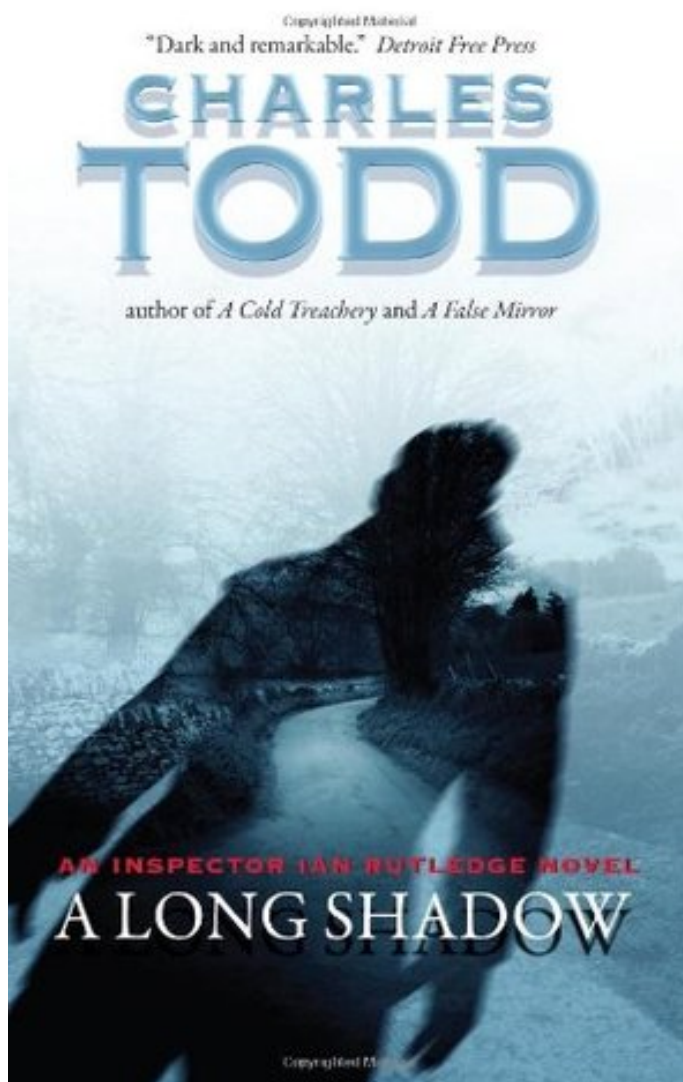


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**Charles Todd**

**A Long Shadow (Inspector Ian Rutledge #8)**



Title: A Long Shadow (Inspector Ian Rutledge #8)

Author: Charles Todd

Format: Paperback

Language: English

Pages: 368

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0060786728

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 7.2 MB

Download: allowed

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## Description

It's New Year's Eve, 1919. Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge has accompanied his sister to the home of mutual friends for dinner but gets a call from the office and has to leave. On the steps outside, he sees a brass cartridge casing, like countless others he's seen during the war. But this one has an engraving in the metal. Curious, he pockets it.

Soon after, Rutledge is on the southern coast of England helping the local police capture a murderer. Work done, on a whim he drives along the cliffs overlooking the Atlantic and takes a walk out on the headland. Returning to his car, he finds another engraved cartridge casing on the driver's seat. He's been followed.

The cartridge casing seems to point to the war and unfinished business there. To stay alive in the face of an unknown and unseen adversary, Rutledge is pressed to the limits of his skills. He's the prey. But who is the hunter?

## Insightful reviews

Pamela: I almost gave up on this book. I had to remind myself that the only way a crime could be solved in those days was by talking, and listening—to others, to oneself. It required asking the right questions and listening to the unspoken answers. It required as thorough of a history as possible regarding possible suspects, and others involved. No modern forensics, that allow one to ignore individual stories, to ignore the humanity of the perpetrators and the victims. And Inspector Rutledge, in spite of himself, is slowly, and in bits and pieces, sharing himself. He is a little more willing to be known. He is feeling an attraction to others that seems to pull him forward.

Will Byrnes: This is the 8th novel in a series centering on Inspector Ian Rutledge. That presents some difficulty, mostly in having to cope with a large number of characters who are all new to me as a first-timer. But readers of the series will face less of a challenge as many of the names here will already be familiar.

It is 1919, and the inspector is about to testify in a case in Hertford. He begins to find machine gun shell casings with patterns carved in them, first a single, then two, then three. The third was accompanied by a gunshot through the windshield of the car he was driving. Is he being warned to not testify? Is there something else going on? In another town a constable who has been doing some investigating in a spooky local woods is shot in the back with an arrow, narrowly averting death.

Todd gives us some flavor of the time. Rutledge suffers from shell shock, what we would call today post traumatic stress disorder. He is haunted by the image of a young man he dispatched in the field in order to spare him further suffering. A soldier at a social gathering is missing a limb. (The parallels to contemporary times are unavoidable). There is also an occult fad in the land, epitomized by Mrs Meredith Channing, who is supposed to be able to raise spirits.

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There are many, many characters. I confess I found it a challenge to keep them straight, but it was a fun read. This is no one's notion of literature, but it was enjoyable, light, entertaining. It made me interested to read more books in the series. A good book to read while sitting in the back yard of one's Cotswolds cottage on a spring day.

Caroline: It's difficult enough to investigate crimes without doing it with a Scottish ghost by your side at every moment. But such is the challenge Inspector Ian Rutledge lives through each day following his return from the trenches at Sommes during WWI. It also seems someone is stalking him, leaving him empty shell casings, taking a shot at him while he's driving, even perhaps trying to run him down in a stolen lorry.

Or do the attempts on his life and shell casing mean something else instead? Is he being warned away from discovering the body of a missing teenage girl in Dudlington? And who was responsible for the rector's fall and shooting Constable Henley in the back with a poisoned arrow? With close-mouthed villagers and an evil presence in the nearby woods, there are long shadows indeed dogging Inspector Rutledge's every step as he tries to make sense of the plots, mysteries and secrets he's only starting to uncover.

Patsyann: If a film goes to be made up of those books - this could be the one!! This publication is a brilliant secret and retains one guessing until eventually the final chapter. A secret solved without CSI!! The publication plods alongside - and every time I feel it may well have long past swifter I notice that the ebook occurs in 1919 and there's no CSI. They could not even take a fingerprint. Stunned that it can be made up our minds even if whatever used to be poisoned!! The one demanding factor - is that it's very seen that the booklet was once now not written via an Englishman - as the observe honor is Americanized. Different then that - you could listen the accessory and spot the English countryside. This is my favourite Ian Rutledge book. By way of this publication he has developed into a good confirmed detective. Things I love:- Using people's physique language to procure information- Short chapters- Small city characters- Ian Rutledge's use of gossips This e-book starts off the "romance" of Ian and Meredith Channing. Most sensible USE OF: Tea and plenty of it!! sizzling tea, chilly tea, candy tea, poisoned tea - I needed to have tea whereas interpreting this book!! ALPHA MALE Ian is an eight during this book SPUNKY HEROINE Meredith Channing is the single heroine and she or he is a 10 IMPLIED intercourse 0 HEA (HAPPILY EVER AFTER) not anyone is HEA in an Ian Rutledge mystery PROLOGUE/EPILOGUE None Rating System 10 - ideal - considered one of my favorites - a keeper forever Heat Level 0 - You couldn't even commence a hearth with this book!!

Pamela McLaren: a tragic story of lonely humans held jointly through secrets and techniques and soreness -- conflict and disillusionment -- and all of it comes jointly in a small city the place the constable has been shot with a bow and arrow in a haunted forest, a few say searching for the grave of a tender girl who disappeared 3 years before. Its permit to Inspector Ian Rutledge to solve the secret of why the constable used to be shot, what occurred to the younger girl and why a person has been leaving empty rifle cartridges for him. Rutledge fears not just what he does not comprehend yet what he could enable to get out and so he's additionally in soreness and agony for what could have been and what the long run may perhaps hold. a pretty good

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little bit of tale from masters. And a personality that may carry your cognizance and your strategies lengthy after the ultimate page.

Joanne: Ian Rutledge breaks my heart. at the surface, he is an higher classification British officer back from front after WWI to renew his place as an inspector at Scotland Yard. beneath the good-looking facade, he's the last word casualty of a negative war-- tortured through his memories, haunted by way of a call made within the warmth of conflict and deserted by means of his fiancée, he throws himself complete strength into fixing the instances he is assigned. rather than a associate or a sidekick, Rutledge has purely the ghostly specter of a useless colleague and brother-in-arms, Hamish McCleod, to assist him deal with the details. shrewdpermanent and original.

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