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## Berlin Game (Samson)

*Von Len Deighton*

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**Von Len Deighton : Berlin Game (Samson)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Berlin Game (Samson):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ode to Berlin and its CitizensVon Alfred J. KwakThis reader much enjoyed Len Deighton (LD)s and John Le Carr (JLC)s early spy books from the 1960s. Both were experimenting, trying to find a voice of their own. LDs books had improbable plots, quickly written with many annexes and technological data, always from the perspective of a

nameless working-class wartime-spy who made it into GB's snooty Secret Intelligence Service in the 1960s. This book is not from the 1960s, but from 1983. It is the start of three trilogies, nine books in all, about Bernard Samson (BS) and his wife Fiona, who are both senior desk officers at SIS. Or London Central, as LD calls it. This reader looks at this series for the second time, like the 1960s novels, decades later than the first time. And what is most striking in "Berlin Game" is LD's mature voice and style: Sheer ingenuity, great intelligence, minute attention to office politics, subtle but damning characterizations and, throughout, pure flow: Addictive reading stemming from prose seemingly created without effort. "Berlin Game" is on par with JLC's very best spy novels. As said above, Bernard/Bernd/Bernie Samson (BS) works out of London Central. But he grew up in post-war Berlin, where his father worked for many years in an intelligence capacity. It explains his perfect command of the Berlin dialect, his network of Berliners and deep knowledge of its geography. His best friend is Werner Volkmann (WV), aged 39 like BS himself. They went to school together. When London Central receives word that its crucial East German source 'Brahms 4' and his network may be compromised, BS insinuates his way into East Berlin to convince him to stay on for another two years...A delightful read full of twists and turns. And an ending forced by BS that leaves him stunned, privately and professionally. Highly recommended. And a cliffhanger for its sequel "Mexico Set".

4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Spannend bis zur letzten Zeile Von Ria Hinzmann Ich habe dieses Buch bereits vor 15 Jahren gelesen und finde es noch immer sehr gut. Deighton beschreibt mit einer wunderbaren Genauigkeit die damalige Situation Berlins. Er kennt die Stadt so gut, dass man selbst als Berliner nur staunen kann. Wer 'Spy Stories' mag, der ist mit diesem Buch auch heute noch gut bedient. Die Englische Originalausgabe eignet sich auch für Leute, deren Englischkenntnisse nur mittelmäßig sind.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very good book. Spy buffs will love it. Von Ein Kunde This is a fine book and I look forward to reading the remaining two books of the trilogy. There is a slow build-up, but this is necessary in order to introduce the cast of characters and to set the stage for a shattering conclusion. It is hard to put the book down when you are into the last 100 pages. The dialogue is crisp and interesting. I cannot give this book five stars, though. As fine as it is, Deighton is a step below Le Carre. The central story in "Berlin Game" is outstanding, but the character development and the scene setting are a little thin. I finished "Berlin Game" not having a real good feel for who Bernard Samson is. But, then again, he's a spy...I definitely recommend this book to spy buffs or anyone looking for a good read.

Kurzbeschreibung Long-awaited reissue of the first part of the classic spy trilogy, GAME, SET and MATCH, when the Berlin Wall divided not just a city but a world. East is East and West is West and they meet in Berlin. He was the best source the Department ever had, but now he desperately wanted to come over the Wall. Brahms Four was certain a high-ranking mole was set to betray him. There was only one Englishman he trusted any more: someone from the old days. So they decided to put Bernard Samson back into the field after five sedentary years of flying a desk. The field is Berlin. The game is as baffling, treacherous and lethal as ever.

From Library Journal The smoothness with which narrator Robert Whitfield handles the wide array of foreign accents adds an international flavor to this suspenseful espionage thriller. One of Britain's most valued and productive spies wants to defect to the West after decades of service. He has requested that Bernard Samson, a veteran British intelligence agent who now enjoys the safety of his senior level desk job, help him escape. Samson is obliged to undertake the project since the spy saved his life when he was a field agent in East Berlin long ago. When Samson discovers evidence that the KGB has infiltrated British intelligence, he knows he must move quickly to return to Cold War-era East Berlin before his colleague's identity is exposed. Deighton's (Spy Sinker, Audio s, LJ 4/15/95) dignified narrative style gives the program a properness that is characteristic of high-level government proceedings. A worthwhile purchase for most public libraries.

Mark P. Tierney, Charles Cty. Pub. Schs., Waldorf, MD Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Pressestimmen 'Deighton's best novel to date - sharp, witty and sour, like Raymond Chandler adapted to British gloom and the multiple betrayals of the private spy' Observer 'Sheer consistent rightness page after page after page' The Times 'Virtuoso top level performance' Guardian 'A masterly performance, much the best thing Deighton has done since SS-GB' Sunday Times