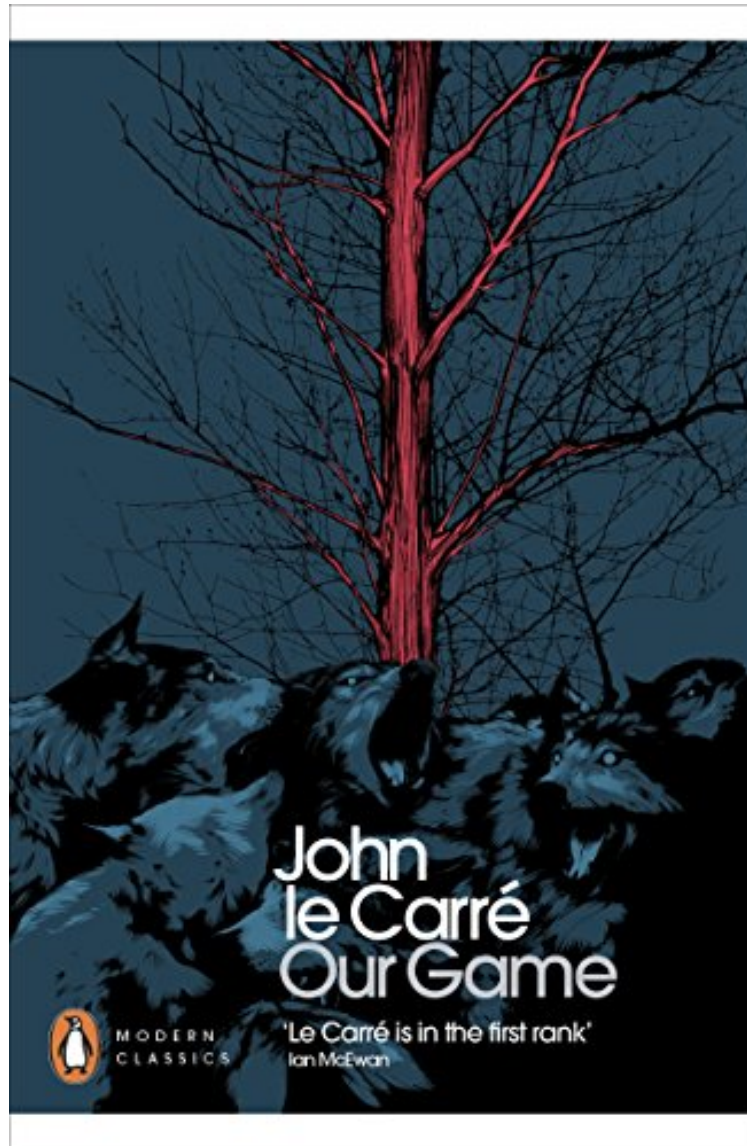


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## Our Game (Penguin Modern Classics)

Von John le Carré

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**Von John le Carré : Our Game (Penguin Modern Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Our Game (Penguin Modern Classics):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Spy Who Came In From The Cold: Post-USSR VersionVon Ein KundeI've read all of Le Carre's books and OUR GAME, while not the best of the bunch, ranks near the top.Being the same age as Tim Cramner and having been "early retired" myself was a real attention grabber for me. It was extremely interesting to see how another "cold warrior" was

handling his own post-cold war existence. I was about a third into the book when I thought to check this site for comments - BAD IDEA! The BOOKLIST review TELLS THE ENTIRE STORY - Shame on it, AND .com for putting it on the site. Luckily, I caught myself before seeing too much. Hope other readers do too. Le Carre's attention to detail is what MAKES his stories (for me at least) so gripping. So my only gripe abt OUR GAME is that he DOESN'T develop the EMMA character nearly enough to make me see why Cranmer is in love with her. Le Carre doesn't succeed much better with Larry. He too, remained relatively one-dimensional for me. Sure, spys are supposed to be "shadowy", but I still had a tough time trying to see what it was about him that so intrigued Emma. (I know, she's fm Venus and us Martians won't ever understand.) But as I said at the top, Tim C is the character I was MOST interested in, and Le Carre's "first person" narrative kept me reading way past my bedtime. I found myself specifically scheduling the final chapter for a time when I could read it line by line, covering what was coming with paper. For someone new to Le Carre, however, I'd recommend "The Spy Who Came In From the Cold" first. It is STILL the best spy book ever written; and the movie with Richard Burton is also still the best of its genre. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Old Cold Warrior deals with some newer World Situations. Von Ein Kunde Tim Cranmer, a retired Cold War spy, had started a quieter new life with Emma Manzini, a fine young hippie less than half his age. Larry Pettifer, the younger double agent he has run since school days at Oxford, is far from retired, and he is still very active. He is quite involved in idealistic causes on the other side of the Iron Curtain, which Tim casually dismisses with his typical Western prejudice. He fails to seriously consider how affected Emma might be by the persuasion of Larry's real convictions. So we have the basis of the old classic menage. Given the complexities of any Le Carre set of characters, and given the guesswork of dealing with running double agents behind enemy lines; classic Le Carre; we have a solid mystery to unravel. However: Why does Le Carre so extravagantly spend 94 pages (Ballentine paperback) to develop these characters, and a relatively simple plot actually, before he really pulls the rug out from under us? (It goes out to 148 pages before we even learn any clue as to the simple meaning of the title!) I love LeCarre spy stories, but this one had too much of those genteel discussions over tea in old Victorian rooms, before any movement or action happens. Sort of like watching those black and white English spy stories on late TV: All those muttering conversations just put me to sleep! Otherwise, I liked the confusion of Tim's mixed feelings toward this old friend who betrays him. I appreciated the ambiguity of his feelings toward Emma, who he cannot decide to give up, no matter how much it hurts. This solid portrayal of failed relationships rings painfully true for me. Other things I appreciated in the book were some entirely new settings, and a cast including new background characters: The Russian mafia, a Russian nightclub, underground gang hideout, money launderers, smugglers, gun runners, mountainous back country, revolutionary armies of inscrutably obscure ethnicity, and even new nationalities. Many of these places and characters were unheard of in fiction, up till now. I'm afraid only those most avid fans of cold war espionage stories will properly appreciate this update. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Please someone wake me up. Von Ein Kunde I happened to listen to the book tape in my car (unabridged-- something like 12-15 hours). There should be a warning posted on it to keep people from emulating me and falling asleep at the wheel. If this is "as thrilling as Le Carre gets," then I'll take a pass from now on. My chief complaints: 1) Far too much of the book took place in flashback 2) The narrator has zero personality, vacillating from vague self-pity to vague longing to vague regret and back. 3) The one moment of electric thrill (I don't want to give away anything here, but it has to do with a sudden revelation by the narrator) is quickly revealed to be as false and anticlimatic as the rest of the book. 4) Try as I might, I couldn't bring myself to care about a single character. 5) Did I mention that too much was in flashback? Of the three pivotal characters, two are presented almost entirely in flashback. Their presence is felt, but they are distant, ghostlike, and not particularly appealing. Sorry to be so negative, but don't waste your time.

Kurzbeschreibung Le Carr's post-Cold War masterpiece, filled with suspense, betrayal, desire and drama The Cold War is over and retired secret servant Tim Cranmer has been put out to pasture, spending his days making wine on his Somerset estate. But then he discovers that his former double agent Larry - dreamer, dissolute, philanderer and disloyal friend - has vanished, along with Tim's mistress. As their trail takes him to the lawless wilds of Russia and the North Caucasus, he is forced to question everything he stood for. Pressestimmen A wonderful book ... I cannot think of a more compelling read (Financial Times) An absorbing and thought-provoking piece of work (The Times Literary Supplement) Le Carr is in the first rank (Ian McEwan) Kurzbeschreibung Le Carr's post-Cold War masterpiece, filled with suspense, betrayal, desire and drama The Cold War is over and retired secret servant Tim Cranmer has been put out to pasture, spending his days making wine on his Somerset estate. But then he discovers that his former double agent Larry - dreamer, dissolute, philanderer and disloyal friend - has vanished, along with Tim's mistress. As their trail takes him to the lawless wilds of Russia and the North Caucasus, he is forced to question everything he stood for.