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Cafes and Cobblestones

By Elmer Alan Grossberg

Dog Ear Publishing. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 276 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.8in. In an allegory for our time, a broke, naive, expatriate American veteran and writer winds up in Provence during the French-Algerian War of liberation. An instinctive liberal who sympathizes with the pro-Algeria left, he finds himself writing propaganda for a leftist publisher. Captivated by a beautiful French-Algerian woman and a charismatic, English-speaking Saudi, and disillusioned by a perceived collapse of Western mores and self-esteem, he gravitates toward Islam and jihad unaware of its cultural convolutions. When he must choose between the two houses of jihad—War v. Peace, martyr v. moderate—he shifts from the former to the latter by virtue of an enthralling concept, thereby running afoul of both his Saudi mentor and their leftist allies, but not before his conflicted fiancée pays a price for her beauty—and for her independence. It is a love story that crosses culture, religion and reason in a world seething with religious and ideological passions. Elmer Alan Grossberg A native of Brooklyn, the author achieved local fame at age sixteen with a short story in Esquire magazine and the annual O. Henry Prize Stories collection. After a hitch in the...



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Reviews

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