

New in PAPERBACK

Banker For All Seasons

Bank of Crooks and Cheats Inc.

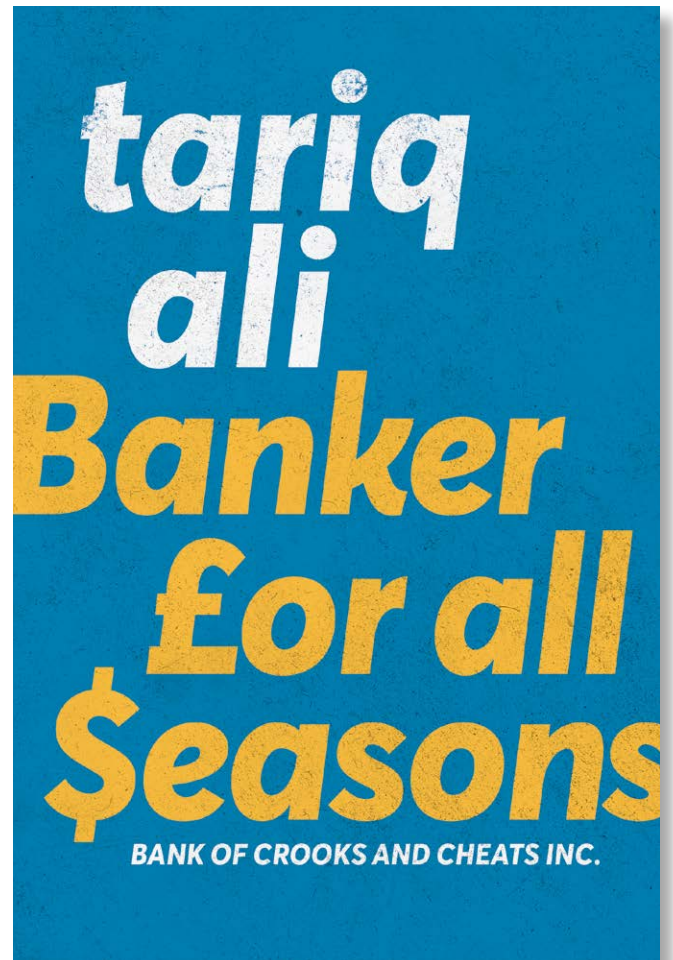
TARIQ ALI

During the late Seventies and Eighties a new logo began to jostle for space with the more traditional landmarks on high streets throughout Britain. It was the badge of a remarkable Third World Bank...the BCCI (Bank of Credit and Commerce International). BCCI soon become a global corporate empire with former US Presidents, ex-British Prime Ministers and a range of dictators on its payroll, all helping with promoting the company.

Tariq Ali was the first public voice to warn that the Bank was not all it seemed to be. Indeed, many of its own employees called BCCI the "Bank of Crooks and Cheats Incorporated". Some political analysts also predicted the company's collapse. The Bank finally imploded amidst a welter of scandal.

This revealing screenplay presents an account of the rise and fall of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International. Here, Ali reveals how BCCI lasted so long, how financial regulators failed to see what was going on and how BCCI pioneered a mode of operation that prepared the way for an even greater financial cataclysm, the fall of Enron.

TARIQ ALI is a writer and filmmaker. He has written more than two dozen books on world history and politics, and seven novels as well as scripts for the stage and screen. He is an editor of New Left Review and lives in London.



₹ 399

Filmscript

PB

9780857426406

264 pp

5.75 x 8.25"

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New in PAPERBACK

Fear of Mirrors

TARIQ ALI

“Ali folds his drama around the tight, cultlike atmosphere of Communist Party life, peopled by idealists who find their lives encumbered by betrayals, power grabs, and corruption and who, in the post-Communist era, must come to terms with their complicity with Stalinism. . . . This is a valuable book, especially for those interested in the current thinking of the European left.” *Publishers Weekly*

In this novel from esteemed political writer Tariq Ali, a father, Vlady, loses his job when he refuses to renounce socialist beliefs in the newly unified Germany—and as a result wants to explain to his alienated son what their family’s long and passionate involvement with communism has really meant. The story he tells is of Ludwik, a Polish secret agent and Gertrude, Vlady’s mother, whose desire for Ludwik is matched only by her devotion to the communist ideal. As the plot unfolds through the political upheavals of the twentieth century, Vlady describes the hopes aroused by the Bolshevik revolution and discovers the almost unbearable truth about the family’s betrayal. Written with deep political insight and sensitivity, *Fear of Mirrors* relates the extraordinary history of Central Europe from the perspective of those on the other side of the cold war.



₹ 499

Fiction

PB

9780857426413

332 pp

6 x 7.5"

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New in PAPERBACK

Kite

DOMINIQUE EDDÉ

Translated by Ros Schwartz

“The writing is masterly.”

—*Andrée Chedid, L'Orient-le-Jour*

Rich and multilayered, with elements of both memoir and fiction, Dominique Eddé's *Kite* defies categorization. Beginning in the 1960s and ending in the late '80s, it is at once a narrative of a passionate, and ultimately tragic, relationship between Mali and Farid and the simultaneous decline of Egyptian-Lebanese society. Densely populated with myriad characters, *Kite* chronicles the casualties of social conventions, religious divisions and cultural clichés. The differences between East and West are central to the tension of Eddé's book and share the responsibility for an unavoidable impasse between the lovers. This fragmented narrative—written in several voices that reflect the fragmented lives of those caught up in the madness of war—calls into question an entire way of living and thinking.

In lyrical, elegant, original and often startling prose, Eddé weaves together multiple strands—meditating on the nature of language, investigating the concept of the novel, and powerfully depicting the experience of being blind. Deftly evoking the intellectual scene of Beirut in the '60s, Lebanon's mountainscapes and the urban settings of Cairo, Paris and London, *Kite* probes memory with a curious mix of irony and melancholy, ending up in a place beyond hope and despair.



₹ 499

Fiction

PB

9780857426369

303 pp

5 x 8"

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New in PAPERBACK

Lionheart

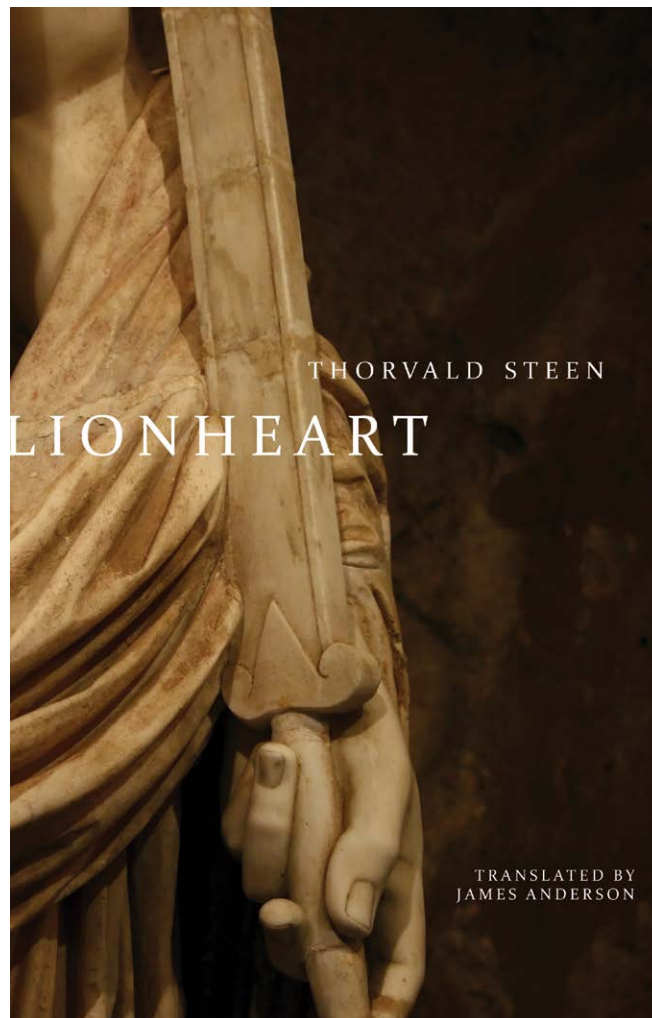
THORVALD STEEN

Translated by James Anderson

"Thorvald Steen's new novel *Lionheart* is a fascinating read. . . . Steen manages to give flesh and blood to a historical icon, and creates a story with energy, dressed in sober yet sublime language."—*Dagsavisen*

Richard I (1157–99) was king of England from 1189 until his death, but he is best known as a soldier, not a monarch. He earned his moniker Richard the Lionheart as a knight and military leader, and his revolt against his father Henry II and his conquest of Cyprus as part of the Crusades helped to solidify his historical legend. In *Lionheart*, Norwegian author Thorvald Steen, celebrated for his historical novels, brings his characteristic accuracy and artistic vision to the life of Richard I.

Lionheart is the story of a man living in the shadow of his own myth, also a fanatic general who wants to conquer the world's greatest sanctum and a king that is suddenly vulnerable. At the age of fifteen he leads an army against his father. Fourteen years later he is the Pope's obvious choice to lead the third Crusade. But the Richard of Steen's novel is less sure of himself and his role—is it true that he is God's chosen one, like his mother says? Built on extensive research, Steen paints a dark and conflicted, yet credible and convincing, portrait of a man who has engrossed historians, poets, novelists and readers for centuries.



₹ 499

Fiction

PB

9780857426352

261 pp

5 x 8"

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New in PAPERBACK

No Fixed Abode

ETHNOFICTION

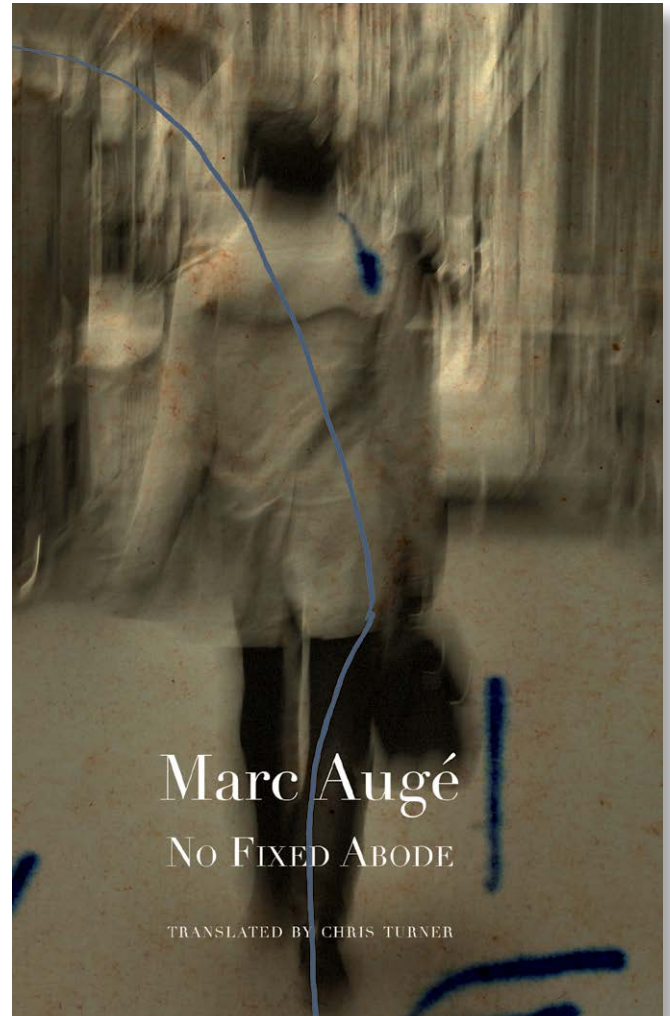
MARC AUGÉ

Translated by **Chris Turner**

“With *No Fixed Abode*, anthropologist Marc Augé uses the form of the novel to explore the emergence of a new class of poor: those who work, but are left homeless, unable to afford rent. . . . In this book, Augé explores the need for place, writing that without this point of reference, man loses his identity. And this is especially easy when, like Augé’s hero, we find ourselves facing the vertigo of absolute isolation. A bitter and chilling story of the present day.”—*Le Figaro*

In recent years, social workers have raised a new concern about the appearance of a new category among the working poor. Even employed, there are people so overburdened by the cost of living and so under compensated that they cannot afford a place to sleep. Contrary to popular opinion, according to the website for the Coalition for the Homeless, forty-four percent of the homeless in first world countries actually have jobs. In *No Fixed Abode*, Marc Augé’s pathbreaking ethnofiction—a fictional ethnography—a man named Henri narrates his strange existence in the margins of Paris. By day he walks the streets, lingers in conversation with the local shopkeepers, and sits writing in cafés, but at night he takes shelter in an abandoned house. From here, we see a progressive erosion of Henri’s identity, a loss of bearings, and a slow degeneration of his ability to relate to others. But then he meets the artist Dominique, whose willingness to share her life with him raises questions about who he has become and about what a person needs in order to be a part of society.

This is a book about how we live in geographical space and how work and patterns of domicile affect our status and our inner being. Despite the apparent simplicity of the fictional premise, Augé’s book asks serious questions about the nature of our culture.



₹ 299

Fiction/Anthropology

PB

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80 pp

5 x 8"

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New in PAPERBACK

Part of the Solution

ULRICH PELTZER

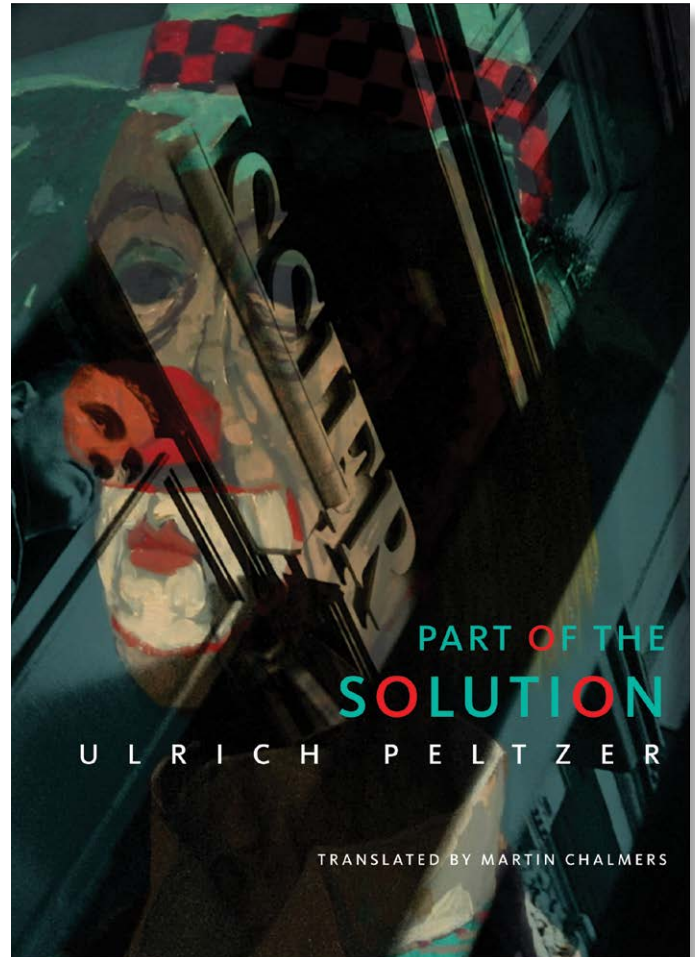
Translated by **Martin Chalmers**

“Berlin may be at the heart of Germany’s literary life; sadly, however, great novels about the capital have been few and far between over the past few decades. This novel is a notable exception, as Peltzer interweaves an East-West romance with a thriller on anarchists gone underground. Superbly translated by the late Martin Chalmers, it offers a shrewd portrait of the city today.”—**Uwe Schütte, Times Higher Education**

It’s Berlin in the summer of 2003—sunshine for weeks on end, weather to fall in love. And that’s just what Christian Eich, the main character in Ulrich Peltzer’s acclaimed novel *Part of the Solution*, does; but that’s not all. Christian Eich, a thirty-something freelance journalist, is researching a story on the radicals of the previous generation in Germany. His path keeps crossing with Nele, a young member of a left-wing group of student activists who are resistant to the increasing control and surveillance of all spheres of life by state and commercial institutions. Not just a simple love story, *Part of the Solution* is in fact a thriller that leads from Berlin into the East German countryside and finally to Paris.

Peltzer’s keen observations of urban life are enriched with many concrete details specific to Berlin. *Part of the Solution* captures the feel and the reality of Berlin today and goes beyond it, touching on details common to the precarious lives of all inhabitants of contemporary cities. The unlikely couple of Christian and Nele come together despite all the differences of generation and character in this decidedly political novel grounded in present-day realities.

Despite his esteemed reputation in Germany, Peltzer’s novels have never before been available in English and this surprising and captivating book will be a fitting introduction for English readers unfamiliar with his work.



₹ 499

Fiction

PB

9780857426338

451 pp

6 x 7.5"

The German List

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New in PAPERBACK

September

MIRAGE

THOMAS LEHR

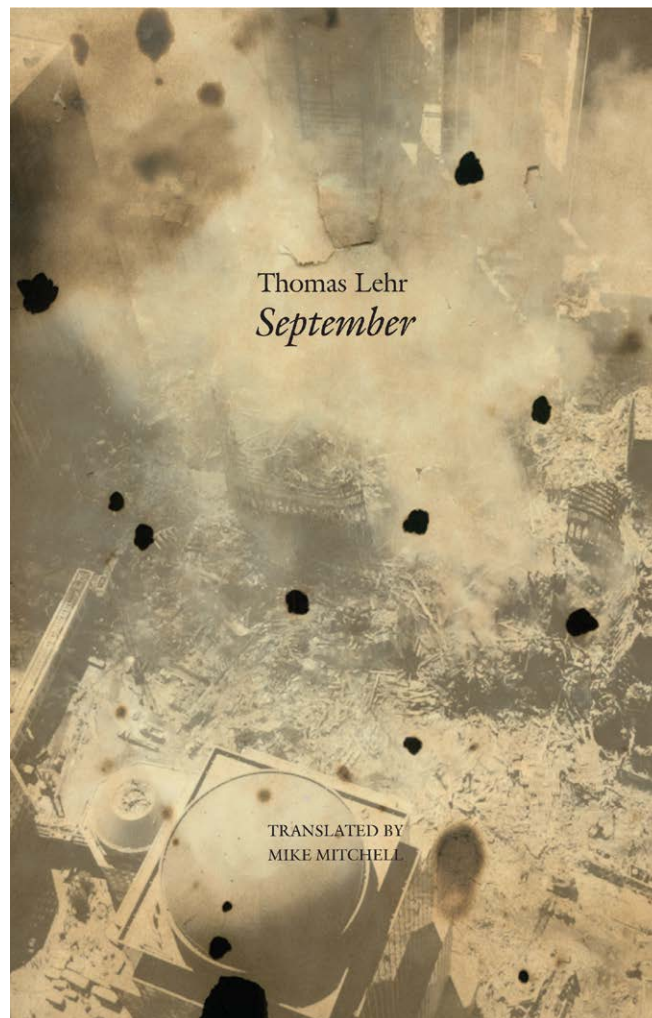
Translated by **Mike Mitchell**

“If the intention is to create a dreamlike stream of narrative, *September: Fata Morgana* succeeds. Its namesake, the sorceress Fay de Morgana from the Arthurian epic, would be impressed. Bewitchingly and beguiling, this novel continually enchants the reader. A heartbreaking story of human relationships destroyed by war and destruction, it is also a story of love. Achingly beautiful and mournfully sad, this tale of loss is partly what we have become and partly what we always were.”

—**CounterPunch**

Two fathers with two daughters: Martin, professor of German, writes but is studying Earth Sciences at MIT; Tariq, a doctor in Baghdad and Muna, is studying the archaeology of a region that is seen as the cradle of civilization. These two parallel relationships in two very different parts of the world expose the human similarities beneath cultural differences. In Thomas Lehr's moving and realistic novel, the similarities between these men become a similarity of suffering as well. Martin's daughter dies with her mother in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, and though Tariq survives three wars and Saddam Hussein's regime intact, his family does not—in the last days of the conflict, his daughter is raped, her lover is murdered, and she sees her sister and mother die in a bomb attack.

Out of these tragedies that almost seem to define the first decade of our century, Lehr has fashioned a richly woven, multilayered tapestry that not only explores the human side but brings out the cultural, historical, social, and political context within which the tragedies occur. The alternating interior monologues of the four main characters engage the reader in language which reaches an unforgettable poetic intensity.



₹ 699

Fiction

PB

9780857426321

420 pp

6 x 9"

The German List

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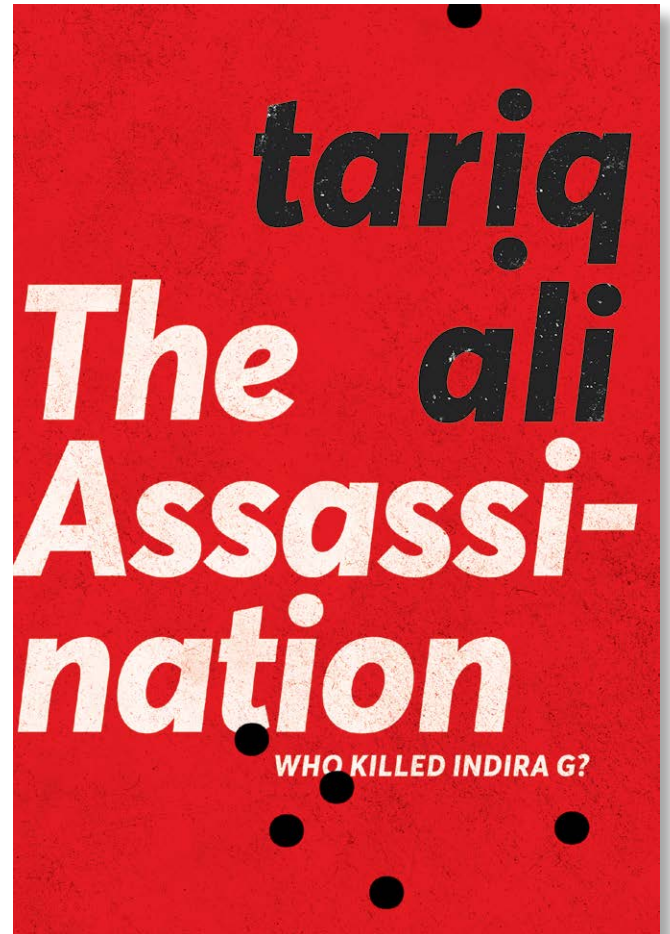
The Assassination

Who Killed Indira G?

TARIQ ALI

Who killed Indira Gandhi? We know the name of the assassins, but did they act alone? In this fictional filmscript, Tariq Ali suggests that larger forces were at work, exploiting genuine Sikh grievances to settle their own score with a prime minister who, whatever her faults, was fiercely independent of US pressure and safeguarded Indian sovereignty with a zeal inherited from her father. Provocative and suggestive, this script was never completed. The Assassination completes Ali's trilogy, with *The Leopard* and *The Fox and A Banker For All Seasons*.

TARIQ ALI is a writer and filmmaker. He has written more than two dozen books on world history and politics, and seven novels as well as scripts for the stage and screen. He is an editor of *New Left Review* and lives in London.



₹ 399

Filmscript

PB

9780857426383

152 pp

5.75 x 8.25"

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New in PAPERBACK

The Leopard and the Fox

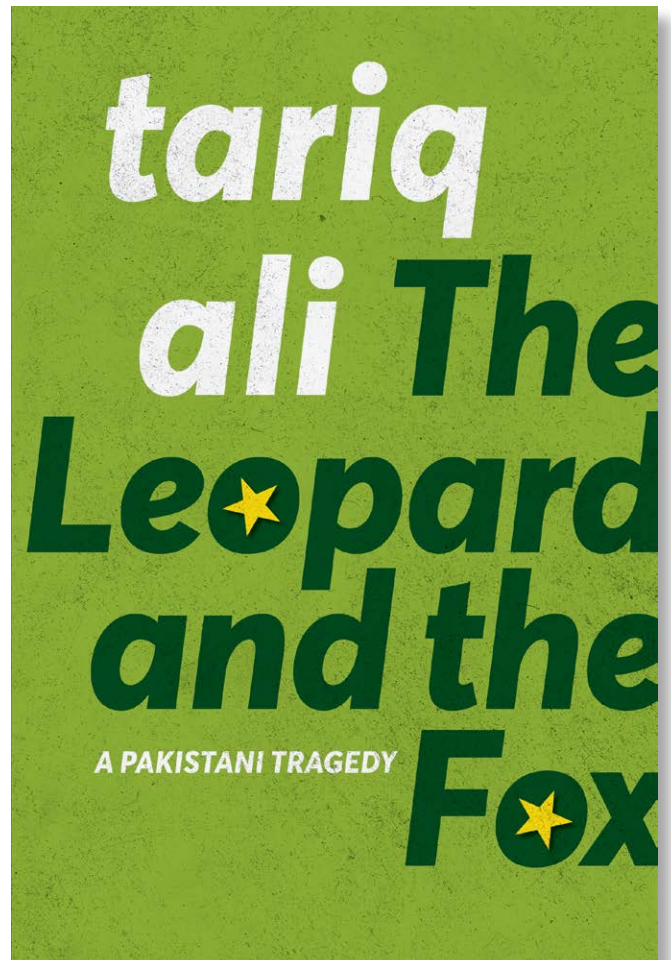
A Pakistani Tragedy

TARIQ ALI

The BBC commissioned Tariq Ali to write a three-part TV series on the circumstances leading to the overthrow, trial and execution of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the first elected Prime Minister of Pakistan. As rehearsals were about to begin, the BBC hierarchy - under pressure from the Foreign Office - decided to cancel the project. Why? General Zia ul Haq, the dictator at the time, was leading the jihad against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. He was backed by the USA. According to expert legal opinion, there was a possibility of a whole range of defamation suits from the head of state to judges involved in the case. In consequence, it was decided not to broadcast this hard-hitting and provocative play.

The Leopard and the Fox presents both the script and the story of censorship.

TARIQ ALI is a writer and filmmaker. He has written more than two dozen books on world history and politics, and seven novels as well as scripts for the stage and screen. He is an editor of New Left Review and lives in London.



₹ 399

Filmscript

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224 pp

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New in PAPERBACK

The Trials of Spinoza

TARIQ ALI

Baruch Spinoza (1632–77) is considered one of the great rationalist thinkers of the seventeenth century. His magnum opus, *Ethics*, in which he criticized the dualism of Descartes, solidified his reputation and greatly influenced the Enlightenment thinkers who would build from his work.

Born in Amsterdam into a family of Sephardic Jews who had to take refuge there after they were expelled from Portugal, the precocious young scholar imbibed skepticism at an early age. By the time he was twenty-four, he had challenged what he called the “fairy tales” of the Old Testament and was excommunicated by the Synagogue. In this biographical play, Tariq Ali contextualizes Spinoza’s philosophy by linking it to the turbulent politics of the period, in which Spinoza was deeply involved.

Ali originally wrote *The Trials of Spinoza* as part of a series on philosophy for British Channel Four television, and this publication also includes a DVD of that original television production. This work will be welcomed as a testament to the continuing interest in and relevance of Spinoza’s work and as an example of Ali’s eloquent and always politically engaged writing.



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Filmscript

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61 pp; 1 DVD

5.5 x 7.75"

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