

**BOOK DETAILS**

Format: Paperback
 ISBN: 9781925713466
 RRP: \$29.99

**AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY**

Robert Gott was born in the small Queensland town of Maryborough in 1957, and lives in Melbourne. He has published many books for children, and is also the creator of the newspaper cartoon *The Adventures of Naked Man*. He is the author of *The Holiday Murders* and its sequel, *The Port Fairy Murders*, and of the William Power series of crime-caper novels set in 1940s Australia: *Good Murder*, *A Thing of Blood*, *Amongst the Dead*, and *The Serpent's Sting*.

The series that began with *The Holiday Murders* and *The Port Fairy Murders* now continues with *The Autumn Murders* ...

In the autumn of 1944, George Starling prepares to exact revenge on the person he hates most in the world (and Starling has a long list of people he hates), Detective Joe Sable of the Melbourne Homicide division. Driven by his dark passion for Nazism, Starling is going to make sure that nothing and no one will stand in his way and survive.

Homicide is in turmoil. Riven by internal divisions and disrupted by the war, it has become a dangerous place for Joe to work. Constable Helen Lord, suspended from her position in Homicide, and battling grief, is also in Starling's sights. Knowing that Inspector Titus Lambert can't protect them from Starling's ruthless aim, Helen and Joe decide to set their own trap. But when the trap is sprung, who will be caught in it?

The Autumn Murders is a stylish, historical whodunit, written with wit and insight into the dark corners where the worst of us hides.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. *The Autumn Murders* is a crime novel, but is it more than that?
2. Do you have any sympathy for the bad people in this novel?
3. George Starling's behaviour seems inexplicable. Is this because psychopathy is inexplicable? Is he driven by something other than having a brutal nature?
4. George Starling believes, as did his mentor in the earlier novels, that 'Good tailoring was fundamental to the exercise of power...' It seems like a trivial observation., but is it?

REVIEWS

'*The Autumn Murders* is a triumph not to be missed: a gripping whodunit, elevated by the polish and style to be expected from its author.'

— MEL O'CONNOR, *ECHO*

'This masterly suspense novel by Robert Gott had me reading all night ... it's the rapid-fire storyline and expert plotting that make this novel a quick read, while great characters and astute social observations will keep you glued to the pages and invested in the outcome.'

— KARINA BARRYMORE, *HERALD SUN*

Praise for *A Thing of Blood*:

'A well-designed conspiracy and a tension-fuelled ending provides a rewarding finale to the story. This is the kind of easy beach read type of story with which it is just a pleasure to stick the brain in neutral, kick back and enjoy.'

— AUSTRALIAN CRIME FICTION DATABASE

'Rather than the outlandish though entertaining plot, it's the play of these perspectives, the wit and the dissonance between Power's descriptive ability and his self-delusion, that give *A Thing of Blood* the backbone that keeps you turning the pages..'

— ED WRIGHT, *SYDNEY MORNING HERALD*

5. Does the 1940s setting of the novel make the actions of the characters seem distant, or is there something familiar and recognisable about how this world works?
6. Can you hear echoes of the novel's politics in our contemporary world?
7. Do people ever change?
8. This is a novel about nightmares. Do you agree?
9. This is not a whodunit. It's more of a 'who's next'. Does this help or hinder our sense of menace in the book?
10. Does the violence in this novel serve a purpose?
11. As a reader, do you always crave a happy ending?
12. Do the characters in this novel get stronger, or are they simply more damaged?



Scribe Publications
 18–20 Edward Street
 Brunswick Vic 3056
 T: (03) 9388 8780
 E: info@scribepub.com.au

Seriously good books.

scribepublications.com.au

AUSTRALIAN SMALL PUBLISHER OF THE YEAR 2011, 2010, 2008, 2006