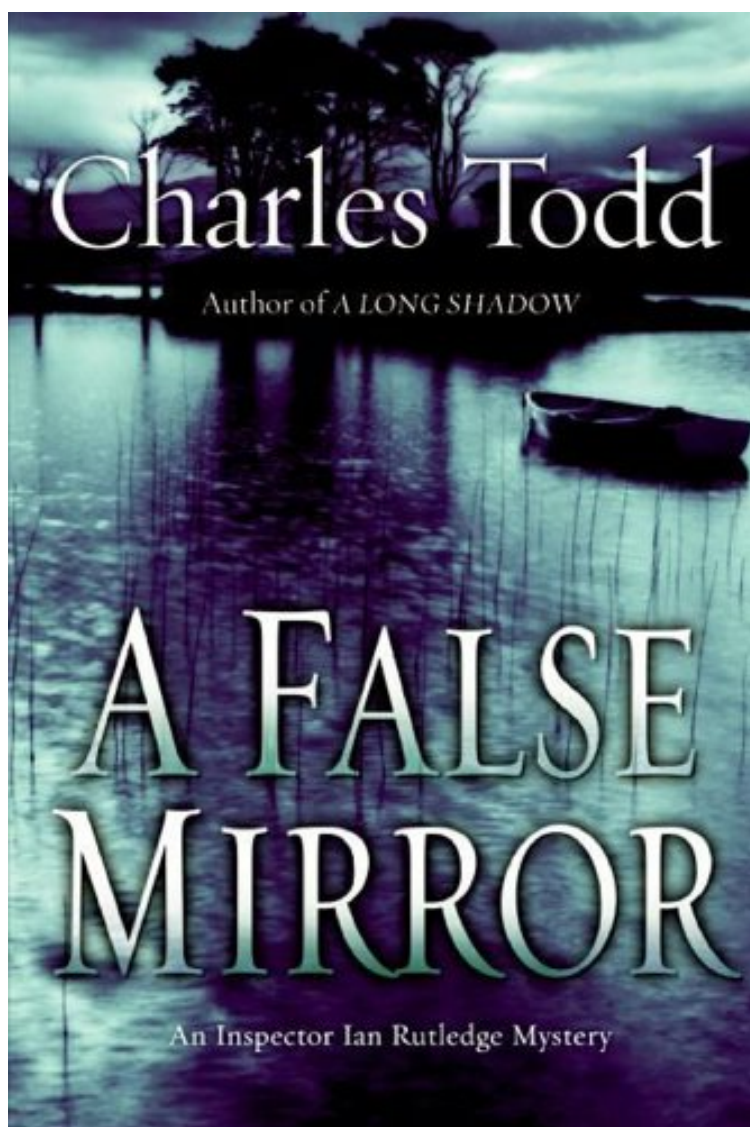


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# A False Mirror: An Inspector Ian Rutledge Mystery



*Par Charles Todd*

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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurFull of suspense, surprises, and sympathetic characters.Fort Lauderdale Sun-SentinelNo mystery series I can think of captures the sadness and loss that swept over England after World War I with the heartbreaking force of Charles Todds books about Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge.Chicago TribuneThe remarkable Charles Todd has created one of the most unforgettable characters in mystery and crime fiction: Inspector Ian Rutledge, shell-shocked veteran of the Great War. A False Mirror is one of Todds most powerful novels, plunging his tormented protagonist into the center of a brutal crime that painfully echoes events in Rutledges own past. Poignant, evocative, and continually surprising, A False

Mirror is further proof that Charles Todd is well deserving of the critical acclaim the Rutledge novels have earned; a New York Times bestselling author who belongs among the acknowledged masters of the genre, including P. D. James, Elizabeth George, Ruth Rendell, and Jacqueline Winspear. From Publishers Weekly Starred . The complex, evocative ninth installment in Todd's series set in post-WWI England (after 2006's *Long Shadow*) showcases the pseudonymous author's usual subtle understatement and deft characterization. Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge, who has returned from the trench warfare of France haunted by the carnage (and in particular by his order to execute one of his own men), heads to the seaside village of Hampton Regis to defuse a hostage situation. Stephen Mallory, who served under Rutledge's command in the war and is suspected of viciously assaulting his ex-lover's husband, demands Rutledge's presence before he will release his ex-lover and other hostages. To manage the crisis, Rutledge must weather the suspicions of the local police and identify the person responsible for the assault and two subsequent murders. Todd, a mother-and-son writing team, seamlessly melds a fair-play whodunit with psychological suspense in the tradition of P.D. James's best. (Jan.) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Booklist Motive, motive, motive. Is it jealousy? Money? Or something entirely different? Scotland Yard Inspector Rutledge must find the answer when he's summoned to the small town of Hampton Regis at the behest of Stephen Mallory, accused of viciously attacking one Matthew Hamilton. Afraid of being railroaded for a crime he insists he didn't commit, Mallory holds Hamilton's wife and her housekeeper hostage, hoping Rutledge can prove his innocence. It's tough going for Rutledge, who is dogged by unpleasant memories of Mallory, whom he knew while soldiering in the Great War, and by the echoing voice of Hamish, also a fellow soldier, whose imagined counsel steadies the investigator as he casts about for suspects. Todd, the pseudonym of a mother-son writing team, incorporates touches of both Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Christie in this character-driven mystery, which builds smoothly but not simply to a climax that is likely to be a genuine surprise. Stephanie Zvirin Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved