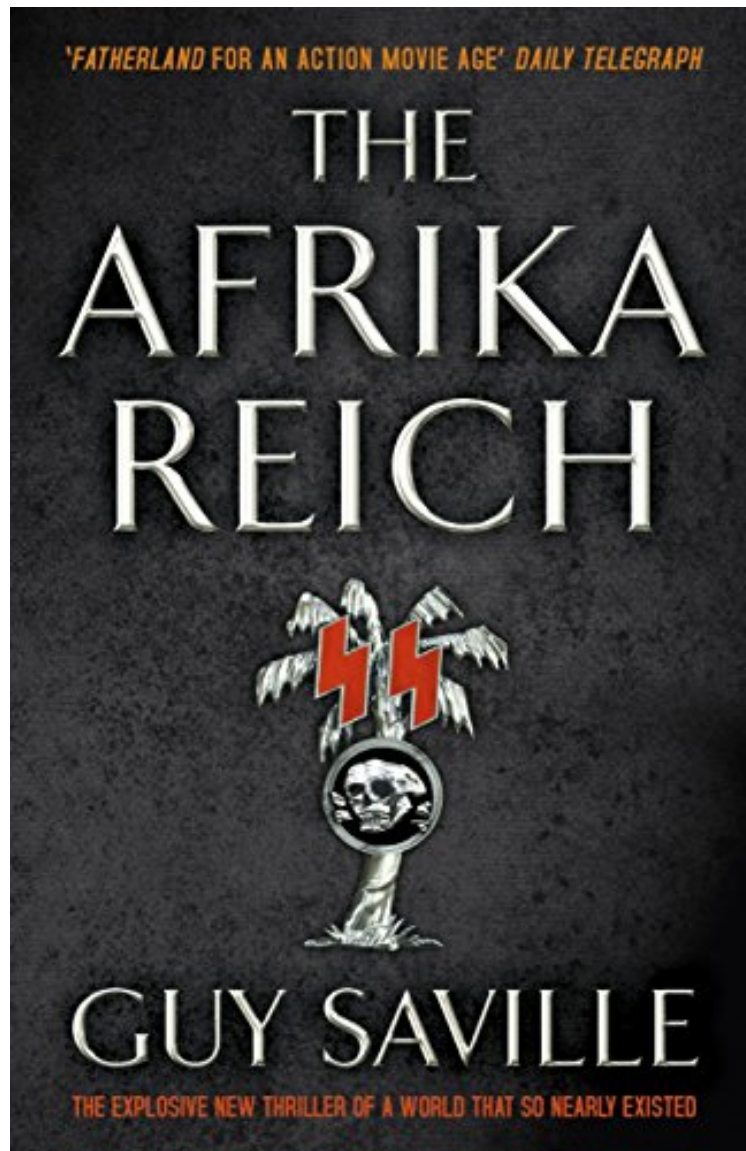


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## The Afrika Reich (English Edition)

*Von Guy Saville*

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**Von Guy Saville : The Afrika Reich (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Afrika Reich (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Thrilling, spine-chilling alternative history,Von Mrs. Kelly Koyal've not written a book review in years, but The Africa Reich simply is the best book I have read in at least the past decade! I heartedly recommend it.As others have stated, the violence is graphic but it is never gratuitous. The characters are multi faceted and complex.The novel

charges at quite a pace and is full of unexpected twists, and I was absolutely unable to put it down. Reading was emotionally draining - I felt exhausted by the end! The portrayed alternate history has spine-chilling credibility making it an eye opening, thought provoking read and I eagerly await the sequel(s).

5 von 6 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Both action-packed and thought provoking

Von Bookgeeks Guy Saville's debut novel follows in the tradition of imagining a world in which the Nazis were victorious in World War Two - Len Deighton's *SS-GB* and Robert Harris's *Fatherland* are big jackboots for Saville to fill, and I am pleased to say that he manages to fill them with aplomb in this, the first volume of a planned trilogy. There are two main elements to making this kind of fiction all that it can be: a plausible backstory that allows the reader to accept the alternative reality in which its set, and a genuinely pacy and engaging plot. The *Afrika Reich* has both.

First, the backstory. These things work best when they home in on one of the 'hinges of fate' by which history is decided, change the outcome of that event and then follow the consequences through in a logical way. In this book, Hitler did not issue the order to hold back from attacking the evacuating British Expeditionary Force, resulting a massacre on the beaches of Dunkirk from which the British will to fight never recovered. With Churchill resigning and being succeeded by Lord Halifax, Britain makes peace with Germany, America never enters the war in Europe and Germany is able to turn on and defeat the Soviet Union without having any enemies to its rear. As an historian, there's nothing about this scenario that I have any difficulty with, and the German interest in Africa as a source of Imperial prestige and natural resources, borne out by pre-1945 documents quoted by Saville, is perfectly plausible too.

Now to the story itself. Burton Cole is a retired mercenary who was present at the Dunkirk massacre and who subsequently undertook many missions in Africa, a continent now largely divided between the British and the Germans. When a shadowy diplomat comes calling, offering him the chance to settle an old score with the man who is now Governor General of Deutsch Kongo (Congo), he takes the mission, against his better judgment. With a small crew of mercs and misfits, the mission kicks off with apparent success - but soon, nothing is going right for Cole's crew and they find themselves fugitives in a country largely denuded of its native inhabitants (subject of something known as the Windhoek Decree, they have been 'deported' to the Sahara, where their fate is unknown, though not hard to guess) and swarming with SS and German soldiery. Their attempts to escape are thwarted by the Germans intentions to invade both Portuguese Angola and British-occupied Northern Rhodesia, and they fall in with black African members of the Angolan resistance, who know that the German invasion means much more than a change of government for their people. The brutality of the SS regime in German Africa is entirely in keeping with the treatment meted out to the peoples of Eastern Europe, and Saville delivers thrills worthy of Len Deighton, Alistair McLean (for me, this was particularly reminiscent of *The Guns of Navarone*) and other masters of the WW2 thriller, in a way that's both action packed and thought provoking, which is a difficult trick to pull off. Bravo.

4 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. cross between *Fatherland* and *Wild Geese*

Von Parm This review is from: *The Afrika Reich* (Hardcover) *Afrika Reich*: Set in an alternative 1952, The British rather than achieving one of their finest hours with the Dunkirk evacuation were captured, forcing Britain into a peace agreement. New borders were drawn up and as such the Swastika flies like a brooding menace over Africa from the Sahara all the way to the Indian Ocean. This story centres around one man Burton Cole, the mission he has been given and how it brings him crashing into his troubled past. For me this debut novel was an amazing ride through the "what if" world of alternative history. As soon as I heard about it I had to read it, I have loved war films since I was a child. The concept of this story very much brings to mind Robert Harris's *Fatherland*, but after reading a couple of chapters my imagination had blended it to a cross between *Fatherland* and *Wild Geese*. The story rockets along with the depth of background and accuracy to be expected in *Fatherland* and goes that bit further by adding the action and pace and characters of *Wild Geese*. These characters soon taking on a blend of famous war film faces Richard Burton, Roger Moore Richard Harris with a bit of George Peppard (for Patrick). One of the things I always find telling with a book is how long it takes to read, because this shows your level of engagement with the story and the characters, I also think about the lengths I will go to to keep reading long after I should have turned out the light and gone to sleep. *Afrika Reich* lasted a whopping 2 days of reading and this was while I was making notes in my review copy. I stayed up until 2am on the 2nd day because I couldn't go to sleep until I knew what happened and how it ended. This for me was a clear sign of the power and writing skill of the book and author to engross the reader. Its not often I would rate a debut novel this highly, but this is well deserved (Parm)

Kurzbeschreibung What if Dunkirk had been the end of Britain's war against the Nazis? 'Fatherland for an action movie age.' Daily Telegraph 1952. It is more than a decade since humiliation at Dunkirk brought an end to Britain's war and the beginning of an uneasy peace with Hitler. In Africa, the swastika flies from the Sahara to the Indian Ocean. Gleaming autobahns bisect the jungle, jet fighters patrol the skies. The brutal presence of the SS is visible everywhere. Now, however, the demonic plans of Walter Hochburg - architect of Nazi Africa - threaten Britain's ailing colonies. In England, ex-mercenary Burton Cole is offered one last contract. Burton jumps at the chance to settle an old score with Hochburg, despite the protests of the woman he loves. If Burton fails, unimaginable horrors will be unleashed in

Africa. No one - black or white - will be spared. But when his mission turns to disaster, Burton is forced to flee for his life. His flight takes him from the unholy killing ground of Kongo to SS slave camps and on to war-torn Angola, finally reaching its thrilling climax in a conspiracy that leads to the dark heart of the Afrika Reich itself. Guy Saville combines meticulous research with edge-of-the-seat suspense to produce a superb novel of alternate history. *Pressestimmen* What Guy Saville knows is violence: violence against animals, children, and those seeking change through the political process. He's spent a career facing it on the journalistic front lines and admirably raising public awareness against it, and now he's combined it with heavy research to breathe life into history's greatest villains. *Kirkus* Saville gets everything right--providing suspenseful action sequences, logical but enthralling plot twists, a fully thought through imaginary world, and characters with depth. PWA skin-of-the-teeth escape at the end foreshadows a series. *Kirkus* Saville's debut novel makes an energetic leap into alternate history. they'll enjoy the wild, running battle against contemporary history's greatest villains. Thomas Gaughan, *Booklist* an imaginative and entertaining journey *The Forward* The Afrika Reich has been meticulously researched, which raises it a significant cut above the average airport thriller. *BookBrowse* [The] plot is clever, imaginative and, in its finale, wholly unexpected. In a crowded field, *The Afrika Reich* stands out as a rich and unusual thriller, politically sophisticated and hard to forget. *The Economist*, *Books of the Year 2011* Set in a world in which Britain made peace with Hitler after 1940, this account of a mercenary mission to Africa makes for an engrossing and convincing debut. *Sunday Express*, *Books of the Year 2011* *Fatherland* for an action movie age *Daily Telegraph* An horrific reimagining of the Dark Continent *The Times* A thoroughly enjoyable and compelling read *The Sun* *Werbetext* A brilliant thriller with a modern sensibility and super-fast pace, with suspenseful touches that will delight fans of classic thrillers and films.