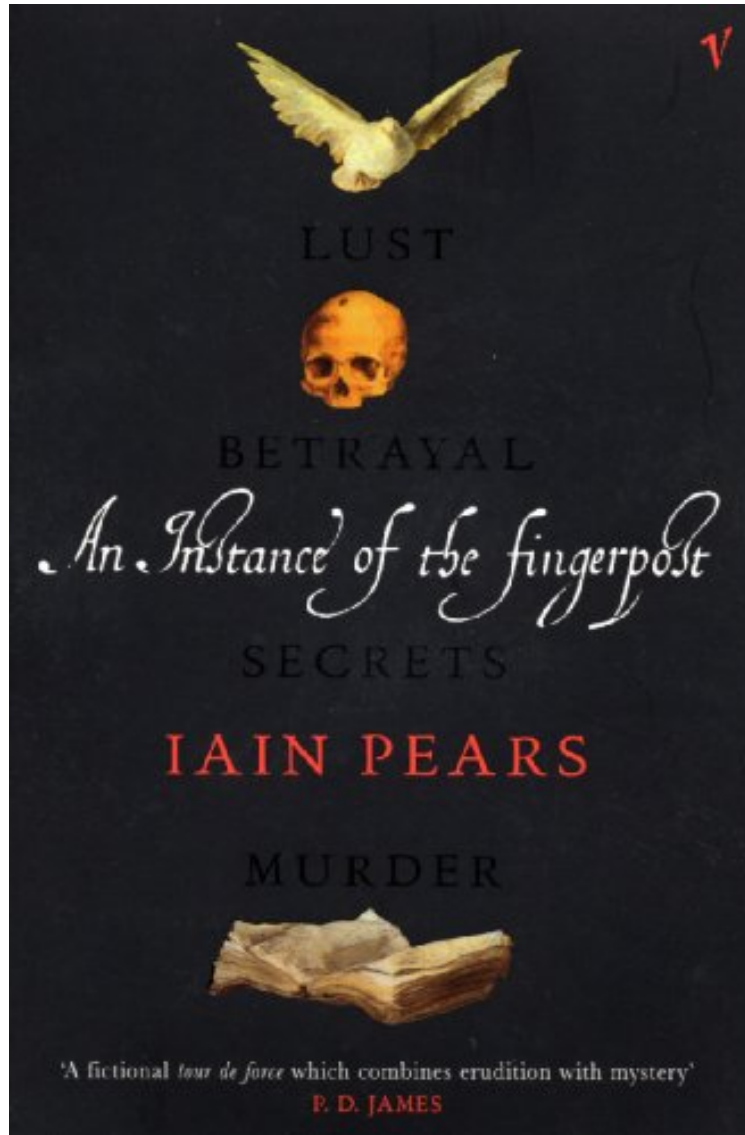


[Library ebook] An Instance Of The Fingerpost

## An Instance Of The Fingerpost

Von Iain Pears

audiobook / \*ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

Produktinformation -Verkaufsrang: #370514 in eBooksVerffentlicht am: 2011-04-30Erscheinungsdatum: 2011-04-30File Name: B004WOEFBA | File size: 53.Mb

**Von Iain Pears : An Instance Of The Fingerpost** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Instance Of The Fingerpost:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen12 von 12 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Some words of advice on reading this incredible novelVon Mark TaylorIn addition to echoing the words of praise written by other reviewers, I implore you to heed a few words of advice:1. DO NOT read too many reviews here! There are big spoilers below that will ruin your own experience of this novel. Once you're convinced to read this book, skip the rest

of these reviews and come back when you're done!<sup>2</sup>. Read a summary of the historical background of this period in English history and be ready to refer to it often. An encyclopedia would be handy for background on some of the historical figures.<sup>3</sup> Don't be in a rush. You'll be reading this for the first time only once; savor the details as you go.<sup>4</sup> I agree with an earlier reviewer: take notes. The book is simply too long and complex to keep everything straight in your head. Familiar names reappear in the story, events resurface, and a few notes about the characters and plot will help jog your memory. In this respect the novel reminds me greatly of Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. You'll miss a lot if you just plow through at top speed. Does all this sound like a lot to ask? It may be for some readers. But some of the best things in life require a little effort. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Breathtaking and beautiful, utterly absorbing, Von D. Wyatt This is the first of Pears' books I've read, and I have to say I was very impressed. I originally bought it for two reasons: the period and the location. On the latter element, I was rather disappointed: there is not a very strong sense of place. But the sense of period and the strength of characterisation - particularly in the four "authors" telling their version of events - is very impressive. Describing the same events and characters from four angles is done with tremendous panache and astonishing consistency across the four sections. And there is a real sense of pain and catharsis in the conclusion. Indeed, each of the narrators is presented with compassion and understanding, and is completely believable, even while we sense their failure to grasp the whole story. I wonder if this is really for mystery buffs - the basic whodunnit is hardly the point. Pears is it seems being compared to Umberto Eco, and that I think is a good comparison. Pears wears his learning lightly - most of the time! - and, while there is much here which is written for the sheer joy of the art of writing and reading, you wouldn't want to take any of it away to streamline the storytelling. Now, where can I find everything else Pears has written..?<sup>3</sup> von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A book you love to hate Von William Paxson A more annoying cast of characters has never existed in a book, frustrating, self-serving, blowhards, and with each instance of their chauvinist, ego-bloated revelations, I wanted to put the book down, and say, "Enough!!" But I couldn't - I had to read on, to discover the solution to a wonderfully spun mystery. From Di Silva on, each story teller was more obnoxious, but I just HAD to find out what would happen next, until the wonderfully fulfilling final weaver tied the entire tapestry together in the most fulfilling of ways! I warn you, do not set this book aside, because it will be your best read in a long time.

Kurzbeschreibung Set in Oxford in the 1660s - a time and place of great intellectual, religious, scientific and political ferment - this remarkable novel centres around a young woman, Sarah Blundy, who stands accused of the murder of Robert Grove, a fellow of New College. Four witnesses describe the events surrounding his death: Marco da Cola, a Venetian Catholic intent on claiming credit for the invention of blood transfusion; Jack Prescott, the son of a supposed traitor to the Royalist cause, determined to vindicate his father; John Wallis, chief cryptographer to both Cromwell and Charles II, a mathematician, theologian and master spy; and Anthony Wood, the famous Oxford antiquary. Each one tells their version of what happened but only one reveals the extraordinary truth. Brilliantly written, utterly convincing, gripping from the first page to the last, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is a magnificent tour de force..de *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is that rarest of all possible literary beasts--a mystery powered as much by ideas as by suspects, autopsies and smoking guns. Hefty, intricately plotted, and intellectually ambitious, *Fingerpost* has drawn the inevitable comparisons to Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*; and, for once, the comparison is apt. The year is 1663, and the setting is Oxford, England, during the height of Restoration political intrigue. When Dr Robert Grove is found dead in his Oxford room, hands clenched and face frozen in a rictus of pain, all the signs point to poison. Rashomon-like, the narrative circles around Grove's murder as four different characters give their version of events: Marco da Cola, a visiting Italian physician--or so he would like the reader to believe; Jack Prescott, the son of a traitor who fled the country to avoid execution; Dr. John Wallis, a mathematician and cryptographer with a predilection for conspiracy theories; and Anthony Wood, a mild-mannered Oxford antiquarian whose tale proves to be the book's "instance of the fingerpost" (the quote comes from the philosopher Bacon, who, while asserting that all evidence is ultimately fallible, allows for "one instance of a fingerpost that points in one direction only, and allows of no other possibility"). Like *The Name of the Rose*, this is one whodunit in which the principal mystery is the nature of truth itself. Along the way, Pears displays a keen eye for period details as diverse as the early days of medicine, the convoluted politics of the English Civil War, and the newfangled fashion for wigs. Yet Pears never loses sight of his characters, who manage to be both utterly authentic denizens of the 17th century and utterly authentic human beings. As a mystery, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is entertainment of the most intelligent sort; as a novel of ideas, it proves equally satisfying..co.uk *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is that rarest of all possible literary beasts--a mystery powered as much by ideas as by suspects, autopsies and smoking guns. Hefty, intricately plotted, and intellectually ambitious, *Fingerpost* has drawn the inevitable comparisons to Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*; and, for once, the comparison is apt. The year is 1663, and the setting is Oxford, England, during the height of Restoration political intrigue. When Dr Robert Grove is found dead in his Oxford room, hands clenched and face frozen in a rictus of pain,

all the signs point to poison. Rashomon- like, the narrative circles around Grove's murder as four different characters give their version of events: Marco da Cola, a visiting Italian physician--or so he would like the reader to believe; Jack Prestcott, the son of a traitor who fled the country to avoid execution; Dr. John Wallis, a mathematician and cryptographer with a predilection for conspiracy theories; and Anthony Wood, a mild- mannered Oxford antiquarian whose tale proves to be the book's "instance of the fingerpost" (the quote comes from the philosopher Bacon, who, while asserting that all evidence is ultimately fallible, allows for "one instance of a fingerpost that points in one direction only, and allows of no other possibility"). Like *The Name of the Rose*, this is one whodunit in which the principal mystery is the nature of truth itself. Along the way, Pears displays a keen eye for period details as diverse as the early days of medicine, the convoluted politics of the English Civil War, and the newfangled fashion for wigs. Yet Pears never loses sight of his characters, who manage to be both utterly authentic denizens of the 17th century and utterly authentic human beings. As a mystery, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is entertainment of the most intelligent sort; as a novel of ideas, it proves equally satisfying.