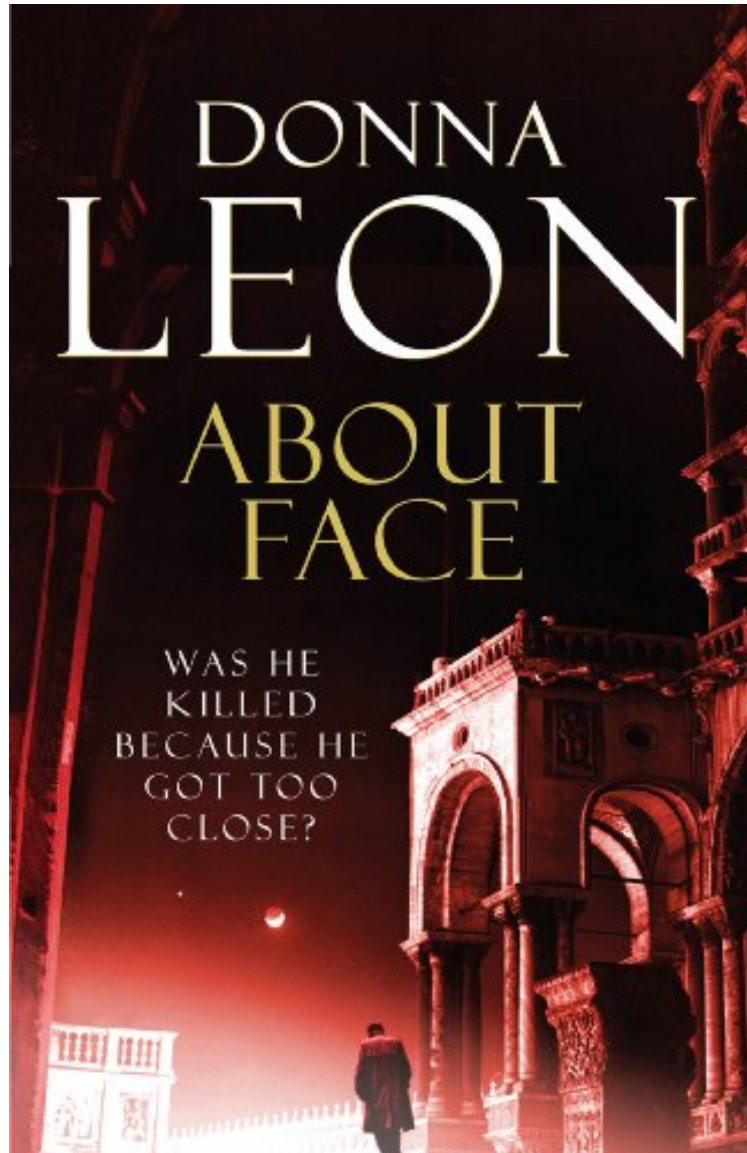


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Von Donna Leon

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Von Donna Leon : About Face: (Brunetti 18) (Commissario Brunetti) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised About Face: (Brunetti 18) (Commissario Brunetti):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen43 von 43 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Klasse! Donna Leon in BestformVon Rainer AschersonCommisario Guido Brunetti lernt auf einer Feier seines Schwiegervaters Franca Marinello und ihren Ehemann Maurizio Cataldo kennen. Guido ist hin und weg von der Frau, da sie - wie er - klassische, rmische Literatur liebt.Von seiner Frau Paola zur Rede gestellt, warum er sich nur mit

Marinello auf der Feier unterhalten hat, gibt er zur Antwort aber sie liest Cicero!"Paola schiet zurck: Ich hoffe, Du weit, dass Du mit der einzigen Frau in dieser Stadt verheiratet bist, die das als ausreichende Erklrung akzeptiert."Es sind u.a. diese Wortgefechte der Mitglieder der Familie Brunetti, die Donna Leons Krimi fr mich so lesenswert machen und in diesem Buch gibt es viele davon.Am nchsten Tag erhlt Brunetti eine Anfrage von einer anderen Polizeidienststelle. Der mutmaliche Mrder von Stefano Ranzato, einem Transportunternehmer, kommt aus der Umgebung von Venedig. Kurz darauf wird auch der um Hilfe bittende Polizist, Maggior Filippo Guarina, ermordet.Nun geht die Geschichte eigentlich los. About Face" hat alles was die Arbeit dieser Autorin so erfolgreich gemacht hat: einen spannenden plot, witzige bzw. gute Dialoge, glaubwrdige Charaktere, Bezug auf aktuelle Probleme des Weltgeschehens (u.a. organisiertes verbrechen, Mlltourismus), Familie Brunetti und eine super location, nmlich Venedig.Eine neue Protagonistin wird auch eingefhrt: die schne Commissaria Claudia Griffoni (keine Frage, von ihr werden wir in den nchsten Romanen noch mehr hren).Das Ende des Krimis ist wie das Finale einer von Leon so geliebten Opern angelegt: der showdown ist ein Amalgam aus Leidenschaft, Moral, Ehre, Liebe und Tod.Superb!11 von 11 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Solider Plot, aktuell verankertVon M. HauptMein erster Brunetti nach meinem Erstbesuch in Venedig: sehr schn, die Orte des Geschehens pltzlich selbst vor Augen zu haben.Donna Leon entwirft einen berzeugenden Plot vor dem Hintergrund der Mllentsorgungskriminalitt in Neapel. Die strksten Passagen sind jene, in denen die Autorin Interaktionen von Brunetti mit seinen Kollegen Alvisi und Patta schildert. Diese Passagen sind dieses Mal nicht nur zum Schmunzeln sondern zum Brllen komisch. Wie in vielen vorangehenden Bchern nimmt die Geschichte zum Ende nochmal gehrig Fahrt auf.Insgesamt berwiegen in "About Face" aber die betrachtenden, beschreibenden aber auch philosophischen Betrachtungen ber die Gesellschaft und den zwischenmenschlichen Umgang. "About Face" liest sich flssig und zeichnet sich wie alle vorangehenden Bnde durch die intensive Schilderung des Familienlebens von Brunetti aus.Dieses Buch krankt aber sehr daran, dass die Autorin auf inzwischen fast penetrante Weise ihrer berzeugung von der "Frau als besserem Menschen" nachgeht: Paola wird zur alles beherrschenden Lichtgestalt stilisiert, deren Gedanken die von Brunetti stets als dmmlich abwerten und deren Ideen Brunetti immer bedenkenloser folgen muss. Ich hoffe, dass die Autorin diesen feministischen Irrweg bald beendet und zur Strke alter Bnde zurckkehrt (wie z.B. Sea of Troubles), denen ich jederzeit ohne Bedenken 5 Sterne geben wrde.8 von 9 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Chose Your Professional and Business Associates Very CarefullyVon Donald MitchellI found About Face to be a big improvement over Ms. Leon's last two books. However, those who like hard-hitting crime-based mysteries will find About Face to be very slow to begin and soft in its development. I suggest you not read the book. For those who enjoy getting to know Commissario Brunetti, the book will help you understand the appeal that he provides to Paola and she to him. You'll like the book. The book's major flaw doesn't show up until near the end so most of the reading will be quite pleasurable.About Face is an unusually interesting fictional exploration of the dangers that incautious business and professional connections to others can bring. Unlike many of the other stories in this series, the mystery aspect is minor while the character development and moral questions are very thoroughly developed. For those who want a "neat" mystery, this one will feel like the author has "stretched" a bit too far.As the book opens, Commissario Guido Brunetti and his professor wife, Paola, are on their way for a formal dinner with Paola's wealthy, influential parents. Brunetti cannot help but notice an older man accompanied by a much younger woman in a gorgeous fur coat. He briefly wonders about them . . . and drops the subject until the pair turn up at the dinner. The young woman, Franca Marinello, is seated across from him and turns out to be a fascinating companion who reads the Roman classics . . . despite a disturbing appearance that's marred by too much stretching of her facial skin.Brunetti learns that the purpose of the dinner was to help his father-in-law, Conte Falier, decide whether to invest with the older man, Maurizio Cataldo, in a venture involving taking trash to China. Brunetti uncharacteristically volunteers to check Cataldo out for his father-in-law. Brunetti turns Signorina Elettra loose with her inquisitive computer to learn more about the husband . . . and the fascinating wife.At the same time, Brunetti meets Maggior Guarino from the Carabinieri in Marghera seeking help about finding the murderer of an informant. Guarino is very close-mouthed, and Brunetti takes offense. Gradually, the two begin to trust one another and Brunetti agrees to search for a suspect about whom little is revealed.Shortly thereafter, Franca Marinello comes to see Brunetti to ask his advice about why someone would be trying to break into her husband's electronic records. He helps ease her mind without revealing that the cause may be his own curiosity.In the background, we learn that Italy has a garbage problem that it cannot solve . . . except by sending off the most obnoxious refuse to countries that don't pay much attention to what they accept. It's also clear that the Mafia is involved and profiting nicely.A sudden death suddenly changes Brunetti's priorities. Leads connect to other tendrils of information, and he finds himself seeking to do justice. But what is justice? What is honor? What is duty? Brunetti once again finds himself in the role of judge and jury after some very ugly facts are revealed.I was ultimately unimpressed by the revealing of the full backgrounds of the characters. It seemed to me that the story line was stretched a bit beyond credibility. If that element had been avoided, this would have been a very remarkable and satisfying book. As it is, the book is still satisfying . . . unless having a mystery that anyone can solve is critical to your

enjoyment.

Kurzbeschreibung At a dinner party given by his parents-in-law, Commissario Brunetti meets Franca Marinello, the wife of a prosperous Venetian businessman. He's charmed - perhaps too charmed, suggests his wife Paola - by her love of Virgil and Cicero, but shocked by her appearance. A few days later, Brunetti is visited by Carabinieri Maggiore Filippo Guarino from the nearby city of Marghera. As part of a wider investigation into Mafia takeovers of businesses in the region, Guarino wants information about the owner of a trucking company who was found murdered in his office. He believes the man's death is connected to the illegal transportation of refuse - and more sinister material - in his company's trucks. No stranger to mutual suspicion and competition between rival Italian police departments, Brunetti is nevertheless puzzled by the younger man's behaviour. Eventually Guarino agrees to email a photo of his suspect, but by the time the photograph arrives, he himself is dead. Was he killed because he got too close? And how is it that Franca Marinello is involved? **de** Does the idea of a trip to Italy appeal to you? Do you want something a little less anodyne than strolling in the Mediterranean sun and consuming too much pasta and vino? Do you hanker, perhaps, to experience a touch of the corruption that most Italians wryly admit is endemic to much of their country's superstructure? The American crime writer Donna Leon, then, is the perfect travel agent for you. She has given readers metaphorical passports to her adopted country for quite some time now, and her Commissario Brunetti novels are one of the glories of the current crime fiction scene. In her new book, *About Face*, a police associate of Brunetti, Guarino, leads the Commissario into a dangerous imbroglio: Mafia influence over businesses in the Marghera district is growing ever stronger, and when the MD of a trucking firm is killed in his offices, Brunetti's colleague concludes that the murder is tied into the clandestine transportation of refuse. But things are complicated when Brunetti observes that Guarino is behaving in a very strange, atypical fashion and the resourceful copper has multiple mysteries on his hands. In the Brunetti universe, insidious double-dealing spreads its tendrils into every aspect of Italian society, but there is always a glimmer of hope, usually represented by Donna Leon's intelligent and tenacious copper. Commissario Guido Brunetti is the man to root out the evils of his often benighted society. *About Face* is not, perhaps, Leon at her considerable best: the customary voltage is more muted -- but there's more than enough Brunetti magic here to keep admirers happy and sated. --Barry Forshaw *Pressestimmen* "[A] brilliant series" (Seven, Sunday Telegraph) "Super sleuth Brunetti again patrols Venice's dark canal ways in this Italian crimefest. Once again, Brunetti proves he's more than a match for the local mob" (Mirror) "The very first sentences of *About Face* showcase Donna Leon's elegant, effortless style ... another great Brunetti outing ... The details of home-cooked meals and family arguments, alongside a never-ending flow of crime, add depth to Leon's stories and are what makes her characters so believable and, in turn, her books so readable" (The Independent) "A thoroughly enjoyable and atmospheric read" (Waterstones Books Quarterly) "The Brunetti series is dependably enjoyable ... There are fine scenes of sustained dialogue, notably an exchange between Brunetti and the Count, his father-in-law, over a pair of portraits, that deserves to be called Jamesian" (TLS)