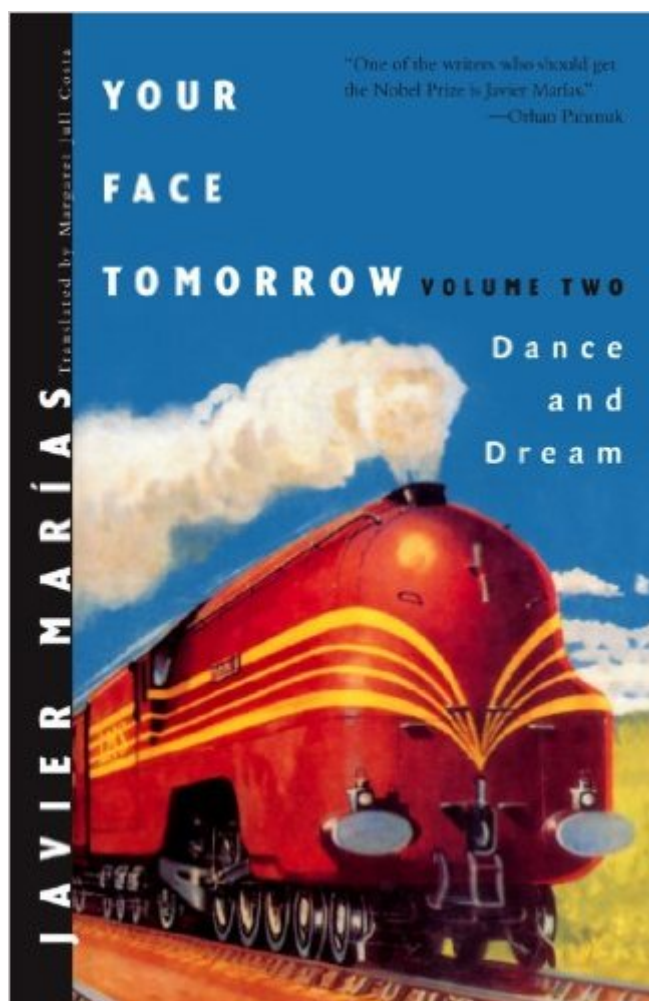


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Your Face Tomorrow: Dance And Dream (Vol. 2) (New Directions Paperbook)



Synopsis

A book unlike any other, a daring experiential unfolding Spanish masterpiece, *Your Face Tomorrow* now leaps into uncharted new territory in *Volume Two: Dance and Dream*. *Your Face Tomorrow*, Javier Marias's dazzling unfolding magnum opus, is a novel in three parts, which began with *Volume One: Fever and Spear*. Described as a "brilliant dark novel" (*Scotland on Sunday*), the book now takes a wild swerve in its new volume. Skillfully constructed around a central perplexing and mesmerizing scene in a nightclub, *Volume Two: Dance and Dream* again features Jacques Deza. In *Volume One* he was hired by MI6 as a person of extraordinarily sophisticated powers of perception. In *Volume Two* Deza discovers the dark side of his new employer when Tupra, his spy-master boss, brings out a sword and uses it in a way that appalls Deza: You can't just go around hurting and killing people like that. Why not? asks Tupra. Searching meditations on favors and jealousy, knowledge and the deep human desire not to know, violence and death play against memories of the Spanish Civil War as Deza's world becomes increasingly murky.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is the second volume of what is commonly referred to as Javier Marías's magnum opus. Maybe *YOUR FACE TOMORROW* is so called because it is three volumes and 1273 pages long. But so far - after reading *Volumes One and Two* -- I would not accord *YFT* the honor of "magnum opus" based on intrinsic merit. It is good and it is certainly ambitious, but it also is long-winded and at times tedious. As I wrote in my review of *Volume One*, I should reserve judgment until I have

read the entire work, but for me, having now read Volume Two, Marías has even more to do in Volume Three to push YFT to the forefront of his oeuvre, to truly make it his magnum opus. I suppose that also is a roundabout way of saying that Volume Two is not as good as Volume One. Reading Volume Two clarified one point for me - namely, that YOUR FACE TOMORROW is not a trilogy. Instead, it is one novel, with seven parts, published in three volumes - the first containing the parts Spear and Fever; this, the second, containing the parts Dance and Dream; and the third, the parts Poison, Shadow, and Farewell. Therefore, unless you are somewhat perverse, do NOT begin reading Volume Two unless you already have read Volume One. Much in Volume Two assumes familiarity with Volume One, and reading this rather difficult novel will be rendered more difficult if one does not have that background. What this also means is that YFT is a bloody long novel. I have made a personal point of not reading any book longer than 1000 pages (there are too many good books out there and life is too short), and had I fully appreciated, when I began Volume One, that I was embarking on a 1273 page trek, I probably would have passed, even though the author is Javier Marías. The setting of Volume Two is London.

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