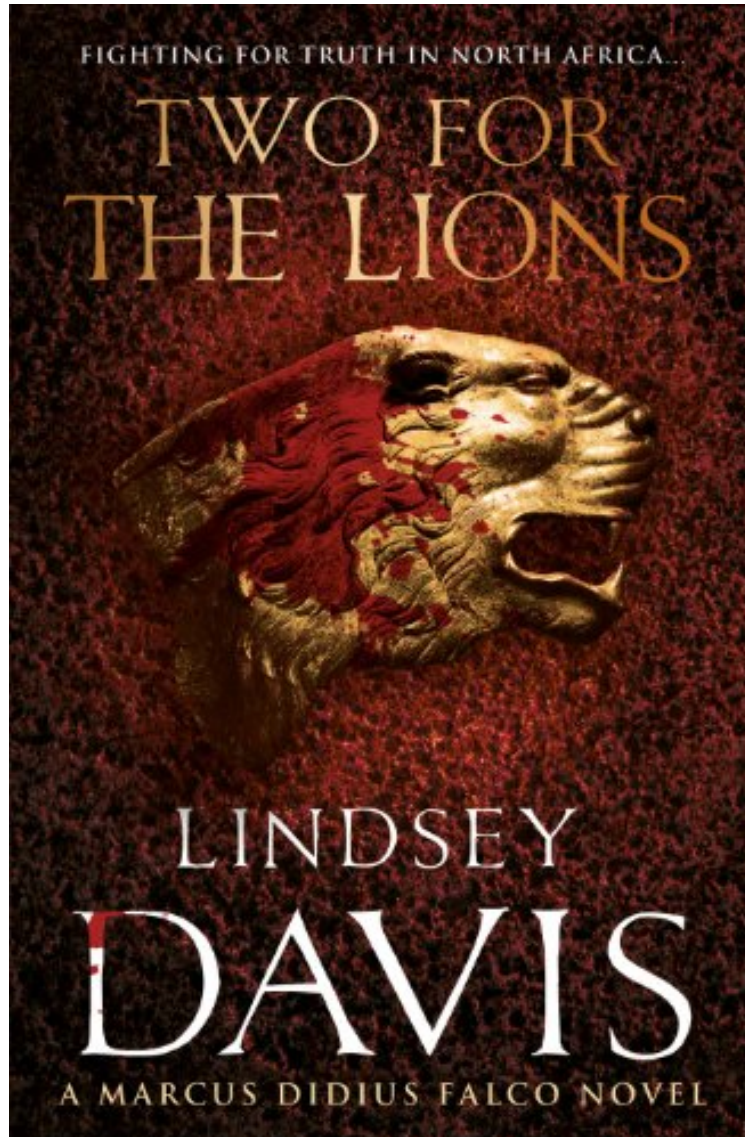


[Free] Two For The Lions: (Falco 10)

Two For The Lions: (Falco 10)

Von Lindsey Davis

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Von Lindsey Davis : Two For The Lions: (Falco 10) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Two For The Lions: (Falco 10):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Witty, interesting seriesVon BrendaMarcus Didius Falco's mystery series takes place in Ancient Rome. Lindsey Davis is a highly intelligent writer, so when you pick up TWO FOR THE LIONS expect to be entertained to the fullest. I found the mystery remarkable and matchless. The characters are distinctive, their personalities are well formed, and their

appearances are successfully painted by the author's pen. I found the written atmosphere of Rome dramatic and complete. As usual, I found Falco's good nature and wit amusing, and Helena to be an impressive mate and saint. Falco is assigned to investigate tax fraud (hmmm, the world's first IRS man?). This leads him to a man who provides lions for executions and entertainment. When an unusual death occurs, Falco becomes sidetracked and finds assistance in his dearest, Helena, who helps him resolve the mystery. Helena finds her brother in trouble and takes care of Falco when he comes down sick (Does he take it like a man?). As usual, people, situations, and the political subterfuge of Rome will be Falco's obstacles in solving this one. I found it to be a substantial read that took a lot of concentration. Ms. Lindsey's knowledge of Rome and its citizens is so comprehensive that at points I felt overwhelmed and needed a break. To her fans, I'm sure, the greater size and more detailed the book, the better. They soak up the atmosphere and dialect with no complaints, and I have none either, but it may be a while before I'm ready to pick up another. It's series I recommend for historical mystery lovers.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Marcus Didius Falco does it again! Von Ein Kunde To get the worst out of the way first the only thing that wasn't quite right with this latest instalment of Marcus Didius Falco was the hero's current relationship with Petronius Longinus. The preceding novel did not leave us with the impression of bitterness that 'Two For The Lions' conveys. Aside from that, what can I say? Superb characterization, imaginative plots and plenty of light humour! The easy reading of all Lindsey Davis' novels makes each trip into the Roman world of seedy back-door politics and informers a delight. The development of Anacrites and the relationship between Helena Justina and Marcus Didius is entirely credible and always amusing. Long may the series continue.....

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A good read Von Ein Kunde In 73 AD Rome, though he prefers otherwise, private investigator Marcus Didius Falco accepts a government job with the census crowd. Marcus and his assigned partner, archenemy Anacrites, Rome's chief spy, collect tax revenue. As Marcus vows he never again will join the inane bureaucracy, someone murders Rome's chief executioner, Leonidas the Lion. He had lunched on all those convicted of a capital punishment offense. Unable to resist a juicy murder investigation, Falco begins to make inquiries. As he digs deeper, Falco finds no one seems to have a motive to stab the lion to death. As Falco follows leads across the Mediterranean, an unknown assailant watches his every move in case he gets close to uncovering the truth. TWO FOR THE LIONS is the latest historical mystery starring the Don Rickles of Ancient Rome, Falco. As in the previous novels in this award winning series, the historical details make the city-state seem vividly alive. The characters feel genuine and add to the feeling that the reader has traveled back in time. Though Falco's humorous but ugly soliloquies on just about everyone occasionally slows down the intriguing story line, sub-genre fans will fully relish this winning tale. Harriet Klausner

Kurzbeschreibung One of the stories from the bestselling historical fiction Falco series. Lumbered with working alongside reptilian Chief Spy Anacrites, Marcus Didius Falco has the perfect plan to make money - he will assist Vespasian in the Emperor's 'Great Census' of AD73. His potential fee could finally allow him to join the middle ranks and be worthy of long-suffering Helena Justina. Unexpectedly confronted with the murder of a man-eating lion, Falco is distracted from his original task, uncovering a bitter rivalry between the gladiators' trainers. With one star gladiator dead, Falco is forced to investigate and the trail leads from Rome to the blood-soaked sand of the arena in North Africa.

de Marcus Didius Falco, Lindsey Davis's clever, ambitious, not-so-holy Roman man about town, is on special assignment for the Emperor Vespasian. This time he's tracking down tax fraud among the bestiarii, the slaughterers, and the lanistae, the suppliers of the gladiators and animals who provide the executions, spectacles, and entertainment for the Roman masses. Hoisted by his own tarnished petard, Falco is unwillingly partnered with his ex-boss Anacrites, Rome's chief spy, but that's the least of his problems; his investigation has hardly begun when he finds himself in the tunnels under the arena with a lion named Leonidas--a man-killer who may or may not have been switched with a tamer beast for a private party meant to impress a wealthy Senator's mistress. While Leonidas presents no immediate threat to Falco--the king of the jungle is quite dead--the circumstances of the beast's demise lead Falco to ponder a connection between a murderous feud that seems to have broken out in the ranks of the lanistae and the lucrative contracts soon to be let by the emperor for his magnificent new amphitheater. And when the most popular gladiator in Rome is killed--not in the arena, as might be expected, but while sleeping in his own bed--Falco and his patrician lover Helena take passage to Tripoli to track down the perpetrator. Along the way, they attempt to solve a domestic crisis involving Helena's youngest brother, who seems to be right in the middle of the African connection between the murders of man and beast, as well as the feud between two powerful lanistae. And there's still another reason to embark on a journey to the Dark Continent--the search for an extinct variety of wild garlic, which could make Falco a wealthy man and which ends with a hilarious denouement. As usual, Davis serves up a generous helping of history, a raffish band of minor characters, a charming love story, and surprisingly relevant commentary on the nature of the bureaucracy, politics, and chicanery among the rich and famous. Two for the Lions promises--and delivers--a treat for the author's many fans, and a terrific introduction to his new ones. --Jane Adams.co.uk

The further Davies gets into her series of private eye (or, to be precise, public informer) thrillers set in the Rome of Vespasian, the more she learns

what it is that she does best. Falco is working for the tax department, investigating used gladiator scams, and stumbles into more murders. The various mysteries here--the stabbing of the arena- lion trained to eat criminals, the murder of a famous gladiator generally considered past his prime--are solved elegantly enough and with a genial ruthlessness appropriate to the period in which they are set. Davies never forgets that this society rests on the backs of slaves and has a taste for bloodshed which even we might consider excessive. But what we read Davies for is partly for the continuing soap opera of on-the-make Falco, his upper-class wife Helena and their variously rackety, lowlife or snobbish connections, and partly for her simply wonderful knowledge of how things worked. We learn, for example, a lot about the wild- beast trade and provincial resentments in a North Africa which the Romans still suspect are more Carthaginian than not; Davies's novels are entertaining and informative, and leave one wanting more.--Roz Kaveney