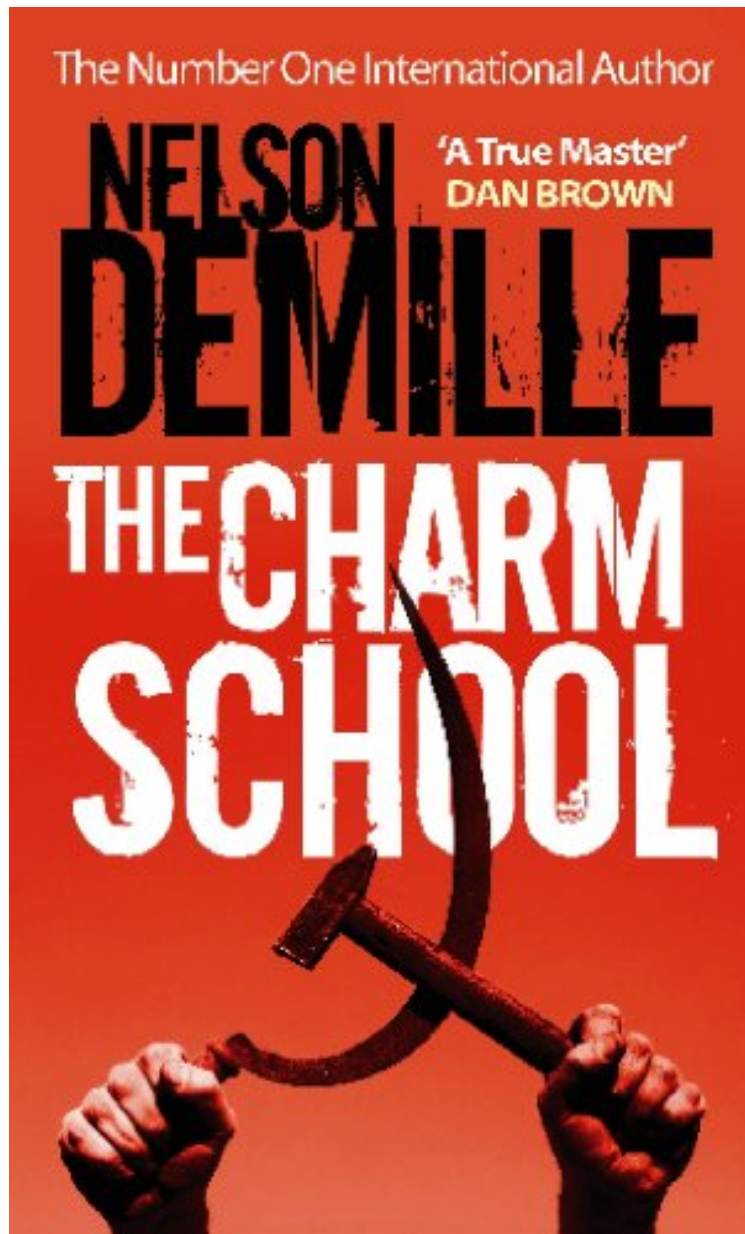


(Mobile pdf) The Charm School (English Edition)

## The Charm School (English Edition)

Von Nelson DeMille

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**Von Nelson DeMille : The Charm School (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Charm School (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. I miss

the Cold War

Von Ein Kunde Nelson DeMille is one of my favorite writers. Although the era has passed for this book to be cutting edge, it was a fantastic, exciting, and exotic read. It is an original and blow-your-mind resolution. Between the tension, he never fails to insert some humor. This is a cold war era spy novel with "spies within spies", double agenting, and the fear of another ideology all the way through. There is action aplenty, and you will find your pulse racing right along with the main characters...Then read the Lion's Game as DeMille finds employment for some of his cold war characters.

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Borodino - erneut unentschieden!

Von time diver Am 7. September 1812, 124 Kilometer westlich von Moskau entfernt, beim Dorf Borodino, schlug Napoleon Bonaparte seine schrecklichste Schlacht, bei der er sagte, dass sich die Franzosen würdig zeigten, den Sieg zu erringen und die Russen aber das Recht erwarben, unbesiegt zu sein.....ca. 170 Jahre später bereist der amerikanische Tourist Gregory Fisher mit seinem Pontiac TransAm das Land, das nun Kern der Sowjetunion ist. Als er verbotenerweise von der Strecke Minsk - Moskau abweicht, um sich das berühmte Schlachtfeld anzusehen, macht er die Bekanntschaft mit einer Person, die sich als US-Airforce Major Jack Dodson ausgibt. Dodson berichtet, dass er bereits 1970 in nordvietnamesische Gefangenschaft geraten und nach Kriegsende den Sowjets berstellt wurde, die ihn und weitere 300 US-Amerikaner in einem geheimen Camp bei Borodino, aus dem er fliehen konnte, gefangen halten. In diesem geheimen Camp werden Russen zu Amerikanern gemacht, um später die USA als Spione zu infiltrieren.....Nachdem es Fisher gelungen ist, mit der US-Botschaft in Moskau in Kontakt zu treten, stirbt er in Folge eines "Autounfalls". Die Ermittlungen werden von qualifizierten Angehörigen der US-Botschaft mit Diplomatenpass, dem Luftwaffenattaché und Vietnamveteran Sam Hollis und dem Moskauer CIA-Chef Seth Alevy übernommen. Für die obligatorische Liebesgeschichte ist als dritte Lisa Rhodes, die Pressereferentin der Botschaft, mit von der Partie....die schließlich zu einem Kommandounternehmen führen soll...."In den Wäldern von Borodino" ist ein typischer Agententhriller, der in der Zeit des Kalten Krieges spielt. Verselbstständigung und Eigenleben der Geheimdienste, sowie Rivalitäten verschiedener Geheimdienste eines Landes untereinander sind neben der Schilderung von Unterdrückung in einem totalitären Staat wesentliche Bestandteile der Romanhandlung. Offensichtlich neben Revanchegeanken ist eine schwarz-weiße Malerei zwischen "den Guten" und "den Bösen". Geradezu zynisch wirkt der permanente Hinweis, dass es noch lange nicht dasselbe ist, wenn zwei das Gleiche tun. Hierzu gehören neben reichlich Action auch das bedrückende Sowjetszenario mit dem surrealistischen Panoptikum einer Fabrik für Spione (Originaltitel "The Charm School"). Erschreckend ist vor allem, dass überall für "ihre Ziele" auch Angehörige der eigenen Seite geopfert werden...Der Roman, der im Jahre 1988 erstmals veröffentlicht wurde, endet wie die Schlacht von Borodino: unentschieden. Zeichnete sich damals das Ende für Bonaparte ab, kündigten diesmal bereits die ersten Anzeichen das bevorstehende Ende des Sowjetimperiums an.

Zusammengenommen mit Spannung und Unterhaltungswert ergibt dies 3 Sterne.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Beginning of a Beautiful Friendship.....

Von P. Connors This was the first Nelson DeMille novel I read and it was the one that got me hooked. I went back and read his backlist and then, like so many other readers, waited for each new release from this author from Long Island. I read this book before he became really, really popular and wondered to myself why he wasn't more so at that time. When I read WORD OF HONOR immediately after this book, I wondered even more. Needless to say, this is a very fine addition to the spy-novel genre. Colonel Sam Hollis, a military officer serving in an intelligence role as the Air Force Attaché in the US Embassy in Moscow before the fall of the Iron Curtain is a believable character. The premise behind the novel, where American prisoners from the Vietnam and earlier wars have been retained by the Communists to 'train' their agents to become sleepers inside the USA is at once acceptable and horrifying. It was not too much of a leap where the reader would have to suspend disbelief. It actually made sense and DeMille presents it in such a way so that there would be no doubt that the KGB probably did run a "Charm School" for its deep penetration agents. DeMille has a great way of also introducing enemies for the main character in each of his novels. He does not deviate from that policy here. Sam Hollis' enemies are both domestic (i.e. American) and international (the KGB). Along the way Sam picks up a friend or two and a new love interest, too. There are a couple of tricky moral questions introduced into the plot and DeMille handles them in ways that I didn't always like, but which I accepted as necessary to continue the story line. The answers to gray area questions notwithstanding, I enjoyed this novel immensely and it was this enjoyment that set me out looking for other works by this prolific and entertaining author. As Humphrey Bogart as Rick Blaine says to Claude Rains as Inspector Reynaud at the end of CASABLANCA, "Louis, this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship..." I thought the same thing of this writer after making his acquaintance through CHARM SCHOOL. I knew that it was the beginning of a beautiful friendship. I have had many hours of reading enjoyment because I discovered Nelson DeMille with this novel. Read CHARM SCHOOL and his other works, especially the earlier ones and you'll find out why. Read THE GOLD COAST, PLUM ISLAND and LION'S GATE and you'll be hooked like the rest of us. I recommend DeMille's books to anyone who likes intrigue, suspense, sarcastic and witty characters and a rollicking good story. After reading him, you will, too.

Kurzbeschreibung Deep in the heart of Russia, a group of casually dressed young men are learning a different kind of

lesson. The undergraduates sprawled around a game board aren't chilling out on campus: the young KGB agents attending the Charm School are brushing up on their American. When a young tourist goes to the aid of a stranger on a dark Russian road, he is astonished to find a fellow American on the run. The man has been missing for over a decade, plucked from the jungles of Vietnam to become an unwilling tutor at the institution. Now his former students are poised to strike at the heart of America. From Publishers Weekly This highly charged espionage thriller gets off to a stunning start. On the road from Smolensk to Moscow, an American tourist, Gregory Fisher, is confronted by a man on the run: an Air Force major who was shot down over appears from his hotel and soon turns up dead, the victim of a suspicious car crash. Intelligence officer Sam Hollis, press attache Lisa Rhodes and CIA bureau chief Seth Alevy must discover for themselves what is going on at the Charm School. They must also decide whether public revelation of a horrifying KGB operation during the new era of glasnost might not damage American/Soviet relations. In this exciting, polemic novel, DeMille (Word of Honor) limns an authentic portrait of Russian society. He conveys the claustrophobic life of American Embassy officials impossibly restricted in movement, and he creates spirited American agents who dodge and spar wittily with coarse KGB men. Once DeMille brings readers into the Charm School itself, however, he cannot sustain the magic that has propelled the narrative for two-thirds of its generous length. At this point, the plot becomes predictable, and the finale differs little from standard adventure escapes, with a cruel resolution to boot. Still, it's riveting reading most of the way. 100,000 first printing; \$150,000 ad/promo. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal The sustained action of this chilling vision of modern Russia starts with a young American tourist phoning the U.S. embassy in Moscow to report an unusual encounter with a U.S. Air Force major in the forest near Borodino. The tourist then vanishes and the officer is identified as a Vietnam MIA. Attaches Sam Hollis and Lisa Rhodes eventually uncover a spy school graduating several hundred "Americans" each year and staffed by an unwilling faculty made up of American servicemen missing from Vietnam. The blockbuster ends after a maverick CIA agent pulls off a hair-raising escape to the West, carrying proof of the camp's existence. John North, L.R.C., Ryerson Polytechnical Inst., Toronto Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.