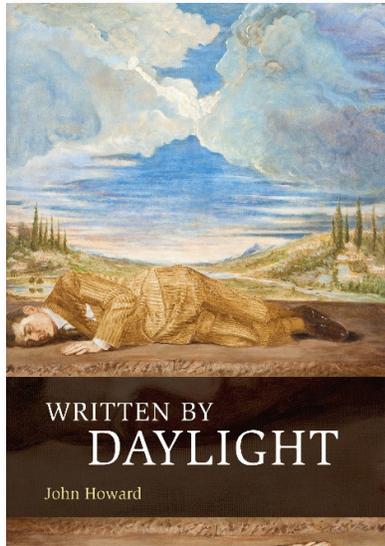


SWAN RIVER PRESS

WRITTEN BY DAYLIGHT

John Howard

*"I'm already dead, and I'm a dead man speaking,
and that's why they can't hear."* – Joseph Roth



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JOHN HOWARD was born in London. His books include *The Defeat of Grief*, *The Lustre of Time*, *The Silver Voices*, *Written by Daylight*, *Cities and Thrones and Powers*, and *Buried Shadows*. *Secret Europe* and *Inner Europe* are joint collections written with Mark Valentine. Howard's essays on fantastic fiction and its classic authors have appeared in *Wormwood* and other places, and many are gathered in *Touchstones: Essays on the Fantastic*.

Sunsets in a London suburb, and a transformation into an Earthly paradise; paths winding through a Transylvanian palace gardens, and an obsessed journey towards a Mediterranean dream; a city so ancient that even its total disappearance has been forgotten, and an island of shifting sands that can never be truly mapped . . . The vivid and diverse settings of these stories are façades obscuring reality for the exiles and outcasts who find their way into them. Seemingly born out of time and place, they seek the right routes to bring them to where they want to be, but there are many diversions on the way. In these stories of haunted landscapes and intimidating cities many possibilities confront the unwary, but there is usually only one choice to be made.

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REVIEWS

*"Howard's work is both delicate and powerful.
He creates worlds from the personal to the political to the fantastic
that are so immediate you just experience them
and only in the aftermath realize just how pervasive they are."*

– The Agony Column

*"If there is a unifying theme here it is the transience of existence,
from the individual to the social and even the geographical . . .
most [stories] are not only well-written but also offer remarkable ideas."*

– Supernatural Tales

*"Most of these tales are so subtle as to defy any category of the strange at all,
but reward re-reading and are all the greater for it."*

– The Pan Review

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