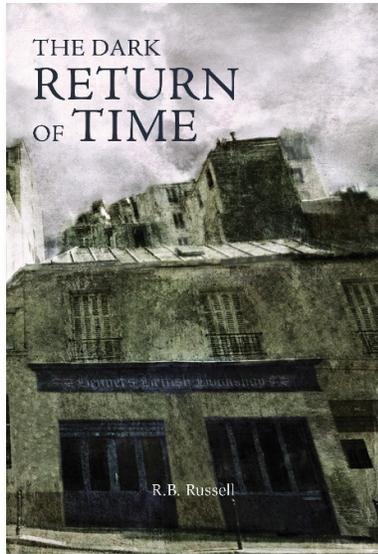


# SWAN RIVER PRESS



Pub. Date: May 2014  
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134 pages, 129mm x 198mm



**R. B. RUSSELL** is an English author, born in Sussex, and the co-proprietor of the independent publishing house Tartarus Press, which he runs with his partner Rosalie Parker. He has had numerous collections of his own short stories published, *Putting the Pieces in Place* (2009), *Literary Remains* (2010), *Leave Your Sleep* (2012), and *Death Makes Strangers of Us All* (2018); a novella, *Bloody Baudelaire* (2009), and a collected edition, *Ghosts* (2012). He is also, occasionally, an illustrator and song-writer, and enjoys making videos.

## THE DARK RETURN OF TIME

**R. B. Russell**

*"I was searching for *The Dark Return of Time* on the 'net. It's odd, but there isn't a copy for sale anywhere, and it doesn't turn up on the British Library catalogue, the Library of Congress website, or the Bibliothèque Nationale."*

The past doesn't always stay where it should. It is as though somebody, or something, is forever trying to bring it painfully into the present.

Flavian Bennett is trying to leave his past behind when he goes to work in his father's bookshop in Paris. But a curious customer, Reginald Hopper, is desperate to resurrect his own murky origins. Hopper believes that a rare and mysterious book, *The Dark Return of Time*, may be the key to what happened before he arrived in Paris. In this quiet thriller by R. B. Russell, the futures—and pasts—of these two men will soon cross.

### REVIEWS

*"R. B. Russell's *The Dark Return of Time* . . . is a short thriller that opens in a shop selling second-hand books in Paris. What could be better?"*

– Michael Dirda, *Washington Post*

*"A beautifully written and very clever work of art."*

– Black Static

*"Russell's smart, dark novel is thrilling, sensuous and memorable."*

– The Agony Column

*"Russell is one of those quiet conjurors whose uncanny moments are often three-quarters-hidden behind a slatted blind of noontime normalcy."*

– The Pan Review

*"[*The Dark Return of Time*] is a real pleasure to read due to the elegant narrative style, the allusive and disturbing atmosphere and the author's ability to question reality."*

– Gumshoe Review

*"A blend of the page-turning and the lingering."*

– Real-Time Reviews

*"This short novel offers the reader a world that is slightly out of kilter, if not quite that of a nightmare."*

– Supernatural Tales

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