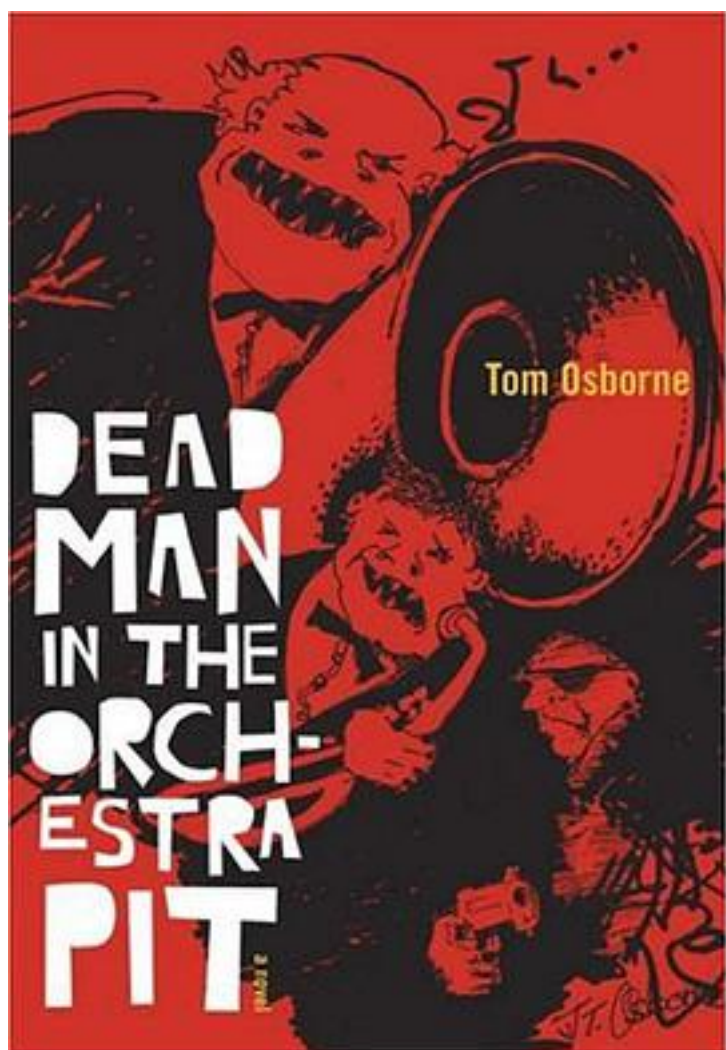


Dead Man in the Orchestra Pit



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著者:Osborne, Tom

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"Dead Man in the Orchestra Pit" is a singularly Canadian novel featuring crime, culture, and sports. Written in the vein of John Kennedy Toole ("Confederacy of Dunces") and JP Donleavy, "Dead Man in the Orchestra Pit" is set in Vancouver during an early 80s Grey Cup weekend. Tourists and sports aficionados have descended on the city in record droves. There are, however, a few folks who have other interests and plans. Three small-time career crooks are planning a heist on one of the city's exclusive hotels. Enter Harry Pazik Jr., a good ole boy from Calgary, who is inadvertently swept up in the mayhem of the crooks' boondoggle. Meanwhile, across town at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, rehearsals of "La Traviata" are in full swing. The 300-pound stage manager has toppled to the orchestra pit, crushing the tuba player, while Jorgen Thrapp, assistant to the Lighting Director, is busy behind the scenes with his dealings in drugs and numbers running for a crooked printer intent on making a killing on the big game. Everyone gets more than they bargained for in this slapstick Grey Cup-meets-"Goodfellas" romp.

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