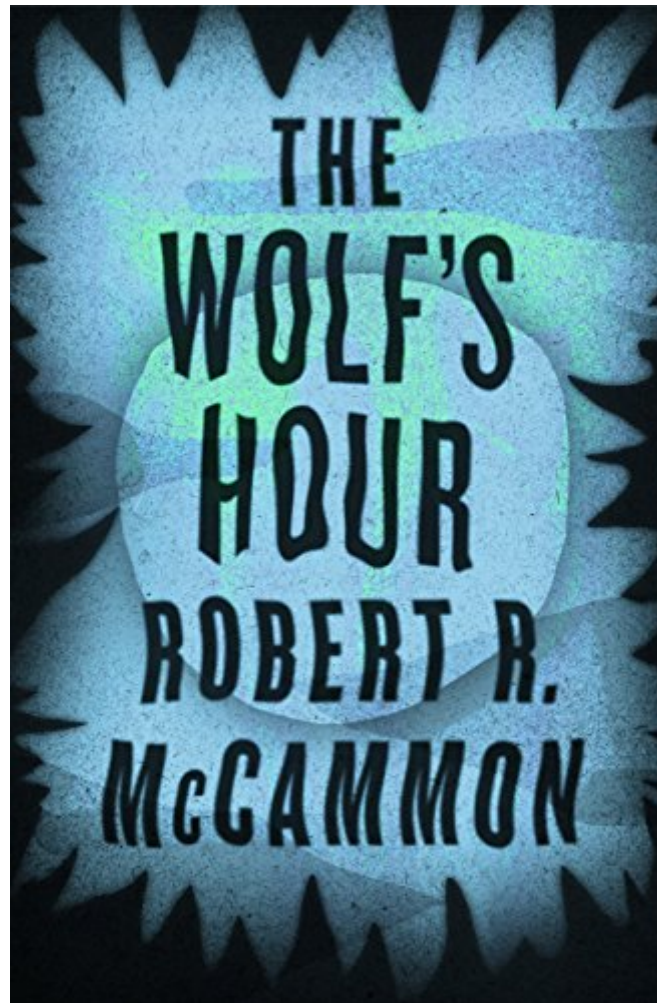




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The Wolf's Hour



Synopsis

Master spy, Nazi hunter and werewolf on the prowl in occupied Paris: A classic of dark fantasy from a Bram Stoker Award-winning author. Allied Intelligence has been warned: A Nazi strategy designed to thwart the D-Day invasion is underway. A Russian émigré turned operative for the British Secret Service, Michael Gallatin has been brought out of retirement as a personal courier. His mission: Parachute into Nazi-occupied France, search out the informant under close watch by the Gestapo, and recover the vital information necessary to subvert the mysterious Nazi plan called Iron Fist. Fearlessly devoted to the challenge, Gallatin is the one agent uniquely qualified to meet it. He's a werewolf. Now, as shifting as the shadows on the dangerous streets of Paris, a master spy is on the scent of unimaginable evil. But with the Normandy landings only hours away, it's going to be a race against time. For Gallatin, caught in the dark heart of the Third Reich's twisted death machine, there is only one way to succeed. He must unleash his own internal demons and redefine the meaning of the horror of war. From the award-winning author of *Swan Song* and *Boy's Life*, this is a powerful novel [that] fuses WWII espionage thriller and dark fantasy. Richly detailed, intricately plotted, fast-paced historical suspense is enhanced by McCammon's unique take on the werewolf myth. (Publishers Weekly).

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Customer Reviews

If you like suspense, then this tale of a Russian werewolf who's an elite member of the British Secret Service enlisted to stop Hitler and the Nazis from carrying out a devious plot is a must-read. Okay, I know that sentence packed enough seemingly ridiculous information in it to probably elicit a chuckle from you, but take heart - Robert McCammon, the author of the classics *Swan Song* and *A Boy's Life*, serves up a delicious tale that had me turning the pages late into the night. His writing is so juicy that I ate this story up as fast as I could. This novel's breakneck pace races across European cities and continents from Russia and Wales to Cairo, Berlin, London, and even a small island in Norway. Our hero gets into the most horrible scrapes imaginable and the suspense built up to such a plateau at one point, that I had to put the book down for a day to readjust and recalibrate my body rhythms. Honestly, I don't think I've read anything quite this nail-biting, and I've read a lot of thrillers. I've also never been much into werewolves, but Michael Gallatin (aka Mikhail Gallatinov) has changed all that; never has there been a sexier one. From his black hair and green eyes to his strapping muscular body and sense of justice, he had me at howl-o. His origin story is riveting, grotesque, heartbreaking, and utterly believable. And the Nazi element? Well, let's just say that McCammon writes such horrific, brutal, disgusting and grotesque things into the plot that my stomach clenched many times and I could almost taste vomit in the back of my throat. Don't worry, that's a good thing; I never knew I could feel so physically revolted by a book. This is only to hammer home the point of how brutal the Nazis were in their disgusting practices, and it really hit the nail on the head. After finishing this last night, I realized that I need to re-read the two classics I mentioned above, as I read them ages ago. I am now going to consider him one of my favorite authors, after Stephen King, Haruki Murakami, John Irving, Hanya Yanagihara, and Anne Rice.

The Wolf's Hour by Robert R. McCammon is an historical fiction wherein the main character happens to be more than human. This difference is central to the story, but it's not the story itself. I read this book over the holidays and it's really stuck with me. I wish there was an entire series about the main character, but that's not how things work when a book transcends genre and achieves such a high level of excellence in plot, characterization, setting, etc. When it makes a real impact on the reader. For context, I've stayed away from books set in WWII Europe since my formative years

when Diary of Anne Frank and Man's Search for Meaning were required reading, because I've dreaded having to again witness so much suffering at such vast scales, fearing that it would change me to do so. Well, I did find this book challenging but ultimately it is completely worthy of the intense involvement it invokes. Michael Gallatin may not be fully human; he may be wild and dangerous; but he's one of the best examples of the human spirit I've ever read -- especially in the context of man's inhumanity to man. I don't hand out 5-star ratings like candy, but this is without a doubt a five star read even for folks who are disinclined to otherworldly elements or war-torn settings.

I first read this book when it was published some years ago. It is such a new and novel approach to the werewolf image. No one ever bothered making the werewolf the hero before. I loved the plot. Robert McCammon became my favorite author for a long time. He wrote such interesting and clever stories. He never seemed to get the following of Stephen King, but surpassed him in his plots. Not resorting to bathroom noises to keep people entertained as Mr. King often does, McCammon writes very original plots. Swan Song is a perfect example of a better story line and plot. He takes a bit of a turn in writing another favorite of mine, A Boy's Life. What a beautiful story of a father son relationship.

Excellent story, especially for readers interested in a blend of near history and the supernatural. I read this book many years ago and loved it. When I saw it again in Kindle format, I had to have it. I've read several other books by this author and have liked them all. I'm now looking to get them all in Kindle format so I can enjoy them all again. The author writes very well, and in this book has an interesting and unique take on the werewolf legend.

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