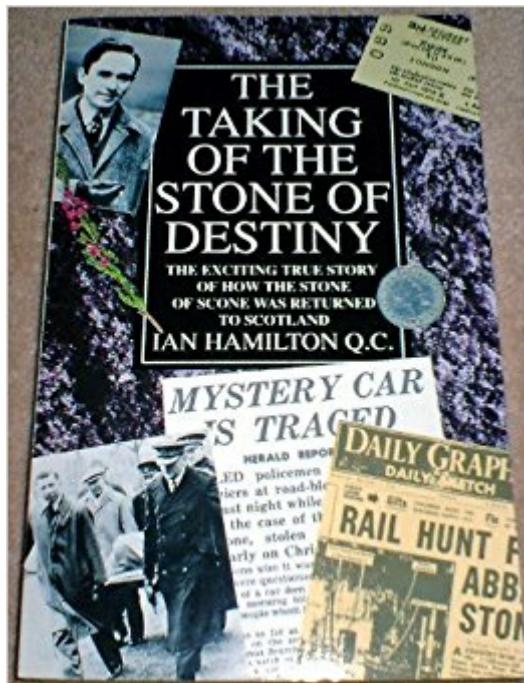


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The Taking Of The Stone Of Destiny



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

History is full of thousands of reasons why the Scot's (generally) dislike the English but this 1992 edition of Ian Hamilton's story - revised by an older and wiser author 40 years after its original publication goes a long way to explaining the modern continued dislike. Imagine a UK in 1950 with no Motorways (US-Freeway) Dual Carriage Ways (US - Two lane roads) or cars that even had heaters and a few students from Glasgow University who set out to demonstrate that Scotland could still "be a nation again" on Christmas Eve 1950. Driving south to London in a severe blizzard - this was no "student prank" as so often portrayed - but a carefully considered and deliberate political statement. To recover the stone upon which Scottish Kings had been crowned from beneath the English throne in Westminster Abbey and return it to Scotland. The actual undertaking had something of a Keystone Cop flavor to it - none the less they succeeded and galvanised the Scottish Nation - none of whom gave the perpetrators up - when the police came hunting - though not too hard. Ian Hamilton's self depreciating style and his deep respect for all human beings shines through the text - so the ultimate betrayal in the last chapter strikes deep at the heart and goes somewhat to explaining the title of this review. It's just been made into a film - hope for an American release. Otherwise - read this fine book. Americans look to your own history of revolting against colonial rule - you will find many parallels.

The Taking of the Stone of Destiny is the true relation of the author's involvement in a plot to return

the Scottish "Stone of Destiny," the actual (and heavy) historical stone sat upon by the historical kings of Scotland, that was claimed by the British and kept under the throne of England as a symbol of Scotland's subservience to the British Empire. It is, in effect, the very heart of the Scottish people. This is a true tale, following the decision and carrying out of the theft by a small group of students from a Scottish university. The culprits are wildly celebrated in Scotland - although they remain unidentified for a time, while England scours both nations for the stone, which is hidden unexpectedly in plain sight. Readers will find themselves cheering on the inexperienced thieves and learning a great deal about Scotland. The film of the same name brings the tale to life and is highly recommended.

Hamilton has a strong personality that shines right through this book. A wonderful recounting of an amazing adventure. I loved this book.

Excellent book and easy read. Received the book and couldn't put it down. This was an awakening for all Scotts.

My husband wanted the book after watching the movie. The only place I could find it was at and through a Bookstore in the UK. He loves the detail that the movie did not have time to include. An absolutely super book, he says. Thank you. Sincerely, Mrs. Wanda Ingles Stewart

This book is amazing, with a wonderfully off-beat subtle sense of humor. I came across this book for a term paper in a class titled the Global Flows of Cultural Heritage. Not only is this a interest-grabbing-can't-put-it-down story, but the issues of value, ownership, world museums and the influence of public opinion are deeply scored and very relevant.

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