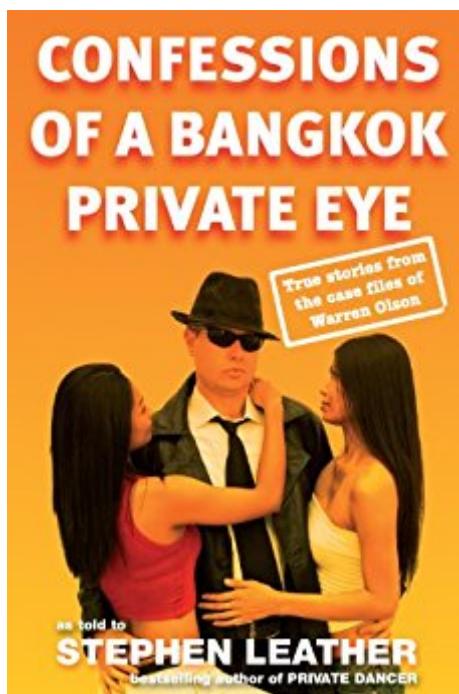


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Confessions Of A Bangkok Private Eye: True Stories From The Case Files Of Warren Olson



Synopsis

Two-timing bargirls, suspicious spouses and lesbian lovers - it was all in a day's work for Bangkok Private Eye Warren Olson. For more than a decade, Olson walked the mean streets of the Big Mango. Fluent in Thai and Khmer, he was able to go where other private eyes feared to tread. His clients included Westerners who had lost their hearts and life savings to moneyhungry bargirls. But he had more than his fair share of Thai clients, too, including a sweet old lady who was ripped off by a Christian conman and a Thai girl blackmailed by a former lover. The stories are based on Olson's case files, disguised to protect the innocent and the guilty by bestselling author Stephen Leather. Olson has now relocated to his native New Zealand with his Thai wife and daughter, but the agency that he founded is still open for business.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a massive John Burdett fan (I've even read *A Personal History of Thirst* which I had to buy in *gasp* hardback) - and I worship Nancy Chandler so when I noticed her refferal of *Private Dancer* on her online map updates I had to read it and was very impressed. And then after - since I'm out of

Burdett books and Koh Samui guides to read - I was like "what else has this Leather guy been up to?" Confessions of a Bangkok Private Eye did not disappoint. I would actually like to give it 3.5 stars - but more 4 than 3. It's fast paced and has a good balance of grit. A little light on character development but since when did true stories need that? I'm becoming a Stephen Leather fan. He's no Burdett, but like a hot bar girl when a sexpat's favorite is already barfined, he will do quite nicely ;) And Leather wrote this book, I doubt if Olson could write his way out of 3 paper bags... (Although the dude is multi-lingual and I can barely spell in English so perhaps shouldn't condescend) I'm gonna go read the sequel now. Currently I'm pretty busy with my imminent two months in Thailand to pack for, but I could see actually reading Leather's books that aren't set in Thailand at some point...

This book needed some proofreading, because there were spelling mistakes all over the place. There was also a lot of repetition of certain things-- which may have been deliberate. Because the author wanted the reader to remember these things, he repeated them enough times so that they were emblazoned into our memories. There were also a fair number of witty quotes throughout the book that could come in useful for everyday life. One thing that I didn't know was the rampant corruption that seems prevalent in Thailand. (It is interesting that they have so many coups and stay so poor year after year-- in spite of having a country where the population is homogeneous and hard working.) Some things in the book stretched the limits of credulity. For example: The author claims to have spoken Thai like a native and that the natives couldn't tell the difference between him and a native speak. Oh, and he happens to speak Laotian and the Isaan language, plus at least two others. (He may have spoken a fifth language-- "Isarn," but I can't tell if this language is not the same as "Isaan," only misspelled.) The author also seems to have something of an ego, and it comes through in the tales in very subtle ways. ("I'm a pretty good looking guy," etc.) Overall, this is worth the purchase price if you can get it second hand. I'm glad that I didn't pay more for it than I did.

A series of true cases undertaken by a Kiwi private detective based in Bangkok. Sometimes a little repetitive but nonetheless interesting with a good insight into how things work in Thailand, rather enlightening. It makes you wonder about the stupidity of men when they visit that country. Some are aware of the pitfalls but still persist in pursuing their "dream" romance. A good read.

Thailand, bar girls, gullible foreign men, and a gumshoe. And cheap lessons in how to deal with

cheap women. Noir is alive and well in Bangkok.

This man knows how to keep your attention. His prior book called private dancer mirrored a portion of life during 2006, 07 in which I was smitten by a gorgeous Thai lady, although not a bar girl, she was playing me like a fiddle. I finally saw the light 3 weeks before she came to America. I'm not saying all Thai ladies are bad. I found one and she is here with me in America and things couldn't be better. So guys please buy a set and get a beautiful young girl and be happy as I am. It can happen.... This book is great...Hell I will even help get here

This guy is a lil full of it though. Especially his talk of being fluent in Thai and various dialects. I don't buy it. What someone else said... people who are fluent in a language don't need to state it so frequently. But it's a fun book. I do slightly doubt the authors knowledge of the language, culture, and country however.

I read thru this one quickly. Very interesting. I always looked forward to the next chapter. Living in Thailand as I read it I could see on a daily basis much of what he was writing about. The stories are real. Read and enjoy.

Not great literature but wasn't expecting that. Fun read.

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