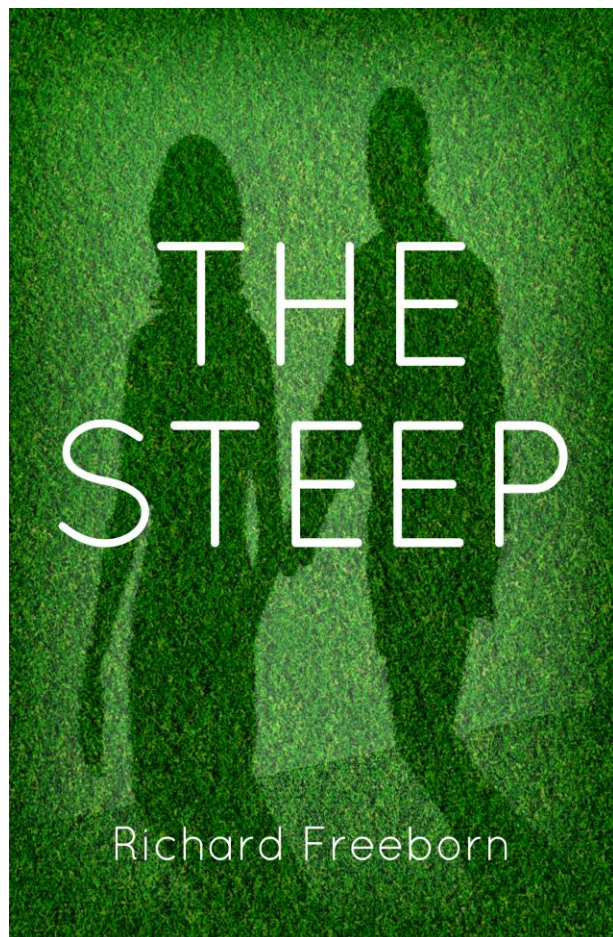


THE STEEP

Richard Freeborn



After service in the RAF and post-war work in Germany, where he also attended Goettingen university, **Richard Freeborn** graduated from Oxford, did doctoral research and was posted by the FO to the British embassy in Moscow, joining what was called the Secretariat. Invited back to Oxford, he became a don and spent ten years there as tutor and lecturer before being offered a professorship at UCLA. This was followed by a professorship at Manchester University and finally appointment to the chair of Russian literature at London (SSEES). He married his wife Anne, an embassy colleague while in Moscow, and they have four children and seven grandchildren.

ISBN 978-0-9553507-7-1



Publication: 28th FEBRUARY 2019

ISBN: 9780955350771

Price: £8.99

Binding: Paperback

Format: 200 x 130 mm

Extent: 285 pp

BIC Code: FA Modern Fiction

Comparative title: 9780955350764 *The Girl In The White Fur Hat*

Jim Nordon (31 and divorced) has problems. Disliking suburbia, he aims to recuperate as much as possible from the 21st century by renting an apartment on the top floor of Victoria Mansions, an Edwardian building in Southampton Row due for demolition in the coming year. A supposedly successful career in local government means he has denied himself his ambition to become a portrait painter. These problems, if not insuperable, are worsened by the fact that he has to write a report, if possible anonymously, on reducing costs in his own work place. Finally there is the problem of sex.

He gains periodic sexual satisfaction from a convenient relationship, but he hires a young girl as PA to help with his report and falls in love with her. This relationship becomes the centre of his life. Although it is a happy love affair, it breaks down when the earlier relationship intervenes. On a Sunday morning after returning to his Manchester home he climbs a hill called The Steep. There he discovers his past. The episode determines him in his decision to change his life.

A novel of perceptive characterisation and rich descriptions, written sensitively and poetically with touches of humour, explicit in its treatment of sex, it focuses on love and death and the universal need to confront the steepes that occur in life when choosing between creativity and expediency.

Sales: Star Book Sales
T: 01404 515050 F: 01404 823820
E: enquiries@starbooksales.com

Orders: Orca Book Services Ltd.
T: 01235 465521 F: 01235 465555
E: tradeorders@orcabookservices.co.uk



Prices and specifications are provisional and are subject to change without notice. 19/12/2018