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# The Blind Man of Seville



*Par Robert Wilson  
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[Free] The Blind Man of Seville

**Par Robert Wilson : The Blind Man of Seville** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Blind Man of Seville:

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**Description :** Description du produit Detective Inspector Javier Falcn is transfixed by the brutalized face of murder victim Raul Jimnez in his Seville apartment. On his shirtfront, littered like exotic petals, are the man's eyelids, and so the victims relentless horror becomes the beginning of Falcn's own. An old photograph at the murder scene prompts Falcn to read a set of journals left by his famous father, the artist Fransisco Falcn. He discovers that he'd never known the father he'd always loved, and as the case unfolds, Falcn's mind unravels as all the old certainties are undermined. More victims fall but neither the evidence nor the secrets of the victims' lives give Falcn the vital breakthrough he needs. The pieces of the puzzle finally fall together when Falcn finds the missing section of his father's journals--and becomes the killer's next intended victim. With The Blind Man of Seville, Robert Wilson's unparalleled combination of suspenseful storytelling and keen understanding of the ambiguities of the human soul confirm his place as one of the best mystery writers in the world today.

Prsentation de l'diteurNOW A MAJOR TV DRAMA ON SKY ATLANTIC. The first crime novel in Robert Wilson's Seville series, featuring the tortured detective Javier Falcon. The man is bound, gagged and dead in front of his television. The terrible self-inflicted wounds tell of his violent struggle to avoid some unseen horror. On the screen? In his head? What could make a man do that to himself? It's Easter week in Seville, a time of passion and processions. But detective Javier Falcon is not celebrating. Appalled by the victim's staring eyes he is inexorably drawn into this disturbing, mystifying case. And when the investigation into the dead man's life sends Javier trawling through his own past and into the shocking journals of his late father, a famous artist, his unreliable memory begins to churn. Then there are more killings and Falcon finds himself pushed to the edge of a terrifying truth. After trying his hand at spy fiction in *The Company of Strangers*, Robert Wilson returns to his detective-thriller roots with *The Blind Man of Seville*, a grimly bewitching and character-driven yarn about people confronting their most hidden horrors. "It was only right that there should be at least one murder in Holy Week," muses Inspector Jefe Javier Falcon as he's called out during Spain's Semana Santa festivities to probe the death of a prosperous Seville restaurateur, Ral Jimnez. The deceased was found strapped to a chair with his eyelids removed, facing a television on which had been showing a video of him entertaining prostitutes. Jimnez's heart had failed as he struggled to escape. This murder is "more extraordinary than any I have seen in my career," Falcon tells the businessman's widow, as he embarks on an investigation that will lead to the slayings of a hooker and an art dealer, and force the homicide cop into a game of wits against a killer obsessed with the contradictions between illusion and reality. Meanwhile, Falcon is himself obsessed with the long-secreted journals kept by his late father, a famous painter, whose brutal acts during the Spanish Civil War and subsequent hedonism in North Africa shaped Javier's life... and will make him the killer's next target. Wilson's plot turns rather creakily on the coincidence of Falcon discovering a photograph of his father among Jimnez's things. And lengthy excerpts from the elder Falcon's diaries, while they reveal links between the book's secondary players, and are interesting for their portrayal of wartime Europe and postwar Tangier, nonetheless hobble this story's pace and distract from the modern crimes at its center. Still, there's a poetic edge to this author's prose that makes even his most gruesome or tragic scenes worthy of rereading, and in Javier Falcon--a lonely outsider who shadows his ex-wife and has a perplexing aversion to milk--he creates a police protagonist as satisfyingly and humanly flawed as any since Z Coelho, from Wilson's outstanding *A Small Death in Lisbon*. --J. Kingston Pierce

From Publishers Weekly Proving that even the most talented authors can have an off day, Wilson (*A Small Death in Lisbon*, etc.) has come up with a long, dense, often brilliantly written but finally off-putting and depressing story, which starts with the grisly murder of a Seville restaurant tycoon. Parts of the novel work wonderfully: an interview between Javier Falcon, the chief of Seville's homicide squad, and the victim's young widow, crackles with wit and electricity as she gets more out of him than he does out of her. And Falcon (whose late father, a famous painter, had links to the dead tycoon going back to their days in the Foreign Legion in Tangiers during the Spanish Civil War) is often a fascinating figure--when he's not imploding with the weight of his discoveries about his father's past or the stress of his job and a recently failed marriage. Descriptions of a ranch where fighting bulls are bred and of a bullfight are worthy of Hemingway, as are scenes from life in Seville during Holy Week. But in the end, there's too much blood, too many old journals, too much torture and depravity to absorb and process into art and/or entertainment. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.