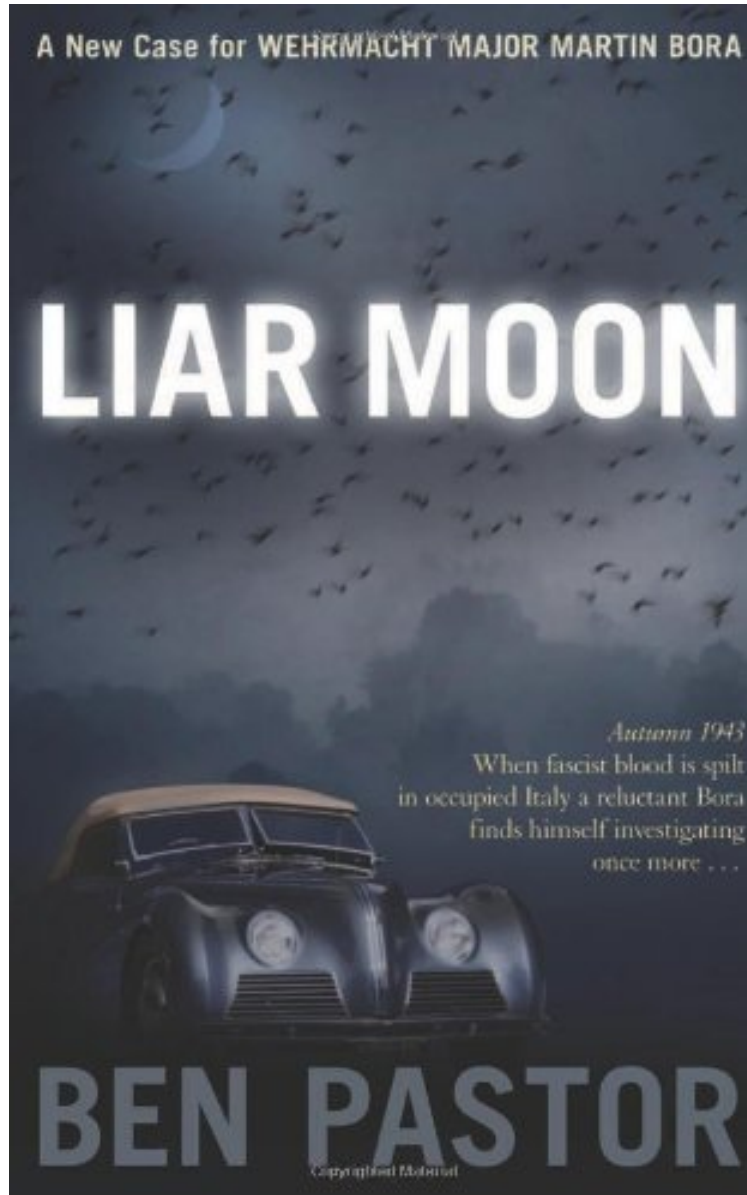


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Liar Moon (Martin Bora)

Ben Pastor

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#File Name: 1904738826210 pages | File size: 74.Mb

Ben Pastor : Liar Moon (Martin Bora) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Liar Moon (Martin Bora):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Excellent WWII era mystery with a three-dimensional protagonist
By Blue in Washington It's late December 1943 and southern Italy has been invaded by the Allies. The Germans are taking over the running of what remains of Mussolini's Fascist state. In Verona, in the north of the country, aristocratic

German Army Major Martin Bora has been assigned to bring increasing partisan attacks against the Germans and Fascist forces under control. Bora's prior experience as a battlefield detective brings him the unwanted additional task of working with the local Italian police in resolving the murder of a high-ranking Italian politician/businessman. He partners with a local copper, Sandro Guidi, to investigate the killing and an interesting police procedural follows. As good as the murder/investigation story line is, the great strength of this novel is the wonderful characters that author Ben Pastor has created and put into play. Major Bora himself, is a complex and conflicted figure who has seen far too much brutality and misery in Spain, Poland and Russia to pursue with much enthusiasm the killer of the clearly corrupt and criminal victim. He is tortured by his past roles as a Wehrmacht officer and foresees the eventual loss of the war by Germany. He also suffers greatly physically from wounds inflicted in a grenade attack when he first arrived in Italy and is hounded by the Nazi security forces who do not consider him politically reliable for acts of conscience he has shown in the past. The Italian characters are almost as good and multi-dimensional, as they struggle with a political situation that is rapidly changing and in which their lives are threatened daily. This well written novel is intelligent and far from transparent as the storyline moves toward its conclusion. As Pastor's other novels transcend their genre niches, so does "Liar Moon". A really good read by a talented writer.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Interesting Plot Setting
By Cutawayguy
Not often that we see a German officer of WW2 as the hero, but Martin Bora fills that role, figure on Columbo in a Wehrmacht uniform. Enjoyable seeing the overlap of the competing groups in Italy as they are still settling old feuds and setting themselves up to handle the aftermath of the Allied invasion. Think this is an interesting and unusual concept. I have a couple of more Martin Bora books up to read shortly ... if that tells you anything.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Too Slow For Me
By zorba
This is the second Bora book I've read and like the first one, *Tin Sky*, I got lost somewhere along the way. Pastor is a solid wordsmith and writes authoritatively about her characters (which are very well developed) and the setting. This one takes place near Verona, Italy in the waning days of the war. Colonel Bora is a fascinating character as is Italian Inspector Guida, but I just found the pace of the plot a little too slow and its subtly more of an obstacle. I think my problem is that I have to read Pastor's books more carefully than my usual fare. I'll keep trying....

Praise for Ben Pastor's *Lumen*: "Pastor's plot is well crafted, her prose sharp. . . . A disturbing mix of detection and reflection."—Publishers Weekly "Rivets the reader with its twist of historical realities. A historical piece, it faithfully reproduces the grim canvas of war. A character study, it captures the thoughts and actions of real people, not stereotypes."—The Free Lance-Star "And don't miss *Lumen* by Ben Pastor. . . . An interesting, original, and melancholy tale."—Literary Review Italy, September 1943. The Italian government switches sides and declares war on Germany. The north of Italy is controlled by the fascist puppets of Germany; the south liberated by Allied forces fighting their way up the peninsula. Having survived hell on the Russian front, Wehrmacht major and aristocrat Baron Martin von Bora is sent to Verona. He is ordered to investigate the murder of a prominent local fascist: a bizarre death threatening to discredit the regime's public image. The prime suspect is the victim's twenty-eight-year-old widow Clara. Haunted by his record of opposition to SS policies in Russia, Bora must watch his step. Against the backdrop of relentless anti-partisan warfare and the tragedy of the Holocaust, a breathless chase begins. Ben Pastor, born and now back in Italy, lived for thirty years in the United States, working as a university professor in Vermont. The first in the Martin Bora series, *Lumen*, was published by Bitter Lemon Press in May 2011.

About the Author
Ben Pastor: Ben Pastor, born in Italy, lived for thirty years in the United States, working as a university professor in Vermont. She is the author of other novels including *The Water Thief* and *The Fire Walker* (set in Roman times and published to high acclaim in the US by St. Martin's Press), and is considered one of the most talented writers in the field of historical fiction. In 2008 she won the prestigious Premio Zaragoza for best historical fiction. She writes in English.