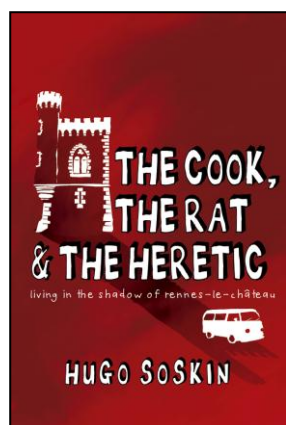


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This new travelogue offers a refreshingly wry look at the myths of Rennes-le-Château.
Written by the son of Henry Lincoln (the original "Da Vinci Code" expert)



THE COOK, THE RAT & THE HERETIC

Living in the Shadow of Rennes-le-Château

by

Hugo Soskin

ISBN: 978 1 84024 658 2 Paperback 315 pages £7.99 June 2008

Hugo Soskin is the son of Henry Lincoln the best-selling author, film maker and foremost expert on the myths and mysteries of Rennes-le-Château. It was Henry Lincoln's original film about Rennes-le-Château (broadcast as part of the *Chronicle* TV series in 1972) that fuelled today's intense public interest in the subject. In due course, the heady mixture of spiritual mystery, myth, legend, historical fact and conspiracy theories would later be explored in worldwide bestselling books such as, *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail* and, most recently of course, *The DaVinci Code*. By the time Dan Brown's blockbuster appeared many thousands of people were already making "pilgrimages" to Rennes-le-Château to solve the mysteries for themselves.

As the son of the man who arguably kick-started the world's obsession with the tiny village of Rennes-le-Château, Hugo Soskin had had his fill of the religious fanatics and conspiracy theorists and had no time for the French Pyrenean village and its mysteries. He was fed up with the whole question of how a nineteenth-century priest came to be a millionaire overnight. He was bored with hearing about the bizarre "clues" that the priest had built into the church. And he thought any connection with Templars, the Priory of Sion and historical secrets were all a hoax.

But when Soskin and his wife decided to drive an old camper van to Spain to start a new life, they couldn't resist a tiny peek en route at the village that enthralled and captivates so many.

After agreeing to work on a nearby campsite for a season, Soskin started to absorb the culture and rhythms of life in South West France. Living and working in the shadow of Rennes-le-Château exposed Soskin to loony treasure hunters, conspiracy theorists and other fanatical "Rennies"- all of whom assumed he had inside knowledge that could help them crack the mystery and find the hidden gold.

Surely Soskin knows more than he was telling the "Rennies"? Will he reveal all?

As if Peter Mayle had rewritten *The DaVinci Code*, this hilarious tale shows a wacky side of life in the south of France.



Hugo Soskin lives in Gloucestershire and has been a bookseller and nursery manager, as well as having worked in bars in Spain and as a chef in France

The Cook, The Rat & The Heretic is published by Summersdale and available through all good bookshops and internet booksellers or by telephoning Summersdale.

To request a review copy or to be put in touch with Hugo Soskin

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