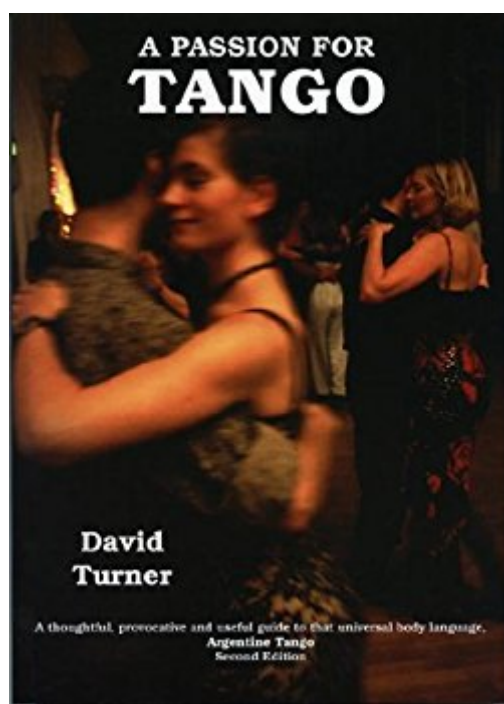


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A Passion For Tango



Synopsis

A thoughtful, provocative and useful guide to that universal body language ARGENTINE TANGO

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

David Turner is a self-described UK tango addict of many years. He writes that he has had his share of bad teachers, good teachers, a trip to Buenos Aires, frustrations, leading, following, successes, teaching, etc. etc. In his own words, he pictures his role in this book as a "useful older brother, a couple of years up the school ladder. You know, someone who is approachable for help but not so far advanced that he can't remember how it felt to struggle?" Before reading this quote, I had referred to him as "Uncle David," and viewed the book as a helpful long letter. In this book he gives a chatty, perhaps overly wordy, review of tango from his perspective of place and time. If you know tango, you know that the learning curve, especially for leaders, is long and steep. Someone with 11 weeks of group classes and daily home practice is still in pre-school in this world. Please keep in mind, that it is with this limited experience that this review is written. Many have far more experience, and their mature opinions will surely differ from those given here. First off, Turner gives a brief, strange, entertaining review of the history of tango, including origins in Buenos Aires

(hereafter BsAs), migration of the dance to Europe, USA and the world. A review of derivatives (Ballroom tango, show tango, tango nuevo, "authentic Argentine tango" taught as a sequence dance -- bizarre), and the inevitable resulting fights, ranging from childish spats to all-out war. In his review, one could perhaps quibble with his statement: "although the history of tango is fascinating in its own way, it contributes only a little, in a practical sense, to the [way] we are taught." I have my doubts, as will be explained later.

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