JOHN LE CARRÉ’S GEORGE SMILEY SERIES

John le Carré is the pen name of David John Moore Cornwell. During the 1950s and '60s, Cornwell worked for both the Security Service and the Secret Intelligence Service, which is known as the "The Circus." His third novel, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (1963), became an international best-seller and remains one of his best-known works. Following the success of this novel, he resigned from government service to become a full-time author.

Most of le Carré's novels are spy stories set during the Cold War (1945–91) and feature Circus agents as they carry out their duties. Typically, they experience little of the violence typically encountered in action thrillers.

George Smiley is the best-known fictional character created by John le Carré. Smiley is a career intelligence officer with "The Circus", the British overseas intelligence agency.

He is a central character in the following novels: *Call for the Dead* (1961); *A Murder of Quality* (1962); *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* (1974) (The Karla Trilogy # 1); *The Honourable Schoolboy* (1977) (The Karla Trilogy # 2); *Smiley's People* (1979) (The Karla Trilogy # 3).

Smiley is a supporting character in the following novels: *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (1963); *The Looking Glass War* (1965); *The Secret Pilgrim* (1990), and *A Legacy of Spies* (2017).

All of the listed books are stand-alone novels and can be read in any order, except the 3 Karla Trilogy novels which should be read in order.

Le Carré’s first two novels, *Call for the Dead* (1961) and *A Murder of Quality* (1962), are mystery fiction, in which George Smiley resolves the murder mysteries he is assigned to investigate.


November 29, 2017 EJW