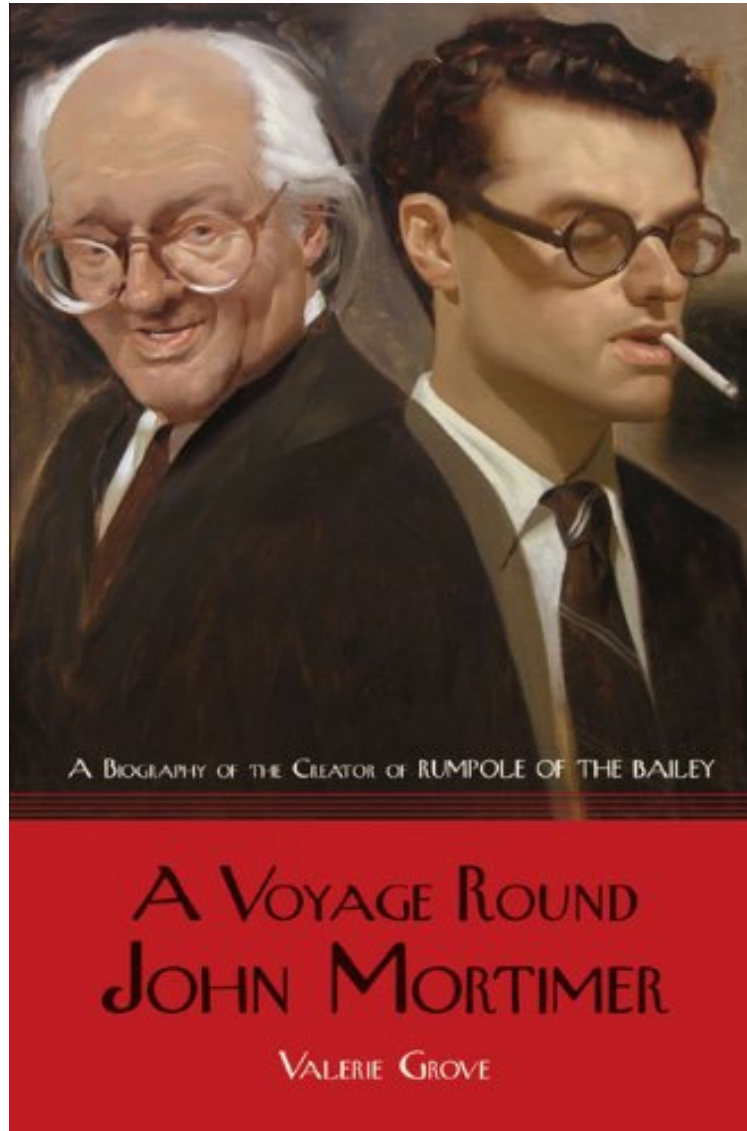


(Get free) A Voyage Round John Mortimer: A Biography of the Creator of Rumpole of the Bailey

# A Voyage Round John Mortimer: A Biography of the Creator of Rumpole of the Bailey

Valerie Grove

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**Valerie Grove : A Voyage Round John Mortimer: A Biography of the Creator of Rumpole of the Bailey** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Voyage Round John Mortimer: A Biography of the Creator of Rumpole of the Bailey:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Voyage Round John Mortimer By John Thomas

CiappettaExcellent account of a great writer and his life, trials and tribulations. John Mortimer is one of my favourite writers. I've enjoyed his "Rumpole of the Bailey" sagas most of my adult life. This book has allowed me the opportunity to get a grip on why and how he wrote all those many splendid episodes. He is no P.G. Wodehouse (my favourite writer), but he will do until another one comes along!1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A bit tiresome..By nancy delliberI read with great interest Graham Lords' "unauthorized" biography, and was looking forward to the "authorized"one..I found it very disappointing..The author treats our beloved Rumpole creator like a doddering old fool..to put it bluntly..John should lay her out in lavender so to speak for such an unflattering book, I think Lord was much kinder and portrayed John very well, his good and bad side..We did not need to read page after page and the plots of Penny Mortimers books, which I have never read, I found myself skipping these lengthy accounts...It cant be all sweetness and love in the Mortimer extended family of many children and grandchildren..anyone who has raised a large family can tell you immediatly this is completely a fairytale story..Jealousy, spats, word, quarrels, no family is without them..and they do get downright nasty at times..but human nature being what it is why should the Mortimer family be treated any differantly? Cheers to John Mortimer for producing so many wonderful Rupole books..a great man but hardly even at age 86 with one foot in the grave as the author constantly suggests..!!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Turgid Portrait of a Self-Centered ManBy Dr. Laurence RawA VOYAGE ROUND JOHN MORTIMER is certainly well researchedi wth plenty of information as to the lawyer-dramatst-writer-critic's background and circumstances. However it is rather turgidly presented in chronological form as a series of encounters between the subjecti hs various lovers and friends with little attempt at character analysis. As a result Mortimer comes across as rather unattractive - a supremely talented man who nonetheless treated his women very badly. He was obviously attracted to women of all ages but he seemed to be more concerned with sustaining his public image rather than worrying about their feelings. In the end we feel that he was sublimely self-centered and quite unlike the lovable lawyer Rumpole of the Bailey - hs most famous creation which was said to be based on Mortimer himself. The definite biography of Mortimer needs to be written as this is certainly not it.

Novelist, playwright and barrister John Mortimer has led an extraordinarily rich life, privately and professionally, much of it in the public eye. His own writings, from the play "A Voyage Round My Father" to the memoirs "Clinging to the Wreckage" and "Murderers and Other Friends", have given his many fans plenty of insights. But now for the first time a biographer has had full access to Mortimer, his circle of friends and colleagues, and their diaries and letters. The result is a riveting account of the life of one of the great figures of our time. "A Voyage Round John Mortimer" is revealing of many aspects of Mortimer's legal and literary career, from his first attempts at writing novels and the early help he offered his barrister father through to the great triumphs of Rumpole and the "Oz" trial.

About the AuthorValerie Grove writes for The Times and the Oldie. She has published two highly acclaimed biographies, of the writers Dodie Smith and Laurie Lee.