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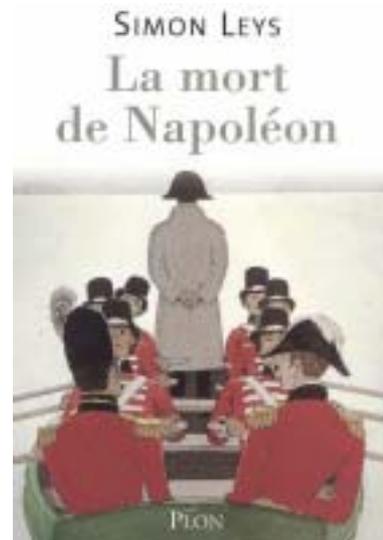


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Simon Leys

Born in 1935, he is an internationally renowned sinologist as well as an essayist and novelist. Member of the Académie Royale de Littérature, he has received many awards for his work.

Fleeing the island of St. Helen on board a ship named 'Hermann-Augustus Stoeffer', - proof that Simon Leys has not forgotten his Brussels origins -, the fallen emperor sets off to locate the headquarters of a mysterious Bonapartist organisation that is nostalgic for the past and determined to restore the illustrious Corsican to his proper status in life. A moving saga: the emperor is spared neither the agony of a vexing anonymity, nor the inconveniences presented by the unexpected death of the double who has taken his place in his island exile. All that the poor Napoleon finally finds to divert his excellent skills as an organiser is the commerce of melons and watermelons.



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