**BANGED UP** is the unedifying story, told without rancour and often with a bitter humour, of a British historian who spends four hundred days in solitary confinement in Austria's oldest jailhouse, convicted under a 1945 Stalin-era law because of a lecture on history that he has delivered in Vienna sixteen years before. There is outcry in the free world's press. Soon he is faced with new charges, carrying a twenty-year sentence, for talking to the BBC. Then the case comes to the Court of Appeal.

56

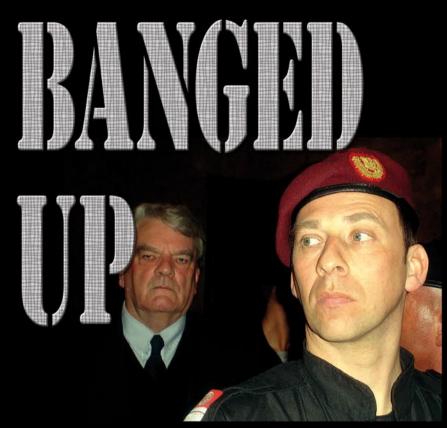
I regarded this whole new world, this submerged world, this world behind strong-room doors and steel bars, in the same way that Jacques Cousteau would have regarded a new ocean bed.



I have given five instructions to Jessica on comportment while her Mummy is ill. Number 3 reads, "Cars run on gasoline; Mummies run on hugs. So fill her with gallons and gallons of hugs, to keep her running smoothly till I am free."

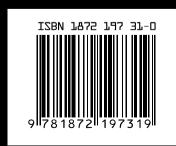


"Hundred and thirty-two," bellowed the jailer as he opened the door. He was king of the hill. "I had night shift, Herr Irving, and not one of the others knew the answer." David Irving



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**Focal Point**