

THE BOY ON THE TRAIN

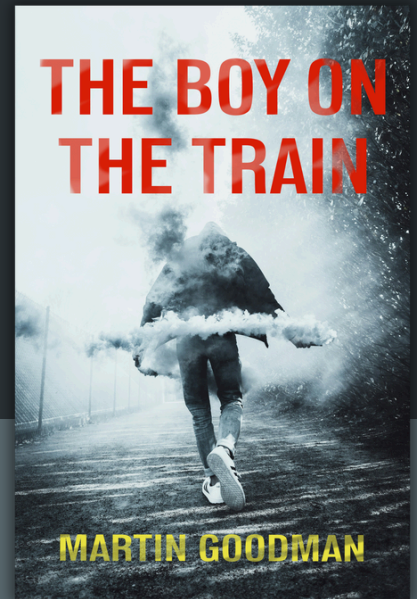
MARTIN GOODMAN

Published by Barbican Press

Paperback & eBook

£10.99 | \$18.99

7th October 2025



Martin Goodman has tackled the world in a thrilling range of fiction and nonfiction. His subjects are self-experimenting scientists and spiritual masters, shamans and Nazi war criminals, eco-warriors and world-class musicians, vampires and Tibetan lamas. His books have won awards, with settings that span the globe. More and more they wave red flags about ecological crises. His recent *My Head for a Tree* tells the story of the Bishnois, a community in India who fight with their lives to protect nature.

He is emeritus professor at the University of Hull, an editor for *Conservation Times*, and shares a life with his husband between London, Los Angeles and the South of France.

martingoodman.com

"Sinuously written, subtly subversive: a love song to our whirling, chilling, digital world. Will keep you on the edge of your (train) seat long after you've missed your stop..."

Beatrice Hitchman, author of All of You Every Single One

Tom's a regular teenager – sullen, anxious, super-smart, feeling safe within his bedroom and wedded to his screen.

On a packed train, a London commodities trader gets under his skin.

The trader's got a fine wife, two kids, a yappy dog, big house, annual bonus. Tom hacks him. The trader's hardware becomes stuffed with dangerous, damaging images. Call it collateral damage.

Hacking is what Tom does. He's got control of the keyboards of key players in the fossil fuel industry. If he doesn't bring down the grid, who will?

Roads and trainlines lead the main players to a violent confrontation in the brutalist surrounds of London's Barbican Centre.

**Government agents work to prevent a global blackout.
Tom's set to save the planet.
Who will win?**

More Praise for Martin Goodman

"Goodman writes with flare and panache, and the narrative fizzles along. Goodman's novel soars."
The Times on On Bended Knees

"Such narrow, narrow confines we live in. Every so often, one of us primates escapes these dimensions, as Martin Goodman did. All we can do is rattle the bars and look after him as he runs into the hills. We wait for his letters home."
The Los Angeles Times on I Was Carlos Castaneda

"Goodman's attention to detail often combines with verbal felicity to memorialize even the most ordinary moments. Powerful and affecting work."
Paul Russell (Immaculate Blue) on Lessons from Cruising