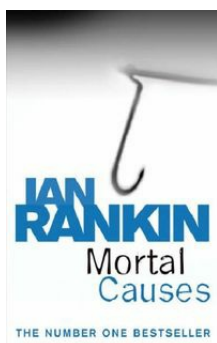


MORTAL CAUSES

In Edinburgh you're never far from a peaceful spot, or from a hellish one either. Now, in the heart of summer, in the midst of a nationalist festival, Inspector John Rebus...



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Mortal Causes

Author	Ian Rankin
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Peek Inside the Book

The Scottish vernacular is rich in colourful euphemisms for inebriation: stocious, stotting, guttered, steaming, steamboats, wellied and hoolit are just a few. Another is mortal, as in I was fair mortal last night (meaning I was very drunk indeed). So Mortal Causes evoked, in my mind, the demon drink, just as surely as it did any darker and more violent imagery. Ian Rankin, Mortal Causes //

Reader's Opinions

I was already becoming a fan of Rankin's novels about Edinburgh policeman John Rebus, but particularly enjoyed this one for the Northern Ireland dimension. Last time Rebus went outside Scotland (to London, in Tooth and Nail) it wasn't really a success, but here he takes an effective day trip to Belfast(though he mysteriously visits...