

## Chapter 1 : Shelf Control #7 | Lamentation by C.J. Sansom – Jessticulates

*The 6th Lamentation – Brodrick's dazzling debut on the events leading up to, and following, the Nazi's occupation of France during World War II, and the impact on those who lived through it – is a novel of immense ethical intricacy, startling enlightenments and turnarounds.*

The students are betrayed, and only one person survives Agnes Aubret. The second time frame begins 50 years later. Agnes, now living in England, learns that she will soon die from a terminal illness. This terrible revelation comes on the same day that the German officer responsible for the fate of her compatriots is exposed hiding in a Gilbertine Priory. In due course a war crimes trial begins, and Agnes will either die vanquished or vindicated. The legal process flounders, however; there are secrets the participants will not reveal. Father Anselm, a monk in the community where the German officer sought refuge, is compelled to unravel the moral complexity of the past and bring an unexpected moment of redemption to Agnes before she dies. This is certainly true of me, although the fields of memory I explored were not restricted to my own. In my mother was arrested by the Gestapo while smuggling a Jewish infant out of Amsterdam. The child was taken away and my mother was imprisoned. She survived the war; the child almost certainly did not. I had always been struck by the unimaginable antecedents to this dreadful incident: I moved the story to France because I thought the history of occupation and collaboration to be a powerful metaphor for the invasive presence of evil. In many respects, it seemed to me, this was a model of human experience, writ large. From the outset, then, I wanted to present the agony of this history, along with the morally charged position of the bystander, whose only choice was opposition or compliance. I was as much concerned with the peculiar status of collaborators, who were sometimes in a position to influence their masters, as with resistentes, who were often powerless to intervene. Much of my adult life has been spent as an Augustinian friar and then a barrister. Perhaps that is why I chose to explore the subject of this novel not through a re-enactment of the past, but through a present-day war crimes trial. This perspective had significant consequences: I was immediately free to explore how suffering can work its way through successive generations, such that the resolution of the past is profoundly necessary for those who were neither victims or witnesses; by using judicial procedure, the elements of the narrative are examined from an adversarial perspective, insinuating a sort of licensed scepticism that picks away at memories grown frail by the passage of time; the use of a religious context, and indeed the emphasis on the French experience, meant that the narrative had to unfold with reference to anti-Semitism in its political, theological and literary incarnations. It was my hope that all these complications personal, legal and moral could be gently touched upon in the tragic story of Agnes. I wrote the novel after the first and probably last war crimes prosecution under British law and during the Irving v. Lost retribution and Holocaust denial were thus painfully before my mind. The voices of the witnesses were fading away. All of which suggests this book is a testament of sorts, but not mine. A native of England, William Brodrick became an Augustinian friar at the age of Leaving religious life six years later, he worked with homeless people and then became a lawyer. His first novel, *The Sixth Lamentation* is being published this month by Viking. Brodrick lives in Normandy, France with his wife and three children.

## Chapter 2 : William Brodrick (writer) - Wikipedia

*The Sixth Lamentation is a meticulously-plotted, cat's cradle of a mystery with the interwoven stories pulled as taut as a piano-wire. The setting of Paris during the war is invoked to chilling effect.*

## Chapter 3 : The Sixth Lamentation by William Brodrick - Behind | | BookPage

*A tale of great moral complexity, stunning reversals, and a Shakespearean tension between appearance and reality, The 6th Lamentation is both a fast-paced thriller and a moving meditation on truth, history, and the human predicament.*

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### Chapter 4 : The 6th Lamentation

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### Chapter 5 : The Sixth Lamentation | Open Library

*The 6th Lamentation is beyond a doubt the finest literary mystery I have read of this Era. For 25 years I taught classical literature in high school honor classes, so feel qualified to give an experience opinion.*

### Chapter 6 : The Sixth Lamentation-- book review

*The 6th Lamentation " Brodrick's dazzling debut on the events leading up to and following the Nazi occupation of France during World War II, and the impact on those who lived through it " is a novel of immense ethical intricacy, startling enlightenments and turnarounds.*

### Chapter 7 : The Sixth Lamentation (Father Anselm, #1) by William Brodrick

*Broderick's masterful first novel is characterized by the publisher as a "literary thriller," as though it needed that label to attract and galvanize buyers. But the book defies genre p.*

### Chapter 8 : The Sixth Lamentation : William Brodrick :

*Based partly on the author's own life and family history, The Sixth Lamentation is an intelligent thriller full of twists, turns, and surprises that moves effortlessly back and forth in time between occupied France and modern day England.*

### Chapter 9 : Lamentation (Matthew Shardlake, #6) by C.J. Sansom

*The plot of William Broderick's The Sixth Lamentation hinges on documents supposedly kept in the secret archives. It is a fiction, of course, but the details closely parallel many recent.*