The Thirty−Nine Steps
John Buchan

The Thirty−Nine Steps

Richard Hannay's boredom is soon relieved when the resourceful engineer is caught up in a web of secret codes, spies, and murder on the eve of WWI. This exciting action−adventure story was the inspiration for Alfred Hitchcock's 1939 classic film of the same name. John Buchan (1875−1940) was Governor General of Canada and a popular novelist. Although condemned by some for anti−Semitic dialog in The Thirty−Nine Steps, his character's sentiments do not represent the view of the author who was identified in Hitler's Sonderfahndungsliste (special search list) as a "Jewish sympathiser." (Summary by Adrian Praetzellis)

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