



## October the First Is Too Late (Valancourt 20th Century Classics)

By Fred Hoyle

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**October the First Is Too Late (Valancourt 20th Century Classics)** By Fred Hoyle

Renowned scientist John Sinclair and his old school friend Richard, a celebrated composer, are enjoying a climbing expedition in the Scottish Highlands when Sinclair disappears without a trace for thirteen hours. When he resurfaces with no explanation for his disappearance, he has undergone an uncanny alteration: a birthmark on his back has vanished. But stranger events are yet to come: things are normal enough in Britain, but in France it's 1917 and World War I is raging, Greece is in the Golden Age of Pericles, America seems to have reverted to the 18th century, and Russia and China are thousands of years in the future.

Against this macabre backdrop of coexisting time spheres, the two young men risk their lives to unravel the truth. But truth is in the mind of the beholder, and who is to say which of these timelines is the 'real' one? In *October the First Is Too Late* (1966), world-famous astrophysicist Sir Fred Hoyle (1915-2001) explores fascinating concepts of time and consciousness in the form of a thrilling science fiction adventure that ranks among his very best.

'Fred Hoyle is the John Buchan of science fiction. His fantasies are not only rooted in scientific possibility but are told at a galloping pace.' - Julian Jebb, *Sunday Times*

'Fine storytelling.' - *Kirkus Reviews*

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### Editorial Review

About the Author  
Cosmologist

John Howard was the 25th Prime Minister of Australia, serving from March 1996 to December 2007. Despite an early meteoric rise to become Australia's Treasurer at 38, the self-described economic radical and social conservative found himself sidelined by his own party. After many years in the political wilderness, Howard bounced back, led the Coalition to a resounding victory, then got to work on his reform agenda. The Howard Government privatized the previously government-owned telecommunications carrier Telstra, dismantled excessive union power and compulsory trade union membership, instituted the unpopular Goods and Services Tax, trimmed the Public Service and reduced government expenditure, and established the 'work for the dole' scheme.

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