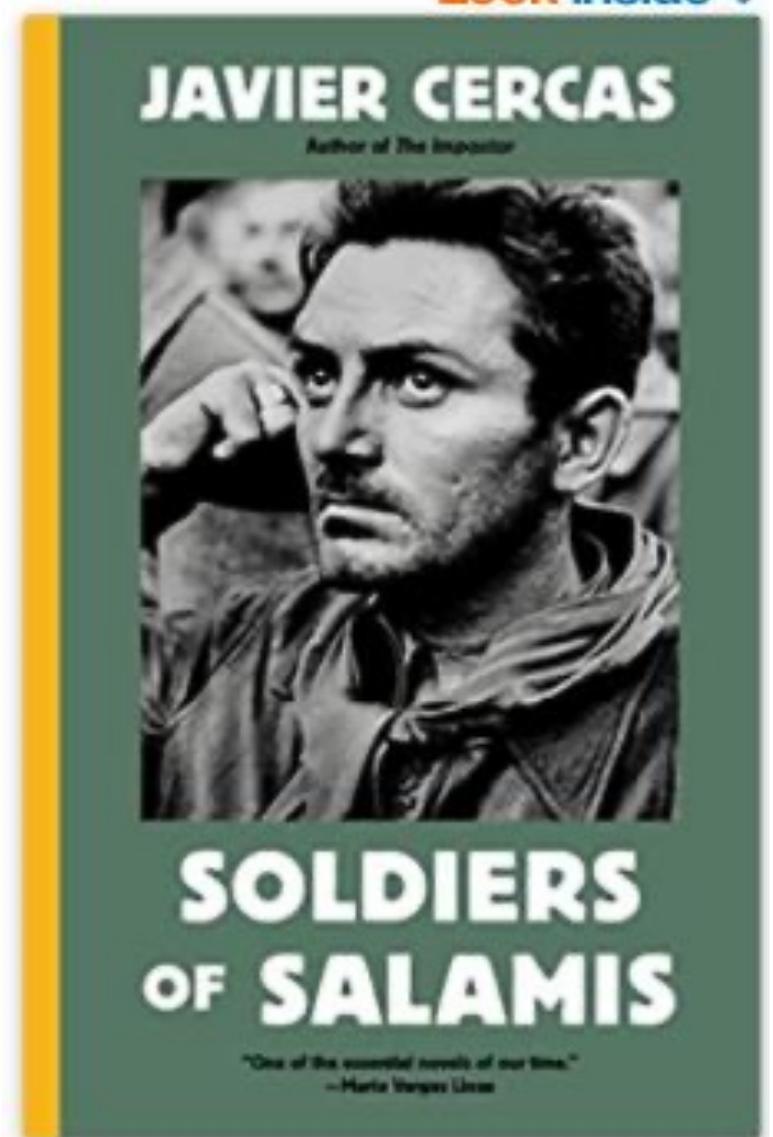


# *Soldiers of Salamis*

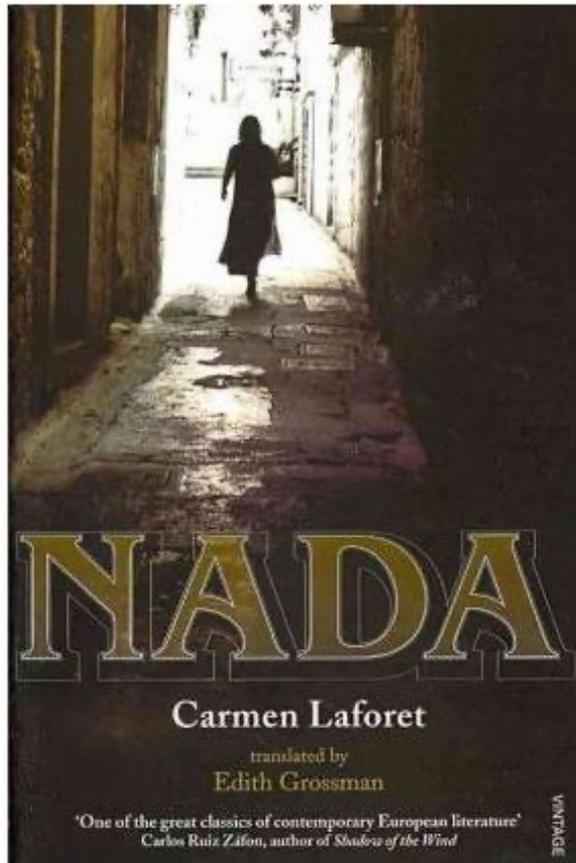
Javier Cercas



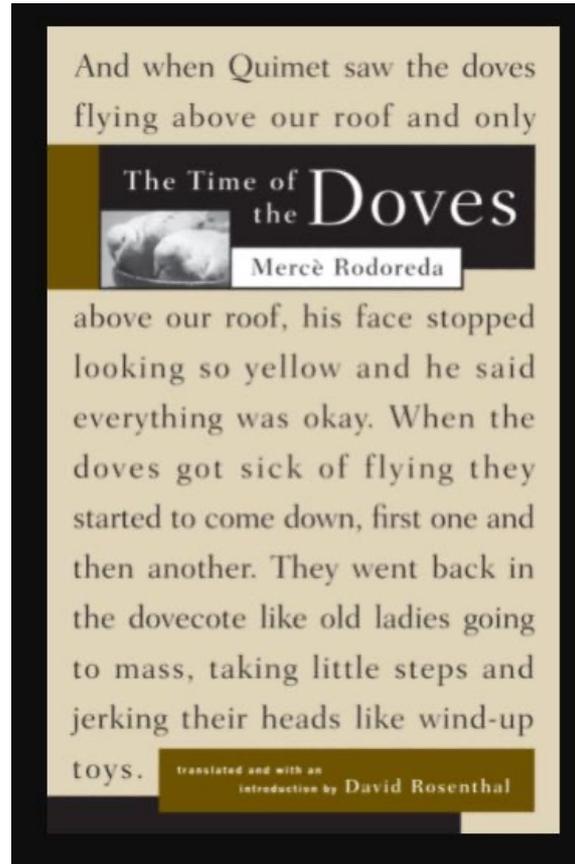
(1962-)



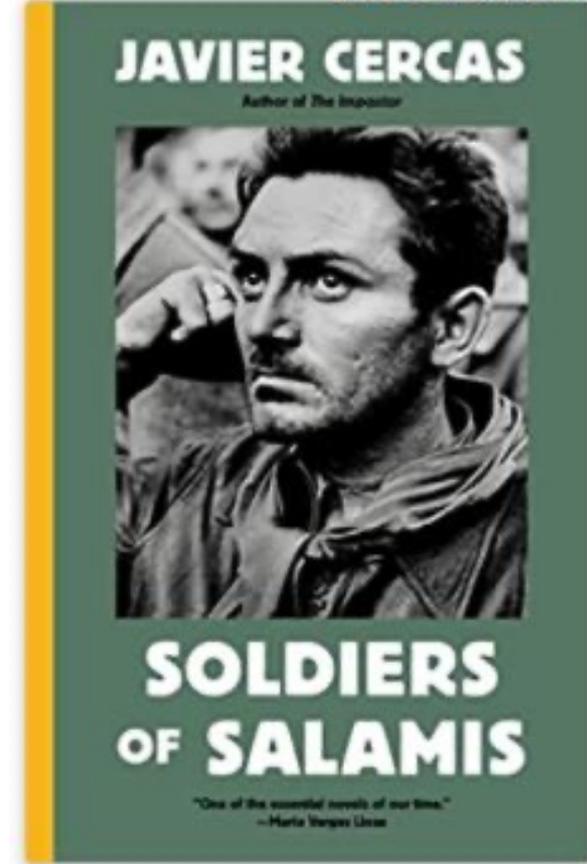
# RMST 202 Spanish Civil War Novels



1945



1962



2001

What motivated Javier Cercas to write *Soldiers of Salamis*?

In the end, did these motivations remain the same, or did they change?

# (His)Story and Perspective?

“That morning, extremely excited but exhausted, ... ” (194)

“Of all the stories in History, I thought” → (204?)

What motivated Javier Cercas to write *Soldiers of Salamis*?

In the end, did these motivations remain the same, or did they change?

What does Cercas say on the relationship between writing and life (or death, for that matter)?

# Historical Memory



- recognize and broaden the rights favoring those who suffered persecution or violence- for political, ideological, or religious reasons- during the Civil War and the Dictatorship
- promote moral reparation and the recovery of personal and family memory, and establish complementary measures destined to eliminate divisive elements between citizens
- promote cohesion and solidarity between different generations of Spaniards in relation to constitutional principles, values, and freedoms

**2000 – Association for the  
Recuperation of Historical Memory  
(ARHM)**

**2007 – Historical Memory Law**

CALLE  
DULCE CHACÓN

ANTIGUA CALLE  
GENERAL ORGAZ



La 'resistencia' segoviana a la Ley de Memoria Histórica | El Norte de Castilla

alde de Cantalejo, Máximo San Macario, supervisaba en 2016 la sustitución de las placas de calles con



1/6 - El Valle de los Caídos es un monumento funerario que fue construido por orden



[Franquismo: ¿Qué es el Valle de los Caídos? \(lavanguardia.com\)](http://lavanguardia.com)

“parallel secret” #1:

# Antonio and Manuel Machado



Antonio y Manuel Machado: dos hermanos unidos por la literatura y separados por la Guerra Civil.

[La ‘traición’ de Manuel a Antonio Machado: por qué nunca se perdonó pasarse al lado de Franco \(elespanol.com\)](http://elespanol.com)

“Parallel secret” #2:

# The soldier who saved Sánchez Mazas



<https://youtu.be/7qjYo2hSbUY>



[Spanish Civil War maps | NZHistory, New Zealand history online](http://www.nzhistory.net.nz)

# *Why Soldiers of Salamis?*

“That was how in July 1994...” (p. 14)

“A few more months passed...” (p.44)

“Before he left, Sanchez Mazas told us...” (81/2)

“the legend, proclaimed to the four winds by..”  
(151/2)

## Battle of Salamis

Part of the [Second Persian invasion of Greece](#)



A romantic style painting of the battle by artist [Wilhelm von Kaulbach](#)

<b>Date</b>	26 or 27 September, 480 BC <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Location</b>	Straits of Salamis  <a href="#">37°57'5"N 23°34'0"E</a>
<b>Result</b>	Greek victory
<b>Territorial changes</b>	Persia fails to conquer the Peloponnese

[Battle of Salamis - Wikipedia](#)

Bonus...

What is a hero? What does this novel say about heroes? Do we have a hero in this novel?