

NOVEMBER BOOK REVIEWS

STILL MIDNIGHT by **DENISE MINA**. (*Orion Paperback 2010*). In this book we are introduced to DS Alex Morrow, a no-nonsense, ambitious Glaswegian police officer as she strives to solve the baffling attack of a Uganda Asian family in their own home. The demand is two million pounds and as security the armed men take a hostage. Not the greatest of planned attacks, lots of intrigue as we get to know the blundering attackers, the family members involved and start to like DS Morrow as her family secrets materialize after years of striving to stop them being uncovered. Her life has also been blighted with a recent tragedy and her struggle to come to terms with it are woven sensitively within the book. An excellent read.

UPFRONT & PERSONAL by **COLEEN NOLAN** (*Pan Books, paperback 2009*). I always find it surprising that celebrities are keen to bare all to the members of the public. Having already read, Shane Ritchie, her ex-husband's book I had an insight into what to expect. She tells a very moving story regarding her parents and her upbringing, full of music, which she shared with her brothers and sisters – there are 8 of them all together with Coleen being the youngest. It wasn't all music and laughter and Coleen meets the tragic and the drama head on as she recalls her life. There were many ups and downs, especially at the break up of her marriage and her indecisiveness, not to mention low esteem. She battles back, meets the love of her life and then encounters more obstacles. On a happier side her love for her children comes over in abundance, although I am not sure what the two boys will think of this very honest and explicit account of her life. We leave the book as she is about to go on tour with three of her sisters – a very exciting time if not a little marred due to a few fall outs with her other sisters. All in all a good read.

G IS FOR GUMSHOE by **SUE GRAFTON** (*Macmillan Books 1990*), Yes, I am still reading my way through the alphabet of books that introduced us to Private detective, Kinsey Millhone. I was hooked in again after the first chapter and couldn't put it down. There are two stories between these pages. First of all someone is trying to kill her and she is working to find a missing elderly mother. I had no idea where the story was going and was mildly surprised as the story unfolded. I was pleased to read her home was completed after the bomb had destroyed it in an earlier book and that there was a new love interest in her life. With every book the story-lines get better and I am really enjoying following this author.

LOST LIGHT by **MICHAEL CONNELLY** (*Orion Books 2003*). Well it has certainly been my month for mystery and thrillers. Always a good read as I love the character Bosch. In this book we find him returning to LAPD but in a different role, he has been asked to look at old files. His first case is of a film production assistant murdered 4 years earlier. It was during a robbery of \$2 million dollars on a movie set. Bosch had taken the file when he left LAPD but is now happy to solve the puzzle. LAPD think the money was used to finance a terrorist training camp and Bosch finds himself, once again, up against old colleagues and the FBI when it seems the killer will be set free to help them with their terrorist hunt. Compelling reading.