

BOOK REVIEWS – August 2019

The Mother-in-Law by Sally Hepworth. (***Published by Hodden & Stoughton, April 2019***).

Quite the family book with all the intricacies you would expect from a book with this title! The story is told by both Diana, the mother-in-law and Lucy, her daughter-in-law. Diana is definitely the prominent person in this family which consists of her husband Tom, Ollie, her son who is married to Lucy and daughter Nettie who is married to Patrick. We discover Diana has a history, which possibly makes her the way she is, but although complex and puzzling at times regarding the petty things she gets up to, all is explained by Diana very innocently with her intentions harmless! Diana comes over a cold and distant person towards her family but, in contrast, she runs a charity for pregnant refugees and nothing is too much bother regarding her work for this charity. Lucy on the other hand struggles to cope, along with husband Ollie, with their failing business whilst trying to raise three children. This book is not a thriller as suggested although it does look into a death, but that would be a spoiler alert, and I don't want to do that. It is worth a read I enjoyed it. **Recommended.**

Mack The Life by Lee Mack. (***Published by Transworld Digital, September 2012***).

This is a cheerful book with plenty of funny anecdotes, one-liners and funny asides from the BAFTA winning comedian Lee Mack. As well as being a stand up comedian he writes and stars in the popular sitcom *Not Going Out*, is a team captain on *Would I lie to you*, and regularly appears on *Have I got news for you*, *Live at the Apollo and QI*. A successful man I would say. But, in this autobiography we read all about the amount of hard work and hours of dedication that he puts into his work as a comedian to show himself a true professional. I was amazed as I didn't realise this! I thought being funny came naturally and you just turned up and made your audience laugh. Not true. I found the behind the scenes and everything that goes into making a good show very interesting. What also amazed me, as I wasn't expecting it, was the chat's in the Psychiatrist's office! He states that the visits are genuine, taken directly from recordings of actual conversations, but as he is a funny comedian.....need I say more? **A good read.**