



No Such Thing As Over-Exposure: Inside the Life And Celebrity Of Donald Trump by Robert Slater (Prentice Hall) R199

# Donald's Trumping time

*No Such Thing As Over-Exposure: Inside The Life And Celebrity Of Donald Trump* is a Trump-fest. So if you love Donald Trump, if you're enamoured by his ego, if you're impressed by his gilt-edged multistoreys and stories, if his bouffant fills you with warm fuzzies, and if the words "You're fired!" lift your forearm hairs – read it now.

But if you don't want to know who wins *The Apprentice II* (which has yet to grace South Africa's reality-saturated screens), don't venture near the last chapter.

Robert Slater's book is no bounty of beautifully-expressed prose, no literary masterpiece. It's a rave review of Trump, written by

a biographer who writes like a Wall Street journal – hastily.

Still, *No Such Thing* is an in-depth, behind-closed-doors look at The (charismatic and complex) Donald. It tells of his flights of fancy and flip-flops of failure. It unpacks his wild motivations and unearthly his weird methodologies.

Covering Trump's upbringing (fascinating), his education (unexpected), his entrepreneurship (bummy but brave), his idiosyncrasies (extensive) and his celebrity (well-deserved), this enlightening read has the bonus that it's possibly the only Trump memoir not penned by Trump himself.

Tiffany Markman  
www.itsallwrite.net



Mind Maps for Kids by Tony Buzan (HarperCollins) R138

# Too dark – with no light in sight

THIS is the first in a new series by Scotland's top new female crime writer, Denise Mina.

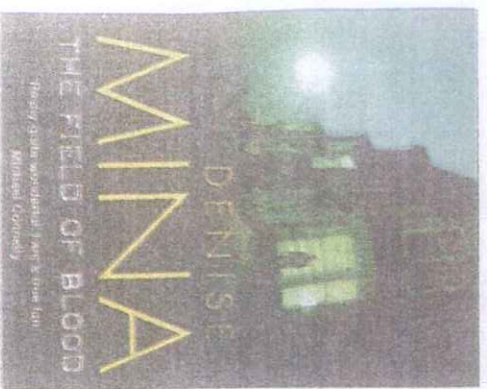
Glasgow, 1981. The body of a four-year-old boy is found tortured

and battered to death. The police find out that two eleven-year-old boys are the culprits.

Paddy (Patricia) Meehan has started work on the *Scottish Daily News*. She wants to be an independent investigative journalist. But all around her is the pressure to conform. Her colleagues and family want her to get married to her fiancé, Sean, and have children.

Paddy discovers that one of the boys charged with the child's murder is Sean's cousin, Callum. Callum's name is "News" and her family blame her. Shunned by those closest to her, Paddy is alone. I don't like Mina's Dickensian style of portraying society. I don't like the darkness of her characters' lives and surroundings – she doesn't have the writing skills to lighten the atmosphere. I didn't like her first series and this one's not for me, either.

Amanda Paterson  
www.itsallwrite.net



The Field of Blood by Denise Mina (Bantam Press) R150

# Choices that create miracles

*INVISIBLE Acts of Power* is the newest book from the renowned pioneer of energy medicine, Caroline Myss. She is also the author of *Anatomy of the Spirit* and *Sacred Contracts*.

*Invisible Acts of Power* is as deeply profound as her other titles. Myss here explains how we become channels for divine grace and vessels for miracles through kind and generous actions. Or as she calls them: "Invisible acts of power".

Myss says that, when we act compassionately, without an agenda or expectation of reward, God works unseen, anonymously through us.

And, as we move from visible acts, such as giving a friend a helping hand, to invisible acts, such as prayer and healing, we undergo a profound journey of self empowerment.

*Invisible Acts of Power* will make you think differently. And, instead of asking "Why me, Lord?" this book will help you to learn

that all problems present an opportunity for spiritual learning.

Erika van Zyl



Invisible Acts of Power by Caroline Myss (Simon and Schuster) R143

# Kids' friendly mind maps



Mind Maps for Kids by Tony Buzan (HarperCollins) R138

IF I didn't know better, I'd think Tony Buzan was a kid himself. He doesn't write for kids; he speaks to them – with great respect.

None of that dreary, patronising stuff fed to little minds by big egos. Buzan's *Mind Maps for Kids* is an innovative introduction to mind mapping for the youthful uninitiated. Containing easy digestible tips for increasing motivation, enhancing memory and concentration, absorbing facts and figures and improving results, it's a user-friendly delight.

As an educational writer, I know how tricky it is to enlighten kids without boring them to tears. Buzan uses clever gimmicks to circumvent this.

*Mind Maps* has only two drawbacks. One is the target audience. The book is "savable for ages 7-14", but it would work better for readers between 10 and 16. Particularity in the South African context. The other downside is the quality of the mind maps used as examples. They're too "good". Too professional. And this could irritate first-time mind mappers. But, on the whole, a superb book.

Tiffany Markman  
www.itsallwrite.net

TIMOL: A Quest for Justice by Imtiaz Cajee (STE Publishers) R135

THERE is a fine line between political biographies and boredom. *Timol – A Quest for Justice* is about political activist Ahmed Timol, who plunged to his death from the 10th story of the notorious John Vorster Square. It touches on the subject of "defenestration", the act of being dangled (and sometimes) dropped from a window, and probes the circumstances surrounding Timol's death.

It's written by a doing nephew who wanted "if not... retribution, at least to put right some... sense of a wrong committed against my uncle, my family, my country." The book is interesting, but heavy going. Alison Marshall



Zigby and the Monster by Brian Paterson (Harper Collins Children's Books) R74.95

FOR Zigby, the Zebra, every day is the start of a brand new adventure. When his little cousin, Zara, says she has seen a scary monster, he can't wait to go hunting in the



But who could the monster be? Join Zigby in his search for the monster in this brightly illustrated book which promises not to disappoint. Julia Paterson

# At a glance

ALICE Munro has a way with words – and although I don't profess to always understand what she is getting at, her words flow so beautifully.

Runaway by Alice Munro (Chato & Windus) R215

A COUPLE fall in love with an old house for different reasons. He wants it as a possession to show off and she wants it because the house brings back memories. A successful New York stockbroker and failed poet – the two are on a collision course.



*Runaway* is a collection of stories that become one narrative. At the heart of each story is life and her characters are powerful beings, portrayed realistically, ever present, and with each turn of the page, one realises how precious life is – sadness, heartache and tears included. Liesl Venter

The Good Neighbour by William Kowalski (Random House) R150



All the main characters are a bit kinky. Well written, but unconvincing, the book leaves you with a sense of uncertainty. Halfway through, the characters become normal and the damage to their lives is partly restored. This is a "nice" book with a half happy ending. But it's no great shakes. Dries Brant