



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For all of us, madness lies just beneath the everyday...

This summer's intriguing must-read is a first novel that documents devotion, decline and delusion.

The precarious nature of our lives, especially as we enter our twilight years, is examined and dissected in **Devoted Sisters**, the first novel from new author **Alison Buck**, due to be published in the UK on **11th May 2006** by **Alnpete Press**.

This month a new voice in British fiction is published for the first time by Alnpete Press. Alison Buck's first novel, *Devoted Sisters*, is a study of decline; the slide into confusion and unreality of two elderly sisters. Living together in the house in which they were born, their precarious, yet reassuringly unchanging routine is shattered by the sudden and threatening intrusion into their lives of a stranger. His arrival marks the beginning of the end for the sisters and, as their mutual bonds of duty and love begin to unravel, their drift from reality to delusion is hastened by their regrets for opportunities lost long ago and the re-emergence of guilt for past, forgotten wrongs. But theirs is not an account of unrelieved darkness and despair: recollections of earlier, happier times lighten the sisters' story, while the author turns a questioning eye on the devotion that has underlain their shared lifetime of interdependence.

Alison Buck is an exciting and strong new voice in modern fiction. Although her stories feature powerful insights and express a female perspective on important issues and concerns they successfully speak to readers of all genders, ages and beliefs. Hers are dark, psychological dramas, mixed with wit and delivered with a light touch, that make you care about the hopes and dreams of her characters.

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Notes for Editors

About the book: *Devoted Sisters* by Alison Buck

Elderly sisters Lizzie and May live quiet, ordered lives in the house in which they were born; their self-imposed seclusion and the unchanging predictability of their lives shielding them from the changing world beyond.

But the day comes when this protective isolation is broken; the world outside forces its way in. A stranger appears, unsettling them, bringing with him the threat of danger, upheaval and violence.

Fearful and alone, with all semblance of comforting routine wrenched from them, Lizzie and May are driven to desperation. Dark memories emerge from their buried past as the sisters gradually slip from reason into their own confused realities, within which even their former carefully regulated world seems only a distant memory.

Publisher: Alnpete Press

ISBN: 0955220610

Paperback 224pp

£9.99

Publication date: 11 May 2006

Available from bookstores and online retailers

About the author: Alison Buck

Throughout a science-biased education and subsequent years employed in graphic design and web site development, Alison Buck has all the while been scribbling away, committing her stories to disc. Although, as a rule, she concerns herself with apparently quite normal, everyday characters, populating what appear to be quite normal and everyday surroundings, the events and dangers they encounter are rarely commonplace; Alison's can be very dark, unsettling tales.

However, while the origin of these often menacing undercurrents in her stories is unclear, Alison assures us that it is completely at odds with the happy and relatively menace-free family life she enjoys with her husband, son and daughter in Kent.

About the publisher: Alnpete Press

Alnpete Press is a new independent publisher. Established towards the end of 2005 with the express purpose of providing a channel for independent voices and an opportunity for independent thinkers to have access to those new voices. Alnpete Press have already signed two exciting new authors and has brought their work to market this year. *Devoted Sisters* is their second title.

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Excerpt and cover image available on the website www.devotedsisters.co.uk

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