



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New author's first novel set to re-ignite interest in Vatican secrets High-tech crime mystery set in Vatican Library Secret Archives

In the wake of recent renewed and widespread fascination with the Vatican, conclaves, the Curia, supposed secret societies and perennial conspiracy theories, a new mystery novel is set to re-ignite interest in the Roman Catholic Church. Set in the world of the Secret Archives of the Vatican Library, the latest technology is used to combat a modern conspiracy, while a manuscript recording an ancient conspiracy acts as a trigger for a timeless conflict. This is the world into which security consultant Peter White is dragged in **Library of the Soul**, the first novel from new author **Simon Buck**, due to be published in the UK on **27th February 2006** by **Alnpete Press**.

This month a new voice in British fiction is published for the first time by Alnpete Press. Simon Buck's first novel, *Library of the Soul*, is a crime mystery that introduces an unusual protagonist, Peter White. Peter is a high-tech security specialist who works as a board-level consultant to international banks and other large corporations, employing cutting edge technology to deter, detect and defend against criminals. Alongside ultra-modern technology, Peter displays charm, intelligence and finely-honed culinary skills. In the Peter White mysteries, readers won't be subjected to street language, gratuitous expletives or excessive violence. On the contrary, Peter is thoughtful, articulate, gallant, a gentleman.

Simon Buck eschews the formulaic style of many English and American crime writers who document the inevitable blood-spattered trail leading to the hero's unlikely victory. Instead he adopts a European, or even Italian, approach producing thoughtful and intelligent mysteries that draw you inside the minds of the characters, while calling on his own experience to make the high-tech components credible.

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Notes for Editors

About the book: *Library of the Soul - a Peter White mystery* by Simon Buck

For years the CIA have been using a poison designed to cause a heart attack and then disperse without a trace. Now a batch has gone missing.

On a visit to Rome, Peter White is recruited by his old friend Costanza into the oldest secret society in the world, in order to help her solve an urgent problem. Cardinals and other clerics around the world are dying of unexpected heart attacks. Police authorities are not interested as there is no evidence of foul play. But Costanza believes someone is using electronic cash and a betting website to fund and coordinate a campaign of murders that will ultimately lead to the assassination of the Pope. She and Peter must track down the killer before any more people die. Using the world's largest supercomputer, deep in the Secret Archives beneath the Vatican Library, they lay an electronic trap and wait. But when the Library itself becomes the target of an audacious plot to steal a 2000 year old manuscript, the problem suddenly becomes much more personal.

Publisher: Alnpete Press

ISBN: 0955220602

Paperback 312pp

£9.99

Publication date: 27 February 2006

Available from bookstores and online retailers

About the author: Simon Buck

Simon Buck has been a consultant for many years to blue chip companies including banks, retailers and telecom service providers. He has been widely published in the fields of Internet security, electronic commerce and data communications. This, his first published novel, is one of a series of Peter White mysteries. He was born and brought up in Kent by an Italian mother and English father. He still lives in a village in the Garden of England with his wife and two teenage children.

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 will be bringing their work to market this year. *Library of the Soul* is their first title.

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

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