



Transcript



Arts, Literature and Music

A Good Read - 03

**Truth or Bare, by Richard Cahill (Kunati Books)
Robert Rungkat, Salisbury Library Service**

Broadcast Monday 12 May 2008 at 8.30pm

Repeated Friday 16 May 2008 at 9am

Staff from the Salisbury Library Service, preparing for their contributions to A Good Read

Crime, Thriller, Murder and Mystery, why is that people love reading about it, being absorbed by the lurid and expose of the underworld as well as watching those ghastly and awful commercial revamped plots which are so badly done spins offs of the original mid Twentieth Century (1940-50's) television shows and black white thriller movies I can remember watching when I was a boy. They have again been given a **THIRD** chance in these ultra modern digital made format blood and guts programs, even more gruesome so that it will look better on our fantastic 100cm plasma set top boxes of our- *its all wrapped up in 1 hour* and solved programs -in this modern world today.

Media hype and Cinema, as well as the DVD mean scene can give us all in the general public what the young people call 'gay and cool' and 'hip' rather strange words that were totally opposite of when I was their age, but its their world today and we at Salisbury library I work in have to make it the best we can to give them in all areas from literature, DVD's, CD's CDROM's and the INTERNET. However the world of the written word is still the most important and this is where a child, or youth, and an adult are still absorbed by a collection of material that you will always find in this world of the Public Library or Information Media Centre as others have been known to be called today.

The Author I have chosen is Richard Cahill, and his work is a novel called 'Truth or Bare'. He isn't someone that is 'new', but has not yet been seen in the top ten Crime and Mystery charts that you will normally find in the *line of fire* or associated with, Patterson, Cornwell, Temple, Smith, Carey, Winton and Christie, as well as others whom we can go on and on and fill up this program with.

This fellow has finally broken the barrier as with his first time *full book novel*, as having previously in the past written short stories for a local newspaper column in the USA. He understands where the format lies in writing this crime and mystery book, and it shows how to grab the attention of not only just we the general public, but that of those whom are the elite critics in the multi media worldwide and in this country as well. This is due to his first hand knowledge of having being exposed to this form of the reality side of the 'underbelly' life of sleazy bars, bouncers and nightlife, gangsters and crims, hotshot lawyers alike.

Cahill certainly knows what they go through when being brass knuckled, as well as in the area of the *fall guy* and meeting these smoking gun millionaires and 'rats' on the run, whom he writes about in this FICTION expose, but was once living in this world being employed as a bouncer and

in security in these venues of darkness and red lights, and we are seeing this when being showing the scenes against his main character a straight San Diego Lawyer, who seems so cool, and charming in a way we wouldn't expect. He has been asked to take on the case of club dancer who **admits** to killing her lesbian partner and is reluctant to take it on.

Why you ask? That is where you must find out yourselves and look at it for the answer. This is as actually a dark funny piece of writing and lets us look first hand at what life is really like through the eyes of this man Ted 'Speed' McKeon. Ted hates lawyers and his nickname being 'Speed' has nothing to do with drugs, it's due to the fact he was bumbling and slow when he was a runner on a track team in his days at college.

The dialogue, banter and phonetic use of language of some of the unsightly characters he has to be up against that we all love to imagine and associate within this gangland style of the *Untouchable* side of the crim business makes you chomp at the bit for more.

It shows as well all the sweetness of the fish net stocking side of life, perfume and lipstick, and silks, with the ladies that *Speed* would like to see either locked up for life, but still has one or two beauties whose charms and wit are irresistible to him and ditto he to them as they are wanting to be out of this world of vice.

What actually is funny about this piece of literature, is that its not just the American and Canadian writers that seem to have some kind of an affiliation or see this through their eyes only, a character to be the 'eyes' of either the Mickey Spillane personality or a broken down lawyer it's also the same with British, and Australian as well as the French and Italian crime writers.

However they only seem to be lawyers or solicitors, as we commonly know them here in Australia, and certainly not a QC or barristers, heck no, lawyers seem to always have an image in these dark novels, to be either rundown, divorcees, as well as whisky absorbing and cigar puffing drunks, associated with the dark side of the fence, or have some kind of weakness with the opposite sex that they cant shake off, but that's where the success of these new born writers and what new age writing is all about and that's why we love their books!

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