**William Shaw**

William Shaw’s sixth novel, *Salt Lane*, launches a new contemporary series featuring DI Alex Cupidi. Cupidi’s first appearance was in Shaw’s acclaimed standalone *The Birdwatcher*, set in Kent and Northern Ireland. Longlisted for the Theakston’s Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year, it was hailed as “a contender for thriller of the year” by *The Sun*. His books have also been nominated for a Barry Award, and the CWA Historical Dagger.

*The New York Times* has called William Shaw’s Breen and Tozer series of detective books set in late sixties London “an elegy for an entire alienated generation.” Set against the cultural and political revolution of the times, the series launched with *A Song from Dead Lips*, picked by *Time Out* as one of the best crime books of 2013; *The Daily Mail* hailed *A House of Knives* as “a distinctive British crime drama, which benefits from a clear moral sense”. *A Book of Scars*, was picked by *The Sunday Times* as their Crime Book of the Month, and subsequently as one of the picks of the year. On the release of the fourth in the series, *Sympathy for The Devil*, the *Daily Mail* said, ‘Shaw goes from strength to strength, while making it all seem effortless.’

Before becoming a crime writer, William Shaw was an award-winning music journalist and the author of several non-fiction books including *Westsiders: Stories of the Boys in the Hood*, about a year spent with the young men of South Central Los Angeles, and *A Superhero For Hire*, a compilation of columns in *The Observer Magazine*.

Starting out as assistant editor of the post-punk magazine *ZigZag*, he has been a journalist for *The Observer, The New York Times, Wired, Arena* and *The Fac*e and was Amazon UK Music Journalist of the Year in 2003.

**More information:**

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