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Shades of Blue The Life of a Manchester City Legend and the Story that Shook Football

David White and Joanne Lake

Keynote

The life of a Manchester City legend and the story that shook football.

Description

The life of a Manchester City legend and the story that shook football.

David White was born in Manchester in 1967 with football flowing in his veins. Driven by his football-mad dad, David's prodigious talent was spotted early and he soon signed coveted schoolboy forms for Manchester City, the team that he'd supported since boyhood. A meteoric rise through the club's ranks led to his first-team debut at the age of eighteen, and he continued to light up Maine Road's right wing for the next eight years. It was a career that would take him to the heights of playing for his country.

But David's performance on the pitch was frequently blighted by a lack of confidence and consistency, traits that baffled his fans and family. Only David knew the real reason behind his struggles. Only David knew who had shot his confidence to pieces. Only David knew that, aged just eleven, he had been sexually abused by his football coach, Barry Bennell.

Shades of Blue tells the story of David's extraordinary life: his passion for football, the drama of his games and his fight to outrun the shadow of that early abuse. Having spent years feeling that he had to conceal his secret in order to protect his father and his football career, it is only now that David has felt able to give a full and honest account of his life – one with a powerful message that aims to repair the damage at the very heart of the sport.

Sales Points

- David White is a former professional footballer, who played for Manchester City from 1985 to 1993
- Both David White and Joanne Lake will be available to discuss *Shades of Blue*. David is particularly keen to raise awareness of abuse-related issues within the world of football.
- Like genre-defining titles before it, such as *A Life Too Short*, *Beware of the Dog*, and indeed *I'm Not Really Here*, this is a book will appeal to fans of football and non-fans alike
- Includes a 16pp colour plate section

Reviews

- 'A must-read for all football fans, another timely reminder of the humanity, and hence the human vulnerability, of our football stars' - *Manchester Evening News*

Author Biography

David White (Author)

David White was born on 30 October 1967 in Manchester, England. A former professional footballer, he played as a forward from 1986 to 1997. He is best remembered for his eight-year spell at Manchester City. He also played for Leeds and Sheffield United, and was capped once by England.

Joanne Lake (Author)

Joanne Lake is the co-author of *I'm Not Really Here* – the bittersweet story of ex-Manchester City footballer Paul Lake – which became a *Sunday Times* bestseller and was voted FourFourTwo's Football Book of the Year. She has recently collaborated with ex-World Cup referee Howard Webb on his memoir, *The Man in the Middle*, which has been long-listed for Sports Autobiography of the Year in the 2017 Cross Sports Book Awards.