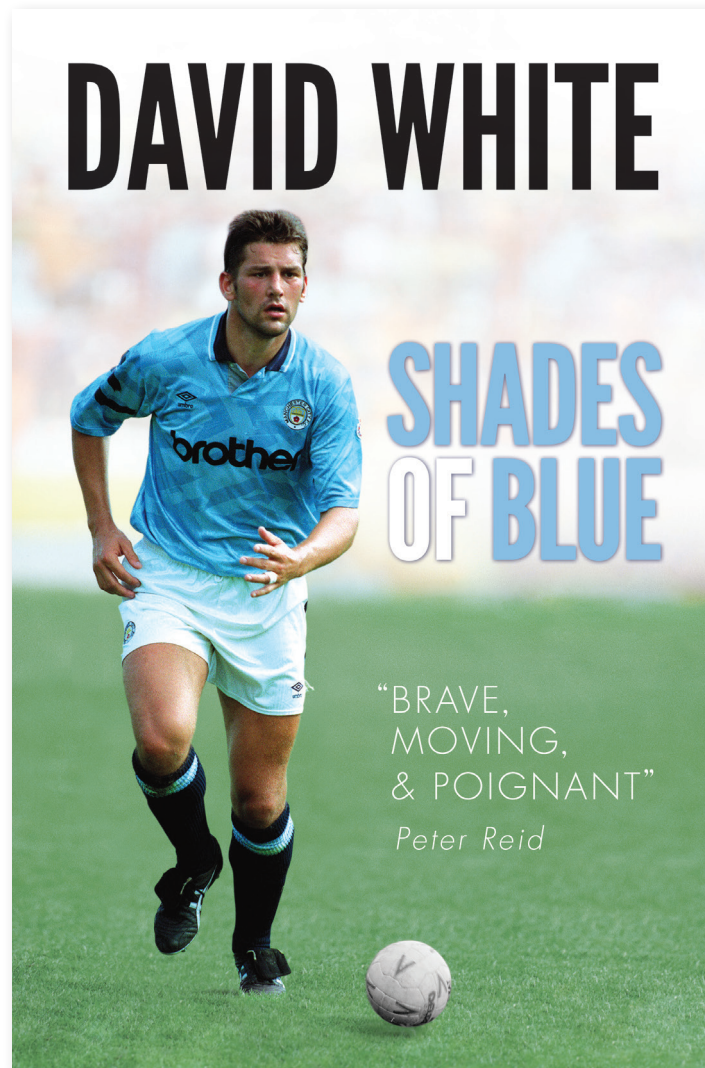


UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL PUBLICATION,
PUBLISHED ON 2ND FEBRUARY 2017

This is the extraordinary memoir of David White,
a Manchester City football legend whose story
became headline news in November 2016

SHADES OF BLUE

BY DAVID WHITE AND JOANNE LAKE



Hardback, £18.99, Michael O'Mara Books , Includes a 16 page colour plate section

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SHADES OF BLUE

BY DAVID WHITE AND JOANNE LAKE

David White's prodigious footballing talent was spotted early and, in 1981, he signed schoolboy forms for Manchester City, the team that he'd supported since childhood. A meteoric rise through the club's ranks led to his senior debut at the age of eighteen, and he continued to light up Maine Road's right wing for another seven years. It was a career that would subsequently take him to Leeds United and Sheffield United and would also lead to a coveted international cap.

Sadly, David's football journey would be blighted by a lack of self-belief and consistency, traits that baffled his fans and family. Only David knew the real reason behind his erratic form. Only David knew who had shot his confidence to pieces. Only David knew that, aged just eleven, he had been sexually abused by his former football coach.

Shades of Blue uncovers the lasting impact of that abuse, revealing the shocking chain of events that left a young boy feeling bewildered, betrayed and traumatized. This memoir will also explain why David was unable and unwilling to open up to his family or his club, petrified that the fallout would destroy his father and ruin his football career. It will also outline how David summoned the strength to face his demons and disclose the heartbreak of the past, and how he finally began to rebuild his life and look forward to the future.

By writing about his extraordinary career in top-flight football, and by describing his fight to outrun the shadow of abuse, this book has given David the opportunity to tell his compelling story in his own words.

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, a topic that, for the last few months, has dominated much of the news and sport agenda.

DAVID WHITE was born in Manchester on 30 October 1967 and is a former professional footballer. A speedy right winger, he is best remembered for his eight-year spell at Manchester City for whom he made over 300 appearances and scored 96 goals. David subsequently played for Leeds United and Sheffield United and, in 1992, received an international cap for England.

JOANNE LAKE is the co-author of *Shades of Blue*. Her first book, *I'm Not Really Here* - the bittersweet story of ex-Manchester City footballer Paul Lake - became a *Sunday Times* best seller 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.

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