

# Reviews

BRIGHTON  
MAGAZINE

Latest 7 reports on what's new in the literary world

## Bad Boy

Stephen Gray

(Book Guild Publishers £16.99) ★★★★★

From the first page this book grabs you and drags you into the lives of Michael and Mac. As childhood friends they were always getting into and helping each other out of trouble. They eventually make their way into the elitist club and just can't stop themselves from climbing further and further up the ladder of success. Faced with many trials and tribulations that could potentially rip them apart, they battle against all pushing for the top.

The author, who is the most prolific inventor of financial products ever, writes from first-hand experience, which add to its appeal and makes it all the more intriguing. Lies, greed and treachery all play a part in making this book one of a kind that's not to be missed.

Dani Winch



## The Romance

Jason Shelley

(Tián Books Publishing £8.99) ★★★★★

Deliberate spelling mistakes, offensive language (so says my editor). Sentences that aren't grammatically correct. Welcome to the world of what one might politely call avant-garde writing.

Either this is art? Or "This isn't much. This is something people will not want to read. The absolute complete BS. Someone ranting on about complete BS." (That's a quote from the first page, by the way.)

I'm all up for experimental writing styles but after reading Shelley's book, I was left only disappointed, feeling suspiciously as if I'd been robbed of any of the depth one might hope to find behind the book's shock value.

Some of the pictures were nice, mind you. But then, 29 pages for £8.99? You'd be better off spending it on a trip to the Tate.



Katie Glass

## Being Luis: A Chilean Life

Luis Muñoz

(Impress Books £11.99) ★★★★★

One of the few survivors of Pinochet's torture machine, Luis Muñoz has written a powerful account of his life in Chile. *Being Luis* is a story of love, life, death and survival, recounting Chilean history from the 1960s to the present through the experiences of the author.

I was struck from the start with the realisation that the book forms a complete picture of Luis' life, with detailed attention paid to all the characters that helped shape his world: his family, friends and particularly the women he loved and admired.

This is an incredibly honest book; the tales of horrific torture that the author endured are told with no need for embellishment. But the stories are far from gratuitous, they are told within the framework of Luis himself, how it affected him and what it all meant to him.

A heartfelt and fascinating read, which comes highly recommended.

Jania Sansom



A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE  
graphic novel



CHEEP  
BOOK  
SHOP

15 Sydney St

Northaine  
Brighton



ALL BOOKS NEW & ONLY £1, £2 or £3

# Barcode

Latest 7 settles nicely into the embrace of The Prestonville Arms

Now this is a real local. The lucky residents of the Prestonville area of the Seven Dials really can nip down the road and find its open arms welcome, wide and warm. No need to hunt around or just make do as gimmicks, mod-cons and membership are not included and, as you will discover, totally unnecessary.

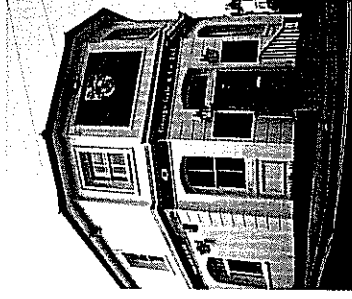
You only have to walk through the door to embrace the atmosphere of genuinely happy punters of all walks and ages enjoying another evening in their favourite pub. So what tricks does it have up its sleeve? None, it doesn't need any. Now that's not to say it

doesn't provide a good range of beverages. It does, including an impressive range of ales and fruit wines. Or decent food. When the sign says 'good food' here, it means it. Just check out the menu – it's a pretty tasty affair of home-cooked dishes made with locally sourced ingredients and at quite un-astronomical prices. Or entertainment. As well as making your own – conversation is key here – there's a general knowledge quiz on Sundays and, for you music maestros, a pop quiz on Tuesdays. Or comfort. There are plenty of cosy corners and couches, a table for two and an intimate chat, or a table for too many, a few pints and laughs.

It is the haven you seek after work, it's a place you'll find friends, it's the heart and soul of its community. And the fact it has remained so, avoiding the 'contemporary chic' look or whatever that is, is testament to that age-old philosophy: if it ain't broke... You come here and get the real thing: real ale, real people, real good.

The Prestonville Arms, Hamilton Road, Brighton, 01273 701007

Frannie Twinn



# HEIST

57 West Street, Brighton, 01273 822555 www.heistbar.com

