



BOOKS IN A BAG

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THE PIT

AUTHOR: Peter Papathanasiou

ABOUT THE BOOK

With DS Manolis on leave in Greece, Senior Constable Sparrow receives a phone call from a man who wants to turn himself in.

Bob is sixty-five years old, confined to a Perth nursing home. But thirty years ago, he killed a man in the remote northern Kimberley mining region. He offers to show Sparrow where the body is, but there's a catch: Sparrow must travel north with him under the guise of being his carer.

They are accompanied on the drive by another nursing home resident: Luke, thirty years old, paralysed in a motorbike accident. As they embark on their road trip through the guts of Western Australia, pursued by outback police and adrenaline-soaked miners, Sparrow begins to suspect that Bob's desire to head north may have sinister motivations. Is Luke being held against his will? And what lies in store for them when they reach their goal?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter Papathanasiou was born in northern Greece and adopted as a baby to an Australian family. His writing has been published internationally by The New York Times, Guardian, Sydney Morning Herald, The Age, The Canberra Times, Daily Telegraph, The ABC, SBS, Huffington Post. He also holds an MA in Creative Writing from City University, London, and a PhD in Biomedical Sciences from the Australian National University. His first book, a memoir *Son of Mine* was published in 2019 by Salt.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. This book is the third in the DS George Manolis series. Did you feel this worked as a standalone novel? Do you think you would read other novels in this series?
2. What was your least favourite part of the book?
3. How do you feel the author's experiences of Western Australia informed his writing? Does it feel more "authentic", or do you think it has had a negative influence?
4. Did you race to the end, or was it more of a slow burn?
5. Did you anticipate the final twist in the novel? What foreshadowing of the ending did you pick up on?
6. If you could ask the author anything, what would it be?
7. Luke has been described as a vile character while Bob is considered quite sympathetic. In what way do you agree or disagree with these comments?
8. Which scene has stuck with you the most?
9. A reviewer has described this book as "more social commentary than crime fiction"? What are your opinions on that sentiment?
10. Are there lingering questions from the book you're still thinking about?

