

***Britain's sharpest Detective Superintendent Roy Grace,
returns in Peter James's most thrilling and ambitious novel yet.***

DEAD LIKE YOU

By Peter James

'Peter James has established a series that is taking over from Ian Rankin in sales...'
Mark Lawson on *Front Row*, Radio 4

"A superior thriller" *Literary Review* on 'Dead Tomorrow'

"One of the most fiendishly clever crime fiction plotters". *Daily Mail*

To be published by Macmillan in hardback 27th May at £18.99

Peter James will be appearing at the Hay Festival on Friday 4th June at 11.30

Praise for Peter James's previous Roy Grace novels:

"I couldn't put it down... even better than the first" *Independent*

"Another smashing thriller from the UK's most respected crime writer" *Daily Mirror*

"A terrific tale of greed, seduction and betrayal" *Daily Telegraph*

The new Roy Grace novel from the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Dead Tomorrow*

The Metropole Hotel, Brighton. After a heady New Year's Eve ball, a woman is brutally raped as she returns to her room. A week later, another woman is attacked. Both victims' shoes are taken by the offender . . . Detective Superintendent Roy Grace soon realises that these new cases bear remarkable similarities to an unsolved series of crimes in the city back in 1997. The perpetrator had been dubbed 'Shoe Man' and was believed to have raped five women before murdering his sixth victim and vanishing. Could this be a copycat, or has Shoe Man resurfaced?

When more women are assaulted, Grace becomes increasingly certain that they are dealing with the same man and that by delving back into the past - a time in which we see Grace and his missing wife Sandy still apparently happy together - he may find the key to unlocking the current mystery. Soon Grace and his team find themselves in a desperate race against the clock to identify and save the life of the new sixth victim...

This is the sixth in the Roy Grace series (previous titles in the series are *Dead Simple*, *Looking Good Dead*, *Not Dead Enough*, *Dead Man's Footsteps* and *Dead Tomorrow*). Detective Superintendent Grace is a modern police officer: a down-to-earth, dedicated professional. But he is forever haunted by the disappearance of his wife Sandy nine years previously. He uses every method available to investigate his cases and to trace Sandy's whereabouts, from high tech to old fashioned police slog, from forensics and pathology analysis, to, at times, mediums and clairvoyants

The buzzing city of Brighton, where Roy Grace is based, forms the backdrop to all his investigations. Behind the elegant regency façades and tacky seaside attractions lies a darker, seedier underbelly, inhabited by all forms of low life: drug dealers, crooks fencing stolen goods, premier league criminals and dropouts.

Research for 'Dead Like You'

Peter based *Dead Like You* on a case that became known as 'The Rotherham Shoe Man'. Between 1983 – 1986 over twenty women reported that they had been violently raped and their shoes taken. It turned out that the rapist was a 49 year old man, a pillar of the community, happily married with a good job and two children. When investigated police found 100 pairs of women's high quality shoes in his basement. He is now serving a life sentence.

Rape figures are chilling: According to the Home Office reports:

- 75% of women who are raped don't come forward
- 98% of murders are cleared up yet only 2% of rapes that are reported end up with convictions
- Familiar rape is far more prevalent than Stranger rape – almost all victims are raped by somebody they know.

Peter is now a member of the Sussex Police Rape Prevention Team and writing and producing a video for them for schools and You Tube that will warn teenage girls of the potential date rape situations they could find themselves in. He did a lot of research with Lifecentre, for further information on Lifecentre visit their website www.lifecentre.uk.com

About Peter James

PETER JAMES is one of the UK's most treasured crime and thriller novelists. His Roy Grace detective novels have sold *over one and a half million in the UK alone and five million worldwide in total*. The series is now translated into 33 languages. He has developed a close working relationship with the Sussex Police over many years, spending an average of one day a week with them and his writing reveals a unique insight into the reality of modern day police work. He has also carried out extensive research with police in Moscow, Munich, Paris, Melbourne, Sweden, New York and Romania, and regularly attends international police conferences to ensure he is at the cutting edge of investigative police work.



Peter, an established film producer and script writer, has produced numerous films, including *The Merchant Of Venice*, starring Al Pacino, Jeremy Irons and Joseph Fiennes. A TV adaptation of the Roy Grace series is currently in development, with Peter overseeing all aspects, including the scriptwriting. In 2009 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Brighton in recognition of his services to literature and the community.

Born and brought up in Brighton, Peter divides his time between his homes in Notting Hill, London and on the South Downs near Lewes in Sussex. Peter is available for interviews and features. Find out more about Peter James at www.panmacmillan.com and Peter's website www.peterjames.com and follow him on Twitter. <http://twitter.com/peterjamesuk>.

**Peter James is available for interview and will be doing a major tour of the UK.
For more information please contact Midas Public Relations:**

**Sophie Ransom on 020 7361 7874 or sophie.ransom@midaspr.co.uk
Claire Richman on 020 7361 7862 or claire.richman@midaspr.co.uk**