



The 7 Question Interview with Russel D. McLean

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Russel D McLean is the author of *The Good Son*, his debut crime novel, available in winter '08/'09 and published by Five Leaves Publications. His short stories have been published in a variety of markets including Alfred Hitchcock's *Mystery Magazine* and the 2007 anthology *Expletive Deleted*, where 'Pedro Paul' was singled out by *Publisher's Weekly* as "awesomely dark". He has previously run the highly regarded noir fiction ezine *Crime Scene Scotland*, and still reviews crime novels both in print and online. He lives in Dundee. Some of his novels are:

- *The Good Son*
- *The Lost Sister*

His official website can be accessed here: <http://www.russeldmclean.com>

The WritingRaw.com 7 Question Interview

Please let us know who you are and how we might know you:

I am a Scots crime writer, reviewer and general miscreant. You might know me from my short stories (one of which was beautifully described by *Publisher's Weekly* as "awesomely dark") or if you've read my noiresque debut novel, *THE GOOD SON* and its sequel *THE LOST SISTER*.

Any news you would like to share concerning upcoming projects:

THE GOOD SON is just about to hit Stateside, so I'm very excited about that. St Martin's have done a beautiful job with the book.

Thoughts concerning the current state of the literary world:

So many that they're hard to put down in the space I've been allotted here. Some days I'm frustrated by it all. Other days elated. But that's the beauty of this gig - it doesn't stagnate. Things are tough just now, but I have a feeling we'll push through.



Who is your favorite author and why?

James Ellroy.

Uncompromising. Unafraid. Uninhibited.

Truly original.

Have you written a book you love that you have not been able to publish?

Many. But then they weren't good enough. One should never rush the process of discovering your voice as a writer. Don't think you're going to be any good right out of the gate. Most of us aren't that talented (and yes, there are exceptions, but guys like Lee Child are hugely lucky to get their first novels picked up so fast). I admit when I started I had some grand ideas, but never the talent to follow them through. Maybe one day.

Do you have anything specific that you want to say to your readers?

Thank you. Thank you so much for all your support. Even those of you who don't like the swearing.

How do you feel about what WritingRaw.com and other literary sharing sites are attempting to do for new writers?

Anything that promotes and spreads the word on new writing is a fine thing in my book. I know its a thankless task (having edited an ezine for about five years), so I try and support zines and lit sites whenever I can.

WritingRaw.com would like to thank Russel D. McLean for taking the time out of his busy schedule for this interview.