

## “Death and Bright Water”

By James Mitchell

Of James Mitchell's Callan novels I had read only 'A Magnum for Schneider' and 'Russian Roulette'. With the astronomical prices being asked for a second hand copy of 'Death and Bright Water' I assumed I would never get to read it. I was delighted therefore when I heard that Ostara were to reprint it as part of their 'Top Notch Thrillers' line.

I couldn't wait to get my hands on it and I was not disappointed. I am happy to report it has everything for the Callan fan to savour - the quietly ironic Callan, the sadistic Meres, the creepy Snell, the dryly sinister Hunter (has to be Colonel Leslie) and the ever resourceful Lonely, who really comes into his own and even has Callan acting as his assistant at one point.

As usual in Callan's world our hero trusts no-one (and he is usually proved right). Setting part of the action on Crete seemed odd when I first heard about it but, remembering this was the early '70s when foreign travel for the average Brit was in its infancy, it works well. The gentle humour derived from Lonely's first taste of foreign travel provides a nice counterpoint to the violence and death that are never far from Callan's world.

I recommend it, unreservedly. James Mitchell at his best.

Dave Rice – July 2014

### Links to the book on Amazon

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Death-Bright-Water-James-Mitchell/dp/1909619116/ref=tmm\\_pap\\_title\\_popover?ie=UTF8&qid=1406272914&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Death-Bright-Water-James-Mitchell/dp/1909619116/ref=tmm_pap_title_popover?ie=UTF8&qid=1406272914&sr=1-1)

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Death-Bright-Water-James-Mitchell-ebook/dp/B00LH4HKP6/ref=tmm\\_kin\\_title\\_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1406272914&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Death-Bright-Water-James-Mitchell-ebook/dp/B00LH4HKP6/ref=tmm_kin_title_0?ie=UTF8&qid=1406272914&sr=1-1)