

[Get free] SPOTLIGHT (English Edition)

## SPOTLIGHT (English Edition)

Von Carole Bellacera

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**Von Carole Bellacera : SPOTLIGHT (English Edition)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised SPOTLIGHT (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Extraordinary Read!Von Karen L. SyedSpotlight takes us through the tormetned and bittersweet life of Devin O'Keefe as he escapes the violence of Northern Ireland, makes a life for himself, and finds love.Devin O'Keefe watches helplessly as his older brother is killed on Bloody Sunday in the name of peace. From here, Devin's life takes several twists and turns. His closest friend is injured in a freak accident and he discovers that the woman he loves has deceived him to extremes.Fonda Blayne has a dream. She has no intention of spending her life working for someone else, even if it is as a photographer for one of the hottest music magazines. Fonda has an eye for the very best and she intends to

put that to good use. Tragedy strikes her as well when her twin brother is killed in the line of duty. Things finally look up when Fonda is offered the chance of a lifetime. She is hired to do a photojournal of the hot rock and roller from Ireland. Devin O'Keefe makes it clear right off that she better stay out of his way, because his music will always come first. Neither Fonda or Devin are emotionally prepared for the attraction that consumes them. A bond is forged and the couple begin a life together, with plans to marry. But all is not so simple. Devin is already married and his wife is a member of the IRA. All hell breaks loose when the band's manager is arrested on charges of terrorism. Devin must face his most horrifying demon and prove to the world and the woman he truly loves that he is all he says he is. Devin and Fonda make a solid foundation for this novel of great importance and political realism. Carole Bellacera takes characters from one of the world's most misunderstood cultures and blends them dramatically with the equally tormented Americans of our own society. Superbly well-rounded cast. This beautiful and poignant tale of trauma and triumph is written with such style I found myself held captive with each word. SPOTLIGHT is an engrossing tale of horrifying proportion and bittersweet victory. Carole Bellacera has an impeccable talent as a story-teller with writing skills to match. Ms. Bellacera took me by the hand and led me through the life of one of today's finest heroes. I felt the pain, I cringed in disgust and I heard the very music that filled the pages of SPOTLIGHT. Conviction and determination set a stunning platform for a brilliant career for this writer. Not something I would normally read, I have to urge everyone to pick up this book. Every reader deserves this kind of book. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One of the Best Books of the Year! Von Maureen Wachsmith Carole Bellacera has done it again! She has followed her outstanding debut novel, BORDER CROSSINGS with a book that's as good, if not better. Wonderfully romantic and suspenseful, SPOTLIGHT is the story of American Fonda Blayne, a writer/photographer for an American rock magazine, Spotlight. She has been assigned to do a book on charismatic Irish rock star Devin O'Keefe who, despite growing up in Northern Ireland advocates peace instead of violence to deal with "The Troubles." However a woman from Devin's past is using him, without his knowledge, to further her cause which includes bombings and other violent acts. As Devin and Fonda's relationship escalates from a professional to a personal level, can Devin tell Fonda the truth about this woman from his past and still hold on to her love? This is an outstanding book from its haunting prologue to its exciting conclusion. I absolutely could NOT put it down and was up until 3AM finishing it. I highly recommend this book as one of the best books of the year.

**Kurzbeschreibung** On January 6, 1972, ten-year-old Devin O'Keefe takes part in a peaceful demonstration march through the Catholic ghetto of Bogside, Northern Ireland never suspecting that the demonstration is doomed to become Bloody Sunday, and that he will watch the British Army kill his brother along with twelve other defenseless marchers. Wounded in the arm himself, Devin vows revenge on his British oppressors and steps into a cycle of violence that will leave him with a shattered family and an empty heart. Eighteen years later, Devin has become an earnest rock-n-roller who uses his songs to relate the horrors he's seen to an international audience of millions. His American tour photographer, Fonda Blayne, is falling in love with him but she has no idea that his brooding silences may be rooted in a very real danger. Devin hopes that he's left the violence of his homeland in the past but some very powerful and deadly forces are hoping to take advantage of his life in the spotlight... "...an exciting contemporary tale that uses music and romance as a means to provide insight into the complex Northern Ireland issues. The story line is enjoyable and the lead couple is a dynamic pair. The support cast provides focus to how complicated the issues in Northern Ireland really are. With this tale and BORDER CROSSINGS, the SPOTLIGHT is sure to fall on Carole Bellacera." -- Harriet Klausner, UNDER THE COVERS, *Affaire De Coeur* "...Bellacera's riveting and romantic suspense shows the seamier side of the fight for Northern Irish independence, and the toll that has been taken on its people." -- Patty Engelmann "...at once sensuously romantic and edge-of-the-seat suspenseful, this is a book to savor." -- Maureen Wachsmith for *Romancing the Celtic Soul* "Carole Bellacera, author of last year's award winning novel BORDER CROSSINGS, a gripping novel about terror, death, hope and love in Northern Ireland, has done it again! ...an excellent thought-provoker." -- Peg Gaabo, for the IRISH CONNECTION NEWSPAPER "This beautiful and poignant tale of trauma and triumph is written with such style I found myself held captive with each word. SPOTLIGHT is an engrossing tale of horrifying proportion and bittersweet victory. Carole Bellacera has an impeccable talent as a story-teller with writing skills to match." -- Karen Williams, *Rhapsody Magazine*, July 2000 "Rarely has a book about the pop music scene grabbed me from the prologue and held me so totally immersed through the epilogue... This is one wonderful, awesome book... Ms. Bellacera showcases her wonderful skills as a writer with her dialogue, plotline, and characters. This author's talent is extraordinary and her obvious love of the Irish puts her storytelling on a par with the likes of Nora Roberts." -- Betty Cox, *Writers Club Romance Group on AOL* "Last year, Carole Bellacera proved that she was a talent to watch. Now she is back in a big way, with another timely, emotional and thought provoking story. Ireland's troubled history plays a key role in this totally gripping drama." -- Jill Smith, *Romantic Times Top Pick*, 4 1/2 stars "This is a very romantic story which is suspenseful as well. I highly recommend this book! It is well worth paying the hardcover price." -- Maureen Wachsmith @ READ@egroups.com From Publishers Weekly Contemporary Irish

politics, the popular music scene and thwarted romance are the key ingredients in Bellacera's passionate if over-the-top second novel (after *Border Crossings*). Devin O'Keefe, lead singer for an Irish rock group, was mentally and physically scarred by his youth during the "Troubles" of Northern Ireland. Although committed to peace, Devin is pressured into marriage with IRA terrorist Caitlyn McManus, who is soon sentenced to life imprisonment and tortured by the British for her role in a department store bombing. For the sake of Devin's career, his manager, Ian Brinegar, persuades Devin to lie and claim that Caitlyn died in the bombing. When Devin meets ambitious American rock journalist Fonda Blayne, sparks fly. Though she is still mourning the death of her twin brother, a policeman shot on the job, she jumps at an offer from Brinegar to travel with the band, photograph its U.S. tour and produce a "pictorial" book about it. But there is trouble ahead. Bram Gradeighy, a roadie who is in love with Devin's sister, Bonnie, harbors a mysterious secret. Fonda's 16-year-old sister, Jessie, unable to get along with their father, comes to join Fonda on tour, and becomes overly involved with another roadie. Caitlyn escapes from jail and involves Ian in arms smuggling. And the laws of the Republic of Ireland, which preclude divorce, tempt Devin into proposing to Fonda while he is still secretly married. The overstuffed plot bursts its seams toward the end, and Bellacera's dialogue tends to the mawkish, but fans of unpretentious, no-holds-barred melodrama may be intrigued. (June) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Kirkus SA hybrid second novel from Bellacera (*Border Crossings*, not reviewed) awkwardly mixes the sighs of a bodice-ripper with the mayhem of a political thriller, charting as it goes along the story of an American journalist who falls in love with an Irish rock star haunted by old ties to the IRA. Fonda (named after Henry, not Jane) Blayne, the newest employee of *Spotlight*, a rock-music magazine, finds herself doing a photo story on popular Irish rocker Devin O' Keefe. The year is 1990, and Devin, who came to fame when he performed at a Live-Aid concert in London in the '80s, is to tour the US over the summer. Born in Belfast, Devin witnessed sectarian violence firsthand when, at the age of ten, he participated in a march and saw his older brother killed. But unlike some of his compatriots, he has dedicated his life and music to nonviolence. He's well-meaning if too trusting, however, for he's in fact being used by the IRA, which diverts his contributions to charity into their own coffers in a campaign of violence that's being masterminded by Caitlyn, whom he loved and married as a student, but who's now a ruthless terrorist. Fonda, who speaks and thinks in clichés (like a zestful quench of cool water onto a parched throat, Fonda felt the heat of Devin's lean body against hers) is soon in love, and Devin proposes marriage as the tour continues. But the IRA and its agents, some playing in the band itself, have their own agenda, and when Caitlyn, who thinks Devin is a traitor to the cause for preaching peace, learns about him and Fonda, she heads to the US to exact her own nasty revenge--and a plucky but somewhat bewildered Fonda learns more about Irish politics than your average rock music journalist needs. Neither romantic nor suspenseful, really, in a crossover that tries hard but doesn't quite work. -- Copyright 2000 Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.