

PILLOWTALK: James Clelland

What are you reading?

I'M reading many books: Keith Richard's biography, *Life*, David Klatzow's *Steeped in Blood*, and *Parrot and Olivier in America* by the winner of two Booker Prizes, Peter Carey.

I started reading *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson to see what the fuss is about. I still don't know.

And Orhan Pamuk's *My Name is Red*.

In a nutshell?

Life is a wonderful read, a Rolling Stone's insight into the '60s era of rock music and excess.

Klatzow's book is the tale of his work as the first forensic scientist in South Africa. The crime scene details are interesting but mostly what fascinates is Klatzow himself, a larger-than-life character.



Carey's novel concerns two unlikely companions visiting the US in the 1890 and is easy reading, but excellent writing.

Which do you recommend?

Pamuk won the Nobel prize for literature in 2006. It is a skilfully crafted book, with different narrators for each chapter, for example a criminal, a dog and even a dead man at the bottom of a well. Nobel prize winners are often surprising but always literary. This book is beautifully written. It

tantalises and teases but is always accessible and fun. Humour and depth — what more do you want from a novel? — *Shanthini Naidoo*

● James Clelland novel, *Deeper than Colour*, won the EU Literary Award last year. It is published by Jacana, R145.