

FEB26-OUAL-S1-EP3-IRRP



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**INTERVIEW SCRIPT GLENN MEADE**

**PRODUCTION: RAISED ON SONGS & STORIES**

**RECORDING SCHEDULE: 24 JANUARY 2026 – 1.30PM**

**AUTHORISED RECIPIENTS: SK – GM - DK**

**OUTLINE SCRIPT:** Raised on Song & Story? Running Time: TBA

**As Edit Music:** Rare Old Times - Solo piano version

**FX:** as Selected

**Advert / Sponsor time space:** 6 minutes, (*approximately*)

**DK:** I'm here on a café terrace, drinking café con leche under a watery winter sun and chatting to bestselling Irish novelist Glenn Meade - about books, writing, and living beyond the norm. I'll be employing all my well-honed interview techniques in search of who he really is - what's the secret to his success and what's the possibility of him letting slip a guilty pleasure or two. Besides such intrigue we also get to hear the musical soundtrack from the life and times of the Dublin scribbler - which can tell us all a thing or several about a lad.

**DK:** So, there you go and you're all very welcome to: Raised on Song & Story

**Music:** Rare Old Times piano plays underneath vox to fade out at Glenn's first comment:

**DK:** He grew up in Finglas in the 1960's and 70's - Finglas is a working-class North Dublin suburb that had a proliferation of wild horses, no-go areas, hard men, tough women and unbridled youngsters - think Roddy Doyle's Barrytown without Hollywood lighting and you're getting close

**DK:** So, how does a fella go from the Badlands of Finglas, to publishing a dozen novels, to writing and producing a hand full of plays, to knocking out a clatter of short stories - to getting involved with something to do with flight simulation, to a host of other stuff - to living a life less ordinary methinks Glenn Meade - Good to see you and thanks for agreeing to being interrogated by a fanboy

**Glenn comments:**

**DK:** Let's kick off by talking a bit about growing up in Finglas - family and friends - what was it like - was it the tough area us soft south-siders imagined it to be?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Before we move on Glenn, what song or piece of music would take you back to those days in the 1970's - when a boy became a teenager in a landscape that could have been an inspiration for many a dystopian set designer?

**Glenn selects song and tells what it means to him**

Music: Play [song]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** That was [*song title*] selected by novelist Glen Meade as one of the tunes that still means something from a childhood surviving what was a very different Dublin to now. On that point Glenn – what are the biggest differences you find in the city, or even country, now as opposed to then?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** let's move on to your specific years in classrooms and playgrounds. Where did you go to school and what have you let go or taken with you from your memory of the experience – primary and secondary?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Did you have a favourite subject or a teacher you remember fondly?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Do you still have friends from school?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** What novels, poems and plays did you study for your inter / leaving cert and did you actually study – better still were you top of the class in English Glenn Meade?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** How did you do in the inter / leaving Cert? and perhaps explain what the inter and leaving were and why they merited importance?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** So, going back to then, what song reminds you of a slow dance or playing air guitar at the church disco or pogoing to punk in the Project Arts – I´m talking the end of an era if not the end of innocence I suppose - that glorious summer of freedom when you´d done the leaving and the next chapter was a mystery still to be revealed and written?

**Glenn selects song and talks about becoming an independent man**

**Music:** Play [*song*]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** I´m here with bestselling Irish novelist Glenn Meade and we´ve just listened to (*song title*) - a tune he remembers from when the evolving doors of life opened up for the man, not the boy to find his way

**DK:** Do you have any memory of how you felt at the time – a young man with ambition tempered by new responsibilities and a developing maturity?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** I take it that by this stage girls had become an interest – do you remember your first girlfriend, your first kiss - did you have a serious girlfriend at the time?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** By the time you left school had you written anything of substance that might lead you to believe it would be lead to a road to be less travelled for you?

**DK:** Was university an option?

**Glenn Answer:**

*If Glenn went to university DK to ask:*

Which one and why?

Scholarship or not?

Live at home or in digs?

What degree?

Anecdote from campus life

Did literature play a part and if so, how?

**Glenn Answer(s):**

**DK:** What was money like – were you responsible with it - what was your very first job, how did you get it and how much did it pay?

**Glenn Answer:**

*[Track answer and expand on the Aer Lingus / Irish Times / Indo / Strand Theatre experience]*

**DK:** And then, all of a sudden you´re in 1990’s and publishing Brandenburg – but before that can we get your 80’s anthem please?

**Glenn selects song and talks about it**

**Music:** Play [song]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** In 1994 you published Brandenburg - your first novel - to a mountain of critical acclaim – must have been a buzz?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** how long did it take to research and write?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** How does one get a publishing deal for their first book?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** OK what inspires a Finglas native to write a page turner that moves at lightening pace from South America to Berlin with lots of distant locations in between and after – all of which were scene setters for a sparkling narrative littered with various sorts of devious political shenanigans while bodies piled up along the way -while all the while the plot hovers on the apocalyptic and reads more like fact than fiction – is that a fair summation?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** So, the success of Brandenburg heralds the arrival of big comparisons to the likes of Ludlum, Le Carre and Freddie Forsyth – does your whole direction in life change and were you a little bit scared or maybe discombobulated - along with being a lot chuffed of course?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** So, go on, out with it – what was the first indulgent splurge when the first big royalty cheque hit the doormat?

**DK:** Time for your next song – where were you musically - at this seminal point in your life?

**Glenn selects song and talks about be it**

**Music:** Play [song]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** Just looking at my notes Glenn I've a bunch of prompts -would you mind if I just throw them at you one at a time and we see where it takes us?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Snow Wolf?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Editing and editors?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Meeting your readers and book signings?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Waiting for the muse of inspiration?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** your process to start, continue and finish?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Publisher pressure and deadlines

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** So, in the midst of all the chaos of fame and fortune does any song stand out and if so, why?

**Glenn selects song and talks about it**

**Music:** Play [song]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** Well, Mister Meade, after all that - What are you working on at the moment?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** When will it be available in all good book shops?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** OK a few random questions to take us to your last song -I remember you telling me you did some screen writing work in LA for a while – how did that happen and what was the experience like?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** There ´s lots of aspiring writers out there who have submitted a novel to a hundred publishers or literary agents or whatnot and now have a drawer full of rejection slips from those who bothered to answer – any advice for dealing with rejection?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Where are you on Audio books and AI authors?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Let me put you through the quick-fire ringer before the last big question – no thinking just answering, ok? Just give me a name

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** American Writer?

**Glenn Answer:**

British Writer?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** French Writer?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** World Writer?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** Where would you get the cheapest pint of Guinness in the world - is it Dubai or Boston or Peking?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** I'm sure you'll be delighted to hear this is the last question because it is and it isn't – you're in the business of stringing words together – so, Glenn Meade, sum up with some reflective words on you being Irish and being a writer?

**Glenn Answer:**

**DK:** That neatly brings us to the end this episode of Raised on Song & Story. We finish with Glenn's last music choice – and that Glenn, is the song -you really wish you'd written – never said I'd end easy?

**Glenn selects song and talks about it**

**Music:** Play [song]

Sponsor Advert 1 minute

**DK:** That was [Song title] by [Artist] – Irish bestselling novelist Glenn Meade's final song choice and the one he wished he'd written. You've been listening to novelist Glenn Meade being thoroughly entertaining in song and story. If you want to buy any or all of Glenn's books just go to his website: [glennmeadeauthor.com](http://glennmeadeauthor.com) or - for our old school listeners who like dealing in old money- all Glenn's books can be ordered from any good bookshop. You can follow Glenn on Instagram. Thanks Glenn.

**Glenn final salute and observations:**

**Music:** Rare Old Times piano plays underneath vox to fade out after credits

**DK:** Thanks to you lot out there for keeping us company - maybe you'll all join me next time we delve into the life of someone who writes and tells stories along with having a song or several in their back pocket. Goodnight and may your God go with you

**VO:** Raised on Song & Story was written and presented by Derek Kelly

This episode was Produced by Stephen Kelly

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**END**