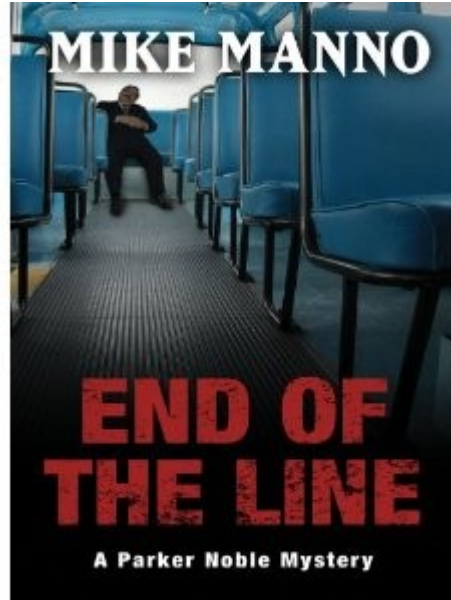


End of the Line



by

Mike Manno

Reviewed by Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopes, publisher of "Time with Tannia"
(<http://timewithtannia.tripod.com/>)

In his book, *End of the Line*, author Mike Manno shares with the reader an entertaining detective story involving a bank embezzlement, drugs, a marriage annulment, organized crime, a child, and an unexpected motive to kill.

The book begins with a news report about the death of banker RJ Butler. According to the article, the body of Mr. RJ Butler was found by a bus driver at the End of the Line. The Lakeview Police Department Special Investigations Unit and the Attorney General Office join forces to solve this case.

Detective Jerome Leonard Stankowski, who prefers to be called Stan, is partnered with the brilliant and demanding Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Parker Noble. Although Stan dislikes working with Parker, he admires his cleverness and his ability to gather and discern information to solve cases without a reasonable doubt.

The investigation begins with the usual homicide routine: reading reports, looking for a motive and interviewing witnesses, relatives of the victim, and other potential suspects. Mr. RJ Butler was a remarkable employee – until he had been accused of embezzlement and was forced to resign. He had been married twice. His greedy and resentful first wife, Ann, stripped Mr. Butler of most of his belongings and assets during their bitter divorce. Together they have a son, Robbie, who was Mr. Butler's sole heir. His second wife, Linda, has a drug addiction problem. She was going through rehab and counseling when Mr. Butler was murdered. Both Mrs. Butlers are interrogated by Detective Stankowski and by Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Parker Noble in order to assess their potential suspect status, and to try to find a motive that links them to the murder.

As the investigation progresses, persistent newspaper reporter, Frances Jean Coyle, also known as Buffy, becomes part of the investigating team. This trio must trust each others' abilities and intuition to solve the case and apprehend the killer. Their difference in personalities, charisma, and research styles make the investigation process both provoking and interesting.

I recommend this book to readers of detective stories looking to be amused – and shocked – at the unexpected and twisted end.



Tannia E. Ortiz-Lopés author of *The Window To My Soul, My Walk With Jesus* (2004 Tate Publishing ISBN 0975393359.) *El Espejo de mi Alma* (2010 Pleasant Word) Visit the author at: <http://timewithtannia.tripod.com/>, www.myspace.com/tanniaortizlopes, and www.shoutlife.com/tanniaortizlopes

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