Experience, by Martin Amis  
Alfred A. Knoff Canada, Toronto, 2000  
$35.95, 406 pages 

Book Review by Julian Samuel 

Martin Amis' 'Experience' bursts with terrific multi-layered writing and millions of half-page long footnotes which prove his passionate love and knowledge of English literature, but the book is as inane as a Tony Blair smile. Why not compose a book consisting entirely of footnotes? See what I mean about experimental dullness? 

'Experience' is English navel gazing. After getting as far as page 175, I returned to 'White Teeth' and listened to the many tongues around Kilburn, Willesden, and Primrose Hill. 

Film-maker and writer Julian Samuel, has made a four-hour documentary on Orientalism and has published a novel, Passage to Lahore (De Lahore à Montréal). You may contact him at jjsamuel@vif.com