

The University of the West Indies Centre for Gender and Development Studies



Issue 2 – 2008

Review of Rosie Stone's Memoir No Stone Unturned: The Carl and Rosie Story

Diana Thorburn

Abstract

No Stone Unturned: The Carl and Rosie Story (published by Ian Randle, 2007) is Rosie Stone's memoir of her husband Carl's death from AIDS, and her own experience of having caught the disease and living with it for many years.

I have mixed feelings about the Rosie Stone book. On the one hand, I welcome a memoir from one of our own. There are so few of our own stories out there. It is such a refreshing pleasure to read an authentic, well-written — despite the sometimes stilted dialogue — story about one of "us", with all the colloquialisms and familiar places and rhythms. I also welcome this necessary contribution to the destignatization of HIV/AIDS. But there were aspects of the book that made me uncomfortable, namely, what I perceived to be Rosie Stone's using this book to settle scores with the many people who she feels wronged herself and Carl after their diagnoses with HIV/AIDS, his death, and beyond.