

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2021

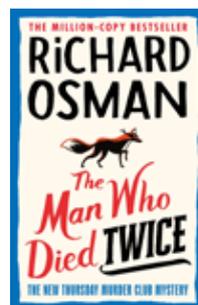
### **The Man Who Died Twice**

Thursday Murder Club 02

**Richard Osman**

Elizabeth, Joyce, Ron and Ibrahim – the Thursday Murder Club – are still riding high off their recent real-life murder case and are looking forward to a bit of peace and quiet at Cooper’s Chase, their posh retirement village. But they are out of luck. An unexpected visitor – an old pal of Elizabeth’s (or, perhaps, more than just a pal?) – arrives, desperate for her help. He has been accused of stealing diamonds worth millions from the wrong men and he’s seriously on the lam. Then, as night follows day, the first body is found. But not the last. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ron, and Ibrahim are up against a ruthless murderer who wouldn’t bat an eyelid at knocking off four septuagenarians. Can our four friends catch the killer before the killer catches them? And if they find the diamonds, too? Well, wouldn’t that be a bonus? You should never put anything beyond the Thursday Murder Club. Richard Osman is back with everyone’s favourite mystery-solving quartet – in the sequel to the international bestselling cosy *The Thursday Murder Club* (PBK, \$19.99). Lotsa fun – recommended!

**Mystery | TP | \$32.99**



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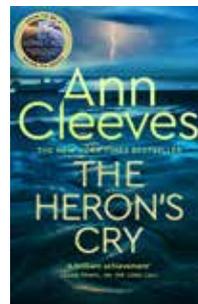
### **The Heron's Cry**

Two Rivers 02

**Ann Cleeves**

North Devon is enjoying a rare hot summer with tourists flocking to its coastline. Detective Matthew Venn is called out to a rural crime scene at the home of a group of artists. What he finds is an elaborately staged murder – Dr Nigel Yeo has been fatally stabbed with a shard of one of his glassblower daughter’s broken vases. Dr Yeo seems an unlikely murder victim. He’s a good man, a public servant, beloved by his daughter. Matthew is unnerved though to find that she is a close friend of Jonathan, his husband. Then another body is found – killed in a similar way. Matthew finds himself treading carefully through the lies that fester at the heart of his community and a case that is dangerously close to home... From the bestselling author of the Vera and Shetland series. The first is *The Long Call* (PBK, \$17.99).

**Mystery | TP | \$32.99**



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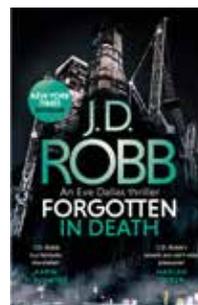
### **Forgotten in Death**

Eve Dallas 53

**J D Robb**

Lt Eve Dallas hasn’t even arrived at work when her first call of the day comes in. Alva Quirk – forty-six years old, sidewalk sleeper – was beaten to death with a crowbar. Known to the local cops for handing out origami flowers to anyone who gives her change, Alva was well liked... but with no fixed address, no job and no family, there’s no one to remember her. Eve has barely had time to examine the crime scene when her second victim of the morning is discovered just a block away. Make that second and third. Jane Doe – a well-dressed young mother and her baby shot and buried over 40 years ago. Two very different victims in the same location with no one to claim them. Coincidence... or does the history of the site hold the answer? To uncover the truth Eve must delve into a world of family businesses, Russian mobsters and shady dealings. These two women may have been forgotten in their lifetimes... but Eve Dallas won’t let them be forgotten in death. Number 53 in the series – 53! Holy cow.

**Mystery/suspense | TP | \$32.99**



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## Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2021 (continued)

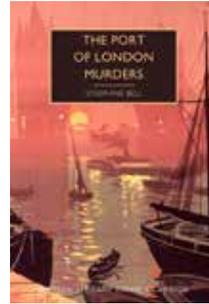
### **The Port of London Murders**

British Library Crime Classics

**Josephine Bell**

When the *San Angelo* drifts into port in the Pool of London, telephones begin to ring across the capital and an intricate series of events is set in motion. Beset by dreadful storms in the Bay of Biscay, the ship, along with the 'mixed cargo' it carries, is late. Unaware of the machinations of avaricious importers, wayward captains and unscrupulous traders, docklands residents Harry Reed and June Harvey are thrust together by a riverside accident, before being swept into the current of a dark plot developing on the harbourside. First published in 1938, this British Library reissue of an early novel from one of the great Golden Age mystery writers delivers a compelling tale of murder set against a gritty portrayal of life alongside the Thames. Great, atmospheric stuff!

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



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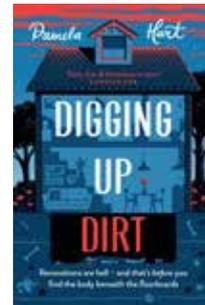
### **Digging Up Dirt**

Poppy McGowan 01

**Pamela Hart**

*Renovations are hell. And that's before you find the body beneath the floorboards.* An intriguing mystery from a stylish new voice in crime fiction, for readers of Kerry Greenwood and Holly Throsby. When your builder finds bones under the floor of your heritage home, what do you do? For TV researcher Poppy McGowan, the first step is to find out if the bones are human (which means calling in the cops and delaying her renovations) or animal (which doesn't). Unfortunately, 'help' comes in the form of Dr Julieanne Weaver, archaeologist, political hopeful, and Poppy's old enemy. She declares the bones evidence of a rare breed of fat-tailed sheep, and slaps a heritage order on the site. The resultant archaeological dig introduces Poppy to Tol Lang, the best-looking archaeologist she's ever met – and also Julieanne's boyfriend. When Julieanne is found murdered in Poppy's house, both she and the increasingly attractive Tol are considered suspects – and so Poppy uses her media contacts and news savvy to investigate other suspects. Did Julieanne have enemies in the right-wing Australian Family Party, for which she was seeking preselection, or in the affiliated Radiant Joy Church? Or at the Museum of New South Wales, among her rivals and ex-boyfriends? And who was her secret lover? Can Poppy save herself, and Tol... and finally get her house back? Very fun modern cosy set in Sydney. Fantastic feedback – recommended!

Mystery | TP | \$29.99



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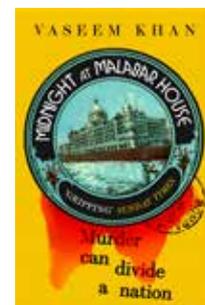
### **Midnight at Malabar House**

Inspector Wadia 01

**Vaseem Khan**

*Bombay, New Year's Eve, 1949:* As India celebrates the arrival of a momentous new decade, Inspector Persis Wadia stands vigil in the basement of Malabar House, home to the city's most unwanted unit of police officers. Six months after joining the force she remains India's first female police detective, mistrusted, sidelined and now consigned to the midnight shift. And so, when the phone rings to report the murder of prominent English diplomat Sir James Herriot, the country's most sensational case falls into her lap. As 1950 dawns and India prepares to become the world's largest republic, Persis, accompanied by Scotland Yard criminalist Archie Blackfinch, finds herself investigating a case that is becoming more political by the second. Navigating a country and society in turmoil, Persis, smart, stubborn and untested in the crucible of male hostility that surrounds her, must find a way to solve the murder – whatever the cost. Recommended! *Winner of the CWA Sapere Books Historical Dagger 2021.* 'The leading character is the deftly-drawn Persis Wadia, the country's first female detective. She's a wonderful creation and this is a hugely enjoyable book' – Ann Cleeves. 'This is historical crime fiction at its best – a compelling mix of social insight and complex plotting with a thoroughly engaging heroine. A highly promising new series' – *Mail on Sunday.*

Mystery | PBK | \$19.99



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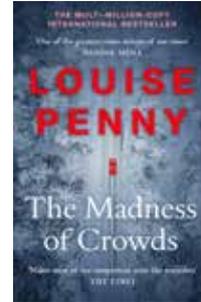
### **The Madness of Crowds**

Inspector Gamache 17

**Louise Penny**

*You're a coward.* Time and again, as the New Year approaches, that charge is levelled against Armand Gamache. It starts innocently enough. While the residents of the Québec village of Three Pines take advantage of the deep snow to ski and toboggan, to drink hot chocolate in the bistro and share meals together, the Chief Inspector finds his holiday with his family interrupted by a simple request. He's asked to provide security for what promises to be a non-event. A visiting Professor of Statistics will be giving a lecture at the nearby university. While he is perplexed as to why the head of homicide for the Sûreté du Québec would be assigned this task, it sounds easy enough. That is until Gamache starts looking into Professor Abigail Robinson and discovers an agenda so repulsive he begs the university to cancel the lecture. They refuse, citing academic freedom, and accuse Gamache of censorship and intellectual cowardice. Before long, Professor Robinson's views start seeping into conversations. Spreading and infecting. So that truth and fact, reality and delusion are so confused it's near impossible to tell them apart. Discussions become debates, debates become arguments, which turn into fights. As sides are declared, a madness takes hold. Abigail Robinson promises that, if they follow her, *ça va bien aller*. All will be well. But not, Gamache and his team know, for everyone. When a murder is committed, it falls to Armand Gamache, his second-in-command Jean-Guy Beauvoir, and their team to investigate the crime as well as this extraordinary popular delusion. And the madness of crowds. Brilliant series – start with any of them really! – but the first is *Still Life* (PBK, \$22.99).

**Mystery | TP | \$32.99**



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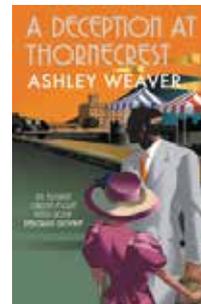
### **A Deception at Thornecrest**

Amory Ames mysteries 07

**Ashley Weaver**

*'Thornecrest looked beautiful in the evening light. One would never imagine the turmoil that had just occurred within its walls.'* Amory Ames is alone at her country house Thornecrest, enjoying her last few weeks of peace and quiet as she prepares for the imminent arrival of her baby. Her husband, Milo, is in London on business, and Amory is content to catch up on her correspondence, organise the nursery, and avoid the well-meaning if rather overbearing company of the ladies in the village as they prepare for the Springtide Festival. But then a woman appears on her doorstep, claiming to be *another* Mrs Ames, Milo's wife. Amory's marriage has had its ups and downs in the past, but her faith in her husband has been restored, and Milo has been nothing but thrilled about becoming a father. Though the alleged second Mrs Ames seems earnest, Amory is convinced she must be mistaken, a belief that Milo confirms upon his homecoming. However, when another unexpected visitor arrives at Thornecrest, secret identities and whirlwind romances appear to be becoming par for the course. It's not until the day of the festival, when Milo's stable hand Bertie is found dead, that the strange characters appearing in town begin to seem more sinister, and Amory is determined to uncover the killer in the crowd. So popular with our historical mystery buffs – Recommended! The first in the series is *Murder at the Brightwell* (PBK, \$19.99)

**Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99**



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## Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2021 (continued)

### **A Baffling Murder at the Midsummer Ball**

Dizzy Heights mysteries 02

**T E Kinsey**

*A locked room. A mysterious death. Just another gig for the Dizzy Heights.*

When London's finest jazz musicians, the Dizzy Heights, are booked to play the glitzy Midsummer Ball at a country house in Oxfordshire, they expect a weekend filled with flappers and toffs having a roaring good time. But the festivities at Bilverton House take a turn for the worse when the group are stranded by a summer storm. And when a member of the Bilverton family turns up dead in a locked room in an apparent suicide, Skins, Dunn and Ellie realise this is going to be a much tougher gig than they thought. But here's the lick. What if it was in fact cold-blooded murder? And what if the killer is still at large? It's up to the Dizzy Heights to once again put down their instruments and get improvising if they want to solve this confounding mystery. The first in the series is *The Deadly Mystery of the Missing Diamonds* (TP, \$35.95) – which did well – as did Kinsey's previous series! When the world all seems a little too much – what could be better than retreating into the pages of an historical cosy mystery? Bliss!

**Historical mystery | TP | \$35.95**



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### **The Joy and Light Bus Company**

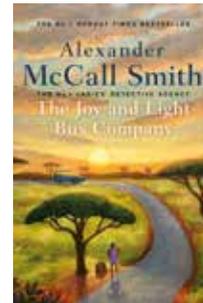
No 1 Ladies Detective Agency 22

**Alexander McCall Smith**

*The latest instalment from the beloved No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series.*

Mma Ramotswe knows she is very lucky indeed. She has a loving family, good friends and a thriving business doing what she enjoys most: helping people. But the latest mystery she is called upon to solve is distinctly trickier than it initially appears, and, of course, there's plenty to handle in her personal life between Charlie and his new bride and Mma Makutsi and her talking shoes. In the end, Mma Ramotswe's patience and common sense will win out, and, without a doubt, all will be the better for it. Maybe retreating into the pages of a charming contemporary cosy mystery could be a better option? (See rhetorical option question above.) Sometimes it can be hard to feel well disposed to humanity at large when so many of them do such abjectly stupid things. But reading McCall Smith not only rekindles one's faith in us all – but truly revels in the joy of people. Couldn't we all use a little of that joy, just now? McCall Smith mood enhancement. Recommended.

**Mystery | TP | \$32.99**



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