

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery Catalogue December 2021

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All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **December 2021**.

Because they are new books, we are at the whim of the publishers and, to some extent, the shipping companies – books can sometimes arrive later (or earlier) than, or occasionally be a different retail price than originally quoted. Because space is a luxury, we bring in limited quantities of books. Prices are subject to change without notice.

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Until next time, good reading!  
Ron and Leanne

Abbreviations used in this catalogue:

PBK = 'A' & 'B' format (standard size) paperback  
TP = 'B+' & 'C' format (oversize) paperback  
HC = Hardcover or cloth binding

### **The Café Between Pumpkin and Pie**

Moonbright, Maine mysteries

**Adair, Marina; Angell, Kate;  
Finz, Stacy**

Before, after, and even during the excitement of the annual Halloween parade, gathering at the Corner Café is a beloved Moonbright tradition. Costumed revellers of all kinds come for the famous whoopee pies, the heartfelt hospitality, and the chance to hear the town's spookiest stories and local legends whispered to the younger generation...

The most magically romantic legend of all promises that a Moonbright woman will marry the man she sees reflected in a mirror on Halloween. For three such singles, the crunch of fall leaves and the fragrance of fresh-baked pie sets the perfect stage for this most tantalising trick – and most delightful treat – the genuine enchantment of true love.

Mystery TP \$29.99

### **Everything We Didn't Say Baart, Nicole**

Juniper Baker had just graduated from high school and was deep in the throes of a summer romance when Cal and Beth Murphy, a childless couple who lived on a neighbouring farm, were brutally murdered. When her younger brother became the prime suspect, June's world collapsed and everything she loved that summer fell away. She left, promising never to return to tiny Jericho, Iowa. Until now. Officially, she's back in town to help an ill friend manage the local library. But really, she's returned to repair her relationship with her teenage daughter, who's been raised by Juniper's mother and stepfather since birth – and to solve the infamous Murphy murders once and for all. She knows the key to both lies in the darkest secret of that long-ago summer night, one that's haunted her for nearly fifteen years.

As history begins to repeat itself and a dogged local true crime podcaster starts delving into the murders, the race to the truth puts past and present on a dangerous collision course. Juniper lands back in an all-too-familiar place with the answers to everything finally in her sights, but this time it's her daughter's life that hangs in the balance. Will revealing what really happened mean a fresh start? Or will the truth destroy everything Juniper loves for a second time?

Thriller TP \$32.99

### **The Prophet**

Tabitha Hart mysteries

**Bailey, Martine**

*Cheshire. May Day, 1753.* Tabitha De Vallory believes her life is perfect: she has an imposing home with all the comforts she has ever desired, and is expecting her first child with doting husband Nathaniel De Vallory. But Tabitha's happiness is shaken when a girl is slaughtered beneath the Mondrem Oak on the family's forest estate. Recognising

the victim from her former scandalous life, Tabitha vows to find the killer. Nearby, enigmatic Baptist Gunn and his followers are convinced that a second messiah will be born, amid blood and strife, close to the oak on Midsummer's Day. Could the girl's murder be linked to Gunn's cryptic prophecy? Do his wild claims of a second saviour spell danger for Tabitha and her unborn child? As Midsummer's Day draws closer, Tabitha soon learns the destiny that threatens her and those she holds most dear...

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

### **Unforgiven**

**Barrie, Sarah**

Lexi Winter is tough, street smart, and has stood on her own two feet since childhood, when she was a victim of notorious paedophile the Spider. All she cares about, now, is a roof over her head and her long-term relationship with Johnny Walker. She isn't particular about who she sleeps with... as long as they pay before leaving. Lexi is also an ace hacker, tracking and entrapping local paedophiles and reporting them to the cops. When she finds a particularly dangerous paedophile who the police can't touch, she decides to gather enough evidence to put him away. Instead, she's a witness to his death... Detective Inspector Rachael Langley is the cop who cracked the Spider case, 18 years earlier – but failed to protect Lexi. Now, a man claiming to be the real Spider is emulating his murderous acts, and Rachael is under pressure from government, media and her police colleagues. Did she get it wrong all those years ago, or is this killer a copycat? Lexi and Rachael cross paths, at last; the Spider in their sights... but they may be too late... Perfect for readers of Candice Fox and Sarah Bailey.

Thriller TP \$29.99

### **The Frenchman Beaumont, Jack**

Alec de Payns is an operative in the secretive Y Division of the DGSE, France's famed foreign intelligence service. He's the agent at the sharp end of clandestine missions, responsible for eliminating terror threats and disrupting illegal nuclear and biological weapons programs. The element the missions have in common is danger – danger to de Payns, to his team and to those who stand in his way. But increasingly it's not just the enemies of France that are being damaged by de Payns' actions. His marriage is under strain, and at the back of his mind lurks the fear that haunts every operative with a family – what if they come after my children? When a routine mission in Palermo to disrupt a terrorist organisation goes fatally wrong, Alec is forced to confront the possibility that they have been betrayed by a fellow operative. And now he's been tasked to investigate a secretive biological weapons facility in Pakistan. Alec must find out how they're

producing weaponised bacteria capable of killing millions, and what they plan to do with it. But with a traitor in the ranks, it's not just Alec in the firing line. Soon, he'll be forced to confront his worst fear – and the potential destruction of Paris, itself. This is fiction, but based on the experiences of a real French spy. The knowledge and tradecraft that lie behind Jack Beaumont's taut plotting and brilliant eye for detail enliven every page, making *The Frenchman* all the more plausible, and all the more frightening. We had some great customer feedback on this, in its previous edition.

Suspense PBK \$19.99

### **The Lost**

Jonah Colley series

**Beckett, Simon**

Ten years ago, the disappearance of firearms police officer Jonah Colley's young son almost destroyed him. A plea for help from an old friend leads Jonah to Slaughter Quay, and the discovery of four bodies. Brutally attacked and left for dead, he is the only survivor. Under suspicion himself, he uncovers a network of secrets and lies about the people he thought he knew – forcing him to question what really happened all those years ago. And there are some very dangerous people watching him...

Thriller TP \$32.99

### **Somebody's Daughter**

**Bell, David**

When Michael Frazier's ex-wife, Erica, unexpectedly shows up on his doorstep, she drops a bombshell that threatens to rip his family apart: Her ten-year-old daughter is missing – and Michael is the father. Unsure whether this is the truth but unwilling to leave the girl's fate to chance, Michael has no choice but to follow the elusive trail of the child he has always wanted but never knew he had. Over the course of one night, lies that span a decade come bubbling to the surface, putting Michael, his wife, and his whole family in jeopardy. And as the window for a little girl's safe return closes, Michael will have to decide who can be trusted, and who is hiding the truth...

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### **The Christmas Murder Game Benedict, Alexandra**

Follow the clues. Find the fortune. Solve the Mystery. This Christmas is to die for. Let the game begin... *'Endgame has kept our secrets for half a century, now it's time for it, and its secrets, to have a new owner.'* When Lily returns home to her aunt's manor house, she discovers that in order to inherit, she and her estranged cousins must stay together over the Christmas week and take part in a family tradition: the annual treasure hunt. But as they are drawn deeper into the game, the clues seem to point not to the deeds to the manor house, but to the key to a 20-year-old

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mystery: what really happened to Lily's mother? As a snowstorm cuts them off from the village, it becomes apparent that the game has turned deadly, and that Lily is fighting for more than just an inheritance: she is now fighting for her life. Does she have what it takes to survive? 12 clues, 12 keys and 12 days of Christmas, for the heirs of Endgame House to find their inheritance, but how many will die before Twelfth Night? Christie meets *Cluedo* at Christmas!

Mystery HC \$29.99

### Road of Bones

Billy Boyle WWII mysteries

#### Benn, James R

It's September 1944, and the US is poised to launch Operation Frantic, a shuttle-bombing mission to be conducted by American aircraft based in Great Britain, southern Italy, and three Soviet airfields in the Ukraine. Tensions are already high between the American and Russian allies when two intelligence agents – one Soviet, one American – are found dead at Poltava, one of the Ukrainian bases. Billy is brought in to investigate, and this time he's paired, at the insistence of the Soviets, with a KGB agent who has his own political and personal agenda. In the course of an investigation that quickly spirals out of control, Billy is aided by the Night Witches, a daring regiment of young Soviet women flying at night at very low altitudes, bombing hundreds of German installations. It's a turning point in the war, and allied efforts hang by a thread. Unless Billy and his KGB partner can solve the murders in an atmosphere of mutual distrust, Operation Frantic is doomed.

Mystery/suspense HC \$39.99

### The Windsor Knot

Her Majesty the Queen Investigates

#### Bennett, S J

The morning after a dinner party at Windsor Castle, 89-year-old Queen Elizabeth is shocked to discover that one of her guests has been found murdered in his room, with a rope around his neck. When the police begin to suspect her loyal servants, Her Majesty knows they are looking in the wrong place. For the Queen has been living an extraordinary double life ever since her coronation. Away from the public eye, she has a brilliant knack for solving crimes. With her household's happiness on the line, her secret must not get out. Can the Queen and her trusted secretary Rozie catch the killer, without getting caught themselves? The first book in a highly original and delightfully clever crime series in which Queen Elizabeth II secretly solves crimes while carrying out her royal duties. Perfect for fans of *The Crown* and *The Thursday Murder Club* – it's also had fantastic customer feedback!

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Murder by the Bookend

Antique Bookshop mysteries

#### Black, Laura Gail

The quaint warehouse district of Hokes Folly, NC, is hopping despite the drizzly November chill. The occasion? The mountain town's beloved antiquarian bookstore, Twice Upon a Time, is throwing a bash for its grand reopening. But bookseller Jenna Quinn's peace of mind is shattered when the local library's Director of Antique Books

turns up dead in the parking lot – his head bashed in by a glittering pair of vintage glass bookends. As they examine the murder scene, Jenna and her police detective boyfriend happen upon the only witness – the victim's dog, who flees the scene leaving a trail of bloody footprints behind. If only dogs could speak, Jenna might be able to make quick work of the murder case and get back to stocking her bookcases. Alas, finding the killer won't be so easy, even though this is not Jenna's first murder investigation – indeed, she inherited Twice Upon a Time from her slain uncle. The suspect list is voluminous – the late librarian had not-so-friendly run-ins with numerous guests – but suspicion eventually centres on three unsavoury individuals who left the party shortly before the victim did. Now, Jenna must edit her inventory of suspects from three names to one, before the bloodthirsty bookend-wielder becomes the author of Jenna's demise.

Mystery HC \$39.99

### The Witching Tree

Natalie Lockhart series

#### Blanchard, Alice

Detective Natalie Lockhart gained unwanted notoriety when she and her family became front and centre of not one, but two sensational murder cases. Now, she's lost her way. Burned out and always looking over her shoulder, Natalie desperately thinks that quitting the police force is her only option left. All that changes when a beloved resident – a practicing Wiccan and founder of the town's oldest coven – is killed in a fashion more twisted and shocking than Natalie has ever seen before, leaving the town reeling. Natalie has no choice but to help solve the case along with Detective Luke Pittman, her boss and the old childhood friend she cannot admit she loves, even to herself. There is a silent, malignant presence in Burning Lake that will not rest. And what happens next will shock the whole town, and Natalie, to the core.

Mystery HC \$57.95

### Dark Sky

Joe Pickett series

#### Box, C J

The governor of Wyoming gives Joe the thankless assignment of taking a tech baron on an elk-hunting trip. Unbeknownst to them, as they trek farther into the wilderness, a manhunter is hot on their heels. Finding himself without a weapon, a horse, or a way to communicate, Joe must rely on his wits and his knowledge of the outdoors to protect himself and his charge. Meanwhile, when Joe's closest friend, Nate Romanowski, and his own daughter Sheridan learn of the threat to his life, they follow him into the woods to try and rescue him, before it's too late.

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### All Fall Down

Max McLean series

#### Brabazon, James

Soldier, assassin, and special agent – Max McLean works for a highly secretive unit called The Unknown: a black ops team which delivers off-the-books justice on behalf of the British Government. When a straightforward operation to kill a terrorist commander goes badly wrong, Max finds himself framed for murder. Cut off from his base and cut loose

by his Government handlers, he's forced to go even deeper underground, propelled across Europe on a personal, high-stakes investigation to clear his name. Racing against time to find out who his enemy is before his enemy finds him, Max has to unravel the only clue he has to their identity: an unusual \$100 bill clutched in the dead terrorist's fist. But in this brutal game of spies nothing is as it seems: as hostile powers prepare to move against the West, Max McLean must face the shocking possibility that the traitor he seeks has been with him, all along.

Thriller PBK \$26.95

### The Fabulous Clipjoint

American Mystery Classics

#### Brown, Fredric

In the rough edges of 1940s' Chicago, the discovery of a corpse in an alleyway isn't always enough to cause a big stir – especially when the victim is killed in the midst of a night-long bender, caught between barrooms in what appears to be a mugging gone awry. Which is why the police don't take a huge interest in finding the murderer of Wallace Hunter, a linotype operator who turns up dead after a solitary drinking adventure that led through many of the Loop's less reputable establishments. But for his teenage son, Ed, and his carry brother, Am, something about Wallace's death feels fishy, a fact that grows increasingly bothersome when it becomes clear that some of the witnesses aren't telling the whole story. In order to get to the heart of the matter, they'll need all the skills Am picked up in the circus life – skills that young Ed will have to pick up on fast. And in the process of discovering the killer, they make another discovery as well: Wallace was a much different man than the father, Ed thought he knew. The Edgar Award-winning novel that announced a legendary voice in crime fiction, *The Fabulous Clipjoint* is the first in Fredric Brown's long-running Ed & Am Hunter series. The book's memorable mixture of a hardboiled mystery with an urban coming of age narrative remains fresh to this day.

Classic mystery HC/TP \$49.95/\$26.95

### In the Garden of Spite

Black Widow of La Porte series

#### Bruce, Camilla

They whisper about her in Chicago. Men come to her with their hopes, their dreams – their fortunes. But no one sees them leave. No one sees them at all after they come to call on the Widow of La Porte. The good people of Indiana may have their suspicions, but if those fools knew what she'd given up, what was taken from her, how she'd suffered, surely they'd understand. Belle Gunness learned a long time ago that a woman has to make her own way in this world. That's all it is. A bloody means to an end. A glorious enterprise meant to raise her from the bleak, colourless drudgery of her childhood to the life she deserves. After all, vermin always survive.

Thriller TP \$37.95

### Darkness Falls

Kate Marshall series

#### Bryndza, Robert

Kate Marshall's fledgling PI agency takes off when she and her partner, Tristan Harper, are hired for their first big case. It's a cold

one. Twelve years before, journalist Joanna Duncan disappeared after exposing a political scandal. Most people have moved on.

Joanna's mother refuses to let go. When Kate and Tristan gain access to the original case files, they revisit the same suspects and follow the same leads – but not to the same dead ends. Among Joanna's personal effects, Kate discovers the names of two young men who also vanished without a trace. As she connects the last days of three missing persons, Kate realises that Joanna may have been onto something far more sinister than anyone first believed: the identity of a serial killer hiding in plain sight. The closer Kate comes to finding him, the darker it's going to get.

Thriller TP \$32.99

### Death as a Living Burke, Doyle & Grieco, Lou

For more than 30 years, involving more than 1,000 cases, Doyle Burke has been a death investigator, first with the Dayton, Ohio police department, then with a county coroner's office. In this book, he shares his tricks of the trade: how detectives solve cases, what they look for, the importance of forensic science, and the irreplaceable value of instinct. Along the way, Burke offers humorous trial anecdotes, thoughts on race and policing, stories about the fatal toll stress took on fellow officers, and, perhaps most movingly, details about the three fatal shootings of police officers – one of them one of his first friends on the department, another the son of his sergeant – that he had to investigate. Part memoir, part police procedural, and part true crime anthology, *Death as a Living* reveals the inside world of homicide and death investigation – the triumph, tragedy, humour, and truly bizarre situations one finds when working that beat.

True crime TP \$43.95

### The Cook of the Halcyon Gamilleri, Andrea

Moments later, the all-white schooner – which looked like a hospital ship – began to pass ever so slowly before him, as if wanting to show itself off in all its beauty. The name on the prow said: *Halcyon*. Two deaths – the suicide of a recently-fired worker and the murder of an unscrupulous businessman – lead Inspector Montalbano to the *Halcyon*, a mysterious ship that visits Vigata's port each day. With very few crewmen, no passengers and a stern large enough to land a helicopter, it piques the Inspector's interest straightaway. And while all this is going on, a rare trip to Genoa to visit Livia ends with the Vigata police department in disarray, and Inspector Montalbano's position, as the head of the commissariat, in jeopardy. It will be up to Montalbano to fix the damage done.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### The Eight of Swords

American Mystery Classics

#### Garr, John Dickson

In a house in the English countryside, a man has just turned up dead, surrounded by a crime scene that seems, at first glance, to be fairly straightforward. He's found with a bullet through the head in an unlocked room, and all signs point to a recent strange visitor as the perpetrator. The body is even accompanied by an ostentatious clue, presumably left by the killer: The tarot card

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of the Eight of Swords, an allusion, perhaps, to justice. But when Dr Gideon Fell arrives at the house to investigate, he finds that certain aspects of the murder scene don't quite add up – and that every new piece of evidence introduces a new problem instead of a new solution. Add to that the suggestion of a poltergeist on the property, the appearance of American gangsters, and the constant interruptions of two dabbling amateur sleuths adjacent to the case, and you have a situation puzzling enough to push Fell's powers of deduction to their limits. But will Fell be able to cut through their distractions and get to the heart of the matter, before more murders take place? Reissued for the first time in years, *The Eight of Swords* is an early Carr novel that highlights many of the qualities that made him such a successful writer, including his baffling plots, his twisty investigations, and his memorable characters. It is the third instalment in the Dr Gideon Fell series, which can be read in any order.

Classic mystery HC/TP \$55.00/\$35.95

### Iron Annie Cassidy, Luke

Dundalk – The Town, to locals – took Aoife in when she left home at eighteen. Now, she's gone from a small-time slinger of hash to a bona fide player in Dundalk's criminal underworld. Aoife's smart, savvy, and cool under pressure. Except, that is, when it comes to Annie. Annie is mysterious and compelling, and Aoife is desperate to impress her and keep her close. Unfortunately, not everyone in The Town shares Aoife's opinion of Annie. So much so that when Aoife's friend and associate, the Rat King, approaches her about offloading ten kilos of stolen coke, he specifically tells her to keep Annie out of it. Aoife doesn't want to do the job without Annie, though, so she lands on an idea. Annie has contacts in the UK, and sure it'd be better to get the coke as far away from Dundalk as possible. At first, everything goes to plan. But when Annie decides she'd like to stay in the UK, Aoife makes a decision that changes everything, and finds her whole world turned upside down.

Mystery TP \$29.99

### The Fragile Edge

Jimmy Vega mysteries

#### Chazin, Suzanne

Jimmy Vega straddles two worlds – the hardscrabble Bronx where he grew up as the child of a Puerto Rican single mother, and the upscale, mostly white, suburban county where he now serves as a police detective. Yet, despite his sense of never belonging, he's a good and decent cop – even if the multimillion-dollar civil suit he's facing says otherwise. His own troubles take a back seat when Vega learns that a court officer has just been shot and killed while transporting a controversial judge across the courthouse lot. Vega quickly surmises that the judge was the real target. She's earned the ire of alt-right hate groups for going soft on undocumented defendants accused of petty crimes. The sole witness to the sniper's identity is a Guatemalan girl travelling by bus from the border. And now, she's vanished – melted into a community fearful of the police. Her days are numbered if Vega can't get to her before the killer does. But as Vega and his girlfriend, Adele Figueroa, head of the local outreach centre, probe deeper into the shadowy

farm community where immigrants toil in horrifying conditions, they tap into a chilling discovery. One that offers Vega a stark choice: keep quiet and be lauded as a hero, knowing he let the real villain go. Or risk everything for an ugly truth no one wants him to find...

Mystery HC \$39.99

### Best Crime Stories of the Year 2021 Child, Lee (editor)

There is no finer form for a crime than the short story. Within a few pages, a clue can be discovered, divulged and its significance determined; all else is mere embellishment. The classic mystery tale will be familiar to aficionados and casual readers alike: it was invented by Edgar Allen Poe, popularised by Arthur Conan Doyle, and perfected by Agatha Christie. But mystery fiction has changed a great deal over the years – as have all things – and the writers within these pages present far more than a simple case of crime and resolution. Far from predictable, these stories provide fertile grounds of aberrant circumstances and the poor choices they lead to. You will find diverse methods and motivations, original perspectives and perils. Above all, you will find tales of the extremes of human psychology caused by despair, hate, greed, fear, envy, insanity or love. Featuring stories by: Doug Allyn, Jim Allyn, Ambrose Bierce, Michael Bracken, James Lee Burke, Martin Edwards, John Floyd, Jacqueline Freimor, Alison Gaylin, Sue Grafton, Paul Kemprecos, Stephen King, Janice Law, Dennis McFadden, David Marcum, Tom Mead, David Morrell, Joyce Carol Oates, Sara Paretsky, Joseph Walker, Andrew Welsh-Huggins.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### Jane Austen's Lost Letters

Josie Prescott Antiques mysteries

#### Gleland, Jane K

Antiques appraiser Josie Prescott is in the midst of filming a segment for her new television show, Josie's Antiques, when the assistant director interrupts to let her know she has a visitor. Josie reluctantly pauses production and goes outside, where she finds an elegant older woman waiting to see her. Veronica Sutton introduces herself as an old friend of Josie's father, who had died twenty years earlier. Veronica seems fidgety, and after only a few minutes, hands Josie a brown paper-wrapped package, about the size of a shoebox, and leaves. Mystified, Josie opens the package, and gasps when she sees what's inside: a note card bearing her name – in her father's handwriting – and a green leather box. Inside the box are two letters in transparent plastic sleeves. The first bears the salutation, 'My dear Cassandra', the latter, 'Dearest Fanny'. Both are signed 'Jane Austen'. Could her father have really accidentally found two previously unknown letters by one of the world's most beloved authors – Jane Austen? Reeling, Josie tries to track down Veronica, but the woman has vanished without a trace. Josie sets off on the quest of a lifetime to learn what Veronica knows about her father and to discover whether the Jane Austen letters are real. As she draws close to the truth, she finds herself in danger, and learns that some people will do anything to keep a secret – even, kill.

Mystery HC \$55.00

### Here Comes the Fudge

Candy-Coated mysteries

#### Coco, Nancy

It's late spring on picturesque Mackinac Island, Michigan. Allie is prepping her Historic McMurphy Hotel and Fudge Shop for the start of the tourist season and her best friend Jenn's wedding. But when Jenn's fiancé, Shane – a crime scene investigator on the island – misses a dinner date, the two friends go looking for him. Led by Allie's bichonpoo Mal into an alley, they come upon Shane standing over a body with a bloody knife in his hand. Shane won't say what's happened, just tells them to call 911. As the CSI is taken into custody by his colleagues, including Allie's beau Rex Manning, the fudge maker vows to prove her friend's fiancé is not a killer – before the ceremony turns into a jailhouse wedding...

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### An Heiress' Guide to Deception and Desire

A Lady's Guide series

#### Gollins, Manda

England, 1866: Miss Caroline Hardcastle has finally found purpose in her life, bringing attention to insidious crimes against women. But her parents' unexpected return from the Continent jeopardises Caro's hard-won freedom. They present her with an ultimatum: marry into a title... or else. Caro is confident that no gentleman would wed an on-the-shelf journalist, no matter how large her dowry is. But when a dear friend goes missing, Caro finds her best ally is also the nobleman she once dreamed of marrying. Ever since a devastating heartbreak in his younger years, Lord Valentine Thorn has stayed clear of the parson's trap. Only now, with the lineage in danger, does Val agree to find a bride – with the condition his heart remains unattached. But when his cousin becomes entangled in the disappearance of a young actress, Val finds the only one with any answers is also the only woman he ever dreamed of marrying. Despite their complicated history, Caro and Val reluctantly agree to an alliance, vowing to ignore the passion that still burns between them. Yet with danger growing nearer, can they move forward from the past – before death does them part? The sequel to *A Lady's Guide to Mischief and Mayhem* (PBK, \$19.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$19.99

### Out of the Fire Contos, Andrea

It wasn't the kidnapping that ruined Cass Adams' life. It was the letters that came after. The pink envelopes that appear in her car, her locker, her bedroom. Notes from the man she escaped, telling her that he's always there, always watching. And that someday, he'll be back for her. The police say there's nothing they can do, and Cass resigns herself to live in fear until she reconnects with three old friends – three girls ready to exact vengeance on those who wronged them. But the deeper Cass digs, the more shocking the truth becomes, especially when she discovers that the person who ruined her life may be the only one who can save it.

YA mystery/suspense HC \$41.95

### Autopsy

Dr Kay Scarpetta series

#### Gornwell, Patricia

Forensic pathologist Kay Scarpetta has returned to Virginia as the chief medical examiner. She and her husband Benton are headquartered five miles from the Pentagon, in a post-pandemic world that's been torn apart by civil and political unrest. Just weeks into the job, Scarpetta is called to investigate a woman's body which has been shockingly displayed on railroad tracks. As Scarpetta follows the trail, it leads unnervingly close to her own neighbourhood... At the same time, two scientists are found dead in a top-secret laboratory in outer space. Scarpetta is summoned to the White House Situation Room and tasked with finding out what happened. But even as she's working the first crime scene in space from the ground, an apparent serial killer strikes again. And this time, Scarpetta could be in greater danger than ever before...

Thriller TP \$32.99

### Devil in the Detail

Will Traynor Forensic mysteries

#### Gross, A J

The emergency call comes in the early hours of the morning. A man and a woman found in a car in a rundown part of the city, both of them critically injured. A random, opportune attack by a stranger? Or were the pair deliberately targeted? Is there a connection to series of car-jackings which has been plaguing the area? Nothing about this case seems to add up. As each theory as to what might have happened leads to yet more questions, Detective Inspector Bernard Watts decides to call on the help of criminologist Dr Will Traynor. Traynor knows that it's the small, easily missed details that will crack the case, but not even he could suspect just where those seemingly insignificant details will lead...

Mystery TP \$39.95

### Judas 62

Box 88 series

#### Gumming, Charles

A spy in one of the most dangerous places on Earth... 1993: Student Lachlan Kite is sent to post-Soviet Russia in the guise of a language teacher. In reality, he is there as a spy. Top secret intelligence agency BOX 88 has ordered Kite to extract a chemical weapons scientist before his ground-breaking research falls into the wrong hands. But Kite's mission soon goes wrong and he is left stranded in a hostile city with a former KGB officer on his trail. An old enemy looking for revenge... 2020: Now, the director of BOX 88 operations in the UK, Kite discovers he has been placed on the 'JUDAS' list – a record of enemies of Russia who have been targeted for assassination. Kite's fight for survival takes him to Dubai, where he must confront the Russian secret state head on... Who will come out on top in this deadly game of cat and mouse?

Suspense TP \$29.99

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### Exit Strategy

NYPD Negotiators series

#### Danna, Jen J

After her mother's death during a bank robbery when she was a child, Gemma Capello grew up to become one of the NYPD's elite hostage negotiators. In a family of cops, there's rarely a day when a Capello isn't facing down some form of threat. Still, despite their unpredictable schedules, they always find time for their annual family summer picnic. But this year, a sudden phone call changes everything. A heavily armed gunman has taken hostages at City Hall. Gemma races downtown to join the rest of the Hostage Negotiation Team as they scramble to identify the captives – fearing the mayor may be among them. But as they search for answers and struggle to gain control of the circumstances, it becomes clear that the mayor is at the centre of it all, just not in the way they initially believed. With several lives on the line and a criminal who always seems to be one step ahead, Gemma is the only one able to connect with the suspect. Soon, she finds herself engaging in a battle of wits while enduring a battle of egos in the command centre. With time running out and a mastermind who has proven he'll do whatever it takes to get what he wants, Gemma risks it all – her career and her life – in a last-ditch effort to save the hostages. Now, she needs to figure out how to save herself...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$19.99

### Murder Outside the Lines

Pen & Ink mysteries

#### Davis, Krista

With Halloween just around the corner, the fall colours in Georgetown are brilliant. As manager of the Colour Me Read bookstore, colouring book creator Florrie Fox has arranged for psychic author Hilda Rattenhorst to read from *Spooktacular Ghost Stories*. But the celebrity medium arrives for the event in hysterics, insisting she just saw a bare foot sticking out of a rolled-up carpet in a nearby alley. Is someone trying to sweep murder under the rug? Florrie calls in her policeman beau, Sergeant Eric Jonquille, but the carpet corpse has disappeared without a trace. Then in the middle of her reading, Hilda chillingly declares that she feels the killer's presence in the store. Is this a publicity stunt or a genuine psychic episode? It seems there's no happy medium. When a local bibliophile is soon discovered missing, a strange mystery begins to unroll. Now, it's up to Florrie and Jonquille to expose a killer's true colours...

Mystery TP \$29.99

### A Comedy of Terrors

Flavia Albia mysteries

#### Davis, Lindsey

Saturnalia, the Romans' mid-December feast, nominally to celebrate the sun's rebirth but invariably a drunken riot. Flavia Albia needs a case to investigate, but all work is paused. The Aventine is full of fracturing families. Wives plot to leave their husbands, husbands plot to spend more time with their mistresses. Masters must endure slaves taking obscene liberties, while aggressive slaves are learning to ape dangerous masters. But no one wants to hire an investigator during the holiday. Albia is lumped with her own domestic stress:

overexcited children and bilious guests, too many practical jokes, and her magistrate husband Tiberius preoccupied with local strife. He fears a Nut War. Nuts are both the snack and missile of choice of tipsy celebrants, so there is a fortune to be made. This year a hustling gang from the past is hornning in on the action. As the deadly menace strikes even close to home, and with law and order paused for partying, Albia and Tiberius must go it alone. The Emperor has promised the people a spectacular entertainment – but Domitian, himself, is a target for the old criminals' new schemes. Can the Undying Sun survive the winter solstice, or will criminal darkness descend upon Rome? Wonderful. Start with *The Ides of April* (PBK, \$22.99); or, in the case of old Dad's – Marcus Didius Falco – investigations, with *The Silver Pigs* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

### Girl A

#### Dean, Abigail

Lex Gracie doesn't want to think about her family. She doesn't want to think about growing up in her parents' House of Horrors. And she doesn't want to think about her identity as Girl A: the girl who escaped, the eldest sister who freed her older brother and four younger siblings. It's been easy enough to avoid her parents – her father never made it out of the House of Horrors he created, and her mother spent the rest of her life behind bars. But when her mother dies in prison and leaves Lex and her siblings the family home, she can't run from her past any longer. Together with her sister, Evie, Lex intends to turn the home into a force for good. But first she must come to terms with her siblings – and with the childhood they shared. What begins as a propulsive tale of escape and survival becomes a gripping psychological family story about the shifting alliances and betrayals of sibling relationships – about the secrets our siblings keep, from themselves and each other. Who have each of these siblings become? How do their memories defy or galvanise Lex's own? As Lex pins each sibling down to agree to her family's final act, she discovers how potent the spell of their shared family mythology is, and who among them remains in its thrall and who has truly broken free.

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### The Midnight Lock

Lincoln Rhyme series

#### Deaver, Jeffery

He comes into your home at night. He watches you as you sleep. He waits. He calls himself 'The Locksmith'. No door can keep him out. No security system can catch him. And, now, he's about to kill. Nobody in New York is safe. Now, it's up to Lincoln Rhyme to untangle the web of evidence and catch him. But with Lincoln under investigation, himself, and tension in the city at boiling point, time is running out...

Thriller TP \$29.99

### An Expensive Place to Die

#### Deighton, Len

Paris, in the 1960s, caters for every taste, and nowhere more than at the private 'clinic' run by the enigmatic Monsieur Datt on Avenue Foch, which supplies psychedelic drugs and

sexual favours to the city's elite – all the while secretly filming guests in order to blackmail them. Into this decadent underworld steps a bespectacled British spy. Sent on what seems like a simple mission, he soon finds himself playing a game where the rules are unknown – and even victory could be fatal. A reissue as a Penguin Modern Classic.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Spy Story

#### Deighton, Len

Computer games run in a classified war studies centre in London. Nuclear submarines prowl beneath Arctic ice. And war games go into real time. Patrick Armstrong is sent to investigate. Patrick Armstrong is a tough, dedicated agent and war-games player. But in Armstrong's violent, complex world, war games are all too often played for real. Soon the chase (or is it escape?) is on. From the secretive computerised college of war studies in London via a bleak, sinister Scottish redoubt to the Arctic ice cap where nuclear submarines prowl ominously beneath frozen wastes, a lethal web of violence and double cross is woven. And Europe's whole future hangs by a deadly thread... A reissue as a Penguin Modern Classic.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Yesterday's Spy

#### Deighton, Len

Sinister rumours link clandestine Arab arms dealing with a hero of the French resistance. Time to reopen the master file on yesterday's spy... A reissue as a Penguin Modern Classic.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Spy

#### Deighton, Len

A Soviet space scientist defects to win academic freedom, but western intelligence has other plans for him, and sends an unnamed spy to look after him. But what follows is a blood-streaked trail across three continents... A reissue as a Penguin Modern Classic.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Dark Queen Watching

Margaret Beaufort mysteries

#### Doherty, Paul

November, 1471. With Edward of York on the English throne and her son, Henry Tudor, in exile in Brittany, the newly-widowed Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond, is alone, without protectors. All she can do is wait and watch, planning for a time when she's in a position to make her move. But new dangers are emerging. En route to England is a band of Spanish mercenaries known as the Garduna. With no allegiance to prince, prelate or people, they are a lethal fighting force, utterly ruthless and implacable killers. But who has hired them... and why? The discovery of the body of an unexpected visitor, found murdered in a locked room in her London townhouse, heralds the start of a series of increasingly menacing incidents which threaten Margaret and her household. Is there an enemy within? It's up to Margaret's wily clerk Christopher Urswicke to uncover the truth, and ensure Margaret survives to fulfil her destiny.

Historical mystery HC \$62.95

### Petals and Poison

Flower House mysteries

#### Dylan, Jess

Sierra Ravenswood has embraced her role as owner of Flower House floral shop and companion to her former boss' pet, Gus the Corgi. Sierra's team are enjoying their new jobs too. At least until everyone realises their lack of experience might be contributing to their lack of customers... Sierra decides they need a change in luck, so she creates a special window display featuring lucky bamboo and auspicious flowers. It seems the new arrangement has worked when the shop is flooded with customers the next day, including a van full of college students on a horticulture club field trip. Unfortunately, Sierra doesn't notice that the students' distracted professor has gone missing until Gus' urgent barking leads her to the storeroom – and the body of the unfortunate professor. With folks now referring to Flower House as 'Poison House' and suspects galore, Sierra fears her new business is doomed before it has a chance to get off the ground. Determined to reverse course and see justice served, she sets out to solve the crime and change her luck, once more.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

### Murder at the Ritz

Hotel mysteries

#### Eldridge, Jim

August 1940. On the streets of London, locals watch with growing concern, as German fighter planes plague the city's skyline. But inside the famous Ritz Hotel, the cream of society continues to enjoy all the glamour and comfort that money can buy during wartime – until an anonymous man is discovered with his throat slashed open. Detective Chief Inspector Coburg is called in to investigate, no stranger himself to the haunts of the upper echelons of society, ably assisted by his trusty colleague, Sergeant Lampson. Yet, they soon face a number of obstacles. With the crime committed in rooms used by an exiled king and his retinue, there are those who fear diplomatic repercussions and would rather the case be forgotten. With mounting pressure from various intelligence agencies, rival political factions and gang warfare brewing either side of the Thames, Coburg, and Lampson must untangle a web of deception if they are to solve the case – and survive. The first in a new series, from the author of the Museum mysteries.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Murder at St Anne's

Yorkshire Murder mysteries

#### Ellis, J R

In the chilly depths of a Yorkshire winter, a well-liked rector is found bludgeoned to death in her own church. With no sign of a murder weapon, local superstition quickly pins the blame on the ghost of a medieval monk believed to haunt the building... Well accustomed to unusual murder investigations, DCI Jim Oldroyd takes on the case, along with his assistant, Sergeant Andy Carter, but they are hampered at every turn by the deepening snow and the threat of the supernatural. Even as possible motives and opportunities begin to reveal themselves, Oldroyd struggles to find a

# Pulp Fiction

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better suspect than the hooded phantom. Has Oldroyd really found himself in the midst of a Gothic ghost story or is there a very real killer at large? Spectre, or otherwise, it soon becomes apparent that the murderer is not yet finished. And, for Oldroyd, it's about to become personal...

Mystery TP \$35.95

### **The Butterfly House** **Engberg, Katrine**

Hospitals are supposed to be places of healing. But in the coronary care unit at one of Copenhagen's leading medical centres, a nurse fills a syringe with an overdose of heart medication and stealthily enters the room of an older male patient. Six days earlier, a paperboy on his route in central Copenhagen stumbles upon a macabre find: the naked body of a dead woman, lying in a fountain with arms marked with small incisions. Cause of death? Exsanguination – the draining of all the blood in her body. Clearly, this is no ordinary murder. Lead Investigator Jeppe Kørner, recovering from a painful divorce and in the throes of a new relationship, takes on the investigation. His partner, Anette Werner, now on maternity leave after an unexpected pregnancy, is restless at home with a demanding newborn and an equally demanding husband. While Jeppe pounds the streets looking for answers, Anette decides to do a little freelance sleuthing. But operating on her own, exposes her to dangers she can't even begin to fathom. As the investigation ventures into dark corners, it uncovers the ambition and greed that festers beneath the surface of caregiving institutions – all the more shocking for their depravity – and what Jeppe and Anette discover will turn their blood as cold as ice...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### **The Bounty**

Fox & O'Hare series

#### **Evanovich, Janet & Hamilton, Steve**

Type A special agent Kate O'Hare and international criminal Nick Fox have brought down some of the biggest bad guys out there. But now they face their most dangerous foe, yet – a vast, shadowy international organisation known only as the Brotherhood. Directly descended from the Vatican Bank priests who served Hitler during World War II, the Brotherhood is on a frantic search for a lost train loaded with \$30 billion in Nazi gold, untouched for over 75 years, somewhere in the mountains of Eastern Europe. Kate and Nick know that there is only one man who can find the fortune and bring down the Brotherhood – the same man who taught Nick everything he knows – his father, Quentin. As the stakes get higher, they must also rely on Kate's own father, Jake, who shares his daughter's grit and stubbornness. From a remote monastery in the Swiss Alps to the lawless desert of the Western Sahara, Kate, Nick, and the two men who made them who they are today must crisscross the world in a desperate scramble to stop their deadliest foe in the biggest adventure of their lives.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### **Observations by Gaslight**

stories from the world of Sherlock Holmes

#### **Faye, Lyndsay**

*Observations by Gaslight* is a thrilling volume of both new and previously-published short stories and novellas, narrated by those who knew the Great Detective. Beloved adventuress Irene Adler teams up with her former adversary in a near-deadly inquiry into a room full of eerily stopped grandfather clocks. Learn of the case that cemented the lasting friendship between Holmes and Inspector Lestrade, and of the tragic crime which haunted the Yarder into joining the police force. And witness Stanley Hopkins' first meeting with the remote logician he idolises, who will one day become his devoted mentor. From familiar faces like landlady Mrs Hudson to minor characters like Lomax the sub-librarian, *Observations by Gaslight* – entirely epistolary, told through diaries, telegrams, and even grocery lists – paints a masterful portrait of Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson as you have never seen them before.

Sherlockiana HC \$55.00

### **Every Last Fear**

#### **Finlay, Alex**

After a late night of partying, NYU student Matt Pine returns to his dorm room to devastating news: nearly his entire family – his mom, his dad, his little brother and sister – have been found dead from an apparent gas leak while vacationing in Mexico. The local police claim it was an accident, but the FBI and State Department seem far less certain – and they won't tell Matt why. The tragedy makes headlines everywhere, because this isn't the first time the Pine family has been thrust into the media spotlight. Matt's older brother, Danny – currently serving a life sentence for the murder of his teenage girlfriend Charlotte – was the subject of a viral true crime documentary suggesting that Danny was wrongfully convicted. Though the country has rallied behind Danny, Matt holds a secret about his brother that he's never told anyone: the night Charlotte was killed Matt saw something that makes him believe his brother is guilty of the crime. When Matt returns to his small hometown to bury his parents and siblings, he's faced with a hostile community that was villainised by the documentary, a frenzied media, and memories he'd hoped to leave behind forever. Now, as the deaths in Mexico appear increasingly suspicious and connected to Danny's case, Matt must unearth the truth behind the crime that sent his brother to prison – putting his own life in peril – and forcing him to confront his every last fear.

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### **Christmas Cupcake Murder**

Hannah Swensen mysteries

#### **Fluke, Joanne**

While Hannah speeds through a lengthy holiday checklist, drama in town grows like Santa's waistline on Christmas Eve. Her sister Andrea wants to stave off the blues by helping out at The Cookie Jar, Michelle's love life is becoming complicated, Lisa needs Hannah's advice, and Delores has a Christmas secret she's not willing to share. But nothing dampens the holiday mood more than the chilling mystery surrounding the man found near death in an abandoned

storefront two doors down from Hannah's bakery... The befuddled John Doe can't recall a thing about himself – except for his unusual knowledge of restoring antique furniture. With a smattering of clues and barely enough time to frost Christmas cookies, Hannah must solve a deadly puzzle that could leave her dashing through the snow for her life!

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### **The Captive**

#### **Foster, Fiona King**

In a secessionist rural state that has cut itself off completely from urban centres, where living is hardscrabble and poor but 'free', Brooke Holland runs a farm with her husband, Milo, and two daughters. Their life at the fringes of modern society is tenuous – they make barely enough from each harvest to keep going – yet Brooke cherishes the loving, peaceful life they have carved out for themselves. She has even begun to believe she is free from the violent history she has kept a secret from her family. When escaped criminal Stephen Cawley attacks at the farm, Brooke's buried talents surface, and she manages to quickly and harshly subdue him. She is convinced that he has come in retribution for the blood feud she thought she escaped years ago. Brooke sets out to bring Cawley to justice, planning to use the bounty on his head to hide her family far from danger. Fearing that other members of Cawley's infamous family will soon descend, Brooke insists Milo and the girls flee with her, travelling miles on foot across an unforgiving landscape to reach the nearest marshal. Their journey, started at the onset of winter with little preparation, brings already strained family dynamics to the breaking point. As Brooke's ghosts – both real and imagined – close in, the ruthlessness that let her survive her past may become the biggest threat to her hopes for a different future. What follows is a harrowing exploration of family loyalty, trauma, and resilience.

Noir TP \$37.95

### **Where I Left Her**

#### **Garza, Amber**

Whitney had some misgivings when she dropped her increasingly moody teenage daughter, Amelia, off at Lauren's house. She'd never met the parents, and usually she'd go in, but Amelia clearly wasn't going to let something so humiliating happen, so instead Whitney waded to her daughter before pulling away from the little house with the roses in front. But when she goes back the next day, an elderly couple answers the door – Amelia and Lauren aren't there, and this couple swears they never were, that she's at the wrong house. As Whitney searches for Amelia, she uncovers a trail of lies her daughter has told her – from the Finsta account to rumours of a secret relationship. Does she really even know this girl she's raised? And Amelia's not the only one with secrets. Could Whitney's own demons have something to do with her daughter's disappearance, and can Whitney find her before it's too late?

Thriller TP \$32.99

### **The System**

#### **Gattis, Ryan**

The System can save you, or it can break you... On the sixth of December 1993, a drug dealer named Scrapy is shot and left for

dead on her mother's lawn in South Central Los Angeles. A heroin addict witnesses the shooting and seizes the moment to steal Scrapy's drugs, as well as the handgun that was dropped at the scene. When he's busted, he names two local gang members as the shooters. There's only one problem: one of them is guilty; the other, innocent. None of that matters, though, when the gun turns up again – miles from where the shooting happened – and both are arrested. Innocent or not, the gang tells them both to keep their mouths shut and take their charges. With these two off the streets, Little, the unlikeliest of new gang members, is given a very serious job: discover how the gun got moved, who moved it, and why. Because it had to be a frame up and the cops had to be involved. Hadn't they? Played out in the streets, precincts, jails, and courtrooms of Los Angeles, *The System* is a breakneck journey through every phase of the American criminal justice system. It is the story of a crime – from the moments before shots are fired, to the verdict and its violent aftershocks – told through the vivid chorus of those involved: the guilty, the innocent, the victim, the families who love them, and those simply doing their jobs. After all, justice is a matter of perspective.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$19.99

### **The Fine Art of Invisible Detection** **Goddard, Robert**

*Tokyo, Japan.* Umiko Wada has had enough excitement in life. With an overbearing mother and her husband recently murdered, she just wants to keep her head down. As a secretary to a private detective, her life is pleasantly filled with coffee runs and paperwork. That is, until her boss takes on a new case. A case that is surrounded by shadows. A case that means Wada will have to leave Tokyo and travel to London. *London, England.* Nick Miller never knew his father, and was always told he wasn't missing much. But when an old friend of his late mother says there are things that Nick needs to know about his parents, he can't ignore it. When a chance encounter brings Wada and Nick together, they couldn't know the series of violent events set off by their investigations. And when they discover Nick's father might have been the only witness to a dark secret forever buried, they realise there are some powerful people who will do whatever it takes to keep it that way. This has had excellent feedback from customers, recommended!

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### **Crooked in His Ways**

Lightner & Law mysteries

#### **Goodwin, S M**

Albert Beauchamp disappeared just before Christmas in 1856. When he reappears more than a year later, he's in several pieces, packed in salt in a shipping crate in New Orleans. NYC inspectors Jasper Lightner and his partner, Hieronymus Law, are called in to investigate – but the further they dig into the wealthy financier's background, the dirtier the story gets. On the surface, Beauchamp had a lot of friends. But, as they discover, each had a good reason to hate him. Beauchamp's last will and testament – stashed away in a safety deposit box, along with a king's ransom in jewels – yields few clues,

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but Jasper and Hy discover something even more valuable: a little black book filled with names, dates, and a cache of damning details. Following a trail of leads that reaches back to the early 1840s, the detectives uncover a sordid litany of high society scandals that still threatens the city's moneyed establishment. And the shadowy figure who knows their dirtiest secrets re-emerges with a devious new plan that goes far beyond simple blackmail. The dark shadows grow longer as Jasper and Hy close in on the truth – and a killer lies in wait for his ultimate prey.

Historical mystery HC \$42.99

### Relentless

Gray Man series

#### Greaney, Mark

The first agent disappearance was a puzzle. The second was a mystery. The third was a conspiracy. Intelligence operatives around the world are disappearing. When a missing American agent reappears in Venezuela, Court Gentry, the Gray Man, is dispatched to bring him in, but a team of assassins has other ideas. Court escapes with his life and a vital piece of intelligence. Meanwhile, CIA agent Zoya Zakharova is in Berlin. Her mission: to infiltrate a private intelligence firm with some alarming connections. The closer she gets to answers, the less likely she is to get out alive. Court and Zoya are just two pieces on this international chessboard, and they're about to discover one undeniable truth – sometimes, capturing a king requires sacrificing some pawns.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### Nightmare Alley

film tie-in edition

#### Gresham, William Lindsay

A cool, cruel, rediscovered classic of American noir, soon to be a major motion picture directed by Guillermo del Toro. Stanton Carlisle, employed as a carnny at a travelling circus watches their freak-show geek – an abject alcoholic, the object of the voyeuristic crowd's gleeful disgust and derision – and wonders how a man could fall so low. There's no way in hell, he vows, that anything like that will ever happen to him. Unlike the tragic figure he sees before him, Stan is young, clever and ambitious and quick to learn from the other carnival acts. Initially teaming up with a beautiful but vulnerable woman as part of a double act in which he mesmerises her, Stan soon leaves his circus days behind him, becoming a successful spiritualist who exploits the weak and the wealthy. But even the very best con-men can meet their match... With a new introduction from James Smythe, *Nightmare Alley* is a forgotten classic of Depression-era America: a brilliant, horrifying, compulsive journey into the true darkness of the human mind.

Noir PBK \$19.99

### Murder at the Christmas

#### Cookie Bake-Off

Beacon Bakeshop mysteries

#### Hannah, Darci

With the spirit of the holidays wafting through the Beacon Bakeshop, Lindsey thinks she has the recipe for the sweetest Christmas ever – winning the town-wide cookie bake-off. Unfortunately, striving for a picture-perfect December in Beacon Harbour is a lot like biting into stale shortbread. Low on staff and bombarded by visits from family,

Lindsey can barely meet demands at work, let alone summon the confidence to face fierce competition... Self-appointed Christmas know-it-all Felicity Stewart is determined to take the top spot in the bake-off, and she's not afraid to dump a little coal in everyone's stocking to do it. Just as the competition heats up, everything falls apart when the judge is found dead – and covered in crumbs from Lindsey's signature cookie! Solving a murder was never on Lindsey's wish list. But with her reputation on the line during the happiest time of the year, she'll need to bring her best talents to the table in order to sift out the true Christmas Cookie culprit. The first in a series.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### The Arrangement

#### Harding, Robyn

Natalie, a young art student in New York City, is struggling to pay her bills when a friend makes a suggestion: Why not go online and find a sugar daddy – a wealthy, older man who will pay her for dates and even give her a monthly allowance? Lots of girls do it, Nat learns. All that's required is to look pretty and hang on his every word. Sexual favours are optional. Though more than thirty years her senior, Gabe, a handsome corporate finance attorney, seems like the perfect candidate, and within a month, they are madly in love. At least, Nat is... Gabe already has a family, whom he has no intention of leaving. So, when he abruptly ends things, Nat can't let go. But Gabe's not about to let his sugar baby destroy his perfect life. What was supposed to be a mutually beneficial arrangement devolves into a nightmare of deception, obsession, and, when a body is found near Gabe's posh Upper East Side apartment, murder.

Thriller PBK \$26.95

### Winter of Despair

Gaslight mysteries

#### Harrison, Cora

*November, 1853*. Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins are summoned to examine a body found in an attic studio, surrounded by a lacerated painting titled *A Winter of Despair*. Wilkie recognises the victim as a friend of his brother Charley. What secrets lie among the close-knit group of Pre-Raphaelite painters who were the victim's friends?

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

### Kill Your Brother

#### Heath, Jack

*Would you kill your brother to save yourself?* After months of searching, disgraced athlete Elise Glyk has finally found her missing brother, Callum. He's being held in a backyard prison by Stephanie Hartnell, a former sheep farmer with an axe to grind. But before she can free Callum or call for help, Elise is captured and locked up alongside him. Stephanie Hartnell doesn't have room for two prisoners, and she has nothing against Elise. But she needs to make sure Elise can't go to the police. So, she offers her a deal: kill Callum, and you're free to go. Of course, Elise won't even consider the deal. No way. It's unthinkable. But she's running out of time to find another way out. And her brother may not have told her the whole truth... A twisted rollercoaster of action and suspense from the acclaimed author of *Hangman* (PBK, \$16.99).

Thriller TP \$29.99

### False Conclusion

Bea Abbot mysteries

#### Heley, Veronica

Bea Abbot is looking forward to spending the summer with her 14-year-old ward, Bernice, but her plans go awry when one of Bernice's school-friends finds herself in trouble. Evelina Trescott's uncle has died in a mysterious accident at their country house, and her aunt, Mrs Trescott, is keen to hide Evelina away from the police. Evelina arrives on Bea's doorstep catatonic, heavily drugged up on epilepsy medication and unable to remember finding her uncle's body. Is she really a hapless victim, or is Bea harbouring a wily criminal? The more Bea learns about the troublesome Trescotts, the more she realises something is horribly wrong, and soon finds herself drawn into a dark web of greed, abuse, and murder.

Mystery TP \$39.95

### Wreathing Havoc

Garden Squad mysteries

#### Henry, Julia

Lilly Jayne typically spends the harvest season baking festive pies and crafting colourful wreaths to enter in the library's annual fundraising contest. But this year, autumn opens on a sombre note when beloved local theatre owner, Leon Tompkin, dies unexpectedly. His memorial sets the scene for a mini reunion of the Goosebush Players' best and brightest alumni, including Hollywood star, Jeremy Nolan... until someone plucks Jeremy from the spotlight, permanently. Now, as dedicated theatre volunteer, Scooter McGee, falls under suspicion, Lilly and her Garden Squad must spring into action. They quickly discover a cornucopia of potential suspects in Jeremy's murder. Was it an embittered ex... or a jilted lover? A rival thespian... or an overly ambitious artist? Lilly rakes through the piles of clues, but if she doesn't uncover the real killer soon, more than autumn leaves will be dropping in Goosebush...

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### The Evil in You

#### Herrmann, Jutta Maria

Michaela is sure, it's him. The killer. She's been wrong before, but she knows she's right this time. And she's going to make him pay for what he did – at any cost. Fifteen years earlier: five teenagers, camping by a remote forest lake to celebrate the end of school, are terrorised. All but one are brutally murdered. All, but Michaela. She is left alive, left to try and make sense of the trauma, to piece together the fragmented memories she has of that day. She's seen the killer's face since. She sees him everywhere she looks. But, now, she's certain she's found him. That cold velvet voice is unmistakable... Unable to resist her obsession with bringing her friends' murderer to justice, Michaela decides to take the law into her own hands, triggering events more terrible than that nightmarish summer's day fifteen years earlier. But will she finally understand what really happened?

Thriller TP \$35.95

### Silent Parade

Detective Galileo mysteries

#### Higashino, Keigo

A popular young girl disappears without a trace, her skeletal remains discovered three

years later in the ashes of a burned-out house. There's a suspect and compelling circumstantial evidence of his guilt, but no concrete proof. When he isn't indicted, he returns to mock the girl's family. And this isn't the first time he's been suspected of the murder of a young girl, nearly twenty years ago he was tried and released due to lack of evidence. Chief Inspector Kusanagi of the Homicide Division of the Tokyo Police worked both cases. The neighbourhood in which the murdered girl lived is famous for an annual street festival, featuring a parade with entries from around Tokyo and Japan. During the parade, the suspected killer dies unexpectedly. His death is suspiciously convenient but the people with all the best motives have rock solid alibis. Chief Inspector Kusanagi turns once again to his college friend, Physics professor and occasional police consultant Manabu Yukawa, known as Detective Galileo, to help solve the string of seemingly impossible murders. The series begins with *The Devotion of Suspect X* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery TP \$32.99

### Over the Falls

#### Hodge, Rebecca

Bryn Collins moved to the Eastern Tennessee mountains and never looked back when, fourteen years ago, her fiancé, Sawyer, jilted her for her despised sister, Del. Sawyer was later killed in a plane crash, but Bryn has never been able to forgive her sister for what she did, and instead chooses to spend her days in the idyllic beauty of the rugged landscape. Although a life-threatening accident ended her days navigating the perils of white water, she still finds refuge kayaking in the local lakes. But Bryn's placid life hits the skids when an unwelcome cast of characters re-enters her life. Del goes mysteriously missing, leading her 14-year-old son, Josh, to Bryn's doorstep for help. Then Carl, a troublemaking outcast the sisters knew years before, is desperate to find Del because she owes him money, pulling Bryn into the orbit of his schemes. On the hunt for Del, Bryn and Josh follow an ever-elusive trail to Colorado, and at the annual Mountain Games competition in Vail, they finally confront the truth. For Bryn, all roads lead to the river, and on vicious Colorado white water, she is forced to muster every ounce of courage and strength she has to piece her family back together again.

Mystery/suspense HC \$42.99

### A Memory for Murder

Selma Falck series

#### Holt, Anne

To remember the truth, she'll have to forget the lies... When former high-powered lawyer turned PI Selma Falck is shot and her oldest friend, a junior MP, is killed in a sniper attack, everyone – including the police – assume that Selma was the prime target. But when two other people with connections to the MP are also found murdered, it becomes clear that there is a wider conspiracy at play. As Selma sets out to avenge her friend's death, and discover the truth behind the conspiracy, her own life is threatened once again. Only this time, the danger may be closer to home than she could possibly have realised...

Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

### A Question of Guilt

Cold Case quartet

**Horst, Jorn Lier**

In 1999, 17-year-old Tone Waterland was killed on her way home from work. Desperate for a conviction the police deemed the investigation an open-and-shut case and sent her spurned boyfriend, Danny Momrak, down for murder. But twenty years later William Wisting receives a puzzling letter. It suggests the wrong man was convicted for Tone's death and the real murderer is still out there. Wisting is quickly thrown into a terrifying race against time where he must find the sender, decipher this mysterious letter and catch the real killer before they strike again.

Mystery TP \$32.99

### Murder Most Fair

Verity Kent mysteries

**Huber, Anna Lee**

*November 1919*. A relaxing few weeks by the seaside with her husband, Sidney, could almost convince Verity Kent that life has returned to the pleasant rhythm of pre-war days. Then Verity's beloved Great-Aunt Ilse lands on their doorstep. After years in war-ravaged Germany, Ilse has returned to England to repair her fragile health – and to escape trouble. Someone has been sending her anonymous threats, and Verity's Secret Service contacts can only provide unsettling answers. Even deep in the Yorkshire Dales, where she joins Verity's family for the holidays, Ilse encounters difficulties. Normally peaceful neighbours are hostile, seeking someone to blame for the losses they've endured. When Ilse's maid is found dead, Verity must uncover whether this is anti-German sentiment taken to murderous lengths, or whether there is a more personal motive at work. Could Verity's shadowy nemesis, Lord Ardmore, be involved? And, if so, how much closer to home will the blow land when he inevitably strikes again?

Historical mystery TP \$24.99

### Death at Holly Lodge

Daisy Thorne mysteries

**Innes, Louise R**

Ooh La La hair salon owner Daisy Thorne adores the Christmas cheer in her picturesque hometown of Edgemead, England. Excitement is extra high this year, as international pop star, Mimi Levanté, the village's newest resident, begins renovating historic Holly Lodge. But the charming country home's makeover is cut short by a shocking discovery – the body of a man, dressed as Santa Claus, jammed inside the house's chimney! The secreted Santa is identified as Gregory Pearce, a local father who vanished on Christmas Eve two years ago. As the case moves from missing to murder, Daisy and dashing DCI Paul McGuinness begin combing through the clues of Christmases past. But the killer will go to great lengths to keep old crimes under wraps. Now, DCI McGuinness must protect Daisy as she tries to untangle the mystery before a merry murderer embarks on another slay ride.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Mrs Claus and the Halloween Homicide

Mrs Claus mysteries

**Ireland, Liz**

For the first time ever, Christmastown is celebrating a strange new tradition – Halloween. But not everyone is willing to watch their dependable winter wonderland get overrun by carved pumpkins and costume parties. As a series of scary happenings hit Santaland, each one more intense than the last, April realises having a role in the festivities could cost her family, friends – even her own life. April isn't the only unlucky target. Outspoken elf Tiny Sparkletoe is found dead in the snow outside his cottage, crushed in the middle of what appears to be a monstrous footprint. With mayhem descending like reindeer on rooftops, April must stop the Halloween killer before the fate of Mrs Claus becomes another creepy tale to tell in the dark...

Mystery TP \$29.99

### A General History of the Lives, Murders and Adventures of the Most Notorious Rogues

**Johnson, Captain Charles**

Buoyed by the runaway success of his bestselling *A General History of the Pirates* (1724), Captain Charles Johnson went on to publish a much-expanded edition of the work to include a further 80 accounts of some of the most extraordinary British criminals of the 17th and 18th centuries entitled *A General History of the Lives and Adventures of the Most Famous Pirates, Highwaymen, Murderers, Street-Robbers, &c.* (1734). He added further pirate biographies but expanded the cast to include a ferocious band of ruthless and vicious highwaymen, murderers, and wider criminals. Originally published in folio size, complete with fine engravings, this new collection of rogues includes the very best of these original decorative plates but also presents a series of related illustrations, playbills, and portraits from the British Library collections.

True Crime HC \$63.95

### Your Guide to Not Getting Murdered in a Quaint English Village

**Johnson, Maureen & Cooper, Jay (illustrator)**

Considering a trip to a quaint English village? You'll think twice after learning about the countless murderous possibilities lurking behind the bucolic façades, thanks to this illustrated guide – perfect for fans of cosy mysteries. A weekend, roaming narrow old lanes, touring the faded glories of a country manor, and quaffing pints in the pub. How charming. That is, unless you have the misfortune of finding yourself in an English Murder Village, where danger lurks around each picturesque cobblestone corner and every sip of tea may be your last. If you insist on your travels, do yourself a favour and bring a copy of this little book. It may just keep you alive. Brought to life with dozens of Gorey-esque drawings by illustrator Jay Cooper and peppered with allusions to classic crime series and unmistakably British murder lore, *Your Guide to Not Getting Murdered in a Quaint English Village* gives you the tools

you need to avoid the same fate, should you find yourself in a suspiciously cosy English village (or simply dream of going). Good luck! And whatever you do, avoid the vicar.

Humour HC \$24.99

### Hooked on a Feline

Magical Cats mysteries

**Kelly, Sofie**

It's summer in Mayville Heights, and Kathleen Paulson and her detective boyfriend, Marcus, are eager to attend the closing concert of the local music festival. The concert is a success, but then one of the band members is discovered dead shortly after it. At first it's assumed the death is a robbery gone wrong, but Kathleen suspects foul play – and she's certain that she, along with her trusty side-cats, Owen and Hercules, can help solve the murder. Before his death, Kathleen had noticed the victim in the library researching his genealogy, and when she and Marcus take a closer look at the man's family tree, they begin to think a previous death of one of his relatives now seems suspicious. The more Kathleen thinks about it, the more this murder feels like it could be an encore performance. Kathleen and her cats will need to act fast and be very careful if they want to stay off of a killer's hit list.

Mystery HC \$39.99

### Whatever the Cost

Welker & Saboy series

**Kurland, Michael**

*September 1939*. Germany has declared war on Poland, and in German Pomerania, Professor Josef Brun is on the run from the SS, carrying secret documents that could change the course of the war. If he can make it to France or Britain. If he can survive... In America, counter-intelligence agent Captain Jacob Welker is handed a special assignment from President Roosevelt. Einstein believes the Nazis are aware of a new super weapon made possible by advances in atomic science, and only a small group of scientists can stop them winning the race to develop it. Enlisting the help of his British friends, Lord Geoffrey and Patricia Saboy, Welker must find the scientists and get them out of Germany from under the Nazi's noses. As a dangerous new world of physics gathers pace, can Welker prevent the war taking a catastrophic new turn?

Historical suspense TP \$39.95

### The Mother Next Door

**Laskowski, Tara**

The annual Halloween block party is the pinnacle of the year on idyllic suburban cul-de-sac Ivy Woods Drive. An influential group of neighbourhood moms – known as the Ivy Five – plans the event for months. Except the Ivy Five has been *four*, for a long time. When a new mother moves to town, eager to fit in, the moms see it as an opportunity to make the group whole again. This year's block party should be the best yet... until the women start receiving anonymous messages threatening to expose the quiet neighbourhood's dark past – and the lengths they've gone to hide it. As secrets seep out and the threats intensify, the Ivy Five must sort the loyal from the disloyal, the good from the bad. They'll do anything to protect their families. But when a twisted plot is revealed, with dangerous consequences, their steady

foundation begins to crumble, leaving only one certainty: after this year's block party, Ivy Woods Drive will never be the same.

Thriller TP \$29.99

### Coached in the Act

Cat & Gilley Life Coach mysteries

**Laurie, Victoria**

Wild rumours are swirling in the Hamptons over *Twelve Angry Men*, a ruthlessly revealing one-woman show written and performed by Yelena Galanis. The well-known socialite dated her way through some of the East End's most eligible bachelors, and now she's sparing few details spilling their humiliating secrets. It's a mean-spirited spectacle that urges Cat to make a beeline for the theatre exit during the first act – only to later discover that Yelena was found stabbed to death during intermission. Believing eleven other barely anonymous men had reasons to kill the thespian for playing a cruel game of kiss and tell, Cat teams up with her sidekick, Gilley, to track down Yelena's list of rejected lovers and identify the vengeful culprit stalking around the seaside community, lingering frighteningly close to home...

Mystery HC \$39.99

### Untraceable

**Lebedev, Sergei**

Professor Kalitin is a ruthless, narcissistic chemist who has developed an untraceable, extremely lethal poison called Neophyte, while working in a secret city on an island in the Russian far east. When the Soviet Union collapses, he defects and is given a new identity in Germany. After an unrelated Russian is murdered with Kalitin's poison, his cover is blown and he's drawn into the German investigation of the death. Two special-force killers with a lot of Chechen blood on their hands are sent to silence him – using his own undetectable poison. Their journey to their target is full of blunders, mishaps, hold-ups, and accidents. An extraordinary and angry Russian novel about poisons of all kinds: physical, moral and political.

Suspense PBK \$19.99

### Run for Cover

Michael Gannon series

**Ledwidge, Michael**

Fresh from a lethal entanglement with some of the darkest players in the global intelligence services, Michael Gannon heads to the safest place he can think of: deep in the wilds of Utah on the ranch of one of his oldest and closest war buddies. But when his friend's brother is found dead in the rocky foothills of Grand Teton, Gannon realises there are some things more important than keeping your head down. Is his death just one in a string of grisly murders mysteriously occurring around national parks – or a part of something even more sinister?

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### Murder Gets a Makeover

Jaine Austen mysteries

**Levine, Laura**

Uber-stylist Bebe Braddock plans to juice up her Instagram feed, and thinks Jaine would make a perfect 'Before & After' model. At Lance's insistence Jaine is ushered into Bebe's sprawling Brentwood spread to await her transformation. Yet, while the

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

surroundings are glamorous, the atmosphere is toxic as Bebe bullies her team of assistants, and even her husband, into obeying her every whim. Having earned the wrath of everyone in her orbit, few are shocked when Bebe is found strangled with one of her detested wire hangers. But Jaïne's prints are all over the murder weapon, making her a prime suspect. The police, however, aren't the only ones showing interest in her – so is Justin, Bebe's very cute, very young personal assistant. While Jaïne navigates a cougar-style romance, Prozac is mistakenly hailed as a feline hero and catapults into internet fame. Still, there are more urgent matters at hand than Prozac's swelling ego. Because unless Jaïne can track down Bebe's killer and clear her own name, the only new outfit she'll be modelling is an orange prison jumpsuit...

Mystery HC \$39.99

### **Murder's a Swine:**

#### **A Second World War Mystery** British Library Crime Classics

##### **Lombard, Nap**

In the blackout conditions of a wintry London night, amateur sleuth Agnes Kinghof and a young air-raid warden have stumbled upon a corpse stowed in the walls of their street's bomb shelter. As the police begin their investigation, the night is interrupted once again when Agnes' upstairs neighbour, Mrs Sibley is terrorised by the sight of a grisly pig's head at her fourth-floor window. With the discovery of more sinister threats mysteriously signed Pig-sticker, Agnes and her husband, Andrew – unable to resist a good mystery – begin their investigation to deduce the identity of a villain living amongst them in their block of flats. A witty and light-hearted mystery, full of intriguing period detail, this rare gem of Golden Age crime returns to print – for the first time since its publication in 1943.

Classic mystery TP \$33.95

### **Diamond and the Eye**

Detective Peter Diamond mysteries

##### **Lovesey, Peter**

If there's one thing detective Bath Peter Diamond has no patience for, it's a dumb git trying to get involved in one of his investigations – for example, a Philip Marlowe-wannabe private investigator like the self-styled Johnny Getz (his card claims he Getz results). But fate has saddled Diamond with this trial. A Bath antiques dealer, Septimus Seppy Hubbard, has disappeared without a trace, and his daughter, Ruby, has hired Johnny Getz to find him. When a dead body is discovered in Seppy's locked-up store, the missing person's case becomes a murder investigation, and now Diamond has to collaborate with the insufferable private eye.

Mystery HC \$55.00

### **Heather and Homicide**

Highland Bookshop mysteries

##### **MacRae, Molly**

True crime writer Heather Kilbride arrives in the seacoast town of Invergaill, Scotland, to research a recent murder for her new book. But if that's true, why does she seem more interested in William Clark, the elderly third floor tenant, dead in the backyard – dressed in a sheet like a ghost. With her niece traumatised, Julia Snowden must uncover who among the uninvited guests was responsible for devising such a murderous trick...

her crew of amateur sleuths at Yon Bonnie Books. Heather's unconventional research methods prove deadly when Janet discovers her lifeless body. Except the 'body' turns out to be a dummy – dressed up to look like Heather. Meanwhile, Heather is sitting at a safe distance observing Janet's reactions. Then Heather is found dead – again – sprawled at the base of an ancient standing stone; and this time it's for real. Clutched in her hand is a valuable miniature book last seen at Yon Bonnie Books, and now the police want to know how Heather, the miniature book, and Janet are all connected. But Janet and her group of sleuths have two questions of their own: Who else is interested in knowing that connection – and is that person a cold-blooded killer?

Mystery TP \$24.99

### **The Russian Wife**

Brock & Kolla series

##### **Maitland, Barry**

When the Russian wife of the owner of one of the most valuable private collections of modern art in the UK is found dead, DCI David Brock is drawn into a high-stakes world very different to his own. From the dealers and galleries in London's West End, his investigations take him to Hanover, Miami and New York on the trail of international forgery and fraud. At the same time, his old colleague DCI Kathy Kolla, who now leads one of the Metropolitan Police Murder Investigation teams, finds herself at the wrong end of a corruption charge. With her whole career in the balance, she will do almost anything to clear her name. 'Barry Maitland is one of Australia's finest crime writers.' – *Sunday Tasmanian*.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### **The Back-To-Front Murder**

New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

##### **Major, Tim**

May 1898. A new client arrives at Baker Street – Abigail Moore, a wealthy, independent writer of successful mystery stories under a male pseudonym. She presents an unusual problem. Abigail claims that she devised a man's death that was reported in that morning's newspaper: that is, she planned his murder as an event to be included in one of her mystery stories. Following real people and imagining how she might murder them and get away with it is how Abigail comes up with her plots, but this 'victim' has actually died, apparently of the poison method she meticulously planned in her notebook. Someone is trying to frame Abigail for his death, but with the evidence stacking up against her, she turns to Holmes to prove her innocence.

Sherlockiana PBK \$19.99

### **The Land**

##### **Maltman, Thomas**

Recovering from a terrible auto accident just before the turn of the millennium, college dropout and hobbyist computer-game programmer Lucien Swenson becomes the caretaker of a house in northern Minnesota. Shortly after moving in, Lucien sets out to find a woman with whom he had an affair, who vanished along with money stolen from the bank where they had worked together. His search will take him to Rose of Sharon, a white supremacist church deep in the wilderness, where a cabal of outcasts awaits

the end of the world at a place they call The Land. Lucien is visited at the house by a mysterious guest, who may not be who she claims, as well as a vast flock of violent ravens out of an apocalyptic vision.

Noir TP \$29.99

### **Ghosts of the West**

Drabble & Harris mysteries

##### **Marsh, Alec**

When daring journalist Sir Percival Harris gets wind of a curious crime in a sleepy English town, he ropes in his old friend Professor Ernest Drabble to help him investigate. The crime is a grave robbery, and as Drabble and Harris pry deeper, events take a mysterious turn when a theft at the British Museum is soon followed by a murder. The friends are soon involved in a tumultuous quest that takes them from the genteel streets of London to the wide plains of the United States. What exactly is at stake is not altogether clear – but if they don't act soon, the outcome could be a bloody conflict, one that will cross borders, continents, and oceans... Meanwhile, can Drabble and Harris' friendship – which has endured near-death experiences on several continents, not to mention a boarding school duel – survive a crisis in the shape of the beautiful and enigmatic Dr Charlotte Moore? The first in this series is *Rule Britannia* (PBK, \$24.99).  
Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

### **Murder at Wakehurst**

Gilded Newport mysteries

##### **Maxwell, Alyssa**

Following the death of her uncle, Cornelius Vanderbilt, in September 1899, a sombre Emma is in no mood for one of Newport's extravagant parties. But to keep Vanderbilt's reckless son Neely out of trouble, she agrees to accompany him to an Elizabethan fete on the lavish grounds of Wakehurst, the Ochre Point cottage modelled after an English palace, owned by Anglophile James Van Alen. Held in Wakehurst's English-style gardens, the festivities will include a swordplay demonstration, an archery competition, scenes from Shakespeare's plays, and even a joust. As Emma wanders the grounds distracted by grief, she overhears a fierce argument between a man and a woman behind a tall hedge. As the joust begins, she's drawn by the barking of Van Alen's dogs and finds a man on the ground, an arrow through his chest. The victim is one of the 400's most influential members, Judge Clayton Schuyler. Could one of the countless criminals he'd imprisoned over the years have returned to seek revenge – or could one of his own family members have targeted him? With the help of her beau Derrick Andrews and Detective Jesse Whyte, Emma begins to learn the judge was not the straight arrow he appeared to be. As their investigation leads them in ever-widening circles, Emma will have to score a bull's eye to stop the killer from taking another life...

Historical mystery HC \$39.99

### **Bodies from the Library 4:**

Lost Tales of Mystery and Suspense

from the Golden Age of Detection

##### **Medawar, Tony (editor)**

This annual anthology of rare stories of crime and suspense brings together tales from the Golden Age of Detective Fiction for the first time in book form, including a short novel by

Christianna Brand. Mystery stories have been around for centuries – there are whodunits, whydunits, and howdunits, including locked-room puzzles, detective stories without detectives, and crimes with a limited choice of suspects. Countless volumes of such stories have been published, but some are still impossible to find: stories that appeared in a newspaper, magazine or an anthology that has long been out of print; ephemeral works such as plays not aired, staged or screened for decades; and unpublished stories that were absorbed into an author's archive when they died... Here, for the first time, are three never-before-published mysteries by Edmund Crispin, Ngaio Marsh and Leo Bruce, and two pieces written for radio by Gladys Mitchell and H C Bailey – the latter featuring Reggie Fortune. Together with a newly unearthed short story by Ethel Lina White that inspired Hitchcock's *The Lady Vanishes*, and a complete short novel by Christianna Brand, this diverse mix of tales by some of the world's most popular classic crime writers contains something for everyone. Complete with indispensable biographies by Tony Medawar of all the featured authors, the fourth volume in the series *Bodies from the Library*, once again, brings into the daylight the forgotten, the lost and the unknown.

Mystery HC \$29.99

### **Halloween Party Murder**

seasonal cosy anthology

##### **Meier, Leslie; Hollis, Lee; Ross, Barbara**

Small town traditions are celebrated throughout Maine during the holiday season. But when it comes to Halloween, some people are more than willing to reap a harvest of murder... *Halloween Party Murder* by Leslie Meier: Tinker's Cove newest residents Ty and Heather Moon turn their Victorian home into a haunted house to raise funds for charity. But the Halloween fun turns to horrific fright when Heather overdoses on tainted drugs – and Ty finds himself accused of murder. Digging deep into the story, journalist Lucy Stone uncovers some sinister secrets in the Moons' past linked to a conspiracy in her hometown... *Death of a Halloween Party Monster* by Lee Hollis: Everyone attending Island Times Food and Cocktail columnist Hayley Powell's Halloween bash is dressed as their favourite movie monster from the Bride of Frankenstein and Jaws to Chucky and Pennywise the clown. But when partygoers stumble upon Boris Candy's bludgeoned costumed corpse, it falls to Hayley to discover who among her guests wanted to stop the man from clowning around permanently... *Scared Off* by Barbara Ross: Three teenage girls having a sleepover on Halloween night get spooked when high schoolers crash the house for a party. But no one expected to find a crasher like Mrs Zelisko, the elderly third floor tenant, dead in the backyard – dressed in a sheet like a ghost. With her niece traumatised, Julia Snowden must uncover who among the uninvited guests was responsible for devising such a murderous trick...

Mystery HC \$39.99

### **Striking Range**

Timber Creek K-9 mysteries

##### **Mizushima, Margaret**

He was suspect number one – the man who tried to kill Deputy Mattie Cobb and may have killed her father thirty years earlier.

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

But when Mattie and cold case detective Jim Hauck reach the Colorado state prison where they will finally get to interview him, he's found dead in his cell. There's only one clue: a map leading to Timber Creek and rugged Redstone Ridge. Though she usually works with veterinarian Cole Walker, Mattie's K-9 partner Robo has just sired a litter of pups, who require special, time-consuming care at Cole's clinic. Left to explore the map's clue without him, Mattie and Robo journey into the burned forest surrounding Redstone Ridge. But before they can finish their search they're called to help investigate the death of a young woman found in a campground filled with elk hunters. Identification of the deceased points to her having recently given birth, but the infant is nowhere to be found. As a deadly storm descends upon the mountains, covering everything with a layer of ice and snow, Mattie and her team search for the missing newborn. The storm batters the area, taking its toll on the team and forcing the sheriff to call in reinforcements. When new evidence surfaces, they decide that finding the woman's killer will lead them to her baby, making them even more desperate to solve the case. Then Cole goes missing, stranded alone in the high country with a person that Mattie now suspects is the mastermind behind several murders, including her father's. She and Robo take to the trail to find Cole – but the killer has a cold-blooded plan that threatens them all.

Mystery/suspense HC \$42.99

### Blood Grove

Easy Rawlins series

#### Mosley, Walter

Ezekiel 'Easy' Porterhouse Rawlins is an unlicensed private investigator, turned hardboiled detective, always willing to do what it takes to get things done in the racially charged, dark underbelly of Los Angeles. But when Easy is approached by a shell-shocked Vietnam War veteran – a young white man who claims to have gotten into a fight protecting a white woman from a black man – he knows he shouldn't take the case. Though, he sees nothing but trouble in the brooding ex-soldier's eyes, Easy, a vet, himself, feels a kinship form between them. Easy embarks on an investigation that takes him from mountaintops to the desert, through South Central and into sex clubs and the homes of the fabulously wealthy, facing hippies, the mob, and old friends perhaps more dangerous than anyone else.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### Forfeit

Ikmen mysteries

#### Nadel, Barbara

In the early hours of the morning, Turkish TV star Erol Gencer is found dead at his home on the outskirts of Istanbul. But he is not alone. Beside him lies a Syrian refugee whose stomach has been split open with a cheese knife. Did Gencer kill his guest before committing suicide, or are they victims of a sinister double murder? The dead Syrian is soon identified as Wael Al Hussain, whose wife, Samira, is in prison for attempting to kill Gencer a year ago. At the time, no one believed Samira's story that Gencer's wife had planned the attack, but now Samira's sister begs Cetin Ikmen to re-examine her claim. Meanwhile, Inspector Mehmet Suleyman is

on leave with his teenage son, Patrick, who is visiting from Ireland, but when Detective Kerim Gursel's transsexual ex-lover, Pembe, is also murdered, shortly after confessing that Wael Al Hussain had used her for sexual favours, Suleyman knows he must help Kerim solve this complex case. Entering a world of the Syrian diaspora, where tales of mythical storytellers abound, Ikmen and Suleyman uncover a tragic tale of dark secrets and double lives, where nothing is at it seems...

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### Black Drop

#### Natrass, Leonora

*This is the confession of Laurence Jago.*

*Clerk. Gentleman. Reluctant spy.* July 1794, and the streets of London are filled with rumours of revolution. Political radical Thomas Hardy is to go on trial for treason, the war against the French is not going in Britain's favour, and negotiations with the independent American colonies are on a knife edge. Laurence Jago – clerk to the Foreign Office – is ever more reliant on the Black Drop to ease his nightmares. A highly-sensitive letter has been leaked to the press, which may lead to the destruction of the British Army, and Laurence is a suspect. Then he discovers the body of a fellow clerk, supposedly a suicide. Blame for the leak is shifted to the dead man, but even as the body is taken to the anatomists, Laurence is certain both of his friend's innocence, and that he was murdered. But after years of hiding his own secrets from his powerful employers, and at a time when even the slightest hint of treason can lead to the gallows, how can Laurence find the true culprit without incriminating himself? An atmospheric and brilliantly-plotted historical thriller set in London during the uproar of the French Revolution.

Historical thriller TP \$29.99

### The House of Ashes

#### Neville, Stuart

Sara Keane's husband, Damien, has uprooted them from England and moved them to his native Northern Ireland for a 'fresh start' in the wake of her nervous breakdown. Sara, who knows no one in Northern Ireland, is jobless, careless, friendless – all but a prisoner in her own house. When a blood-soaked old woman beats on the door, insisting the house is hers before being bundled back to her care facility, Sara begins to understand the house has a terrible history her husband never intended for her to discover. As the two women form a bond over their shared traumas, Sara finds the strength to stand up to her abuser, and Mary – silent for six decades – is, finally, ready to tell her story...

Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

### At First Light

Dr Evan Wilding series

#### Nickless, Barbara

On the muddy banks of the Calumet River, a body has been found posed next to a series of mysterious glyphs and bearing wounds from a ritualistic slaying. Chicago detective Addie Bisset knows only one man who can decipher the message left by the killer: her friend Dr Evan Wilding. A brilliant forensic semiotician, Evan decodes the etchings as Viking Age runes. They suggest either human sacrifice or righteous punishment. But to what god? And for what sins? Only one thing is

clear from the disturbing runic riddles: there are more victims to come. As Evan races to determine the identity of the Viking Poet, he and Addie uncover the killer's most terrifying secret yet: the motive. This startling discovery puts Evan's life in mortal danger, and verse by ancient verse, time is running out.

Mystery/suspense TP \$35.95

### The Molten City

Tom Harper mysteries

#### Nickson, Chris

*Leeds, September 1908.* There's going to be a riot. Detective Superintendent Tom Harper can feel it. Herbert Asquith, the prime minister, is due to speak in the city. The suffragettes and the unemployed men will be out in the streets in protest. It's Harper's responsibility to keep order. Can he do it? Harper has also received an anonymous letter claiming that a young boy called Andrew Sharp was stolen from his family, 14 years before. The file is worryingly thin. It ought to have been bulging. A missing child should have been headline news. Why was Andrew's disappearance ignored? Determined to uncover the truth about Andrew Sharp and bring the boy some justice, Harper is drawn deep into the dark underworld of child snatching, corruption, and murder – as Leeds becomes a molten, rioting city.

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

### Last One Alive

Detective Kjeld Nygaard series

#### Nordin, Karin

They survived once. Can he save them this time? When Detective Kjeld Nygaard is called to the discovery of a body in the burnt-out shell of a house, his heart sinks. He never wanted to see this house again. The house of a notorious serial killer. The house where he rescued Louisa Karlsson from being murdered. But when they discover the body is in fact Louisa, the mystery deepens. It can't be the old serial killer. He's dead. Then another body is found, again killed in the exact place where Kjeld saved them from another murderer. Another survivor dead. With the clock ticking Kjeld and his partner Detective Esme Jansson are desperate to stop any more survivors from being murdered. But every clue they find leads to a dead end. Why is the killer picking off people Kjeld rescued? Could it be connected to another of his previous cases? When Kjeld's daughter is kidnapped – it's a race against time to save her life. Can Kjeld stop the killer without paying the ultimate price or will he be the last one alive?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### Left for Dead

#### O'Brien, Kevin

When Claire Shaw wakes in a Seattle hospital, she remembers nothing of what has happened to her. She doesn't recognise the concerned faces of her husband and friends. She knows only that she is lucky to be alive, the single surviving victim of a vicious serial killer. She was a mistake – not like the others. She didn't understand. That was obvious, now. But she would come to understand. Next time, there would be no escape – and her eyes would fill with that perfect, beautiful terror... On an island isolated from the mainland, Claire has returned to a life she barely knows anymore. A town that feels as if

it, too, is hiding something in its dark woods, remote cabins, and chilly smiles. Bit by bit, Claire's memory is taking terrifying shape in a place where fear is very much at home...

Thriller PBK \$26.95

### One True Patriot

Eric Steele series

#### Parnell, Sean

Two months after taking down terrorist Aleksandr Zakayev, Eric Steele is back in action. Though he is completing his Alpha assignments with the same deadly efficiency as always, he has lingering questions about his missing father – and his own future in the Program. When Steele gets the alert that a fellow Alpha is in serious trouble, he rushes to Paris – only to arrive too late. Jonathan Raines, Stalker Six, is dead, the victim of a brutal attack. While on leave in the City of Light, Raines had met an attractive art historian who lured him into a trap. Before she vanished, the mysterious woman left a warning for anyone from the Alpha program who might follow her. One of the best and most effective warriors in the top-secret Program, Steele has been trained to take on enemies, and no threat will deter him from avenging a fallen brother. But the killer won't be easy to find. The search takes Steele around the world, from France, to the Adriatic coast of Italy, to the outskirts of Aleppo, Syria, and to a top-secret prison in Russia – where, unexpectedly, he finds more clues about his father – before finally taking him back to the streets of Washington, DC. No one is safe while the killer is on the loose, and the danger is heightened when Steele discovers intel that killing Alphas is just the beginning of a larger, more nefarious plot. The real target is much, much bigger – and it's up to Steele to prevent catastrophe before he becomes the next elite warrior to fall.

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### The Sharpest Needle

Lillian Frost & Edith Head mysteries series

#### Patrick, Renee

*1939, Los Angeles.* Marion Davies has a problem. The actress has received poison pen letters highlighting an embarrassing event in her past from the mysterious 'Argus'. Can Lillian Frost and her friend and partner in crime, celebrated costume designer Edith Head, expose the writer before they expose Marion? Lillian's boss, millionaire inventor Addison Rice, seems to think so, but when Lillian speaks to her idol, Marion is reluctant to reveal her secrets, fearful of jeopardising her affair with newspaper tycoon W R Hearst. Is a prankster simply trying to tarnish the reputation of one of Hollywood's leading ladies, or is something more sinister going on behind the scenes? As Lillian and Edith are drawn into increasingly dangerous and disturbing territory, their enquiries take an unexpected and stunningly dark twist...

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

### The Lost Apothecary

#### Penner, Sarah

*A forgotten history. A secret network of women. A legacy of poison and revenge.* Welcome to the *Lost Apothecary*... Hidden in the depths of 18th-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women across the city whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella, who

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in their lives. But the apothecary's fate is jeopardised when her newest patron, a precocious 12-year-old, makes a fatal mistake, sparking a string of consequences that echo through the centuries. Meanwhile, in present-day London, aspiring historian Caroline Parcewell spends her 10th wedding anniversary alone, running from her own demons. When she stumbles upon a clue to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London 200 years ago, her life collides with the apothecary's, in a stunning twist of fate – and not everyone will survive.

Mystery HC \$39.99

### Murder at the Royal Botanic Gardens

Wrexford & Sloane mysteries

#### Penrose, Andrea

One advantage of being caught up in a whirl of dress fittings and decisions about flower arrangements and breakfast menus is that Charlotte Sloane has little time for any pre-wedding qualms. Her love for Wrexford isn't in question. But will being a wife – and a Countess – make it difficult for her to maintain her independence – not to mention, her secret identity as famed satirical artist A J Quill? Despite those concerns, there are soon even more urgent matters to attend to during Charlotte and Wrexford's first public outing as an engaged couple. At a symposium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, a visiting botanist suffers a fatal collapse. The traces of white powder near his mouth reveal the dark truth – he was murdered. Drawn into the investigation, Charlotte and the Earl learn of the victim's involvement in a momentous medical discovery. With fame and immense fortune at stake, there's no shortage of suspects, including some whose ruthlessness is already known. But neither Charlotte nor her husband-to-be can realise how close the danger is about to get – or to what lengths, this villain is prepared to go...

Historical mystery HC \$39.99

### Murder at Queen's Landing

Wrexford & Sloane mysteries

#### Penrose, Andrea

When Lady Cordelia, a brilliant mathematician, and her brother, Lord Woodbridge, disappear from London, rumours swirl concerning fraudulent bank loans and a secret consortium engaged in an illicit – and highly profitable – trading scheme that threatens the entire British economy. The incriminating evidence mounts, but for Charlotte and Wrexford, it's a question of loyalty and friendship. And, so they begin a new investigation to clear the siblings' names, uncover their whereabouts, and unravel the truth behind the whispers. Charlotte and Wrexford also struggle to navigate their increasingly complex feelings for each other. But the clock is ticking – a cunning mastermind has emerged... along with some unexpected allies – and Charlotte and Wrexford must race to prevent myriad disasters as they are forced into a dangerous game of wits in an attempt to beat the enemy at his own game.

Historical mystery TP \$24.99

### A Darker Reality

Elena Standish

#### Perry, Anne

*Spring, 1934.* With the threat of war looming, political tensions begin to rise... Elena Standish, a young English photographer who works for British Intelligence, is visiting her grandparents' home in Washington DC when tragedy strikes. A lavish party is held to mark her grandparent's sixtieth wedding anniversary and Elena takes pride in capturing the event on camera, but when the beautiful wife of a renowned scientist is found murdered in the driveway, allegedly run over by Elena's grandfather's car, Elena's world is turned upside down. Arrested on suspicion of murder, Wyatt Baylor protests his innocence, claiming he has enemies who are trying to frame him. But who are these enemies and how can Elena defend a man she barely knows? Turning to secret agent James Allenby for help, Elena must uncover the truth behind the events of that fateful night. But can she trust Allenby or her family and is she willing to risk everything in her pursuit of the truth?

Suspense PBK \$22.99

### Be My Ghost

Haunted Haven mysteries

#### Perry, Carol J

Maureen's career as a sportswear buyer hits a snag just before Halloween, when the department store declares bankruptcy. Meanwhile, Finn's lost his way as a guide dog after flunking his test for being too friendly and easily distracted. Sadly, only one of them can earn unemployment, so Maureen's facing a winter of discontent in Boston – when she realises she can't afford her apartment. Salvation comes when she receives a mysterious inheritance: an inn in Haven, Florida. A quaint, scenic town on the Gulf of Mexico hidden away from the theme parks, Maureen believes it's a good place to make a fresh start with a new business venture. But she gets more than she bargained for when she finds a dead body on her property – and meets some of the inn's everlasting tenants in the form of ghosts who offer their otherworldly talents in order to help her solve the mystery...

Mystery TP \$24.99

### Eddie's Boy

Butcher's Boy series

#### Perry, Thomas

Michael Shaeffer is a retired American businessman, living peacefully in England with his aristocratic wife. But her annual summer party brings strangers to their house, and with them, an attempt on Michael's life. He is immediately thrust into action, luring his lethal pursuers to Australia before venturing into the lion's den – the States – to figure out why the mafia is after him again, and how to stop them. *Eddie's Boy* jumps between Michael's current predicament and the past, between the skill set he now ruthlessly and successfully employs, and the training that made him what he is. We glimpse the days before he became the Butcher's Boy, the highly skilled hit man who pulled a slaughter job on some double-crossing clients and started a mob war, to his childhood spent apprenticed to Eddie, a seasoned hired assassin. And we watch him pit two prominent mafia families

against each other to eliminate his enemies one by one. He's meticulous in his approach, using an old contact turned adversary in the Organised Crime Division of the Justice Department for information, without ever allowing her to get too close to his trail. But will he be able to escape this new wave of young contract killers, or will the years finally catch up to him?

Thriller TP \$37.95

### An Eggnog to Die For

Cape Cod Foodie mysteries

#### Pershing, Amy

Professional foodie Samantha Barnes has a special Christmas list: a quiet holiday at home with her dog and a certain handsome harbour master; no embarrassing viral videos; and no finding dead bodies. Unfortunately, she's got family visiting, she's spending a lot of time in front of the camera, and she's just stumbled over the lifeless body of the town's Santa Claus. Plus, Sam's plans for Christmas Eve are getting complicated. There's the great eggnog debate among her very opinionated guests. There's the 'all edible' Christmas tree to decorate. And there's her Feast of the Five Fishes prepare. Nonetheless, Sam finds herself once again in the role of sleuth. She needs to find out who slayed this Santa – but can she pull off a perfect feast and nab a killer?

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Under Pressure

Lucas Page series

#### Pohl, Robert

On a beautiful October evening, New York City's iconic Guggenheim Museum is closed for a tech company's private gala. Until an explosion rocks the night, instantly killing 702 people, including every single attendee – yet, the damage to the building itself was minimal. An explosion of that precision was no accident and, in response, the FBI mobilises its entire team – but the sheer number of victims strains their resources. Were all 702 victims in the wrong place at the wrong time, or was there only one target and 701 unlucky bystanders? That many victim files is a staggering amount of data to sort through and Brett Kehoe, Special Agent in Charge of Manhattan, decides that he can't do this without more computational power. Dr Lucas Page, astrophysicist, university professor, and former FBI agent, is uniquely gifted for the task at hand – he can visualise a crime scene as if he was a bystander and can break down any set of data at a glance. Even though Page wants nothing to do with the FBI, with his city under attack and his family at risk, he steps in to find a killer in a haystack before they strike again.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### Murder Can Frost

#### Your Doughnut

Haunted Craft Fair mysteries

#### Pressey, Rose

Celeste has pulled up in her pink Shasta trailer, *aka* mobile art studio, to the Sevier County Fair in the mountains of eastern Tennessee to sell her paintings. A highlight of the fair promises to be the celebrity impersonation contest. But the low point is when Celeste and her floppy-eared white Chihuahua Van (short for Van Gogh) find an Elvis impersonator in his trailer doing

a great impression of a corpse, clutching a doughnut in his hand. Seeking a vision to solve the crime, Celeste paints her own Elvis portrait – and suddenly the ghost of the Elvis impersonator appears. They say fools rush in, but with the help of this spirit, Celeste sets out to find the real killer among all the fake celebrities. It's now or never, because there won't be time to tell the killer: 'Don't be cruel.'

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Grave Reservations

Booking Agents series

#### Priest, Cherie

Meet Leda Foley: devoted friend, struggling travel agent, and inconsistent psychic. When Leda, sole proprietor of Foley's Flights of Fancy, impulsively re-books Seattle PD detective Grady Merritt's flight, her life changes in ways she couldn't have predicted. After watching his original plane blow up from the safety of the airport, Grady realises that Leda's special abilities could help him with a cold case he just can't crack. Despite her scattershot premonitions, she agrees for a secret reason: her fiancé's murder remains unsolved. Leda's psychic abilities couldn't help the case several years before, but she's been honing her skills and drawing a crowd at her favourite bar's open-mic nights, where she performs Klairvoyant Karaoke – singing whatever song comes to mind when she holds people's personal effects. Now, joined by a rag-tag group of bar patrons and pals alike, Leda and Grady set out to catch a killer – and learn how the two cases that haunt them have more in common than they ever suspected. The first in a new series by the acclaimed Cherie Priest, who is more generally known for speculative fiction.

Mystery HC \$45.00

### Count to Three

#### Ragan, T R

On her first day of kindergarten, five-year-old Tinsley disappeared without a trace... Five agonising years later, her divorcing mother, Dani Callahan, a private investigator. She and Quinn Sullivan, a promising young assistant determined to prove herself, are devoted to helping others find missing loved ones. And for Dani, finding Tinsley is still a never-ending obsession. Their newest case is Ali Cross, a teenager who vanished off a Sacramento street while walking home. A troubled boy's eyewitness testimony to Ali's abduction provides their only clues. And as their search for Ali gets underway, new information about Tinsley's disappearance begins to surface too. As their investigations lead down two twisting paths, disturbing secrets are revealed and new victims find themselves in mortal danger. Time is running out, and the hunt is only getting grimmer.

Thriller TP \$35.95

### The Kill Box

Tyce Asher series

#### Rawlings, H Ripley

America is under new management. Russian forces have occupied both coasts. They are taking our weapons, pillaging our resources, and destroying our nation. Those who resist are swiftly punished. Those who revolt are savagely killed... Marine Corps officer Tyce Asher is a lone wolf patriot who will never

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

surrender. He's assembled a ragtag team of long-haul truckers and citizen soldiers willing to die for their freedoms. Their network has learned that the invaders are planning to seize cargo that will bring America to its knees – and a sadistic Russian has marked Asher for death. There is only one way to stop them: Asher and his team must meet the enemy, face to face – and enter the Kill Box...

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### The Devil's Harmony

Phineas Fox mysteries

**Rayne, Sarah**

When music researcher Phineas Fox is asked to verify the contents of an old scrapbook, rescued from the site of the historic Chopin Library in Warsaw, he is initially sceptical. But he soon discovers an intriguing link between the Library and an infamous piece of music known as the Dark Cadence. Legend has it that the Dark Cadence was only performed at a traitor's execution – and it has never been written down. It is believed to have last been played on the night the Chopin Library was destroyed during the Nazi occupation of World War II. What really happened that terrible night in October 1944? What is the connection with an equally dreadful night in Russia in 1918, the night the Tsar and his family were executed? And what are the repercussions for the present...?

Mystery TP \$39.95

### A Christmas Carol Murder

Dickens of a Crime mysteries

**Redmond, Heather**

London, December 1835: Charles and Kate are out with friends and family for a chilly night of carolling and good cheer. But their blood truly runs cold when their singing is interrupted by a body plummeting from an upper window of a house. They soon learn the dead man at their feet, his neck strangely wrapped in chains, is Jacob Harley, the business partner of the resident of the house, an unpleasant codger who owns a counting house, one Emmanuel Screws. Ever the journalist, Charles dedicates himself to discovering who's behind the diabolical defenestration. But before he can investigate further, Harley's corpse is stolen. Following that, Charles is visited in his quarters by what appears to be Harley's ghost – or is it merely Charles' overwrought imagination? He continues to suspect Emmanuel, the same penurious penny pincher who denied his father a loan years ago, but Kate insists the old man is too weak to heave a body out a window. Their mutual affection and admiration can accommodate a difference of opinion, but matters are complicated by the unexpected arrival of an infant orphan. Charles must find the child a home while solving a murder, to ensure that the next one in chains is the guilty party...

Historical mystery TP \$29.99

### Killing Juanita

updated edition

**Rees, Peter**

On 4 July 1975, Juanita Nielsen set out on foot, through the wintry streets of Sydney's red-light district. The chic heiress and newspaper publisher had a business meeting with a man called Eddie Trigg, a manager at the seedy Carousel Cabaret nightclub in Kings Cross. The following day, Juanita

was reported missing. She has not been seen since and her body has never been found. Despite two police investigations, a coronial inquest and a federal parliament inquiry, the disappearance of Juanita Nielsen remains one of Australia's great unsolved murder mysteries. The most pressing question, now, is why? *Killing Juanita* is an unflinching examination of this cold case and its chief protagonists, not least Juanita Nielsen. An ardent campaigner fighting the proposed demolition of historic houses in the Cross, she was a thorn in the side of a powerful property developer with links to notorious crime bosses. Winner of the 2004 Ned Kelly Award for True Crime and now fully updated with new information, *Killing Juanita* is a compelling story of greed, corruption, dirty politics, and cover ups. It finally puts to rest decades of speculation, providing the definitive answer that authorities never could – or would.

True crime PBK \$24.99

### The Unwelcome Guest

**Robson, Amanda**

Saffron vowed to love Miles no matter what life threw at them both. But when her mother-in-law moves into their happy family home, Saffron's shiny life begins to tarnish. Even as Caprice's barbed comments turn to something more sinister, Saffron hopes the new nanny's arrival will shield her from the worst of it. She's starting to feel paranoid in her own home. Little does she realise that Caprice longs for a new daughter-in-law – and she'll do anything to make that happen...

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### Oppo

**Rosenstiel, Tom**

It's presidential primary season in Washington, DC, and both parties are on edge. At campaign rallies for all the candidates around the country, there are disturbing incidents of violence and protest and shocking acts of civil disobedience. Rena and Brooks are happy to sit it out. Against this backdrop, Wendy Upton, the highly respected centrist senator, must make a choice: she's been offered the VP slot by both parties' leading candidates. When she receives an anonymous, unnerving threat that could destroy her promising career, she hires Peter Rena to investigate her past and figure out which side is threatening her and what they are threatening her with. As Rena digs through the senator's seemingly squeaky-clean past, he must walk the tightrope between two parties at war with each other and with themselves, an electorate that is as restive as it has ever been, and a political culture that is as much driven by money as it is by ideology.

Thriller TP \$37.95

### Family Business

Lydia Chin/Bill Smith mysteries

**Rozan, S J**

Choi has left the Tong headquarters building to his niece, who hires Lydia and her partner, Bill Smith, to accompany her to inspect it. The building is at the centre of a tug-of-war between Chinatown preservation interests – including Lydia's brother Tim – and a real estate developer who's desperate to get his hands on it. When Lydia, Bill, and Choi's niece go to the building, they discover the

Tong members are equally divided on the question of whether the niece should hold onto the building or sell it – and make them rich. Entering Choi's private living quarters, they find the murdered body of Choi's chief lieutenant. The battle for the building has begun. Can Lydia and Bill escape being caught in the crossfire?

Mystery HC \$45.00

### Deep Cover

DI Geraldine Steel series

**Russell, Leigh**

When a sex worker dies in suspicious circumstances in York, Detective Inspector Geraldine Steel struggles to remain focused on the murder investigation. She is distracted by her worries about her colleague and life partner, Ian Peterson, who has disappeared. Geraldine becomes close to her colleague, Matthew. She is unaware that Ian is working undercover in London, helping to identify a criminal gang who have been targeting Geraldine. As a second victim is discovered in York, Ian's life is threatened by a psychopath. If he fails in his mission, both he and Geraldine may die...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$19.99

### The Devils You Know

**Sanders, Ben**

Vincent needs a change. He's spent the last fifteen years in covert operations, but he's done with pulling triggers. He lands a dream job in Santa Barbara – as head of security for supermarket mogul Eugene Lamar: nothing more than driving the boss to and from golf, with ample downtime for contemplating life – and how to live it with a zero body count. But there's a problem: if Lamar's business is legit, why does he need a panic room full of assault rifles, and a .357 revolver in his car? Vincent soon finds out that Lamar owes a big debt to bad people; he's in deep and there's no way out. Lamar's daughter Erin needs Vincent's help. But how much does she already know? Is his growing attraction to her a liability? And can he keep her safe from the brutal killers who are after her father? It seems that Santa Barbara is a sunny town full of dark talent, and Vincent will have to revert to dark talents of his own, if he's going to survive...

Thriller PBK \$19.99

### The Mystery of the Sorrowful Maiden

Laetitia Rodd mysteries

**Saunders, Kate**

In the spring of 1853, private detective Laetitia Rodd receives a delicate request from a retired actor, whose days on the stage were ended by a theatre fire ten years before. His great friend, and the man he rescued from the fire, Thomas Transome, has decided to leave his wife, who now needs assistance in securing a worthy settlement. Though, Mrs Rodd is reluctant to get involved with the scandalous world of the theatre, she cannot turn away the woman in need. She agrees to take the case. But what starts out as a simple matter of negotiation becomes complicated when a body is discovered in the burnt husk of the old theatre. Soon Mrs Rodd finds herself embroiled in family politics, rivalries that put the Capulets and Montagues to shame, and betrayals on a Shakespearean scale. Mrs Rodd will need all her investigative

powers, not to mention her famous discretion, to solve the case before tragedy strikes once more. This delightful historical series begins with *The Secrets of Wishtide* (PBK, \$19.99).

Historical mystery HC \$34.99

### Blackout

**Scarrow, Simon**

December 1939. As Germany goes to war, the Nazis tighten their terrifying grip. Paranoia in the capital is intensified by a rigidly enforced blackout that plunges the city into oppressive darkness every night, as the bleak winter sun sets. When a young woman is found brutally murdered, Criminal Inspector Horst Schenke is under immense pressure to solve the case, swiftly. Treated with suspicion by his superiors for his failure to join the Nazi Party, Schenke walks a perilous line – for disloyalty is a death sentence. The discovery of a second victim confirms Schenke's worst fears. He must uncover the truth before evil strikes again. As the investigation takes him closer to the sinister heart of the regime, Schenke realises there is danger everywhere – and the warring factions of the Reich can be as deadly as a killer stalking the streets...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### Jeeves and the Leap of Faith

homage to P G Wodehouse

**Schott, Ben**

The Drones club's in peril. Gussie's in love. Spode's on the warpath. And His Majesty's Government needs a favour. Thank goodness, Bertie Wooster is back! From the mean streets of Mayfair to the scheming spires of Cambridge, prepare to meet a joyous cast of characters: chiselling painters and criminal bookies, eccentric philosophers and doggy clairvoyants, appalling poets and pocket dictators, vexatious aunts and their vicious hounds. Have we ever needed Jeeves and Wooster more? Schott's first Wodehousian homage was *Jeeves and the King of Clubs* (PBK, \$19.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$19.99

### Great Australian Mysteries

collection

**Seal, Graham**

*Spine-tingling tales of disappearances, secrets, unsolved crimes and lost treasure...* Australia's master storyteller Graham Seal brings to life the enigmas and puzzles behind famous unsolved crimes, long-held secrets, buried loot and strange phenomena from the bush and the city. Australia has always been a land of mysteries. Some are ancient, some are historical, and many continue to perplex us today – and will probably continue to do so tomorrow. More often than most of us would like to think, things simply vanish, and people disappear without explanation, leaving a trail of heartbreak across generations. Australia also has its fair share of buried loot and fabulous riches gone missing – somewhere. Graham Seal has gathered mysteries from around Australia. There are riddles of lost explorers, unexplained phenomena, and yarns of fish, frogs or pebbles falling from the sky. There are unsolved crimes and long-held secrets; hidden tunnels and wartime enigmas; and hair-raising tales from the bush and from the city.

Mystery TP \$29.99

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

### **The Chuckling Fingers** **Seeley, Mabel**

An urgent note from a friend spurs Ann Gay to visit her recently married cousin, Jacqueline Heaton. Upon her arrival at Fiddler's Fingers, a remote, pine-grown estate on Lake Superior, Ann immediately senses her cousin's fear – someone has been playing increasingly malicious tricks on the Heaton family, a proud family of Minnesota lumber tycoons, and worse yet, they seem determined to frame Jacqueline. Ann quickly resolves to take Jacqueline and her young daughter, Toby, away from the danger. But what began as seemingly trivial pranks – ruined clothes, a burnt bed, a smashed boat – escalates to direct attacks and ultimately murder. Dangerous waters crash against the finger-like rocks on the lakeshore, making a sound like a guttural chuckle, one that seems to mock the murder that took place there – but no one is laughing when everyone on the estate becomes a suspect. Potential motives are revealed as Ann learns more about the Heaton family, and with no chance of anyone leaving Fiddler's Fingers until the killer is caught, Ann realises that the only way to prove her cousin's innocence is by snaring the murderer herself. The trap is set; with herself as bait, Ann's door creaks open in the night as a cloaked figure moves silently toward her bed... Originally published in 1941.

Classic mystery (reissue) TP \$22.99

### **The Corpse in the Gazebo**

Food Blogger mysteries

#### **Sennefelder, Debra**

It seems everyone loves Hope's blog these days, and she's busier than ever volunteering to help other women create their own paths to success. So, she's shocked when a neighbour petitions to run Hope right out of her small Connecticut town! Set in her ways, apparently Birdie Donovan doesn't like the chaos Hope's sleuthing creates, the police activity and crime scenes, and it's happening way too often lately. Eager to make amends, Hope bakes Birdie a batch of her best muffins. The delicious treats might have smoothed things over – until Hope discovers Birdie dead in her gazebo the very next day... Now, instead of worrying about holding on to her beloved home, Hope is trying to stay out of jail. Because suddenly she's the lead suspect in the case. Not even her boyfriend, Police Chief Ethan Cahill, is promising he can clear her name, much less discuss the investigation with her. It's up to Hope to get to bake new ground on the case before the lifestyle brand she's created – and her whole life – crumbles...

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### **Dark Night**

Alaska Wild series

#### **Shelton, Paige**

Winter is falling in the remote town of Benedict, Alaska, and with the cold comes a mysterious guest. The dreaded census man, seemingly innocuous, is an unwelcome presence to those members of this secretive community who would prefer to keep their business to themselves. Meanwhile, thriller writer Beth Rivers has received her own unexpected company: her mother. The last Beth heard, Mill Rivers had gone underground in the lower 48, in search of

Beth's kidnapper, and Beth can't help but be a little alarmed at her appearance: If Mill was able to track down her daughter, who knows who else might be able to? Beth doesn't have time to ponder this for long, after a battered woman stumbles into the town bar one night, and her husband is found dead the next morning. Suspicious immediately turn to the census man, but when he, too, goes missing, everyone in Benedict – including the police chief – is suspected, and Beth and Mill must work to uncover the truth.

Mystery HC \$55.00

### **Death Threats and Other Stories**

collection

#### **Simenon, Georges**

A new selection of stories featuring the celebrated literary detective, Inspector Maigret. An ageing boxer caught in a love triangle. A wealthy Parisian family on the brink of collapse. A mysterious murder in a hotel in Cannes. These tales of human frailty and deceit – three of which are being published in English for the first time – distil the atmosphere, themes and psychological intensity that make Simenon's famous detective series so compelling. Written during the Second World War, just a few years after Simenon had published what was intended to be his last novel featuring Inspector Maigret, these stories encapsulate Simenon's storytelling genius and economy of style.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### **Cinderella Goes**

#### **to the Morgue**

##### **Spain, Nancy**

When Prince Charming is murdered and the principal dancer hits the bottle, amateur sleuths Miriam Birdseye and Natasha Nevkorina come to the rescue. Sacrificing their Christmas plans for the sake of art and detecting, they join the pantomime. As ex-thespians, they know the show must go on – though the cast shrinks with each rehearsal. Can the indomitable detective duo discover the murderer before the final curtain falls? Fast paced and festive, this comic crime classic from Nancy Spain will keep you on the edge of your seat. 'Her detective novels are hilarious – less about detecting than delighting, with absurd farce and a wonderful turn of phrase... Nancy Spain was bold, she was brave, she was funny, she was feisty. I owe her a great deal' – *Sandi Toksvig*.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

### **Murder Under Her Skin**

Pentecost & Parker mysteries

#### **Spotswood, Stephen**

*New York, 1946:* The last time Will Parker let a case get personal, she walked away with a broken face, a bruised ego, and the solemn promise never again to let her heart get in the way of her job. But she called Hart and Halloway's Travelling Circus and Sideshow home for five years, and Ruby Donner, the circus' tattooed ingénue, was her friend. To make matters worse the prime suspect is Valentin Kalishenko, the man who taught Will everything she knows about putting a knife where it needs to go. To uncover the real killer and keep Kalishenko from a date with the electric chair, Will and Ms Pentecost join the circus in sleepy Stoppard, Virginia,

where the locals like their cocktails mild, the past buried, and big-city detectives not at all. The two swiftly find themselves lost in a funhouse of lies as Will begins to realise that her former circus compatriots aren't playing it straight, and that her murdered friend might have been hiding a lot of secrets beneath all that ink. Dodging fistfights, firebombs, and flying lead, Will puts a lot more than her heart on the line in the search of the truth. Can she find it before someone stops her ticker for good? The gripping sequel to *Fortune Favours the Dead* (PBK, \$22.99).

Noir TP \$32.99

### **A Perfect Bind**

Beloved Bookroom mysteries

#### **St James, Dorothy**

Tru Beckett succeeded in building a secret book room in her now bookless library, where book lovers from lovely Cypress, South Carolina, can rejoice in the printed word. Now, she's working hard to maintain the little library downstairs while keeping her real job upstairs in the bookless technology centre. The last thing she needs is a mysterious vandal who seems intent on breaking into her secret book-filled sanctuary and creating chaos. The nasty interloper doesn't steal anything, but brutalises the books, damaging them and knocking them off shelves. A patron of the secret book room tells Tru that there have been creepy goings on at the library for years, especially in the basement where the secret book room is located. He's heard rumours of a poltergeist that haunts the library, determined to scare off readers. Tru is certain it's hogwash, but she's at a loss to think of who might be vandalising the beautiful books she fought so hard to protect. And when a dead body shows up right behind the library, Tru is certain that it's not a ghost but a cold-blooded killer that she and her trusty tabby Dewey Decimal will need to uncover.

Mystery HC \$39.99

### **What Is Time to a Pig?**

Cold Storage series

#### **Straley, John**

It's been seven years since Gloomy Knob landed in the Ted Stevens High-Security Federal Penitentiary and five years since the end of the war, the one North Korea started when they sent a missile to Cold Storage, Alaska. Serving a life sentence for the murder of his sister, Gloomy spends his time trying to forget the past. Then one day, Gloomy is snatched from his offsite work station. Instead of celebrating his newfound freedom, Gloomy comes unmoored – he feels he belongs in prison. But his kidnappers believe Gloomy knows where a second nuclear warhead is hidden and demand to know where it is. The clock is ticking, and Gloomy knows that unless he finds the missing warhead fast, or his wife, his friends, and the entire town of Cold Storage will be obliterated. The only problem? He has no idea where it is. As Gloomy struggles to escape, the memories he fought hard to repress begin to creep out from the strange corners of his mind, first in rivulets, then in waves. In a drug-induced haze, Gloomy makes a discovery that may just bring him the closure he desires – if it doesn't kill him, first.

Hardboiled TP \$29.99

### **Do I Know You?**

#### **Strohmeier, Sarah**

Jane Ellison is a 'super recogniser' able to identify strangers by the slightest facial details – the curve of a head, the arch of an eyebrow. When she spies human rights activist and heiress Bella Valencia in a crowded Boston airport, Jane's convinced she's found the person responsible for her sister Kit's disappearance and presumed death eleven years earlier. But her attempt to detain the suspect ends with Jane herself fired and humiliated. As Bella prepares to marry Will Pease, scion of the uber-wealthy, influential, and ruthless Pease family, famous for their wholesome wellness and lifestyle brand, on their private Cape Cod island, she grows increasingly anxious that her dire secret will be revealed and used against her by – of all people – the man she loves. She has reason to fear: Jane is ready to risk everything for the chance to publicly expose Bella's crimes at her upcoming celebrity wedding. But the more she digs into what happened that night, the more she questions her own assumptions.

Thriller TP \$37.95

### **A Fire in the Night**

#### **Swann, Christopher**

Nick Anthony has retreated to the North Carolina mountains to mourn the untimely death of his wife. Once a popular professor, Nick just wants to be left alone with his grief. But when his estranged brother and sister-in-law die in a house fire, a stunned Nick learns he has a niece, Annalise, who is missing. At the scene of the crime, the men who set the fire have realised Annalise, and the information they are looking for, got away. Feverish and exhausted, she stumbles onto her uncle's porch, throwing Nick into the middle of the mystery of her parents' death and the dangerous criminals hunting her down. Hired to retrieve the stolen information at any price, private military contractor Cole and his team track Annalise to Nick's cabin. But Nick has a hidden past of his own – and more than a few deadly tricks up his sleeve.

Thriller HC \$39.99

### **A Most Clever Girl:**

a novel of an American Spy

#### **Thornton, Stephanie Marie**

*1963:* Reeling from the death of her mother and President Kennedy's assassination, Catherine Gray shows up on Elizabeth Bentley's doorstep demanding answers to the shocking mystery she just uncovered about her family. What she doesn't expect is for Bentley to ensnare her in her own story of becoming a controversial World War II spy and Cold War informer... Recruited by the American Communist Party to spy on fascists at the outbreak of World War II, a young Bentley – code name Clever Girl – finds she has an unexpected gift for espionage. But after falling desperately in love with her handler, Elizabeth makes another surprise discovery when she learns he is actually a Russian spy. Together, they will build the largest Soviet spy network in America and Elizabeth will become its uncrowned Red Spy Queen. However, once the war ends and the US and USSR become embroiled in the Cold War, it is Elizabeth who will dangerously clash with the NKVD, the brutal Soviet espionage agency. As Catherine listens to Elizabeth's harrowing tale, she discovers

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery December 2021 (continued)

that the women's lives are linked in shocking ways. Faced with the idea that her entire existence is based on a lie, Catherine realises that only Elizabeth Bentley can tell her what the truth really is.

Suspense TP \$29.99

### Resistance

#### Timon, Mara

*May 1944.* When spy Elisabeth de Mornay, code name Cecile, notices a coded transmission from an agent in the field does not bear his usual signature, she suspects his cover has been blown. With the situation in Occupied France worsening and growing fears that the Resistance has been compromised, Cecile is ordered behind enemy lines. Having rendezvoused with her contacts, Leonie and Dominique, together they have one mission: help the Resistance destabilise German operations to pave the way for the Normandy landings. But the life of a spy is never straightforward, and the in fighting, within the Resistance, makes knowing who to trust ever more difficult. With their lives on the line, all three women will have to make decisions that could cost them everything – for not all their enemies are German. From the author of *City of Spies* (PBK, \$19.99).

Suspense TP \$29.99

### A Gotswold

#### Christmas Mystery

Thea Osborne mysteries

#### Tope, Rebecca

It's Christmas, and things are looking good at the Slocombe house. Thea's daughter Jessica has come to stay, much to her stepdaughter Stephanie's delight. But then things take a turn for the worse. A local family, the Frowsses, find themselves increasingly harassed by an aggressive landlord. When Beverley Frowse goes missing, Thea and Stephanie both feel they should do their best to help her husband and son to solve the mystery. Christmas Day arrives. There are presents, a turkey, and general goodwill, despite Thea's suppressed hankering to be involved in events at the Frowsses' house, where a dead man has been discovered...

Mystery PBK \$19.99

### Death of a Shipbuilder

John Grey mysteries

#### Tyler, L G

John Grey is visited at his London office by Thomas Cade, a shipbuilder, who tells Grey he has evidence that Samuel Pepys is taking substantial bribes in his position at the Naval Office. Grey sends him on his way, telling him he has little chance against such a powerful man as Pepys – and then the following morning Cade's stabbed body is found in the grounds of Lincoln's Inn. Later that day, Grey meets up with his benefactor Lord Arlington who tells him the king himself wants Grey to investigate corruption in the Naval Office – and it occurs to Grey that by dismissing Cade to his death, he has now lost his best witness and informant. He begins his investigation by questioning the dead man's wife – who it transpires was having an affair with Pepys... as were a great many other ladies. And as the investigation becomes increasingly hampered while the Court closes ranks and threats made against his life, Grey begins to suspect that Arlington's agenda is less to do with reform of the navy and more to do with gaining an advantage over his rivals at Court...

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

### Can't Go Back

Devlin & Falco series

#### Webb, Debra

Birmingham detectives Kerri Devlin and Luke Falco arrive at the scene of a double homicide to discover that nothing makes sense. A woman and her child are dead, and though the husband says he killed them, the evidence says otherwise. Why would a man confess to unspeakable murders he didn't commit? What starts as an open-and-shut case explodes into a web of new leads. Devlin and Falco get to work tracking down every single one – including a disturbing connection between the murders and Falco's dark past. Falco knows the incident from eight years ago will jeopardise the partnership he's built with Devlin, both on and off the job. If he could go back, he would – but what happened, happened, and there's a murderer on the loose. Devlin and Falco must slog through the pain to get to the truth; and, so far, the only truth they know is that everyone is lying.

Mystery/suspense TP \$35.95

### This Time Next Year

#### We'll Be Laughing

#### Winspear, Jacqueline

After sixteen novels, Jacqueline Winspear has taken the bold step of turning to memoir, revealing the hardships and joys of her family history. Both shockingly frank and deftly restrained, her story tackles the difficult, poignant, and fascinating family accounts of her paternal grandfather's shellshock; her mother's evacuation from London during the Blitz; her soft-spoken animal-loving father's torturous assignment to an explosives team during WWII; her parents' years living with Romany Gypsies; and Winspear's own childhood picking hops and fruit on farms in rural Kent, capturing her ties to the land and her dream of being a writer at its very inception. An eye-opening and heartfelt portrayal of a post-War England we rarely see, *This Time Next Year We'll Be Laughing* chronicles a childhood in the English countryside, of working class indomitability and family secrets, of artistic inspiration and the price of memory.

Memoir TP \$32.99

### Punishment of a Hunter:

a Leningrad Confidential

#### Yakovleva, Yulia

1930s Leningrad. As a mood of fear cloaks the city, Investigator Vasily Zaitsev is called on, to investigate a series of bizarre and seemingly motiveless murders. In each case, the victim is curiously dressed and posed in extravagantly arranged settings. At the same time, one by one precious old master paintings are going missing from the Hermitage collection. As Zaitsev sets about his investigations, he meets with suspicion at practically every turn, and potential witnesses are reluctant to provide information. Soon, Zaitsev himself comes under suspicion from the Soviet secret police. The embittered detective must battle increasingly complex political machinations in his dogged quest to uncover the truth.

Historical mystery HC \$29.99

### Lola on Fire

#### Youers, Rio

Brody Ellis is short on luck and even shorter on cash to buy the medication his sister Molly needs. Desperate, he robs a convenience store, but on the way out, he bumps into a young

woman and loses his wallet. Just when he expects the cops to arrive, the phone rings. It's Blair Mayo – the woman he bumped into – and she's got the missing billfold. Brody will get it back, but only if he does her a favour: steal her late mother's diamonds from her wicked stepmom. Cornered with no way out, Brody agrees. But when he gets to the house, he finds a gruesome crime scene – and a security camera. Brody knows he's been framed. Back home, the terrified young man gets another call. The police won't get the incriminating video footage, Blair says. Instead, her daddy, the notorious mobster Jimmy Latzo, will exact his own kind of revenge. Brody and Molly realise that they've become pawns in a mysterious game – one that involves a notorious enforcer named Lola Bear who brutally crossed paths with Jimmy Latzo, 26 years before... a ghost from the past who is intimately connected to their lives.

Thriller PBK \$26.95

### Reading Between the Crimes

Jane Doe Book Club mysteries

#### Young, Kate

What better time than Halloween, to dig into a bracing discussion of a diabolical murder mystery? And what better choice for the Jane Doe Book Club than Agatha Christie's *Crooked House*? Lyla Moody and her friends are soon embroiled in debate over whether the heroine's actions are particularly believable. But not long after the meeting, sleepy Sweet Mountain, Georgia, is rocked by a murder that uncannily echoes the novel in question. When Lyla and her grandmother arrive at the charity event that Lyla's mother is hosting, they barely have time to hang up their fall jackets before they stumble upon a body in the library. Leonard Richardson, it seems, was robbed and then hit over the head with a brass candlestick – which throws suspicion on Harper Richardson, his young widow and a friend of the Jane Does. Lyla and the rest of the Jane Does pool their prodigious intellects to clear Harper's name. Peculiarly, all of the clues seem to have been lifted directly from the plot of *Crooked House*. But as Lyla probes the pages of Christie's classic whodunnit for hints on catching the killer, she uncovers secrets from her mother's past – secrets that suggest that Lyla's own house may be crooked as well.

Mystery HC \$39.99