

Pulp Fiction

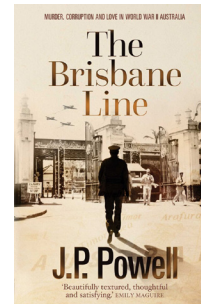
Crime & Mystery Bestsellers August 2020

The Brisbane Line

J P Powell

An engrossing murder mystery, set in seedy WWII Brisbane – by local historian and archaeologist, J P Powell. Selling lots – and those who've read it are impressed! Recommended!

Mystery | TP | \$29.99



1

A Dangerous Engagement (Amory Ames 06)

Ashley Weaver

'A delightful romp... a worthy throwback to the classic murder mysteries of what many call the Golden Age of Detective Fiction' – *Historical Novel Society*.

Amory Ames is travelling to New York, excited to be a bridesmaid at her childhood friend Tabitha's wedding, but with Prohibition in full swing, her husband Milo is less than enthused. When a member of the wedding party is found murdered on the front steps of the bride's home, the happy plans take a darker twist. Amory discovers that the dead man has links to the notorious – and notoriously handsome – gangster Leon De Lora. While the police seem to think that New York's criminal underworld is at play, Amory feels they can't ignore the wedding guests either. Milo and Amory are drawn into the glamorous, dangerous world of nightclubs and bootleggers. But as they draw closer to unravelling the web of lies the murdered man has left in his wake, the killer is weaving a web of his own.

Twenties' fun and hijinks – surely we could all use a little of that in these uncertain times?

Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99



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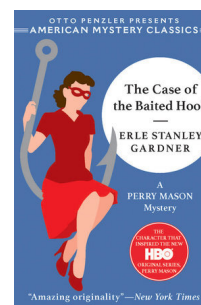
The Case of the Baited Hook (American Mystery Classics)

Erle Stanley Gardner

Polly want a killer... Did the wealthy Fremont C Sabin divorce his wife before his untimely death? That's the multimillion-dollar question. And the right answer will mean a windfall for either the dead man's angry son or headstrong widow. Each has accused the other of destroying Sabin's will – and murdering Sabin. But with no document declaring who the affable eccentric intended to leave his fortune to, Perry Mason faces a particularly prickly puzzle. Even more puzzling, however, is the talking parrot. Casanova was Fremont Sabin's beloved pet. But the bird found at the crime scene proves to be a foul-mouthed impostor. Suffice it to say that more than a few feathers will be ruffled as Mason sets out to clip a clever killer's wings...

An Otto Penzler Classic American Crime reissue – this was the 16th Perry Mason novel (of 85!), first published in 1940 – and the one on which the new TV series is based!

Classic mystery | TP | \$35.95



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers August 2020 (continued)

Terns of Endearment (Meg Langslow 25)

Donna Andrews

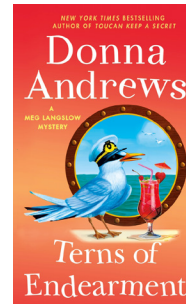
Meg Langslow's grandfather has been booked by a cruise line to give lectures on birds and other environmental topics as part of their ship's education/entertainment itinerary, and Grandfather has arranged for a passel of family members to join him...

Okay – then the publisher's blurb just gets more preposterous and silly, and the ship breaks down in the Bermuda triangle (!) – and of course – Murder!

Really – you just need to know that many, many customers are devoted to these – and fanatically buy them in hardcover! – they're also NYT bestsellers as well. And the puns in the titles are peerless. Recommended – great fun J

Terns of Endearment is the twenty-fifth book in New York Times bestselling author Donna Andrews' hilarious Meg Langslow mystery series. The first is *Murder with Peacocks* (PBK, \$24.95).

Mystery | PBK | \$24.95



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Death in White Pyjamas + Death Knows No Calendar (British Library Crime Classics)

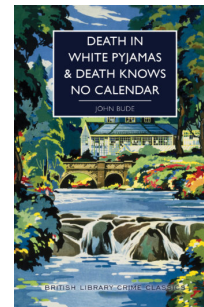
John Bude

Two of John Bude's finest Golden Age mysteries return to the limelight in the latest of the reissues from the British Library.

***Death in White Pyjamas*:** A theatre-owner, a 'slightly sinister' producer, a burgeoning playwright and a cast of ego-driven actors have gathered at a country home to read through the promising script for *Pigs in Porcelain*. Before the production ever reaches the stage, one of their number is found murdered in the grounds wearing what mysteriously seems to be somebody else's white pyjamas. Enter Inspector Harting and Sergeant Dane to unravel this curious plot.

***Death Knows No Calendar*:** Investigating a deadly shooting with no shooter in a locked artist's studio, detective fiction enthusiast Major Tom Boddy has a long day ahead of him. With four colourful suspects to scrutinise, and not one but two 'impossible' elements of the crime to solve, this extremely rare and thoroughly entertaining mystery is long overdue its return to print.

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



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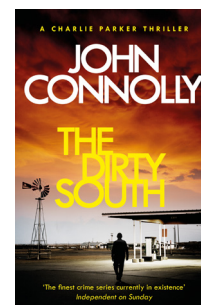
The Dirty South (Charlie Parker 18)

John Connolly

The *New York Times* bestselling author of *A Book of Bones* and 'one of the best thriller writers we have' (Harlan Coben, *New York Times* bestselling author) goes back to the very beginning of Private Investigator Charlie Parker's astonishing career with his first terrifying case.

It is 1997, and someone is slaughtering young women in Burdon County, Arkansas. But no one in the Dirty South wants to admit it. In an Arkansas jail cell sits a former NYPD detective, stricken by grief. He is mourning the death of his wife and child, and searching in vain for their killer. Obsessed with avenging his lost family, his life is about to take a shocking turn. Witness the dawning of a conscience. Witness the birth of a hunter. Witness the becoming of Charlie Parker.

Mystery/suspense | TP | \$32.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers August 2020 (continued)

Death in Fancy Dress (British Library Crime Classics)

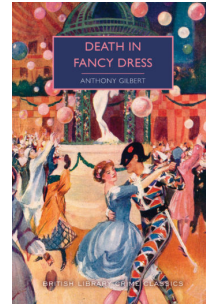
Anthony Gilbert

The British Secret Service, working to uncover a large-scale blackmail ring and catch its mysterious mastermind 'The Spider', find themselves at the country residence Feltham Abbey, where a fancy dress ball is in full swing. In the tumult of the revelry, Sir Ralph Feltham is found dead. Not the atmosphere bewildered young lawyer Tony was expecting, he sets out to make sense of the night's activities and the motives of the other guests. Among them is Hilary, an independently-minded socialite still in her costume of vivid silk pyjamas and accompanying teddy bear...

This classic country house mystery, first published in 1933, contrasts the splendours and frivolities of the English upper classes with the sombre over-hang of the First World War and the irresistible complications of deadly familial relationships – with just the right amount of international intrigue thrown in. This edition also includes the rare Anthony Gilbert short stories 'Horseshoes for Luck' and 'The Cockroach and the Tortoise'.

Another British Library Reissue. Has there ever been a better time to immerse ourselves in the mysteries of the Golden Age?

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



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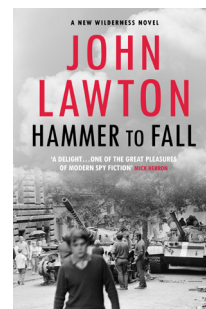
Hammer to Fall (Joe Wilderness 03)

John Lawton

It's London, the swinging sixties, and by rights MI6 spy Joe Wilderness should be having as good a time as James Bond. But alas, in the wake of an embarrassing disaster for MI6, Wilderness has been posted to remote northern Finland in a cultural exchange program to promote Britain abroad. Bored by his work, with nothing to spy on, Wilderness finds another way to make money: smuggling vodka across the border into the USSR. He strikes a deal with old KGB pal Kostya, who explains to him there is a vodka shortage in the Soviet Union – but there is something fishy about Kostya's sudden appearance in Finland and intelligence from London points to a connection to cobalt mining in the region, a critical component in the casing of the atomic bomb. Wilderness' posting is getting more interesting by the minute, but more dangerous too. Moving from the no-man's-land of Cold War Finland to the wild days of the Prague Spring, and populated by old friends (including Inspector Troy) and old enemies alike, *Hammer to Fall* is a gripping tale of deception and skulduggery, of art and politics, a page-turning story of the always riveting life of the British spy – *publisher's blurb*.

First in the series is *Then We Take Berlin* (PBK, \$21.99).

Suspense | TP | \$29.99



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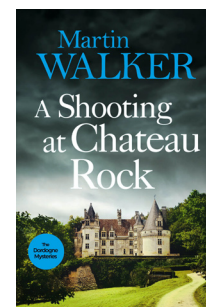
A Shooting at Château Rock (Bruno, Chief of Police 13)

Martin Walker

It's summer in the Dordogne. The heirs of a Périgordian sheep farmer learn that they have been disinherited, and their father's estate sold to an insurance company in return for a policy that will place him in a five-star retirement home for the rest of his life. But the farmer never gets his life of luxury – he dies before moving in. Was it a natural death? Was there foul play? Bruno begins the investigation that leads him to several shadowy insurance companies owned by a Russian oligarch with a Cypriot passport. The companies are based in Cyprus, Malta, and Luxembourg, but Bruno finds a weak spot in France: the Russian's France-based *notaire* and insurance agent. As Bruno is pursuing this lead, the oligarch's daughter turns up in the Périgord, and complications ensue, eventually bringing the action to the château of an aging rock star. But, as ever, Bruno makes time for lunch amid it all...

Seriously: we cannot physically leave the state, just now – but there are no restrictions on armchair travel. And these are glorious! Rural France has never felt so far away – and so appealing... enjoy! The first in the series is *Death in the Dordogne* (PBK, \$19.99) – love them all!

Mystery | TP | \$32.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers August 2020 (continued)

A Match Made for Murder (Lane Winslow 07)

Iona Whishaw

It's November, and Lane and Darling have escaped the chilly autumn in the Kootenays for a honeymoon at the posh and romantic Santa Cruz Inn in sunny Tucson, Arizona. But despite her very best intentions to relax, soon after their arrival Lane's plans to spend the holiday poolside with a good mystery are interrupted by gunfire. One of the hotel's wealthy guests has been shot point blank and Lane is second on the scene. Though Lane and Darling attempt to distance themselves from the investigation, the longer they stay at the Santa Cruz Inn, the deeper they are drawn into a web of suspects and bystanders, and a collection of seemingly perfect marriages fraught with jealousy and violence. The situation threatens first their honeymoon and then their lives when Lane puts herself directly in the sights of local criminals who will stop at nothing to get what they want...

'Fans of Maisie Dobbs and the Kopp sisters will delight in the latest Lane Winslow, a study of matrimony and mirage in the American Southwest' – *publisher's blurb*.

This is a series published by a small Canadian press that regulars can't get enough of. The protag is a former British intelligence officer who goes to British Columbia after the Second World War and starts a new life for herself. And naturally gets involved in murder and mayhem. Everyone who tried them seems to get hooked. Recommended! The first in the series is *Killer in King's Cove* (TP, \$33.95).

Mystery | TP | \$33.95



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