

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Bestsellers February 2021

Riviera Gold (Mary Russell 16)

Laurie R King

It's summertime on the Riviera, where the Jazz Age is busily reinventing the holiday delights of warm days on golden sand and cool nights on terraces and dance floors. Just up the coast lies a more traditional pleasure ground: Monte Carlo, where fortunes are won, lost, stolen, and hidden away. So, when Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes happen across the Côte d'Azur in this summer of 1925, they find themselves pulled between the young and the old, hot sun and cool jazz, new friendships and old loyalties, childlike pleasures and very grownup sins... How we all love the Mary Russell series! Splendid, soothing stuff – just sit back, read and relax... Recommended! The first is *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* (PBK, \$19.99).

Sherlockiana | PBK | \$19.99



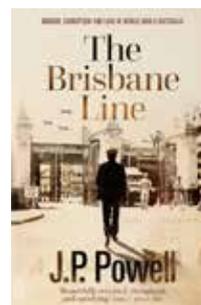
1

The Brisbane Line

J P Powell

This has come from out of nowhere! Small press offering – 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



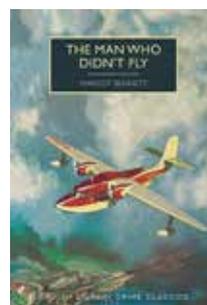
2

The Man Who Didn't Fly (British Library Crime Classics)

Margot Bennett

More magnificent Golden Age Mystery in the British Library's ongoing series of reissues... Four men had arranged to fly to Dublin. When their aeroplane descended as a fireball into the Irish Sea, only three of them were on board. With the identities of the passengers lost beneath the waves, a tense and perplexing investigation begins to determine the living from the dead, with scarce evidence to follow beyond a few snippets of overheard conversation and one family's patchy account of the three days prior to the flight. Who was the man who didn't fly? What did he have to gain? And would he commit such an explosive murder to get it? First published in 1955, Bennett's ingenious mystery remains an innovative and thoroughly entertaining inversion of the classic whodunit. Wonderful!

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



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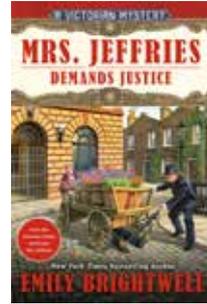
Crime & Mystery February 2021 (continued)

Mrs Jeffries Demands Justice (Victorian mysteries 39)

Emily Brightwell

Mrs Jeffries always keeps her friends close and, now, must keep an enemy even closer if she is going to catch a killer... Inspector Nigel Nivens is not a nice man or a good investigator. In fact, he's terrible at his job and has always done everything he can to make life difficult for Inspector Witherspoon. But even his powerful family can't help him after he maliciously tried to hobble Witherspoon's last homicide investigation. He's been sent to a particularly difficult precinct in the East End of London as penance. When a paid informant is found shot in an alley, Nivens thinks that if he can crack the case, he'll redeem himself and have a much-needed chance at impressing his superiors. But there's one big problem with his plan – Niven's distinct antique pistol is found at the scene of the crime and even more evidence is uncovered that links the Inspector to the murder. Despite their mutual dislike for Nivens, Mrs Jeffries and Inspector Witherspoon know the man isn't a cold-blooded killer. Now they'll just have to prove it... Who'd have thought a Victorian London policeman's housekeeper would have such a stimulating out-of-work-hours' life! Much fun!

Historical mystery | TP | \$37.95



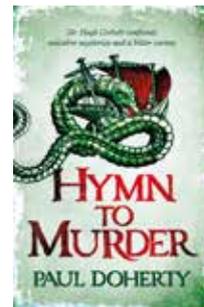
4

Hymn to Murder (Hugh Corbett mysteries 21)

Paul Doherty

Secrets simmer in the lonely wasteland of Dartmoor... Spring, 1312. At Malmaison Manor, Lord Simon is concealing a dark secret – one he arrogantly assumes will never catch up with him. But someone knows about the crime he committed and they've found a way to make him pay. And he's not alone. When he is found mysteriously slain, other deaths soon follow. Meanwhile, ships on the Devonshire coast are being deliberately wrecked, their crews slaughtered, their cargoes plundered. Sir Hugh Corbett and Lord Simon are bound by the Secret Chancery and their search for one precious ruby – the *Lacrima Christi*. So, when Corbett learns of Lord Simon's death, he is once more dragged into a tangled web of lies and intrigue and it's not long before secrets of his own start to surface. Can Corbett confront his past and live to see another day? Historical Machinations. Detection in a pre-forensic science era. A precious stone. Marvellous!

Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99



5

Slough House (Slough House 07)

Mick Herron

At Slough House – MI5's London depository for demoted spies – Brexit has taken a toll. The 'slow horses' have been pushed further into the cold, Slough House has been erased from official records, and its members are dying in unusual circumstances, at an unusual clip. No wonder, Jackson Lamb's crew is feeling paranoid. But are they actually targets? With a new populist movement taking hold of London's streets and the old order ensuring that everything's for sale to the highest bidder, the world's a dangerous place for those deemed surplus. Jackson Lamb and the slow horses are in a fight for their lives as they navigate dizzying layers of lies, power, and death. 'This is a darker, scarier Herron. The gags are still there, but the satire's more biting. The privatisation of a secret service op and the manipulation of news is relevant and horribly credible.' – Ann Cleeves, author of the Vera Stanhope series. In his best and most ambitious novel yet, Mick Herron, 'the le Carré of the future' (BBC), offers an unsparing look at the corrupt web of media, global finance, spycraft, and politics that power our modern world. We love 'em! Recommended! The first in the series is *Slow Horses* (PBK, \$19.99).

Suspense | TP | \$32.99



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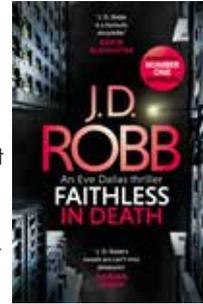
Crime & Mystery February 2021 (continued)

Faithless in Death (Eve Dallas 52)

J D Robb

The scene in the West Village studio appears to be classic crime of passion: two wineglasses by the bed, music playing, and a young sculptor named Ariel Byrd with the back of her head bashed in. But when Dallas tracks down the wealthy Upper East Side woman who called 911, the details don't add up. Gwen Huffman is wealthy, elegant, comforted by her handsome fiancé as she sheds tears over the trauma of finding the body – but why did it take an hour to report it? And why is she lying about little things? As Eve and her team look into Gwen, her past, and the people around her, they find that the lies are about more than murder – and soon they're getting the FBI involved in a case that involves a sinister, fanatical group and a stunning criminal conspiracy. The futuristic thriller series just keeps going and going! The first is *Naked in Death* (PBK, \$19.99).

Mystery | TP | \$32.99



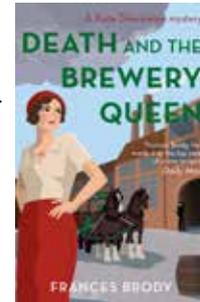
7

Death and the Brewery Queen (Kate Shackleton 12)

Frances Brody

North Yorkshire, 1930. It's the season for warm and spirited countryside celebrations. Ever since the war, pubs have been in the doldrums, and in an attempt to promote and breathe new life back into the business, brewers select a charismatic employee as local queen – to be the face of their industry. And this year's queen, wages clerk Ruth Parnaby, has invited the ever intrepid Kate Shackleton and her niece Harriet to accompany her on public engagements at a garden party thrown in her honour. But when Ruth leads children to the stables for pony rides, the drayman is missing, later found in the last place imaginable – the fermentation room – deceased. What looked to be a simple case of asphyxiation in the dangerous fermentation room is quickly clarified by the pathologist as murder – the drayman was already dead before he was taken into the room. Someone was looking to cover it up. The horse dealer who sold the pony to the drayman comes under suspicion, but more and more Ruth's nasty father, Slater Parnaby's strong motive to dissuade his daughter from any festivities lingers in Kate's mind, despite his having an alibi. The case is muddy, at best, and it's going to take Kate at her keenest to decipher the truth. Really well-executed (see what I did there?) historical murder mystery series that's a firm favourite with regulars. Start with *Dying in the Wool* (PBK, \$24.99).

Historical mystery | PBK | \$22.99



8

A Lady's Guide to Mischief and Mayhem

Manda Collins

Of all the crime scenes in all the world, she walks into his. Twice. England, 1865: Notorious newspaper columnist Lady Katherine Bascomb is determined to educate the ladies of London on the nefarious criminals who are preying on the fairer sex. But when her reporting leads to the arrest of an infamous killer, Katherine flees to a country house party to escape her doubts about the case – only to become witness to a murder, herself! When the lead detective accuses Katherine of inflaming – rather than informing – the public with her column, she vows to prove him wrong. Detective Inspector Andrew Eversham's refusal to compromise his investigations nearly cost him his career, and he blames Katherine. When he discovers she's the key witness in a new crime, he's determined to prevent the beautiful widow from, once again, wreaking havoc on his case. Yet, as Katherine proves surprisingly insightful and Andrew impresses Katherine with his lethal competency, both are forced to admit the fire between them is more flirtatious than furious. But to explore the passion between them, they'll need to catch a killer... Brand new series – sold out here in release – but more have arrived! – and a follow-up due, early next year, we hope...!

Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99



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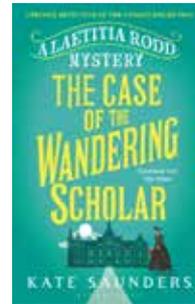
Crime & Mystery February 2021 (continued)

The Case of the Wandering Scholar (Laetitia Rodd mysteries 02)

Kate Saunders

It is 1851 and Mrs Rodd has received an unusual commission: wealthy businessman Jacob Welland is dying of consumption and implores our redoubtable detective to find his beloved brother, whom he has not seen for fifteen years. Joshua Welland was an Oxford scholar; brilliant, eccentric, and desperately poor. Nobody can say exactly when he disappeared from his college, but he had taken to wandering the countryside and, one day, simply failed to return. Since then, there have been several sightings of his lonely, ragged figure. Ten years ago, a friend spotted him in a gypsy camp, where it was rumoured he was learning great secrets that would one day astound the world. Mrs Rodd uses her search as an opportunity to reconnect with a couple from her past, but then a violent murder is committed and Scotland Yard are called to investigate. Mrs Rodd's old friend Inspector Blackbeard doesn't want to hear any nonsense about gypsies or secrets. Mrs Rodd, however, is convinced that something very sinister is lurking in this peaceful landscape. The first in the series is *The Secrets of Wishtide* (PBK, \$19.99) – and everyone who bought it seems to be coming back for more with this sequel.

Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99



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