

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Bestsellers November 2022

Murder in Williamstown

Phryne Fisher mysteries 22

Kerry Greenwood

Accustomed to both murder and dalliance, Australia's favourite detective, the inimitable Miss Fisher, returns in a case that will test her tact and judgement to the full.

When the redoubtable Miss Phryne Fisher receives threatening letters at her home, she enlists the unflappable apprentice Tinker to investigate. But as the harassment of Phryne threatens to spin out of control, her lover, Lin Chung is also targeted.

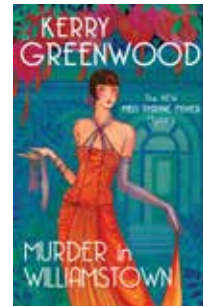
Meanwhile, Dot begins to fear that her fiancé, newly promoted Sergeant Hugh Collins, has gone cold on setting a date for their wedding.

Phryne's clever daughters, Ruth and Jane, begin their own investigation into suspiciously dwindling funds when they are sent to help at the Blind Institute.

None of this is quite enough to prevent Phryne from accepting an invitation to a magnificent party at the house of the mysterious Hong. When the party is interrupted by shocking tragedy, Phryne gathers all of her unerring brilliance to track down the miscreants. With some unlikely assistance, Phryne is in a race against time to save a pair of young lovers from disgrace and death.

It's been a while! Lovely to see Phryne in action, again. 😊

Historical mystery | TP | \$32.99



1

Murder at the Theatre Royale

Christmas mysteries 02

Ada Moncrieff

It's Christmas at London's Theatre Royale and journalist Daphne King is determined to solve an extraordinary mystery...

December 1935. Director Chester Harrison's production of *A Christmas Carol* has had a troubled run on its tour of regional theatres. With tensions amongst the cast running high, the company reach their final stop – London's Theatre Royale – a few days before Christmas.

Catastrophe, however, strikes on opening night: 'Scrooge' dies on stage, seemingly due to a heart attack. But the show must go on. Until, that is, an old rival of Chester's is murdered in a dressing room. Are those associated with the production being picked off, one by one?

Journalist Daphne King is determined to reveal the truth...

Irresistible Golden Age homage fun!

Historical mystery | PBK | \$22.99



2

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Bestsellers November 2022 (continued)

These Names Make Clues

British Library Crime Classics

E C R Lorac

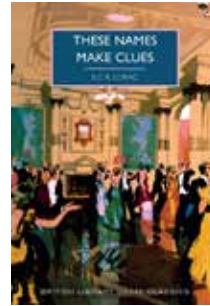
'Should detectives go to parties? Was it consistent with the dignity of the Yard? The inspector tossed for it – and went.'

Chief Inspector Macdonald has been invited to a treasure hunt party at the house of Graham Coombe, the celebrated publisher of *Murder by Mesmerism*. Despite a handful of misgivings, the inspector joins a guestlist of novelists and thriller writers disguised on the night under literary pseudonyms. The fun comes to an abrupt end, however, when 'Samuel Pepys' is found dead in the telephone room in bizarre circumstances.

Amidst the confusion of too many fake names, clues, ciphers and convoluted alibis, Macdonald and his allies in the CID must unravel a truly tangled case in this metafictional masterpiece, which returns to print for the first time since its publication in 1937.

Another fabulous British Library Crime Classics reissue – this was first published in 1937! – which we love! More, please!

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



3

Day's End

Paul Hirschhausen 03

Garry Disher

When hate runs deep, the innocent suffer...

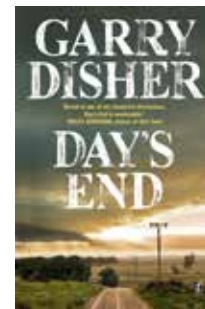
Constable Paul Hirschhausen's rural beat in the low hills of South Australia is wide. Daybreak to day's end, dirt roads and dust. Every problem that besets small towns and isolated properties, from unlicensed driving to arson.

But, now, just as Hirsch has begun to feel he knows the fragile communities under his care, the isolation and fear of the pandemic have warped them into something angry and unrecognisable. Hirsch is seeing stresses heightened and social divisions cracking wide open. His own tolerance under strain; people getting close to the edge.

Today, he's driving an international visitor around: Janne Van Sant, whose backpacker son went missing while the borders were closed. They're checking out his last photo site, his last employer. A feeling that the stories don't quite add up. Then a call comes in: a roadside fire. Nothing much – a suitcase soaked in diesel and set alight – but two noteworthy facts emerge. Janne knows more than Hirsch about forensic evidence. And the body in the suitcase is not her son's.

From the multiple Ned Kelly Award-winning author of *Consolation* comes a stunning new thriller, for readers of Jane Harper, Ian Rankin, and Chris Hammer. Truly, one of Australia's best. Recommended!

Mystery/suspense | TP | \$32.99



4

A Certain Darkness

Verity Kent mysteries 06

Anna Lee Huber

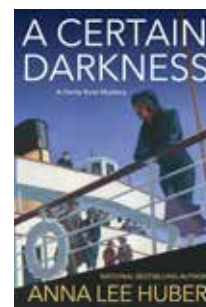
March 1920: Life has turned unsettlingly quiet for former British Intelligence agent Verity Kent and her husband, Sidney. But even that false calm is about to end.

As threats remain, the French authorities soon request Sidney's help, with a suspect who claims to have proof of treason – shortly before she is assassinated. And Verity, too, is called to investigate a mystery... The murder of a Belgian lawyer aboard a train seems at first to be a simple case of revenge. But the victim was connected to British Intelligence, and possessed papers detailing the sinking of a gold-laden German ship during the war.

As Verity and Sidney dig deeper, they discover their cases are intertwined – and a lethal adversary persists. Officially, the Great War may be over, but this is a battle of nerves and wits they cannot afford to lose...

'WWI buffs will love the in-depth historical detail.' – *Publishers Weekly*. Our historical-crime aficionados certainly do!

Historical mystery | TP | \$29.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers November 2022 (continued)

The Thursday Murder Club

Thursday Murder Club mysteries 01

Richard Osman

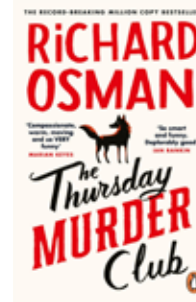
Four septuagenarians with a few tricks up their sleeves. A female cop with her first big case. A brutal murder. Welcome to... the Thursday Murder Club.

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case. As the bodies begin to pile up, can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer, before it's too late?

Still selling! Apparently, Spielberg's company is going to be making a film of it as well – so, the series is certain to be a fixture on these lists, for some time, yet...

Mystery | PBK | \$22.99



6

A Heart Full of Headstones

Rebus 24

Ian Rankin

John Rebus stands accused: on trial for a crime that could put him behind bars for the rest of his life. But what drove a good man to cross the line?

Detective Inspector Siobhan Clarke may well find out. Clarke is tasked with the city's most explosive case in years, an infamous cop, at the centre of decades of misconduct, has gone missing. Finding him will expose not only her superiors, but her mentor John Rebus. And Rebus, himself, may not have her own interests at heart, as the repayment of a past debt places him in the crosshairs of both crime lords and his police brethren. One way or another, a reckoning is coming – and John Rebus may be hearing the call for last orders...

Latest in the long-running, bestselling series – recommended!

Mystery/suspense | TP | \$32.99



7

The Honjin Murders

Detective Kindaichi mysteries

Seishi Yokomizo

Japan's greatest classic murder mystery, translated into English for the first time.

In the winter of 1937, the village of Okamura is abuzz with excitement over the forthcoming wedding of a son of the grand Ichiyanagi family. But amid the gossip over the approaching festivities, there is also a worrying rumour – it seems a sinister masked man has been asking questions about the Ichiyanagis around the village. Then, on the night of the wedding, the Ichiyanagi family are woken by a terrible scream, followed by the sound of eerie music – death has come to Okamura, leaving no trace but a bloody samurai sword, thrust into the pristine snow outside the house. The murder seems impossible, but amateur detective Kosuke Kindaichi is determined to get to the bottom of it.

Seishi Yokomizo (1902–81) was one of Japan's most famous and best-loved mystery writers. He was born in Kobe and spent his childhood reading detective stories, before beginning to write stories of his own, the first of which was published in 1921. He went on to become an extremely prolific and popular author, best known for his Kosuke Kindaichi series, which ran to 77 books, many of which were adapted for stage and television in Japan. *The Honjin Murders* is the first Kosuke Kindaichi story, and regarded as one of Japan's great mystery novels. It won the first Mystery Writers of Japan Award in 1948, but has never been translated into English, until now.

We are doing so well with this – and its sequels – regulars are loving the Japanese settings!

Mystery | PBK | \$22.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers November 2022 (continued)

Murder at Mallowan Hall

Phyllida Bright mysteries 01

Colleen Cambridge

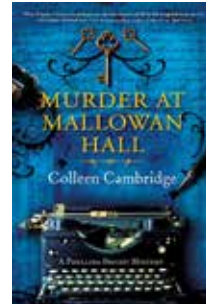
Tucked away among Devon's rolling green hills, Mallowan Hall combines the best of English tradition with the modern conveniences of 1930. Housekeeper Phyllida Bright manages the large household with an iron fist in her very elegant glove.

In one respect, however, Mallowan Hall stands far apart from other picturesque country houses. For the manor is home to archaeologist Max Mallowan and his famous wife – Agatha Christie... Phyllida is both loyal to and protective of the crime writer, who is as much friend as employer. An aficionado of detective fiction, Phyllida has yet to find a gentleman, in real life, half as fascinating as Mrs Agatha's Belgian hero, Hercule Poirot.

But though accustomed to murder and its methods as frequent topics of conversation, Phyllida is unprepared for the sight of a very real, very dead body on the library floor... It soon becomes clear that the victim arrived at Mallowan Hall under false pretences, during a weekend party. And when another dead body is discovered – this time, one of her housemaids – Phyllida decides to follow in M. Poirot's footsteps to determine which of the Mallowans' guests is the killer. Now, only Phyllida's wits will prevent her own story from coming to an abrupt end...

Hah! Agatha Christie's housekeeper solves a murder in Christie's own home? How could we not be there for this? Bring it on!!

Historical mystery | TP | \$29.99



9

Death on the Trans-Siberian Express

Olga Pushkin mysteries 01

C J Farrington

Welcome to Roslazny – a sleepy Russian town where intrigue and murder combine to disturb the icy silence... Olga Pushkin, Railway Engineer (Third Class) and would-be bestselling author, spends her days in a little rail-side hut, with only Dmitri the hedgehog for company. While tourists and travellers clatter by on the Trans-Siberian Express, Olga dreams of studying literature at Tomsk State University – the Oxford of West Siberia – and escaping the sleepy, snow-clad village of Roslazny.

But Roslazny doesn't stay sleepy for long. Poison-pen letters, a small-town crime wave, and persistent rumours of a Baba Yaga – a murderous witch hiding in the frozen depths of the Russian taiga – combine to disturb the icy silence. And one day Olga arrives at her hut only to be knocked unconscious by a man falling from the Trans-Siberian, an American tourist with his throat cut from ear to ear and his mouth stuffed with 10-rouble coins. Another death soon follows, and Sergeant Vassily Marushkin, the brooding, enigmatic policeman who takes on the case, finds himself falsely imprisoned by his Machiavellian superior, Chief-Inspector Babikov.

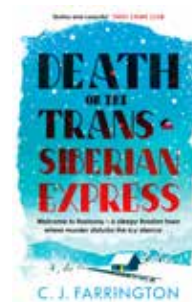
Olga resolves to help Vassily, by proving his innocence. But with no leads to follow and time running out, has Olga bitten off more than she can chew?

'The book is an absolute delight, evocative equally of the frozen steppes, bad vodka, and worse sausage, and full of larger-than-life characters. Olga Pushkin is an endearing protagonist, who is hopefully set for a series as long as the Trans-Siberian Railway.' – L C Tyler.

'Written with a warmth that would thaw Siberia, this intriguing but charming murder mystery is packed with psychological depth and wonderfully-drawn characters. It also features the best hedgehog I've met in a novel.' – Eleanor Ray.

This is great fun – and it's been a long time since we've had a featured hedgehog. Recommended.

Mystery | PBK | \$22.99



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