

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Catalogue January 2023

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Bret Easton Ellis
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... and many others.

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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

Muffin But the Truth

Bakeshop mysteries

Alexander, Ellie

Ashland is known for its Elizabethan charm and touches of Shakespeare around every corner, but the surrounding Rogue Valley draws adventure enthusiasts to its outdoor wonderland of high alpine lakes, mountain ranges, and pristine rivers. Jules Capshaw and the team at Torte have been hired to cater a weekend getaway on the mighty Rogue River. Jules is going to have to put her culinary skills to the test while baking gooey chocolate chip skillet cookies over an open flame and preparing extravagant feasts under a canopy of stars. The executive team at a big city firm will be rafting the Rogue's rapids and gathering around the campfire for spooky stories, but their dysfunction quickly begins to show. Between constant bickering and heavy drinking, Jules wonders how the team can accomplish anything. She's happy for a brief reprieve when they zip up their lifejackets and head out in their boats, but the serenity of the scene quickly vanishes when Jules discovers one of the excess floating, face down, in the water. She's going to have to uncover the truth before she gets pulled under.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Dashing Through the Snowbirds

Meg Langslow mysteries

Andrews, Donna

Christmas in Caerphilly is wonderful! Unless you're a Canadian whose inconsiderate boss is forcing you to spend the holiday there, far from family and friends, with only a slim chance of a white Christmas. Meg already has her hands full, trying to make the season festive for the dozen programmers who are staying with her and Michael while working on a rush project with her brother's software company. At least, it's an interesting project – since the Canadian company is doing forensic genealogy and DNA analysis. When the inconsiderate boss is found murdered, there are too many suspects. Even before their Christmas in exile, his own employees had plenty of motives, and the growing number of people suing the company for faulty DNA analysis and invasion of their genetic privacy include at least one notorious murderer. Can Meg crack the case, in time to keep the Yuletide bright?

Mystery HC \$44.99

Jane and the Year Without a Summer

Jane Austen mysteries

Barron, Stephanie

May 1816: Jane Austen is feeling unwell, with an uneasy stomach, constant fatigue, rashes, fevers and aches. She attributes her poor condition to the stress of family burdens, which even the drafting of her latest

manuscript – about a baronet's daughter nursing a broken heart for a daring naval captain – cannot alleviate. Her apothecary recommends a trial of the curative waters at Cheltenham Spa, in Gloucestershire. Jane decides to use some of the profits earned from her last novel, *Emma*, and treat herself to a period of rest and reflection at the spa, in the company of her sister, Cassandra. Cheltenham Spa hardly turns out to be the relaxing sojourn Jane and Cassandra envisaged, however. It is immediately obvious that other boarders at the guest house where the Misses Austen are staying have come to Cheltenham with stresses of their own – some of them deadly. But, perhaps, with Jane's interference a terrible crime might be prevented. Set during the Year without a Summer, when the eruption of Mount Tambora in the South Pacific caused a volcanic winter that shrouded the entire planet for 16 months.

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

Windhall Barry, Ava

1940s' Hollywood was an era of decadence and director Theodore Langley was its king. Paired with Eleanor Hayes as his lead actress, Theo ruled the Golden Age of Hollywood. That ended when Eleanor's mangled body was discovered in Theo's rose garden and he was charged with her murder. The case was thrown out before it went to trial and Theo fled LA, leaving his crawling estate, Windhall, to fall into ruin. He hasn't been seen since. Decades later, investigative journalist Max Hailey, raised by his gran on stories of old Hollywood, is sure that if he could meet Theo, he could prove once and for all that the famed director killed his leading lady. When a copycat murder takes place near Windhall, the long reclusive Theo returns to LA, and it seems Hailey finally has his chance. When Hailey gets his hands on Theo's long-missing journals, he reads about Eleanor's stalkers and her role in Theo's final film, *The Last Train to Avalon*, a film so controversial it was never released to the public. In the months leading up to her death, something had left her so terrified she stopped coming to work. The more Hailey learns about Avalon, the more convinced he becomes that the film could tell him who killed Eleanor and why she had to die. But the implications of *Avalon* reach far beyond Eleanor's murder, and Hailey must race to piece together the murders of the past and present before it's too late.

Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$24.99

Jumping Jenny

British Library Crime Classics

Berkeley, Anthony

A mystery dinner theatre party thrown by local author, with a taste for rather gruesome humour, requires guests come dressed as infamous killers – Jack the Ripper, Dr Crippen, and the like. Whatever could go

wrong? Know-it-all amateur criminologist Roger Sheringham settles in for an evening of beer, small talk, and analysing his companions. Ena Stratton, the host's sister-in-law, catches his attention. Her erratic mood swings and loud, gossipy talk is winning her more than a few enemies amongst the guests. When she's found dead, it's clear that one of the partygoers helped her to an early grave. Noticing a key detail that could implicate a friend in the crime, Sheringham decides to meddle with the scene and unwittingly makes himself a suspect. Tightly paced and cleverly defying the conventions of the classic detective story, Anthony Berkeley's dark sense of humour and taste for the macabre drive this 1933 classic.

Classic mystery TP \$39.95

Vinyl Resting Place

Record Shop mysteries

Blacke, Olivia

When Juni Jessup and her sisters Tansy and Maggie put all their beans in one basket to open Sip & Spin Records, a record-slash-coffee shop in Cedar River, Texas, they knew there could be some scratches on the track, but no one was expecting to find a body deader than disco in the supply closet. Family is everything to the Jessups, so when their uncle is arrested by Juni's heartbreaking ex on suspicion of murder; the sisters don't skip a beat, putting Sip & Spin up for bail collateral. But their tune changes abruptly, when Uncle Calvin disappears, leaving them in a grind. With their uncle's freedom and the future of their small business on the line, it's up to Juni and her sisters to get in the groove and figure out whodunit before the killer's trail – and the coffee – goes cold. Music and mocha seem like a blend that should be 'Knockin' On Heaven's Door', but caught up in a murder investigation with her family and their life savings on the line, Juni wonders if she might be on the 'Highway to Hell', instead. The first in a series.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Hungry Death

Cragg & Fidelis mysteries

Blake, Robin

November, 1747. County Coroner Titus Cragg has been called to the scene of a gruesome slaughter at a rural farmhouse: a mother and her four children brutally murdered in their own home. Were they killed by the man who should have protected them: their husband and father? And what role is played by the peculiar religious cult the family belongs to? Perhaps the mute boy who lives in the dog kennel knows the truth. Meanwhile, Titus' friend Dr Luke Fidelis is a guest of wealthy landowner and local magistrate John Blackburne at nearby Orford Hall. When a blackened but well-preserved body is discovered deep beneath Blackburne's hothouse, Cragg and Fidelis are asked to investigate. But how can they make headway when, as they soon learn, this corpse might

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have been in the ground for centuries? Gradually, Titus pieces together a tale of secrets, scandal, and thwarted passion – and uncovers a shocking connection between the body under the hothouse and the slaughter in the farmhouse.

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

Death at Paradise Palms

Retired Detectives Club

Broadribb, Steph

When movie producer Cody Ziegler goes missing from the Homestead's Millionaires' Row, his wife, retired actress Olivia, immediately claims there's foul play afoot. A million-dollar ransom demand soon follows, with clear instructions not to involve the cops. In desperation she enlists the help of Moira, Rick, Philip, and Lizzie, aka the Retired Detectives Club. Racing against the clock, the four retirees set to work. Sure, Cody had enemies – there's a disgruntled employee, a jilted filmmaker and 100 other people who know how much he's worth. But when it emerges that Cody's apparently perfect marriage isn't what it seems, even Olivia isn't above suspicion. When Cody's car turns up in a nearby lake with a shocking surprise inside, the case becomes even more complicated. But with Philip and Lizzie's marriage on the rocks, and threatening notes sending Moira into a spin, the Retired Detectives Club risks falling apart before getting any closer to the truth. Can Moira and the gang find Cody before it's too late? Or will this case see them lose, in more ways than one?

Mystery/suspense TP \$27.99

Read and Gone

Haunted Library mysteries

Brook, Allison

A devoted dad is as precious as diamonds, but Carrie Singleton wouldn't know – since her dad Jim's been on the lam most of her life. In an unusual family reunion, she finds Jim breaking into her cottage in the middle of the night. The fun really starts when he begs her to help him recover his half of a 20-million-dollar gem heist he pulled off with the local jeweller, Benton Parr. When she refuses, Jim takes off again. Carrie finds her father again behind bars for the recent murder of Benton Parr. Who made the connection? Unbeknownst to her, Carrie's boyfriend Dylan, an insurance investigator, has been searching for the gems. Determined to find the jewels herself, she starts examining every facet of Parr's life. She turns up a treasure trove of suspects, one of whom bashes her on the head as she's searching the victim's country cabin. Retreating to the quiet confines of the library where she works, Carrie watches as Smokey Joe, the resident cat, paws at a hole in the wall. Is he after the library's ghost Evelyn, or something shinier?

Mystery TP \$29.99

Bookclubbed to Death

Mystery Bookshop mysteries

Burns, V M

After the local library in North Harbor, Michigan, is flooded in a storm, Sam offers her bookstore as a new venue for the Mystery Mavens Book Club. Unfortunately, she immediately runs afoul of the club leader, Delia Marshall, a book reviewer who can make or break careers – something Sam

can ill afford with her debut historical mystery soon to be published. But the next morning, Sam opens her shop to find the unpleasant woman dead on the floor, bashed with a heavy – apparently lethal – tome: the *Complete Works of Agatha Christie*.

While Sam is busy writing her latest British historical mystery in which the queen mother is suspected in the murder of a *London Times* correspondent, a pair of ambitious cops suspect Sam of the real-life crime. When she gathers Nano Jo and their friends from the Shady Acres Retirement Village to review the case, they discover every one of the Mavens had a motive. With her novel about to hit the stores, Sam must find out who clubbed Delia before a judge throws the book at her...

Mystery TP \$37.95

Headland

Byrnes, John

A coastal town is evacuated after record floods. Three young police officers are left behind. With a killer. The small beachside town of Gloster is on the edge of disaster. After constant rain, floodwaters are rising fast. Detective Constable Craig Watson, exiled to Gloster from Sydney, is a young man with a damaged past and an uncertain future. Constables Ellie Cameron and Larissa Brookes are young women struggling to show their worth as police officers under a misogynistic sergeant. The drowning town holds a secret that someone is prepared to murder for, and as the floodwaters cut Gloster off from the world the three young police officers begin to understand that it's not just them left stranded. Somewhere out there in the floodwaters is a killer. And he needs them dead. Taut, compelling and visceral, John Byrnes' *Headland* announces a major new voice in Australian crime fiction.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Knits, Knots, and Knives

Craft Fair Knitters mysteries

Caldwell, Emmie

For once, things seem to be running smoothly for knitting enthusiast Lia Geiger. Her daughter is living on her own and happy with her new job on the alpaca farm. Plus, Lia and her Ninth Street Knitters have been knitting for the Civil War re-enactment being held on the grounds next to the Crandalsburg Craft Fair. It's all fun and battle games until one of the 'injured soldiers' turns out to be the very real victim of a murder, and Lia's friend and neighbour falls under deep suspicion. Suddenly, the good folks of Crandalsburg are spinning all kinds of yarns and pointing fingers at one another. Lucky for Lia, she has the combined wits of the Ninth Street Knitters to help her ply the truth from this crafty killer.

Mystery PBK \$16.99

Even the Darkest Night

Terra Alta Investigations

Cercas, Javier

When Melchor goes to investigate the horrific double murder of a rich printer and his wife, in rural Cataluna, nothing quite adds up. The young cop from the big city, hero of a foiled terrorist attack, has been sent to Terra Alta 'til things quieten down. Observant, streetwise and circumspect, Melchor is an also an outsider. The son of a Barcelona prostitute who never knew his father, Melchor

rapidly fell into trouble and was jailed at 19, convicted of driving for a Colombian drug cartel. While he was behind bars, he read Hugo's *Les Misérables*, and then his mother was murdered. Admiring of both Jean Valjean and Javert – but, mostly, the relentless Javert – he decided to become a policeman. Now, he is out for revenge, but he can wait, and meanwhile he has discovered happiness with his wife, the local librarian, and their daughter – who is, of course, called Cosette. Slowly at first, and then more rapidly once ordered to abandon the case, he tracks the clues that will reveal the larger truth behind what appears at first to be a cold-blooded, professional killing. Winner of Spain's biggest literary prize – the *Premio Planeta*.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Date with Malice

Dales Detective mysteries

Chapman, Julia

It's dark in the Dales this winter... When Mrs Shepherd arrives at the Dales Detective Agency, quite convinced that someone is trying to kill her, Samson O'Brien dismisses her fears as the ramblings of a confused elderly lady. But after a series of disturbing incidents at Fellside Court retirement home, he begins to wonder if there is something to her claims, after all... With Christmas around the corner, Samson is thrown into a complex investigation. One that will require him to regain the trust of the Dales community. Faced with no choice, he enlists the help of a local – the tempestuous Delilah Metcalfe. Against the backdrop of a Yorkshire winter, Samson and Delilah must work together, once again, if they are to uncover the malevolence threatening the elderly residents of Bruncliffe. Could the danger be perilously close to home? A reissue, with new cover art, of the second cosy crime novel in Julia Chapman's hugely-popular Dales Detective series. Recommended. If you haven't tried these, start with *Date with Death* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Sleeping and the Dead

Gleaves, Ann

Detective Peter Porteous is called to Cranwell Lake, where the body of a teenager has been discovered. After trawling through the missing persons files, he comes to the conclusion that the corpse is Michael Grey, an enigmatic and secretive young man who was reported missing by his foster parents in 1972. The news that a body has been found leaves prison officer Hannah Morton in shock. Michael had been her boyfriend, and she had been with him the night he disappeared. And, now, the discovery is bringing back dreaded and long-buried memories from her past... A reissue of one of Cleeves' earlier, standalone novels.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Burial of Ghosts

Gleaves, Ann

Twenty-five-year-old Lizzie Bartholomew has had more than her fair share of troubles. Abandoned as a baby, she spent her childhood moving between foster homes. Now, she is running away from her past... For Lizzie, a holiday in Morocco seems to be the perfect escape. Especially when she meets Philip, a fellow tourist who is also travelling to

fulfil his dreams. After a brief affair, Lizzie returns to England, distracted by thoughts of her mysterious lover. Then, suddenly, she receives a letter from a firm of solicitors. Philip Samson has died. In his will, he has left Lizzie a gift of £15,000. But there are conditions attached to this unexpected legacy that will soon force Lizzie to confront terrifying ghosts from her own past... A reissue of one of Cleeves' earlier, standalone novels.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Gone But Not for Garden

Goddess of Greene St mysteries

Collins, Kate

Athena Spencer works with her big Greek-American family (whom she also anonymously blogs about) at their garden centre near Lake Michigan. She's also gained a reputation for crime solving – and that's what brings flower-shop owner and fellow sleuth Abby Knight Salvare to her door... Abby has come from Indiana to this Lake Michigan town to help her cousin, Jillian, who was emceeing a local fashion show and now stands accused of murdering one of the models. Some of Sequoia's most prominent citizens were there on the catwalk, so there's increasing pressure to have the next event be a perp walk. The clueless Jillian is in jail after ignoring orders not to leave town, and she isn't happy – orange is not her colour. Athena starts making inquiries, while tiptoeing around the wives of the town's mayor and police chief. In the meantime, the two detectives are becoming fast friends. After all, in addition to homicide, Abby and Athena share an interest in horticulture – though, right now, the only thing they're growing is their list of suspects...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

My Darkest Prayer

Cosby, S A

'I handle the bodies.' Whether it's working at his cousin's funeral home, or tossing around the local ruffraff at his favourite bar, Nathan Waymaker is a man who knows how to handle the bodies. A former marine and sheriff's deputy, Nathan has built a reputation in his small Southern town as a man who can help when all other avenues have been exhausted. When a beloved local minister is found dead, his parishioners ask Nathan to make sure the death isn't swept under the rug. What starts out as an easy payday, soon descends into a maze of mayhem filled with wannabe gangsters, vicious crime lords, porn stars, crooked police officers, and a particularly treacherous preacher and his mysterious wife. Nathan must use all his varied skills and some of his wit to navigate the murky waters of small-town corruption even as dark secrets of his own threaten to come to the surface. Award-winning, bestselling author S A Cosby's debut novel is republished in a new edition, with a new introduction from the author.

Noir (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Motion Picture Teller

Gotterill, Colin

Thailand, 1996: Supot, a postman with the Royal Thai Mail service, hates his job. The only bright spot in his life is watching classic movies with his best friend, Ali, the

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owner of a video store. These cinephiles adore the charisma of the old Western stars, particularly the actresses, and bemoan the state of modern Thai cinema – until a mysterious cassette, entitled *Bangkok 2010*, arrives at Ali's store. *Bangkok 2010* is a dystopian film set in a near-future Thailand – and Supot and Ali, immediately obsessed, agree it's the most brilliant Thai movie they've ever seen. But nobody else has ever heard of the movie, the director, the actors, or any of the crew. Who would make a movie like this and not release it, and why? Feeling a powerful calling to solve the mystery of *Bangkok 2010*, Supot journeys deep into the Thai countryside and discovers that powerful people are dead set on keeping the film buried.

Mystery HC \$57.95

Fatal Venture

Inspector French mysteries,
Collins Crime Club

Crofts, Freeman Wills

When Morrison first heard of old Stott's idea to purchase an ocean liner and run her as a tourist ship in sheltered waters off the British Isles, he was most enthusiastic. In fact, he accepted a job on board. But when he discovered the true purpose of Stott's floating paradise, Morrison's delight turned to foreboding. And when murder struck the vessel, he wasn't alone. A certain Inspector from Scotland Yard had been travelling *incognito*, almost as if a nasty spot of trouble had been expected... Yet more Inspector French, reissued!

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

The Last Thing He Told Me Dave, Laura

It was the last thing he told me: protect her. Before Owen Michaels disappears, he manages to smuggle a note to his new wife, Hannah: protect her. Hannah knows exactly who Owen needs her to protect – his teenage daughter, Bailey, who lost her mother tragically as a child. And who wants absolutely nothing to do with her new stepmother. As her desperate calls to Owen go unanswered, his boss is arrested for fraud and the police start questioning her, Hannah realises that her husband isn't who he said he was. And that Bailey might hold the key to discovering Owen's true identity, and why he disappeared. Together they set out to discover the truth. But as they start putting together the pieces of Owen's past, they soon realise that their lives will never be the same again...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Desperate Undertaking

Flavia Albia mysteries

Davis, Lindsey

Rome, the very end of December. The Field of Mars is packed with monuments, none more beautiful than Domitian's new Odeon and Stadium. But the area has been overtaken by ugly events: elaborately staged murders. Someone bears a spectacular grudge against the theatrical community, and intends to get revenge in the most spectacular way possible. The killer's method is to re-enact bloody scenes from the gruesome side of popular theatre, where characters in plays really die on stage. A figure from the past wants Flavia Albia's father to investigate, but Falco is out of Rome for the holidays. Albia seizes the

commission. And begins to regret doing so almost immediately. 'The undertaker did it' the first victim croaks, before expiring. This seems to make no sense, because, surely, people are already dead when they go to their funeral? Though there is a serial killer at large, the authorities would prefer a cover up, but Albia is driven to discover what is going on. How much blood must be shed before the mania ends? And could her own family be on the list for a frightful stage death?

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Four Leaf Cleaver

Country Store mysteries

Day, Maddie

There's no mistaking Saint Patrick's Day at Pans 'N' Pancakes. Robbie may only be Irish by marriage to Abe O'Neill, but the shelves of vintage cookware in her southern Indiana store are draped with glittery shamrocks and Kelly-green garlands and her restaurant is serving shepherd's pie and Guinness Beer brownies. The big event, however, is a televised cooking competition to be filmed on site. Unfortunately, someone's luck has run out. Before the cameras start rolling, tough-as-nails producer Tara O'Hara Moore is found upstairs in her B&B room, bludgeoned apparently by the heavy hilt of a cleaver left by her side. Now, not only does Robbie have a store full of festive decorations, she's got a store full of suspects...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Secret Lives

de Castrique, Mark

Meet former FBI agent-turned-boarding-house landlady Ethel Fiona Crestwater. Her age affords her precious invisibility. She can outthink and outshoot most men – and women – half her age. When someone murders one of her boarders, Ethel springs into action – much to the surprise of her double-first-cousin-twice-removed, Jesse, who has recently come to stay with her while he attends university. As he watches her photograph the crime scene, conceal evidence, and speed-dial the Secret Service Director, Jesse realises that there's much more to Ethel than appearances suggest. When Jesse is assaulted and the gym bag full of cash Ethel had hidden is stolen from the basement, the pair decides it's time to launch their own unofficial investigation. With no one to trust but each other, this unlikely duo learns that the only thing truly worth risking your life for is family.

Mystery TP \$27.99

Winter Swallows

Commissario Ricciardi series

de Giovanni, Maurizio

Christmas has just passed, and the city is preparing to celebrate New Year when, on the stage of a variety show, famous actor Michelangelo Gelmi fires a gun at his wife, Fedora Marra. The shooting, itself, would be nothing strange: it is repeated every evening as part of their performance. But this time, someone replaced one of the blanks with a real bullet. Gelmi swears his innocence, but few believe him. Approaching old age and with a career in decline, the actor has become increasingly dependent on his wife, much younger than him and at the height of her fame. However, rumour has it that she had fallen in love with another man and was

preparing to leave Gelmi. A straightforward case of infidelity and marital jealousy? Commissario Ricciardi has more than one doubt.

Noir TP \$39.95

Deeds of Autumn

Skane quartet

de la Motte, Anders

One tragic night will change everything... *Southern Sweden, 1990.* Five lifelong friends gather for a last farewell to their childhoods and each other at an abandoned quarry. The mood is effervescent, but under the surface tensions run deep as not everyone is ready to let go – or be left behind. When dawn breaks, only four remain alive. The police rule the death a tragic accident, but not everyone is convinced, and the incident remains an open wound in the community.

Autumn, 2017. When the old chief of police is replaced by Anna Vesper, a newly-arrived detective from Stockholm, whispers and rumours about that night can no longer be silenced. Soon, Anna is left with no choice but to ignore all warnings and reopen the case – while hoping her own sins won't catch up with her. But someone will do anything to hide the truth... The first in the Skane quartet is *End of Summer* (PBK, \$19.99).

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Wolf Pack

Tuva Moodyson mysteries

Dean, Will

When there's a pack on the hunt, nobody's safe... Rose Farm is home to a group of survivalists, completely cut off from the outside world. Until now. A young woman goes missing within the perimeter of the farm compound. Can Tuva talk her way inside the tight-knit group to find her story? As Tuva attempts to unmask the culprit, she gains unique access to the residents. But soon she finds herself in danger of the pack turning against her – will she make her way back to safety, so she can expose the truth?

Mystery/suspense HC \$34.99

A Three Book Problem

Sherlock Holmes Bookshop mysteries

Delany, Vicki

It's a crisp, early October weekend, and business is slowing down as fall descends at the Sherlock Holmes Bookshop and Emporium and adjacent Mrs Hudson's Tea Room. Wealthy philanthropist and prominent Sherlockian, David Masterson, has rented Suffolk Gardens House, where he plans to entertain his friends in a traditional English country house weekend. As the chosen caterers, Jayne Watson and Gemma Doyle get to work preparing lavish meals and setting up Sherlockian books and props for entertainment. Meanwhile, police detective Ryan Ashburton has taken time away from his duties to assist in the kitchen. It quickly becomes apparent that David's guests don't like each other – or their host. Plus, some of them aren't even acquainted with the adventures of the Great Detective. Before Gemma can ponder their relationships a poisoned dart sails through the window of the library, presenting Gemma Doyle with a three-book problem.

Mystery TP \$32.99

Hatchet Island

Mike Bowditch mysteries

Doiron, Paul

A call for help from a former colleague leads Maine game warden investigator Mike Bowditch and his girlfriend Stacey Stevens on a sea kayaking trip to a research station far off the coast. Stacey spent summers interning on the island, a sanctuary for endangered seabirds, and they are shocked by the atmosphere of tension they encounter when they come ashore. The biologists are being threatened and stalked by a mysterious boatman who they suspect is trespassing on the refuge late at night. And, now, the sanctuary's enigmatic founder, whose mind has been slowly unravelling, has gone missing. Camped on an islet for the night, Mike and Stacey waken to the sound of a gunshot. When they return to the refuge at dawn, their darkest fears are confirmed: two of the three researchers have been brutally murdered and the third has disappeared, along with the island skiff. Mike's quest to find the missing man leads to a nearby island owned by a world-renowned photographer and his equally brilliant wife. The inhabitants of this private kingdom quickly close ranks, and Mike increasingly comes to believe that someone in the village knows more about the killings than they dare admit. With no one to trust and miles from shore, Mike Bowditch must stop a ruthless murderer determined to make sure a terrifying secret never sees the light of day.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Lighthouse Dorricott, Fran

Six friends travel to a remote island north of the Scottish Highlands for an old school reunion. They've rented the Lighthouse – a stunning, now-abandoned building that was once notorious for deaths at sea. On the first evening, someone goes missing. The group search all through the night to no avail. But when the five remaining friends return to the lighthouse early the next morning, they are shocked to find James inside. He's looks terrified – but won't say a word about where he's been. The party vow to put the strange night behind them and enjoy the rest of their stay, but when more unexplained things begin to occur, tensions escalate. It's clear, James knows something, but nothing will persuade him to give up the secrets of the island. Is he protecting his friends from a terrible truth, or leading them into more danger?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Death Under the Perseids

Havana mysteries

Dovalpage, Teresa

Cuban-born Mercedes Spivey and her American husband, Nolan, win a five-day cruise to Cuba. Although the circumstances surrounding the prize seem a little suspicious to Mercedes, Nolan's current unemployment and their need to spice up their marriage make the decision a no-brainer. Once aboard, Mercedes is surprised to see two people she met through her ex-boyfriend Lorenzo: former University of Havana professor Selfa Segarra and down-on-his-luck Spanish writer Javier Jurado. Even stranger: they also received a free cruise. When Selfa disappears on their first day at sea, Mercedes and Javier begin to wonder if their presence on the

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cruise is more than coincidence. Mercedes confides her worries to her husband, but he convinces her that it's all in her head. However, when Javier dies under mysterious circumstances after disembarking in Havana, and Nolan is nowhere to be found, Mercedes scrambles through the city looking for him, fearing her suspicions were correct, all along.

Mystery TP \$29.99

Murder at Claridge's

Hotel mysteries

Eldridge, Jim

One of the Claridge's kitchen porters is found dead – strangled. He was a recent employee who claimed to be Romanian, but evidence suggests he may have been German. Detective Chief Inspector Coburg has to find out exactly who he was, and what he was doing at Claridge's under a false identity. Once he has established those facts, he might get an insight into why he was killed, and who by. Coburg's job is complicated by the fact that so many of the hotel's residents are exiled European royalty. King George of Greece is registered as 'Mr Brown' and even the Duke of Windsor is staying, though without Wallis Simpson. Clandestine affairs, furtive goings on, and conspiracies against the government: Coburg must tread very lightly, indeed...

Historical mystery PBK \$19.99

Death in a Blackout

WPC Billie Harkness mysteries

Ellicott, Jessica

1940. Britain is at war. Rector's daughter Wilhelmina Harkness longs to do her duty for her country, but when her strict mother forbids her to enlist, their bitter argument has devastating consequences. Unable to stay in the village she loves, Wilhelmina – reinventing herself as Billie – spends everything she has on a one-way ticket up north. Hull is a distant, dangerous city, but Billie is determined to leave her painful memories behind and start afresh, whatever the cost. The last thing Billie expects on her first evening in Hull, however, is to be caught in the city's first air raid – or to stumble across the body of a young woman, suspiciously untouched by debris. If the air raid didn't kill the glamorous stranger, what did? Billie is determined to get justice, and her persistence earns her an invitation to the newly formed Women's Police Constabulary. But as the case unfolds, putting her at odds with both high-ranking members of the force as well as the victim's powerful family, Billie begins to wonder if she can trust her new friends and colleagues... or if someone amongst them is working for the enemy. The first in a brand-new WWII historical mystery series.

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

The Red Monarch

Brontë mysteries

Ellis, Bella

The Brontë sisters' first poetry collection has just been published, potentially marking an end to their careers as amateur detectors, when Anne receives a letter from her former pupil Lydia Robinson. Lydia has eloped with a young actor, Harry Roxby, and following her disinheritance, the couple been living in poverty in London. Harry has become

embroiled with a criminal gang and is in terrible danger after allegedly losing something very valuable that he was meant to deliver to their leader. The desperate and heavily-pregnant Lydia has a week to return what her husband supposedly stole, or he will be killed. She knows there are few people who she can turn to in this time of need, but the sisters agree to help Lydia, beginning a race against time to save Harry's life. In doing so, our intrepid sisters come face to face with a terrifying adversary, whom even the toughest of the slum dwellers are afraid of... The Red Monarch. The Brontë sisters' first case was *The Vanished Bride* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

The Shards

Ellis, Bret Easton

Los Angeles, 1981. Seventeen-year-old Bret is a senior at the exclusive Buckley prep school when a new student arrives with a mysterious past. Robert Mallory is bright, handsome, charismatic, and shielding a secret from Bret and his friends, even as he becomes a part of their tightly knit circle. Bret's obsession with Mallory is equalled only by his increasingly unsettling preoccupation with The Trawler, a serial killer on the loose who seems to be drawing ever closer to Bret and his friends, taunting them with grotesque threats and horrific, sharply local acts of violence. Can he trust his friends – or his own mind – to make sense of the danger they appear to be in? Thwarted by the world and by his own innate desires, buffeted by unhealthy fixations, Bret spirals into paranoia and isolation as the relationship between The Trawler and Robert Mallory hurtles inexorably toward a collision. A sensational new novel from the bestselling author of *Less Than Zero* and *American Psycho* that tracks a group of privileged Los Angeles high school friends, as a serial killer strikes across the city. His first novel in 12 years, *The Shards* is Bret Easton Ellis at his inimitable best.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Honeymoons Can

Be Hazardous

Amish Matchmaker mysteries

Fluke, Amanda

Millie's decidedly not Amish best friend, Lois Henry, is outspoken, colourful, and so hopelessly romantic, she's had four husbands. Millie doesn't judge, and she also doesn't expect to run into Lois' most recent ex, gambler Gerome Moorhead, in small-town Harvest, Ohio. With him is the very young, new Mrs Moorhead, aka 'Honeybee'. Lois is outraged, but Millie is completely shocked to learn the next day that Gerome is already a widower... When a large wood carving at the cosy Munich Chalet falls on 'Honeybee,' all eyes turn toward Lois. Who else would want a tourist – a complete stranger – dead? And half of Harvest witnessed Lois' enmity toward the young woman. Suddenly Millie must put aside her sewing needle and flex her sleuthing skills. She's no stranger to a murder investigation, after all, and if she doesn't learn who killed Honeybee, Lois could go from Millie's boisterous best friend to her horrified prison pen pal...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Grimes and Covers

Magical Bookshop mysteries

Flower, Amanda

Christmas is coming to the Western New York village of Cascade Springs, and so is the long-awaited wedding of Charming Books proprietor Violet Waverly and police chief David Rainwater. Grandma Daisy and Violet's best friend, Sadie, go all out to make the nuptials the event of the season – whether Violet likes it or not. But the reception becomes memorable for all the wrong reasons, when a woman's dead body floats by on the frigid Niagara River. Violet is shocked to recognise the deceased as a mysterious woman who visited Charming Books two days before the wedding, toting a rare first edition of Henry David Thoreau's *Walden*. Well aware that a mint condition copy could be worth more than \$14,000, Violet told the woman she would have to have the book appraised before she could consider buying it. Most displeased, the woman tucked the precious tome under her arm and stormed out of the shop. Now, she's dead, and an enigmatic message scrawled in pen upon her palm reads, They stole my book. It's a confounding case, indeed. But, fortunately, Violet can draw on the resources of her bookshop's magical consciousness, which communicates clues to Violet via quotes from *Walden*. With Emerson the tuxedo cat and Faulkner the crow at her side, Violet sets out to recover the priceless book by solving a murder most transcendental.

Mystery TP \$39.95

Caramel Pecan Roll Murder

Hannah Swensen mysteries

Fluke, Joanne

Embracing a sweet escape from her usual routine at the Cookie Jar, Hannah gets asked for her help in baking pastries at the local inn for a flashy fishing competition with big prizes and even bigger names. But the fun stops when she spots a runaway boat on the water and, on board, the lifeless body of the event's renowned celebrity spokesperson... Famed TV show host Sonny Bowman wasn't humble about his ability to reel in winning catches, and no one knew that better than his tragically overworked sidekick, Joey. Did Joey finally take bloody revenge on his pompous boss – or was Sonny killed by a jealous contestant? With goodies to bake and a mess of fresh challenges mixed into her personal life, it's either sink or swim as Hannah joins forces with her sister, Andrea, to catch a clever culprit before another unsuspecting victim goes belly up...

Mystery PBK \$26.95

The Paris Apartment

Foley, Lucy

Welcome to No 12 *rue des Amants*. A beautiful old apartment block, far from the glittering lights of the Eiffel Tower and the bustling banks of the Seine. Where nothing goes unseen, and everyone has a story to unlock. The watchful concierge. The scorned lover. The prying journalist. The naive student. The unwanted guest. There was a murder here last night. A mystery lies behind the door of apartment three. Who holds the key?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Boy in the Suitcase

Nina Borg series, deluxe edition

Friis, Agnete & Kaaberbol, Lene

Nina Borg, a Red Cross nurse, wife, and mother of two, is a compulsive do-gooder who can't say no when someone asks for help – even when she knows better. When her estranged friend Karin leaves her a key to a public locker in the Copenhagen train station, Nina gets suckered into her most dangerous project yet. Inside the locker is a suitcase, and inside the suitcase is a three-year-old boy: naked and drugged, but alive. Is the boy a victim of child trafficking? Can he be turned over to authorities, or will they only return him to whoever sold him? When Karin is discovered brutally murdered, Nina realises that her life, and the boy's, are in jeopardy, too. In an increasingly desperate trek across Denmark, Nina tries to figure out who the boy is, where he belongs, and who exactly is trying to hunt him down. A reissue.

Hardboiled (reissue) TP \$32.99

The Lipstick Bureau

Gable, Michelle

1944, Rome. Newlywed Niki Novotná is recruited by a new American spy agency to establish a secret branch in Italy's capital. One of the OSS' few female operatives abroad and multilingual, she's tasked with crafting fake stories and distributing propaganda to lower the morale of enemy soldiers. Despite limited resources, Niki and a scrappy team of artists, forgers and others – now, nicknamed the Lipstick Bureau – find success, forming a bond amid the cobblestoned streets and storied villas of the newly liberated city. But her work is also a way to escape devastating truths about the family she left behind in Czechoslovakia and a future with her controlling American husband. As the war drags on and the pressure intensifies, Niki begins to question the rules she's been instructed to follow, and a colleague unexpectedly captures her heart. But one step out of line, one mistake, could mean life or death...

Suspense TP \$37.95

The Summer We Buried

Gehrman, Jody

Twenty years ago, Tansy was drawn to Selene's hard edges, her grit, and her knack for survival. Since then, the confused tangle of guilt about covering up a murder shattered their friendship, and even now, at 38, Tansy has never come to terms with what happened that night. But now, Selene is back, demanding her old friend repay her. Selene's daughter, Jupiter, attends the college where Tansy works as a guidance counsellor. Selene is convinced that Jupiter's boyfriend, Colton, is abusive, and wants Tansy to intervene. As she is drawn back into the intensity of Selene's world, Tansy discovers the ugly truth about Colton. But Tansy suspects there's far more to the story... and, now, she'll finally have to confront Selene, once and for all.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

The Apprentice

Rizzoli & Isles series

Gerritsen, Tess

A series of horrific murders seem disturbingly familiar to Detective Jane Rizzoli. They remind her and Forensic Pathologist Maura Isles of those committed by a killer known as The Surgeon, who they recently put behind bars. While they're still trying to track down the new killer, the unthinkable happens: The Surgeon escapes. Suddenly, Jane is chasing not one but two brilliant and twisted minds, united by one goal... A reissue.

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

A Conflict of Interests

Josephine Fox series

Gradidge, Claire

June 1944, *Romsey, England*. Josephine 'Jo' Fox is at an impasse since the unwelcome return of her wayward husband Richard. So, when he disappears again, she is neither concerned nor surprised – until a burning car is discovered with a body inside. And there are signs that Richard is somehow involved. Jo is determined to find both her husband and answers, yet with her friend Bram Nash in hospital suffering an infection of his old war wound, she must do so alone. When information comes to light that implicates Bram too, Jo finds herself on a dangerous path to the truth. But what will be left for her, when all is revealed?

These deliciously-dark tales of wartime family secrets and lies, in small-town England, begin with *The Unexpected Return of Josephine Fox* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical suspense PBK \$22.99

The Good Nurse:

a True Story of Medicine, Madness and Murder

Graeber, Charles

After his arrest in 2003, registered nurse Charlie Cullen was quickly dubbed 'The Angel of Death' by the media. But Cullen was no mercy killer, nor was he a simple monster. He was a favourite son, husband, beloved father, best friend and celebrated caregiver. Implicated in the deaths of as many as 300 patients, he was also perhaps the most prolific serial killer in American history. Cullen's murderous career in the world's most trusted profession spanned 16 years and nine hospitals. Chronicling Cullen's deadly career and the breathless efforts to stop him, *The Good Nurse* paints an incredibly vivid portrait of madness and offers an urgent, terrifying tale of murder, friendship, and betrayal. Now a Netflix film, starring Eddie Redmayne and Jessica Chastain.

True crime PBK \$22.99

The Book of the Most Precious Substance

Gran, Sara

A book with all of life's answers, if only you can find it... Rare book dealer Lily Albrecht has just been given a tipoff about *The Book of the Most Precious Substance*, a 17th century manual rumoured to be the most powerful occult book ever written, if it really exists at all. With some of the wealthiest people in the world willing to pay Lily a fortune to track it

down, she embarks on a journey from New York to New Orleans to Munich to Paris. If she finds it, Lily stands to gain more than just money. This could erase the greatest tragedy of her life. But will Lily's quest help her find some answers, or will she lose everything in search of a ghost?

Mystery HC \$32.99

Mystery in the Making

collection

Granger, Ann

This gripping collection of 18 short stories has been brought together, for the first time, to mark Ann Granger's 30th anniversary as a hugely-popular crime writer. Throughout her distinguished career, Ann Granger has penned an array of hugely entertaining and gripping short stories; now, these compelling mysteries have been brought together to delight and enthral crime fans everywhere. From a nosy neighbour who trusts no one to a jealous nephew protecting his inheritance, and from a ghostly apparition on a cruise ship to an Oxford undergraduate who cannot escape his past, Ann's short stories transport readers from the Highlands of Scotland to the rugged coast of Cornwall and from the Victorian era to the present day. In each story there is an intriguing mystery to captivate the most avid crime fan, making this a collection to treasure.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

A Valiant Deceit

Olive Bright mysteries

Graves, Stephanie

Returning to Piple, following her FANY (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry) training, Olive is eager to step up her involvement in the war effort. Her pigeons are being conscripted to aid the Belgian resistance, and it's up to Olive to choose the best birds for the mission. To protect the secrecy of their work, she must also continue the ruse of being romantically involved with her superior, Captain Jameson Aldridge, a task made more challenging by the fact that she really does have feelings for the gruff Irish intelligence officer. But perhaps the greatest challenge of all comes when an instructor at Station XVII, the top-secret training school housed at Brickendonbury Manor, is found dead in Balls Wood by a troop of Girl Guides. The police quickly rule Lieutenant Jeremy Beckett's death an accident, but based on clues she finds at the scene, Olive begins to suspect he might have been a spy. Involving the reluctant Jamie, she is determined to solve the murder and possibly stop a threat to their intelligence efforts which could put the Belgians – not to mention her pigeons – in grave danger. The sequel to *Olive Bright, Pigeoneer* (TP, \$29.99).

Historical mystery TP \$37.95

A Spoonful of Murder

Hall, J M

Introducing the three unlikeliest sleuths you'll ever meet... Every Thursday, three retired school teachers have their 'coffee o'clock' sessions at the Thirsk Garden Centre café. But one fateful week, as they are catching up with a slice of cake, they bump into their ex-colleague, Topsy. By the next Thursday, Topsy's dead. The last thing

Liz, Thelma, and Pat imagined was that they would become involved in a murder. But they know there's more to Topsy's death than meets the eye – and it's down to them to prove it... Sit down with a cup of tea and this perfectly witty, page-turning, cosy crime novel. Fans of Agatha Christie, *Death in Paradise*, and *Midsomer Murders* will be hooked from the very first page. It's true, our mystery-loving regulars loved this, in its previous edition!

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder at a Scottish Wedding

Scottish Shire mysteries

Hall, Traci

Paislee's specialty sweater shop and yarn business Cashmere Crush, in the charming Scottish village of Nairn, is closed today for a special occasion. Her bonnie bestie, Lydia, is moments away from walking down the aisle of the church at Old Nairn Kirk to wed Corbin Smythe. Gramps and Paislee's 11-year-old son Brody are seated in the pews with the other guests – the only family not in attendance is their black Scottish terrier Wallace. As matron of honour, Paislee is at her friend's side when Lydia lets out a frantic cry. The Luckenbooth brooch her betrothed gave her is missing. A traditional Scottish love token, the gold heirloom has been in his family for generations and not wearing it could bring bad luck – according to the superstitious Smythes. But the real misfortune falls on a distraught cousin who suddenly disrupts the ceremony and dies with the brooch in her hand. The Smythes insist it's the curse. But Paislee must broach the subject of... murder. And was the intended victim the guest – or the bride? Only Paislee can determine who to pin the murder on...

Mystery TP \$37.95

The Mysterious Case of the Alperton Angels

Hallett, Janice

Open the safe deposit box. Inside, you will find research material for a true crime book. You must read the documents, then make a decision. Will you destroy them? Or will you take them to the police? Everyone knows the story of the Alperton Angels: the cult-like group who were convinced one of their member's babies was the anti-Christ, and they had a divine mission to kill it – until the baby's mother, Holly, came to her senses and called the police. The Angels committed suicide rather than go to prison, and Holly – and the baby – disappeared into the care system. Nearly two decades later, true-crime author Amanda Bailey is writing a book on the Angels. The Alperton baby has turned 18 and can finally be interviewed – if Amanda can find them, it will be the true-crime scoop of the year, and will save her flagging career. But rival author Oliver Menzies is just as smart, better connected, and is also on the baby's trail. As Amanda and Oliver are forced to collaborate, they realise that what everyone thinks they know about the Angels is wrong, and the truth is something much darker and stranger than they'd ever imagined. This story is far from over – and it won't have a happy ending.

Mystery TP \$32.99

The Devil's Blaze:

Sherlock Holmes, 1943

Sherlock's War series

Harris, Robert J

London, 1943. Across the city prominent figures in science and the military are bursting into flame and being incinerated. Convinced that the Germans have deployed a new terror weapon, a desperate government turns to the one man who can track down the source of this dreadful menace – Sherlock Holmes. The quest for a solution drives Holmes into an uneasy alliance with the country's most brilliant scientific genius, Professor James Moriarty. Only Holmes knows that, behind his façade of respectability, Moriarty is the mastermind behind a vast criminal empire. As they pursue the trail of incendiary murders, Holmes is quite sure that the professor is playing a double game and that there lies ahead a duel to the death which they cannot both survive. A tribute to the classic Universal Pictures Sherlock Holmes film series, starring Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce, this is a sequel to *A Study in Crimson: Sherlock Holmes, 1942* (PBK, \$19.99).

Sherlockiana PBK \$22.99

Rum and Choke

Chloe Jackson Sea Glass Saloon mysteries

Harris, Sherry

The Florida Panhandle Barback Games are coming up and Chloe's been drafted to represent the Sea Glass Saloon – competing in various obstacle-course events that conclude with rolling an empty keg up a hill. The rivalries are so fierce that some of the participating bars even stoop to bringing in ringers. Meanwhile, Chloe's friend Ann – a descendant of the famed pirate Jean Lafitte – asks her to come along for a boat ride as Ann dives into the Gulf of Mexico. She's found some old papers that may identify the location of sunken treasure. Instead, she finds a sunken body – of one of the ringers hired for the Barback Games. Now that murder is in the mix, Chloe has to figure out whether one of the competitors went overboard...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

A Taste for Killing

Bradecote & Catchpoll mysteries

Hawkswood, Sarah

Godfrey Bowyer, the best but least likeable bow maker in Worcester, dies of poisoning, though his wife Blanche survives. The number of people who could have administered the poison should mean a very short investigation for Bradecote and Catchpoll; but, perhaps, someone was pulling the strings, and that widens the net considerably. Could it be the cast-out younger brother or perhaps Orderic the Bailiff, whose wife has been pressured into a relationship with Godfrey? Could it even be the wife herself? With Bradecote eager to return to his manor and worried about his wife's impending confinement, and Walkelin trying to get his mother to accept his choice of bride, there are distractions aplenty; though, Serjeant Catchpoll will not let them get in the way of solving this case.

Historical mystery PBK \$19.99

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

The Saint of Thieves

St Nicholas Salvage & Wrecking series
Haynes, Dana
St Nicholas Salvage & Wrecking, a largely illegal bounty hunting operation, tracks down the worst of the worst criminals for the presiding judge of the International Criminal Court. In this action-packed international thriller, will the hunters become the hunted? Michael Finnegan might be off the NYPD, but he's still a by-the-book kind of guy. By contrast, Katalin Fiero Dahar – ex-soldier and assassin extraordinaire – makes her own rules. Yet, their partnership works magnificently. St Nicholas Salvage & Wrecking – their high-flying international bounty hunting business – has nabbed some of the world's most sought-after and heinous criminals. When Michael gets a panicked call that Sally Blue is in trouble, he and Katalin head to Rome to help. Sally's a friend, and her outfit of thieves, the Black Harts, have proved themselves invaluable to St Nicholas on numerous ops in the past. During a daring rescue in a shadowy Roman plaza, Michael recognises Bobby McCool, a stone-cold killer, aider, and abettor of a notorious drug lord. McCool was also once the partner of Michael's disgraced father, police detective Patrick Finnegan, now under house arrest in New York. Nabbing McCool would not only make the world a safer place, it might help Patrick Finnegan's legal woes. Saving Sally gets more complicated by the minute, for she's set her larcenous sights on astronomically valuable goods. The stakes are high, but the crew from St Nicholas aims higher, seeking to bring justice to these murderous criminals and their genocidal leader.

Hardboiled TP \$37.95

The Summer Party

Heath, Rebecca
The most perfect families hide the most devastating secrets. When Lucy Ross is forced to come back to her childhood summer home in Queens Point, Australia, it's supposed to only be a short stay. Just the time to pack her beloved grandmother's belongings and move on. But when a body washes up on the beach, the timing of her return seems too coincidental, and she soon finds herself pulled into a murder investigation. At the centre of it all are the Whitlam siblings: gorgeous, wealthy, glamorous. In this beautiful coastal town Mae, Harry, and Anabelle are as good as royalty. So, when – 19 years before – they had let shy 16-year-old Lucy into their inner circle, she was prepared to do anything for it to stay that way, even turn a blind eye to their secrets... But now that things have turned out deadly, what would be stronger – the Whitlam's allure or the search for the truth?

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Shadow in the Glass

Greer Hogan mysteries
Hilliard, M E
Librarian Greer Hogan is on hand to celebrate her old friend Sarah Whitaker's nuptials at the Whitaker summer home on beautiful Mirror Lake, just outside the upstate New York village of Lake Placid. But Greer has an ulterior motive – to gather information

that could reopen the investigation into her husband's murder, a crime for which she believes an innocent man went to prison. Her plans come to a shuddering halt when a wedding guest goes missing and turns up dead in the lake. The guest, Brittany Miles, was an employee of the Whitaker family whom Sarah had long suspected was up to no good at work. The police have no leads, but Greer – an avid reader of crime fiction who possesses an uncanny knack for deduction – begins her own investigation. She learns that the victim was seen with a mystery man right before she disappeared. Then the autopsy reveals that she didn't drown in the lake after all, but in the reflecting pool in the Whitaker garden. The suspect list is as long as the guest list itself, with no apparent motive. Now, Greer must rely on the wisdom of her favourite fictional detectives to tease out truth from lies – and keep herself out of the killer's sights.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

Run Time

Howard, Catherine Ryan
Movie-making can be murder. *Final Draft*, is a psychological horror movie, being filmed at a house deep in a forest – miles from anywhere, in the wintry wilds of West Cork. Former soap-star Adele Rafferty has stepped in to replace the original actress, at the very last minute. She can't help but hope that this opportunity will be her big break – and she knows she was lucky to get it, after what happened the last time she was on a set. Something isn't quite right about *Final Draft*. When the strange goings on, in the script, start to happen on set too, Adele begins to fear that the real horror lies off the page... Shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards' Crime Fiction Book of the Year.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Black is the Night:

Stories inspired by Cornell Woolrich, anthology
Jakubowski, Maxim (editor)
An anthology of 28 exclusive new short stories in tribute to the master of pulp era crime writing, Cornell Woolrich. Woolrich – also published as William Irish and George Hooley – stands with Raymond Chandler, Erle Stanley Gardner and Dashiell Hammett as a legend in the genre. He is a hugely influential figure for crime writers, and is also remembered through the 50+ films made from his novels and stories, including Alfred Hitchcock's *Rear Window*, *The Bride Wore Black*, *I Married a Dead Man*, *Phantom Lady*, Truffaut's *La Sirene du Mississippi*, and *Black Alibi*. Collected and edited by one of the most experienced editors in the field, Maxim Jakubowski, features original work from: Neil Gaiman, Joel Lane, Joe R Lansdale, Vaseem Khan, Brandon Barrows, Tara Moss, Kim Newman, Nick Mamatas, Mason Cross, Martin Edwards, Donna Moore, James Grady, Lavie Tidhar, James Sallis, A K Benedict, Warren Moore, Max Decharne, Paul Di Filippo, M W Craven, Charles Ardai, Susi Holliday, Bill Pronzini, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, Maxim Jakubowski, Joseph S Walker, Samantha Lee Howe, O'Neil De Noux, David Quantick, Ana Teresa Pereira, and William Boyle.

Mystery HC \$39.99

Nothing to Lose

J P Beaumont series
Jance, J A
Years ago, when he was a homicide detective with the Seattle PD, J P Beaumont's partner, Sue Danielson, was murdered. Volatile and angry, Danielson's ex-husband came after her in her home and, with nowhere else to turn, Jared, Sue's teenage son, frantically called Beau for help. As Beau rushed to the scene, he urged Jared to grab his younger brother and flee the house. In the end, Beaumont's plea and Jared's quick action saved the two boys from their father's murderous rage. Now, almost 20 years later, Jared reappears in Beau's life seeking his help, once again – his younger brother Chris is missing. Still haunted by the events of that tragic night, Beau doesn't hesitate to take on the case. Following a lead all the way to the wilds of wintertime Alaska, he encounters a tangled web of family secrets in which a killer with nothing to lose is waiting to take another life.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

The Berlin Exchange

Kanon, Joseph
Berlin. 1963. The height of the Cold War and an early morning spy swap. On one side of the trade: Martin Keller, an American physicist who once made headlines, but who then disappeared into the English prison system. Keller's most critical possession: his American passport. Keller's most ardent desire: to see his ex-wife Sabine and their young son. But Martin has questions: who asked for him? Who negotiated the deal? Just the KGB bringing home one of its agents? Or, as he hopes, a more personal intervention? He has worked for the service long enough to know that nothing happens by chance. They want him for something. Not physics – his expertise is years out of date. Something else, which he cannot learn until he arrives in East Berlin, when suddenly the game is afoot.

Suspense PBK \$22.99

Age of Vice

Kapoor, Deepti
This is the age of vice, where pleasure and power are everything, and the family ties that bind can also kill...
New Delhi, three am. A speeding Mercedes jumps the kerb, and in the blink of an eye five people are dead. It's a rich man's car, but when the dust settles there is no rich man at all, just a shell-shocked servant – who cannot explain the strange series of events that led to this crime. Nor can he foresee the dark drama that is about to unfold. Deftly shifting through time and perspective in contemporary India, *Age of Vice* is an epic, action-packed story propelled by the seductive wealth, startling corruption, and bloodthirsty violence of the Wadia family – loved by some, loathed by others, feared by all. In the shadow of lavish estates, extravagant parties, predatory business deals, and calculated political influence, three lives become dangerously intertwined: Ajay is the watchful servant, born into poverty, who rises through the family's ranks. Sunny is the playboy heir who dreams of outshining his father, whatever the cost. And Neda is the curious journalist caught between morality and desire. Against a sweeping plot fuelled by

loss, pleasure, greed, yearning, violence, and revenge, will these characters' connections become a path to escape, or a trigger of further destruction? Transporting readers from the dusty villages of Uttar Pradesh to the urban energy of New Delhi, *Age of Vice* is an intoxicating novel of gangsters and lovers, false friendships, forbidden romance, and the consequences of corruption. It is binge-worthy entertainment at its literary best.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Banjawarn Kemp, Josh

Garreth Hoyle is a true crime writer whose destructive love affair with hallucinogenic drugs has sent him searching for ghosts in the unforgiving Mallee desert of Western Australia. Heading north through Kalgoorlie, he attempts to score off old friends from his shearing days on Banjawarn Station. His journey takes an unexpected detour when he discovers an abandoned 10-year-old girl and decides to return her to her estranged father in Leonora, instead of alerting authorities. Together, they begin the road trip from hell through the scorched heart of the state's northern goldfields. Love, friendship and hope are often found in the strangest places, but forgiveness is never simple, and the past lies buried just beneath the blood red topsoil. The only question is whether Hoyle should uncover it, or run as fast as his legs can take him. *Banjawarn* is an unsettling debut from Josh Kemp, winner of the 2021 Dorothy Hewett Award for an Unpublished Manuscript. Echoing Cormac McCarthy's haunting border trilogy and narrative vernacular that recalls the sparse lyricism of Randolph Stow and Tim Winton, this is a darkly-funny novel that earns its place amongst the stable of Australian gothic fiction.

Gothic mystery TP \$32.99

Seven Sisters Kovacic, Katherine

Naomi started grief counselling – prepared to run for cover as soon as her therapist, Mia, pulled out a crystal or tried to align her chakras. When Mia suggests that she join a support group, Naomi is sceptical: how could she begin to describe what it felt like to lose her sister, Jo? How could she possibly share her loss and rage to a room full of people? How could she express her helplessness that Jo's killer walks free on a suspended sentence? And how could she share her deepest desire to see Jo's killer dead, by her hand? In the group sessions, Naomi finds that her experiences and her anger are shared between the other members: Gabrielle, Brooke, Katy, Olivia, and Amy. Under the enigmatic leadership of Mia, a plan begins to take shape.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Trapped Läckberg, Camilla & Fexeus, Henrik

It's a case unlike anything detective Mina Dabiri has seen before. A woman trapped inside a magician's box, with swords pierced through. But this time, it's not a magic trick. It's murder. Knowing she has a terrifying killer on her hands, Mina enlists the help of celebrity mentalist, Vincent Walder. Only he can give her an insight into the secret world of

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

magic and illusions. Mina and Vincent soon discover that the murder victim has the roman numeral *III* engraved on her leg. The killer is counting down. There are going to be three more murders. And time is running out to stop them.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

American Murder Houses:

a coast-to-coast tour of the most notorious houses of homicide

Lehto, Steve

There are places in the United States of America where violent acts of bloodshed have occurred. Years may pass – even centuries – but the mark of death remains. They are known as Murder Houses. From a colonial manse in New England to a small-town home in Iowa to a Beverly Hills mansion, these residences have taken on a life of their own, gaining everything from local lore and gossip to national – and even global – infamy. Writer Steve Lehto recounts the stories behind the houses where Lizzie Borden supposedly gave her stepmother ‘40 whacks’; where the real Amityville Horror was first unleashed by gunfire; and where the demented acts of the Manson Family horrified a nation – as well some lesser-known sites of murder that were no less ghastly. Exploring the past and present of more than 25 renowned homicide scenes, *American Murder Houses* is a tour through the real estate of some of the most grisly and fascinating crimes in American history.

True crime travelogue PBK \$22.99

Give Unto Others

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

What role can, or should, loyalty play in the life of a police inspector? It’s a question Commissario Guido Brunetti must face... Brunetti is approached for a favour by Elisabetta Foscarini, a woman he knows casually, but her mother was good to Brunetti’s mother, so he feels obliged to at least look into the matter privately, and not as official police business. Foscarini’s son-in-law, Enrico Fenzo, has alarmed his wife (her daughter) by confessing their family might be in danger because of something he’s involved with. Since Fenzo is an accountant, Brunetti logically suspects the cause of danger is related to the finances of a client. Yet, his clients seem benign: an optician, a restaurateur, a charity established by his father-in-law. However, when his friend’s daughter’s place of work is vandalised, Brunetti asks his own favours – that his colleagues Claudia Griffoni, Lorenzo Vianello, and Signorina Elettra Zorzi assist his private investigation, which soon enough turns official as they uncover the dark and Janus-faced nature of a venerable Italian institution. The gifted Venetian detective returns in his 31st case, now in paperback.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Death at La Fenice

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

The twisted maze of Venice’s canals has always been shrouded in mystery. Even the celebrated opera house, La Fenice, has seen its share of death... but none so horrific and violent as that of world-famous conductor, Maestro Helmut Wellauer, who was poisoned

during a performance of *La Traviata*.

Even Commissario di Police, Guido Brunetti, used to the labyrinthine corruptions of the city, is shocked at the number of enemies Wellauer has made on his way to the top – but just how many have motive enough for murder? The beauty of Venice is crumbling. But evil is one thing that will never erode with age. A reissue of the first instalment of the Commissario Brunetti mysteries.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Waters of Eternal Youth

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

Brunetti is investigating a cold case by request of the grand Contessa Lando-Continui, a friend of Brunetti’s mother-in-law. Fifteen years ago, the Contessa’s teenage granddaughter, Manuela, was found drowning in a canal. She was rescued from the canal at the last moment, but in many ways it was too late; she suffered severe brain damage and her life was never the same again. Once a passionate horse rider, Manuela, now aged 30, cannot remember the accident, or her beloved horse, and lives trapped in an eternal youth. The Contessa, unconvinced that this was an accident, implores Brunetti to find the culprit she believes was responsible for ruining Manuela’s life. Out of a mixture of curiosity, pity and a willingness to fulfil the wishes of a loving grandmother, Brunetti reopens the case. But once he starts to investigate, Brunetti finds a murky past and a dark story at his heart. A reissue.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

A Noble Radiance

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

In a small village at the foot of the Italian Dolomites, the gardens of a deserted farmhouse have lain untouched for decades. But the new owner, keen for renovations to begin, is summoned urgently to the house when his workmen disturb a macabre grave. Wild animals have done their grisly work and the human corpse is badly decomposed. Then a valuable signet ring is found close by, providing the first vital clue. It leads Commissario Guido Brunetti right to the heart of aristocratic Venice, to a family still grieving for its abducted son... A reissue.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Through a Glass Darkly

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

It is a luminous spring day in Venice, as Commissario Brunetti and Inspettore Vianello take a break from the Questura to come to the rescue of Vianello’s friend Marco Ribetti, who has been arrested while protesting against chemical pollution of the Venetian lagoon, only to be faced by the fury of Marco’s father-in-law, owner of a glass factory on the island of Murano. But it is not Marco who has uncovered the guilty secret of the polluting glass foundries of the island of Murano, nor he whose body is found dead in front of the furnaces which burn at 1400 degrees, night and day. The victim has left clues in a copy of Dante and Brunetti must descend into an inferno to discover who is burning the land and fouling the waters of the lagoon... A reissue.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Sherlock Holmes and the Three Winter Terrors

Lovegrove, James

1889. *The First Terror*. At a boys’ prep school in the Kent marshes, a pupil is found drowned in a pond. Could this be the fulfilment of a witch’s curse from 400 years earlier?

1890. *The Second Terror*. A wealthy man dies of a heart attack at his London townhouse. Was he really frightened to death by ghosts?

1894. *The Third Terror*. A body is discovered in the dark woods near a Surrey country manor, hideously ravaged. Is the culprit a cannibal, as the evidence suggests? These three chilling and strangely-linked crimes test Sherlock Holmes’ deductive powers, and his scepticism about the supernatural, to the limit. Another beautifully-presented seasonal mystery.

Sherlockiana PBK \$19.99

Dead Tide

DCI Jack Hawksworth series

McIntosh, Fiona

Newly-promoted Detective Superintendent Jack Hawksworth has headed up three major serial operations in England and, in each of these cases, he has lost a part of himself. While on sabbatical as guest lecturer in a London university, one of his female students dies under highly-suspicious circumstances, and he finds himself drawn into a chilling new case that reaches across the world. Jack’s investigations lead him to Adelaide – where he identifies a cynical international crime consortium that preys on the anguish of childless couples and vulnerable women. Together with local major crime officers, he follows his leads to the windswept Yorke Peninsula, and becomes caught up in an intoxicating private drama. With his personal and professional business entangled once again, Jack must put his own life on the line to bring justice to those who are grieving.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Fatal Fascinator

Hat Shop mysteries

McKinlay, Jenn

It’s wedding season and Viv’s long-time frenemy Piper May is getting married. She convinces Viv and Scarlett to take on the job of designing the headpieces for her ‘wedding of the year’. The well-to-do bride and her entourage are delighted to have Viv and Scarlett as their famous hat designer guests, but the hat-making pair are really just looking forward to a getaway at a castle in Sussex. It is to be a weekend full of events, culminating in the big ceremony. Unfortunately, on the first night of the festivities, the groom is found murdered, and the joyous holiday becomes the stuff of nightmares as no one is allowed to leave the castle until the investigation is complete. Although Scarlett assures her fiancé Harrison Wentworth that she and Viv will stay out of harm’s way; circumstances force them to step in when a secret affair between the deceased groom and a bridesmaid comes to light, and the murderer takes another life. Scarlett and Viv vow to unveil the killer’s identity before the wedding adds another to its death toll.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Past Life

DS McAvoy series

Mark, David

The clairvoyant is found with her tongue crudely carved out, a shard of blue crystal buried deep within her mangled ribcage. The crime scene plunges DS Aector McAvoy back 12 years, to a case from when he was starting out. An investigation that proved a turning point in his life – but one he’s tried desperately to forget. To catch the killer, he must face his past. Face the terrible thing he did. But doing so also means facing the truth about his beloved wife Roisin, and the dark secrets she’s keeping have the power to destroy them both completely.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

Against the Current

Spice Isle Bakery mysteries

Matthews, Olivia

Little Caribbean, Brooklyn, New York: Lyndsay Murray is opening Spice Isle Bakery with her family, and it’s everything she’s ever wanted. The West Indian bakery is her way to give back to the community she loves, stay connected to her Grenadian roots, and work alongside her family. The only thing getting a rise out of Lyndsay is Claudio Fabrizi, a disgruntled fellow bakery owner who does not want any competition. On opening day, he comes into the bakery threatening to shut them down. Fed up, Lyndsay takes him to task in front of what seems to be the whole neighbourhood. So, when Claudio turns up dead a day later – murdered – Lyndsay is unfortunately the prime suspect. To get the scent of suspicion off her and her bakery, Lyndsay has to prove she’s innocent – under the watchful eyes of her overprotective brother, anxious parents, and meddlesome extended family – what could go wrong? The first in a series.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Ghosts from the Library:

Lost Tales of Terror and the Supernatural Collins’ Crime Club, anthology

Medawar, Tony (editor)

A brand-new anthology of previously unpublished and uncollected supernatural mysteries by some of the masters of the Golden Age – thrills, spills and chills perfect for Halloween. It is said that books are written to bring sunshine into our dull, grey lives – to show us places we want to escape to, lives we want to live, people we want to love. But there are also stories that can only be found in the deepest, darkest corners of the library. Stories about the unexplained, of lost souls, of things that go bump before the silence. Before the screaming. And some stories just disappear. Stories printed in old newspapers, broadcast live on the wireless, sometimes not even published at all – these are the stories you cannot find on even the dustiest of library shelves. *Ghosts from the Library* resurrects forgotten tales of the supernatural by some of the most acclaimed mystery authors of all time. From Arthur Conan Doyle and John Dickson Carr to Agatha Christie and Daphne du Maurier, this spine-chilling anthology brings together 13 uncollected tales of terror, plus some additional surprises. Close the windows. Draw the curtains. Just don’t let the lights go out...

Classic mystery HC \$35.00

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

Murder at the Theatre Royale

Christmas mysteries

Moncrieff, Ada

December 1935. Director Monty 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. Catastrophe, however, strikes on opening night: Scrooge dies on stage, the result (it is presumed) of a heart attack. But the show must go on. Until, that is, a leading theatre critic – and old rival of Monty's – is killed backstage. Are those associated with the production being picked off one by one? Budding journalist Daphne King takes up the case... The first in this seasonal, cosy series is *Murder Most Festive* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Deliberate Cruelty:

Truman Capote, the Millionaire's Wife, and the Murder of the Century

Montillo, Roseanne

When Ann Woodward shot her husband, banking heir Billy Woodward, in the middle of the night in 1955, her life changed forever. Though she claimed she thought he was a prowler, few believed the woman who had risen from charismatic showgirl to popular socialite. Everyone had something to say about the scorching scandal afflicting one of the richest and famous families of New York City, but no one was more obsessed with the tale than Truman Capote. Acclaimed for his bestselling nonfiction book *In Cold Blood*, Capote was looking for new material and followed the scandal from beginning to end. Like Ann, he too had ascended from nobody to toast of the town, but he always felt like an outsider, even among the exclusive coterie of high society women who adored him. He decided the story of Ann's turbulent marriage would be the basis of his masterpiece – a novel about the dysfunction and sordid secrets revealed to him by his high society 'swans' – never thinking that it would eventually lead to Ann's suicide, and his own scandalous downfall.

True crime HC \$45.00

Death by Arts and Crafts

Abby McCree mysteries

Morgan, Alexis

As the newest member of the Snowberry Creek City Council, perpetually overextended Abby McCree is picked to liaise between the council and the new planning committee for the town's first ever arts and crafts fair. As far as gigs go, it's a fun one – Abby's spending the weekend tooling around Washington State, checking out similar fairs with her two besties, coffee shop owner Bridey Roker, and ceramic artisan Dayna Fisk. As Abby spreads the word about Snowberry Creek's fair, recruiting the industry's biggest movers and makers, the trip feels like a glittering success. But then, someone is found murdered at one of the events and vendors begin disappearing amid suspicious circumstances. Abby's determined to keep her hands clean, until Dayna finds herself stuck at the top of the suspect list. Now, Abby must weave the clues together and clear her friend's name

before the killer claims another victim – maybe even Abby, herself...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Turning Blue

Mace & Brindle series

Myers, Benjamin

In the depths of winter in an isolated Yorkshire hamlet, a teenage girl, Melanie Muncy, is missing. The elite detective unit Cold Storage dispatches its best man to investigate. DI Jim Brindle may be obsessive, taciturn and solitary, but nobody on the force is more relentless in pursuing justice. Local journalist Roddy Mace has sacrificed a high-flying career as a reporter in London to take up a role with the local newspaper. For him, the Muncy case offers the chance of redemption. Darker forces are at work than either man has realised. On a farm high above the hamlet, Steven Rutter, a destitute loner, harbours secrets that will shock even the hardened Brindle. Nobody knows the bleak moors and their hiding places better than him. As Brindle and Mace begin to prise the secrets of the case from the tight-lipped locals, their investigation leads first to the pillars of the community and finally to a local celebrity who has his own hiding places, and his own dark tastes. The first in a series.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

These Darkening Days

Mace & Brindle series

Myers, Benjamin

As autumn draws in, a series of unexplained vicious attacks occur in a small northern town renowned for being a bohemian backwater. As the national media descends, local journalist Roddy Mace attempts to tell the story, but finds the very nature of truth brought into question. He turns to disgraced detective James Brindle for help. When further attacks occur the shattered community becomes the focus of an accelerating media that favours immediacy over truth. Murder and myth collide in a folk-crime story about place, identity and the tangled lives of those who never leave. The sequel to *Turning Blue* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Death by Tart Attack

Pennsylvania-Dutch mysteries

Myers, Tamar

Shockwaves are running through the small town of Hernia with the news that an enormous, biblical-themed amusement park is to be built on its doorstep, destroying the community's peaceful way of life for ever. And the man spearheading this so-called Armageddonland? None other than Magdalena's ex-husband, the duplicitous Aaron Miller. At a public demonstration to showcase his plans for the new park, Aaron bites into a delicious homemade tart – with fatal consequences. It's clear the tart was poisoned... but who baked it? As the leader of the local resistance against the project and her acrimonious history with her ex well known, Magdalena immediately falls under suspicion. Determined to clear her name, she resolves to find the real killer, and soon finds herself wrestling with a number of scandalous secrets lurking beneath Hernia's seemingly staid surface.

Mystery TP \$39.95

Blue Water

Laurence Jago mysteries

Nattrass, Leonora

This is the secret report of Laurence Jago. EX-clerk. Unwilling spy. Reluctant sailor. Accidental detective. *New Year, 1795*, and Laurence Jago is aboard the Tankerville mail ship, en route to Philadelphia. Ostensibly travelling as assistant to the irrepressible journalist William Philpott, Laurence's real mission is to aid the civil servant carrying a vital treaty to Congress. A treaty that will prevent the Americans from joining with the French in the war against Britain. However, when the civil servant meets an unfortunate – and supposedly accidental – end and the treaty disappears, Laurence realises only he can now prevent war with the US. Trapped on the ship with travellers including two penniless French aristocrats, an Irish actress and a dancing bear, Laurence must hunt down both the lost treaty and the murderer, before he has a tragic 'accident' himself... The sequel to last year's critically acclaimed *Black Drop* (PBK, \$19.99), charting the adventures of reluctant spy Laurence Jago, at sea.

Historical suspense TP \$32.99

Murder on an Irish Farm

Irish Village mysteries

O'Connor, Carlene

If only her mother could be here! The entire O'Sullivan brood – not to mention the regulars from Naomi's Bistro – have gathered at St Mary's Church for the wedding of Siobhán and Macdara. It's not every day you see two *garda* marrying each other. Only Siobhán's brother James is missing. They can't start without him. But when James finally comes racing in, he's covered in dirt and babbling he's found a human skeleton in the old slurry pit at the farmhouse. What farmhouse? Macdara sheepishly admits he was saving it as a wedding surprise: he purchased an abandoned dairy farm. Duty calls, so the engaged *garda* decide to put the wedding on hold to investigate. James leads them to a skeleton clothed in rags that resemble a tattered tuxedo. As an elderly neighbour approaches, she cries out that these must be the remains of her one true love who never showed up on their wedding day, 50 years ago. The *garda* have a cold case on their hands, which heats up the following day when a fresh corpse appears on top of the bridegroom's bones. With a killer at large, they need to watch their backs – or the nearly wedded couple may be parted by death before they've even taken their vows...

Mystery PBK \$24.95

The Penguin Pool Murder

American Mystery Classics, Hildegard Withers mysteries

Palmer, Stuart

For the third graders at Jefferson School, a field trip is always a treat. But one day at the New York Aquarium, they get much more excitement than they bargained for. A pickpocket sprints past, stolen purse in hand, and is making his way to the exit when their teacher, the prim Hildegard Withers, knocks him down with her umbrella. By the time the police and the security guards finish arguing about what to do with Chicago Lew, he has escaped, and Miss Withers has found something far more interesting: a murdered

stockbroker floating in the penguin tank. With the help of Detective Oscar Piper, this no-nonsense spinster embarks on her first of many adventures. The mystery is baffling, the killer dangerous, but for a woman who can control a gaggle of noisy third graders, murder isn't frightening at all. *The Penguin Pool Murder* is part of the Hildegard Withers mysteries series, which also includes *Murder on the Blackboard* and *Murder on Wheels*.

Classic mystery HC/TP \$49.95/\$28.95

Idle Gossip

Lillian Frost & Edith Head mysteries

Patrick, Renee

1940, Los Angeles. Hollywood's famous gossip columnist, Lorna Whitcomb, has summoned Lillian Frost and her sleuthing partner, costume designer extraordinaire Edith Head, to her office. Lorna's 'leg man' Sam Simcoe – the man who finds the scandalous material for her column – is in trouble. Tipster Glenn Hoyle has been murdered, and Sam is the LAPD's only suspect. But Sam didn't just find Glenn's body when he paid him a visit. Hiding in a wastebasket was a list of three names – a starlet, a producer and a director – and Sam's sure Glenn had an explosive story on all of them. Was it just idle gossip, or could it explain his murder? Lorna wants Edith and Lillian to find Glenn's killer before her powerful enemies strike. In a town full of secrets, Edith and Lillian must expose the dirtiest one of all: who killed Glenn Hoyle?

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

It Came Upon a Midnight Shear

Riverbank Knitting mysteries

Pleiter, Allie

The holiday season looks merry and bright for Libby and her friends at Y.A.R.N. The store is expanding for a holiday boom, and she's gathered Collinstown's businesses to decorate a community Christmas tree. Dashing 'Gallant Herdsman' Vincenzo Marani arrives to showcase the rare vicuña, whose coat produces the world's most luxurious yarn. It's a perfect yuletide – until Libby's ex-husband, Sterling, turns up in town... and then turns up dead. The murder unravels Libby's life faster than a hand-knit Christmas stocking. The luxe yarn goes missing, Sterling's domineering family comes to town, and the vicuña attempt an escape. If Libby can't stitch up a solution to the case, she may be trading in her knitting needles for a set of handcuffs.

Mystery PBK \$19.99

Devil in Ohio

Polatin, Daria

When 15-year-old Jules Mathis comes home from school to find a strange girl sitting in her kitchen, her psychiatrist mother reveals that Mae is one of her patients at the hospital and will be staying with their family for a few days. But, soon, Mae is wearing Jules' clothes, sleeping in her bedroom, edging her out of her position on the school paper, and flirting with Jules' crush. And Mae has no intention of leaving. Then things get weird: Jules discovers that Mae is a survivor of the strange cult that's embedded in a nearby town. And the cult will stop at nothing to get Mae back. Based on true events.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

Tell Me Lies

Pomare, J P

Psychologist Margot Scott has a picture-perfect life: a nice house in the suburbs, a husband, two children, and a successful career. On a warm spring morning, Margot approaches one of her clients on a busy train platform. He is looking down at his phone, with his duffel bag in hand as the train approaches. That's when she slams into his back, and he falls in front of the train. Margot's clients all lie to her, but one lie cost her family and freedom.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$19.99

The Maid

Prose, Nita

I am your maid. I know about your secrets. Your dirty laundry. But what do you know about me? Molly the maid is all alone in the world. A nobody, she's used to being invisible in her job at the Regency Grand Hotel, plumping pillows and wiping away the grime, dust and secrets of the guests passing through. She's just a maid – why should anyone take notice? But Molly is thrown into the spotlight when she discovers an infamous guest, Mr Black, very dead in his bed. This isn't a mess that can be easily cleaned up. And as Molly becomes embroiled in the hunt for the truth, following the clues whispering in the hallways of the Regency Grand, she discovers a power she never knew was there. She's just a maid – but what can she see that others overlook?

Mystery PBK \$22.99

The Whispering Muse

Purcell, Laura

Be careful what you wish for... it may just come true. At the Mercury Theatre in London's West End, rumours are circulating of a curse. It is said that the lead actress Lilith has made a pact with Melpomene, the tragic muse of Greek mythology, to become the greatest actress to ever grace the stage. Suspicious of Lilith, the jealous wife of the theatre owner sends dresser Jenny to spy on her, and desperate for the money to help her family, Jenny agrees. What Jenny finds is a woman as astonishing in her performance as she is provocative in nature. On stage, it's as though Lilith is possessed by the characters she plays, yet off stage she is as tragic as the Muse who inspires her, and Jenny, sorry for her, befriends the troubled actress. But when strange events begin to take place around the theatre, Jenny wonders if the rumours are true, and fears that when the Muse comes calling for payment, the cost will be too high.

Mystery TP \$32.99

It's a Wonderful Woof

Quinn, Spencer

Holiday time in the Valley, and in the holiday spirit – despite the dismal shape of the finances at the Little Detective Agency – Bernie refers a potential client to Victor Klovsky, a fellow private eye. It's also true that the case – promising lots of online research but little action – doesn't appeal to Bernie, while it seems perfect for Victor, who is not cut out for rough stuff. But Victor disappears in a rough-stuff way, and when he doesn't show up at his mom's to light the Hanukkah candles, she hires Chet and Bernie

to find him. They soon discover that Victor's client has also vanished. The trail leads to the ruins of a mission called Nuestra Señora de los Saguaros, dating back to the earliest Spanish explorers. Some very dangerous people are interested in the old mission. Does some dusty archive hold the secret of a previously unknown art treasure, possibly buried for centuries? What does the Flight into Egypt – when Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus fled Herod – have to do with saguaros, the Sonoran desert cactus? No one is better than Chet at nosing out buried secrets, but before he can, he and Bernie are forced to take flight themselves, chased through a Christmas Eve blizzard by a murderous foe who loves art all too much.

Mystery TP \$32.99

An Impossible Impostor

Veronica Speedwell mysteries

Raybourn, Deanna

London, 1889. Veronica Speedwell and her natural historian beau, Stoker, are summoned by Sir Hugo Montgomerie, head of Special Branch. He has a personal request on behalf of his goddaughter, Euphemia Hathaway. After years of travelling the world, Euphemia's eldest brother, Jonathan, heir to Hathaway Hall, was believed to have been killed in the catastrophic eruption of Krakatoa, a few years before. But, now, a man matching Jonathan's description and carrying his possessions has arrived at Hathaway Hall with no memory of his identity or where he has been. Could this man truly be Jonathan, back from the dead? Or is he a devious impostor, determined to gain ownership over the family's most valuable possession – a legendary parure of priceless Rajasthani jewels? It's a delicate situation, and Veronica is Sir Hugo's only hope. Veronica and Stoker agree to go to Hathaway Hall to covertly investigate the mysterious amnesiac. Veronica is soon shocked to find herself face-to-face with a ghost from her past. To help Sir Hugo discover the truth, she must open doors to her own history that she long believed to be shut for good.

Historical mystery TP \$37.95

Bones of Hilo

Redman, Eric

A young, inexperienced detective from the wet, working-class side of Hawaii's Big Island, Kawika Wong faces an uphill battle to gain the respect of his more seasoned colleagues. And he has the chance of a lifetime when Ralph Fortunato, the Mainland developer of an unpopular resort on the island's tourist side, is found murdered on a luxury golf course, an ancient Hawaiian spear driven through his heart. With the other detectives desperately trying to solve another string of grisly killings, Captain Terry Tanaka has no choice but to send Kawika to investigate. As Kawika joins forces with his father and girlfriend to help read the signs and make sense of the ritualistic murder scene, they uncover a cache of secrets reaching far back to the Island's ancient past. And the journalist who found the body has her own theories about Fortunato's demise – but do they line up with the evidence? On a perilous journey that stretches from the Big Island to Washington State and back, Kawika finds danger at every turn. But he still has

much to learn about Hawaii, and about the rugged terrain of the North Cascades. And he'd better learn it fast, because his instincts may not be enough to catch a killer who's closing in even faster.

Mystery/suspense TP \$41.95

One Impossible Labyrinth

Jack West Jr series

Reilly, Matthew

Jack West Jr has made it to the Supreme Labyrinth. Now, he faces one last race – against multiple rivals, against time, against the collapse of the universe itself – a headlong race that will end at a throne inside the fabled labyrinth. But the road will be hard. For this is a maze like no other: a maze of mazes. Uncompromising and complex. Demanding and deadly. It all comes down to this. For it ends here – now – in the most lethal and dangerous place Jack has encountered in all of his many adventures. And in the face of this indescribable peril, with everything on the line, there is only one thing he can do. Attempt the impossible.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

The House in the Pines

Reyes, Ana

This is the story of a house. The cabin lies deep in the woods, where the trees are so dense it's easy to miss. On the outside it might look like it's crumbling, crawling with weeds, but on the inside it's warm and cosy. A fire crackles in the fireplace. Dinner simmers on the stove. Maya once saw this cabin as an idyllic place, like a cottage from a fairy tale, but now she knows the danger that lurks beneath. The summer she visited the cabin was the summer her best friend Aubrey died. Now, another woman from Maya's hometown has died in the same strange, unexplained way, and Maya believes only she can save the next innocent girl. Guided by her fractured memory and a mysterious, unfinished book by her late father, Maya returns home to face the house in the pines and the man who waits there – the man she's tried so hard to forget...

Gothic thriller TP \$32.99

The Album

American Mystery Classics

Rinehart, Mary Roberts

Even in the early 1930s, Crescent Place is a neighbourhood out of the past. The five Victorian mansions and the remote patch of pasture placed between them have the air of the 1890s, even as the city – once miles away from this idyllic retreat – encroaches and surrounds the enclave. But while these rarefied residences may appear calm on the outside, their isolated interiors contain dark secrets, prolonged feuds, and generations of high-toned trouble. In these houses are a husband and wife who fight constantly, and another couple who hasn't spoken to each other in two decades. There is a widow in permanent mourning and a daughter whom the newspapers call psychotic. And there is a bedridden old woman who is about to be killed with an axe. When her murder shatters the well-mannered quiet of the *cul-de-sac*, the tabloids delight in trumpeting Crescent Place's peculiarities. But as the search for the killer intensifies, it becomes clear that the area's strangest secrets have yet to be revealed. A suspenseful mystery enriched

by sly social satire, and set against the backdrop of the Great Depression, *The Album* is a memorable whodunit from one of the most beloved and bestselling authors of the Golden Age era.

Classic mystery HC/TP \$49.95/\$28.95

Desperation

Eve Dallas series

Robb, J D

Mina Rose Cabot, age 13, disappeared walking home from soccer practice in Devon, Pennsylvania. Eight months later, her body is found in Battery Park, New York, speared through the chest by a three-inch piece of wood. Lt Eve Dallas knows that whoever took Mina is responsible for her death. But who took her, and where has Mina been for eight long months...?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

A Deadly Bone to Pick

Molly Madison mysteries

Rothschild, Peggy

Ex-police officer and former PI Molly Madison is starting over. After the death of her husband, she and her golden retriever, Harlow, move, across country, to California. But as charming and peaceful as the beachside town seems, she soon learns its tranquil tides hold dark secrets. On her first day in the new house, a large, slobbering Saint Berdoodle wanders in. Molly winds up taking on the responsibility of training Noodle since his owner is too busy to do the job. On one of their daily beachside walks, Noodle digs up a severed hand. Once Molly alerts the police and they run a background check on her, an incident from her past makes her an immediate suspect – after all, Noodle's testimony to clear her name won't hold much water in court. To prove her innocence, Molly must rely on instincts keener than a canine's to sniff out the real killer. But when Molly's life is put in danger, will her two very loyal pups be able to rescue her? The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$37.95

Wild Gard

Detective Zoe Mayer series

Rowell, Simon

One foggy morning on the banks of the Murray River, a body is found in a burnt-out area of grassland. The heavily-tattooed victim, who has suffered two bullet wounds to the head, is identified as Freddie Jones, a bikie from Moama. Detective Sergeant Zoe Mayer is on the case, alongside her trusty service dog, Harry. Although Zoe is determined to track down the murderer, she finds herself stonewalled at every turn – by Freddie's family, his associates, and even the local police. But then a second body is discovered, and soon all bets are off... A gripping mystery about gang warfare and small-town corruption, featuring a crime-fighting duo like no other.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Silence in the Library

Lily Adler mysteries

Schellman, Katharine

Regency widow Lily Adler has finally settled into her new London life when her semi-estranged father arrives unexpectedly, intending to stay with her while he recovers from an illness. Hounded by his disapproval,

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery January 2023 (continued)

Lily is drawn into spending time with Lady Wyatt, the new wife of an old family friend. Lily barely knows Lady Wyatt. But she and her husband, Sir Charles, seem as happy as any newly married couple until the morning Lily arrives to find the house in an uproar and Sir Charles dead. All signs indicate that he tripped and struck his head late at night. But when Bow Street constable Simon Page is called to the scene, he suspects foul play. And it isn't long before Lily stumbles on evidence that Sir Charles was, indeed, murdered. Mr Page was there when Lily caught her first murderer, and he trusts her insight into the world of London's upper class. With the help of Captain Jack Hartley, they piece together the reasons that Sir Charles' family might have wanted him dead. But anyone who might have profited from the old man's death seems to have an alibi... until Lily receives a mysterious summons to speak with one of the Wyatts' maids, only to find the young woman dead when she arrives. Mr Page believes the surviving family members are hiding the key to the death of both Sir Charles and the maid. To uncover the truth, Lily must convince the father who doesn't trust or respect her to help catch his friend's killer before anyone else in the Wyatt household dies.

Historical mystery TP \$32.99

Dirt Town

Scrivenor, Hayley

On a sweltering Friday afternoon in Durton, best friends Ronnie and Esther leave school together. Esther never makes it home.

Ronnie's going to find her, she has a plan. Lewis will help. Their friend can't be gone. Ronnie won't believe it. Detective Sergeant Sarah Michaels can believe it. She has seen what people are capable of. She knows more than anyone how, in a moment of weakness, a person can be driven to do something they never thought possible. Lewis can believe it too. But he can't reveal what he saw that afternoon at the creek, without exposing his own secret. Five days later, Esther's buried body is discovered.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Last Supper

Prudence Bulstrode mysteries

Shrager, Rosemary

When an old television rival, Deirdre Shaw, is found dead at the Cotswolds manor house where she was catering for a prestigious shooting weekend, Prudence is asked to step into the breach. Prudence is only too happy to take up the position; and, soon, she is working in the kitchens of Farleigh Manor. But Farleigh Manor is the home to secrets, both old and new. The site of a famous unsolved murder from the 19th century, Farleigh Manor has never quite shaken off its sensationalist past. It's about to get a sensationalist present too. Because, the more she scratches beneath the surface of this manor and its guests, the more Prudence becomes certain that Deirdre Shaw's death was no accident. She's staring in the face

of a very modern murder... The irresistible debut novel from celebrity TV chef Rosemary Shrager where cosy crime and cookery collide! 'A great yarn – Shrager knows her food and she's cooked up a storm... Rosie can write and Prudence Bulstrode is here to stay.' – *Miriam Margolyes*.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Deathly Relics

Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Siciliano, Sam

An atmospheric, intricately plotted new mystery in which Sherlock Holmes and Henry Vernier race to catch a villainous murderer at large in the Vatican and Rome. Sherlock Holmes and Henry Vernier are visiting Rome on a diplomatic mission when the Pope asks the world's greatest detective to help find a stolen relic: the forefinger of 'doubting' Saint Thomas. But when the relic is quickly and mysteriously returned, and all seems to be easily resolved, the forefinger is stolen again in a brutal attack Holmes and Vernier must follow the trail of a sacrilegious murderer through the streets of Rome and the halls of the Vatican, uncovering dark ties between members of the church and an Italian crime family. We expect to have this edition of *Deathly Relics* from our Australian distributors later in the year, at a lower price.

Sherlockiana PBK \$35.95

Codename Faust

Skordeman, Gustaf

Who have you spoken to about me? What do you know about Operation Wahasha?

What have you told Detective Sara Nowak?

These are the last words priest Jurgen Stiller hears before he is executed by a former terrorist known only by the codename 'Faust'. Then the killer begins the hunt for Detective Sara Nowak. Nowak is dangerously unaware that she is a target – until she is shot at in her own home. As Nowak races to unmask her would-be assassin, the trail leads her back to West Germany, to a group of radical terrorist fanatics – and to a deadly question: What was Operation Wahasha? With Faust closing in, Nowak must find the answers before many more lives are taken – including her own.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

So Far and Good

Cecil Younger Investigations

Straley, John

The verdict from the three-judge panel is in. Cecil Younger, bumbling criminal defence investigator and totally embarrassing father, has been sentenced to seven and a half years in prison, for his involvement in... well, a number of things, ranging from destruction of private property to killing a guy. But compared to the original 25-year sentence, it's not so bad. His success with getting his sentence reduced has attracted the attention of his fellow inmates, and one man, Fourth Street, reaches out for advice for his upcoming parole hearing in exchange for protection and companionship. When he isn't reading Adrienne Rich or James Baldwin

with Fourth Street, Cecil spends his time filling up large yellow legal pads. He writes, mostly, about his teenage daughter, Blossom, who is on a Nancy Drew-like quest to help her friend, George, discover the truth about her biological parents, which turns out to be complicated. Shortly after submitting a mail-in genetics test, George learns she is the infamous Baby Jane Doe who was kidnapped from her Native mother, shortly after she was born. A media and legal circus quickly ensues, and George's reunion with her birth family isn't the heart-warming story the journalists hoped it would be. There is an even darker secret about the baby-snatching case, a secret threatens to destroy not just George's family – but Cecil's, as well.

Mystery TP \$29.99

City of Shadows

Counterfeit Lady mysteries

Thompson, Victoria

Elizabeth Miles Bates has returned from her honeymoon with Gideon and is taking great pride in having completely forsaken her disreputable past. Then her friend Anna Vanderslice begs her to use her talents to save her widowed mother from an unscrupulous medium. Anna's mother has been attending séances in hopes of connecting with her son, David, who died of influenza. Anna just learned that Mrs Vanderslice is paying the medium ever-increasing sums of money in her eagerness to make contact. Mrs Vanderslice's obsession is in danger of ruining them. Madame Ophelia is working with a group of con artists to fleece as many grieving New Yorkers as possible, before moving on to another city. Elizabeth knows that simply exposing the medium as a fraud will not be enough to recoup the stolen money; the only way is to con the medium and her cohorts. Elizabeth recruits Gideon, her aunt Cybil, and her partner, Zeldia, to lend a hand. Can Elizabeth and her gang of amateurs fool the professionals? Or will speaking to the dead lead to deadly consequences?

Historical mystery PBK \$19.99

Death Comes to Marlow

Marlow Murder Club mysteries

Thorogood, Robert

It's been an enjoyable and *murder-free* time for Judith, Suzie, and Becks – *aka* the Marlow Murder Club – since the events of last year. The most exciting thing on the horizon is the upcoming wedding of Marlow grandee, Sir Peter Bailey, to his nurse, Jenny Page. Sir Peter is having a party at his grand mansion on the river Thames the day before the wedding, and Judith and company are looking forward to a bit of free champagne. But during the soiree, there's a crash from inside the house, and when the Marlow Murder Club rush to investigate, they are shocked to find the groom-to-be crushed to death in his study. The study was locked from the inside, so the police don't consider the death suspicious. But Judith disagrees. As far as she's concerned, Peter was murdered!

And it's up to the Marlow Murder Club to find the killer before he or she strikes again... The sequel to *The Marlow Murder Club* (PBK, \$19.99) from the author of *Death in Paradise* – as good as, or better, than the Thursday Murder Club mysteries! :)

Mystery TP \$34.99

The Drift

Tudor, G J

A crashed coach, full of students. A stuck cable car, full of strangers. An isolated chalet, full of friends. A killer snowstorm outside. Inside one group, a killer. But which one? And why is no rescue coming? How did they become trapped? And what were they all trying to escape?

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Red Dirt Road

White, S R

One outback town. Two puzzling murders. Fifty suspects. In Unamurra, a drought-scarred, one-pub town deep in the outback, two men are savagely murdered a month apart – their bodies elaborately arranged like angels. With no witnesses, no obvious motives and no apparent connections between the killings, how can lone police officer Detective Dana Russo – flown in from hundreds of kilometres away – possibly solve such a baffling, brutal case? Met with silence and suspicion from locals, who live by their own set of rules, Dana must take over a stalled investigation with only a week to make progress. But with a murderer hiding in plain sight, and the parched days rapidly passing, Dana is determined to uncover the shocking secrets of this forgotten town – a place where anyone could be a killer. A gripping and vividly atmospheric story from the bestseller, this is a searing story perfect for fans of Jane Harper, Chris Hammer, and Garry Disher.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Dead Lucky

Harry Radcliffe mysteries

Wilson, Glenis

A day of celebration quickly turns into a nightmare for champion jockey Harry Radcliffe and his friend, horsebox driver Keith Whelan, when Keith is brutally shot in the head while driving the pair back from an engagement party. But was the bullet that smashed through the horsebox windscreen really meant for Keith, or for Harry, himself? Harry escapes unscathed from the bloody scene, but Keith is left fighting for his life in hospital. It seems that Harry is dead lucky to be alive. Despite his recent vow to focus solely on his racing, Harry determines to find out who committed such a brutal act, and quickly finds himself drawn into horse racing's dark and dangerous underbelly. Will his pursuit of justice for Keith prove to be a deadly step too far?

Mystery TP \$39.95