

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Catalogue March 2023

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Donna Leon
Kerryn Mayne
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... and many others.

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **March 2023**.

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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

Agatha Christie Playing Cards

This deck of playing cards features Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, among Christie's other detectives and the characters and clues that they encounter on their crime-solving adventures... A 54-card deck with standard playing card suits, numbers, and court cards: can be used in exactly the same way as regular playing cards. Fun, colourful illustrations of the characters, places, and objects important to Agatha Christie's bestselling mysteries appear on every single card. Learn more about Christie and her characters in the accompanying booklet, which includes expert notes on everything in the deck. The perfect gift for any bookworm, or fan of Agatha Christie. Follow the trail of murder and mystery set by the Queen of Crime. Travel down the Nile, on the Orient Express and into the drawing rooms of quaint English country cottages, as you play your favourite card games with this new deck filled with Christie's most baffling and brilliant characters and clues.

Christie Cards \$29.99

Pay Dirt Road Allen, Samantha Jayne

Annie McIntyre has a love/hate relationship with Garnett, Texas. Recently graduated from college and home waitressing, lacking not in ambition but certainly in direction, Annie is lured into the family business – a private investigation firm – by her supposed-to-be-retired grandfather, Leroy, despite the rest of the clan's misgivings. When a waitress at the café goes missing, Annie and Leroy begin an investigation that leads them down rural routes and haunted byways, to noxious-smelling oil fields and to the glowing neon of local honky-tonks. As Annie works to uncover the truth, she finds herself identifying with the victim in increasing, unsettling ways, and realises she must confront her own past – failed romances, a disturbing experience she'd rather forget, and the trick mirror of nostalgia itself – if she wants to survive this homecoming.

Mystery/suspense TP \$34.99

50 Books to Read if You're an Armchair Detective Anderson, Eric Karl

The perfect gift for book-loving friends and family, *50 Books to Read If You're an Armchair Detective* will provide lots of inspiration for fans of cosy crime to discover lesser-known books and revisit forgotten classics. Whether you're a Richard Osman fan, or a Sherlock Holmes devotee, bibliophile and book-blogger Eric Karl Anderson will introduce you to some new and unexpected novels. The book includes an interactive element with space for star ratings, lists of favourite reads, thoughts, and dates for beginning and finishing books. The 50 recommendations encompass a

range of authors and books, from classic to contemporary and from across the globe so as to offer the lucky reader plenty of scope.

Reference HC \$14.99

The 6:20 Man Baldacci, David

Having survived combat tours in Afghanistan and Iraq and been decorated with medals, Travis Devine mysteriously leaves the Army under a cloud of suspicion. And at 32 years old, he's swapping fighting the Taliban and Al Qaeda for a different kind of danger in the cutthroat world of high finance. His daily commute on the 6:20 am train into New York's financial district, to his new job as an analyst at the minted powerhouse investment bank Cowl & Comely, takes him into a world where greed, power, jealousy and ambition result in the financial abuse of the masses and the enrichment of an elite few. But it is on this daily journey that he passes a house – where he sees something that sounds alarm signals, he cannot ignore. A close friend of Devine's, Sarah Ewes, is the first victim and the mysterious circumstances surrounding her death at Cowl & Comely compel him to investigate further. As he digs deeper, he discovers strange coincidences and unnerving truths. As the deaths pile up, and the major players show their hands, he must question who he can trust and who he must fight.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Old God's Time Barry, Sebastian

There were no saints in any era, Tom knew, just good men and bad... and, sometimes, both in the one bottle. Retired policeman Tom Kettle is enjoying the quiet of his new home, a lean-to annexed to a white Victorian Castle in Dalkey, overlooking the sea. For months, he has barely seen a soul, but his peace is interrupted when two former colleagues turn up at his door to ask questions about a decades-old case. A traumatic case which Tom never quite came to terms with. His peace is further disturbed by a young mother and family who move in next door, a woman on the run from her own troubles. And what of Tom's family: his wife June, and their two children?

Mystery TP \$32.99

Devil's Delight

Agatha Raisin mysteries

Beaton, M C & Green, R W

Agatha and her assistant, Toni, are driving to their friend Bill Wong's wedding, thinking of nothing more than what the beautiful bride will be wearing when a terrified young man comes running down the country lane towards them wearing... nothing, at all. The encounter leads them to become embroiled with a naturalist group, a disappearing corpse, fantasy games, witchcraft, an ice cream empire, intrigue

and murder. In the meantime, Agatha's hectic life swirls along at dizzying pace, her private detective agency as busy as ever and her private affairs in turmoil – old loves to contend with and a new suitor on the scene. Then she finds herself in deadly danger when she begins to close in on a suspected murderer and the sinister nature of the ice cream business leads her to a chilling conclusion.

Mystery HC \$45.00

Deception by Gaslight

Gilded Gotham mysteries

Belli, Kate

As a chill sets in on New York City in the winter of 1888, a jewel thief dubbed the 'Robin Hood of the Lower East Side' has been stealing from the city's wealthiest and giving to the poor. Genevieve Stewart – a young woman, whose family is part of Mrs Astor's famed 400, but who has forged a life of her own as a reporter – decides to chase the story, but gets more than she bargained for: a murder victim sprawled in a dark alley in the dangerous Five Points neighbourhood. A handsome neighbourhood tough comes to her rescue – but when she encounters the same man at a glamorous ball a few nights later, she realises he's society scion Daniel McCaffrey. Could this be her Robin Hood? When two more murders rock the Knickerbocker world, it becomes apparent that something much more sinister is afoot than a few stolen diamond necklaces. Genevieve is determined to prove that Daniel is Robin Hood – but she's loath to believe he is a killer as well. From the glittering lights of Fifth Avenue to the sordid back alleys of Five Points, the truth is just one murder away.

Historical mystery TP \$41.95

A Legacy of Murder

Kate Hamilton mysteries

Berry, Connie

It's Christmastime and antiques dealer Kate Hamilton is off to visit her daughter, Christine, in the quaint English village of Long Barston. Christine and her boyfriend, Tristan, work at stately-but-crumbling Finchley Hall. Touring the Elizabethan house and grounds, Kate is intrigued by the docent's tales of the Finchley Hoard, and the strange deaths surrounding the renowned treasure trove. But next to a small lake, Kate spies the body of a young woman, killed by a garden spade. Nearly-blind Lady Barbara, who lives at Finchley with her loyal butler, Mugg, persuades Kate to take over the murdered woman's work. Kate finds that a Burmese ruby has vanished from the legendary Blood-Red Ring, replaced by a lesser garnet. Were the theft and the woman's death connected? Kate learns that Lady Barbara's son fled to Venezuela years before, suspected of murdering another young woman. The murder weapon belonged to an old gardener, who becomes the leading suspect.

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But is Lady Barbara's son back, to kill, again? When another body is found, the clues point toward Christine. It's up to Kate, to clear her daughter's name.

Mystery TP \$43.95

For Whom the Book Tolls

Antique Bookshop mysteries

Black, Laura Gail

Trouble follows Jenna Quinn wherever she goes. Fleeing some unsavoury doings in her hometown of Charlotte, Jenna accepts her uncle's gracious invitation to stay with him in small-town Hokes Folly, NC. In exchange, she'll help him out in his antiquarian bookstore. But soon after she arrives, Jenna finds her uncle's body crumpled at the base of the staircase between his apartment and the bookstore. Before the tragedy even sinks in, Jenna learns that she's inherited almost everything her uncle owned: the store and apartment, as well as his not-so-meagre savings and the payout from a life insurance policy... which adds up to more than a million dollars. This is all news to Jenna – bad news, once the police get wind of her windfall. An ill wind, indeed, as a second murder cements Jenna's status as the prime suspect in both deaths. Jenna can hit the road again, taking her chances that she can elude trouble along the way. Or she can stick it out in Hokes Folly, take over the bookstore, and try to sleuth out her uncle's killer. On the one hand, she's made some wonderful new friends, and she feels she can thrive in the genial small-town environment. On the other hand, trouble knows her address – and, so, does the killer, who is determined to write the final page of Jenna's story. The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$41.95

Wild Irish Rose

Molly Murphy mysteries

Bowen, Rhys & Broyles, Clare

New York, 1907: Now, she's no longer a private detective – at least, not officially – Molly Murphy Sullivan is looking forward to a time of settled tranquillity with friends and family. Back in New York, where her own story began, Molly decides to accompany some friends to Ellis Island to help distribute clothing to those in need. This journey quickly stirs up memories for Molly. When you're far from home and see people from your country, every face looks like a family member. That evening Molly's policeman husband, Daniel, is late returning home. He comes with a tale to tell: there was a murder on Ellis Island, that day, and the main suspect is the spitting image of Molly. The circumstances are eerily similar to when Molly herself arrived on Ellis Island, and she can't help but feel a sense of fate. Molly was meant to be there, that day – so, that she can clear this woman's name. *Wild Irish Rose* is the next novel in this beloved mystery series, a cause for celebration for readers and critics alike. Rhys Bowen, now writing in partnership with her daughter, Clare Broyles, transports and enthralls readers through the incomparable Molly Murphy Sullivan.

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

Yesterday's Spy

Bradby, Tom

Nothing good ever comes from a midnight phone call. For washed-up spy Harry Tower, it is the worst news at the worst possible time. His son, Sean, has gone missing in troubled Iran after writing an exposé about government corruption. Their relationship has never recovered since Harry's wife's suicide, for which Sean holds his father responsible. And Harry, with his career on the verge of disintegration, needs to find him and put things right. When Harry arrives in Tehran, he finds a city on the cusp of revolution. Foreign powers are jockeying for influence, money and, most importantly, oil. The CIA are conspiring to undermine the government with an impending coup, and there are dark mutterings about opium smuggling. But the reasons for Sean's disappearance may be even more sinister than Harry first suspected. Before long, he is on the run – not only from a faceless enemy, but from his own past. Which will catch up with him first?

Suspense PBK \$22.99

How to Kill Men and Get Away with It

Brent, Katy

Meet Kitty Collins. *Friend. Lover. Killer*. He was following me. That guy from the nightclub, who wouldn't leave me alone. I hadn't intended to kill him, of course. But I wasn't displeased when I did and, despite the mess I made, I appeared to get away with it. That's where my addiction started... I've got a taste for revenge; and, quite frankly, I'm killing it. A deliciously-dark, hilariously twisted story about friendship, love, and murder. This wickedly clever novel is perfect for fans of *My Sister the Serial Killer* (PBK, \$19.99)!

Satirical thriller PBK \$22.99

Thrill of the Hunt

Sister Jane mysteries

Brown, Rita Mae

It's the start of fox-hunting season and Sister is training a new generation of hounds in eager anticipation of Opening Hunt. But before they make it to that exciting day, several members of the hunt club receive ominous videos in which they appear to be doing scandalous, career-ending deeds. The videos are doctored, but does it matter? The unknown blackmailer promises to publish the clips if they don't get paid, and even the most upstanding citizen can be brought down by the court of public opinion. While Sister and her friends try to unmask the dastardly mind behind the videos, mysteries abound in their beautiful Blue Ridge Mountain town home. Two men die, apparently by suicide, shocking a community that never saw their deaths coming.

And rumours abound that Old Paradise, the estate being lovingly restored by Crawford Howard, houses a secret stash of gold from its original owner. Does someone want the treasure badly enough to kill for? Sister and her fellow Jefferson Hunt Club members, including friends both two- and four-legged, are on the case – and with any luck, they'll catch the criminals, before the first horn sounds on opening day.

Mystery TP \$37.95

A Basketful of Murder

Farm-to-Fork mysteries

Cahoon, Lynn

At a much-deserved arts-and-crafts-themed retreat, Angie and her County Seat staff find themselves helping an older guest uncover the whereabouts of his missing son... It's a rockin' New Year for Angie and her crew, as they cater a bash for a famous band, but there are hints of discord when one of the musicians is found with a drumstick in his chest... The County Seat's crew goes on a quarterly out-of-office meeting at the Old Idaho Penitentiary near the Boise Foothills, a prison brimming with ghostly lore. The lock in features actors, roleplaying as guards; fascinating prison stories... and an unscripted murder.

Mystery TP \$39.95

The Red Widow Murders

American Mystery Classics,
Sir Henry Merrivale mysteries

Garr, John Dickson

They say that Lord Mantling's mansion is haunted – at least, one room of it is. Known as the Red Widow's Chamber, the now-sealed quarters once housed the wife of a guillotine operator in the French Revolution, and, since her passing, have been host to a century of unsolved horrors, including the death of a man in 1802, the death of a child in 1895, and a number of mysterious mortalities in the years in between. Now, in 1935, eight men and women join at the manor for a sinister experiment to determine the truth behind the haunting once and for all: they each draw a card, and whoever pulls the Ace of Spades must spend a night in that terrifying room. But the challenge turns fatal when the man selected for the task is found poisoned the next morning when the doors are opened. The locked room was guarded all night, so nobody could have entered or escaped; what's more, the deadly toxin could only have entered through a break in the skin, but no wounds were discovered on the body. Is this evidence, at last, of a nefarious spirit at work, or of a diabolical and ingenious killer? Only Sir Henry Merrivale, called in to take note of the night's proceedings, will be able to examine the clues and deduce the truth.

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

Birnam Wood

Gatton, Eleanor

Birnam Wood is on the move...

Five years ago, Mira Bunting founded a guerrilla gardening group: Birnam Wood. An undeclared, unregulated, sometimes-criminal, sometimes-philanthropic gathering of friends, this activist collective plants crops wherever no one will notice, on the sides of roads, in forgotten parks, and neglected backyards. For years, the group has struggled to break even. Then, Mira stumbles on an answer, a way to finally get the group up for the long term: a landslide has closed the Korowai Pass, cutting off the town of Thorndike. Natural disaster has created an opportunity, a sizeable farm seemingly abandoned. But Mira is not the only one interested in Thorndike. Robert Lemoine, the enigmatic American billionaire, has snatched it up to build his end-times bunker – or so he tells Mira when he catches her on the property.

Intrigued by Mira, Birnam Wood, and their entrepreneurial spirit, he suggests they work this land. But can they trust him? And, as their ideals and ideologies are tested, can they trust each other? A gripping psychological thriller from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries* (PBK, \$24.99), *Birnam Wood* is Shakespearean in its wit, drama, and immersion in character. A brilliantly-constructed consideration of intentions, actions, and consequences, it is an unflinching examination of the human impulse to ensure our own survival.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Big Red:

a novel starring Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles

Charyn, Jerome

Set amidst the noir glamour of Hollywood's Golden Age, *Big Red* re-envisions the life of one of America's most enduring icons: Gilda herself, Rita Hayworth, whose fiery red hair and hypnotic dancing helped make her the quintessential movie star of the 1940s. With narrator Rusty Redburn – a feisty second-string gossip columnist from Kalamazoo tasked with spying on Hayworth by Columbia movie mogul Harry 'The Janitor' Cohn – as our guide, we follow the meteoric rise and heartrending demise of the actress, encountering her exploitative father, Eduardo; her controlling husband, 'boy genius' Orson Welles; and notorious journalist Louella Parsons, among many others. Mixing his trademark screwball comedy and unerring tragedy, Jerome Charyn reanimates film classics such as *Cover Girl*, *Gilda*, and *The Lady from Shanghai*. An insightful, tender portrait of a seemingly-halcyon age before blockbusters and film franchises, *Big Red* promises to consume both Hollywood cinephiles and neophytes, alike.

Noir PBK \$22.99

No Plan B

Jack Reacher series

Child, Lee & Andrew

Gerrardsville, Colorado. One tragic event. Two witnesses. Two conflicting accounts. One witness sees a woman throw herself in front of a bus – clearly suicide. The other witness is Jack Reacher. And he sees what really happened – a man in grey hoodie and jeans, swift and silent as a shadow, pushed the victim to her death, before grabbing her bag and sauntering away. Reacher follows the killer, not knowing that this was no random act of violence. It is part of something much bigger... a sinister, secret conspiracy, with powerful people on the take, enmeshed in an elaborate plot that leaves no room for error. If any step is compromised, the threat will have to be quickly and permanently removed. But when the threat is Reacher, there is No Plan B...

Thriller PBK \$22.99

The Murder of

Roger Ackroyd

special edition

Christie, Agatha

Roger Ackroyd knew too much. He knew that the woman he loved had poisoned her brutal first husband. He suspected also that someone

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had been blackmailing her. Now, tragically, came the news that she had taken her own life with a drug overdose. But the evening post brought Roger one last fatal scrap of information. Unfortunately, before he could finish the letter, he was stabbed to death...

Agatha Christie's most daring crime mystery, now presented in a sumptuous hardback special edition.

Christie HC \$32.99

The Rising Tide

Vera Stanhope mysteries

Cleeves, Ann

Fifty years ago, a group of teenagers spent a weekend on Holy Island, forging a bond that has lasted a lifetime. Now, they still return every five years to celebrate their friendship; and remember the friend they lost to the rising waters of the causeway, at the first reunion. Now, when one of them is found hanged, Vera is called in. Learning that the dead man had recently been fired after misconduct allegations, Vera knows she must discover what the friends are hiding, and whether the events of many years before could have led to murder then, and now... But with the rising tide, secrets long hidden are finding their way to the surface, and Vera and the team may find themselves in more danger than they could have believed possible...

Mystery PBK \$22.99

I Will Find You

Coben, Harlan

David and Cheryl Burroughs are living the dream – married, a beautiful house in the suburbs, a three-year-old son named Matthew – when tragedy strikes, one night, in the worst possible way. David awakes to find himself covered in blood, but not his own – his son's. And while he knows he did not murder his son, the overwhelming evidence against him puts him behind bars, indefinitely. Five years into his imprisonment, Cheryl's sister arrives – and drops a bombshell. She's come with a photograph that a friend took on vacation at a theme park. The boy in the background seems familiar – and even though David realises it can't be, he knows it is. It's Matthew, and he's still alive. David plans a harrowing escape from prison, determined to do what seems impossible – save his son, clear his own name, and discover the real story of what happened that devastating night.

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Big Bundle

Heller series, Hard Case Crime

Collins, Max Allan

Nathan Heller returns in a brand new case that connects a millionaire's kidnapped child to Robert F Kennedy's campaign to bring down union boss Jimmy Hoffa. A millionaire's son is kidnapped and private eye Heller is called in to help. But when half of the record \$600,000 ransom goes missing, Heller must wade through a morass of deception and depravity to blow the lid off a notorious crime whose consequences reach into the corridors of power in Washington DC, where Bobby Kennedy works tirelessly to take down crooked union boss Jimmy Hoffa... Nathan Heller, star of MWA Grandmaster Max Allan Collins' most

acclaimed series of novels (more than one million copies sold, to date!), comes to Hard Case Crime for the first time, in an all-new thriller drawn from the pages of history.

Hardboiled HC \$39.99

Spillane:

King of Pulp Fiction

Collins, Max Allan & Traylor, James L

There has never been a full-length biography of Mickey Spillane, the most popular and influential mystery writer of his era – until now. Beginning in 1947 with *I, the Jury*, and continuing with his next six novels, Spillane quickly amassed a readership in the tens of millions, becoming the bestselling novelist in the history of American publishing. Surrounded by controversy for the overt violence and suggestive sexual content of his iconic Mike Hammer private eye novels, Spillane was loathed by critics but beloved by his readers. There is, however, more to Spillane's life than the books. He also starred as Hammer in a movie, was a circus performer, worked with the FBI in capturing a notorious criminal, and starred in Miller Light beer commercials that were so popular they ran for a quarter of a century. Max Allan Collins became Spillane's friend and collaborator, continuing the Mike Hammer series for years after the author's death, building upon unfinished manuscripts the writer left behind. Now, with co-author James Traylor, Collins has produced the first comprehensive and authoritative profile of the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. It is a must-read for any fan of the author – or of the generations of crime writers that were influenced by his work.

Biography HC \$44.95

The Furies

Gonnolly, John

Two linked stories in one novel and the most compelling and unsettling Charlie Parker case, yet. The Furies: mythological snake-haired goddesses of vengeance, pursuers of those who have committed unavenged crimes. In *The Sisters Strange*, the return of the criminal Raum Buker to Portland, Maine brings with it chaos and murder, as an act of theft threatens not only to tear apart his own existence but also that of Raum's former lovers, the enigmatic sisters Dolores and Ambar Strange. And, in *The Furies*, Parker finds himself fighting to protect two more women as the city of Portland shuts down in the face of a global pandemic, but it may be that his clients are more capable of taking care of themselves than anyone could have imagined...

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Argyle

Gonway, Elly

A luxury train, speeding towards Moscow and a date with destiny. A CIA plane downed in the jungles of the Golden Triangle. A Nazi hoard entombed in the remote mountains of south-west Poland. A missing treasure, the eighth wonder of the world, lost for seven decades. One Russian magnate's dream of restoring a nation to greatness has set in motion a chain of events which will take the world to the brink of chaos. Only Frances Coffey, the CIA's most legendary spymaster,

can prevent it. But to do so, she needs someone special. Enter Argyle, a troubled agent with a tarnished past who may just have the skills to take on one of the most powerful men in the world. If only he can save himself, first...

Suspense TP \$32.99

Finlay Donovan Jumps the Gun

Finlay Donovan mysteries

Gosimano, Elle

New year, new Finlay Donovan. She's got a list of resolutions and she's ready to bite the bullet. One, no junk food. Two, no men. Three, no bodies in her minivan. But, first, she owes the Russian mob one last favour – tracking down a rogue hitman with her nanny Vero, before the cops do. The small complication? This killer might be a cop, himself. Enter distractingly hot Detective Nicholas Anthony, whose new citizens' police academy provides the perfect cover up for Finlay to sleuth out the target – and some fresh ideas for her crime novel. Between firearms and forensics training, family dramas and hands-on research with Detective Nick, can Finlay get to her edits and the hitman before time runs out? She'll give it her best shot. Finlay Donovan's first appearance is in *Finlay Donovan is Killing It* (PBK, \$22.99). Perfect for fans of Janet Evanovich's Stephanie Plum.

Mystery TP \$32.99

A Gentle Murderer

Library of Congress Crime Classics

Davis, Dorothy Salisbury

Father Duffy has heard many confessions through the years, but none quite so disturbing, as the one he's heard tonight. A young man enters the confessional, just as the priest is readying to leave for the evening: he's distraught that he has killed a woman in a paroxysm of uncontrollable rage – and he's still wielding the hammer he used to do the deed. Father Duffy tries to convince the young man to turn himself in to the police; but he flees just as suddenly as he had appeared. When the priest learns, the next day, that an escort was found bludgeoned to death on the East Side, he sets out to search for the troubled confessor. Meanwhile, Sergeant Ben Goldsmith of the NYPD is drawn deep into the official investigation. Neither is aware that the other is searching for the murderer, and both hope against hope that they're able to find the killer before he strikes again. *We expect to have this edition of A Gentle Murderer from our Australian distributors in June, at a lower price.*

Classic mystery TP \$33.95

A Perfect Time to Murder

Kember & Hayes mysteries

Daws, N R

January 1941. The Luftwaffe continues its assault on Britain from the sky, but ATA pilot Lizzie Hayes is grounded after a crash. Itching to be of use, she hears that DI Kember is investigating the death of a coal miner in Kent and sees her chance to help. They discover the miner died from carbon monoxide poisoning but Kember instinctively suspects foul play. Was it an accident, or murder? Armed with her forensic psychology skills, Lizzie helps Kember interview the

other miners, and it soon becomes apparent that nearly everyone had a motive for murder. Despite heavy snowfall threatening to cut off the mine, Kember and Hayes are certain the best clues will be found in the depths of the pit itself, and demand that the men – all suspects – lower them into the dark tunnels... When the power goes out and they find themselves trapped, they must confront not only their blossoming feelings for each other but also the prospect that they may never see daylight again. And, even if they do, will they be any closer to finding the killer?

Historical mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

A Killer Christmas at Honeychurch Hall

Honeychurch Hall mysteries

Dennison, Hannah

Following the butler's death and the cook's retirement, the ever-gullible Lady Lavinia replaces them with a power couple who are determined to thrust the crumbling estate into the 21st century. The Dowager Countess reluctantly agrees to hold a big-ticket Christmas gala and silent auction with a mystery celebrity flying in from Monaco as the guest of honour. Needless to say, the newcomers' make a few enemies in their quest to change the status quo and when one body is discovered in the Victorian stumpey and a second, in the ha-ha, it seems that their high-flying past is catching up with them. Meanwhile, Kat is dealing with the theft of a valuable doll that had been earmarked for the auction. When it turns out that all the ticket money has vanished and there never was a celebrity guest, it's up to Kat to save the day and bring the cold-blooded killer to justice.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Realm of Darkness

Hugh Corbett mysteries

Doherty, Paul

Spring, 1312. Edward II of England is absorbed with his favourite, Peter Gaveston, while his young wife, Isabella, is with child. Isabella's father, the ruthless Philip of France, dreams of a grandson wearing the Crown of the Confessor and starts to meddle – even if that means murder... Amaury de Craon, Philip's Master of Secrets, is dispatched to carry out his deadly deeds and Edward II summons Sir Hugh Corbett, Keeper of the Secret Seal, to intercept. Both master spies lodge at the Benedictine abbey of St Michael's, in the forest of Ashdown. Supposedly a house of prayer, the abbey holds sinister secrets and treasures which include the world's most exquisite diamond, the Glory of Heaven. However, shortly after their arrival, the diamond is stolen and its guardian murdered. Other macabre incidents follow, Satan is seen walking through God's Acre, and a nearby tavern is burnt to the ground and no one escapes. Corbett, assisted by his henchmen, prepares to navigate this hazardous maze of murder...

Historical mystery PBK \$24.99

Death at the Savoy

Priscilla Tempest mysteries

Emery, Prudence & Base, Ron

It's 1968. London is in full swing, and the Savoy Hotel is at the height of its legendary glitz and glamour, welcoming the rich, famous, and aristocratic into its rarefied

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world of perfection. Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton are squabbling in the American Bar, while Noël Coward drinks champagne. Royals wait upstairs in luxurious suites for discreet encounters. In short, all is as it should be at the Savoy. If only it weren't for the dead body in Room 705. Could it be murder at the Savoy? Impossible! Who could have done such a thing? Suspicion falls upon Priscilla Tempest, the quick-witted head of the Savoy press office; who has a penchant for champagne, the wrong sort of men – and trouble. When it is discovered that Priscilla had been with the deceased – a notorious international arms dealer – the night before he was found dead, she is questioned by Scotland Yard Inspector Robert 'Charger' Lightfoot and is, suddenly, under the unforgiving eye of her boss – the Savoy's straitlaced general manager, Clive Banville. Her job on the line, her life in danger, Priscilla must elude the police and the general manager's duplicitous wife, ward off the amorous advances of a famous drunken actor, and discover whether that really was a member of the royal family seen leaving the victim's suite, shortly before his body was discovered. The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$29.99

Death of a Bookseller

British Library Crime Classics

Farmer, Bernard

An honest policeman, Sergeant Wigan, escorts a drunk man home, one night, to keep him out of trouble. Seeing his fine book collection, Wigan slowly falls into the gentle art of book collecting. Just as the friendship is blossoming, the policeman's book-collecting friend is murdered. To solve the mystery of why the victim was killed, and which of his rare books was taken, Wigan dives into the world of 'runners' and book collectors... where avid agents will gladly cut you for a first edition and then offer you a lift home, afterwards. This adventurous mystery – republished as the 100th volume in the British Library Crime Classic series – which combines exuberant characters with a wonderfully-realised depiction of the second-hand book market, is sure to delight bibliophiles and classic crime enthusiasts, alike.

Classic mystery TP \$33.95

The Favour

French, Nicci

When Liam unexpectedly turns up in Jude's life after 10 years of no contact, asking her for a favour, she just can't say no. He was her first love, and even though she is, now, a successful doctor and about to get married, he will always be someone special to her. But after she does the favour, she is contacted by the police, informing her that Liam has been found dead, and suddenly she is caught up in a murder investigation. And she realises this one decision could cost her everything – even her life...

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Hidden

Golding, Melanie

One dark, December night, in a small seaside town, a little girl is found abandoned. When her mother finally arrives, authorities release the pair, believing it to be an innocent case of a toddler running off. Gregor, a

seemingly single man, is found bludgeoned and left for dead in his apartment, but the discovery of children's toys raises more questions than answers. Every night, Ruby gazes into Gregor's apartment, leading to the discovery of his secret family: his unusually silent daughter and his mentally unstable wife, Constance, who insists that she is descended from the mythological Selkies. She begs Ruby to aid, in finding the sealskin that Gregor has hidden from her, making it impossible to return to her people. DS Joanna Harper's investigation into Gregor's assault leads her to CCTV footage of the mother-daughter pair from town. Harper realises she knows the woman, almost as well as she knows herself: it's her estranged daughter, Ruby. No matter the depth of Ruby's involvement, she knows she will choose her daughter over her career.

Mystery/suspense TP \$41.95

Deadly Company

Mitchell & Markby mysteries

Granger, Ann

Superintendent Alan Markby and his wife Meredith have retired for the night when they are disturbed by a visitor. It's not the first time someone has called at the Old Vicarage, in search of a priest; but, in this case, having just found a dead body in the churchyard, Callum Henderson needs the police. Accompanying Callum to the graveyard, Alan declares that this has all the hallmarks of a murder scene. News of the incident travels fast in the market town of Bamford, but no one seems willing to admit to knowing the dead man or how he ended up in the cemetery. As Alan and his team search for clues, Meredith becomes convinced that something must have been overlooked. Meanwhile, despite Alan's warnings, Callum appears to be in cahoots with the team's latest recruit, DS Beth Santos. While every lead points to yet more foul play, nothing can prepare Meredith and Markby for the shocking truth behind this mystery...

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Echo of the Dead

DSI Lorimer series

Gray, Alex

After a stressful winter, DSI William Lorimer is enjoying some time away from Glasgow. He and his new friend, Daniel Kohi, have retreated to the wilds of the Scottish Highlands to unwind. But what awaits them is far from a holiday. Despite its troubled history, the mountain village of Glencoe is now a popular resort, famed for its close-knit community, its breathtaking scenery and the warm welcome it offers weary travellers. So, it's particularly shocking when two bodies are discovered in quick succession on the nearby peaks... With a potential serial killer on the loose, Lorimer's Major Incidents Team are drafted in from Glasgow. It's clear that a dark secret lurks beneath the wild beauty of this place. But will Lorimer manage to root it out, before the killer strikes again?

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Burner

Gray Man series

Greaney, Mark

When you kick over a rock, you never know what's going to crawl out. Alex Velesky is about to discover that the hard way.

He's stolen records from the Swiss bank that employs him, thinking that he'll uncover a criminal conspiracy. But he soon finds that he's tapped into the mother lode of corruption. Before he knows it, he's being hunted by everyone from the Russian mafia to the CIA. Court Gregor and his erstwhile lover, Zoya Zakharova, find themselves on opposites poles when it comes to Velesky. They both want him, but for different reasons. That's a problem for tomorrow. Today, they need to keep him and themselves alive. Right now, it's not looking good.

Thriller TP \$32.99

What You Never Knew

Hamilton, Jessica

Idyllic Avril Island, owned by the Bennett family, where their 100-year-old cottage sat nestled in acres of forest. Forty-year-old June Bennett believed that the island had been sold after the summer of her father's disappearance when she was only 12 years old. It's months after the shocking death of her older sister May in a fatal car accident, that June finds out that the cottage was never sold. Avril Island is still owned by the Bennett family and now it's hers. Still reeling from the grief of losing her sister, June travels back to Avril Island in search of answers. As she digs, she learns that the townspeople believe her father may in fact have been murdered rather than having abandoned his family in the dead of night, as she was led to believe by her mother. And that's when she begins to notice strange things happening on the island – missing family possessions showing up, doors locking on their own, unexplained noises in the night, shadowy figures disappearing into the woods. It takes June no time at all, to realise that her childhood summers at Avril Island were not, at all, what they had seemed to be.

Mystery/suspense TP \$41.95

The Lady in the Silver Cloud

Stewart Hoag mysteries

Handler, David

A 1955 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud is a fantastically expensive car, especially in the pristine condition of the one owned by Muriel Cantrell. Living in a luxury apartment building on Central Park West, the delicate, sweet 75-year-old woman is a neighbour of Merilee Nash, the beautiful movie star, and Stuart Hoag, whose first book was a sensation but whose career crashed when he became involved with drugs and alcohol. Divorced – 10 years earlier – Hoag has been welcomed back into Merilee's life and apartment. Apparently, universally beloved, in her building, residents are shocked – when Muriel is murdered after a Halloween party. No one takes it harder than her long-time chauffeur, Bullets Durmond, whose previous job was as an enforcer for the mob. Who, in the world, would want to harm the silver-haired lady whose major vices were buying shoes and Chanel suits (always in cash), and watching day-time soap operas? Lieutenant Romaine Very of the NYPD is called to investigate and, again, seeks help from his friend Hoag who, along with his basset hound Lulu, has been an invaluable aide in the past. The investigation leads to the unexpected source of Muriel's wealth, the history of her early years as a hatcheck girl at the Copacabana, how her chauffeur came

to be called Bullets, her desperate meth-head nephew, and her wealthy neighbours, who have secrets of their own.

Mystery TP \$32.99

When Blood Lies

Sebastian St Cyr mysteries

Harris, C S

March 1815. The Bourbon King Louis XVIII has been restored to the throne of France, Napoleon is in exile on the isle of Elba, and Sebastian St Cyr, Viscount Devlin, and his wife, Hero, have travelled to Paris in hopes of tracing his long-lost mother, Sophie, the errant Countess of Hendon. But his search ends in tragedy, when he comes upon the dying Countess in the wasteland at the tip of the *Île de la Cité*. Stabbed – apparently, with a stiletto – and thrown from the bastions of the island's ancient stone bridge, Sophie dies without naming her murderer. Sophie had been living in Paris under an assumed name as the mistress of Maréchal Alexandre McClellan, the scion of a noble Scottish Jacobite family that took refuge in France after the Forty-Five Rebellion. Once one of Napoleon's most trusted and successful generals, McClellan has now sworn allegiance to the Bourbons and is serving in the delegation negotiating on behalf of France at the Congress of Vienna. It doesn't take Sebastian long, to realise that the French authorities have no interest in involving themselves in the murder of a notorious Englishwoman at such a delicate time. And, so, grieving and shattered by his mother's death, Sebastian takes it upon himself to hunt down her killer. But what he learns will not only shock him, but could upend a hard-won world peace. This wonderful historical mystery series begins with *What Angels Fear* (PBK, \$24.95).

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

Murder Your Employer

McMasters Guide to Homicide series

Holmes, Rupert

Welcome to the McMasters Conservatory for the Applied Arts – a luxurious, clandestine college dedicated to the fine art of murder where earnest students study how best to 'delete' their most deserving victim. Who hasn't wondered for a split second what the world would be like the object of your affliction ceased to exist? But then you've probably never heard of the McMasters Conservatory, dedicated to the consummate execution of the homicidal arts. To gain admission, a student must have an ethical reason for erasing someone who deeply deserves a fate no worse (nor better) than death. The campus of this 'Poison Ivy League' college – its location unknown to even those, who study there – is where you might find yourself the practice target of a classmate... and where one's mandatory graduation thesis is getting away with the perfect murder of someone whose death will make the world a much better place to live. Prepare for an education you'll never forget. A delightful mix of witty wordplay, breathtaking twists and genuine intrigue, *Murder Your Employer* will gain you admission into a wholly original world, cocooned within the most entertaining book about well-intentioned would-be murderers you'll ever read.

Mystery TP \$32.99

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery March 2023 (continued)

The Girl by the Bridge

Detective Konrád series

Indriðason, Arnaldur

When a young woman known for drug smuggling goes missing, her elderly grandparents have no choice but to call the retired Detective Konrád. Still looking for his own father's murderer, Konrád agrees to investigate the case. But digging into the past reveals more than he set out to discover, and a strange connection to a little girl who drowned in the Reykjavík city pond decades ago recaptures everyone's attention. The follow-up to the first in the Detective Konrád series, *The Darkness Knows* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Traced

Jinks, Catherine

Jane is a contact tracer. She has to call a lot of people and some of them don't want to talk. Various reasons – tax, or immigration issues, infidelity. Domestic abuse. Jane knows all about that. She and her daughter Tara have spent years in hiding from Tara's manipulative and terrifying ex. Now, as Jane talks to a close contact, she realises the woman on the phone is scared of the same man – and he's close. Too close. Suddenly, the past comes slamming back into the present, as Jane realises she and Tara can't keep running forever. One day, they're going to be found.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

So Shall You Reap

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

On a cold November evening, Guido Brunetti and Paola are up late, when a call from his colleague Ispettore Vianello arrives, alerting the Commissario that a hand has been seen in one of Venice's canals. The body is soon found, and Brunetti is assigned to investigate the murder of an undocumented Sri Lankan immigrant. Because no official record of the man's presence in Venice exists, Brunetti is forced to use the city's far richer sources of information: gossip and the memories of people who knew the victim. Curiously, he had been living in a garden house on the grounds of a palazzo owned by a university professor, in which Brunetti discovers books revealing the victim's interest in Buddhism, the revolutionary Tamil Tigers, and the last crop of Italian political terrorists, active in the 1980s. As the investigation expands, Brunetti, Vianello, Commissario Griffoni, and Signorina Elettra each assemble pieces of a puzzle – random information about real estate and land use, books, university friendships – that appear to have little in common. Until Brunetti stumbles over something that transports him back to his own student days, causing him to reflect on lost ideals and the errors of youth, on Italian politics and history, and on the accidents that sometimes lead to revelation.

Mystery TP \$32.99

Robert B Parker's

Revenge Tour

Sunny Randall mysteries

Lupica, Mike

PI Sunny Randall owes a favour. Her landlord and former client, famous novelist

Melanie Joan Hall, is being threatened and blackmailed, and it is up to Sunny and her best friend Spike to ensure her protection. But as Sunny looks into the identity of Melanie Joan's stalker, she learns that much of the author's past is a product of her amazing imagination, and her loyalty to her old friend is challenged as she searches for the truth. At the same time, Sunny springs into action when her aging ex-cop father, Phil, is threatened by a shady lawyer with a desire to settle an old score. Fighting crimes on two fronts, Sunny must use all of her savvy, and the help of her friends, in order to protect those she loves. And one thing is for sure, with both of these cases: this time, it's personal.

Hardboiled TP \$29.99

The Heretic

Duncan McCormack mysteries

McIlvanney, Liam

Glasgow, 1975. An arson attack on a Glasgow warehouse causes the deaths of a young mother and child. Police suspect it's the latest act in a brutal gang warfare that's tearing the city apart – one that DI Duncan McCormack has been tasked with stopping. Five years ago, he was walking on water as the cop who tracked down a notorious serial killer. But he made powerful enemies and, when a mutilated body is found in a Tradeston slum, McCormack is assigned a case that no one wants. The dead man is wearing a masonic ring, though, and Duncan realises the victim is not the down-and-out, his boss had first assumed. As McCormack looks into both crimes, the investigations are disrupted by a shocking event. A bomb rips through a pub packed with people – and a cop is killed in the blast. The cases are stacking up and – with one of his own unit, now, dead – McCormack is in the firing line. But he's starting to see a thread – one that connects all three attacks... The sequel to the Scottish Crime Book of the Year, *The Quaker* (PBK, \$19.99).

Mystery PBK \$19.99

Sherlock Holmes and the Twelve Thefts of Christmas Major, Tim

Sherlock Holmes' discovery of a mysterious musical score initiates a devious Christmas challenge set by Irene Adler, with clues that are all variations on the theme of 'theft without theft', such as a statue missing from a museum found hidden in the room it was taken from. In the snowy London lead-up to Christmas, Holmes' preoccupation with the 'Adler Variations' risks him neglecting the case of his new client, Norwegian arctic explorer Fridtjof Nansen, who has received a series of threats in the form of animal carcasses left on his doorstep. Could they really be gifts from a strange spirit that has pursued Nansen since the completion of his expedition to cross Greenland? And might this case somehow be related to Irene Adler's great game?

Sherlockiana HC \$29.99

White Fox

Alexander Vasin trilogy

Matthews, Owen

1963. In a desolate Russian penal colony, the radio broadcasts news of the assassination of President John F Kennedy...

Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vasin's new posting as director of a gulag camp, in the middle of the frozen tundra, is far from a promotion. This is where disgraced agents, like Vasin, disappear – sent to die forgotten. And quietly. But tensions in the camp are running high and when a violent revolt breaks out, Vasin finds himself on the run. With him is a mysterious prisoner – who holds the key to the most dangerous secret in the world: who ordered Kennedy's murder. In a breathless race that takes them through the Soviet Union – from the barren Siberian wastelands to the stunning halls of the Katerina Palace and the grey streets of Leningrad and Moscow – Vasin must stay one step ahead of the most ruthless spy and police organisations in the world... and keep the most wanted man in Russia alive. It's a journey that will push Vasin's loyalty, morality, and his patriotism to the limit. And he must confront the ultimate choice: fall in line, or die fighting the system. The previous two novels, featuring Alexander Vasin, are *Black Sun* and *Red Traitor* (PBK, \$22.99 each).

Suspense TP \$32.99

Through a Darkening Glass Maxwell, R S

England, 1940. Literature student Ruth Gladstone evacuates Cambridge University for Martynsborough, a tiny English village with a shadowy history. For Ruth, retreating to a forgotten corner of the country is more than a safety manoeuvre; it's an opportunity to end an undesirable engagement and begin writing her first novel. But, upon her arrival, Ruth learns of a ghostly wraith haunting the villagers after decades of silence. Although, Ruth is enthralled by the legend, the locals are less charmed by the wraith's return. They blame the evacuees – and, among them, Ruth – for stirring up restless spirits. Undeterred, Ruth joins forces with Malcolm, an injured soldier, to unravel the mystery of the wraith. As Ruth and Malcolm draw closer to the truth, they'll unearth long-buried secrets that could threaten them both... even as they craft a forbidden love story of their own.

Historical mystery PBK \$24.99

Sea Castle

Underwater Investigation Unit

Mayne, Andrew

When a young woman washes ashore on a Fort Lauderdale beach, Sloan McPherson of the Underwater Investigation Unit is called in to consult. Sloan's instinct says murder, but even then, there are too many questions. For answers she reaches out to Gwen Wylder. The Miami homicide detective is notorious for being manipulative, bitter, a tyrant to her peers, and wicked smart. And she demands something in return from Sloan: fresh insight into seemingly unrelated cold-case murders and disappearances – and a possible serial killer trolling the Florida coast. As loose ends of the old files begin to come together, another woman disappears. Sloan and Gwen are certain she's the newest link in a deadly chain. They are determined to track her down before she dies, but they soon find themselves in uncharted waters. And the deeper Sloan and Gwen go, the stranger the case gets.

Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

Lenny Marks Gets Away with Murder Mayne, Kerry

Lenny Marks is good at not remembering. She has spent the last 20 years not thinking about the day her mother left her, when she was still a child. Her stepfather's parting words, however, remain annoyingly unforgettable: 'You did this'. Now 37, Lenny prefers contentment and order over the unreliability of happiness and the messiness of relationships. She fills her days teaching at the local primary school, and her nights playing Scrabble with her pretend housemate, watching reruns of *Friends*, and rearranging her 36 copies of *The Hobbit*. Recently, though – if only to appease her beloved foster-mum – Lenny has set herself the goal of 'getting a life'. Then, out of the blue, a letter arrives from the Adult Parole Board. And when her desperate attempts to ignore it fail, Lenny starts to unravel. Worse, she starts to remember... 'Devilishly fun: top marks for Lenny Marks!' – Benjamin Stevenson, author of *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone*.

Mystery TP \$32.99

Bodies from the Library 4

anthology

Medawar, Tony (editor)

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

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

The Return of the Pharaoh

from the reminiscences

of John H Watson, MD

Meyer, Nicholas

In 1910, Dr John Watson travels to Egypt, with his wife Juliet. Her tuberculosis has returned, and her doctor recommends a stay at a sanitarium in a dry climate. But while his wife undergoes treatment, Dr Watson bumps into an old friend – Sherlock Holmes,

Pulp Fiction

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in disguise and on a case. An English Duke with a penchant for Egyptology has disappeared, leading to enquiries from his wife and the Home Office. Holmes has discovered that the missing duke has indeed vanished from his lavish rooms in Cairo and that he was on the trail of a previous undiscovered and unopened tomb. And that he's only the latest Egyptologist to die, or disappear, under odd circumstances. With the help of Howard Carter, Holmes and Watson are on the trail of something much bigger, more important, and more sinister than an errant lord. A previously-unknown case of Sherlock Holmes, by the author of *The Seven Per Cent Solution*.
Sherlockiana TP \$34.99

A Scandal in Belgravia, part two

Sherlock graphic novel
Moffat, Steven & Gatiss, Mark; et al
Fresh from confronting Moriarty in the end of *The Great Game*, Sherlock Holmes and John Watson are called to save the royal family from blackmail at the hands of Irene Adler, a dominatrix known as 'The Woman'. Adler pulls Sherlock into a complex web of mysteries involving the CIA and the MoD, with secrets that could threaten to threaten international security and topple the monarchy. Sherlock has been outwitted by the mysterious and beautiful Irene Adler. His pernicious brother, Mycroft Holmes, has pulled him off the case; leaving the royal family's secrets in the Dominatrix's hands, and Sherlock unsatisfied. But it won't be long, until Irene surfaces again – with trouble not far behind... The second part of the manga adaptation of the fourth *Sherlock* BBC episode.
Sherlockiana PBK \$22.99

Death and Croissants

Folle Valley mysteries
Moore, Ian
Richard is a middle-aged Englishman, who runs a B&B in the fictional Val de Follet in the Loire Valley. Nothing ever happens to Richard, and really that's the way he likes it. One day, however, one of his older guests disappears, leaving behind a bloody handprint on the wallpaper. Another guest, the exotic Valérie, persuades a reluctant Richard to join her in investigating the disappearance. Richard remains a dazed passenger in the case, until things become really serious and someone murders Ava Gardner, one of his beloved hens... and you don't mess with a fellow's hens! The first in a series.
Mystery TP \$37.95

Untamed Shore

Moreno-Garcia, Silvia
Baja California, 1979: Viridiana spends her days under the harsh sun, watching the fishermen pulling in their nets and the dead sharks piled beside the seashore. Her head is filled with dreams of romance, travel and of a future beyond this drab town where her only option is to marry and have children. When a wealthy American writer arrives with his wife and brother-in-law, Viridiana jumps at the offer of a job as his assistant, and she's soon entangled in the glamorous

foreigners' lives. They offer excitement, and perhaps an escape from her humdrum life. When one of them dies, eager to protect her new friends, Viridiana lies – but, soon enough, someone's asking questions. It's not long before Viridiana has some of her own questions about the identities of her new acquaintances. Sharks may be dangerous, but there are worse predators nearby, ready to devour a naïve young woman, unwittingly entangled in a web of deceit.
Noir TP \$32.99

My Annihilation Nakamura, Fuminori

What transforms a person into a killer? Can it be something as small as a suggestion? *Turn this page, and you may forfeit your entire life*. With *My Annihilation*, Fuminori Nakamura, master of literary noir, has constructed a puzzle box of a narrative in the form of a confessional diary that implicates its reader in a heinous crime. Delving, relentlessly, into the darkest corners of human consciousness, *My Annihilation* interrogates the unspeakable thoughts all humans share that can be monstrous when brought to life, revealing with disturbing honesty the psychological motives of a killer.
Noir TP \$29.99

The Great Unmaking

Course of Empire 03
Nelson, Brian A
After usurping control of the world's most powerful military technology, General Chip Walden knows the endgame is near, and tasks scientist Eric Hill with one final assignment. Helped by the love of his life, Jane Hunter, Hill is haunted by premonitions of a coming catastrophe, as the technology he created takes on a life of its own. As Hill attempts to avert disaster, FBI Special Agent Bud Brown seeks revenge for the murder of his fellow agents by eco-terrorist Riona Finley. But what no one realises is that forces are at work that have already decided humanity's fate. With the clock ticking toward an irrevocable apocalypse, it's no longer a question of if the world can be saved, but who will be the chosen few that survive.
Thriller TP \$39.95

X and Y

Pufferfish mysteries
Owen, David
Detective Inspector Franz Heineken has been up to his prickly eyeballs in toxic island murk for decades, so's perfectly placed to privately award himself a golden handshake. Live out some kind of sunny high life, far away. All good, what could go wrong? Ah, but wait. Exterminating Pufferfish will make the Earlybird Gang safer, and wealthier. Can't go wrong with that, thanks to the bloke's-of-late, narky and sus behaviour, playing right into a career-end dodgy cop narrative. Never mind embittered Sergeant Izzy 'Strangler' Boston: Pufferfish is your bent, sour, treacherous villain. What's more, he's a slow-moving, easy target. He and his dumb-arsed island coppers versus ultra-cunning Mr Bigses, latter moving high-grade heroin to top dollar markets through witless offshore Tas. No contest. Easy as. And somewhere in that mix, one clean professional hit, taking out troublesome DI Franz Heineken for all

time, job well done. What could possibly go wrong with that, eh? The latest of the long-unavailable Tasmanian mysteries to be reissued. Highly recommended.
Mystery/suspense PBK \$27.99

Under Lock and Skeleton Key

Secret Staircase mysteries
Pandian, Gigi
After a disastrous accident derails Tempest Raj's career, and life, she heads back to her childhood home in California to comfort herself with her grandfather's Indian home-cooked meals. Though she resists, every day brings her closer to the inevitable: working for her father's company. Secret Staircase Construction specialises in bringing the magic of childhood to all by transforming clients' homes with sliding bookcases, intricate locks, backyard treehouses, and hidden reading nooks. When Tempest visits her dad's latest renovation project, her former stage double is discovered dead inside a wall that's supposedly been sealed, for more than a century. Fearing she was the intended victim, it's up to Tempest to solve this seemingly-impossible crime. But as she delves further into the mystery, Tempest can't help but wonder if the Raj family curse that's plagued her family for generations – something she used to swear didn't exist – has finally come for her. The first in a new series.
Mystery PBK \$26.95

Best Crime Stories of the Year

volume 02
Paretsky, Sara & Penzler, Otto (editors)
Under the auspices of New York City's legendary mystery fiction specialty bookstore, Mysterious Bookshop, and aided by Edgar Award-winning anthologist Otto Penzler, international bestseller and MWA Grandmaster Sara Paretsky has selected the 20 most puzzling, most thrilling, and most mysterious short stories from the past year, collected now in one entertaining volume. The classic mystery tale will be familiar to aficionados and casual readers alike: it was invented by Edgar Allen Poe, popularised by Arthur Conan Doyle, and perfected by Agatha Christie. Within a few pages, a clue can be discovered, divulged, and its significance determined: all else is mere embellishment. Featuring stories by: Doug Allyn, Colin Barrett, Jerome Charyn, Michael Connelly, Susan Frith, Tom Larsen, Sean Marciniak, Stefon Mears, Keith Lee Morris, Gwen Mullins, Jo Nesbo, Joyce Carol Oates, Annie Reed, Kristine Kathryn Rusch, Anna Scotti, Ginny Swart, Ellen Tremitti, Joseph S Walker, Colson Whitehead, and Michael Wiley – plus, a bonus vintage story from the annals of mystery fiction, written over a century ago.
Mystery/suspense TP \$34.99

The London Séance Society Penner, Sarah

1873. At an abandoned château on the outskirts of Paris, a dark séance is about to take place, led by acclaimed spiritualist Vaudeline D'Allaire. Known worldwide for her talent in conjuring the spirits of murder victims to ascertain the identities

of the people who killed them, she is highly sought after by widows and investigators, alike. Lenna Wickes has come to Paris to find answers about her sister's death, but to do so, she must embrace the unknown and overcome her own logic-driven bias against the occult. When Vaudeline is beckoned to England to solve a high-profile murder, Lenna accompanies her as an understudy. But as the women team up with the powerful men of London's exclusive Séance Society to solve the mystery, they begin to suspect that they are not merely out to solve a crime; but, perhaps, entangled in one, themselves... An entrancing tale that explores the blurred lines between truth and illusion, and reveals the grave risks women will take to avenge the ones they love, from the author of *The Lost Apothecary* (PBK, \$19.99).
Gothic mystery TP \$32.99

The Blood Flower

Leo Stanhope Cases
Reeve, Alex
1883. Two young people have been killed near Portsmouth's docks. When journalist and amateur detective Leo Stanhope arrives, the police have already dismissed the victims as a 'molly-lad' and a misfit. As Leo begins to investigate, what he uncovers will lead him to the dangers of the Navy shipyard, the temptations of Portsmouth's underground nightlife – and even the family of his wife, Rosie. But can he risk the people he loves for the sake of justice?
Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Dead of Night

Wartime Berlin mysteries
Scarrow, Simon
Berlin, January 1941. Evil cannot bring about good... After Germany's invasion of Poland, the world is holding its breath and hoping for peace. At home, the Nazi Party's hold on power is absolute. One freezing night, an SS doctor and his wife return from an evening mingling with their fellow Nazis at the concert hall. By the time the sun rises, the doctor will be lying lifeless in a pool of blood. Was it murder or suicide? Criminal Inspector Horst Schenke is told that, under no circumstances, should he investigate. The doctor's widow, however, is convinced her husband was the target of a hit. But why would anyone murder an apparently-obscure doctor? Compelled to dig deeper, Schenke learns of the mysterious death of a child. The cases seem unconnected, but soon chilling links begin to emerge that point to a terrifying secret. Even in times of war, under a ruthless regime, there are places in hell, no man should ever enter. And Schenke fears he may not return alive... The follow-up to *Blackout* (PBK, \$22.99). 'A wonderfully compelling thriller, reeking of authenticity, and a terrific depiction of the human world within the chilling world of the Third Reich' – Peter James.
Historical mystery TP \$32.99

Immortality: a Love Story

Anatomy duology
Schwartz, Dana
Hazel Sinnett is alone. She's half convinced the events, of the year before – the immortality, Beecham's vial – were a figment of her imagination. She doesn't

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery March 2023 (continued)

even know if Jack is alive or dead. All she can really do is run her free clinic, helping people, and maintaining Hawthornden Castle as it starts to decay around her. When saving a life leads to her arrest, Hazel seems doomed to rot in prison until a message intervenes:

Hazel has been specifically requested to be the personal physician of Princess Charlotte, the sickly daughter of King George IV. Soon, Hazel is dragged into the glamour and romance of a court where everyone has something to hide, especially the ladies of the princess' close circle, who never seem to stay hurt for long... Meanwhile, Jack Currier has been trying to find a way to die. He's been travelling across the Atlantic, hoarding any information that could cure his immortality and let him spend a normal life with Hazel. When he hears that Beecham has died, he immediately goes to London, to find out how he achieved it – and reunites with Hazel, once again. As their search for the immortality cure entangles them more and more with the British court, Hazel and Jack realise that a life together is not the only thing at stake. Malicious forces are at work in the monarchy, and they are very interested in living forever... The sequel to *Anatomy: A Love Story* (PBK, \$17.99).

Gothic mystery TP \$22.99

The Proof in the Pudding

Prudence Bulstrode mysteries

Shrager, Rosemary

Preparing a midwinter's feast for all 100 residents of the little Yorkshire village of Scrafton Busk is exactly the kind of challenge Prudence Bulstrode adores. A chance to show off her braised-neck of Moorland mutton, Wensleydale tart – and, of course, her famous figgy pudding – is just the thing, to shake off the winter blues. But on the night of the feast, local vagabond Terry Chandler is found dead – his body entombed in the pristine snowman standing pride of place on the village green. Who could have wanted Chandler dead? Why would they stow his body in such strange circumstances? And what is the meaning of his last enigmatic message, directing his brother to Mystery Hills, a place of which no one has ever heard? Crime and cookery continue to collide as Prudence and her long-suffering sidekick, granddaughter Suki, get drawn into another mystifying murder... The first in this new series is *The Last Supper* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery TP \$32.99

The Bandit Queens

Shroff, Parini

For Geeta, life as a widow is more peaceful than life as a wife... Until the other women in her village decide they want to be widows, too. Geeta is believed to have killed her vanished husband – a rumour, she hasn't bothered trying to correct, because a reputation like that can keep a single woman safe in rural India. But when she's approached for help in ridding another wife of her abusive drunk of a husband, her reluctant agreement sets in motion a chain of events that will change the lives of all the women in the village... A darkly-irreverent and fresh take on a feminist revenge thriller, perfect for readers of *My Sister the Serial*

Killer (PBK, \$19.99). 'Tender, unpredictable, brimming with laugh-out-loud moments' – *Téa Obrecht*, author of *The Tiger's Wife*.

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Fallout

Huldar & Freyja series

Sigurdardottir, Yrsa

On a cold day in Reykjavik, a baby goes missing from her pram. When the child's blanket washes up on the beach, and the mother is found dead, everyone's worst fears seem to have been realised. Eleven years later, and detective Huldar and child psychologist Freyja are now working in the same police building, on the same team. Freyja believes that personal and professional relationships must remain separate, however hard that may be. But when a woman's dismembered body is found in a deserted car, her head missing, and Freyja and Huldar find themselves working on the same case, the secrecy around their affair threatens to crack. And when Freyja is accused of a serious breach of police protocol, will Huldar be able to help her? Meanwhile, their search to identify the body takes the case back into secrets of the past, and the unspoken crimes that bind three separate families.

Noir PBK \$22.99

Theft of an Idol

Eye of Isis mysteries

Stabenow, Dana

From the palaces of Alexandria reigns Cleopatra – seventh of her name, avatar of the goddess Isis, ruler of the Kingdom of Egypt – surrounded by riches untold. Through the streets of her great city bustle scholars and sailors, politicians, and priests. For those with the means, it is a comfortable life. But not all are invited to share in the wealth of Egypt's first city. For the peasants and farmers, their lives lie in the hands of the gods and the harvest. Unless, that is, they can find other methods to feed their families. Other, less savoury methods. When Herminia, one of Alexandria's most beloved actresses, disappears on the eve of a great performance, Cleopatra sets Tetisheri, her Eye, to investigate. In her search for the truth, Tetisheri will uncover a mystery that will take her to the city's darkest corners... The first of these compelling ancient-Egyptian mysteries is *Death of an Eye* (PBK, \$22.99).

Historical mystery TP \$32.99

The Kind Worth Saving

Swanson, Peter

'Do you remember me?' she asked, after stepping into my office. When private detective and former teacher Henry Kimball is hired to investigate an ex-pupil's cheating husband, he senses all is not quite what it seems; and he knows it, he's gotten far too close to the other woman. As the case gets ever stranger, he turns to the only person he can trust, Lily Kintner, someone with dark secrets of her own... The unputdownable sequel to the bestselling *The Kind Worth Killing* (PBK, \$22.99) – complete with its ingenious clockwork-like plot, and twists, aplenty...

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

A Tempest at Sea

Lady Sherlock mysteries

Thomas, Sherry

After feigning her own death in Cornwall to escape from Moriarty's perilous attention, Charlotte Holmes goes into hiding. But then she receives a tempting offer: Find a dossier the crown is desperately seeking, and she might be able to go back to a normal life. Her search leads her aboard the RMS *Providence*. But on the night Charlotte makes her move to retrieve the dossier, in the midst of a terrifying storm in the Bay of Biscay, a brutal murder takes place on the ship. Instead of solving the crime, as she is accustomed to doing, Charlotte must take care not to be embroiled in this investigation, lest it become known to those who harbor ill intentions that Sherlock Holmes is abroad, and still very much alive.

Sherlockiana TP \$37.95

Betrayal in the Cotswolds

Cotswolds mysteries

Tope, Rebecca

A handsome, if slightly shabby, stone house in Upper Oddington is home to Umberto Kingly, as well as his three dogs, and will be Thea Slocombe's latest house-sitting assignment. Without even a local shop, Thea expects the location to be one of her quietest, until the serene atmosphere is shattered with a fatal hit-and-run. The ensuing high-profile police investigation plunges Thea deep into the victim's complicated family dynamics and the rift that had already torn it apart. She cannot help wondering if the reverberations of scandal have led to a deliberate and murderous assault.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder Isn't Easy:

The Forensics of Agatha Christie

Valentine, Carla

A study of the forensics of Agatha Christie, from author and pathologist, Carla Valentine. While other children were devouring the works of Enid Blyton and Beatrix Potter, Carla Valentine was poring through the pages of Agatha Christie novels – and that early fascination led to her job as a pathology technician, working in mortuaries and trained in forensics. Nearly every Agatha Christie story involves one – or more commonly several – dead bodies, and for a young Carla, a curious child, already fascinated with biology, these stories and these bodies were perfect puzzles. Of course, Agatha, herself, didn't talk of 'forensics' – which, in the way we use it, now; but each tale, she tells, twists and turns with her expert weave of human observation, ingenuity and genuine science of the era. Through the medium of the 'whodunit', Agatha Christie was a pioneer of forensic science; and, in *Murder Isn't Easy*, Carla illuminates all of the knowledge of one of our most beloved authors.

Crime reference PBK \$24.99

The Three Dahlias

Watson, Katy

Three rival actresses team up to solve a murder at the stately home of the author who made them famous – only to discover the solution lies in the stories themselves.

In attendance: the VIP fans, staying at Aldermere; the fan club president turned convention organiser; the team behind the newest movie adaptation of Davenport's books; the Davenport family themselves – and the three actresses famous for portraying Lettice's 1930s' detective, Dahlia Lively. National treasure Rosalind King, from the original movies. TV Dahlia for 13 seasons, Caro Hooper. And ex-child star Posy Starling, fresh out of the fame wilderness (and rehab) to take on the Dahlia mantle, for the new movie. Each actress has her own interpretation of the character – but this English summer weekend they will have to put aside their differences, as the crimes at Aldermere turns anything but cosy. When fictional death turns into real bodies, can the three Dahlias find the answers to the murders among the fans, the film crew, the family – or even in Lettice's books, themselves? A contemporary mystery with a Golden Age feel, perfect for fans of Agatha Christie and Jessica Fellowes.

Mystery PBK \$22.9

The Shop on Royal Street

Royal Street series

White, Karen

After a difficult detour on her road to adulthood, Nola Trenholm is looking to begin anew, in New Orleans. What better way to start her future, than with her first house? But the historic fixer-upper she buys comes with even more work than she anticipated when the house's previous occupants don't seem to be ready to depart. Although, she can't communicate with ghosts like her stepmother can, luckily Nola knows someone in New Orleans who is able to – even, if he's the last person on earth she wants anything to do with ever again. Beau Ryan comes with his own dark past – a past that involves the disappearance of his sister and parents during Hurricane Katrina – and he's connected to the unsolved murder of a woman who once lived in the old Creole cottage Nola is determined to make her own... whether the resident restless spirits agree, or not. The first book in a spinoff series of White's Tradd Street series.

Mystery TP \$37.95

City on Fire

City on Fire series

Winslow, Don

Two criminal empires, together, control all of New England. Until a beautiful modern-day Helen of Troy comes between the Irish and the Italians – launching a war that will see them kill each other, destroy an alliance, and set a city on fire. Danny Ryan yearns for a more 'legit' life and a place in the sun. But as the bloody conflict stacks body on body, and brother turns against brother, Danny has to rise above himself. To save the friends he loves like family and the family he has sworn to protect, he becomes a leader, a ruthless strategist, and a master of a treacherous game in which the winners live, and the losers die. From the gritty streets of Providence to the glittering screens of Hollywood to the golden casinos of Las Vegas, Danny Ryan will forge a dynasty. The first in a new series.

Thriller PBK \$22.99