

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Catalogue May 2023

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J P Pomare
Joan Sauers
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Jacqueline Winspear
... and many others.

All the books in this catalogue are new books due for release in **May 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

Death Under a Little Sky **Abell, Stig**

For years, Jake Jackson has been a high-flying detective in London. But then one day he receives a letter from his reclusive uncle – he has left Jake his property in the middle of the countryside. For Jake, it is the perfect opportunity for a fresh start. At first, life in the middle of nowhere is everything Jake could wish for. His new home is beautiful, his surroundings are stunning, and he enjoys getting back to nature. But then, what starts as a fun village treasure hunt turns deadly, when a young woman's bones are discovered. And Jake is thrust once again into the role of detective, as he tries to unearth a dangerous killer in this most unlikely of settings.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Girl in the Yellow Dress

Henry Johnstone mysteries

Adams, Jane A

1930, Leicestershire. Everyone in the quiet market town of East Harborough is convinced that local miscreant Brady Brewer is responsible for the brutal murder of Sarah Downham. Despite Brewer's protestations of innocence, and his sister's pleas for help from DCI Henry Johnstone and DS Mickey Hitchens, he is convicted and hanged. Two weeks after the hanging, a farmworker finds the body of another young woman less than a mile from where Sarah was found – and there are other disturbing similarities between the two murders. Is a copycat killer on the loose, or was Brewer innocent after all? Where is the missing yellow dress that Sarah wore, the night she was murdered? As the locals close ranks, Henry and Mickey soon discover that reputations – and the truth – are all on the line...

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

A Kind of Anger

Penguin Modern Classics

Ambler, Eric

Lucia Bernardi was last seen driving a car, at top speed, away from a villa – and the body of her murdered Iraqi lover – in Switzerland. Now-disgraced journalist Piet Maas has been sent to find her in the south of France. When he does, he must decide whether to get the scoop of his lifetime – or to plunge into ever more dangerous waters with her. A high-octane story – from the great Eric Ambler – of a journalist on the run, in the south of France. Featuring a cast of fraudsters, hitmen and Kurdish revolutionaries, *A Kind of Anger* is a classic thriller from the father of the genre.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Passage of Arms

Penguin Modern Classics

Ambler, Eric

Girija Krishnan, an Indian clerk, sees the opportunity of his lifetime when he stumbles on a lost cache of arms hidden in the Malayan

jungle. If he can find a buyer for the weapons, he will be able to achieve his lifelong dream of creating his own bus company. But the risks are as high as the rewards, as the arms draw ever more people into their dangerous orbit: an entrepreneurial trio of Chinese brothers, a sleazy British former soldier, and a naive American couple who find themselves horribly out of their depth. Following the arms as they travel from the jungle to Singapore to Indonesia, Ambler's classic thriller is a *tour de force* of psychological and political insight, and winner of the 1959 Gold Dagger award.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Light of Day

Penguin Modern Classics

Ambler, Eric

Arthur Abdel Simpson is a failed journalist and soon-to-be failed thief, embittered by memories of his unhappy childhood in England and eking out a living in Athens. When he spots a newly arrived tourist at the airport, he offers his services as a private driver and sees an easy chance to make some money by illicit means. But the out-matched Simpson soon finds himself embroiled in blackmail and driving a highly suspicious car to Istanbul. When he is stopped by the Turkish police, it seems his luck can't get any worse – but this is just the beginning... Adapted as the classic film *Topkapi* and featuring one of literature's greatest heist scenes, *The Light of Day* is a heart-stopping and highly enjoyable novel from the father of the spy thriller.

Suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

Round Up the Usual Peacocks

Meg Langslow mysteries

Andrews, Donna

Kevin, Meg's cyber-savvy nephew who lives in the basement, comes to her with a problem. He's become involved as the techie for a true-crime podcast, one that focuses on Virginia cold cases and unsolved crimes. And he thinks their podcast has hit a nerve with someone... one of the podcast team has had a brush with death that Kevin thinks was an attempted murder, not an accident. Kevin rather sheepishly asks for Meg's help in checking out the people involved in a couple of the cases. 'Given your ability to find out stuff online, why do you need *my* help?' she asks. 'Um... because I've already done everything I can online. This'll take going around and *talking* to people,' he exclaims, with visible horror. 'In person!' Not his thing. And no, it can't wait until after the wedding, because he's afraid whoever's after them might take advantage of the chaos of the wedding at Trinity or the reception at Meg and Michael's house to strike again. So, on top of everything she's doing to round up vendors and supplies, and take care of

demanding out-of-town guests, Meg must hunt down the surviving suspects from three relatively local cold cases so she can figure out if they have it in for the podcasters. Could there be a connection to a musician on the brink of stardom who disappeared, two decades ago, and hasn't been seen since?

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Aunt Dimity and the Enchanted Cottage

Aunt Dimity mysteries

Atherton, Nancy

It's early May in the small English village of Finch, and the air is crackling with excitement: a newcomer is about to move into Pussywillows, a riverside cottage with a romantic reputation. Will the cottage's newest resident prove, yet again, its enchanting ability to match make? But when Crispin Windle arrives, no one knows what to make of him: seemingly a loner, he repels every welcoming gesture and appears altogether uninterested in being a part of the community. Soon, the townspeople have all but dismissed him. Only Lori and Tommy Prescott, a young army veteran who recently moved to Finch, refuse to give up. They orchestrate a chance meeting that leads to a startling discovery: a set of overgrown ruins. They are, Aunt Dimity shares, the remains of a Victorian woollen mill that once brought prosperity to Finch. As the three explore, they stumble upon the unmarked graves of children who died working at the mill. Heartbroken, Lori, Tommy, and Mr Windle get to work on the seemingly impossible task of identifying the children to give them a proper burial. And, as Mr Windle works tirelessly to name the forgotten children, he slowly begins to open up – giving the romantic cottage a chance to heal his heart as well.

Mystery TP \$39.95

Shrines of Gaiety **Atkinson, Kate**

1926, and in a country still recovering from the Great War, London has become the focus for a delirious new nightlife. In the clubs of Soho, peers of the realm rub shoulders with starlets, foreign dignitaries with gangsters, and girls sell dances for a shilling a time. At the heart of this glittering world is notorious Nellie Coker, ruthless but also ambitious to advance her six children, including the enigmatic eldest, Niven – whose character has been forged in the crucible of the Somme. But success breeds enemies, and Nellie's empire faces threats from without and within. For beneath the dazzle of Soho's gaiety, there is a dark underbelly, a world in which it is all too easy to become lost. We love Atkinson's books – and, as always, recommend this!

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

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Make Me Clean Baker, Tina

She will leave your surfaces sparkling. But she may well leave you dead... Maria is a good woman and a good cleaner. She cleans for Elsie, the funny old bird who's losing her marbles, with the terrible husband. She cleans for Brian, the sweet man with the terrible boss. She cleans for the mysterious Mr Balogan, with the terrible neighbours. If you're thinking of hiring her, you should probably know that Maria might have killed the terrible husband, the terrible boss and the terrible neighbours. She may also have murdered the man she loved. She didn't set out to kill anyone, of course, but her clients have hired her to clean up their lives, and she takes her job seriously – not to mention how much happier they all are now. The trouble is, murder can't be washed out. You can only sweep it under the carpet, and pray no one looks too closely... Darkly funny and completely gripping from the first page to the last, this is one thriller you won't be able to scrub from your mind. Perfect for fans of *My Sister the Serial Killer* (PBK, \$19.99).

Noir TP \$32.99

The Lock-Up

Strafford & Quirke mysteries
Banville, John
1950s' Dublin. The body of a young woman is discovered, in a lock-up garage in the city – an apparent suicide. But pathologist Dr Quirke and Detective Inspector Strafford soon suspect foul play. The victim's sister, a newspaper reporter from London, returns to Dublin to join the two men in their quest to uncover the truth. But, as they explore her links to a wealthy German family in County Wicklow, and to investigative work she may have been doing in Israel, they are confronted with an ever-deepening mystery. With relations between the two men increasingly strained, and their investigation taking them back to the final days of the Second World War, can they join the pieces of a hidden puzzle? Strafford and Quirke return with their most troubling case yet, in the sequel to *Snow* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery TP \$32.99

Back to the Dirt Bill, Frank

Miles is a Vietnam veteran who's worried he's going to lose his job – and, with it, his tenuous grasp on a stable life – over a fight with a co-worker. His PTSD and struggles to control his steroid-fuelled violent tendencies also complicate his relationship with his girlfriend, Shelby, a stripper who only occasionally displays the proverbial heart of gold. She's certainly kinder and more generous than her brother, Wylie, who has been implicated in the deaths of two local Oxy dealers and is currently on the run. When Wylie kidnaps Shelby and holes up in Miles' country lair, it all threatens to become a bit too much for Miles.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

Cinnamon Twisted

Deputy Donut mysteries
Bolton, Ginger
An ordinary late-spring afternoon for Deputy Donut Café owner Emily Westhill becomes one that will remain baked into

her memory from the moment a customer gives Emily's cat a toy donut and then flees Deputy Donut, dropping an earring in her panic. Concerned about the customer, Emily attempts to return the earring... only, this time, the customer doesn't have a pulse. Things get more complicated when an ambitious police detective finds the earring and an unsealed envelope addressed to Emily at the murder scene. The envelope contains a cryptic letter and a fading photograph of a woman standing in front of Emily's house. Why did the customer grab her cinnamon twists and flee Deputy Donut? With the detective eying Emily as a prime suspect, Emily is determined to find out. But once a donut-shaped murder weapon is discovered in her own backyard, Emily has no time to lose as she pulls apart the connection between the victim and the strange history of her property – while stopping the real culprit from ensuring her fate is done and sugar dusted...

Mystery TP \$37.95

Agent Seventeen

Last Man Standing series
Brownlow, John
One hundred years. Seventeen assassins. One hell of a ride. Call me Seventeen. I have no other name, not any more. Sixteen killers have done this job before me. Officially, I don't exist, but every government uses me. I'm the most feared hitman in the world. But nobody gets to do this job for long. Because to be the best, you must beat the best, and there are rivals on my tail. My days are numbered. But until then, it's one hell of a ride. A larger-than-life, non-stop thriller for fans of *I Am Pilgrim* and Gregg Hurwitz.

Suspense PBK \$22.99

Golden Cargoes

Ursula Blanchard mysteries
Buckley, Fiona
May 1589. Being the queen's half-sister and occasional secret agent can take its toll, which is why Ursula Stannard is looking forward to the simple pleasure of attending the wedding of her tenant's daughter. But on arrival, Arabella the bride-to-be is refusing to marry her intended. Ursula tries to reason with Arabella on behalf of her mother, Joan Mercer, but she senses all is not well with her betrothed, or within the Mercer household. The family have gold and jewels beyond their means, and Ursula suspects they may not have gained such riches legally. When the strangled corpse of local herbalist and suspected witch is found, and Ursula learns through her connections at Court that English vessels are being plundered by a trio of mysterious ships – she once again takes on the mantle of secret agent. With someone willing to kill to protect their secrets and a bounty of golden cargo at stake, Ursula is in danger! Can she uncover the culprits, save the reluctant bride, and remain unscathed, herself?

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

The Master of Mysteries

Library of Congress Crime Classics
Burgess, Gelett
Packed with two dozen stories, *The Master of Mysteries* offers a 20th-century, mystical twist on the classic consulting detective genre made popular by Sir Arthur Conan

Doyle. With Astro, the self-proclaimed seer of secrets, author Gelett Burgess gives us a detective just as observant and brilliant as Sherlock Holmes – but with feelings. *Astro, the Seer of Secrets, and his lovely assistant, Valeska, sound more like a magic act than a private detection team.*

Astro hides his powers of observation and reasoning beneath a turban and a cape, pretending to read palms and consult crystals while in fact keenly observing details that most people – police included – miss. Valeska, his beautiful blonde protégée, assists Astro with his investigations, all the while honing her own skills. Called upon by believers and sceptics, both, they adeptly recover what is missing – a rare Shakespeare folio, a missing husband, a kidnapped child – while also solving actual murders. But it is their burgeoning romance, and their mutual zeal to work pro bono where matters of the heart are at stake, which set this crime-solving duo apart.

Classic mystery TP \$33.95

Four Charming Spells

Kitchen Witch mysteries
Cahoon, Lynn
Before Mia Malone can sip tea at Time for a Cuppa, the charming new shop in Magic Springs, Idaho, her life changes course in downright supernatural ways. First, her blossoming catering business and cooking school get a boost with the addition of an enchanting cake decorator. Then she catches the attention of the tea shop owner herself, local coven member Mahogany Medford, who's set on immersing Mia in a twisted mystery that appears all but unsolvable without a special kind of help... Still reeling from the recent loss of her mother and believing there was more to the abrupt death, Mahogany urges Mia to cast light on the truth. But old secrets might come back to haunt her in an investigation that demands conjuring up phantoms from the past on the property of Mia's Morsels. Now, wearing Gran's protective stone and empowered by a circle of trusted confidants, Mia must reveal who – or what – killed Ms Medford as another deadly surprise brews!

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Counterfeit

Chen, Kirstin
Tect Ava: rule-abiding lawyer who has kicked all of life's boxes. She's married to a successful surgeon and has just taken an indefinite career break to raise her adorable toddler. A picture-perfect life. Meet Winnie: Ava's old college roommate. Once awkward, quiet and apparently academically challenged, she left Stanford in a shroud of scandal. But, now, she is charismatic, wealthy and has returned to town dripping in designer accessories. An actual perfect life. When the two women bump into one another at a local coffee shop, it seems like fate has intervened: Winnie's newfound success is courtesy of a shady business and she needs a favour; Ava is realising she is not built for the stay-at-home life. But what starts as one favour turns into two, then three, and soon Ava is in far deeper than she ever imagined. Now, Ava has to make the ultimate decision: cut and run, or risk it all?

Mystery PBK \$24.99

4.50 from Paddington

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
Two trains. Side by side for a brief moment. In that moment, a murder. Elspeth McGillicuddy is positive she witnessed a man strangling a woman to death. But it was only the merest glimpse through a carriage window as the trains drew parallel. She is the only witness, there are no suspects, and, most importantly, there is no corpse. Who, apart from her friend Jane Marple, would take her seriously? Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

A Murder Is Announced

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
An ordinary village. A shocking announcement. One morning the villagers of Chipping Cleghorn wake to find a strange notice in their papers: *'A murder is announced and will take place on Friday, October 29th, at Little Paddocks at 6:30pm.'* Suspecting this is just a joke, they gather for some evening entertainment. Then a gunshot is heard. In desperation, the police turn to an old lady whose hobbies are gardening, gossiping – and solving murders. After all, old ladies know better than anyone exactly what goes on in quiet English villages... Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

A Pocket Full of Rye

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
A wealthy family. A fatal cup of tea. Rex Fortescue was enjoying his morning cup of tea when he met his untimely end. Suspicious naturally turn to his wife. He was filthy rich, after all. Then she too is found dead. Strange clues have Scotland Yard's finest minds scratching their heads. Poisoned marmalade. Dead blackbirds. A victim found with a pocketful of rye. It's up to Jane Marple to put the pieces of this strange puzzle together... Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

The Moving Finger

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
A malicious letter. A tragic death. A village filled with suspects. Nothing ever happens in the sleepy village of Lymstock. Until letters accusing the villagers of unspeakable acts start to appear. They try to dismiss them as a cruel hoax, but then one of the recipients is found dead. The letter next to her body reads simply, 'I can't go on.' As fear spreads among the villagers, Jane Marple must uncover who is writing these letters – before anyone else is hurt. Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

The Murder at the Vicarage

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
A quiet English village. A shocking murder. An unlikely detective. Nobody liked Colonel Protheroe. So, when he's found dead in the vicarage study, there's no absence of suspects in the seemingly peaceful village of St Mary

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Mead. In fact, Jane Marple can think of at least seven. As gossip abounds in the parlours and kitchens of the parish, everyone becomes an amateur detective. The police dismiss her as a prying busybody, but only the ingenious Miss Marple can uncover the truth... Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.
Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

They Do It with Mirrors

Miss Marple mysteries
Christie, Agatha
A shocking crime. A mansion filled with suspects. Ruth Van Rydock can't shake the feeling that something terrible is going to happen to her sister at Stonyghates house. Her old school friend Jane Marple decides it's time to pay a visit. But this grand Victorian mansion isn't just a family home – it's also a correctional facility for wayward young men. And when something terrible does indeed happen, Miss Marple must face her most eccentric cast of suspects, yet. Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.
Christie (reissue) HC \$32.99

Magic in the Weave

Gabriel Taverner mysteries
Glare, Alys
October 1604. Plague has hit London, and the theatres are closed. But the capital's loss is Plymouth's gain, when a London theatre troupe, the Company, arrive on their 'Plague Tour'. Country physician Gabriel Taverner is both bewitched and unnerved by the Company's sexually-charged staging of *Othello*. The play thrums with magic and witchcraft – perilous subjects, with the King's deadly spies lurking around every corner. When Gabriel's good friend, Conrion Theophilus Davey, tells him of a dangerous, whispered conversation overheard during a brief break, suggesting one of the cast fled London in possession of a terrible secret, Gabriel is even more relieved the Company will soon be on their way. But then one of the actors collapses, and Gabriel finds himself caught in a waking nightmare, where nothing is as it appears. Death is stalking the Company – but how can Gabriel hope to catch a cold-blooded killer, if he can't even trust the evidence of his own eyes?
Historical mystery TP \$42.95

Mad Money

Hard Case Crime
Collins, Max Allan
Nolan must rob every store in a mall in one night – or his girlfriend dies. Nolan and Jon have put their lives of crime behind them – but when a cruel adversary from their past resurfaces, they're forced back into the heist game with a brutal ultimatum: pull off an insanely ambitious overnight robbery or Nolan's kidnapped lover won't live to see the morning. Appearing in bookstores for the first time in 35 years, this is Nolan's biggest and deadliest job; *Mad Money* also features – for the first time ever, in the same volume – the bonus full-length novel *Mourn the Living*, offering a look back at Nolan's early years as a professional thief. *We expect to have this edition of Mad Money from our Australian distributors later this year, at a lower price.*
Hardboiled TP \$33.95

Witch Way Out

Full Moon mysteries
Conte, Gate
When Violet Mooney's co-worker and fellow witch calls to say that their Connecticut crystals shop, The Full Moon, has been selected as a vendor at the Spring Equinox Fair, it's welcome news. Ever since she learned about her magickal ancestry, Violet has been struggling to learn her craft while staying out of trouble. It's no easy feat when her family seems to be the target of a power grab within the realm, putting the entire magickal community on edge – and setting Violet on a mission... With her investigation conjuring more questions than answers, Violet tries to focus on the Fair, which is being run by one of her personal heroes. Horatio Hale is a proponent of ethical crystal mining, but apparently not everyone is a fan. Violet is shocked when she goes to attend a meeting and finds Horatio dead – with an axe stuck in his chest. To uncover the motives behind the mayhem in both the mortal and magickal worlds, Violet is going to need more than a crystal ball. And it'll take all the powers she's been honing – plus some she didn't know she had – to save herself...
Mystery PBK \$24.99

The Wrong Good Deed

Gooney, Caroline B
Until this Sunday, Muffin never looked back. *1964.* Christophine is 20 years old, newly married, and determined to make a home and a life for her and her husband, Tommy. But when Christophine discovers Tommy and his friends on the verge of committing a horrible crime, she does what she has to do to stop them. Afterwards, she knows she can't ever go home again – so, she disappears... until this Sunday. *Fifty years later:* When Clemmie's neighbour, Muffin, drags her from Sunday morning service at Trinity Hill Church – convinced that the man she's just spotted, across the aisle, is a dangerous figure from her past – at first, Clemmie thinks she's being dramatic. But as Muffin reveals to Clemmie what happened in the middle of a field in South Carolina, five decades ago, Clemmie realises her friend has been keeping dark secrets – just as Clemmie herself has. And the secrets that belong to both women are not the kind that can be revealed without dire consequences...
Mystery TP \$37.95

The Affair at Little Wokeham

Inspector French mysteries,
Collins Crime Club
Grofts, Freeman Wills
Money – or lack of it – can be, to certain members of society, a powerful motive for murder. Two sisters and a brother who were to share equally in their uncle's fortune had, each in their own way, urgent reasons for wanting money. But it was a comparative outsider – who also stood to benefit from the estate through his wife's inheritance – who contemplates the murder of their uncle. In great financial difficulty, his desperation urges him on to plan the crime with infinite care. An unexpected chance leads to an accomplice who provides a sound alibi, upon whose silence he can rely. As *The Affair*

at *Little Wokeham* unfolds, Chief Inspector French enters upon the scene and, through his painstaking investigation, the mystery is unravelled.
Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

The Magnolia Palace

Davis, Fiona
Eight months after losing her mother in the Spanish flu outbreak of 1919, 21-year-old Lillian Carter's life has completely fallen apart. For the past six years, under the moniker Angelica, Lillian was one of the most sought-after artists' models in New York City, with statues based on her figure gracing landmarks from the Plaza Hotel to the Brooklyn Bridge. But with her mother gone, a grieving Lillian is rudderless and desperate – the work has dried up and a looming scandal has left her entirely without a safe haven. So, when she stumbles upon an employment opportunity at the Frick mansion – a building that, ironically, bears her own visage – Lillian jumps at the chance. But the longer she works as a private secretary to the imperious and demanding Helen Frick, the daughter and heiress of industrialist and art patron Henry Clay Frick, the more deeply her life gets intertwined with that of the family – pulling her into a tangled web of romantic trysts, stolen jewels, and family drama that runs so deep, the stakes just may be life or death. Nearly 50 years later, mod, English model Veronica Weber has her own chance to make her career – and with it, earn the money she needs to support her family back home – within the walls of the former Frick residence, now converted into one of New York City's most impressive museums. But when she – along with a charming intern/budding art curator named Joshua – is dismissed from the Vogue shoot taking place at the Frick Collection, she chances upon a series of hidden messages in the museum: messages that will lead her and Joshua on a hunt that could not only solve Veronica's financial woes, but could finally reveal the truth behind a decades-old murder in the infamous Frick family.
Historical mystery TP \$27.99

The Diva Says Cheesecake!

Domestic Diva mysteries
Davis, Krista
Old Town's midsummer festivities are getting a tasty addition this year. To coincide with a public performance of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Bobbie Sue Bodo, the Queen of Cheesecake, has hired Sophie to organise a dinner with a dessert buffet on the waterfront. Bobbie Sue's home-grown company is thriving, and since her baking dish overflowed, she wants to reward her employees. Bobbie Sue has only one menu demand: *no cheesecake!* But her specialty isn't the only thing missing from the evening – Tate, Bobbie Sue's husband, is too, much to her annoyance. Next morning, however, Tate's dead body is discovered. Bobbie Sue insists she didn't kick her spouse to the curb, and begs for Sophie's help finding the real killer. Digging in, Sophie discovers an assortment of Old Town locals who all had reason to want a piece of Tate. Can she gather together the crumbs the killer left behind in time to prevent a second helping of murder?
Mystery TP \$37.95

The Colour Storm

Dibben, Damian
Artists flock to Renaissance Venice for wealth, fame, and revolutionary colour. Yet, for Giorgione 'Zorzo' Barbarelli, competition is fierce and debts are mounting. Then Zorzo hears of a brand new pigment, owned by merchant Jakob Fugger, which could change his fate. To get closer to Fugger, Zorzo befriends his wife, Sybille. Soon, he's lost – enchanted by her – but acting on his feelings would put him in huge danger. As water levels rise and the plague creeps closer, Zorzo isn't sure whom he can trust. Will Sybille be the key to Zorzo's success, or the reason for his downfall? Enter the world of Renaissance Venice, where the competition for fame and fortune can mean life or death, in this immersive novel of art and the Inquisition.
Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Four Parties and a Funeral

Catering Hall mysteries
DiRico, Maria
The June events schedule at Belle View is busting out all over – proms, graduations, and of course, weddings. There are unexpected bookings too, including a casting call for the pilot of Dons of Ditmars Boulevard. But soon, Mia's fears about the cheesy reality show are confirmed... Belle View quickly becomes the site of a sea of wannabe goombahs and phony girlfriends, and some of Mia's friends insist on getting in on the action. The production company owner and his executive producer ex-wife – who's also very minor British royalty – have assembled a motley crew that does as much infighting and backstabbing as the on-screen 'talent'. Even so, it's a shock when a dead body is found in the pool house of a local mansion rented by the show... Murder might boost the ratings. But Mia intends to make sure the killer gets jail time, not airtime...
Mystery PBK \$24.99

Flat White Fatality

Ground Rules mysteries
Duncan, Emmeline
To top off her coffee business, Sage is now helping out with her boyfriend Bax's gaming company. Conveniently for Sage, it's located next door to her Ground Rules Roastery. That makes it easy for her to pitch in with Bax's employee team-building event. The plan is to boost morale with a scavenger hunt. And it seems to be going well – until Robbie, a programmer known for being a prankster, turns up dead in Sage's roastery... There are two suspects, so far: Sage, who has no idea how the victim ended up in her space; and Bax, who was allegedly spotted arguing with Robbie the day before. But could it be a disgruntled employee? After all, Robbie's sense of humour was known to have rubbed some co-workers the wrong way. Now, it's up to Sage to find the culprit – before another life grinds to a halt.
Mystery TP \$37.95

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The Edinburgh Mystery and Other Tales of Scottish Crime

British Library Crime Classics, anthology
Edwards, Martin (editor)
From the Highlands to the borders, the bustling cities to the remote isles in cold seas, the unique landscapes and locales of Scotland have long inspired writers of the very best Golden Age mysteries. Beginning with the adventures of Sherlock Holmes from Edinburgh-born Arthur Conan Doyle, this new collection includes the ingenious scientific mysteries of Anthony Wynne, the dark and sardonic work of Margot Bennett and contributions from neglected yet brilliant authors, such as Scobie Mackenzie and R T Campbell. 'Readers who know Scotland will glow with recognition; those who don't will want to pack their bags and maybe a gun.' – *Kirkus Reviews*.
Classic mystery TP \$33.95

Murder at the Victoria and Albert Museum

Museum mysteries
Eldridge, Jim
London, 1899. Queen Victoria lays the foundation stone on the site of a new museum being built, which she names as The Victoria and Albert Museum. Shortly after, Daniel Wilson and Abigail Fenton are called to the site because the dead body of a man, a curator of the South Kensington museum, has been found in one of the trenches. The Queen is determined that nothing will sully the new museum, and by association her beloved Albert's legacy. But the more Wilson and Fenton dig, the more they discover other potential motives for Page's murder, some with potentially explosive implications for the Royals and the Government. They will have to tread carefully as someone is determined that they will not uncover any more...
Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

The Last Girl to Die Fields, Helen

In search of a new life, 17-year-old Adriana Clark's family moves to the ancient, ocean-battered Isle of Mull, far off the coast of Scotland. Then she goes missing. Faced with hostile locals and indifferent police, her desperate parents turn to private investigator Sadie Levesque. Sadie is the best at what she does. But when she finds Adriana's body in a cliff-side cave, a seaweed crown carefully arranged on her head, she knows she's dealing with something she's never encountered before. The deeper she digs into the island's secrets, the closer danger creeps – and the more urgent her quest to find the killer grows. Because what if Adriana is not the last girl to die?
Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

A Bride's Guide to Marriage and Murder

Countess of Harleigh mysteries
Freeman, Dianne
On the eve of her marriage to George Hazelton, Frances has a great deal more on her mind, than flowers and seating arrangements. The Connors and the Bainbridges, two families of American

robber barons, have taken up residence in London, and their bitter rivalry is spilling over into the highest social circles. At the request of her brother, Alonzo, who is quite taken with Miss Madeline Connor, Frances has invited the Connor family to her wedding. Meanwhile, Frances' mother has invited Mr Bainbridge, and Frances fears the wedding may end up being newspaper-worthy for all the wrong reasons. On the day, itself, Frances is relieved to note that Madeline's father is not among the guests assembled at the church. The reason for his absence, however, turns out to be most unfortunate: Mr Connor is found murdered in his home. More shocking still, Alonzo is caught at the scene, holding the murder weapon. Powerful and ruthless, Connor appears to have amassed a wealth of enemies alongside his fortune. Frances and George agree to put their wedding trip on hold to try and clear Alonzo's name. But there are secrets to sift through, not just in the Bainbridge and Connor families, but also in their own. And with a killer determined to evade discovery at any cost – even if it means taking another life – Frances' first days as a newlywed will be perilous, indeed...
Historical mystery TP \$37.95

Fools Die on Friday

Hard Case Crime, Cool & Lam mysteries
Gardner, Erle Stanley
A lost classic of detective fiction, featuring private eyes Donald Lam (once played by Frank Sinatra!) and Bertha Cool. Hired to prevent a socialite from poisoning her husband, Donald Lam dreams up an ingenious scheme involving a carton of anchovy paste and a fictitious national ad campaign. But when the whole thing backfires spectacularly and bodies, witnesses, and suspects start piling up, it'll take every ounce of Donald's brainpower and Bertha's bruising ruthlessness to keep the police at bay – and a killer from getting away with murder. 'About the best of the series... perhaps, since the very first.' – *Raymond Chandler*.
Hardboiled PBK \$19.99

The Old Woman with the Knife Gi, Byeong-mo

At 65, Hornclaw is beginning to slow down. She lives modestly in a small apartment, with only her aging dog, a rescue named Deadweight, to keep her company. There are expectations for people her age – that she'll retire and live out the rest of her days quietly. But Hornclaw is not like other people. She is an assassin. Double-crossers, corporate enemies, cheating spouses – for the past four decades, Hornclaw has killed them all with ruthless efficiency, and the less she's known about her targets, the better. But now, nearing the end of her career, she has just slipped up. An injury leads her to an unexpected connection with a doctor and his family. But emotions, for an assassin, are a dangerous proposition. As Hornclaw's world closes in, this final chapter in her career may also mark her own bloody end. A sensation in South Korea, now translated into English.
Thriller PBK \$22.99

The Socialite's Guide to Murder

Pinnacle Hotel mysteries
Golden, S K
It's 1958 and Evelyn Elizabeth Grace Murphy has not left the Pinnacle Hotel in 14 months. She suffers from agoraphobia, and what's more, it's her father's hotel, and everything she needs is there. Evelyn's always been good at finding things, she discovered her mother dead in a Manhattan alleyway, 15 years earlier. Now, she's finding trouble inside her sanctuary. At a party for artist Billie Bell, his newest work is stolen, and Evelyn's fake boyfriend (and real best friend), movie star Henry Fox, is accused of the theft. But just as Evelyn sets out to prove Henry's innocence, she finds Billie Bell dead. The murder weapon links the crime to the hotel's chief of security. But why would he use a knife with his initials on the handle? With her beloved home in disarray, Evelyn joins up with hotel employee (and her secret crush) Mac Cooper to get to the bottom of the case. As Mac picks locks and Evelyn snoops around the hotel, they discover the walls around them contain more secrets than they previously knew. Now, Evelyn must force herself to leave the hotel to follow the clues – but when she and Mac set off to chase a lead, their car crashes and they barely escape with their lives. Someone snipped Evelyn's brake lines... and, now, the stakes have become dangerously high. Evelyn's knack for sleuthing – and her playful imagination – are always hard at work, and she throws an elaborate party at the hotel, where every guest is a suspect. But will the killer emerge from the glamorous line up? If not, Evelyn just might find herself... next in line, for murder. The first in a series.
Historical mystery TP \$42.95

The Late Mrs Willoughby

Mr Darcy & Miss Tilney mysteries
Gray, Claudia
Catherine and Henry Tilney of Northanger Abbey are not entirely pleased to be sending their eligible, young daughter Juliet out into the world again: the last house party she attended, at the home of the Knightleys, involved a murder – which Juliet helped solve. Particularly, concerning is that she intends to visit her new friend Marianne Brandon, who's returned home to Devonshire shrouded in fresh scandal – made more potent by the news that her former suitor, the rakish Mr Willoughby, intends to take up residence at his local estate with his new bride. Elizabeth and Fitzwilliam Darcy of Pemberley are thrilled that their eldest son, Jonathan – who, like his father, has not always been the most socially adept – has been invited to stay with his former schoolmate, John Willoughby. Jonathan, himself, is decidedly less taken with the notion of having to spend extended time under the roof of his old bully, but that all changes – when he finds himself reunited with his fellow amateur sleuth, the radiant Miss Tilney. And when, shortly thereafter, Willoughby's new wife – whom he married for her fortune – dies horribly at the party meant to welcome her to town. With rumours flying and Marianne – known to be both unstable and previously jilted by the dead woman's newly-made widower – under increased suspicion, Jonathan and Juliet

must team up, once more, to uncover the murderer. But as they collect clues and close in on suspects, eerie incidents suggest that the killer may strike again, and that the pair are in far graver danger than they or their families could imagine. A suspenseful sequel to *The Murder of Mr Wickham* (PBK, \$27.99) sees Jonathan Darcy and Juliet Tilney reunited, with another mystery to solve.
Historical mystery TP \$37.95

A Pen Dipped in Poison Hall, J M

Retired schoolteachers Liz, Pat and Thelma are back at their usual table at the Thirsk Garden Centre café with a brand-new mystery to solve... Curious, white envelopes have been delivered to friends and neighbours. Inside are letters – revealing the deepest secrets they have tried to hide. As one by one, careers are ended, marriages destroyed and no one is beyond suspicion, the three friends decide enough is enough. They must take matters into their own hands before more damage is done. But as they work to uncover the truth, they begin to wonder just how far someone will go to silence this poison pen... Could a murderer be in their midst, once again? The follow-up to *A Spoonful of Murder* (PBK, \$22.99). Fans of Agatha Christie and *Midsomer Murders* will be hooked from the very first page.
Mystery TP \$32.99

The Couple at the Table

Culver Valley Crime series
Hannah, Sophie
Six couples. One luxury resort. And the perfect murder... A dream honeymoon... You've madly in love, newly married and at an exclusive resort. A nightmare dinner... You receive a note, warning you to 'Beware of the couple at the table nearest to yours'. There are five other couples. Any of them might have murder in mind. A crime that seems impossible... Who tried to warn you? Who is out to get you? And will you make it home alive?
Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Broken Light Harris, Joanne

Bernie Moon has given her life to other people: her husband, her son, her friends (who are these days, mostly online). At 19, she was full of dreams and ambitions; now almost 50, and going through the menopause, she's fading, fast. Heartbroken and hormonal, she often feels like she's losing her mind. But when a young woman is murdered in a local park, it sparks a series of childhood memories in Bernie and with them, a talent that has lain dormant most of her adult life. She promised herself she'd never think of it again. When she was a teenager, it almost destroyed her. But now she's older, could it be the power she's been missing? *Could it be the chance to, finally, make them look?*
Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Making It Write

Writer for Hire mysteries
Hechtman, Betty
As a writer for hire, Veronica Blackstone puts her keyboard to use to help others. That includes writing advertising copy for local businesses or love letters for those with

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romantic troubles, or helping people publish their memoirs. Maeve Winslow needs the latter. Maeve is the wife of a famous artist nominated for a prestigious award, and the memoir is to be released ahead of the ceremony. All of Maeve's notes are given to Veronica, but for the final few pages. There's a huge surprise within those last pages, but Maeve won't reveal it yet. When Maeve is found dead at the foot of her stairs it looks like an accident, but Veronica isn't convinced. Was the scene staged? Was Maeve murdered to keep her silent? Could clues to the surprise, and the identity of the murderer, be hidden within the notes? It's up to Veronica to figure it out and write the real story.

Mystery TP \$42.95

Whatever Gets You Through the Night Higson, Charles

Most people travel to Corfu to escape the real world for a couple of weeks. But not McIntyre. McIntyre's a fixer, specialising in getting people out of places they don't want to be with the minimum of fuss, publicity, and violence. The job in Corfu should be easy – spring Lauren, a 15-year-old schoolgirl, from the luxury compound of the tech billionaire, Julian Hepworth. Hepworth's young, handsome and charismatic – he's also a suspected paedophile. But as McIntyre sets up his operation, things quickly start to slip out of control. Soon, he has to contend with Albanian gangsters, Greek drug dealers, psychotic bodyguards, flat earthers, and spoilt, wealthy teenagers looking for dangerous kicks. Everything converges on a glamorous summer party at Hepworth's spectacular villa; can McIntyre play the different factions off against each other and get Lauren to safety without things going horribly wrong?

Caper PBK \$22.99

The Sacred Bridge

Leaphorn, Chee & Manuelito series

Hillerman, Anne

Sergeant Jim Chee's vacation to beautiful Antelope Canyon and Lake Powell has a deeper purpose. He's on a quest to unravel a sacred mystery his mentor, the Legendary Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn, stumbled across decades earlier. Chee's journey takes a deadly turn when, after a prayerful visit to the sacred Rainbow Bridge, he spots a body floating in the lake. The dead man, a Navajo with a passion for the canyon's ancient rock art, lived a life filled with many secrets. Discovering why he died and who was responsible involves Chee in an investigation that puts his own life at risk. Back in Shiprock, Officer Bernadette Manuelito is driving home when she witnesses an expensive sedan purposely kill a hitchhiker. The search to find the killer leads her to uncover a dangerous chain of interconnected revelations involving a Navajo Nation cannabis enterprise. But the evil that is unleashed jeopardises her mother and sister Darleen, and puts Bernie in the deadliest situation of her law enforcement career.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

The Alarm of the Black Cat

American Mystery Classics

Hitchens, Dolores

A strange encounter with a little girl named Claudia and a dead toad sparks elderly detective fiction fan Rachel Murdock's obsessive curiosity, and she winds up renting the house next door just to see how things play out. But soon after she and her cat Samantha move in, Rachel realises they've landed right in the middle of a deadly love triangle that's created animosity among the three families who now surround her. When Rachel finds Claudia's great-grandmother dead in her basement, she reaches out to a friend in the LAPD to solve the crime. They soon learn the three households have been torn apart by one husband's infidelity and a complicated will that could lead to a fortune. In a house plagued by forbidden love, regret, and greed, Rachel will have to trust her intuition, as well as Samantha's instincts, to survive – and keep Claudia out of the hands of a killer whose work has just begun...

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

Fixit

IQ series

Ide, Joe

As IQ plugs a mysterious USB into his laptop, he's horrified to see what flashes across the screen: his girlfriend Grace is sweaty and bedraggled – her wrists wrapped with duct tape. Grace has been kidnapped by the likes of Skip Hanson, a brutish hitman with a vendetta against Isaiah. As IQ and Dodson attempt to locate Grace based on scant evidence, (read: a Sonic burger wrapper in one grainy image) they must wend through the stark, unrelenting East California landscape in search of clues. Just as the case grows increasingly complicated, and Grace's situation more dire, another powerful enemy emerges from the woodwork. And all the while, watching them closely, is the newly minted LAPD detective assigned to Grace's case, Winnie Hando, a complicated woman with a complicated agenda of her own.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Picture You Dead

James, Peter

Harry and Freya, an ordinary couple, dreamed for years of finding something priceless buried amongst the tat in a car boot sale. It was a dream they knew in their hearts would never come true – until the day it did... They buy the drab portrait for a few pounds, for its beautiful frame, planning to cut the painting out. Then studying it back at home there seems to be another picture beneath, of a stunning landscape. Could it be a long-lost masterpiece from 1770? If genuine, it could be worth millions. One collector is certain it is genuine. Someone who uses any method he can to get what he wants and will stop at nothing. Detective Superintendent Roy Grace finds himself plunged into an unfamiliar and rarefied world of fine art. Outwardly, it appears respectable, gentlemanly, above reproach. But beneath the veneer, he rapidly finds that greed, deception, and violence walk hand in hand. And Harry and Freya Kipling are about to discover that their dream is turning into their worst nightmare...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

They Can't Take Your Name Justice, Robert

What happens to a deferred dream – especially when an innocent man's life hangs in the balance? Langston Brown is running out of time and options for clearing his name and escaping death row. Wrongfully convicted of the gruesome Mother's Day Massacre, he prepares to face his death. His final hope for salvation lies with his daughter, Liza, an artist who dreamed of a life of music and song but left the prestigious Juilliard School to pursue a law degree with the intention of clearing her father's name. Just as she nears success, it's announced that Langston will be put to death in 30 days. In a desperate bid to find freedom for her father, Liza enlists the help of Eli Stone, a jazz club owner she met at the classic Five Points venue, The Roz. Devastated by the tragic loss of his wife, Eli is trying to find solace by reviving the club... while also wrestling with the longing to join her in death. Everyone has a dream that might come true – but as the dark shadows of the past converge, could Langston, Eli, and Liza be facing a danger that could shatter those dreams forever?

Mystery/suspense TP \$42.95

The Fragrance of Death

Sally Solari mysteries

Karst, Leslie

Restaurateur Sally Solari is a champion, both in the kitchen and on the case, but after getting mixed up in one too many murders, her *nonna's* friends have taken to crossing themselves, every time they meet. Sally's determined to stay out of trouble and focus on her cooking. It's too bad the food scene in Santa Cruz is cutthroat – sometimes, literally. When a head cold knocks out Sally's sense of taste and smell, at the same time her old acquaintance Neil Lerici is murdered at the annual Artichoke Cook-Off, her powers of investigation are once again called into action. Could Neil have been killed by the local restaurant owner who took his winning spot at the competition? Or maybe by one of his siblings, who were desperate to sell the family farm to a real estate developer? Sally plunges headfirst into the case, risking alienating everyone she knows – including the handsome Detective Vargas, who finds her sleuthing both infuriating and endearing. And soon it's not just her restaurant and her tentative new relationship that are on the line – it's her life...

Mystery TP \$42.95

The Mirror Man

DI Joono Linna series

Kepler, Lars

Seventeen-year-old Jenny is abducted in broad daylight and taken to a dilapidated, isolated house where she is chained and caged along with several other girls. Their captor is unpredictable, and as wily as he is cruel: he foils every one of their desperate attempts to escape... and once caught they rarely survive their punishment. Five years later, Jenny is found dead in a public park, and the police are scrambling to find a lead among the scant evidence. But Detective Joono Linna realises that this murder has an eerie connection to a death that was declared a suicide years before. And now when Mia, a 17-year-old orphan,

goes missing, it becomes clear to Joono that they are dealing with a serial killer – and the murderous rampage has just begun. As the police close in on the killer, Mia and her fellow captives are plunged into ever greater danger, and Joono finds himself in a seemingly impossible race against time to save their young lives.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Dark Rooms

Tennison series

la Plante, Lynda

Helena Lanark is an elderly woman, living in a luxurious care home. The heiress of an immense family fortune, she keeps the secret to the horror which once occurred within the Lanark family house. Jane Tennison is leading a murder investigation into the recent brutal death of a young girl, her decomposed starved body discovered in an old air raid shelter in the garden of the Lanark's now derelict house. Initially, the focus is on identifying the victim, until another body is found, hidden in the walls of the shelter. As the investigation and search for answers intensifies, Jane travels to Australia. There, she discovers the dark secret that the Lanark family has kept hidden for decades. A secret... that not only threatens to bring down a family dynasty... but also places Jane Tennison in mortal danger.

Jane Tennison in Brisbane!

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Till Death Do Us Part

Colorado Wine mysteries

Lansing, Kate

It's June in Boulder, Colorado, and wedding season is in full swing. Parker Valentine is excited to attend the wedding of her cousin, Emma, where in addition to celebrating the happy couple, she'll also be providing wine for the reception. But when the fussy wedding planner is found dead midway through the ceremony, Parker knows that to get the weekend back on track, she'll need to unveil a murderer. Unfortunately, there's no shortage of high tension and hot tempers during a wedding, so Parker has a long list of potential suspects. Even worse, her entire family has fixated on the state of Parker's relationship with her boyfriend, Reid. If Parker can manage to impress her relatives with her wine skills and dodge unwanted pointed personal questions, solving a murder will be the icing on the cake.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

A Novel Disguise

Lady Librarian mysteries

Larsen, Samantha

London, 1784. Miss Tiffany Woodall didn't murder her half-brother, but she did bury him in the back garden so that she could keep her cottage. Now, the confirmed spinster has to pretend to be Uria, and fulfill his duties as the Duke of Beaufort's librarian while searching Astwell Palace for Uria's missing diamond pin, the only thing of value they own. Her ruse is almost up when she is discovered by Mr Samir Lathrop, the local bookseller, who tries to save her from drowning, while she's actually just washing up in a lake after burying her brother. Her plan is going by the book, until the rector proposes marriage and she starts to develop feelings for Mr Lathrop. But when

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her childhood friend, Tess, comes to visit, Tiffany quickly realises her secret isn't the only one hidden within these walls. The body of a servant is found, along with a collection of stolen items, and someone else grows mysteriously ill. Can Tiffany solve these mysteries without her own disguise being discovered? If not, she'll lose her cottage and, possibly, her life. The first in a series.

Historical mystery TP \$44.95

Small Mercies Lehane, Dennis

In the summer of 1974 a heatwave blankets Boston and Mary Pat Fennessey is trying to stay one step ahead of the bill collectors. Mary Pat has lived her entire life in the housing projects of 'Southie', the Irish-American enclave that stubbornly adheres to old tradition and stands proudly apart. One night Mary Pat's teenage daughter Jules stays out late and doesn't come home. That same evening, a young Black man is found dead, struck by a subway train under mysterious circumstances. The two events seem unconnected. But Mary Pat, propelled by a desperate search for her missing daughter, begins turning over stones best left untouched – asking questions that bother Marty Butler, chieftain of the Irish mob, and the men who work for him, men who don't take kindly to any threat to their business. Set against the hot, tumultuous months when the city's desegregation of its public schools exploded in violence, *Small Mercies* is a brutal depiction of criminality and power, and an unflinching portrait of the dark heart of American racism.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Grey in the Dark

Gethin Grey mysteries

Lincoln, John

Too many people loved Kelly Rowland. One of them killed her, but was it the man in prison for her murder? Gethin Grey is back in the game. His wife may have left him and he's struggling with life as a single father, but now he's got his biggest case in years. The brutal murder of a young woman called Kelly Rowland has been the talk of the South Wales valleys. Even the conviction of a neighbour, a builder called Morgan Hopkins, failed to stop the gossip. There were too many other suspects still around, among them a pair of coppers: brother and sister. So, Gethin was delighted when Morgan's family stumped up the money to pay him and his Last Resort Legals team to reinvestigate the case. But when a new lead takes him undercover into a support group for recovering addicts, Gethin has to confront his own demons. Moving from the former mining towns of the valleys to the shiny new waterfront developments of Cardiff, taking in adult puppet shows and piercing parlours, derelict mines and country clubs, *Grey in the Dark* lays bare a world in which sex and money collide and everyone has their secrets. The first in this Rebus-esque series is *Fade to Grey* (PBK, \$19.99).

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Mother Logan, T M

Framed for murder. Now, she's free...

A woman attends a funeral, standing in the shadows and watching in agony as her sons grieve. But she is unable to comfort them – or reveal her secret. A decade earlier, Heather gets her children ready for bed and awaits the return of her husband Liam, little realising that this is the last night they will spend together as a family. Because tomorrow she will be accused of Liam's murder. Ten years ago, Heather lost everything. Now, she will stop at nothing to clear her name – and to get her children back...

Thriller TP \$32.99

Argyles and Arsenic

Highland Bookshop mysteries

MacRae, Molly

After 93 well-lived years, Violet MacAskill is ready to simplify her life. Her eccentric solution? She'll throw a decanting and decluttering party at her family home – a Scottish Baronial manor near the seaside town of Inversgail, Scotland. Violet sets aside everything she wants or needs, then she invites her many friends in to sip sherry and help themselves to whatever they want from all that's left. Janet Marsh and Christine Robertson, two of the women who own Yon Bonnie Books in Inversgail, enjoy themselves at the party. Not everyone who attends has a good time, though. Wendy Erskine, director of the Inversgail museum, is found dead, and rumours swirl about food poisoning from a local food truck. Then Violet tells Constable Hobbs that a tin of rat poison is missing. And when Hobbs' own grandmother comes under suspicion for murder, he enlists the women from Yon Bonnie Books, and the race is on to find the murderer. But where do they begin? Are there clues in the 'Shocking Stockings' exhibit at the museum? Will the antique scrapbook pasted full of trivia about arsenic and bygone poisoners offer a solution?

Or does the answer lie closer to home – is one of Violet's friends truly toxic? Poisonous games are afoot in Inversgail and the women of Yon Bonnie Books are playing to win.

Mystery TP \$29.99

Hard Dough Homicide

Spice Isle Bakery mysteries

Matthews, Olivia

Spice Isle Bakery owner Lyndsay Murray is always looking for new ways to grow her family's business. But she already regrets agreeing to host the retirement dinner for local high school principal Emily Smith. The tyrant used to be her mother's boss and they did not get along. Six guests arrive for the celebration, but only five survive. Emily starts convulsing – right after eating the curry chicken – and dies soon after. It's not long before the police are knocking on Spice Isle's door, bringing the Murray family back into the heart of another murder investigation – driving away customers in the process. Lyndsay can't help but wonder if this is the end of the bakery, even though it's just begun. She must put aside her reservations about investigating another crime, because the Murrrays refuse to go down without a fight.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

Killing Moon

Harry Hole series

Nesbo, Jo

Two women are missing, their only connection being they attended the same party, hosted by a notorious real-estate magnate. When one of the women is found murdered, the police discover an unusual signature left by the killer, giving them reason to suspect he will strike again. And catching him calls for a detective like no other. But the legendary Harry Hole is gone. Struck off the force, down and out in Los Angeles, it seems that nothing can entice him back to Oslo. Until the woman who saved Harry's life is put in grave danger, and he has no choice but to return to the city that haunts him and hunt for the murderer. He'll need to bring together a misfit team of former operatives to do what he can't do alone: stop an unstoppable killer. But as the evidence mounts, it becomes clear that there is more to this case than meets the eye...

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Self-Made Widow

Andie Stern series

Nicieza, Fabian

After mother of five and former FBI profiler Andie Stern solved a murder – and unravelled a decades-old conspiracy – in her New Jersey town, both her husband and the West Windsor police hoped that she would set aside crime fighting and go back to carpools, changing diapers, and lunches with her group of mom-friends – who she secretly calls The Cellulitists. Even so, Andie can't help but get involved when the husband of Queen Bee Molly Goode is found dead. Though all signs point to natural causes, Andie begins to dig into the case and soon risks more than just the clique's wrath, because what she discovers might hit shockingly close to home. Meanwhile, journalist Kenny Lee is enjoying a rehabilitated image after his success as Andie's sidekick. But when an anonymous phone call tips him off that Molly Goode killed her husband, he's soon drawn back into the thicket of suburban scandals, uncovering secrets, affairs, and a huge sum of money. Hell bent on justice and hoping not to kill each other in the process, Andie and Kenny dust off their suburban sleuthing caps, once again. From the co-creator of *Deadpool* and author of *Suburban Dicks* (PBK, \$19.99) comes a diabolically funny murder mystery that features two unlikely sleuths investigating a murder that reveals the dark underbelly of suburban marriage.

Satirical mystery PBK \$19.99

The Bullet That Missed

Thursday Murder Club mysteries

Osman, Richard

It is an ordinary Thursday and things should finally be returning to normal. Except trouble is never far away where the Thursday Murder Club is concerned. A decade-old cold case leads them to a local news legend and a murder with no body and no answers. Then, a new foe pays Elizabeth a visit. Her mission? Kill... or be killed. As the cold case turns white hot, Elizabeth wrestles with her conscience (and a gun), while Joyce, Ron, and Ibrahim chase down clues with help from old friends and new. But can the gang solve the mystery and save Elizabeth before the murderer strikes again? Now in paperback.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Rehearsed to Death

Domestic Partners in Crime mysteries

Polito, Frank Anthony

Peter's first play is having its world premiere at Pleasant Woods' community theatre. His handsome one and only, JP, has the lead. Rehearsals have begun. And New York City's award-winning, hotshot helmer, Xander Sherwood Deva, is directing. Unfortunately, the controlling, arrogant, poison-barbed, egomaniacal diva has everyone on edge. No wonder, he finally pushes someone over it... Xander is found strangled to death in the same extra-long, imported cashmere scarf he's been brandishing like a boa ever since he arrived. In the name of making art, he's burned a lot of bridges and made a lot of enemies – but which one wanted to bring down the curtain on him? As they say in the theatre: the show must go on. But not before amateur sleuths Peter and JP become Domestic Partners in Crime and try to solve this deadly real-life drama ahead of opening night. The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$37.95

Home Before Night

Pomare, J P

As the third wave of the virus hits, all inhabitants of Melbourne are given until 8pm to get to their homes. Wherever they are when the curfew begins, they must live for four weeks, and stay within five kilometres of. When Lou's son, Samuel, doesn't arrive home by nightfall, she begins to panic. He doesn't answer his phone. He doesn't message. His social media channels are inactive. Lou is out of her mind with worry, but she can't go to the police, because she has secrets of her own. Secrets that Samuel just can't find out about. Lou must find her son, herself, and bring him home.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Wrong Woman

Pomare, J P

Reid left the small town of Manson a decade ago, promising his former Chief of Police boss he'd never return after a very public career-ending incident. He made a new life in the city, became a PI and turned his back on the past. Now, sent by an insurance firm to look into a suspicious car crash, he finds himself back in the place he grew up. As Reid's investigation unfolds, nothing is as it seems: rumours swirl about the young woman who crashed the car, killing her professor husband, and their connection to a missing student. Soon, Reid finds himself veering away from the job he has been paid to do. Will he jeopardise his new life to take on the town he ran from? 'The pay-off is criminally good... As always, Pomare keeps the best surprises until last. Prepare for a late night' – *Sydney Morning Herald*.

Now in paperback.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Ashes to Ashes, Crust to Crust

Deep Dish mysteries

Quigley, Mindy

Newly-single pizzeria owner Delilah O'Leary is determined to keep her restaurant afloat in the picturesque resort town of Geneva Bay, Wisconsin. To boost her bottom line, she sets her sights on winning the hefty cash prize in the town's annual 'Taste of Wisconsin' culinary contest. In her corner, she's got her

Pulp Fiction

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strong-willed, 'big-boned' cat Butterball, her wisecracking BFF, her cantankerous great-aunt, and a nearly-flawless recipe for Pretzel Crust Deep-Dish Bratwurst Pizza. But while Delilah and her team have been focused on pumping out perfect pizza pies, her ex-fiancé has cozied up to a new squeeze, juice bar owner Jordan Watts – Delilah's contest rival. When one of Jordan's juice bar customers is poisoned by a tainted smoothie, Delilah lands deep in the sauce. Accusations fly, suspects abound, and a menacing stranger turns up with a beef over some missing dough. Between kale-juicing hipsters and grudge-bearing celebrity chefs, Delilah must act quickly before another one bites the crust.

Mystery PBK \$24.95

A Heart Full of Headstones

Rebus series

Rankin, Ian

John Rebus stands accused: on trial, for a crime that could put him behind bars for the rest of his life. But what drove a good man to cross the line? Detective Inspector Siobhan Clarke may well find out. Clarke is tasked with the city's most explosive case in years, an infamous cop, at the centre of decades of misconduct, has gone missing. Finding him will expose not only her superiors, but her mentor John Rebus. And Rebus, himself, may not have her own interests at heart, as the repayment of a past debt places him in the crosshairs of both crime lords and his police brethren. One way or another, a reckoning is coming – and John Rebus may be hearing the call for last orders...

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Catch Your Death

Cold Case Investigation

Redmond, Lissa Marie

When Cold Case Detective Lauren Riley's partner, Shane Reese, runs into an old friend, he's invited to a school reunion at a new luxury spa and resort. Lauren's also invited and it sounds like a perfect weekend getaway, except it brings up painful memories for Reese – like the unsolved murder of his high school friend Jessica Toakese, 17 years earlier. The prime suspects will be at the reunion. Among those suspects is Reese, who has kept his involvement a secret from Lauren and the entire police force. As the friends reminisce an intense snowstorm traps them inside and tensions rise. After a heated confrontation, one of the party is brutally murdered. Lauren believes it's connected to Jessica's death. But who could the murderer be: the jealous husband; the regretful trophy wife; the abused failed actor; the true crime podcast host; the drunken louse; the insecure millionaire; the desperate spa owner... or the Cold Case detective?

Mystery TP \$42.95

Barking Up the Right Tree

Poppy mysteries

Russell, Leigh

After losing her job and her boyfriend, Emily is devastated. As she is puzzling over what to do with the rest of her life, she is surprised to learn that her great aunt has died, leaving Emily her cottage in the picturesque Wiltshire village of Ashton Mead. But there is one condition to her inheritance: she finds herself the unwilling owner of a pet. Not knowing what to expect, Emily sets off

for the village, hoping to make a new life for herself. In Ashton Mead, she soon makes friends with Hannah who runs the Sunshine Tea Shoppe and meets other residents of the village where she decides to settle. All is going well... until Emily's ex-boyfriend turns up and against the advice of her new friends, she takes him back. When Emily decides to investigate the mysterious disappearance of a neighbour, she unwittingly puts her own life in danger...

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Echo Lake

Sauers, Joan

In the sleepy, scenic Southern Highlands of New South Wales, a beautiful young woman goes missing. Six years later, recently-divorced historian Rose McHugh leaves the city to start a new life in the Highlands and finds a roll of film buried in her back garden. On it are photos of the missing woman. Against the advice of an enigmatic detective, she uses her powers of persuasion and her knack for deciphering clues to pursue the case. As Rose searches through tangled secrets and hidden places haunted by the past, she realises there is a killer at large. As she makes new friends, and dangerous enemies, Rose closes in on a suspect – but will she solve the mystery too late to save herself? Set in the atmospheric villages and forests of the Southern Highlands, *Echo Lake* is a compulsive read that will keep you guessing until the very end.

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Consultant

Seong-sun, Im

Sometimes work can be murder...

The Consultant is very good at his job. He creates simple, elegant, effective solutions for... restructuring. Nothing obvious or messy. Certainly nothing anyone would ever suspect as murder. The 'natural deaths' he plans have always gone well: a medicine replaced here, a mechanism jammed there. His performance reviews are excellent. And it's not as though he knows these people. Until his next 'customer' turns out to be someone he not only knows but cares about, and for the first time, he begins to question the role he plays in the vast, anonymous Company. And as he slowly begins to understand the real scope of their work, he realises just how easy it would be for the Company to arrange one more perfect murder... But how far will he go to escape The Company? And how far will they go to stop him? The electrifying first novel from award-winning Korean thriller-writer Im Seong-Sun – now in English, for the first time – combines the tension of the best crime fiction with searing social criticism to present a searing take-down of global corporate life.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Deathly Relics

Further Adventures of Sherlock Holmes

Siciliano, Sam

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.

Sherlockiana PBK \$19.99

Death of a Bookseller

Slater, Alice

Roach – bookseller, loner, and true crime obsessive – is not interested in making friends. She has all the company she needs in her serial killer books, murder podcasts and her pet snail, Bleep. That is, until Laura joins the bookshop. Smelling of roses, with her cute literary tote bags and beautiful poetry, she's everyone's new favourite bookseller. But beneath the shiny veneer, Roach senses a darkness within Laura, the same darkness Roach possesses. As Roach's curiosity blooms into morbid obsession, it becomes clear that she is prepared to infiltrate Laura's life, at any cost. 'Engrossing, atmospheric and deliciously dark. Add this to your list' – *Will Dean*.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Pianos and Flowers

Brief Encounters of the Romantic Kind

Smith, Alexander McCall

In *Pianos and Flowers*, we are invited – through the medium of sepia images – to glimpse a world long departed. In these stories, inspired by long-lost photographs, the lives of the people in the frame are imagined and then explored, layer by layer. What must have it like to be them? We hold our breath for them. Our heart beats faster for them. We look again at the photograph in a new light, and say Yes, it might have happened just like that. This journey of exploration takes us to some exotic places. We share the lives of three sisters, brought up in Penang. We read of what happened to them, and to their Chinese neighbours caught in the tides of war. We see a group of small boys in a Glasgow slum, their young lives stunted by poverty, and hear how life worked out in contrasting ways for them. We follow a young woman's search for love in the unlikely realm of Egyptian antiquities. And through all of these photographs, and all of these stories, there runs the same refrain: the possibilities of love, of friendship, of happiness lie before us. There are big stories in these simple pictures. At first glance the photographs may seem unexceptional: the mere freezing of a moment in time. But delve deeper and you will realise that these photographs speak volumes.

Romantic fiction PBK \$19.99

The Sweet Remnants of Summer

Isabel Dalhousie mysteries

Smith, Alexander McCall

Our favourite moral philosopher is caught up in a delicate dispute between members of a prominent family as her husband, Jamie, is dragged into his own internecine rivalry. Isabel accepts an invitation to serve on the advisory committee of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, but soon finds herself swept up in an all-too-familiar dilemma. David is the grandson of a Scottish clan chief and is supportive of Scottish nationalism. But his fervent beliefs are threatening family harmony, especially because his sister

Catriona's socialist views put her at odds with her brother. When their mother, Laura, a fellow committee member, asks Isabel to intervene, she tries to demur. But always one for courteous resolutions to philosophical disagreements, Isabel can't help but intercede. In the meantime, Jamie, having criticised Isabel for getting involved in the affairs of others, does precisely that himself. Jamie is helping to select a new cellist for his ensemble, but he suspects that the conductor may be focused on something other than his favoured candidate's cello skills. With so many factors complicating matters, Isabel and Jamie will have to muster all their tact and charm to ensure that comity is reached between all these fractious parties.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Don't Look Back

Spain, Jo

For one week, everything in Luke Miller's life is perfect. Surprised with a belated honeymoon by his wife, Rose, he's had seven days with her in a Caribbean paradise. It's more than he ever thought he'd deserve. But as they pack their bags, Rose breaks down, confessing that on the day they left London, a violent man from her past tracked her down and broke into their home. He wasn't expecting her to fight back. And, in her terror, Rose killed him. Now there's a dead body in Luke's apartment, and only one person he can think to turn to. Mickey Sheils never expected to hear from Luke again, not after he disappeared the first time. Luke knows Mickey can't deny a woman who needs help, so she promises she'll deal with things – she'll make sure Rose doesn't have to keep running. But it turns out, some lies are too big to run from.

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Daughter of Time

Inspector Alan Grant mysteries

Tey, Josephine

Scotland Yard inspector Alan Grant, recovering from a broken leg, becomes fascinated with a contemporary portrait of Richard III, believed to have brutally killed his brother's children – the Princes in the Tower – to make his crown secure. But is the hunchback with such a sensitive, noble face really one of the world's most heinous villains? Or was he the victim of one of the most insidious plots in history? One of the best mysteries of all time from the much-loved crime Golden Age writer Josephine Tey. A reissue with a new introduction by Alexander McCall Smith.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

The Franchise Affair

Inspector Alan Grant mysteries

Tey, Josephine

Marion Sharpe and her mother seem an unlikely duo to be found on the wrong side of the law. Quiet and ordinary, they have led a peaceful and unremarkable life at their country home, The Franchise. Unremarkable that is, until the police turn up with a demure young woman on their doorstep. Not only does Betty Kane accuse them of kidnap and abuse, she can back up her claim with a detailed description of the attic room in which she was kept, right down to the crack in its round window. But there's something about Betty Kane's story that doesn't quite

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add up. Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard is stumped. And it takes Robert Blair, local solicitor turned amateur detective, to solve the mystery that lies at the heart of the Franchise Affair... A reissue with a new introduction by Tana French.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

To Love and Be Wise

Inspector Alan Grant mysteries

Tey, Josephine

When Hollywood-star photographer Leslie Searle is found dead in a remote English village, gifted inspector Alan Grant is immediately called to investigate what appears to be a mysterious passing. But what would bring such a successful individual to the village? And was his death really an accident or suicide, or did something eerie occur at the hands of an unsuspected killer? A reissue with a new introduction by Kate Mosse.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder on Madison Square

Gaslight mysteries

Thompson, Victoria

Former policeman Frank Malloy is frustrated when a woman requests his private detective services to implicate her wealthy husband in adultery, the only legal grounds for divorce in New York state. Although Mrs Bing seems genuinely distressed about her marriage and desperate to end it, she refuses to tell Frank the real reason she absolutely must divorce her husband and admits she has no legal grounds. Frank explains that he won't manufacture evidence for her and sends Mrs Bing on her way. The following week, Frank and Sarah happen to be attending the first ever auto show at Madison Square Garden when they meet the woman's husband, Alvin Bing, who has invested in a company that produces one of the electric motorcars on display. A few days later, the newspapers report that millionaire Alvin Bing has been found dead, pinned beneath one of the wheels of his very own motorcar. But who was driving it? The obvious suspect is Mrs Bing, but Frank and Sarah find that nothing is as it seems in their puzzling, dangerous search for the truth.

Historical mystery PBK \$24.99

The Fall Between

Tindale, Darcy

On a hot November morning, the first body lies in a cattle trough... It will be another two hours before rigor mortis sets in. Until then, the slim fingers will float below the water's surface, gently bobbing, beckoning Detective Giles to come and find her.

Detective Rebecca Giles has just finished interviewing aging petty crim Sticky Pete over a spate of break-and-enters when a disturbing new report comes in. Twelve-year-old Kayleen Ellis has vanished from her home in Muswellbrook in the Upper Hunter Valley. Hours later, Giles is a local hero, having apparently solved Kayleen's case and the spate of jewellery thefts. Yet, the hangover from her celebrations has barely kicked in when the body of young jillaroo Ava Emmerson is discovered in gruesome circumstances on a nearby farm. Giles is convinced the link between all three cases lies in the town's tragic history, perhaps even in her own mother's mysterious drowning, 30 years ago. In a place where nothing much changes, suddenly a great deal is happening – and Giles' life and career are now on the line. 'Full of heart while keeping you on the edge of your seat.' – *Kyle Perry.*

Noir TP \$32.99

No Trace

Gabe Ahern series

Trant, Michael

'Did you have to kill them all?'

It's the question Gabe Ahern has been running from, since he bust open a major criminal operation – and left a dozen men dead. He knows that one day the 'bad guys' will come for revenge. A skilled dog-trapper, Gabe has one rule: leave no sign, leave no trace. And, for the last year, he's been successfully hiding out on a friend's remote cattle property in the Pilbara. But when Goldmont Station opens its gates to a bunch of city folk eager for an authentic outback experience, Gabe can feel eyes on his back. Are all these visitors really tourists? In the space of 24 hours, the station's helicopter falls from the sky... the phones and internet go down... and one of the guests turns up dead... With major flooding suddenly cutting off all exit roads, Gabe fears he's as trapped as the dogs he hunts. And that his bloody past has finally caught up with him. The follow-up to *Wild Dogs* (TP, \$32.99).

Noir TP \$32.99

The Key to Deceit

Electra McDonnell mysteries

Weaver, Ashley

London, 1940. After years of stealing from the rich and giving to the poor – well, to themselves, anyway – Ellie McDonnell and her family have turned over a new leaf as they help the government's war effort. It's true that the strait-laced Major Ramsey didn't give them much choice, but still, Ellie must admit she doesn't miss breaking and entering as much as she might have thought. What she does miss is the challenge of unlocking an

impossible code and the adrenaline rush that comes from being somewhere she shouldn't. So, when Major Ramsey turns up unannounced with another job, she can't say no. A woman's body has been found floating in the Thames, with a bracelet locked onto her wrist, and a cameo locket attached to it. It's clear this woman was involved in espionage, but whose side was she on? Who was she reporting to? And who wanted her dead? The sequel to *A Peculiar Combination* (TP, \$26.99). *We hope to have this edition of The Key to Deceit from our Australian distributors later this year, at a lower price.*

Historical mystery TP \$39.95

The Second Cut

Rilke series

Welsh, Louise

Auctioneer Rilke has been trying to stay out of trouble, keeping his life – more or less – respectable. Business has been slow at Bowery Auctions; so, when an old friend, Jojo, gives Rilke a tip off for a house clearance, life seems to be looking up. The next day, Jojo washes up dead. Jojo liked Grindr hookups and recreational drugs – is that the reason the police won't investigate? And if Rilke doesn't find out what happened to Jojo, who will? Twenty years on from his appearance in *The Cutting Room* (PBK, \$19.99), Rilke is still walking a moral tightrope between good and bad, saint and sinner.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

The Midcoast

White, Adam

It's spring in the tiny town of Damariscotta, a tourist haven on the coast of Maine known for its oysters and antiques. Andrew, a high school English teacher recently returned to the area, has brought his family to Ed and Steph Thatch's sprawling riverside estate to attend a reception for the Amherst women's lacrosse team. Back when they were all teenagers, Andrew never could have predicted that Ed, descended from a long line of lobstermen, or Steph, a decent student until she dropped out to start a family, would ever send a daughter to a place like Amherst. But, so, the tides have turned, and Andrew's trying hard to admire, more than envy, the view from Ed's rolling backyard meadow. As Andrew wanders through the Thatches' house, he stumbles upon a file he's not supposed to see – photos of a torched body in a burned-out sedan. And when a line of state police cruisers crashes the Thatches' reception, an hour later, Andrew and his neighbours finally begin to see the truth behind Ed and Steph's remarkable rise.

Soon, the newspapers are running headlines about the Thatches, and Andrew's poring over his memories, trying to piece together the story of a family he thought he knew.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

The White Lady

Winspear, Jacqueline

1947. Elinor White, known locally as 'the White lady', is living a solitary, quiet life in a grace-and-favour cottage in the Kent countryside. Unbeknownst to her neighbours, she is the veteran of two world wars, a trained killer and former intelligence agent. Yet, Elinor's private and seemingly tranquil existence conceals a past trauma that comes to the fore when she is drawn into the predicament of a local man entangled with one of the most dangerous crime families in London. A treacherous path lies ahead, but it may be one that ultimately leads Elinor to a future unshackled from her own painful history. *'The White Lady* is wonderful... a tense and twisty character-driven thriller, a heartfelt tribute to the 20th century's bravest women, and a perfect match between story and storyteller. No one does this better than Jacqueline Winspear.' – *Lee Child.* The first in a new series from the author of the massively-popular Maisie Dobbs series.

Historical mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

A Truth for a Truth

Detective Kate Young

Wyer, Carol

DI Kate Young has known for years that her boss, Superintendent John Dickson, is a violent and evil man. But when she finally confronts him and accidentally shoots and kills him, she's forced to cover her tracks before anyone can pin his death on her. With revelations about his corruption soon to become public knowledge, Kate sets up a trail of evidence to make it seem that Dickson has conveniently vanished... But Kate knows the corruption doesn't end with Dickson. As she heads up the team investigating his supposed disappearance, she also pursues other loose ends. Stanka, the sex worker who supplied the evidence against Dickson, leads her to crucial information on another corrupt officer, DI Harriet Khatri, and her dubious involvement with sex traffickers. As the noose starts to tighten on Kate, she finds herself targeted by traffickers, the bent cops on her force and even her own team of detectives. Can she stay one step ahead of them all and bring Harriet to justice? Can she trust anyone around her? And can she possibly get away with murder?

Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99