

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery Catalogue September 2023

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Richard Osman  
Karin Smirnoff  
Patricia Wolf  
Seishi Yokomizo  
... and many others.

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

### **Murder in the Book Lover's Loft**

Book Retreat mysteries

**Adams, Ellery**

Jane and her fiancé, Edwin, are headed to the North Carolina coast for a much-needed vacation. Their harborside loft has floor-to-ceiling bookcases and breathtaking views, but Jane's hopes of exploring the town with her man are stymied when Edwin steps on a stingray. Things take an even less romantic turn when Jane stumbles across a dead body... Instead of taking leisurely beach strolls, Jane is suddenly on a literary chase through time, unearthing a dark secret in her family tree that threatens all she holds dear back in Storyton. And it'll take a whole village to help her make amends for the past – and stop a madman bent on exacting justice in the present.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### **The Expectant Detectives Ailes, Kat**

For Alice and her partner Joe, moving to the sleepy Cotswold village of Penton is a chance to embrace country life and prepare for the birth of their unexpected first child. He can take up woodwork; maybe she'll learn to make jam. But the rural idyll they'd hoped for doesn't quite pan out when a dead body is discovered at their local antenatal class, and they find themselves suspects in a murder investigation. With a cloud of suspicion hanging over the heads of the whole group, Alice sets out to solve the mystery and clear her name, with the help of her troublesome dog, Helen. However, there are more secrets and tensions in the heart of Penton than first meet the eye. Between the discovery of a shady commune up in the woods, the unearthing of a mysterious death years earlier and the near-tragic poisoning of Helen, Alice is soon in way over her head. The first in a fresh and funny mystery series about a group of soon-to-be mums who turn detective when there's a murder at their antenatal class.

Mystery TP \$32.99

### **All That Glitters Isn't Old**

Whit & Whiskers mysteries

**Allan, Gabby**

When she's not piloting a glass bottom boat, showing the sights to tourists, Whit sells seashells by the seashore – among many other sea and sand souvenirs – to help keep her family shop, Nautically Yours, afloat. It's a far cry from her corporate climbing ladder life in Los Angeles, but Whit and her frisky feline, Whiskers, love calling Catalina home and being close to family. Especially Whit's grandmother Goldy, a fun and feisty senior who always marched to the beat of a different drum. In her youth, Goldy was an item with a Catalina catch named Darren. But it was actually a ruse, to fool Darren's parents who wouldn't have accepted his preference for men. Eventually,

he left the island and chose the life – and life-partner – he wanted for himself. Back in town for his mother's funeral, Darren takes the opportunity to heal his open wounds, and settle some scores. In a surprise to the residents, Darren produced a documentary about the history of Catalina, and has arranged a premiere screening in the local theatre. But his film career is cut short when his partner's dead body is discovered the night before the opening. Rumours swirl about Darren's past, along with his partner's – and the things they've done – giving a lot of folks a lot of motives. Now, it's up to Whit and her boyfriend policeman to catch a killer, and uncover just how much Grandma Goldy knows about the back door deals tied to Darren's past...

Mystery TP \$35.00

### **Conquest**

**Allan, Nina**

Rachel's boyfriend Frank is different from other people. His strangeness is part of what she loves about him: his innocence, his intelligence, his passionate immersion in the music of J S Bach. As a coder, Frank sees patterns in everything, but as his theories slide further towards the irrational, Rachel becomes increasingly concerned for his wellbeing. There are people Frank knows online, people who share his view of the world, and who insist he has a unique role to play. In spite of Rachel's fears for his safety, Frank is determined to meet them, face to face. When Frank disappears, Rachel is forced to seek help in the form of Robin, a private detective who left the police force for reasons she will not reveal. Like Frank, Robin is obsessed with the music of Bach. Like Frank, she has unexplained connections with the criminal underworld of southeast London. An obscure sci-fi story, from the 1950s, appears to offer clues to Frank's secret agenda, but not to where he is. As Robin and Rachel draw closer in their search for the truth, they are forced to ask themselves if Frank's obsession with an alien war, against all logic, might have a basis in fact. Nina Allan's new novel is a work of the greatest imaginative power, an investigation of the human need to make connections, to find causes and effects, however fantastic. *Conquest* is the story of a disappearance, and of the mystery that follows.

Mystery TP \$32.99

### **Death Comes to Dartmoor**

Devon mysteries

**Austin, Stephanie**

Returning from a brief holiday, Juno Browne is relieved to find that no one has been murdered in the picturesque Dartmoor town of Ashburton while she was away. Though uncharitable friends suggest that the quiet was simply due to her absence. Just as she's settling back into her routine at the antiques shop and as domestic helper and dog walker,

the brutal killing of local journalist Sandy Thomas shocks the town and Juno is swept up into a fresh murder inquiry. What was Sandy really investigating on the night she was killed? With a spate of dog kidnappings to contend with as well, the Devon countryside never felt less tranquil, and inevitably Juno's amateur sleuthing skills will be called upon, once again...

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### **From the Shadows**

Billy Boyle WWII mysteries

**Benn, James R**

*Southern France, 1944*: What should be a simple assignment with a Special Operations Executive officer gets complicated quickly as Billy navigates the tensions between Resistance groups in the process of gathering information on Vichy officials and other collaborators who escaped with the retreating Germans. Unexpectedly, the SOE officer has many enemies in the Resistance, linked to the failed Vercors uprising. Diana Seaton, Billy's wartime lover, crosses paths with him as she and legendary SOE agent Christine Granville embark on a humanitarian mission on behalf of those killed while helping the SOE. The search for a witness to a deadly explosion leads Billy to the legendary 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a unit made up of Nisei soldiers that became the most highly decorated unit in the history of the US Army. With sacrifice and betrayal afoot, Billy doesn't know who he can trust, or how close to death this case may bring him.

Historical mystery TP \$35.99

### **Ritual of Fire**

Cesare Aldo mysteries

**Bishop, D V**

*Florence, Summer, 1538*. A night patrol finds a wealthy merchant hanged and set ablaze in the city's main square. More than mere murder, this killing is intended to put the fear of God into Florence. Forty years earlier, puritanical monk Girolamo Savonarola was executed the same way. Does this new killing mean his fanatical disciples are reviving the monk's regime of holy terror? Cesare Aldo is busy hunting thieves in the Tuscan countryside, leaving Constable Carlo Strocchi to investigate the killing. When another merchant is burned alive in public, the rich start fleeing to their country estates. But the Tuscan hills can also be dangerous. Growing religious fervour and a scorching heatwave drives the city ever closer to madness. Meanwhile, someone is stalking those powerful men who forged lifelong bonds in the dark days of Savonarola. Unless Aldo and Strocchi work together, all of Florence will be consumed by an inferno of death and destruction. This series of atmospheric mysteries, set in Renaissance Italy, begins with *City of Vengeance* (PBK, \$19.99).

Historical mystery TP \$34.99

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## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

### Once Upon a Seaside Murder

Beach Reads mysteries

**Blackburn, Maggie**

There's no place like home for the holidays, even if home is sleepy, beachside Brigid's Island, NC. During this season of giving, the town wakes up to a welcome throng of shoppers – and Beach Reads is no exception. But bookseller Summer Merriwether's Christmas cheer turns to cringing fear when she uncovers a deadly secret about her late mother – a secret someone will kill to keep. When the local library hosts a cosy mystery panel discussion, Summer learns that one of the authors on the panel based her book on an actual murder that shook Brigid's Island, 35 years before. Worse, she soon learns that her dearly missed mother, Hildy, took a disturbingly deep interest in the case, going so far as to collect clippings and keep a journal of the dark doings. This doesn't jibe with Summer's memories of her usually cheery mother at all. Tidings get worse when Summer learns of her long-lost biological family's involvement in the crime... and still worse when the life of the book's author is threatened. With the help of Hildy's plucky book club, Summer puts her scholarly smarts to work on protecting the cosy author and solving the decades-old murder. But this ghost from Christmas past may still be deadly in the present, and if she can't find the killer, Summer's future will be brief.

Mystery TP \$43.95

### Three Gard Murder

**Blackhurst, J L**

*One sister is a cop. The other a con artist.*

*Both are suspects.* DI Tess Fox's first murder scene has two big problems. One, the victim was thrown from the balcony of a flat, locked from the inside. Two, Tess knows him. But the biggest problem of all is Tess' half-sister, Sarah. She has links to the deceased and has the skills and criminal background to mastermind a locked-room murder. But she's a con-artist, not a killer. When two more bodies turn up, Tess, now, has three locked-room mysteries to solve and even more reason to be suspicious of Sarah. Can she trust someone who breaks the law for a living, even if she is family?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Paris Assignment

**Bowen, Rhys**

Londoner Madeleine Grant is studying at the Sorbonne in Paris, when she marries charismatic French journalist Giles Martin. As they raise their son, Olivier, they hold on to a tenuous promise for the future. Until the thunder of war sets off alarms in France. Staying behind to join the resistance, Giles sends Madeleine and Olivier to the relative safety of England, where Madeleine secures a job teaching French at a secondary school. Yet, nowhere is safe. After a devastating twist of fate resulting in the loss of her son, Madeleine accepts a request from the ministry to aid in the war effort. Seizing the smallest glimmer of hope of finding Giles alive, she returns to France. If Madeleine can stop just one Nazi, it will be the start of a valiant path of revenge. Though her perseverance, defiance, and heart will be tested beyond imagining, no risk is too great for a brave wife and mother determined to fight and survive against inconceivable odds.

Historical suspense TP \$29.99

### The Hive

**Brade, Scarlett**

*Revenge is best streamed live.*

Charlotte Goodwin reveals a chilling truth to the thousands watching her Instagram Live broadcast. She has killed her ex-boyfriend's new partner in cold blood. But she is not finished, yet. The viewers must now vote to decide whether he should live or die. The public display sends shockwaves rippling through the online community and the numbers of viewers skyrocketed. But as Lincoln's past is revealed, how will he be judged? Would you vote live or vote die?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### Mrs Jeffries Aims to Win

Victorian mysteries

**Brightwell, Emily**

Successful businessman Jeremy Marks wasn't highly regarded by any of the members of the West London Archery Club. Most of them considered him a buffoon and a bore. But everyone was stunned when the fellow was murdered during a lull in the club's annual archery competition. He'd been shot with arrows from a longbow during a raging thunderstorm. But those who knew Marks well understood that the unkempt 'court jester' persona adopted by the late, unlamented man was as fake as the smile he wore. As Inspector Witherspoon investigates the murder, he discovers the victim had real enemies among the assembled archery contestants. Marks was notorious for not paying his bills, cheating vendors, bad-mouthing business rivals, and worst of all, betraying his business partners. The dead man had built a whole career and amassed quite a substantial fortune by harming those who trusted him. It will take Mrs Jeffries and the inspector's household, as well as their friends, to sort out fact from fiction and target a killer.

Historical mystery TP \$37.95

### Ripper

**Burr, Shelley**

Gemma Guillory has lived in Rainier, her entire life. She knows the tiny town's ins and outs like the back of her hand, the people like they are her family, their quirks as if they were her own. She knows her once-charming town is now remembered for one reason, and one reason only. That three innocent people died. That the last stop on the Rainier Ripper's trail of death, 17 years ago, was her innocuous little teashop. She knows that the consequences of catching the Ripper still haunt her police officer husband and their marriage, to this day, and that some of her neighbours are desperate – desperate enough to welcome a dark tourism company keen to cash in on Rainier's reputation, as the murder town. When the tour operator is killed by a Ripper copycat on Gemma's doorstep, the unease that has lurked quietly in the original killer's wake turns to foreboding, and she's drawn into the investigation. Unbeknownst to her, so is a prisoner named Lane Holland. Gemma knows her town. She knows her people. Doesn't she?

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### Death in the Romance Aisle

Survivor's Book Club mysteries

**Cahoon, Lynn**

Rarity is excited about expanding the romance section of her store – but not nearly as excited as her best friend Sam is about reuniting with her brother after many years. Marcus makes the trek from California to Arizona, is welcomed with a party, and hints that he may stick around now that remote work is an option. But is it just a coincidence that not long after his arrival, a body is found near a local swimming hole? Especially, considering that the dead woman had recently gone on a date with him – and even worse, that Marcus has a startling secret in his past? The police suspect him, but Rarity hopes to find another explanation before Sam is once again separated from her sibling – by prison walls...

Mystery TP \$39.95

### Boomtown

**Garter, A F**

Police captain Delia Mariola is struggling to drive predatory drug dealers from the American rust belt town of Baxter, before the owners of the new Nissan plant lose faith in the project. It doesn't help that the influx of male workers for the plant has also meant an influx of criminals. In the workers' settlement just outside the city limits, a modern Wild West boomtown is now thriving, drawing criminal gangs who promise drugs and female company to men far from home looking for comfort and distraction. With no active policing in the unregulated settlement, the criminals are fighting it out to take control of the drug trade. It's against this chaotic backdrop that a young sex worker's body turns up on the streets of Baxter itself. Delia investigates the murder relentlessly, determined to bring justice to the criminal enterprises plaguing her streets. But she's not the only one hunting the killer, and when strangers turn up seeking their own form of justice for the murdered girl, Delia risks facing off against a vigilante movement that could put her job on the line.

Mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

### Death in Fine Condition

Paperback Sleuth mysteries

**Gartmel, Andrew**

Cordelia knows books. An addict-turned-dealer of classic paperbacks, when she's not spending her days combing the charity shops and jumble sales of suburban London for valuable collector's items, she's pining for the woman of her dreams and nimbly avoiding her landlord's demands for rent. The most elusive prize of all, her white whale, has surfaced – a set of magnificent, vintage Sleuth Hound crime novels. Gorgeous, and as rare as they come. Just one problem. They're not for sale. Still, that won't stop a resourceful woman like Cordelia... One burglary later, the books are hers. Unfortunately, the man she's just robbed turns out to be one of London's most dangerous gangsters, and now he's on her trail and out for blood. Cordelia's best laid plans to pay the rent and woo the object of her affections start to fall apart, and she realises she may have placed herself in the crosshairs of a villain torn straight from the pages of her treasured novels. The first in a new series.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### A Troubling Tail

Bookmobile Cat mysteries

**Gass, Laurie**

The charming town of Chilson, Michigan, is beautiful in the spring, and the bookmobile is delivering great reads far and wide on one of the first warm days of the year. But a chill sweeps through when they discover that one of their favourite patrons, the owner of Henika's Candy Emporium, has been found murdered. Although Minnie can't understand who could have had a motive to murder such a kind man, she decides that the sticky problem isn't hers to solve. However, when rumours start flying around town and the police have no leads, Minnie decides to throw her investigative hat into the ring. The more Minnie investigates, the less certain she is that the victim's past is as wholesome as his reputation. But Minnie has plenty of experience unearthing inconvenient truths, and she and Eddie won't rest until they determine how the victim met his bitter end.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### A Caribbean Mystery

Miss Marple mysteries

**Christie, Agatha**

*A Caribbean resort. Strangers thrown together. Is there evil in paradise?*

Major Palgrave enjoys an audience, and, in Miss Marple, he discovers a captive audience too polite to walk away. But midway through recounting the tale of a multiple murder, he stops suddenly when something, or someone, catches his eye. Then, when he's found dead the following day, Miss Marple suspects that someone wanted to silence the talkative major. Permanently. Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie HC \$32.99

### At Bertram's Hotel

Miss Marple mysteries

**Christie, Agatha**

*A grand old London hotel. A series of alarming coincidences. Danger lurking down every corridor.*

Impeccable service. Luxurious rooms. Eccentric guests. There are worse places for Canon Pennyfather to find himself stranded, than Bertram's Hotel. But when he gets his dates in a muddle and attempts to travel to Lucerne a day too late, he unwittingly sets off a violent chain of events. And Miss Marple is convinced there is more going on, than meets the eye. Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie HC \$32.99

### Nemesis

Miss Marple mysteries

**Christie, Agatha**

*A letter from beyond the grave.*

*One last request. An unsolvable crime.*

When Miss Marple receives a letter from the recently-deceased millionaire Jason Rafiel, she's not sure what to make of it. Knowing her deductive skills, he challenges her to solve a crime. If she does so, she will inherit £20,000. The only problem is that he has failed to mention who was involved, or where, and when the crime was committed. Jane Marple is intrigued. Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition.

Christie HC \$32.99

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## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

### The Mirror Crack'd from Side to Side

Miss Marple mysteries

Christie, Agatha

*A movie star. A deadly cocktail. A murder.* When glamorous Marina Gregg came to live in St Mary Mead, tongues were sure to wag. But, with a local gossip's sudden death, has one tongue wagged a bit too much? As the police chase false leads, and two more victims meet untimely ends, Miss Marple starts to ask her own questions. What secrets might link a peaceful English village and a star of the silver screen? Never underestimate Miss Marple. A lovely new hardcover edition. Christie HC \$32.99

### A Haunting in Venice

Poirot mysteries, film tie-in edition

Christie, Agatha

The inspiration for *A Haunting in Venice* – now a major motion picture. When a Hallowe'en party turns deadly, it falls to Hercule Poirot to unmask a murderer... During a night of party games, Joyce Reynolds boasts that she once witnessed a murder. No one believes her, but then she is found drowned, face down in an apple-bobbing tub. Set against a night of trickery and the occult, Hercule Poirot and Ariadne Oliver must race to uncover the real evil responsible for this ghastly murder. *Hallowe'en Party* is the sensational Agatha Christie novel that inspired the brand-new feature film directed by and starring Kenneth Branagh. This special edition is introduced by its screenwriter, Michael Green. Christie PBK \$22.99

### Murder on the Orient

Express: The Graphic Novel graphic novel

Christie, Agatha

& Al-Greene, Bob (illustrator)

Experience Agatha Christie's masterpiece as you've never seen it before, with this brand-new graphic novel adaptation – featuring gorgeous full-colour illustrations by Bob Al-Greene. *'The murderer is with us – on the train now...'* Just after midnight, the famous Orient Express is stopped in its tracks by a snowdrift. By morning, the millionaire Samuel Edward Ratchett lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. Without a shred of doubt, one of his fellow passengers is the murderer. Isolated by the storm, detective Hercule Poirot must find the killer among a dozen of the dead man's enemies, before the murderer decides to strike again. This beautiful, full-colour graphic novel adaptation brings this favourite mystery to life – perfect for longtime fans and new readers, alike. Christie TP \$55.00

### The Cove

Clark-Platts, Alice

Welcome to Turtle Cove. A luxury resort surrounded by pristine sea and the dense beauty of the jungle, it is the perfect escape from the stresses of life and work. For couples Lou and Adam, Eliza and Noah, a few days spent relaxing on the beach, while their kids are happily distracted, is exactly what they need. But appearances can be deceiving. There's a strange tension brewing

at the resort, with relations between the hotel and the locals threatening to spill over into violence. This is nothing though compared to the strained atmosphere between the two families. They haven't been friends for long and they are starting to realise they don't really know each other at all. Except for one of them. One of them knows another very well... And they have a score to settle. Thriller PBK \$22.99

### The Raging Storm

Two Rivers mysteries

Gleaves, Ann

When Jem Rosco – sailor, adventurer and legend – blows in to the local pub, The Maiden's Prayer, in the middle of an autumn gale, the residents of Greystone are delighted. The whole place has a strange, unreal quality: the village that time forgot. Backed by a worked-out quarry, with a shingle beach and a north-facing quay, there's little to recommend it to tourists. When Rosco disappears again, they think nothing of it; that's the sort of man he is. Until the lifeboat is launched to a hoax call-out and his body is found in a dinghy, anchored off Scully Cove, a place with legends of its own. This is an uncomfortable case for Venn. Greystone is a stronghold of the Barum Brethren and he came here as a child. Faith and superstition mix as another body is found in Scully, and Matthew finds his judgement clouded. The wind continues to howl, and he realises that his own life is in danger. This newest series from Cleaves begins with *The Long Call* (PBK, \$22.99). Mystery TP \$34.99

### A Fatal Encounter in Tuscany

Miss Ashford Investigates

Conroy, Vivian

*An escape to Tuscany. An unexpected invitation. A murder at midnight...* When novice detective Atalanta Ashford is whisked away to Italy by her friend, racecar driver Raoul Lemont, she anticipates a happy holiday under the Tuscan sun. But a chance meeting on the Orient Express with Italian heiress Catharina Lanetti leads to a party invitation... and front row seats for a mysterious murder! With their new friend under suspicion, Atalanta and Raoul set to work trying to discover who really murdered Catharina's father. But with more than half a dozen suspects – all with compelling motive – Atalanta may just be facing her toughest case, yet! Historical mystery TP \$29.99

### A Bird in Winter

Doughty, Louise

Bird is a woman on the run. One minute, she's in a meeting in her office in Birmingham – the next, she's walking out on her job, her home, her life. It's a day she thought might come, and one she's prepared for – but nothing could prepare her for what will happen next. As she flees north using multiple disguises, Bird has to work out who exactly is on her trail, and who – if anyone – she can trust. Like many people, she has fantasised about escape for a long time, but now it's actually happening. Is her greatest fear that she will be hunted down, or that she will never be found? Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### Murder at the Tower of London

Museum mysteries

Eldridge, Jim

*London, 1899.* A shocking murder is discovered at the heart of the Tower of London. The dead body of a Yeoman Warder is found inside a suit of armour belonging to Henry VIII, having been run through with a sword, and when details of this outrage are reported to the Prince of Wales, he fears this may be an expression of Republican unrest striking at the very home of the Crown Jewels. In the hopes of hampering the spread of news about the crime, the Prince reluctantly calls upon the services of Daniel Wilson and Abigail Fenton, the museum detectives, to investigate further. As their inquiries proceed, Wilson and Fenton learn about the long and bloody history of the Tower of London, but dark deeds are not confined to the Tower's shadowy past. More bones will see the light of day and the twists and turns of a dastardly plot will unravel before the museum detectives' case is closed. Historical mystery HC \$39.99

### The Embassy Murders

DCI Frank Merlin series

Ellis, Mark

When a brilliant émigré scientist is killed by a hit-and-run driver and the body of an American embassy is washed up in the Thames, DCI Frank Merlin and his team are called to investigate. Merlin's investigations soon ruffle feathers at the Foreign Office – the American ambassador, Joseph Kennedy, is a well-known supporter of appeasement, and has gained many powerful and influential friends in the pursuit of a negotiated peace settlement with Hitler. The death of yet another embassy employee leads Merlin deep into the seedier quarters of wartime London, until his investigations are hampered by interfering superiors fearful of disrupting international relations. As Merlin is drawn into a web of secrets, what will the truth cost him – and Britain? The first instalment in the Frank Merlin series. Previously published as *Prince's Gate*. Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$24.99

### Murder By Natural Causes

Erichsen, Helen

Cilla is a 22-year-old contract killer, specialising in the dry job – a murder interpreted as death by natural causes. Her main client, Vladimir Haugr, is the owner of TGR's bridge club in London. In return for a flat, a retainer and expenses, Cilla does five jobs a year. She occasionally works freelance. Neither strong, nor beautiful, she isn't your typical female protagonist. In fact, she is so unremarkable as to render her almost invisible, an advantage in her line of work. She has survived because she is clever, stubborn and lucky. But Cilla knows that, statistically, her luck is about to run out. She must find a way to reinvent herself. Soon. She also knows that she is invaluable to Vladimir Haugr, and that he will never let her go. Will Cilla be able to reinvent herself? And, if so, at what cost? Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

### The Chemical Code

Jacqueline Silver Adventures

Erskine, Fiona

Jaqueline Silver is back in Brazil and, this time, she has a single mission vengeance. But after several near misses, Jaqueline isn't sure who to trust. Determined to discover what exactly is in the mysterious box that everyone is after, Jaqueline becomes increasingly embroiled in a web of far-reaching corruption. It seems like everyone has a hidden agenda but is she chasing the right target? And who is chasing Jaqueline? These science-imbued mysteries begin with *The Chemical Detective* (PBK, \$19.99). Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### Death on the Down Beat: An Orchestral Fantasy of Detection

British Library Crime Classics

Farr, Sebastian

The headline from *The Maningpool Telegraph* read: *Tragic Death of Sir Noel Grampian – shot during performance – Symphony Concert Calamity.* As a rousing Strauss piece is reaching its crescendo in Maningpool Civic Hall, the talented yet obnoxious conductor Sir Noel Grampian is shot dead in full view of the Municipal Orchestra and the audience. It was no secret that he had many enemies – musicians and music critics among them – but to be killed in mid flow suggests an act of the coldest calculation. Told through the letters and documents sent by DI Alan Hope to his wife as he puzzles through the dauntingly vast pool of suspects and scant physical evidence in the case, this is an innovative and playful mystery underscored by the author's extensive experience of the highly-strung world of music professionals. This new edition returns Farr's only crime novel to print, to receive its long-deserved encore. This addition to the Crime Classics series is an immersive musical mystery, featuring diagrams of the orchestra arrangement and four pages of musical notation with relevance to the plot. First published in 1941 – but out of print since – this is by a lost writer of the genre, Sebastian Farr (a pseudonym for Eric Walter Blom), a prolific Swiss-born and British-naturalised music lexicographer, music critic, and writer. Classic mystery TP \$33.95

### The Other Mothers

Faulkner, Katherine

Ex journalist Tash has been searching for a story to launch her freelance career. But she has also been searching for something else. New friends to help her navigate motherhood. She sees them at her son's new playgroup. The other mothers. The sleek, the sophisticated, the successful mothers... The women she wants to be. And then, one day, they welcome her into their circle and Tash discovers the kind of life she has always dreamt of; their elegant London townhouses a far cry from her cramped basement flat and endless bills. These families seem to have everything. But they also have their secrets. And it's soon clear that not everyone at the playgroup can be trusted. Thriller TP \$32.99

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## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

### Observations by Gaslight

Stories from the World of Sherlock Holmes, collection

#### Faye, Lyndsay

A thrilling volume of both new and previously published short stories and novellas by Lyndsay Faye, narrated by those who knew the Great Detective. Beloved adventuress Irene Adler teams up with her former adversary in a near-deadly inquiry into a room full of eerily stopped grandfather clocks. Learn of the case that cemented the lasting friendship between Holmes and Inspector Lestrade, and of the tragic crime which haunted the Yarder into joining the police force. And witness Stanley Hopkins' first meeting with the remote logician he idolises, who will one day become his devoted mentor. From familiar faces like landlady Mrs Hudson to minor characters like Lomax the sub-librarian, *Observations by Gaslight* – entirely epistolary, told through diaries, telegrams, and even grocery lists – paints a masterful portrait of Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson, as you have never seen them before.

Sherlockiana PBK \$19.99

### The Inmate

#### Fitzek, Sebastian

*A missing child. A desperate father. A terrible secret.*

Guido T has already confessed to two horrific child murders, and led Berlin police to the bodies. The police are sure he is also the kidnapper and murderer of six-year-old Max, who disappeared without trace a year ago. But now the killer is staying silent. The investigators have no reliable evidence, so Max's parents have no certainty and are unable to say goodbye to their son. Everything changes when one investigator makes an unbelievable offer: he can have Max's father placed in the psychiatric prison hospital where Guido T is imprisoned – as a fake patient. Max's father agrees. He plans to force the child killer into a confession. Because nothing is worse than uncertainty. Or, so, he thinks. Until he, as an inmate, learns the gruesome truth...

Thriller TP \$32.99

### Every Hidden Thing

#### Flanagan, Ted

The last scion of a once-powerful political family, Worcester mayor John O'Toole has his sights set on vastly higher aspirations. When night-shift paramedic Thomas Archer uncovers a secret that could upend the mayor's career, O'Toole is set on silencing him, and sends Eamon Conroy, a brutal former cop, to ensure the truth remains under wraps. But O'Toole doesn't stop there. With bribes, buried secrets, and personal attacks, he wreaks havoc on Archer's life in an attempt to save himself. Archer's troubles continue to mount when domestic terrorist and militia member Gerald Knak, who blames Archer for his wife's recent death, sets in motion a deadly plan for revenge. With two forces of evil aligned against him, Archer doesn't stand a chance. But things aren't always what they seem – and he may just have a few tricks up his sleeve in a last gambit to get out alive.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Favour

#### French, Nicci

*A good deed can turn deadly...* When Jude's first love Liam turns up in her life after ten years of no contact, asking her for a favour, she just can't say no. He will always be someone special to her. But does she really know what she is getting herself into? After she does the favour, Jude is contacted by the police. Liam has been found dead, and suddenly she is caught up in a murder investigation. She realises this one decision could cost her everything – even her life...

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### The Traitor

#### Glass, Ava

An MI6 operative is found dead, locked in a suitcase inside his own apartment. Despite an exhaustive search, no fingerprints are found at the scene. Emma Makepeace and her handler, Ripley, know an assassination when they see one, and such an obvious murder can mean only one thing: Someone is sending a message. As she digs into his past, Emma discovers that the unfortunate spy had been investigating two Russian oligarchs based in London. He'd become obsessed with the idea that the two were spies, aided by a third man – whose identity he had yet to uncover. When he shared his findings within MI6, in the weeks before he died, the response came back fast and clear: *Drop the investigation and move on.* Had he uncovered a secret that cost him his life? To pick up where he left off without ending up in a suitcase of her own, Emma goes undercover on one of the oligarch's million-dollar yachts, scheduled to set sail from the Côte d'Azur to Monaco. Under other circumstances, this would be a dream vacation. But if Emma's real identity gets discovered, it's a death sentence. As Emma's work reveals secrets, she'd be safer not knowing, the danger ratchets up. The killer may be closer to home than any of them imagined, and Emma won't be safe, until he – or she – is caught.

Suspense TP \$37.95

### The Book of the Most

#### Precious Substance

#### Gran, Sara

*A book with all of life's answers, if only you can find it...* Rare book dealer Lily Albrecht has just been given a tipoff about *The Book of the Most Precious Substance*, a 17th century manual rumoured to be the most powerful occult book ever written, if it really exists at all. With some of the wealthiest people in the world willing to pay Lily a fortune to track it down, she embarks on a journey from New York to New Orleans to Munich to Paris. If she finds it, Lily stands to gain more than just money. This could erase the greatest tragedy of her life. But will Lily's quest help her find some answers, or will she lose everything in search of a ghost?

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### Murder at the

#### Pumpkin Pageant

Beacon Bakeshop mysteries

#### Hannah, Darci

Lindsey prefers to keep her bakeshop's Halloween decor light and autumnal, rather than gruesome and ghoulish. But everyone

knows her lighthouse home is haunted. Some intrepid teens have even tried to break in to witness the resident ghost themselves. Dreading Halloween night, Lindsey reluctantly allows her influencer and podcaster best friend, Kennedy, to host a live ghost-hunting investigation in the lighthouse, conducted by a professional team. Protective of her ghost, Lyndsey is understandably nervous about what they might uncover... The segment is uneventful – until things take a terrifying turn. The team freaks out. As Kennedy joins the mad dash outside, she bumps into what looks like the prankster teens' creepy clown costume hanging from a tree. But when Lindsey's dog, Wellington, begins to whine, they make a grim discovery: the clown is no dummy. It's a corpse. Now, Lindsey and company will need to keep their cool, if they want a ghost of a chance to solve the murder – and see another Halloween...

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### The Murder Wall

DCI Kate Daniels mysteries

#### Hannah, Mari

Eleven months after discovering a brutal double murder in a sleepy Northumbrian town, Detective Chief Inspector Kate Daniels is still haunted, by her failure to solve the case. Then, the brutal killing of a man on Newcastle's Quayside gives Daniels another chance to get it right, and her first case as Senior Investigating Officer. When Daniels recognises the corpse, but fails to disclose the fact, her personal life swerves dangerously into her professional life. But much worse, she is now being watched. As Daniels steps closer to finding a killer, a killer is only a breath away from claiming his next victim...

A reissue of the first in the series.

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Settled Blood

DCI Kate Daniels mysteries

#### Hannah, Mari

When a young girl is found dead at the base of Hadden's Wall, it's not long before Detective Chief Inspector Kate Daniels realises her death was no ordinary homicide. She was thrown from a great height and was probably alive before she hit the ground. When a local businessman reports his daughter missing, has Daniels found the identity of her victim, or is a killer playing a sickening game? As the murder investigation team delve deeper into the case, half truths are told, secrets exposed, and while Daniels makes her way through a mountain of obstacles time is running out for one terrified girl. A reissue.

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Act of Oblivion

#### Harris, Robert

*1660, England – 'From what is it they flee?' He took a while to reply. By the time he spoke, the men had gone inside. He said quietly, 'They killed the King.'* – General Edward Whalley and his son-in-law Colonel William Goffe board a ship bound for the New World. They are on the run, wanted for the murder of King Charles I – a brazen execution that marked the culmination of the English Civil War, in which parliamentarians successfully battled royalists for control. But now, 10 years after Charles' beheading, the royalists have

returned to power. Under the provisions of the *Act of Oblivion*, the 59 men who signed the king's death warrant and participated in his execution have been found guilty, in absentia, of high treason. Some of the Roundheads, including Oliver Cromwell, are already dead. Others have been captured, hung, drawn, and quartered. A few are imprisoned for life. But two have escaped to America by boat. In London, Richard Nayler, secretary of the regicide committee of the Privy Council, is charged with bringing the traitors to justice, and he will stop at nothing to find them. A substantial bounty hangs over their heads for their capture – dead or alive... Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Soulmate

#### Hepworth, Sally

*Gabe is alone at the cliff's edge. His arms are outstretched, palms facing the empty air. He said she jumped. He wouldn't lie.*

Before the woman went over the cliff, Pippa and Gabe were happy. They had the kind of marriage that everyone envies, as well as two sweet young daughters, a supportive family, and a picturesque cliff-side home – which would have been idyllic had the tall beachside cliffs not become so popular among those wishing to end their lives. Gabe has become somewhat of a local hero, since they moved to the cliff house, talking seven people down from stepping off the edge. But when Gabe fails to save the eighth, a sordid web of secrets begins to unravel, pushing bonds of loyalty and love to the brink. What *wouldn't* you do for your soulmate?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Secret Hours

#### Herron, Mick

Two years ago, the Monochrome inquiry was set up to investigate the British secret service. Monochrome's mission was to ferret out misconduct, allowing the civil servants seconded to the inquiry, Griselda Fleet and Malcolm Kyle, unfettered access to confidential information in the service archives. But with progress blocked at every turn, Monochrome is circling the drain... Until the OTIS file appears out of nowhere. What classified secrets does OTIS hold that see a long-redundant spy being chased through Devon's green lanes in the dark? What happened in a newly-reunited Berlin that someone is desperate to keep under wraps? And who will win the battle for the soul of the secret service – or was that decided a long time ago? Spies and pen-pushers, politicians and PAs, high-flyers, time-servers, and burn-outs... They all have jobs to do in the daylight. But what they do in the secret hours reveals who they really are. A new standalone novel from 'Britain's greatest living thriller writer' and author of the bestselling Slough House series. Recommended.

Suspense TP \$32.99

### Gangland

#### Hogan, Chuck

In the late 1970s, The Outfit has the entire city of Chicago in its hands. Tony Accardo is its fearless leader. Nicky Passero is his loyal soldier, though no one knows he has a direct line in to the boss of bosses. When the Christmas gift Accardo got for his wife, an inscribed bracelet with gold and diamond

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inlay, is stolen along with other items in a jewellery heist, Nicky is charged with tracking down and returning all of the items – by whatever means necessary. Forced into an impossible situation, Nicky must find a way to carry out Accardo's increasingly unhinged instructions and survive the battle for control of Chicago. What Accardo doesn't know: Nicky has a secret which has made his life impossible and has put him in the pocket of the FBI. Based on the true story of Tony Accardo, the longest-reigning mob capo in history, *Gangland* is a Shakespearean-esque drama of integrity, lost honour, and revenge.

Hardboiled TP \$29.99

### Death of a Glam Digger

Hayley Powell mysteries

#### Hollis, Lee

Food and cocktails columnist Hayley Powell usually reserves judgement for local cuisine, not the people who serve it. But staying neutral isn't so easy when caught between the biggest seafood rivals in town – her BFF Mona Barnes and the successful Leighton clan. Adding to a bitter decades-old surf-turf war between family businesses, a modern Romeo and Juliet story unfolds as Mona's son gets engaged to the daughter of her sworn enemy... Spiteful patriarch Lonnie Leighton is also steamed about the arrangement – enough to go to dangerous lengths to break it up. At least, until he's discovered face down and dead in the clam flats. With unanswered questions swirling, accusations flying in both directions, and a young couple stuck in the middle, Hayley has bigger fish to fry than determining who sources the best shellfish in Bar Harbor. Because someone wants to get away with murder... and send whoever else gets in their way to a muddy grave.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### Hell and Back

Longmire mysteries

#### Johnson, Craig

What if you woke up lying in the middle of the street in the infamous town of Fort Pratt, Montana, where 30 young Native boys perished in a tragic 1896 boarding-school fire? What if every person you encountered in that endless night was dead? What if you were covered in blood and missing a bullet from the gun holstered on your hip? What if there was something out there in the yellowed skies, along with the deceased and the smell of ash and dust, something the Northern Cheyenne refer to as the *Éveohsté-heómese*, the Wandering Without, the Taker of Souls? What if the only way you know who you are is because your name is printed in the leather sweatband of your cowboy hat, and what if it says your name is Walt Longmire... but you don't remember him?

Mystery TP \$39.95

### Murdle

Solve 100 Devilishly Devious

Murder Mystery Logic Puzzles

#### Karber, G T

Bored with *Wordle*? Try being a sleuth, with these murder mystery puzzles. G T Karber, the creator of the popular online daily mystery game *Murdle*, presents a collection of 100 original murder mystery logic puzzles – the perfect gift for armchair detectives and puzzlers to hone their minds and solve a crime. Who committed the

ghastly deed? What weapon was used to dispatch the victim? Where did the calculated demise occur? Join Deductive Logico and investigate murders most foul, in *Murdle*. These humorous mini-mystery puzzles challenge you to find whodunit, how, where, and why. Examine the clues, interview the witnesses, and use the power of deduction to complete the grid and catch the culprit. Packed with illustrations, codes, and maps, this is the must-have detective casebook for the secret sleuth in everyone.

Puzzles TP \$32.99

### A Fire at the Exhibition

Lady Hardcastle mysteries

#### Kinsey, T E

*May 1912*. After the previous year's deadly heatwave, it's been an uneventful spring in Littleton Cotterell. Though, for Lady Hardcastle and her fiercely-loyal lady's maid Flo, at least, there are the provincial delights of the village's inaugural art exhibition – and bicycle race – to look forward to. But at the exhibition opening, there's a panicked shout of 'Fire!' In the confusion, the main attraction – an extremely-expensive book – is stolen from under everyone's nose, as is a valuable painting lent by Sir Hector Farley-Stroud. Then the race, which starts as a charming day out, ends in a shocking death. And to top it all off, the Farley-Strouds reveal they're in debt and might lose their house. The sleuthing duo soon find themselves torn between a murder investigation, an art theft mystery, and trying to help their pals. All with a suspicious figure from Flo's past, a supercilious insurance investigator, and a pair of rather bizarre treasure hunters on the loose... This popular historical series begins with *A Quiet Life in the Country* (TP, \$35.95).

Historical mystery TP \$37.95

### Mischief Nights Are Murder

Poppy McAllister mysteries

#### Klein, Libby

Poppy is none too pleased when her B&B is coerced into participating in the Cape May Haunted Dinners Tour during Halloween season. Though her knack for finding dead bodies has given the place a spooky reputation, the Murder House is a completely undesired nickname. At least, it used to be... While Poppy wrangles with some guests who can't stop squabbling with each other – including a paranormal researcher, a very quirky pet psychic who freaks out her portly Persian, and an undercover tabloid reporter eager to catch her staff in a lie – one of them winds up, face down, in a plate of tiramisu. And, now, she has bigger worries than getting her house TP'd...

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### Jason

Blades of Bronze series

#### Knowles, Mark

They may have won the prize, but will any of them make it home alive? Jason has fulfilled the mission set him by his uncle, the scheming King Pelias of Iolkos: he and the Argonauts have won the fabled Golden Fleece of Colchis. Jason dreams of glory – of taking his uncle's throne, rightfully his – and, like his warrior shipmates, of home. But it is not only Pelias, who wishes Jason ill. Before the Argonauts can make it back

to Iolkos, they must contend with a legion of foes who would see them dead – and a web of allies who are not quite what they seem. Jason and his warriors must outwit the recondite Circe and the spies of mighty Troy, overcome hostile tribes beyond the Danube, and sail the troubled waters of the Archipelagos, where the Sirens wait to snare unwary seafarers. Yet, Jason's perils are only beginning, for he will soon discover that a truer evil lies closer to home... The Blades of Bronze series begins with *Argo* (PBK, \$19.99).

Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Girl in the Spider's Web

Millennium series

#### Lagercrantz, David

Lisbeth Salander and Mikael Blomkvist have not been in touch, for some time. Then Blomkvist is contacted by renowned, Swedish scientist Professor Balder. Warned that his life is in danger, but more concerned for his son's wellbeing, Balder wants *Millennium* to publish his story – and it is a terrifying one. More interesting to Blomkvist, than Balder's world-leading advances in Artificial Intelligence, is his connection with a certain female super-hacker. It seems that Salander, like Balder, is a target of ruthless cyber gangsters – and a violent criminal conspiracy that will very soon bring terror to the snowbound streets of Stockholm, to the *Millennium* team, and to Blomkvist and Salander, themselves. The fourth in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### The Girl Who Lived Twice

Millennium series

#### Lagercrantz, David

The girl with the dragon tattoo has fresh outrage to avenge... As Salander follows the scorched trail of her twin sister to Moscow, Blomkvist fears for her safety. He should, perhaps, be more concerned for himself. The murder of a homeless man on the streets of Stockholm has drawn him into a conspiracy that scales the heights of Everest and plunges to the depths of Russia's criminal underworld. And, now, Lisbeth will face her nemesis. For the girl with the dragon tattoo, the personal is always political – and, ultimately, deadly. The sixth in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### The Girl Who Takes an Eye for an Eye

Millennium series

#### Lagercrantz, David

Lisbeth Salander is an unstoppable force... Sentenced to two months in Flodberga women's prison, for saving a young boy's life by any means necessary, Salander refuses to say anything in her own defence. She has more important things on her mind. Mikael Blomkvist makes the long trip to visit, every week – and receives a lead to follow, for his pains. For him, it looks to be an important exposé for *Millennium*. For her, it could unlock the facts of her childhood. Even from a corrupt prison system, run largely by the inmates, Salander will stand up for what she believes in, whatever the cost. And she will

seek the truth that is, somehow, connected with her childhood memory, of a woman with a blazing birthmark on her neck – that looked as if it had been burned by a dragon's fire... The fifth in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

Millennium series

#### Larsson, Stieg

Forty years ago, Harriet Vanger disappeared from a family gathering on the island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger clan. Her body was never found, yet her uncle is convinced it was murder – and that the killer is a member of his own tightly-knit but dysfunctional family. He employs disgraced financial journalist Mikael Blomkvist and the tattooed, truculent computer hacker Lisbeth Salander to investigate. When the pair link Harriet's disappearance to a number of grotesque murders from 40 years ago, they begin to unravel a dark and appalling family history. But the Vangers are a secretive clan, and Blomkvist and Salander are about to find out just how far they are prepared to go to protect themselves. The ground-breaking first in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### The Girl Who Played with Fire

Millennium series

#### Larsson, Stieg

Lisbeth Salander is a wanted woman. Two *Millennium* journalists, about to expose the truth about sex trafficking in Sweden, are murdered, and Salander's prints are on the weapon. Her history of unpredictable and vengeful behaviour makes her an official danger to society – but no one can find her. Mikael Blomkvist, *Millennium* magazine's legendary star reporter, does not believe the police. Using all his magazine staff and resources to prove Salander's innocence, Blomkvist also uncovers her terrible past, spent in criminally-corrupt institutions. Yet, Salander is more avenging angel than helpless victim. She may be an expert at staying out of sight – but she has ways of tracking down her most elusive enemies. The second in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets' Nest

Millennium series

#### Larsson, Stieg

Salander is plotting her revenge – against the man who tried to kill her, and against the government institutions that very nearly destroyed her life. But it is not going to be a straightforward campaign. After taking a bullet to the head, Salander is under close supervision in Intensive Care, and is set to face trial – for three murders and one attempted murder – on her eventual release. With the help of journalist Mikael Blomkvist and his researchers at *Millennium* magazine, Salander must not only prove

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her innocence, but identify and denounce the corrupt politicians that have allowed the vulnerable to become victims of abuse and violence. Once a victim, herself, Salander is now ready to fight back. The third in the Millennium series, reissued with new cover art – to celebrate the release of *The Girl in the Eagle's Talons* (TP, \$32.99).

Mystery/suspense (reissue) PBK \$22.99

### Redemption

Eva Lightning Dance Duran mysteries  
**Ledford, Deborah J**  
After four women disappear from the Taos Pueblo reservation, Deputy Eva 'Lightning Dance' Duran dives into the case. For her, it's personal. Among the missing is her best friend, Paloma, a heroin addict who left behind an 18-year-old son. Eva senses a lack of interest from the department as she embarks on the investigation. But their reluctance only fuels her fire. Eva teams up with tribal police officer and long-time friend Cruz 'Wolf Song' Romero to tackle a mystery that could both ruin her reputation and threaten her standing in the tribe. And when the missing women start turning up dead, Eva uncovers clues that take her deeper into the reservation's protected secrets. As Eva races to find Paloma before it's too late, she will face several tests of loyalty – to her friend, her culture, and her tribe.

Mystery/suspense TP \$37.95

### Murder by Definition

42nd Street Library mysteries  
**Lehane, Con**  
Hardboiled crime writer Will Ford might be critically acclaimed, but he's every bit as debauched and disreputable as the ne'er-do-well private eye in his novels. So, when Ford offers Raymond Ambler – crime-fiction curator at New York City's prestigious 42nd Street Library – a collection of his papers, Ambler wonders if the project will be more trouble than it's worth. Still, the disgraced author is an important talent, and Ambler's never been afraid of a fight. Ambler's ready for the controversy that greets news of the acquisition. He's not ready, however, for what he finds when he finally receives the papers: a gripping unpublished short story apparently based on a real case, with an explosive author's note. If it's true, there's been a shocking cover up at the heart of the NYPD – and a cop has got away with murder. If it's true, Ford's not talking, and Ambler's good friend Mike Cosgrove, a veteran NYPD homicide detective, is beyond sceptical. But as the pair investigate, they're drawn into the sordid underbelly of 1990s' New York, packed with renegade cops, thugs and mobsters... and they'll be lucky to come back out alive.

Mystery TP \$42.95

### Wandering Through Life:

#### A Memoir

#### Leon, Donna

The internationally bestselling author tells her own adventurous life story as she enters her ninth decade. From a childhood in the company of her New Jersey family, with frequent visits to her grandfather's farm and its beloved animals and summers spent selling home-grown tomatoes by the roadside, Donna Leon has long been

open to adventure. In 1976, she made the spontaneous decision to teach English in Iran, before finding herself swept up in the early days of the 1979 Revolution. After teaching stints in China and Saudi Arabia, she finally landed in Venice. Leon vividly animates her decades-long love affair with Italy, from her first magical dinner when serving as a 'chaperone' to a friend, to the hunt for the perfect cappuccino, to the warfare tactics of grandmothers doing their grocery shopping at the Rialto Market. Some things remain constant throughout the decades: her adoration of opera, especially Handel's vocal music, her advocacy for the environment and her eager imagination for crime as she watches unsuspecting travellers on trains. Having recently celebrated her 80th birthday, Leon now confronts the dual challenges and pleasures of aging. Complete with a brief letter dissuading those hoping to meet Guido Brunetti at the Questura, and always suffused with music, food, and her fierce sense of humour, *Wandering Through Life* offers Donna Leon at her most personal.

Memoir TP \$35.00

### Miss Morton and the English House Party Murder

Miss Morton mysteries  
**Lloyd, Catherine**  
The options for the penniless daughter of a deceased earl are few indeed, in Regency England. So, following the suspicious death of her father, the Earl of Morton, and the discovery that she and her much younger sister have been left without income or home, Lady Caroline takes a post as a lady's companion to the wealthy widow Frogerton. Just as Caroline is getting accustomed to her new position, her aunt, Lady Eleanor Greenwood, invites her and her employer to a house party in the countryside to celebrate her youngest daughter's birthday. Mrs Matilda (Matty) Frogerton sees this as an opportunity to introduce her own rather wild daughter, Dorothy, to the *ton*, and Caroline is eager to see her sister, who as a child lives with their aunt. But all is not well at the Greenwood estate. For one thing, Lady Caroline's former fiancé, Lord Francis Chatham, is a guest and refuses to speak to her. Far worse, after a series of troubling harassments of the staff, an elderly family member is found stabbed by a knitting needle. As Caroline and an unexpected ally – Mrs Frogerton – attempt to solve the chilling crime, they discover the culprit may be leaving bizarre clues as to who will be next in the nursery. But they must make haste, for this heartless killer is engaged in anything but child's play... The first in a new series.

Historical mystery TP \$35.00

### A Deadly Dedication

Open Book mysteries  
**Loudon, Margaret**  
Penelope Parish thought she'd turned the page on her amateur sleuthing days but when the owner of Upper Chumley-on-Stokes' proposed first, high-end gourmet shop is poisoned, the American novelist starts to wonder if she and her quaint British town are in for another rewrite. It turns out that not everyone was a fan of Simeon Foster's farm-sourced charcuterie and imported pastries – many of the locals were outraged by the

potential new competition. With a full menu of suspects on her hands, this just might be Penelope's toughest case yet. Luckily, her friends at the Open Book are there to help with every twist of the poisoned pen.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

### Scot in a Trap

Last Ditch mysteries  
**McPherson, Catriona**  
A mysterious object the size of a suitcase, all wrapped in bacon and smelling of syrup, can mean only one thing: Thanksgiving at the Last Ditch Motel. This year, the motel residents are in extra-celebratory mood as the holiday brings a new arrival to the group – a bouncing baby girl. But as one life enters the Ditch, another leaves it. Menzies Lassiter has only just checked in. When resident counsellor Lexy Campbell tries to deliver his breakfast, the next day, she finds him checked out. Permanently. Shocking enough, if he was a stranger, but Lexy recognises that face. Menzies was her first love until he broke her heart, many years ago. What's he doing at the Last Ditch? What's he doing dead? And how can Lexy escape the fact that she alone had the means, the opportunity – and, certainly, the motive – to kill him?

Mystery TP \$42.95

### The Murder Rule

**McTiernan, Dervla**  
*First Rule:* Make them like you.  
*Second Rule:* Make them need you.  
*Third Rule:* Make them pay.  
They think I'm a young, idealistic law student, that I'm passionate about reforming a corrupt and brutal system. They think I'm working hard to impress them. They think I'm here to save an innocent man on death row. They're wrong. I'm going to bury him.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Spanish Diplomat's Secret

Captain Jim & Lady Diana mysteries  
**March, Nev**  
Captain Jim Agnihotri and his wife Lady Diana Framji are embarking to England, in the summer of 1894. Jim is hopeful the cruise will help Diana open up to him. Something is troubling her, and Jim is concerned. On their first evening, Jim meets an intriguing Spaniard, a fellow soldier with whom he finds an instant kinship. But within 24 hours, Don Juan Nepomuceno is murdered, his body discovered shortly after he asks rather urgently to see Jim. When the captain discovers that Jim is an investigator, he pleads with Jim to find the killer before they dock in Liverpool in six days, or there could be international consequences. Aboard the beleaguered luxury liner are 1,000 suspects, but no witnesses to the locked-cabin crime. Jim would prefer to keep Diana safely out of his investigation, but he's doubled over, seasick. Plus, Jim knows Diana can navigate the high society world of the ship's first-class passengers, in ways he cannot. Together, using the tricks gleaned from their favourite fictional sleuth, Sherlock Holmes, Jim and Diana must learn why one man's life came to a murderous end. This charming, historical series begins with *Murder in Old Bombay* (TP, \$34.99).

Historical mystery HC \$64.95

### The Golden Spoon

**Maxwell, Jessa**  
*Six contestants. The nation's favourite baking show. And a prize worth killing for...*  
For six amateur bakers, competing in *Bake Week* is a dream come true. When they arrive at Grafton Manor to compete, they're ready to do whatever it takes to win the ultimate prize: The Golden Spoon. But for the show's famous host, Betsy Martin, *Bake Week* is more than just a competition. Grafton Manor is her family's home and legacy – and *Bake Week* is her life's work. It's imperative that both continue to succeed. But as the competition commences, things begin to go awry. At first, it's small acts of sabotage. But when a body is discovered, it's clear that for someone in the competition, The Golden Spoon is a prize worth killing for...

Mystery TP \$32.99

### Death Rides a Pony

Fortune Telling mysteries  
**Miller, Garol**  
Sisters Hope and Summer Bailey run Bailey's Boutique, a mystic shop in Asheville, North Carolina. The annual charity festival is approaching, and the sisters are roped in to offering fortune telling to raise money. Before proceedings can begin, Summer receives a bad Tarot card reading. She fears she'll be left destitute from her upcoming divorce battle as the realtor charged with selling her and her soon-to-be ex-husband's home, Davis Scott, keeps making unwelcome appearances. Davis' most troublesome appearance comes when he's found dead at the festival. Davis had a bad reputation amongst the Asheville community, but who would go to the lengths of killing him... and during a charity event, no less! The Tarot cards predicted a death, but do they hold clues to who the murder is?

Mystery TP \$42.95

### The Dublin Railway Murder

The sensational true story of a Victorian murder mystery  
**Morris, Thomas**  
*Dublin, November 1856:* George Little, the chief cashier of the Broadstone railway terminus, is found dead, lying in a pool of blood beneath his desk. Yet, there is no sign of a murder weapon, and the office door is locked, apparently from the inside. Thousands of pounds in gold and silver are left untouched at the scene of the crime. Augustus Guy, Ireland's most experienced detective, teams up with Dublin's leading lawyer to investigate the murder – but the case defies all explanation. Then a local woman comes forward, claiming to know the killer... A thrilling investigation of a true Victorian crime at Dublin railway station, shortlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger for Nonfiction 2022.

True crime PBK \$22.99

### The Clementine Complex

**Mortimer, Bob**  
Unremarkable legal assistant Gary Thorn goes for a pint with his co-worker Brendan, unaware his life is about to change. There, Gary meets a beautiful woman, but she leaves before he catches her name. All he has to remember her by is the title of the book she was reading: *The Clementine*

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

*Complex*. And when Brendan goes missing, too, Gary needs to track down the girl he, now, calls Clementine to get some answers. And, so begins Gary's quest, through the estates and pie shops of South London, to find some answers and hopefully, some love and excitement in this page-turning, witty, and oddly sweet story with a cast of unforgettable characters. A delightfully-quirky mystery in the vein of Richard Osman and Nita Prose, from beloved comedian Bob Mortimer.

Mystery TP \$39.95

### The Sanctuary

**Murray, Andrew Hunter**

In a disintegrating and increasingly lawless Britain, a young man is travelling north. Ben is a young painter from the crowded, turbulent city. For six months, his fiancée Cara has been living on a remote island known as Sanctuary Rock, the property of millionaire philanthropist Sir John Pemberley. Now she has decided to break off their engagement, and stay there. Ben resolves to travel to the island to win Cara back. But the journey there is a harsh and challenging one, and when he does arrive, a terrible shock awaits him. As Ben begins to find his way around the island, he knows he must also work out – what has made Cara so determined to throw her old life away? And is Sanctuary Rock truly another Eden – or a prospect of hell?

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### The Rope Artist

**Nakamura, Fuminori**

Two detectives. Two identical women. One dead body – then two, then three, then four. All knotted up in Japan's underground BDSM scene and *kinbaku*, a form of rope bondage which bears a complex cultural history of spirituality, torture, cleansing, and sacrifice. As Togashi, a junior member of the police force, investigates the murder of a *kinbaku* instructor, he finds himself unable to resist his own private transgressive desires. In contrast, Togashi's Holmesian colleague Hayama is morally upright to a fault, with a stalwart commitment to the truth and nearly superhuman powers of deduction. When Hayama notices a dangerous measure of darkness within Togashi, he embarks on a parallel investigation, which soon spirals out of control.

Noir TP \$24.99

### Take No Names

**Nieh, Daniel**

Victor Li is a man without a past. To his new employer, Mark, he's just an anonymous hired hand to help with the dirty work. Together, they break into storage units that contain the possessions of the recently deported, pocketing whatever is worth selling. Only Victor and his sister, Jules, know that he's a wanted man. Amid the backpacks and suitcases, Victor makes the find of a lifetime: a gem rare and valuable enough to change his fortunes in an instant. But selling it on the sly... Nearly impossible. Thankfully, its former owner, a woman named Song Fei, also left a book of cryptic notes – including the name of a gemstone dealer in Mexico City. When Victor and Mark cross the southern border, they quickly realise that this gem is wrapped up in a much larger scheme than they imagined. In Mexico City,

shadowy international interests are jockeying for power, and they may need someone with Victor's talents – the same ones that got him in trouble in the first place.

Mystery/suspense TP \$34.99

### Crime Novels of the 1960s:

#### Nine Classic Thrillers

a Library of America boxed set

**O'Brien, Geoffrey (editor)**

Here, in two volumes, are nine timeless novels, including four lost classics now restored to print. In the 1960s, a number of gifted writers – some at the peak of their careers, others newcomers – reimagined American crime fiction. Here are nine novels of astonishing variety and inventiveness that pulse with the energies of that turbulent, transformative decade: Fredric Brown's *The Murderers* (1961), a darkly comic look at a murderous plot hatched on the hip fringes of Hollywood. Dan J Marlowe's terrifying *The Name of the Game Is Death* (1962), about a nihilistic career criminal on the run. Charles Williams' *Dead Calm* (1963), a masterful novel of natural peril and human evil on the high seas. Dorothy B Hughes' *The Expendable Man* (1963), an unsettling tale of racism and wrongful accusation in the American Southwest. Richard Stark's taut *The Score* (1964), in which the master thief Parker plots the looting of an entire city with the cool precision of an expert mechanic.

*The Fiend* (1964), in which Margaret Millar maps the interlocking anxieties of a seemingly tranquil California suburb through the rippling effects of a child's disappearance. Ed McBain's classic police procedural *Doll* (1965), a breakneck story that mixes murder, drugs, fashion models, and psychotherapy with the everyday professionalism of the 87th Precinct. *Run Man Run* (1966), Chester Himes' nightmarish tale of racism and police violence that follows a desperate young man, seeking safe haven in New York City, while being hunted by the law. Patricia Highsmith's ultimate meta-thriller, *The Tremor of Forgery* (1969), a novel in which a displaced traveller finds his own personality collapsing as he attempts to write a novel about a man coming undone. Each volume features an introduction by editor Geoffrey O'Brien (*Harboiled America*), newly-researched biographies of the writers and helpful notes, and an essay on textual selection.

Mystery/suspense HC \$159.95

### Crime Novels: Five Classic

#### Thrillers 1961–64

LOA 370

**O'Brien, Geoffrey (editor)**

In the 1960s, a number of gifted writers – some at the peak of their careers, others newcomers – reimagined American crime fiction through formal experimentation and the exploration of audacious new subjects and themes. This is the first of two volumes gathering the best of their work, nine novels of astonishing variety and inventiveness that pulse with the energies of that turbulent, transformative decade. In *The Murderers* (1961) by Fredric Brown, an out-of-work actor, hanging out with Beat drifters on the fringes of Hollywood, concocts a murder scheme that devolves into nightmare. This late work by a master in many genres is one of his darkest and most ingenious. Dan J Marlowe's *The Name*

*of the Game Is Death* (1962) channels the inner life of a violent criminal who freely acknowledges the truth of a prison psychiatrist's diagnosis: 'Your values are not civilised values'. Written with unnerving emotional authenticity, the story hurtles toward an annihilating climax. Charles Williams drew on his experience in the merchant marine for his thriller *Dead Calm* (1963). A newlywed couple alone on a small yacht find themselves at the mercy of the mysterious survivor they have rescued from a sinking ship, in a suspenseful story that chillingly evokes the perils of the open ocean. In the beautifully told and sharply observant *The Expendable Man* (1963), Dorothy B Hughes' final masterpiece of suspense, a young man in the American Southwest runs afoul of racial assumptions after he picks up a hitchhiker who is soon found dead. In 24 brilliantly-constructed novels, Richard Stark (a pen name of Donald Westlake) charted the career of Parker, a hard-nosed professional thief, with rigorous clarity. *The Score* (1964), a stand-out in the series, finds Parker and his criminal associates hatching a plot to rob simultaneously all the jewellery stores, payroll offices, and banks in a remote Western mining town, only to come up against the human limits of even the most intricate planning.

Mystery/suspense HC \$79.95

### Crime Novels: Four Classic

#### Thrillers 1964–69

LOA 371

**O'Brien, Geoffrey (editor)**

In the 1960s, a number of gifted writers – some at the peak of their careers, others newcomers – reimagined American crime fiction through formal experimentation and the exploration of audacious new subjects and themes. This is the second of two volumes gathering the best of their work, nine novels of astonishing variety and inventiveness that pulse with the energies of that turbulent, transformative decade. In Margaret Millar's *The Fiend* (1964) a nine-year-old girl disappears, and a local sex offender comes under suspicion. So begins a suspenseful investigation of an apparently tranquil California suburb that will expose a hidden tangle of fear and animosity, jealousy, and desperation. Ed McBain (a pen name of Evan Hunter) pioneered the multi-protagonist police procedural in his long-running series of 87th Precinct novels, set in a parallel Manhattan called Isola. *Doll* (1965) opens at a pitch of extreme violence and careens with breakneck speed through a tale that mixes murder, drugs, the modelling business, and psychotherapy with the everyday professionalism of McBain's harried cops. The racial paranoia of a drunken police detective in *Run Man Run* (1966) leads to a double murder and the relentless pursuit of the young Black college student who witnessed it. In Chester Himes' breathless narrative, New York City is a place with no safe havens for a fugitive whom no one wants to believe. In Patricia Highsmith's *The Tremor of Forgery* (1969) a man whose personality is disintegrating is writing a book called *The Tremor of Forgery* about a man whose personality is disintegrating, 'like a mountain collapsing from within'. Stranded unexpectedly in Tunisia, Howard Ingham struggles to hold on to himself in a strange

locale, while a slightly-damaged typewriter may be the only trace of a killing committed almost by accident.

Mystery/suspense HC \$79.95

### Brouhaha

**O'Hanlon, Ardal**

Dove Connolly is dead. That's not good for anyone in Tullyanna, never mind Dove. Now, his best friend Sharkey is home asking awkward questions about Dove's death, about the strange graphic novel he left behind, and, most of all, about Sandra. Sandra Mohan. Missing now for over a decade, whereabouts unknown. This, however, is a town dead set on keeping its secrets. And Sharkey is already drawing attention from all the wrong quarters... Over the past few days, Kevin, no flies on him, had sensed a tension in the town thanks to Dove Connolly's poor decision to blow his own head off. It wasn't just the act of self-harm, itself, the pointless splattering of blood and bone and brain all over his bedroom wall – that was the issue, unsettling as that was. In so doing, poor Dove had spread panic amongst the townspeople, raising all sorts of ugly questions, reviving all sorts of rumours, and inviting all sorts of unwelcome attention upon them. In Kevin's mind, there was method in Dove's madness. Showing a shocking assertiveness for possibly the first time in his life, and the last, says you, Dove blew the lid off the whole town. A mystery, a black comedy, a satire on Ireland's tangled politics of memory, *Brouhaha* is set in a small town on the Irish border, during the uneasy transition to peace. And peace doesn't come easy in these parts. A razor-sharp, violent, and darkly-comic novel from actor, comedian, and writer Ardal O'Hanlon.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

### The Last Devil to Die

Thursday Murder Club mysteries

**Osman, Richard**

Shocking news reaches the Thursday Murder Club. An old friend in the antiques business has been killed, and a dangerous package he was protecting has gone missing. As the gang springs into action they encounter art forgers, online fraudsters and drug dealers, as well as heartache close to home. With the body count rising, the package still missing and trouble firmly on their tail, has their luck finally run out? And who will be the last devil to die? The next book in the record-breaking Thursday Murder Club series from British national treasure Richard Osman. In case you've somehow missed all the (deserved) hype about these – start with *The Thursday Murder Club* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery TP \$34.99

### Bark to the Future

Chet & Bernie mysteries

**Quinn, Spencer**

When Chet the dog and his human partner, PI Bernie Little, are approached by down-and-out older man with a cardboard sign at an exit ramp, Bernie is shocked to discover the man is a former teammate from his high school baseball team. Chet and Bernie take Rocket out for a good meal; and, later, Bernie investigates Rocket's past, trying to figure out what exactly went wrong. Then, Rocket goes suspiciously missing. With his former teammate likely in danger, Bernie goes back

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

to his old high school for answers, where much that he remembers turns out not to be true – and there are powerful and dangerous people not happy with the questions Bernie is asking. Bernie soon learns that he misunderstood much about his high school years – and, now, Chet and Bernie are plunged into a dangerous case where the past isn't dead, and the future could be fatal.

Mystery TP \$34.99

### Praying Mantis

Harith Athreya mysteries

#### Raman, R V

Detective Harith Athreya is taking a well-earned break at a boutique hill in the Himalayan foothills. But his holiday is cut short, when mysterious bloody handprints appear on the walls around the resort. When a guest falls to her death, the hotelier casts suspicion on five young people who checked in at the same time as the victim but who all claim not to know her – or each other. Does one of these guests have something to do with the tragedy? Harith Athreya must get to the bottom of the case, before the murderer strikes again... The first in the Harith Athreya mystery series is *A Will to Kill* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery PBK \$22.99

### The Rule of Three Ripley, Sam

I didn't believe in the Rule of Three. Not at first. It was just one of those urban myths you hear about all the time. A story my boyfriend told me about a girl cursed by the number three. A girl whose parents had killed themselves after her sibling had died in an accident. Which meant that she was doomed to die too, because that's the Rule of Three. Bad things always happen in threes, they say, and they are right. Because it's happening again. But, this time, the curse is coming for me. And worst of all? *It's coming for you, too.*

Thriller TP \$32.99

### Payback in Death

Eve Dallas series

#### Robb, J D

When a retired police officer is found shot dead in his home, Eve and the team are called to the scene to investigate. It looks as though the dead man committed suicide; but Eve smells foul play. Is everything as straightforward as it appears, or is there more to it than meets the eye? Could someone have held a grudge, and delivered payback in death...?

Thriller TP \$34.99

### A Christmas Candy Killing

Killer Chocolate mysteries

#### Romeril, Christina

Identical twin sisters Alex and Hannah are the owners of Murder and Mayhem, a mystery bookshop that sells their famous poison-themed Killer Chocolates. But, now, there's a real killer in their midst. Shortly before Christmas, their septuagenarian neighbour, Jane, confides to Alex that a murderer from a true-crime show has taken up residence in the village. Unfortunately, she's also shared her suspicions with town gossip Netta. The next morning, Alex shows up at Jane's house to watch the show, but instead discovers Jane's

body, with a box of Killer Chocolates nearby. The sheriff quickly zeroes in on two suspects: Alex, a beneficiary in Jane's will, and Zack, a handyman who was seen leaving the crime scene. But Alex maintains her innocence and sets out to draft a list of other potential suspects – townsfolk who'd recently been seen arguing with Jane. When Alex gets hold of Jane's journal, she begins to understand the truth. But a bearer of ill tidings is arriving early this year – and Alex just might not make it to Christmas. The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$43.95

### Lavender House Rosen, Lev A C

*Lavender House, 1952*: the family seat of recently-deceased matriarch Irene Lamontaine, head of the famous Lamontaine soap empire. Irene's recipes for her signature scents are a well-guarded secret – but it's not the only one behind these gates. This estate offers a unique freedom, where none of the residents or staff hide who they are. But to keep their secret, they've needed to keep others out. And, now, they're worried they're keeping a murderer in. Irene's widow hires Evander Mills to uncover the truth behind her mysterious death. Andy, recently fired from the San Francisco police after being caught in a raid on a gay bar, is happy to accept – his calendar is wide open. And his secret is the kind of secret the Lamontaines understand. Andy had never imagined a world like Lavender House. He's seduced by the safety and freedom found behind its gates, where a queer family lives honestly and openly. But that honesty doesn't extend to everything, and he quickly finds himself a pawn in a family game of old money, subterfuge, and jealousy – and Irene's death is only the beginning. When your existence is a crime, everything you do is criminal, and the gates of Lavender House can't lock out the real world forever. Running a soap empire can be a dirty business.

Historical mystery/suspense TP \$39.95

### Black River Roy, Nilanjana

It takes a village to kill a child... The village of Teetarpur outside Delhi, is famous for nothing – until one of its children is found dead, hanging from the branch of a Jamun tree. In the largely Hindu village, suspicion quickly falls on an itinerant Muslim man, Mansoor. It's up to the local policeman Sub-Inspector Ombir Singh to get to the truth. With only one officer under him, and only a single working revolver between them, can he bring justice to a grieving father and an angry village – or will Teetarpur demand vengeance instead? This shockingly powerful literary thriller is set in a brilliantly-realised modern India simmering with tension and riven by growing religious intolerance.

Thriller TP \$34.99

### A Death in Door County

Monster Hunter mysteries

#### Ryan, Annelise

Morgan Carter, owner of the Odds and Ends bookstore in Door County, Wisconsin, has a hobby. When she's not tending the store, she's hunting cryptids – creatures whose existence is rumoured, but never proven to be real. It's a hobby that cost her parents

their lives, but one she'll never give up on. So, when a number of bodies turn up on the shores of Lake Michigan with injuries that look like bites from a giant unknown animal, police chief Jon Flanders turns to Morgan for help. A sceptic at heart, Morgan can't turn down the opportunity to find proof of an entity whose existence she can't definitively rule out. She and her beloved rescue dog, Newt, journey to the strait known as Death's Door to hunt for a homicidal monster in the lake – but if they're not careful, she just might be its next victim. The first in a new series.

Mystery TP \$32.99

### Resurrection

Halifax FP series

#### Simpson, Roger

*Jane Halifax is back in a twisted story of betrayal, where the formidable forensic psychiatrist will discover that the only person you can trust is yourself.* A near-fatal car accident left Jane Halifax in a coma, and when she wakes, she has no idea who she is... Initially comforted by unlikely spectres of past cases, Jane has no memory of the accident and is unaware of everyone else's concerns: the police, who believe she was deliberately run off the road; the lawyer, whose files were in her car at the time of the accident – files he never should have given her; her neurosurgeon, who fears a relapse; and her partner, Tim, who is slowly realising Jane remembers nothing of the last two years – including their relationship. A young woman named Luna is the only one who seems able to bring Jane back to the present. Linked to a 32-year-old case from Jane's past, Luna has a quest of her own she can only solve with Jane's help. But if Jane wants to help her, she first needs to heal, and discovers there are things other than the car accident hampering her recovery...

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### The Girl in the Eagle's Talons

Millennium series

#### Smirnoff, Karin

The untapped natural resources of Sweden's far north are sparking a gold rush, with the criminal underworld leading the charge. But it's not the prospect of riches that brings Lisbeth Salander to the small town of Gasskas. Her niece's mother is the latest woman in the region to have vanished without trace. Two things soon become clear: Svala is a remarkably gifted teenager – and she's being watched. Journalist Mikael Blomkvist is also heading north. He has seen better days. *Millennium* magazine is in its final print issue, and relations with his daughter are strained. Worse still, there are troubling rumours surrounding the man she's about to marry. When the truth behind the whispers explodes into violence, Salander emerges as Blomkvist's last hope. The new thriller from Swedish bestselling author Karin Smirnoff will submerge you in a world of conspiracy and betrayal, old enemies and new friends, snowbound wilderness, and corporate greed. Lisbeth Salander is *back*. The first in the Millennium series is, of course, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

### From a Far and Lovely Country

No 1 Ladies Detective Agency mysteries

#### Smith, Alexander McGill

If you are the founder and Managing Director of the No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, you may expect complete strangers to approach you with their problems when they see you having dinner with your husband in a peri-peri restaurant. And if you are Precious Ramotswe, you are a kind and helpful person who will be willing to take on a quest to find the relatives of a man who, many years ago, left the country for the uncertainties and dangers of a distant conflict. While that is going on, though, there may be other things that claim your attention – such as the shocking news that a club that calls itself the Cool Singles Evening Club is encouraging married men to pretend to be single and meet women under false pretences. Who can be behind such a distasteful venture? Mma Ramotswe shows great tact in dealing with this situation, and avoids harm to the innocent. And, all the time, she and her assistant, Grace Makutsi, are getting on with their normal lives – which, of course, include birthdays and the buying of birthday presents. A new dress makes a fine present – but not if, when being tried on, it splits in a way that is thought to be irreparable. Mma Potokwani has dealt with situations far worse than that, and in dealing with this local emergency, she shows her characteristic wisdom. At the end of the day, disaster is averted. Life in Botswana, that far and lovely country of the title, continues smoothly, which is what Mma Ramotswe and her friends want – and, most certainly, deserve.

Mystery TP \$32.99

### The Last to Disappear Spain, Jo

When young London professional Alex Evans is informed that his sister's body has been pulled from an icy lake in Northern Lapland, he assumes his irresponsible sister accidentally drowned. He travels to the wealthy winter resort, where Vicky worked as a tour guide, and meets Agatha Koskinen, the detective in charge. Agatha is a no-nonsense single mother of three – who already thinks there's more to Vicky's case than meets the eye. As the two form an unlikely alliance, Alex also begins to suspect the small town where his sister lived and died is harbouring secrets. It's not long before he learns that three other women have gone missing from the area in the past and that his sister may have left him a message. On the surface, Koppe, Lapland is a winter wonderland. But in this remote, frozen place, death seems only ever a heartbeat away.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

### Enola Holmes and the Mark of the Mongoose

Enola Holmes mysteries

#### Springer, Nancy

In May 1890, Enola Holmes is finally independent and, no longer hiding from her older brothers Sherlock and Mycroft, occasionally pursuing her chosen profession as a scientific perditorian – a finder of lost things and people. Wolcott Balestier, the representative of an American book



# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

publisher, arrived in London on a singular mission – to contract with English authors for their latest works. When Balestier disappears on the streets of London one day, his great friend Rudyard Kipling bursts into Enola's office, looking for help. Brash and unwilling to hire a young woman, instead he turns to Sherlock Holmes. Convinced that evil has befallen Balestier at the hands of the 'book pirates', he sets the elder Holmes on the trail. But Enola is not one to accept defeat, especially not to her brother, and sets off on her own. Can book publishing truly be so ruthless and deadly, or can the missing man be rescued from his apparent fate and returned to his friends and loved ones? The redoubtable Enola Holmes is determined to do just that, even if it means working with her brother Sherlock! If you're new to Holmes' little sister, start with *The Case of the Missing Marquess* (PBK, \$17.99).  
Sherlockiana PBK \$19.99

### The Monk

DS Cross mysteries

#### Sullivan, Tim

DS George Cross has always wondered why his mother left him when he was a child. Now, she is back in his life, he suddenly has answers. But this unexpected reunion is not anything he's used to dealing with. When a disturbing case lands on his desk, he is almost thankful for the return to normality. The body of a monk is found savagely beaten to death in a woodland near Bristol. Nothing is known about Brother Dominic's past, which makes investigating difficult. How can Cross unpick a crime when they don't know anything about the victim? And why would someone want to harm a monk? Discovering who Brother Dominic once was only makes the picture more puzzling. He was a much-loved and respected friend, brother, son – he had no enemies. Or, at least, none that are obvious. But looking into his past reveals that he was a very wealthy man, that he sacrificed it all for his faith. For a man who has nothing, it seems strange that greed could be the motive for his murder. But greed is a sin, after all... The next in the DS George Cross series, which can be read in any order. *We expect to have a softcover edition of The Monk later in the year.*  
Mystery HC \$42.99

### The Askham Accusation

Lake District mysteries

#### Tope, Rebecca

Autumn clouds are drawing in over the village of Askham, at the edge of the picturesque Lake District, and mourners, including Simmy Henderson, are heading to the funeral of Humphrey Craig. Taking a quiet moment later to visit the grave and admire the flowers with her florist's eye, Simmy meets two women: academic Lindsay Wilson and 90-year-old matriarch Pauline Parsons. Just 24 hours later, Mrs Parsons is found dead on Askham Fell, and Simmy faces questioning at Penrith police station. An accusation has been made, but if Simmy is to avoid arrest for a murder she did not commit, she will have to uncover the killer, herself.  
Mystery PBK \$22.99

### A Shot in the Dark

Constable Twitten mysteries

#### Truss, Lynne

*Brighton, 1957.* Inspector Steine rather enjoys his life as a policeman by the sea. No criminals, no crime, no stress. So, it's really rather annoying, when an ambitious new constable shows up to work and starts investigating a series of burglaries. And it's even more annoying when, after Constable Twitten is despatched to the theatre for the night, he sits next to a vicious theatre critic who is promptly shot dead, part way through the opening night of a new play. It seems Brighton may be in need of a police force, after all... A sparkling historical mystery set in sunny Sussex by the sea, perfect for fans of Richard Osman, Robert Thorogood, and Elly Griffiths. A reissue of the first in the series with fun new jacket art.  
Historical mystery (reissue) PBK \$19.99

### Murder By Milk Bottle

Constable Twitten mysteries

#### Truss, Lynne

The August bank holiday is approaching and after two extremely high-profile murder cases, Constable Twitten is eagerly anticipating a quiet spell at work. But then they find the bodies – and the milk bottles. Three seemingly unconnected victims – a hard-working AA patrolman, a would-be Beauty Queen, a catty BBC radio personality – have all been killed with the same, highly unusual murder weapon. Constable Twitten, Sergeant Brunswick, and Inspector Steine are initially baffled, the town is alarmed, and the local newspaper is delighted: after all, what sells papers better than a killer on the loose? Can our redoubtable trio solve the case and catch this most curious of killers before they strike again? A reissue with fun new jacket art.  
Historical mystery (reissue) PBK \$19.99

### The Man That Got Away

Constable Twitten mysteries

#### Truss, Lynne

It is summer in Brighton and the Brighton Belles are on hand to answer any holidaymaker's queries, no matter how big or small. The quickest way to the station, how many pebbles are on the beach and what exactly *has* happened to that young man lying in the deckchair, with blood dripping from him? Constable Twitten has a hunch that the fiendish murder may be connected to a notorious Brighton nightspot and the family that run it, but Inspector Steine is – as ever – distracted by other issues, not least having his own waxwork model made; while Sergeant Brunswick is just delighted to have spied an opportunity to finally be allowed to go undercover... A reissue with fun new jacket art.  
Historical mystery (reissue) PBK \$19.99

### Best Served Cold

Rick Montoya Italian mysteries

#### Wagner, David

When an old college friend leading a religious tour in Assisi asks interpreter Rick Montoya to fill in for their guide who's gone missing, Rick is happy to oblige. He's looking forward to seeing his old friend, and the food and wine of Umbria sound like the perfect reward for a tense translation job he's just completed for the police in Palermo

involving witness testimony against the mafia. But when the shady tour guide is found dead the next morning under suspicious circumstances, Rick's relaxing gig turns into an unofficial job assisting the local police inspector with her interviews of the tour group members. Could one of the pious pilgrims be a coldblooded killer? Or has one of the victim's many shady dealings finally caught up with him?  
Mystery TP \$32.99

### The End of the Game

Watt, Holly

Only a journalist goes where even the police fear to tread... Casey Benedict is the globetrotting star reporter at London paper *The Post*, is tenacious, fearless, inventive – and still in recovery, after her last major story jeopardised her life, and all of those close to her. Invited to spend the day at the races, she sees a man being hunted across the racecourse. A horrified Casey intervenes to save his life – and in doing so finds herself face to face with her next major investigation. From London to Budapest, from snowy mountain retreats to glitzy Mediterranean coastal resorts, Casey is on a desperate hunt to find the person behind the shadowy organisations responsible and expose them to the public before anyone else's lives are lost.  
Thriller TP \$32.99

### The Kind to Kill

Shana Merchant series

#### Wegert, Tessa

Former NYPD detective Shana Merchant is a skilled Senior Investigator keeping New York's beautiful Thousand Islands community safe. She's a loving partner. A strong woman. A survivor. She's also bound by blood to a serial killer. And after months of concealing the truth from the world as she hunted Blake Bram down, her secret is finally out. Shana just wants to get on with her life and win back her community's trust. But as Alexandria Bay fills up with tourists in advance of the annual festival known as Pirate Days, a visitor goes missing, and the case threatens to destroy not just the celebrations, but what remains of Shana's reputation. Shana's not to blame for the killer in her family, but people are starting to whisper that she attracts trouble. That A-Bay was safer before she arrived. And as the investigation deepens, Shana starts to fear that they may be right. Because while Bram is gone, he is far from forgotten.  
Mystery/suspense TP \$42.95

### A Shimmer of Red

Odessa Jones mysteries

#### Wesley, Valerie Wilson

With pandemic-fearing city dwellers fleeing to the New Jersey suburbs, Risko Realty – and Odessa Jones – are having their best year ever. Finally on solid financial footing, Odessa is debt free and looking forward to the future. But she doesn't need second sight to sense her new young co-worker, Anna Lee, is on edge – and straight-up terrified – in spite of her hot sales record and sunny, outgoing attitude. And when Anna is killed in a hit-and-run, Odessa sees immediately that it was no accident... It's soon clear that Anna was being stalked. But even with the help of family, friends – and Odessa's feisty cat, Juniper – Odessa is coming up with

more questions than clues. Why was Anna avoiding influential real-estate mogul Emily Delbarton? Why is Delbarton's decidedly creepy brother so fixated on Anna? Did Anna make enemies through her previous job at the town's exclusive gentlemen's club? And can Odessa rule out her own ex-fiancé – who's back in her life with an astounding connection to Anna – and wanting a second chance? Finding the answers will come at an increasingly deadly cost – one Odessa's talents must somehow trap a killer to repay...  
Mystery TP \$35.00

### Village Hall Vendetta

Whitelaw, Jonathan

*There's a fine art to murder...* Hal Mulberry has long dreamt of owning the iconic painting, Buttermere at Dawn. And now, the entrepreneur has got his hands on it, he's determined to bring it back to the Lakes where it belongs and put it on show, turning Penrith Village Hall into a cultural hotspot – with the painting at its heart. Journalist Jason Brazel is delighted to get the exclusive. Even if his mother-in-law, Amita, thinks he's making a fuss about an ugly piece of modern art. But when Amita uncovers a theory that the painting is cursed, she wonders just what Hal is bringing to their door: hex, hoax, or dirty deal? While the great and the good gather for the unveiling, someone's got murder on their mind. And it's up to Jason and Amita to find who is trying to put people out of the picture... permanently.  
Mystery PBK \$22.99

### Outback

DS Walker series

#### Wolf, Patricia

*Two missing backpackers. One vast outback.* DS Lucas Walker is on leave in his hometown, Caloodie, taking care of his dying grandmother. When two young German backpackers, Berndt and Rita, vanish from the area, he finds himself unofficially on the case. But why all the interest from the Federal Police when they have probably just ditched the heat and dust of the outback for the coast? Working in the organised crime unit has opened Walker's eyes to the growing drug trade in Australia's remote interior – and he becomes convinced there is more at play. As the number of days since the couple's disappearance climbs, Walker is joined by Rita's older sister. A detective herself with Berlin CID, she has flown to Australia – desperate to find her sister. Their search becomes ever more urgent as temperatures soar. Even if Walker does find the young couple, will it be too late? The gripping opening of a new crime series for fans of Jane Harper.  
Noir TP \$32.99

### Hard Country

Wortham, Reavis

Tucker Snow is as tough as they come, hardened by decades working as an undercover narcotics agent for the Texas Department of Public Safety. Through special dispensation from the governor, he and his brother Harley cut a wide swath through the criminal element of Northeast Texas. But tragedy comes calling after taking a dream job as a special ranger with the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association, when Tucker's wife and toddler are killed in

# Pulp Fiction

## Crime & Mystery September 2023 (continued)

a horrific traffic accident caused by a drug addled felon. Close to breaking, Tucker sets his badge aside to move his surviving teenage daughter outside of Ganther Bluff, a quiet town with enough room for them to mourn their unexpected loss. But peace doesn't last long for a man like Tucker Snow. Instead of settling into small-town life to heal from such an unimaginable loss, a fresh kind of hell hits them with full force. Crimes and secrets strangle this rural community, and when a new form of meth with the street name of gravel gets too close to home, it's enough for Tucker to put his badge back on and call Harley for help. The town will ultimately be better off with him as a resident lawman, but this unforgiving landscape will threaten everything Tucker holds dear.

Thriller TP \$32.99

### **The Devil's Flute Murders**

Detective Kindaichi mysteries

#### **Yokomizo, Seishi**

An ingenious and highly atmospheric classic whodunit from Japan's master of crime. Amid the rubble of post-war Tokyo, inside the grand Tsubaki house, a once-noble family is in mourning. The old viscount Tsubaki, a brooding, troubled composer, has been found dead. When the family gather for a divination to conjure the spirit of their departed patriarch, death visits the house once more, and the brilliant Kosuke Kindaichi is called in to investigate. But before he can get to the truth Kindaichi must uncover the Tsubakis' most disturbing secrets, while the gruesome murders continue... These Inspector Kindaichi reprints have gone gangbusters, here at Pulp Fiction. Recommended!

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

### **The Yellow Rambutan**

#### **Tree Mystery**

Crown Colony mysteries

#### **Yu, Ovidia**

*The War may be over, but Su Lin's troubles are returning – along with the British – to Singapore...* When two of Uncle Chen's associates come visiting Chen Mansion on the third day of Chinese New Year – an unlucky date in the Chinese calendar – Su Lin doesn't let them in. Not just because of the taboo, but because her uncle has been unwell. But the bad luck has clearly followed them, as one of them is soon discovered outside the house, dead, with a strip of dried yellow rambutan peel in his mouth. And the other associate has gone missing. Could this have anything to do with the recent British ban on opium consumption? Singapore is only just adjusting to the return of British rule and the authorities suspect the dead man was killed for threatening to expose the Chens for processing and distributing the drug. And as Su Lin adjusts to the return of Le Froy to Singapore, being Parshanti's bridesmaid and figuring out why scraps of yellow rambutan peel keep showing up around the mansion, she is forced to think about whether she has a future in the Chen family – and in the new, post-Second World War Singapore...

Historical mystery PBK \$24.99