

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2023

The Last Devil to Die

Thursday Murder Club mysteries 04

Richard Osman

It's rarely a quiet day for the Thursday Murder Club.

Shocking news reaches them – an old friend has been killed, and a dangerous package he was protecting has gone missing.

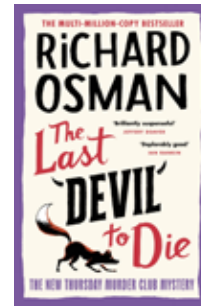
The gang's search leads them into the antiques business, where the tricks of the trade are as old as the objects themselves. As they encounter drug dealers, art forgers, and online fraudsters – as well as heartache close to home – Elizabeth, Joyce, Ron, and Ibrahim have no idea whom to trust.

With the body count rising, the clock ticking down, and trouble firmly on their tail, has their luck finally run out?

And who will be the last devil to die?

Latest in the series that's been outrageously popular. Start at the beginning with *The Thursday Murder Club* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery | TP | \$34.99



1

The Secret Hours

Mick Herron

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-reunified 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, timeservers, and burnouts... They all have jobs to do in the daylight.

But what they do, in the secret hours, reveals who they really are...

New, standalone – but kinda set in the Slough House universe (an origin story, of sorts). Sooo. Good. Recommended!

Suspense | TP | \$32.99



2

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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2023 (continued)

Wandering Through Life: A Memoir

Donna Leon

'As the author reaches her ninth decade [this makes] for a fascinating insight into her life and world, albeit with discretion and leaving tantalising hints at what lies beyond. One for the fans (and friends).' – *Crime Time*.

In a series of vignettes full of affection, irony, and good humour, Donna Leon narrates a remarkable life she feels has rather more happened to her than been planned.

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 homegrown tomatoes by the roadside, 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, embodied in her passion for bees – which informs the surprising crux of the Brunetti mystery in *Earthly Remains* – and her eager imagination for crime as she watches unsuspecting travellers on trains.

Yet, as Leon inspects the cracks in the wall of a friend's bedroom, caused by the seven-storey cruise ships making their way down Venice's canals, she admits regretfully that the thrill may be gone, as mass tourism renders the city less and less appealing to its longtime chronicler.

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.

'Few detective writers create so vivid, inclusive and convincing a narrative as Donna Leon, the expatriate American with the Venetian heart' – *Washington Post*.

Memoir | TP | \$35.00



3

Date with Evil

Dales Detective mysteries 08

Julia Chapman

In the eighth novel in the Dales Detective series, *Date with Evil*, Samson and Delilah are about to discover that all of their new cases may be connected to a network of evil that seems to be surrounding Bruncliffe. Will they solve them all before the danger comes directly to their door?

Evil is stalking the streets of Bruncliffe...

From stolen washing to inheritance investigations, Bruncliffe's Dales Detective Agency is being inundated with cases.

But with Samson O'Brien still in London helping the Met Police clear his name, and the newly appointed member of the investigations team, Ida Capstick, distracted by her brother George's insistence that their farm is haunted, Delilah Metcalfe is struggling to meet the mounting demands for the agency's services.

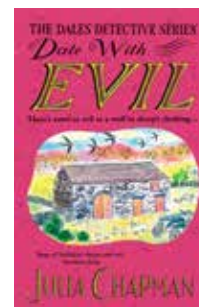
So, when the mother of a local estate agent arrives at the offices insisting her son is missing, Delilah is relieved to have Samson return to help.

Little do the detective duo know that several of their cases are about to collide when identifying the whereabouts of the missing man becomes something far more sinister. Something that will finally expose the network of evil which has been infiltrating the Dales town over the past decade, and in doing so place Delilah in the utmost danger...

'A classic whodunit set in the spectacular landscape of the Yorkshire Dales' – *Cath Staincliffe*.

Our regulars are loving these! Like most mystery series, the books stand alone – but if you like, start with the first – *A Date with Death* (PBK, \$22.99)

Mystery | PBK | \$22.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2023 (continued)

Murdle: Solve 100 Deliciously Devious Murder Mystery Logic

G T Karber

Bored of 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.

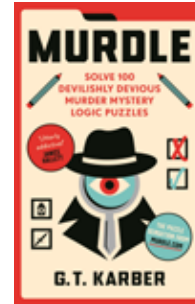
- Who committed the ghastly deed?
- What weapon was used to dispatch the victim?
- Where did the calculated demise occur?

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.

Knew it'd fly out – and it did. And there's another coming soon! Watch this space...

Puzzles | TP | \$32.99



5

Death on the Down Beat: An Orchestral Fantasy of Detection

British Library Crime Classics

Sebastian Farr

'A one-of-a-kind treat from the golden age.' – *Kirkus Reviews*.

From music conductor turned crime fiction novelist, Sebastian Farr, comes an epistolary *tour de force* that hits the perfect murderous crescendo for music and crime fiction aficionados alike.

During a performance of Strauss' tone poem 'A Hero's Life', the obnoxious conductor, Sir Noel Grampian, is shot dead in full view of the Maningpool Municipal Orchestra. He had many enemies – musicians and music critics among them – but to be killed in mid flow suggests an act of the coldest calculation.

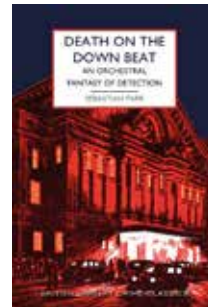
Told through the letters of Detective Inspector Alan Hope to his wife, he puzzles over his findings, and other documents such as the letters of members of the orchestra and musical notation holding clues to the crime.

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.

Latest in this series of wonderful Golden Age reissues – great fun!

Classic mystery | TP | \$33.95



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2023 (continued)

The Raging Storm

Two Rivers mysteries 03

Ann Cleeves

When Jem Rosco – sailor, adventurer, and local legend – blows into town in the middle of an autumn gale, the residents of Greystone, Devon, are delighted to have a celebrity in their midst. The residents think nothing of it when Rosco disappears again; that's the sort of man he is.

Until the lifeboat is launched to a hoax call-out during a raging storm 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 DI Matthew Venn. He came to the remote village as a child, its community populated by the Barum Brethren that he parted ways with, so when superstition and rumour mix and another body is found in the cove, Matthew soon finds his judgement clouded.

As the stormy winds howl and the village is cut off, Venn and his team start their investigation, little realizing their own lives might be in danger...

Latest from the acclaimed author of the Vera series.

Mystery | TP | \$34.99



7

Payback in Death

Eve Dallas 57

J D Robb

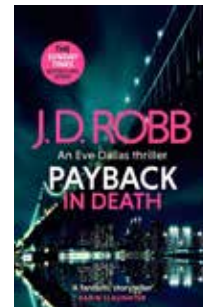
Lt Eve Dallas is just home from a long overdue vacation when she responds to a call of an unattended death. The victim is Martin Greenleaf, retired Internal Affairs Captain.

At first, glance, the scene appears to be suicide, but the closer Eve examines the body, the more suspicious she becomes.

An unlocked open window, a loving wife and family, a too-perfect suicide note – Eve's gut says it's a homicide. After all, Greenleaf put a lot of dirty cops away during his 47 years in Internal Affairs. It could very well be payback – and she will not rest until the case is closed.

Latest in the long running series – J D Robb is a bit of a force of nature!

Thriller | TP | \$34.99



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Crime & Mystery Bestsellers September 2023 (continued)

A Shot in the Dark

Constable Twitten mysteries 01

Lynne Truss

A giddy spell of sheer delight' – *Daily Mail*.

'Ingenious' – *Sunday Times Crime Club*.

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... partway through the opening night of a new play.

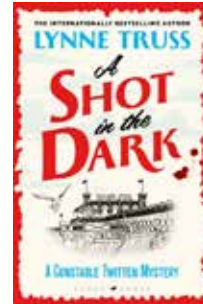
It seems Brighton may be in need of a police force, after all...

'A sparkling historical mystery set in sunny Sussex by the sea, perfect for fans of Richard Osman, Robert Thorogood, and Elly Griffiths' – *publisher's blurb*.

This came out in 2018. It did OK, sales-wise – but wasn't huge for us. But now there are a few more – in really appealing new jackets – and this one's back to match the new look – and has gone off!

All great fun, recommended!

Historical mystery | PBK | \$19.99



9

Ripper

Shelley Burr

The second novel from the award-winning author of international bestseller *Wake* (PBK, \$22.99), picked as a *Guardian* Book of the Year in 2022.

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 deaths fifteen years ago was her innocuous little tea shop.

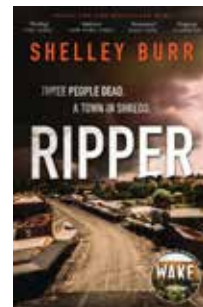
She knows that the consequences of catching the Ripper still haunt her policeman husband and their marriage to this day and that some of her neighbours are desperate – desperate enough to welcome a dark tourism company keen to cash in on Rainier's reputation as the murder town.

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?

More Oz 'bush-noir' – from one of the finest and most exciting proponents of the sub-genre!

Noir | TP | \$32.99



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