

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery Catalogue December 2023

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Includes new books by:

Kobby Ben Ben
S J Bennett
Amy Chua
Jack Grimwood
Rosemary Hennigan
Keigo Higashino
Kerryn Mayne
Peter Swanson
Irvine Welsh
... and many others.

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

Leave the World Behind

film tie-in edition

Alam, Rumaan

Amanda and Clay head to a remote corner of Long Island expecting a holiday: a quiet reprieve from life in New York City, quality time with their teenage son and daughter and a taste of the good life in the luxurious home they've rented for the week. But with a late-night knock on the door, the spell is broken. Ruth and G H, an older couple who claim to own the home, have arrived there in a panic. These strangers say that a sudden power outage has swept the city, and – with nowhere else to turn – they have come to the country in search of shelter. But with the TV and internet down, and no phone service, the facts are unknowable. Should Amanda and Clay trust this couple – and vice versa? What has happened back in New York? Is the holiday home, isolated from civilisation, a truly safe place for their families? And are they safe from one another? A magnetic novel about two families, strangers to each other, who are forced together on a long weekend gone terribly wrong. Soon to be a major global Netflix adaptation starring Julia Roberts, Kevin Bacon, Ethan Hawke, and Mahershala Ali.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Murder at Haven's Rock

Haven's Rock series

Armstrong, Kelley

Haven's Rock, Yukon. Population: 0.

Deep in the Yukon wilderness, a town is being built. A place for people to disappear, a fresh start from a life on the run. Haven's Rock isn't the first town of this kind, something detective Casey Duncan and her husband, Sheriff Eric Dalton, know firsthand. They met in the original town of Rockton. But greed and deception led the couple to financing a new refuge for those in need. This time around, they get to decide which applicants are approved for residency. There's only one rule in Haven's Rock: stay out of the forest. When two of the town's construction crew members break it and go missing, Casey and Eric are called in, ahead of schedule, to track them down. When a body is discovered – well hidden, with evidence of foul play – Casey and Eric must find out what happened to the dead woman, and locate those still missing. The longer Casey and Eric don't know what happened, the more danger everyone is in. The first in a new series.

Mystery TP \$39.95

No One Dies Yet

Ben Ben, Kobby

2019, the Year of Return. It has been exactly 400 years since the first slave ships left Ghana for America. Ghana has now opened its doors to Black diasporans, encouraging them to return and get to know the land of

their ancestors. Elton, Vincent, and Scott arrive from America to visit preserved sites from the transatlantic slave route, and to explore the country's underground queer scene. Their activities are narrated by their two combative guides: Kobby, their way into Accra's privileged circles; and Nana, the voice of tradition and religious principle. The pair's tense relationship sets the tone for what becomes a shocking and unsettling tale of murder that is at times funny, at times erotic, yet always outspoken and iconoclastic.

Mystery/suspense TP \$29.99

Murder on the Christmas Express

Benedict, Alexandra

Eighteen passengers. Seven stops. One killer.

In the early hours of Christmas Eve, the sleeper train to the Highlands is derailed, along with the festive plans of its travellers. With the train stuck in snow in the middle of nowhere, a killer stalks its carriages, picking off passengers one by one. Those who sleep on the sleeper train may never wake again. Can former Met detective Roz Parker find the killer, before they kill again? *All aboard...*

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder Most Royal

HM the Queen Investigates

Bennett, S J

December 2016. A human hand and a bag of drugs are found washed up, separately, on a beach next to the Queen's estate at Sandringham. The Queen identifies the 70-year-old victim, Edward St Cyr, from his signet ring. But the search for his killer is not so straightforward. Suspects include the Queen's horse groom, a shady land agent, an aristocrat neighbour, as well as the victim's many cousins and relations. The investigation leads the Queen – and her trusted assistant, Rozie – to a local pigeon racing club, back to London, and to the ancient, moated Godwick Hall. But how do the seemingly disparate pieces of the puzzle fit together? And who is the next victim? This highly-original and delightfully-clever crime series – in which Queen Elizabeth II secretly solves crimes, while carrying out her royal duties – begins with *The Windsor Knot* (PBK, \$22.99). Perfect for fans of Richard Osman and Agatha Christie.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Four Funerals and Maybe a Wedding

Royal Spyness mysteries

Bowen, Rhys

In the days leading up to her wedding to Darcy O'Mara, Lady Georgiana Rannoch takes on the responsibilities of a grand estate, but proving she can run a household just may be the death of her... If only Darcy and I had eloped! What I thought would be a simple wedding has been transformed into

a grand affair, thanks to the attendance of the queen, who has offered up the princesses as bridesmaids. Silly me! I thought that withdrawing from the royal line of succession would simplify my life. But before Darcy and I tie the knot in front of queen and country, we have to find a place to live as man and wife. House hunting turns out to be a pretty grim affair. Just as we start to lose hope, my globe-trotting godfather offers us his fully staffed country estate. Mistress of Eynsleigh, I shall be! With Darcy off in parts unknown, I head to Eynsleigh, alone, only to have my hopes dashed. The grounds are in disarray, and the small staff is suspiciously incompetent. Not to mention the gas tap leak in my bedroom, which I can only imagine was an attempt on my life. Something rotten is afoot-and bringing the place up to snuff may put me six feet under, before I even get a chance to walk down the aisle... A reissue.

Historical mystery (reissue) PBK \$24.99

Love and Death Among the Cheetahs

Royal Spyness mysteries

Bowen, Rhys

Georgie and Darcy are finally on their honeymoon, in Kenya's Happy Valley, but murder crashes the party... I was so excited when Darcy announced, out of the blue, that we were flying to Kenya for our extended honeymoon. Now that we are here, I suspect he has actually been sent to fulfil another secret mission. I am trying very hard not to pick a fight about it, because after all, we are in paradise! Darcy finally confides that there have been robberies in London and Paris. It seems the thief was a member of the aristocracy and may have fled to Kenya. Since we are staying in the Happy Valley-the centre of upper-class English life-we are well positioned to hunt for clues and ferret out possible suspects. Now, that I am a sophisticated married woman, I am doing my best to sound like one. But, crickey! These aristocrats are a thoroughly loathsome sort enjoying a completely decadent lifestyle filled with wild parties and rampant infidelity. And one of the leading lights in the community, Lord Cheriton, has the nerve to make a play for me. While I am on my honeymoon! Of course, I put an end to that right off. When he is found bloodied and lifeless along a lonely stretch of road, it appears he fell victim to a lion. But it seems that the Happy Valley community wants to close the case a bit too quickly. Darcy and I soon discover that there is much more than a simple robbery and an animal attack to contend with here in Kenya. Nearly everyone has a motive to want Lord Cheriton dead and some will go to great lengths to silence anyone who asks too many questions. The hunt is on! I just hope I can survive my honeymoon long enough to catch a killer... A reissue.

Historical mystery (reissue) PBK \$24.99

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All the Blood We Share

Bruce, Camilla

Something dark and twisted has taken root at the Bender Inn... At first, the townspeople of Cherryvale welcome rising medium Kate Bender and her family. No one knows about their other business, the shortcut to a better life. And why shouldn't their family prosper? They're careful. It's only from those who travel alone and can easily disappear, that the Benders demand their pound of flesh. But even a gifted seer, like Kate, can make a misstep. Now, as the secrets beneath the family orchard threaten to bring them all to ruin, the Benders must sharpen their craft – or vanish themselves. A new deliciously dark novel based on the real Bloody Benders, a family of serial killers in the old American West...

Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Syrup to No Good

Maple Syrup mysteries

Bruns, Catherine

Spring has finally come to Sugar Ridge, Vermont, and with it the end of syrup-making season. But Leila Khoury, new owner of Sappy Endings Farm, won't be making like molasses any time soon. Her best friend Heather's wedding is coming up, and Leila will do anything to make sure it lives up to all her sweetest dreams. Even with Leila's own romantic past stirring up trouble, everything is going to plan until the bridal shower ends up with a body count. Heather's rich and backstabbing aunt had a whole orchard of enemies, so Leila will have her work cut out for her. Can she tap the killer before Heather's dream wedding becomes a nightmare?

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Deadly Game

Gaine, Michael

Harry Taylor is an old school copper, ex-SAS, no-nonsense, and more likely to kick open a door than turn the handle. In this, his first adventure, a lost lump of uranium leads him deep into the world of drug trafficking, Russian oligarchy, Caribbean glamour, and evil hiding in the genteel England countryside. He has no respect for red tape, or political reputations – but he's great at catching criminals. And all his unorthodox skills will be needed as an extraordinary situation unfolds on his doorstep: a metal box of radioactive material is found at a dump in Stepney, East London, but before the police can arrive it is stolen in a violent raid. With security agencies across the world on red alert, it's Harry and his unconventional team from the Met who must hit the streets in search of a lead. They soon have two wildly different suspects, aristocratic art dealer Julian Smythe in London and oligarch Vladimir Voldrev in Barbados. But the pressure is on. How much time does Harry have, and how many more players will join the action, before the missing uranium is lighting up the sky? An explosive international thriller from the Hollywood legend and British icon Sir Michael Caine.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Blaze Me a Sun

Carlsson, Christoffer

In February 1986, the Halland police receive a call from a man who claims to have attacked his first victim. 'I'm going to do it again,' he says, before the line cuts off. By the time police officer Sven Jörgensson reaches the crime scene, the woman is taking her last breath. For Sven, this will prove a decisive moment. On the same night, Sweden plunges into a state of shock after the murder of the prime minister. Could there possibly be a connection? As Sven becomes obsessed with the case, two more fall victim. For years, Sven remains haunted by the murders he cannot solve, fearing the killer will strike again. Having failed to catch him, Sven retires from the police, passing his obsession to his son, who has joined the force to be closer to his father. Decades later, the case unexpectedly resurfaces when a novelist returns home to Halland amid a failed marriage and a sputtering career. The writer befriends the retired police officer, who helps the novelist – our narrator – unspool the many strands of this engrossing tale about a community confronting its shames and legacies.

Thriller TP \$39.95

Bad Luck and Trouble

Jack Reacher, TV tie-in

Child, Lee

You do not mess with Jack Reacher. He is as close to untraceable, as a person can get. A loner comfortable in his anonymity and solitude. So, when a member of his old Army unit finds a way to contact him, he knows this has to be serious. You do not mess with the Special Investigators. In the past the elite team always watched each other's backs. Now, one of them has shown up dead in the California desert and six more are missing. Reacher's old buddies are in big trouble, and he can't let that go.

Thriller (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Golden Gate

Chua, Amy

Berkeley, California, 1944: A former presidential candidate is assassinated in one of the rooms at the opulent Claremont Hotel. A rich industrialist, Walter Wilkinson could have been targeted by any number of adversaries. But Detective Al Sullivan's investigation brings up the spectre of another tragedy at the Claremont, 10 years earlier: the death of seven-year-old Iris Stafford, a member of the wealthy and influential Bainbridge family. Some say she haunts the Claremont still. The many threads of the case keep leading Sullivan back to the three remaining Bainbridge heiresses, now adults: Iris' sister, Isabella, and her cousins Cassie and Nicole. Determined not to let anything distract him from the truth – not the powerful influence of Bainbridges' grandmother, or the political aspirations of Berkeley's district attorney, or the interest of Chinese first lady Madame Chiang Kai-Shek – Sullivan follows his investigation to its devastating conclusion. Chua's page-turning debut brings to life a historical era rife with turbulent social forces and ground-breaking forensic advances, when access to power – and, therefore, justice – hinged on gender, race, and class.

Historical mystery TP \$32.99

The Man in the Shadows

World's End Bureau mysteries

Clare, Alys

London, August 1881. After a few, difficult months, the World's End Investigation Bureau is thriving. Affairs, sex scandals, divorces... Lily Raynor is delighted to have so much work for herself and her capable assistant, Felix Wilbraham, but she can't help wishing for a case that doesn't involve the rich, over-indulged – and not terribly moral – upper classes. It's a wish she soon has cause to regret. The Reverend James Jellicote arrives at the Bureau, seeking help on behalf of an elderly Jewish refugee who fled the pogroms in Russia. Yelisaveta and her young grandson arrived safely in London, only for the unspeakable to happen: 11-year-old Yakov disappeared, without a trace. The case is impossible to refuse... but seems equally impossible to solve. And troubles don't come alone. Soon, Lily and Felix have another impossible puzzle on their hands. Hop-picker Abel Spokewright was hanged last year for murder, but his brother Jared is determined to clear his name. If Abel didn't kill cheerful, pretty dairymaid Effie, though, who did? Only one thing's certain: the murderer isn't going to be happy about having the past raked up...

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

Another Man's Poison

Palmer-Jones mysteries

Gleaves, Ann

Molly Palmer-Jones arrives at her aunt Ursula's house one morning, only to find her body slumped lifeless on the sofa... Ursula Ottway's beautiful cottage is wanted by her landlord, politician Marcus Grenville, so that he can convert it into a holiday residence. When Ursula discovers that the illegal use of poisoned bait on Grenville's land has killed not only a rare bird of prey, but also her two beloved cats, she storms to his house and threatens revenge. Shocked and saddened to find Ursula's body the morning after this conflict, Molly and her husband George decide to piece together a picture of Ursula's last days. And it soon becomes clear that, for many people on the estate, hers was a very convenient death. The Palmer-Joneses embark on a murder investigation, but even their professional expertise doesn't prepare them for what is to follow. A lifetime's worth of secrets must surface before a killer can finally be brought to justice... A reissue.

Mystery (reissue) TP \$32.99

Sea Fever

Palmer-Jones mysteries

Gleaves, Ann

A rare and unrecorded sea bird captures all the birders attention whilst right under their noses the most fanatical birder of them all disappears... Later, Greg Franks' corpse, the head bludgeoned, is found floating in the sea. Had it not been for Greg Franks, amateur detective George Palmer-Jones would not have been on the bird-watching trip in Cornwall, in the first place. He had been hired by Greg Franks' anxious parents to try and persuade their errant son to return home. George would have turned the case down flat, but the offer of a free weekend's bird watching was too tempting to resist.

Now, he must unhappily shoulder the burden of finding why the young man had been murdered. Who hated Franks enough to kill him? Almost everyone, it seems... A reissue. Mystery (reissue) TP \$32.99

I Will Find You

Goben, Harlan

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

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Ambassador

Andy Roark mysteries

Golt, Peter

Boston, 1985. Private Investigator – and former Special Forces operative – Andy Roark knows he doesn't fit in with the regular clientele at the Harvard Club, and that's fine by him. He's at the elegant bar for one reason only: to meet with the former ambassador of Laos. Ambassador Gordon Stevenson has a job for him... and Roark's here to turn it down. So what, if Stevenson's been getting death threats? After what he did during the Vietnam war, the lives lost under his incompetent command, Roark's almost tempted to cheer his would-be assassin on. But then Roark finds out why he's been headhunted for the job. The FBI believe one of Roark's old army comrades is behind the threats, and only a fellow Green Beret can hunt the culprit down. Too many of Roark's brothers in arms are dead. If he can save an old friend from making a terrible mistake, he has no choice but to set his feelings aside and take the case. But old grudges and dark secrets are at play, and Roark soon finds it's not just the ambassador's life that's in danger – it's his own.

Mystery/suspense TP \$42.95

Last Seen in Santorini

Miss Ashford Investigates

Gonroy, Vivian

A gorgeous Greek island... A stranger in a veil... And a fatal fall from the cliffs... Miss Atalanta Ashford is sightseeing near Venice when a mysterious veiled lady approaches her with the urgent request to look into her daughter's mysterious death on the idyllic Greek island of Santorini. While working as a companion for the eminent Buardi family, the unfortunate girl took a plunge from the dramatic cliffs during a walk alone. But is all as it seems? Sailing to Santorini and going undercover as the new companion, Miss Ashford soon discovers that her client hasn't told her the

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full truth. Someone is watching her. Now, she must unravel the mystery and prevent the breathtaking azure sea views from becoming the last she too will ever see... A sequel to *Mystery in Provence* (TP, \$22.99).
Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Frequent Hearses

Gervase Fen mysteries

Crispin, Edmund

When young actress Gloria Scott throws herself from Waterloo Bridge, the news sends shockwaves through her film studio. Luckily, Gervase Fen is in London to investigate. But when someone acts fast to cover up any evidence – removing all signs of Ms Scott's identity from her apartment and poisoning a suspicious cameraman – the truth is hard to find... As inventive as Agatha Christie, as hilarious as P G Wodehouse – discover the delightful detective stories of Edmund Crispin. Crime fiction at its quirkiest and best.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

Glimpses of the Moon

Gervase Fen mysteries

Crispin, Edmund

When a decapitated head is seen floating down the river in the Devon village of Aller, the rural calm is shattered. Soon, the corpses are multiplying, and the entire community is involved in the hunt for the murderer. While many chase false trails, it is left to Gervase Fen, Oxford don and amateur criminologist, to uncover the sordid truth... As inventive as Agatha Christie, as hilarious as P G Wodehouse – discover the delightful detective stories of Edmund Crispin. Crime fiction at its quirkiest and best.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

The Long Divorce

Gervase Fen mysteries

Crispin, Edmund

Long inhabited by a collection of profoundly offbeat locals, there has been a recent influx of the newly rich and well to do arriving in the village of Cotten Abbas... and not everyone is happy about it. New arrivals are receiving anonymous letters that know a little too much about dark secrets and dirty laundry. Gervase Fen is summoned to the scene, but soon finds more than he bargained for. A suicide on Friday, a murder by Sunday, and some villagers that seem hell bent on keeping this mystery unsolved... As inventive as Agatha Christie, as hilarious as P G Wodehouse – discover the delightful detective stories of Edmund Crispin. Crime fiction at its quirkiest and best.

Classic mystery PBK \$22.99

Reflections of Deviance

Will Traynor Forensic mysteries

Cross, A J

Marion Cane swapped a successful city career in New York and London for a quiet retirement in a wealthy village on the outskirts of Birmingham. So, why was she found dead in her new home, two years later? Marion's death was thought to be due to natural causes, until an anonymous note leads Superintendent John Heritage of West Midlands Police to ask DCI Bernard Watts and PC Chloe Judd to make enquiries. But when they arrive in Newton Heights,

one of the villagers mysteriously vanishes. Still reeling from his own devastating news, criminologist Will Traynor is brought in to assist the team with an increasingly complex and disturbing investigation. Can Traynor push his own demons aside to see through distorted versions of reality, dangerous secrets, and dark lies in his pursuit of the truth?

Mystery/suspense TP \$42.95

Kennedy 35

Box 88 series

Gumming, Charles

1995: In the wake of the Rwandan genocide, 24-year-old spy Lachlan Kite and his girlfriend, Martha Raine, are sent to Senegal on the trail of a hunted war criminal. The mission threatens to spiral out of control, forcing Kite to make choices that will have devastating consequences not only for his career at top-secret intelligence agency BOX 88, but also for his relationship with Martha. 2023: Eric Appiah, an old friend from Kite's days at school and an off-the-record BOX 88 asset, makes contact with explosive information about what happened, all those years ago, in West Africa. When tragedy strikes, Kite must use all his resources to bring down a criminal network with links to international terror... and protect Martha from possible assassination.

Suspense TP \$32.99

1795: the Order of the Furies

Jean Mickel Cardell mysteries

Dag, Niklas Watt och

It is 1795 and evil lurks in the winding alleys of Stockholm. Tycho Ceton prowls the city, willing to do anything to survive and reclaim the honour he has lost. No one knows what he is planning next but Emil Winge, haunted by the ghosts of his past, is determined to stop him. Meanwhile, Jean Mickel Cardell is preoccupied with his own search for Anna Stina Knapp. She may have in her possession a letter which could have devastating consequences in the wrong hands. All the while, hell looms, inexorably...

Historical noir TP \$32.99

Boy Swallows Universe

TV tie-in edition

Dalton, Trent

Brisbane, 1985: A lost father, a mute brother, a junkie mum, a heroin dealer for a stepfather, and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli Bell's life isn't complicated enough, already. He's just trying to follow his heart and understand what it means to be a good man, but fate keeps throwing obstacles in his way – not the least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer. But, now, Eli's life is going to get a whole lot more serious: he's about to meet the father he doesn't remember, break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day to rescue his mum, come face to face with the criminals who tore his world apart, and fall in love with the girl of his dreams. A story of brotherhood, true love, and the most unlikely of friendships, *Boy Swallows Universe* is heartbreaking, joyous and exhilarating. Australia's favourite novel, now a major Netflix series, starring Travis Fimmel, Simon Baker, Phoebe Tonkin, Bryan Brown and Anthony La Paglia.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Watchmaker's Hand

Lincoln Rhyme series

Deaver, Jeffery

Looming over the Manhattan skyline, a lone crane comes crashing down into the city, sending panic radiating across New York City. The NYPD believes a political group is behind the sabotage and turns to Lincoln Rhyme for help. He knows this is just the beginning. Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs must race to stop further attacks before more chaos is unleashed upon the city. Watching Rhyme from the shadows is the elusive assassin The Watchmaker, and he's preparing to strike...

Thriller TP \$32.99

The House of Now and Then Dixon, Jo

After a humiliating public scandal, Olivia is hiding from the press in a remote Tasmanian house – when an unknown man knocks on her door, seeking Pippa, a woman who once lived there. His father, Jeremy, has died, leaving behind a letter for this mysterious woman. Olivia wants to help, but can she risk revealing her own sordid past? Thirty years earlier, bohemian wild-child Pippa and her best friend Jeremy spend a perfect summer in the house. Pippa falls deeply in love with local boy Leo, and they begin to plan a life of adventure together, much to the displeasure of his conservative and controlling family. One night Leo leaves the house to confront his parents... and is never seen again. As Olivia is drawn into solving the mystery, the unexpected and tragic story of Pippa, Jeremy, and Leo is slowly uncovered. At the same time, a path to reclaiming her own life opens, if only she has the courage to take it. Shortlisted for the Ned Kelly Award for Best Debut Crime Fiction 2023.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Dark Queen Wary

Margaret Beaufort Tudor mysteries

Doherty, Paul

1472. Edward IV reigns triumphant over England and his rivals, the Lancastrians. But he is uneasy, for one true claimant remains: the young Henry Tudor, son of Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond. Henry's continued existence worries Edward, so he hatches a plan to bring a cuckoo into the nest – an imposter prince is presented to Margaret Beaufort as her son. Margaret is no fool and knows she must play this game of kings carefully... When she is invited to George Neville's beautiful home 'The Moor' to help investigate some mysterious and gruesome murders she knows dark forces are at play. Whispers of a shadowy figure called Achitophel hang over the house's occupants, like the impenetrable mist that descended on the battle of Barnet the previous year and secured the crown for Edward. And as the body count increases, Margaret suspects there is a link to that fateful battle and the murderer who seems relentless in his thirst for blood... Can Margaret protect her life as well as her true son's claim to the throne?

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

Death Comes to the Costa del Sol

Astrid Swift mysteries

Eccleston, M H

Amidst the sun and sangria, something sinister is lurking on the Spanish coast... It's the end of the summer season in the harbour town of Estepona. The holidaymakers are heading home, leaving the British expats to reclaim their little corner of paradise. Art restorer Astrid Swift has sailed into town to reunite with her estranged father, but has instead been tasked with catching an internet troll who's been threatening his wife. Soon, Astrid is entwined in the lives of all the expats, from the boozy local heckler to the socially awkward beachcomber. And then she discovers a body in the bunker of the golf course... Can Astrid uncover the 'Costa del Troll' behind the poison-pen campaign before they reveal everyone's secret past? Or will they tear this cosy community – including Astrid and her father – even further apart? The Astrid Swift cosy mysteries are perfect for fans of Richard Osman, Janice Hallett, and S J Bennett. The first is *The Trust* (PBK, \$19.99).

Mystery PBK \$22.99

The Goffin Trail

Lake District Cold-Case mysteries

Edwards, Martin

Oxford historian Daniel Kind and his partner Miranda both want to escape to a new life. On impulse they buy a cottage in Brackdale, an idyllic valley in the Lake District. But though they hope to live the dream, the past soon catches up with them. Tarn Cottage was once home to Barrie Gilpin, suspected of a savage murder. A young woman's body was found on the Sacrifice Stone, an ancient pagan site up on the fell, but Barrie died before he could be arrested. Daniel has personal reasons for becoming fascinated by the case and for believing in Barrie's innocence. When the police launch a cold case review, Brackdale's skeletons begin to rattle, and the lives of Daniel and DCI Hannah Scarlett become strangely entwined. Daniel and Hannah each find themselves risking their lives as they search for a ruthless murderer who is prepared to kill again to hide a shocking secret. A reissue of the first in the series.

Mystery (reissue) PBK \$22.99

The Silent Man

Fennell, David

A father is murdered in the dead of night in his London home, his head wrapped tightly in tape, a crude sad face pinned over his facial features. But the victim's only child is left alive and unharmed at the scene. Met Police detectives Grace Archer and Harry Quinn have more immediate concerns. Notorious gangster Frankie White has placed a target on Archer's back, and there's no one he won't harm to get to her. Then a second family is murdered, leaving young Uma Whitmore as the only survivor. Once again, the victim's face is found wrapped and inked. With a serial killer at large, DI Archer and DS Quinn must stay alive long enough to find the connection between these seemingly random victims. Can they do it before another child is made an orphan?

Thriller TP \$32.99

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Heat 2

Gardiner, Meg & Mann, Michael

Described, by Michael Mann, as both a prequel and sequel to the renowned, critically acclaimed film of the same name, *Heat 2* covers the formative years of homicide detective Vincent Hanna (Oscar winner Al Pacino) and elite criminals Neil McCauley (Oscar winner Robert de Niro), Chris Shiherlis (Val Kilmer), and Nate (Oscar winner Jon Voight), and features the same extraordinary ambition, scope, rich characterisations, and attention to detail as the epic film. This new story leads up to the events of the film and then moves beyond it, featuring new characters on both sides of the law, new high-line heists, and breathtaking cinematic action sequences. Ranging from the streets of LA to the inner sancta of rival Taiwanese crime syndicates in Paraguay to a massive drug cartel money-laundering operation just over the border in Mexico, *Heat 2* illuminates the dangerous workings of international crime organisations and the agents who pursue them as it provides a full-blooded portrait of the men and women who inhabit both worlds. Now in paperback.

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Fast Charlie

Hard Case Crime

Gischler, Victor

An Edgar Award Finalist for Best First Novel... Victor Gischler's legendary first novel, originally published as *Gun Monkeys*, tells the story of Charlie Swift, loyal Mob enforcer to a Central Florida crime boss, who goes ballistic when a rival gangster murders his crew, his boss goes missing, the FBI swarms the scene, and a cadre of killers come after him with everything they've got. No one's quicker on the trigger than Charlie Swift – but is Charlie fast enough to get himself out alive...? A breathless, top-velocity tale of treachery, taxidermy, and family ties, *Fast Charlie* is now a major motion picture; starring Pierce Brosnan, Morena Baccarin, and (in his final role) James Caan. *We expect to have this edition of Fast Charlie from its Australian distributors in 2024, at a lower price.*

Hardboiled PBK \$35.95

The Collaborator's Daughter

Glyn, Eva

1944. In war-torn Dubrovnik, Branko Milisic holds his newborn daughter Safranka and wishes her a better future. But while the Nazis are finally retreating, the arrival of the partisans brings new dangers for Branko, his wife Dragica, and their new baby... As older sister to two half-siblings, Fran has always known she has to fit in. But, now, for the first time in her life, Fran is facing questions about who she is and where she comes from. All Fran knows about her real father is that he was a hero, and her mother had to flee Dubrovnik after the war. But when she travels to the city of her birth to uncover the truth, she is devastated to discover her father was executed by the partisans in 1944, accused of being a collaborator. But the past isn't always what it seems...

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Death by Chocolate

Chip Cupcake

Death by Chocolate mysteries

Graves, Sarah

Jake and Ellie are taking a break from perfecting their chocolate pizza recipe to cater a housewarming party, hosted by movie icon Ingrid Merryfield. Miss Merryfield is famous for her old-Hollywood glamour. Her new home, Cliff House, has a reputation too – for being haunted. But she isn't concerned, and some of her guests even try to summon a spirit during the party, using a Ouija board. What arrives instead is a freak autumn storm that downs an ancient tree, trapping everyone on the property and setting the stage for a killer's planned spree. Though Jake and Ellie don't intend to get stirred into the mix, there's no avoiding it – especially when they witness one of the guests being shoved over the very precipice that gave Cliff House its forbidding name. Jake and Ellie begin sifting through suspects and motives, a search that takes them from a long-lost family graveyard to a wise old herbalist's deceptively-sweet cottage and finally to Cliff House's overgrown gardens. Is there some ghostly presence involved – or a flesh-and-blood villain? And, either way, can they ensure that they avoid meeting their very own, very permanent Hollywood ending?

Mystery TP \$37.95

Arctic Sun

Grimwood, Jack

Kola Peninsula, 1987. High in the Soviet Arctic, a tiny village houses an apocalyptic secret... When research zoologist Dr Amelia Blackburn ventures north to investigate the ravages of the Chernobyl reactor meltdown, she stumbles on the evidence of another sinister disaster on the Norway-Russia border – one that appears far from innocent. Mother Russia will stop at nothing to prevent this information from being revealed, putting Amelia and her team in grave danger from the moment they leave the site. When the news reaches London, the eyes of British intelligence turn to the one man with the knowledge and skills to bring her back to safety... Major Tom Fox thought he'd put his intelligence career behind him, but a request from his high-ranking father-in-law forces his hand. When the reluctant spy reaches Russia, it quickly becomes clear that this is no ordinary mission!

Suspense TP \$34.99

A Pen Dipped in Poison

Hall, J M

Retired schoolteachers and amateur sleuths Liz, Pat and Thelma have a brand-new mystery to solve in this witty tale... Curious white envelopes have been delivered to friends and neighbours. Inside are letters revealing the deepest secrets they have tried to hide. As one by one, careers are ended, marriages destroyed and no one is beyond suspicion, the three friends decide enough is enough. They must take matters into their own hands before more damage is done. But as they work to uncover the truth, they begin to wonder just how far someone will go to silence this poison pen... Could a murderer be in their midst, once again?

Mystery PBK \$22.99

One Extra Corpse

Silver Screen Historical mysteries

Hambly, Barbara

May 1924. It's been seven months since young British widow Emma Blackstone arrived in Hollywood to serve as companion to Kitty Flint: her beautiful, silent-movie star sister-in-law. Kitty is generous, kind-hearted... and a truly terrible actress. Not that Emma minds; she's too busy making her academic parents turn in their graves with her new job writing painfully historically inaccurate scenarios for Foremost Studios, in between wrangling their leading lady out of the arms of her army of amorous suitors. So, when one of Kitty's old flames, renowned film director Ernst Zopolya, calls Emma and tells her it's imperative he meet with Kitty that morning, she's not surprised. Until, that is, he adds that lives depend on it. Ernst sounds frightened. But what can have scared him so badly – and what on earth does cheerful, flighty Kitty have to do with it? Only Ernst can provide the answers, and Kitty and Emma travel to the set of his extravagant new movie to find them. But the shocking discovery they make, there, only raises further questions... including: will they stay alive long enough to solve the murderous puzzle?

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

The Mysterious Mr Badman: a Yorkshire Bibliomystery

British Library Crime Classics

Harvey, W F

The note read: 'Will the gentleman who took by mistake a copy of Bunyan's Life and Death of Mr Badman, return it as soon as possible, as the book is in demand.' On holiday in Keldstone visiting his nephew, Jim, blanket manufacturer Athelstan Digby agrees to look after the old bookshop on the ground floor of his lodgings while his hosts are away. On the first day of his tenure, a vicar, a chauffeur, and an out-of-town stranger enquire after *The Life and Death of Mr Badman* by John Bunyan. When a copy mysteriously arrives at the shop in a bundle of books brought in by a young scamp, and is subsequently stolen, Digby moves to investigate the significance of the book along with his nephew, and the two are soon embroiled in a case in which the stakes have risen from antiquarian book-pinching to ruthless murder. First published in a limited run in 1934, this exceedingly rare and fast-paced bibliomystery, set against the landscapes of Yorkshire, is long overdue its return to print.

Classic mystery TP \$33.95

Kill Your Husbands

Heath, Jack

Three couples, friends since high school, rent a luxurious house in the mountains for an unplugged weekend of drinking and bushwalking. No internet, no phones, no stress. On the first night, the topic of partner-swapping comes up. It's a joke – at first. Not everyone is keen, but an agreement is made. The lights will be turned out. The three women will go into the three bedrooms. The three men will each pick a room at random. It won't be awkward later, because they won't know who they've slept with – or can pretend they don't. But when the lights come back on, one of the men is

dead. No one will admit to being his partner. The phones still don't work, and now the car key is missing. They're stranded. And the killer is just getting started...

Thriller TP \$32.99

The Summer Party

Heath, Rebecca

Summer, 2000. The Whitlam siblings have it all and 16-year-old Lucy only wants one thing – to be close to them. Soon, she's lazing around their impossibly large pool, wearing Annabel's expensive clothes and having secret rendezvous with Harry, until at their lavish cliff-top party she sees something that could jeopardise it all.

Winter, 2020. One failed marriage later, Lucy is back in town and quickly lured back into the Whitlams' shiny world. But when a body washes up on the beach and someone seems determined to frame her for murder keeping their secrets this time could cost her everything. Now, that summer is over, is she with them or against them?

Thriller PBK \$22.99

Sentenced to Death

Writer for Hire mysteries

Hechtman, Betty

When writer for hire Veronica Blackstone is asked to write the copy for the Friends of Hyde Park's annual house and garden tour, she never expects to get involved in a violent death. But that's exactly what happens when famous author Landon Donte is found dead in his study, during a dinner to highlight the tour. With his career on the wane, and apparently having deleted his last manuscript, it looks as though Landon committed suicide. But Veronica isn't so sure. She discovers that left-handed Landon was killed by someone right-handed and becomes convinced someone murdered him. It's true that Landon had many enemies: his rival and neighbour, bestselling romance author R L Lincoln; his put-upon assistant, Brad; even his own daughter! But are any of them capable of murder? Veronica is determined to uncover the truth!

Mystery TP \$42.95

The Favourite

Hennigan, Rosemary

She'll be his favourite, and his downfall...

Jessica Mooney seems like any other student at her university. She's talented, driven, and looks set to be this year's 'favourite' in charismatic Professor Crane's Law and Literature class. But unlike the other students competing for his good opinion, Jessica isn't what she seems. She's carrying a dark secret. Her sister is dead. Crane's to blame. And she's the only one who can bring him to justice. Will Jessica be able to get the answers and justice she seeks, or will her search for revenge destroy her, first?

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Final Curtain

Detective Kyoichiro Kaga mysteries

Higashino, Keigo

A decade ago, Tokyo Police Detective Kyoichiro Kaga went to collect the ashes of his recently-deceased mother. Years before, she ran away from her husband and son without explanation or any further contact, only to die alone in an apartment

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far away, leaving her estranged son with many unanswered questions. Now, in Tokyo, Michiko Oshitani is found dead, many miles from home. Strangled to death, left in the bare apartment rented under a false name by a man who has disappeared without a trace. Oshitani lived far away in Sendai, with no known connection to Tokyo – and neither her family nor friends have any idea why she would have gone there. Hers is the second strangulation death in that approximate area of Tokyo – the other was a homeless man, killed and his body burned in a tent by the river. As the police search through Oshitani's past for any clue that might shed some light, one of the detectives reaches out to Detective Kaga for advice. As the case unfolds, an unexpected connective emerges between the murder (or murders) now, and the long-ago case of Detective Kaga's missing mother.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Woman in Black

Vintage Classics, collection

Hill, Susan

Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is summoned to attend the funeral of Mrs Alice Drablow, the sole inhabitant of Eel Marsh House. The house stands at the end of a causeway, wreathed in fog and mystery, but it is not until he glimpses a wasted young woman, dressed all in black, at the funeral, that a creeping sense of unease begins to take hold, a feeling deepened by the reluctance of the locals to talk of the woman in black – and her terrible purpose.

Classic mystery HC \$36.99

Bert and Mamie

Take a Cruise

Keyse-Walker, John

February 1939. Mamie Mason isn't enthusiastic... when Bert, her husband of 30 years, persuades her to join him on an African cruise. Bert might be pining for adventure, but Mamie's perfectly content with her comfortable life in Hills Corners, Ohio. But once the couple board the glamorous SS *Columbus*, Mamie has to admit – as much as it pains her – that Bert was right. Swimming in the pool, dancing under the stars, their own bedroom steward to serve their every whim... Mamie settles in and prepares to thoroughly enjoy all the sights that Africa has to offer, in the company of a motley collection of eccentric first-class passengers. Then Mamie witnesses something shocking – and her vacation takes a twist that neither she nor Bert could ever have predicted. Far from home, with a killer in their midst, the couple's only choice is to turn detective. But, surrounded by Nazis, spies, and passengers with secrets, how can they uncover the killer – enjoy their vacation of a lifetime – and make it back to Ohio alive?

Historical mystery TP \$42.95

W E B Griffin's the Devil's Weapons

Men at War series

Kirsanow, Peter

April 1940. By terms of the Soviet Nazi Nonaggression pact, the two dictatorships divided the helpless nation of Poland. Now, the Russians are rounding up enemies of the state in their occupation zone, but one

essential target slips away. Dr Sebastian Kapsky had spent years working with Walter Riedel and Werner von Braun in the early days of rocket science, but as a man with a conscience he refused to continue when he saw the perversion of their work by the Nazis. That makes him the most knowledgeable person about German superweapons outside of Germany. The Germans want him. The Soviets are desperate to grab him, but Wild Bill Donovan knows there's only one man who can find him in the middle of a war zone and get him out – Dick Canidy.

Thriller TP \$24.99

Murder in Barcelona

Blind Detective mysteries

Koning, Christina

Summer, 1937. Frederick Rowlands' peaceful holiday in Cornwall is derailed, when a film star is found dead in his hotel. The suspicious nature of Dolores La Mar's death points to murder and Rowlands soon finds himself caught up in the police investigation. When his old flame, Secret Service agent Iris Barnes arrives, it transpires that the killing has links to the political turmoil of the Spanish Civil War. Rowlands and Barnes begin to follow a treacherous trail of Republican revolutionaries which leads them to the dark streets of Barcelona, where they discover that their Cornish murder is more connected to the city than either of them realised. As Europe inches closer towards international conflict, will Rowlands and Barnes make it out of Spain, alive? Originally published as *Twist of Fate*, under the pseudonym, A C Koning.

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder in Cambridge

Blind Detective mysteries

Koning, Christina

Cambridge, 1935. Frederick Rowlands, blind war veteran, is attending an event at St Gertrude's College. However, the festivities are harshly interrupted – when a research student is found dead in suspicious circumstances. As one of the last people to see the student alive, Rowlands finds himself at the heart of the murder investigation. On the hunt to identify the killer, Rowlands is shocked to learn of the hidden secrets of this seemingly idyllic city. As the violence escalates and the body count increases, Rowlands must act quickly to save St Gertrude's reputation, and his own, before it is too late... Originally published as *End of Term*, under the pseudonym, A C Koning.

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

So Shall You Reap

Commissario Brunetti mysteries

Leon, Donna

On a cold November evening, Guido Brunetti and Paola are up late when a call from his colleague Ispettore Vianello arrives, alerting the Commissario that a hand has been seen in one of Venice's canals. The body is soon found, and Brunetti is assigned to investigate the murder of an undocumented Sri Lankan immigrant. Because no official record of the man's presence in Venice exists, Brunetti is forced to use the city's far richer sources of information: gossip and the memories of people who knew the victim. As the

investigation expands, Brunetti, Vianello, Commissario Griffoni, and Signorina Elettra each assemble pieces of a puzzle-random information about real estate and land use, books, university friendships-that appear to have little in common. Until Brunetti stumbles over something that transports him back to his own student days, causing him to reflect on lost ideals and the errors of youth, on Italian politics and history, and on the accidents that sometimes lead to revelation.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Murder Under the Mistletoe

Mainly Murder mysteries

Lynn, Sherry

Landscape artist and owner of SeaScapes, Kinsley Clark has been re-hired to decorate the town of Harborside for the upcoming holiday season and boat parade. Using the local elements found in Maine, Kinsley creates kissing balls-the town's official mistletoe-to hang downtown and along the wharf. Kinsley is also responsible for Harborside's official 'lobster-stacked' Christmas tree, located beside the local marina, where the annual Harborside Boat Parade and Fireworks Display takes place. When local alderman Chris Chesterfield-dressed up as the Grinch, right down to the green face paint-falls off the pier and into the icy Atlantic the night of the annual kick-off event, the town is in shock. But all eyes turn to Kinsley and her beautiful decorations when it becomes evident that Chris didn't fall after all-and that he was looking to replace SeaScapes with a different decorating team. Kinsley, along with bestie, Becca, and Pete, the owner of the Blue Lobstah, must unearth the truth, before Kinsley takes the fall.

Mystery TP \$39.99

Invitation to a Killer

Augusta Hawke mysteries

Mallet, G M

Callie Moore is no ordinary aspiring writer. Notorious wife of a Washington lobbyist, Callie believes no publicity is bad publicity and that publishing her scandalous memoirs will help her achieve her heart's desire: a diplomatic posting. She just needs crime novelist Augusta Hawke to be her ghostwriter. It's hard to say no to Callie, but Augusta does agree to attend her dinner party. The guest list is impressive, and it's Augusta's chance to meet celebrity doctor Doc Burke. But before Augusta really gets a chance to chat with the famous humanitarian, the evening ends in his untimely death. Signs point to a heart attack, but Augusta isn't convinced. Especially when his niece tells Augusta about the mystery woman who claimed the doctor's remains. Augusta decides to host a writers' retreat and invite all the suspects, most of whom are connected in some way with writing. Isn't that what Agatha Christie would do? But the remote lodge soon becomes snowed in; and the group starts to crack, when it becomes clear the killer may not be finished killing. Can Augusta flush out the culprit, before anyone else gets hurt?

Mystery TP \$42.95

Noir Burlesque

Hard Case Crime, graphic novel

Marini, Enrico (artist)

A heist, gone wrong, forces Slick to do a job for his employer, Rex, to repay the debt he owes. But Slick is in love with Caprice, Rex's ex-call girl wife-turned-burlesque legend; and Rex also has the only way for Slick to avenge his murdered father. In this hardboiled noir thriller, everybody has everything to lose...

Hardboiled HC \$54.99

The 44 Scotland Street Cookbook

recipes from the series

Marshall, Anna & Smith, Alexander McCall

Alexander McCall Smith's 44 Scotland Street series is the world's longest running serial novel. Readers all over the world delight in his amusing characters and descriptions of the city of Edinburgh. With *The 44 Scotland Street Cookbook* fans can now immerse themselves in the world of Edinburgh's New Town and eat like their favourite characters. Anna Marshall has ransacked the pages (and cupboards!) of 44 Scotland Street to find all the best snacks, treats and dinners enjoyed by its inhabitants. Step into the world of Edinburgh foodies and enjoy Big Lou's 'Off the Record' Bacon Rolls, Bertie's much-loved Panforte di Sienna or Angus Lordie's famous cheese scones.

Mystery companion HC \$29.99

The Railway Detective's Christmas Case

Inspector Colbeck mysteries

Marston, Edward

December 1864. As a cold winter wind scours the Worcestershire countryside, an excursion train comes through a tunnel in the Malvern Hills to be confronted by a blockage on the line ahead. Although, a disastrous derailment is averted, the passengers are alarmed. Cyril Hubbleday, the man in charge of the excursion, alights to investigate further, but the angry altercation with the driver is cut short by a shot from a sniper, straight through Hubbleday's head. Christmas is coming, all too soon, and Inspector Robert Colbeck and Sergeant Victor Leeming are under pressure to solve the case quickly. However, with enemies in the shadows behind the seasonal trip, and with strong criticism from the local constabulary, the hunt for a cold-blooded killer is far from straightforward.

Historical mystery PBK \$22.99

Lenny Marks Gets Away with Murder

Mayne, Kerry

Lenny Marks is good at not remembering. She has spent the last 20 years not thinking about the day her mother left her, when she was still a child. Her stepfather's parting words, however, remain annoyingly unforgettable: 'You did this'. Now 37, Lenny prefers contentment and order over the unreliability of happiness and the messiness of relationships. She fills her days teaching

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at the local primary school, and her nights playing Scrabble with her pretend housemate, watching reruns of *Friends* and rearranging her 36 copies of *The Hobbit*. Recently though, if only to appease her beloved foster-mum, Lenny has set herself the goal of 'getting a life'. Then, out of the blue, a letter arrives from the Adult Parole Board. And when her desperate attempts to ignore it fail, Lenny starts to unravel. Worse, she starts to remember... 'Devilishly fun: top marks for Lenny Marks!' – *Benjamin Stevenson*, author of *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone*.

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Three Fires Mina, Denise

Girolamo Savonarola was a Dominican friar living in Florence at the tail end of the 15th century. An anti-corruption campaigner his hellfire preaching increasingly spilled over into tirades against all luxuries that tempted people towards sin. These sermons led to the infamous 'Bonfire of the Vanities' – a series of fires lit, throughout Florence, for the incineration of everything from books, extravagant clothing, playing cards, musical instruments, make-up and mirrors, to paintings, tapestries, and sculptures. Denise Mina brings a modern take to this fascinating historical story – drawing parallels between the febrile atmosphere of medieval Florence and the culture wars of the present day.

Historical fiction HC \$24.99

Double Illusion

Ikmen mysteries

Nadel, Barbara

When Ates Bocuk, son of a feared Istanbul gang leader, is arrested for the brutal murder of his Roma lover, feelings of vengeance are ignited among rival Turkish gangs and the Roma community. Forensic evidence is stacked against him, but Ates refuses to speak, and Inspector Suleyman suspects that there is more to the case than meets the eye. Then Cetin Ikmen discovers that Ates is psychotic and believes that everyone in his life is an imposter, which suggests that Ates might in fact be a victim of a far more sinister game... As violence erupts, Suleyman and his team work tirelessly to expose a shocking tale of corruption, power and betrayal – but not before more blood is shed on these dark and dangerous streets.

Mystery PBK \$24.99

Code of the Hills

Mick Hardin series

Offutt, Chris

Mick Hardin is back in the hills of Kentucky. He'd planned to touch down briefly before heading to France, marking the end to his 20-year Army career. In Rocksalt, his sister Linda the sheriff is investigating the murder of Pete Lowe, a sought-after mechanic at the local racetrack. After another body is found, Linda and her deputy Johnny Boy Tolliver wonder if the two murders are related. Linda steps into harm's way just as a third body turns up and Mick ends up being deputised again. The dark, gripping, and propulsive thriller of murder and secrets in Rocksalt,

Kentucky where little is as it seems. The first Mick Hardin novel is *The Killing Hills* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Traitor Among Us

Elena Standish series

Perry, Anne

As Hitler's influence spreads across Europe, the future of Britain is at stake... It is late summer 1934, when retired MI6 agent John Repton's body is found near Wyndham Hall in the Cotswolds. Repton was killed while investigating the Wyndham family's ties to fascist sympathisers, and Elena Standish is assigned to discover if one of them resorted to murder... Meanwhile, Elena's sister Margot is courting Lady Wyndham's brother and, unaware that Elena is a spy, Margot invites her to attend a house party at Wyndham Hall along with her colleague James Allenby, who masquerades as her suitor. As the atmosphere becomes increasingly tense, Elena and Allenby begin to expose the allegiances of the people in the house. But Elena is torn, for she knows that revealing the truth will protect the nation's security but could potentially destroy her sister's happiness...

Historical suspense PBK \$24.99

The Cabinet of Dr Leng

Agent Pendergast series

Preston, Douglas & Child, Lincoln

How can you stop a serial killer who has been dead for 100 years? FBI Special Agent A X L Pendergast always wants to protect his protégée Constance Greene from harm. But, against all odds, Constance has found a way to travel back in time. Heading to New York City, in the late 1800s, Constance returns to the century of her birth to embark on a dangerous quest: stopping the era's most infamous serial killer, Dr Enoch Leng, from bringing his nefarious plans to fruition. If Constance can stop Dr Leng, she can finally prevent the events that led to the shocking deaths of her sister and brother... but can she survive herself, when up against one of the cleverest and most evil men of his age?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Mystery Guest

Molly the Maid mysteries

Prose, Nita

A new mess. A new mystery. Molly the maid returns... Molly Gray wears her Head Maid badge, proudly, for every shift at the Regency Grand Hotel, plumping pillows, sweeping up the guests' secrets, silently restoring rooms to a state of perfection. But when a renowned guest – a famous mystery writer – drops very dead in the grand tearoom, Molly has an unusual clean-up on her hands. As rumours and suspicion swirl in the hotel corridors, it's clear there's grime lurking beneath the gilt. And Molly knows that she alone holds the key to the mystery. But unlocking it means thinking about the past, about Gran, and everything else she's kept tidied away in her memory for so long. Because Molly knew the dead guest, once upon a time – and he knew her... The sequel to *The Maid* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The House in the Pines Reyes, Ana

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

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Jazz Club Spy

Rich, Roberta

New York City, 1939: At the height of the Great Depression, a time when President Roosevelt is trying to keep America out of World War II, Giddy Brodsky is lucky to have a job as a cigarette girl at a Manhattan jazz club. Nevertheless, she dreams of establishing a cosmetics business and leaving the poverty-stricken Lower East Side tenements behind. She has lived there with her family ever since they fled Russia, forced to emigrate after a group of Cossacks burned down their village, and her memories continue to haunt her. Giddy tries to focus on the future until, during an evening streetcar ride, she thinks she recognises one of the Cossacks who changed her life forever. Determined to get answers, she enlists the help of Carter van der Zalm, the Chief Commissioner of Immigration at Ellis Island, who is hunting the same man. He suspects the Russian is involved in an assassination plot that will destroy American and Soviet relations, and he enlists Giddy to moonlight as a spy for him. But when she finally tracks down the man, they're both seeking, she finds herself in the middle of a shocking political conspiracy that changes everything she once held true.

Historical suspense TP \$39.95

Dead of Night

Berlin Wartime mysteries

Scarrow, Simon

Berlin, January 1940. Germany has conquered Poland. The world is praying for peace. At home, the Nazi Party's hold on power is absolute. One freezing night, an SS doctor and his wife cheerfully return home from an evening out. By sunrise, the doctor will be lifeless in a pool of blood. There is pressure to record the incident as a suicide, but the first evidence uncovered by Criminal Inspector Horst Schenke points to a chillingly staged murder. The investigation is swiftly blocked by Schenke's superiors, but he can't let it go. When he uncovers links to the mysterious death of a child, a terrifying secret begins to emerge. In times of war, under a ruthless regime, there are places no man should ever enter. And Schenke

fears he may not return alive... 'A seriously gripping story – an outsider hero in jeopardy, a world of brooding danger, and an entirely, terrifyingly believable denouement' – *Owen Matthews*. The first Berlin Wartime mystery is *Blackout* (PBK, \$24.99).

Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$24.99

Murder Visits a French Village

Château in Burgundy mysteries

Shea, Susan

Ariel Shepard is devastated by the sudden loss of her husband, but nothing could have prepared her for inheriting the rundown French château they'd visited on their honeymoon, four years ago. With finances tight she has no choice but to swap her Manhattan apartment and city lifestyle for a renovation project in a peaceful French village. When Ariel hires an expert to help her uncover the legacy of her beautiful ruin, life only becomes more complicated. Christiane, the historian, is found dead in the moat, and although the local police aren't suspicious, Ariel is. She joins two other ex-pats, Pippa and Katherine, to investigate, but with plenty of workmen – and errand tools – around the château, many people had the means, but who had the motive? Why would anyone want to kill a historian? Ariel begins to suspect that her French village life will be anything but peaceful! Can she solve the suspicious murder and make her château in Burgundy the perfect new home? The first in a series.

Mystery TP \$42.95

Murder on a Cornish Isle

Edge of the World Detective

Agency mysteries

Silva, Jo

Seven high profile guests. An island cut off by a storm. Will there be a murder, before the weekend is out? After six long months, with no new cases for her Cornish detective agency, Donna 'Deadly' Nightshade jumps at the chance to spend a weekend undercover on St Michael's Mount. With seven high profile attendees – including the Home Secretary – this is a high stakes case. As a storm descends on the tidal island, they're cut off from the rest of the world. Friends turn to enemies and before the rain has ceased, it's not just one murder Donna has to worry about – it's two... The second book in the Edge of the World Detective Agency series, following *The Wrecker's Curse* (PBK, \$22.99).

Mystery PBK \$22.99

There Should Have Been Eight Singh, Nalini

They met, when they were teenagers.

Now, they're adults, and time has been kind to some and unkind to others. None more so, than Bea – the one they lost, nine long years ago. They've gathered to reminisce at Bea's family's estate, a once glorious mansion straight out of a gothic novel. Best friends, old flames, secret enemies, and new lovers are all under one roof. But when the weather turns and they're snowed in at the edge of eternity, there's nowhere left to hide from

Pulp Fiction

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their shared history. As the walls close in, the pretence of normality gives way to long-buried grief, bitterness, and rage. Underneath it all, there's the nagging feeling that Bea's shocking death wasn't what it was claimed to be. And before the weekend is through, the truth will be unleashed. No matter the cost...

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

Codename Faust **Skordeman, Gustaf**

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

Suspense PBK \$22.99

The Stellar Debut of Galactica MacFee

44 Scotland Street series

Smith, Alexander McCall

Glasgow for Bertie is the promised land. The city of pies and Irn Bru, far from his controlling mother, Irene – his place of escape. But how will he respond to the news of the proposed merging of Edinburgh and Glasgow? A new member of Bertie's class at school is causing ripples in his social circle. She is called Galactica MacFee and is going to be a match for Olive and her lieutenant, Pansy. And, an incredible new discovery: a Pictish stone, that is said to have the first-known written poem carved into it is the talk of the town. But, when the poem is eventually translated, it is thought it is best to keep it under wraps. In this new instalment in the perennially popular 44 Scotland Street series, we are back in the world of Angus and Domenico, Bruce, Matthew and Elspeth, and, of course, Bertie and his friend Randal Braveheart Macpherson.

Mystery HC \$39.99

A Book Club to Die For

Beloved Bookroom mysteries

St James, Dorothy

The Cypress Arete Society is one of the town's oldest and most exclusive clubs. When assistant librarian Trudell Becket is invited to speak to the group about the library, its modernisation, and her efforts to bring printed books to the reading public, her friend Flossie tags along. Flossie has been on the book club's waiting list for five years, and she's determined to find out why she's never received an invitation to join. But not long after Tru and Flossie arrive for the meeting, they're shocked to find the club's president, Rebecca White, dead in the kitchen. Rebecca was a former TV actress and local celebrity but was not known for being patient or pleasant. She'd been particularly unkind to the book club's host for the evening, who also happens to be the mother of Detective Jace Bailey, Tru's boyfriend. And Rebecca

had made it clear that she didn't think Flossie was book club material. With her boyfriend and one of her best friends wrapped up in a murder, Tru has to work fast to figure out who cut Rebecca's story short before the killer takes another victim out of circulation...

Mystery TP \$24.99

Seed on the Wind

Hard Case Crime

Stout, Rex

Who was the fifth man? The lawyer, the jeweller, the art critic, and the oil-company man... self-possessed, independent Lora Winter has had a child with each of them. But when one of these men drives up to her house with a fifth man in the car, Lora runs to hide. That's how this extraordinary novel opens – and, by the time it ends, you'll have pieced together a masterful psychological jigsaw puzzle that is miles from a traditional crime novel, but whose desperate characters nevertheless resort to kidnapping, blackmail and possibly even murder. Long before he was named a Grand Master, by the Mystery Writers of America, before he created the immortal Nero Wolfe, Rex Stout wrote this gripping novel – published in 1930, and then lost for more than 90 years. Hard Case Crime is thrilled to give the book its first publication, in nearly a century, and to give today's readers the chance to discover one of Stout's richest and most unforgettable stories. *We expect to have this edition of Seed on the Wind from its Australian distributors in 2024, at a lower price.*

Hardboiled PBK \$35.95

The Christmas Guest

Swanson, Peter

When Ashley Smith – a bright-eyed but lonely American studying in London – is invited to spend Christmas with her classmate's family, at their Cotswolds manor house, it seems like a perfect country idyll. And, for Ashley – who records it all in her diary – there's the added romantic potential of her friend's twin brother, Adam, who she thinks could be her widest dream come true. But is there something strange about the old house, both stately and rundown? What could the motives of the mysterious Chapman family be? And what holiday horrors might be lying in wait? This year's must-read festive chiller, a classic country house murder mystery.

Mystery PBK \$22.99

Pop. 1280

Crime Masterworks

Thompson, Jim

Nick Corey likes being the high sheriff of Potts County. But Nick has a few problems that he needs to deal with: like his loveless marriage, the pimps who torment him, the honest man who is running against him in the upcoming elections, and the women who adore him. And it turns out that Nick isn't anything like as amiable, easy going, or as slow as he seems. He's as sly, brutal, and corrupt as they come. A classic crime novel from 'the best suspense writer going, bar none' – *New York Times*; with a new introduction by Charlie Higson. 'Jim Thompson holds a special place in my heart' – *Bruce Springsteen*.

Classic mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

City of Fortune

Counterfeit Lady mysteries

Thompson, Victoria

Wealthy but uncouth Sebastian Nolan has invited his lawyer, Gideon Bates, and his lovely new wife, Elizabeth, to attend the famous Belmont Stakes. Nolan is anxious for Gideon and Elizabeth to help his daughter, Irene, acquire a bit of polish – now that his venture into thoroughbred racing has allowed them entry into society. He is also hoping to find her a rich potential suitor. Elizabeth is not exactly the society girl Nolan believes her to be, but she is eager to attend the races. Her con artist family has made a lot of money at racetracks, although not from betting on the horses, and she enjoys the excitement of the track. Irene Nolan seems more interested in horses than husbands, and she jumps at the chance to show Elizabeth her horse, Trench, and introduce her to his rider, Cal Regan. Elizabeth soon realises there is more than just a working relationship between Irene and Cal. But she also knows that Irene's father would never allow his only daughter to marry a jockey. When Cal takes a terrible tumble, injuring both himself and Irene's beloved Trench, Elizabeth and Gideon learn that the mishap was not simply bad luck – the horse and rider are victims of sabotage. It turns out that Sebastian Nolan has more than a few skeletons in his closet, and someone is out to get their long-sought-after revenge. Elizabeth knows that to help Irene and Cal, she is going to need some help in creating the quintessential con. With the ever-honest Gideon at her side, she enlists those closest to her to come up with a scheme that will either ensure young Irene and Cal a first-place finish or have disastrous consequences...

Historical mystery TP \$24.99

Maror

Tidhar, Lavie

How do you build a nation?

It takes statesmen and soldiers, farmers, and factory workers, of course. But it also takes thieves, prostitutes, and policemen. Nation building demands sacrifice. And one man knows exactly where those bodies are buried: Cohen, a man who loves his country. A reasonable man for unreasonable times. A car bomb in the back streets of Tel Aviv. A diamond robbery in Haifa. Civil war in Lebanon. Rebel fighters in the Colombian jungle. A double murder in Los Angeles. How do they all connect? Only Cohen knows. *Maror* is the story of a war for a country's soul – a dazzling spread of narrative gunshots across four decades and three continents. It is a true story. All of these things happened. Historical mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

The Clearing

Rees & Tannahill series

Toyne, Simon

Something deadly lurks in the forest around Cinderfield. Locals put the unusually high number of disappearances down to transients or runaways; some even blame the Cinderman, a figure of local legend rumoured to haunt the woods looking for unsuspecting victims. Forensic specialist Laughton Rees doesn't believe in monsters. Already investigating the area's history of missing women, news of the latest 'runaway' Maddie Friar brings her to Cinderfield to find

out the truth. But, from the gruff leader of an off-grid commune to the mysterious Earl who presides over the crumbling abbey in the heart of the forest, everyone in Cinderfield has something to hide. As Laughton searches for answers, with the help of DCI Tannahill Khan back in London, someone is watching – cataloguing her every move, prepared to do anything to keep their dark secrets from coming to light.

Thriller TP \$32.99

Hollow Beasts

Jodi Luna series

Valdes, Alisa Lynn

After a long stint in academia, Jodi Luna leaves Boston for the wilds of New Mexico to start a new life as a game warden. Jodi is no stranger to the wilderness; her family has lived here for generations. Determined to protect her homeland, she nabs a poacher in her first week on the job. But when he retaliates by stalking Jodi and her teenage daughter, a cat and mouse game leads Jodi to a white supremacist group deep in the mountains. She learns that new recruits are kidnapping women of colour to prove their mettle to the organisation's leader. When the local sheriff refuses to assist, Jodi joins up with young deputy Ashley Romero. Together, they set out to take down a terrorist network that will test not just their skills as investigators but also their knowledge of the land and commitment to its people. But will Jodi's fierce resolve to protect the voiceless put her loved ones in harm's way?

Mystery/suspense TP 29.99

You'd Look Better as a Ghost

Wallace, Joanna

I have a gift. I see people as ghosts before they die. Of course, it helps that I'm the one killing them. The night after her father's funeral, Claire meets Lucas in a bar. Lucas doesn't know it, but it's not a chance meeting. One thoughtless mistyped email has put him in the crosshairs of an extremely put-out serial killer. But before they make eye contact, before Claire lets him buy her a drink, even before she takes him home and carves him up into little pieces, something about that night is very wrong. Because someone is watching Claire. Someone who is about to discover her murderous little hobby. The thing is, it's not sensible to tangle with a part-time serial killer, even one who is distracted by attending a weekly bereavement support group and trying to get her art career off the ground. Let the games begin... *Dexter* meets *Killing Eve* in this superb thriller, perfect for fans of *How to Kill Your Family* (PBK, \$22.99) and *My Sister, the Serial Killer* (PBK, \$22.99). 'Delightfully shocking and irreverently funny' – *Janice Hallett*.

Mystery/suspense TP \$32.99

The Long Knives

Welsh, Irvine

Justice can be a blunt instrument... 'Men like him usually tell the story.' In business. Politics. Media. But not this time: I repeat, he is not writing this story.' Ritchie Gulliver MP is dead. Castrated and left to bleed in an empty Leith warehouse. Vicious, racist and corrupt, many thought he had it coming. But nobody could have

Pulp Fiction

Crime & Mystery December 2023 (continued)

predicted this. After the life Gulliver has led, the suspects are many: corporate rivals, political opponents, the countless groups he's offended. And the vulnerable and marginalised, who bore the brunt of his cruelty – those without a voice, without a choice, without a chance. As Detective Ray Lennox unravels the truth, and the list of brutal attacks grows, he must put his personal feelings aside. But one question refuses to go away... Who are the real victims, here?

Mystery/suspense PBK \$22.99

Agatha Christie

An Elusive Woman

Worsley, Lucy

'Nobody in the world was more inadequate to act the heroine than I was.'

Why did Agatha Christie spend her career pretending that she was 'just' an ordinary housewife, when clearly she wasn't? As Lucy Worsley says, 'She was thrillingly, scintillatingly modern'. She went surfing in Hawaii, she loved fast cars, and she was intrigued by the new science of psychology,

which helped her through devastating mental illness. So, why – despite all the evidence to the contrary – did Agatha present herself as a retiring Edwardian lady of leisure? She was born in 1890 into a world which had its own rules about what women could and couldn't do. Lucy Worsley's biography is not just of an internationally-renowned bestselling writer. It's also the story of a person who, despite the obstacles of class and gender, became an astonishingly successful working woman. With access to personal

letters and papers that have rarely been seen, Lucy Worsley's biography is both authoritative and entertaining and makes us realise what an extraordinary pioneer Agatha Christie was – truly a woman who wrote the 20th century. 'Worsley's book excels in bringing a broader historical perspective to Christie's life and work, and her enthusiasm is infectious.' – *Observer*.

Christie PBK \$24.99