

CRIME CHRONICLE

"WHERE A GOOD CRIME CAN BE HAD BY ALL"

ISSUE #276 JANUARY 2009

A FABULOUS FIND!

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

Anne ZOUROUDI

The Messenger of Athens (Hermes Diaktoros #1)
Pb 274pp \$23.95

A beguiling and atmospheric detective series set in the Greek islands and featuring the inimitable 'Fat Man', aka Hermes Diaktoros. Each novel is set on a different Greek island and each is based on one of the seven deadly sins. The author creates a wonderful feeling of place in this truly remarkable series. The Fat Man himself is an enigmatic character who never really says who he is other than he is from a higher authority and has come from Athens (or maybe further north)... Could he be from Olympus? He certainly knows a lot about people before he even gets to the island. No one gets arrested, but everyone pays for their evil deeds and he helps out some of the unfortunate ones... Enigmatic indeed!

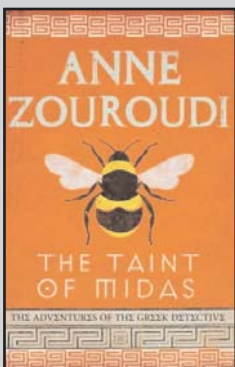
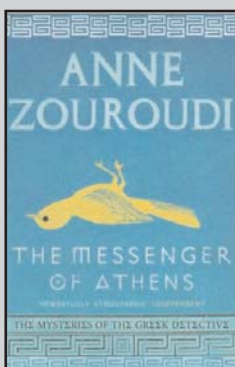
The Messenger from Athens is set on the island of Thiminos, where the battered body of a young woman is discovered at the foot of a cliff. The local police dismiss the death as suicide, but a stranger arrives uninvited and announces his intention to look into the crime that he believes has been committed. The stranger's methods of investigation are unorthodox and his message to the islanders is plain: tell the truth or face the consequences! The stranger is of course Hermes Diaktoros. The sin at the heart of this novel is lust.

The Taint of Midas (Hermes Diaktoros #2)

Tp 271pp \$32.95 (Due February 2009)

The second in this wonderful series is set on the island of Arcadia. For over half a century, the beautiful Temple of Apollo has been in the care of the old beekeeper Gabrilis. But when the value of the land soars, he is forced to sign away his interests. Hours later, Gabrilis meets a violent and lonely death. When Hermes Diaktoros finds his friend's battered body by a dusty roadside, he soon becomes the prime suspect. But with rapacious developers threatening Arcadia's most ancient sites, there are many who stand to gain from the death of Gabrilis. Our investigator resolves to avenge his old friend and find the true culprit, but his methods are, as ever, unorthodox. This second novel in the series centres on the sin of greed and I thought it was even better than the first. The Fat Man is an engaging character, but one you would never want to cross. The third instalment in the series is not due until late 2009 and I can hardly wait!

- Peter



2008: TOP TEN

MODERN CRIME

1. **The Girl of His Dreams** by Donna Leon (Tp \$32.95)
2. **The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo** by Stieg Larsson (Tp \$32.95)
3. **The Paper Moon** by Andrea Camilleri (Tp \$29.95)
4. **Blood in the Water** by Gillian Galbraith (Pb \$19.95)
5. **The Shape Shifter** by Tony Hillerman (Pb \$23.95)
6. **A Private Patient** by P D James (Tp \$32.95)
7. **A Cure for All Diseases** by Reginald Hill (Tp \$33.00)
8. **A Most Wanted Man** by John le Carre (Tp \$33.00)
9. **This Night's Foul Work** by Fred Vargas (Tp \$32.95)
10. **All the Colours of Darkness** by Peter Robinson (Tp \$33.00)

AUSTRALIAN CRIME

1. **Murder on a Midsummer Night** by Kerry Greenwood (Pb \$22.95)
2. **Open File** by Peter Corris (Pb \$22.95)
3. **Bright Air** by Barry Maitland (Tp \$32.95)
4. **A Beautiful Place to Die** by Malla Nunn (Tp \$26.00)
5. **The Broken Shore** by Peter Temple (Pb \$23.95)
6. **Murder on the Apricot Coast** by Marion Halligan (Pb \$21.95)
7. **The Build Up** by Philip Gwynne (Tp \$33.00)
8. **Shatter** by Michael Robotham (Tp \$33.00)
9. **In the Evil Day** by Peter Temple (Pb \$22.95)
10. **The Big Score** by Peter Corris (Pb \$19.95)

HISTORICAL CRIME

1. **Dancing with Demons** by Peter Tremayne (Pb \$20.00)
2. **Dispensation of Death** by Michael Jecks (Pb \$20.00)
3. **Saturnalia** by Lindsey Davis (Pb \$19.95)
4. **Traitor's Tale** by Margaret Frazer (Pb \$15.95)
5. **Death and the Cornish Fiddler** by Deryn Lake (Pb \$22.95)
6. **The Templar, the Queen and Her Lover** by Michael Jecks (Pb \$20.00)
7. **Death of a Squire** by Maureen Ash (Pb \$12.95)
8. **Revelation** by C J Sansom (Tp \$32.95)
9. **The Enchanter's Forest** by Alys Clare (Pb \$20.00)
10. **Blood on the Strand** by Susanna Gregory (Pb \$25.00)

TRUE CRIME

1. **The Suspicions of Mr Whicher** by Kate Summerscale (Tp \$29.95)
2. **Gomorrah: Italy's Other Mafia** by Roberto Saviano (Tp \$35.00)
3. **Underbelly: The Gangland War** by John Silvester & Andrew Rule (Pb \$24.95)
4. **Leadbelly** by John Silvester & Andrew Rule (Pb \$19.95)
5. **A Life in Crime** by Michael Kuzilny (Pb \$24.95)
6. **Grain of Truth** by Lynne Milne (Pb \$9.95)
7. **Tall Man** by Chloe Cooper (Tp \$32.95)
8. **Searching for the Beaumont Children** by Alan Whicker (Tp \$29.95)
9. **Sweeney Todd: The Real Story of the Demon Barber of Fleet Street** by Peter Haining (Pb \$25.00)
10. **Smoke, Mirrors and Murder** by Ann Rule (Pb \$14.95)



AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MONDAY 26 JANUARY
WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM



MODERN CRIME

Will ADAMS

 **The Exodus Quest**

560pp Tp \$33.00

Daniel Knox #2. Daniel finds himself at the excavation of a Jewish Temple and sends photographs to his partner Gaille. Moments later his jeep is forced off the road killing his friend Omar. In Egypt, Gaille realises that one of the pictures is linked to the Dead Sea Scrolls and to the Pharaoh Akheneaten. Whilst following up the connections, Gaille draws the attention of a tomb robber. When Knox sees a broadcast showing a kidnapped Gaille, he realises Gaille is trying to send him a message, but Knox is imprisoned and time is running out. *Due Jan* (English)



Alfred ALCORN

 **Murder in the Museum of Man**

288pp Tp \$34.00

Norman de Ratour Mystery. In the aftermath of a murder at a city museum, Norman de Ratour, a self effacing secretary and fastidious sleuth, begins an investigation and uncovers a cannibal cult in the anthropology section and eugenics in the genetics lab. *Due Jan* (American)

Charles ATKINS

 **Risk Factor** **320pp Pb \$18.95**

Who is butchering the nurses in the psychiatric ward of a Boston hospital? Dr. Molly Katz thinks it might be one of her patients, a 17 year old boy. But will she be able to find out and stop him before he threatens her family? *Due Jan* (American)


Alex BARCLAY

 **Blood Runs Cold**

400pp Pb \$25.00

When an FBI agent is found dead on the white slopes of Quandary Peak in Colorado, a brilliant but volatile agent is drafted in from Denver to lead the investigation. Fighting personal demons, pressure from Washington and dwindling leads, the case stalls. But as summer comes, Quandary Peak has disturbing new secrets to give up. As one agent fights failure and hopelessness, another has left behind a trail that leads to a man with a dark past... and even darker intentions. *Due Jan* (Irish)

M C BEATON

 **Death of a Gentle Lady**

256pp Pb 16.95

Hamish MacBeth Mystery #24. Everyone in Lochdubh adores elderly Mrs Gentle - except Hamish MacBeth, that is. Hamish thinks the gentle lady is quite sly and vicious, whilst the citizens of Lochdubh think Hamish is overly cranky. Perhaps it's time for him to get married, they say. But who has time for marriage when there's a murder to be solved? When Mrs Gentle dies under mysterious circumstances, the town is shocked and outraged. Chief Detective Inspector Blair suspects members of her family, but Hamish MacBeth thinks there's more to the story, and begins investigating the truth behind this lady's gentle exterior. *Due Jan* (Scottish)

Don BENDELL

 **Detachment Delta**

240pp Pb \$16.95

Criminal Investigation Detachment #4. These elite Delta Force heroes are highly trained killing machines. Their leader is Charlie Strongheart, a Lakota warrior. His assignment: enter Iran and eliminate a terrorist threat. But when Strongheart is betrayed by those he thought he could trust, he finds himself alone in the heart of the beast. *Due Jan* (American)

William BERNHARDT

 **Capitol Conspiracy**

416pp Pb \$18.95

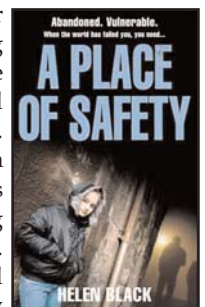
Ben Kincaid #16. Oklahoma defence attorney Ben Kincaid's leap from his modest Tulsa law offices to Washington DC's Senate chamber hasn't taken the edge off Ben's knack for stepping into the line of fire. Now the idealistic junior senator is plunged into the thick of lethal intrigue. The nightmare begins with the abduction and murder of the director of Homeland Security, escalates with the killing of the Senate minority leader, and comes to a shattering climax at the site of the Oklahoma City Memorial, where a fusillade of sniper fire meant for the President claims unintended victims. But the smoke has barely cleared when the stunned nation is sent reeling yet again by the President's impassioned call to amend the Constitution with an anti-terrorism law that would drastically curtail civil liberties. The chief executive has handpicked Ben to help harvest the support that will make the amendment a reality. Ben embraces the President's radical cause and takes the battle for the controversial bill to the Senate floor. But he can't ignore his growing suspicion that what's haunting Capitol Hill isn't the spectre of foreign terrorism but something much closer to home. Now, with his chief of staff and wife, Christina, Ben sets squares off against what could be the most dangerous Goliath he's ever challenged. *Due Jan* (American)

Helen BLACK

 **A Place of Safety**

Pb \$9.00

14 year old Anna lives in a hostel in Bedfordshire for youngsters seeking refuge from the atrocities being carried out in their homelands. A chance meeting with three public schoolboys ends in her being horrifically assaulted. When Anna's friend Artan approaches Lilly about seeking justice through the courts, she warns him that the law may not be on their side. Lilly is loathed to get involved. But Lilly quickly lives to regret that decision when Artan and Anna take matters into their own hands, and Anna is arrested. Wracked with guilt, Lilly takes on Anna's case. When local racist groups pick up on the story, Lilly's family and friends become targets. Can Lilly follow her conscience and defend Anna, or is this case just too close to home? *Due Jan* (English)



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KEY

ACADEMIC



BANKING



CANINE DETECTIVES



CLERICAL



COSY/MALICE DOMESTIC



CULINARY/FOOD



FBI



FELINE DETECTIVES



FORENSIC



HORSE RACING MYSTERY



JOURNALISTS



MEDICAL



MILITARY



NATIVE AMERICAN



POLICE PROCEDURAL



POLITICAL/LEGAL



PSYCHOLOGICAL



PRIVATE EYE



ROMANTIC SUSPENSE



SPORT



SPY



SUSPENSE/THRILLER



PB = PAPERBACK

**TP = TRADE PAPERBACK
(SLIGHTLY LARGER)**

HB = HARDBACK

AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB

**Ingrid BLACK****Circle of the Dead****512pp Pb \$19.95**

Ex FBI agent Saxon has dealt with many killers in her time but nothing can prepare her for the night of horror ahead. It is early evening on Halloween when the Dublin Murder squad are called out to the home of wealthy businessman Daniel Erskine. There, in his basement, they discover Daniel's tortured body. Then, just hours later, his friend Oliver Niland also meets a gruesome end. As special adviser to the Dublin Murder squad, Saxon teams up once again with Chief Superintendent Grace Fitzgerald to track down a killer who's closer than they think. But why has he targeted Daniel and Oliver? And what is the significance of the group known as the Second Circle to which they both belonged? The other members of the group might have the answers, but can Saxon and Fitzgerald get to them before it's too late? *Due Jan* (Irish)

Annette BLAIR**A Veiled Deception****256pp Pb \$16.95**

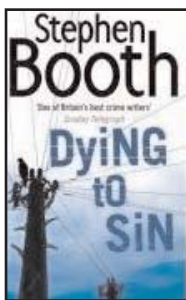
Vintage Magic Mystery. The right dress can be magic, the wrong one murder. While opening her own vintage clothing shop, Madeira Cutler must clear her family's name when her sisters' wedding festivities hit a snag, murder. *Due Jan* (American)

Lawrence BLOCK**Killing Castro (1961)****208pp Pb \$16.95**

Hard Case Crime. There were five of them, each prepared to kill, each with his own reasons for accepting what might well be a suicide mission. The pay: \$20,000 apiece. The mission: to find a way into Cuba and kill Castro. Originally published the year before the Cuban Missile Crisis, under a pen name that Lawrence Block has never used before or since is a rarest of Blocks books - and still a work of chilling relevance all these years later, with Castro and Cuba once again commanding headlines. *Due Jan* (American)

Stephen BOOTH**Dying to Sin****560pp Pb \$20.00**

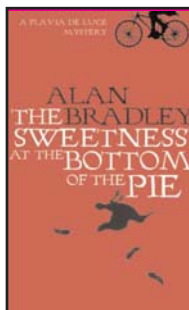
Ben Cooper & Diane Fry #8. Building work at an isolated farm has unearthed more than just the usual remains. Two bodies are discovered, seemingly buried years apart. With little forensic evidence to go on, Detectives Diane Fry and Ben Cooper have to look back into the farm's history, where they uncover decades of abuse of migrant workers. Is the truth to be found somewhere in this piteous history, or does the answer lie elsewhere, hidden in the ground, and still waiting to be discovered? *Due Jan* (English)

**James BORN****Burn Zone****320pp Pb 18.95**

Alex Duarte #2. It was supposed to be a low level bust for ATF agent Alex Duarte, with the hope that he could work it up the ladder to someone important. He just didn't know how important. In New Orleans to check out a mysterious Panamanian named Ortiz who likes to trade guns illegally and import marijuana by the truckload, Duarte suddenly finds himself in the middle of something bigger than he has ever known. A shadowy colonel who is not what he seems, a white supremacist intent on becoming "the man who changed America" and an attractive FBI agent with a lot of secrets. Alex Duarte knows he's in deep with these characters. He just hopes he's not over his head. *Due Jan* (American)

Alan BRADLEY**The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie****304pp Tp \$33.00**

It is June 1950 and a sleepy English village is about to be awakened by the discovery of a dead body in Colonel de Luce's cucumber patch. The police are baffled, and when a dead snipe is deposited on the Colonel's doorstep with a rare stamp impaled on its beak they are baffled even more. Only the Colonel's precocious daughter Flavia has the ingenuity to follow the clues that reveal the victim's identity, and a conspiracy that reached back into the de Luce family's murky past. *Due Jan* (Canadian)

**Kate BRALLIER****The Boundless Deep****432pp Pb \$16.95**

Grad student Liza has long been plagued by vivid dreams of whaling despite never having seen the sea. When offered the opportunity to spend a summer on Nantucket - the one time heart of New England's whaling trade - Liza accepts, eager to see how well her dreams mesh with historical reality. The answer is all too vivid. Liza's dreams become highly sexual; her visions of ship's captain Obadiah Young grow increasingly intense. At times, the past and the present mix before her very eyes. Whaling museum curator Adam is sceptical about Liza's claims of a past life, but he is drawn to her desire to know the truth about herself and about Obadiah, who was accused of murdering his beautiful, younger wife. Liza's attraction to Adam is intense, but so is her reaction to Lucian. In a single summer, Liza must unravel the riddle of her dreams, reunite lovers separated by death, solve a 100 year old murder and figure out her heart's desire. *Due Jan* (American)

Alafair BURKE**The City of Fear (aka Angel's Tip)****Pb \$25.00**

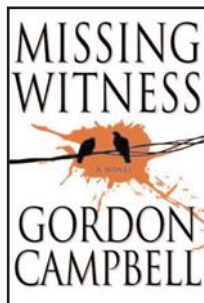
Ellie Hatcher #2. Chelsea Hart, a fresh faced Indiana college student, spends the final night of her spring break in the VIP room of an elite New York City nightclub with her girlfriends and a fake ID. The next morning, joggers find her in East River Park, her celebrated blonde hair hacked off. NYPD Detective Ellie Hatcher catches the case and quickly homes in on a group of privileged men who were last seen partying with Chelsea. When a tight case is built against a young hedge fund manager, the department is elated. But Ellie has her doubts. Chelsea's murder is eerily similar to three other deaths that occurred a decade ago. The victims were young, female, and in each case, the killer had taken her hair as a souvenir. Ellie's search for the truth pits her against her fellow cops and places her under the watchful eye of a psychopath eager to add the prideful young detective to his list. *Due Jan* (American)

James Lee BURKE**In Electric Mist with****Confederate Dead (1993)****416pp Pb \$23.00**

Robicheaux #6. Hunting a sadistic killer who targets young prostitutes, Detective Dave Robicheaux has no mind to be sidetracked into persuading ex schoolmate mobster Julie 'Baby Feet' Balboni to leave town. And it turns out that Balboni is the money behind a Civil War movie that's bringing in good business. But then the film crew stumble on a skeleton out in the bayou, and the links between a 30 year old lynching, a Civil War general, Balboni and the serial killer lead Dave into treacherous waters, with only a handful of unexpected allies to help him protect his own. *Due Jan* (American)

Gordon CAMPBELL**Missing Witness****384pp Pb \$18.95**

The case is seemingly a slam dunk. A beautiful woman, with a gun in her purse and accompanied by her teenaged daughter, walks into a house. Shots are fired, and the woman's husband lies dead on the floor. She did it, right? But her wealthy father in law, the murdered man's father, seems not to think so. Right away he hires the best lawyer in Phoenix to defend her. That lawyer is Dan Morgan, a legendary criminal attorney who rarely loses a case. Morgan and his green young assistant, Doug, go to trial. And they pull off a miracle. But wait, that is just the beginning... *Due Jan* (American)



**Gianrico CAROFIGLIO****The Past is a Foreign Country**
244pp Pb \$19.95

One hot summer, as world weary bloodhound Lieutenant Chiti spends sleepless nights hunting for the serial sex attacker terrorising his city, trainee lawyer Giorgio is befriended by dangerously charismatic Francesco. Slowly the innocent Giorgio is lured into a corrupt world of beautiful women, card sharks and casual violence, in dingy poker dens and luxury villas. Then one terrifying night Giorgio is forced to realise just how far he has left his past behind... (Italian)

Agatha CHRISTIE**Miss Marple and Mystery:
The Complete Short Stories**
756pp Pb \$40.00

A brand new omnibus of 55 short stories, presented for the first time in chronological order. These short stories provide a feast for hardened Agatha Christie addicts as well as those who have grown to love the detective through her many film and television appearances and perfectly illustrate the true breadth of her talent. As well as every story featuring Miss Marple, the book includes additional stand alone tales, from macabre tales of the supernatural, through suspense ridden mysteries, to heart stopping cases of murder. *Due Jan* (English)

Harlan COBEN**Hold Tight**

448pp Pb \$23.00

Tia and Mike Baye never imagined they'd become the type of overprotective parents who spy on their kids. But their 16 year old son Adam has been unusually distant lately, and after the suicide of his classmate Spencer Hill, the latest in a string of issues at school, they can't help but worry. They install a sophisticated spy program on Adam's computer, and within days they are jolted by a message from an unknown correspondent addressed to their son, "Just stay quiet and all safe." Meanwhile, browsing through an online memorial for Spencer, Betsy Hill is struck by a photo that appears to have been taken on the night of her son's death, and he wasn't alone. She thinks it is Adam Baye standing just outside the camera's range, but when Adam goes missing, it soon becomes clear that something deep and sinister has infected their community. *Due Jan* (American)

Jan COFFEY**The Puppet Master**

400pp Pb \$16.95

A twisted mastermind begins unravelling the lives of four people – a NASA project manager, a hacker, a former banking CFO who cannot afford the treatment for his daughter's rare kidney disorder, and a billionaire whose son is abducted by a terrorist group. *Due Jan* (American)

Shirley DAMSGAARD**The Witch's Grave**

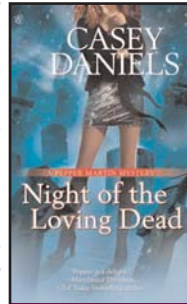
272pp Pb \$16.95

Ophelia & Abby Mystery #6. Psychic librarian, Ophelia Jensen, has been having recurring dreams about a 'soul mate', but she's never met this guy before and doesn't have any clues as to how she is supposed to find him. Disregarding the dreams, she continues to go about her life with her Grandmother Abby, a benevolent witch, and her adopted daughter, Tink, a medium. Try as she might, she can't get the stranger from her dreams out of her mind until she finally meets him at a library event at a local winery. It turns out life has played another trick on her. Ophelia knew MJ LaSalle in a previous life and they were not friends. But just as Ophelia and MJ begin to figure why they have crossed paths once again, MJ is shot and it is up to Ophelia to unravel the clues. *Due Jan* (American)

Casey DANIELS**Night of the Loving Dead**

304pp Pb \$16.95

Pepper Martin Mystery #4. Pepper Martin, heiress turned cemetery tour guide, often has her hands full with the ghosts who won't let her rest, work, or shop in peace. Now the spectre of a young woman in a lab coat wants Pepper's help. Before the woman died, she worked with a sexy, mysterious doctor who coincidentally once saved Pepper's life and whom the woman claims is now in danger. But Pepper doesn't know that there's more to the story, including a devious doctor and an obsessive, crazy love. *Due Jan* (American)

**David DOWNING****Zoo Station**

310pp Pb \$19.95

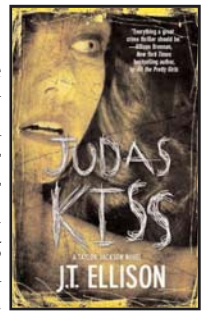
John Russell #1. Englishman John Russell is a member of the foreign press corps in Berlin and is a first hand witness to the brutal machinations of Hitler and the Nazi party in the build up to war during the early months of 1939. Unlike many of his colleagues, Russell wishes to remain in Berlin for as long as possible to be close to Effi, his glamorous actress girlfriend, and above all to Paul, his 11 year old son who lives with his estranged German wife. When an old acquaintance turns up at his hotel, Russell's life begins to change. Gradually he is persuaded by a combination of threats, financial need and appeals to his conscience to become a spy, first for the Soviet Union and then, simultaneously, for the British. Russell, a reluctant hero and a saviour for some, treads an ever narrowing line between the Russians, British and the Gestapo... (English)

J T ELLISON**Judas Kiss**

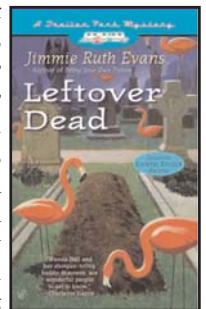
384pp Pb \$16.95

Taylor Jackson #3.

Sex, lies and videotape. It was a murder made for TV, a trail of tiny bloody footprints. An innocent toddler playing beside her mother's bludgeoned body. Pretty young Corinne Wolff, seven months pregnant, brutally murdered in her own home. Cameras and questions don't usually phase Nashville Homicide Lieutenant Taylor Jackson, but the media frenzy surrounding the Wolff case is particularly nasty. When the seemingly model mommy is linked to an amateur porn website the sharks begin to circle. The shock is magnified when an old adversary uses the sexy secret footage to implicate Taylor in a murder, an accusation that threatens her career, her reputation and her relationship. Both cases hinge on the evidence of crimes that go beyond passion into the realm of obsessive vengeance and shocking betrayal. *Due Jan* (American)

**Jimmie Ruth EVANS****Leftover Dead** 308pp Pb \$18.95*Trailer Park*

Mystery #5. Waitress Wanda Nell Culpepper is barely hitched to her new husband, Jack, before the couple starts digging into an unsolved murder from 31 years ago. But a new death puts this cold case on the front burner. *Due Jan* (American)

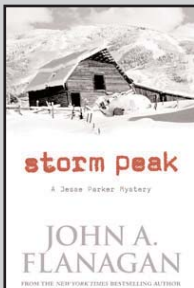
**Linda FAIRSTEIN****Lethal Legacy** 400pp Tp \$33.00*Alex Cooper* #11.

When Assistant District Attorney Alexandra Cooper is summoned to Tina Barr's apartment on Manhattan's Upper East Side, she finds a neighbour convinced that the young woman has been assaulted. But the terrified victim, a conservator of rare books and maps, denies that and refuses to co-operate with Alex and the police investigators. Tina disappears, and then another woman is found murdered in the same apartment, with an extremely valuable book at her side. The book has probably been stolen, but from whom and how? Pursuing the murderer Alex is drawn into the strange and privileged world of rich and secretive book collectors, where avarice and greed is as strong an inheritance as wealth. *Due Jan* (American)



**John A FLANAGAN****Storm Peak 356pp Tp \$32.95**

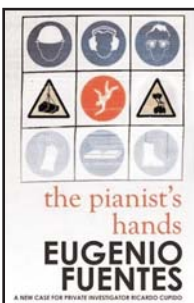
Jesse Parker, ex Denver police detective, has returned to his hometown of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, to spend the winter working the ski patrol and taking it easy. But he is reluctantly dragged back into a world of violence and murder when a serial killer begins a killing spree in the sleepy ski town. The first in a new series from the bestselling author of the *Ranger's Apprentice* series. *Due Jan* (Australian)

**Bill FLOYD****The Killer's Wife 320pp Pb \$23.00**

Six years after her ex husband is sentenced to death for a series of gruesome murders, Leigh Wren has almost succeeded in putting her past to rest. But the new life she has created for herself and her young son is shattered when the father of one of her ex husband's victims begins stalking her and publicly exposes her past. As Leigh grapples with memories of her marriage to a man whom she exposed to the world as a deviant serial killer, a more deadly game of cat and mouse begins. A new killer emerges who is on death row thousands of miles away, and Leigh and her son appear to be in the stalker's scope. As Leigh delves into the mysteries her ex husband left behind, the danger multiplying as each new revelation brings the threat closer to home. When the identity of the new killer is finally exposed, the truth turns out to be as twisted as it is devastating. *Due Jan* (American)

Eugenio FUENTES**The Pianist's Hands****196pp Tp \$29.95**

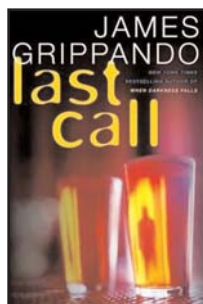
Detective *Ricardo Cupido Mystery #3*. The construction site of a luxury housing complex becomes a crime scene. Breda, Spain, is in the midst of the housing boom. Although there are differences of opinion and the ambitious project is not without risk, the expectation of sumptuous profits drives the partners to continue. When the corpse of one of the partners is discovered inside one of the newly constructed buildings, the enigmatic Detective Cupido delves into a passionate investigation where the alibis matter less than the dark and desolate description of the human condition. (Spanish)

**Tim GREEN****American Outrage****352pp Pb \$18.95**

As an investigative journalist, Jake Carlson has made a career of digging up the truth. After winning a Pulitzer, he accepts a lucrative job as a correspondent with a popular television news show. But his life and career are derailed when he loses his wife to cancer, leaving him to raise his adopted son Sam alone. Afraid of being left parentless, Sam wants to find his biological mother, and Jake tries to track her down. He soon uncovers a horrifying ring of deceit and black market child trafficking. Having worked as a reporter in Afghanistan during the war, Jake is unafraid of ruffling the feathers of criminals if he can find the truth for his son, and a big story for his career. Especially when it appears the story of his stolen child involves a complicated inheritance from an old, highly respected and politically important New England family. But when the identity of Sam's true blood line is revealed, Jake knows that it's no longer only his life that is at risk, but his son's as well. *Due Jan* (American)

James GRIPPANDO**Last Call****400pp Pb \$15.00**

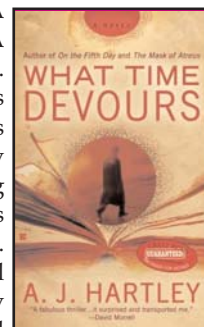
Jack Swytek #7. Miami criminal defence lawyer Jack Swytek's best friend Theo Knight grew up in Miami's roughest neighbourhood, and as a teenager was on Florida's death row for a murder he didn't commit. Jack was the lawyer who proved him innocent. A phone call at 3 am reminds Jack that the past is never that far away. Theo has been ambushed by Isaac Reems, who up until two hours before had been in prison. Isaac promises that if Theo will help him elude the manhunt, he will name the guy who killed Theo's momma. She was murdered when he was a boy, the crime never solved. It wasn't someone from the old neighbourhood. Someone has a very dark secret, one that he will stop at nothing to protect. Jack and Theo's search will take them right up to the doors of Miami's elite, but for Theo the danger is personal. Jack's friend doesn't want justice. He needs revenge. As the two men draw closer to the truth, the twists and turns along a 20 year old trail of evidence seem to point in a direction that chills even Theo. *Due Jan* (American)

**Gemma HALLIDAY****Mayhem in High Heels****320pp Pb \$18.95**

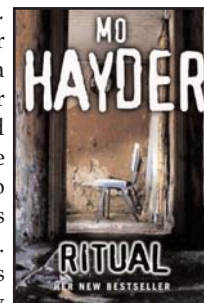
Maddie Springer #5. Maddie's planning a wedding, but with a killer on the loose, 'til death do you part' might come a lot sooner than she thinks! *Due Jan* (American)

A J HARTLEY**What Time Devours****416pp Pb \$18.95**

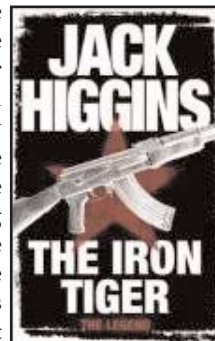
A dead woman. A literary treasure. A dangerous quest. Thomas Knight is faced with a centuries old mystery surrounding a long lost and now priceless Shakespearean play. To find it, Thomas will have to enter a story which drags loss and death after it like one of Shakespeare's tragedies, a story bound to time and all it devours. *Due Jan* (American)

**Mo HAYDER****Ritual****720pp Pb \$21.95**

Jack Caffery #3. Nine feet under water police diver Flea Marley closes her gloved fingers around a human hand. The fact that there's no body attached is disturbing enough. Yet more disturbing is the discovery, a day later, of the matching hand. Both have been recently amputated, and the indications are that the victim was still alive when they were removed. DI Jack Caffery has been newly seconded to the Major Crime Investigation Unit in Bristol. He and Flea soon establish that the hands belong to a boy who had recently disappeared. Their search for him and for his abductor lead them into the darkest recesses of Bristol's underworld, where drug addiction is rife, where street kids sell themselves for a hit, and where an ancient evil lurks. An evil that feeds off the blood, and flesh, of others. *Due Jan* (English)

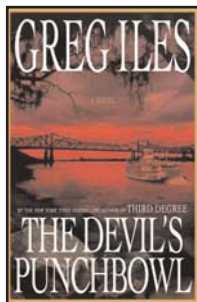
**Jack HIGGINS****The Iron Tiger****320pp Pb \$20.00**

The called it the Place of Silence, the last frozen barrier between Balpur and Tibet. An icy wilderness where desperate men made a living smuggling guns across the border. Even for the bravest, the luck has to run out. On what he thought would be his last flight, Jack Drummond found his own recipe for disaster. A deadly cargo of machine guns, a band of ruthless guerrillas and a confrontation with the Chinese Reds... leaving no chance for escape. *Due Jan* (English)

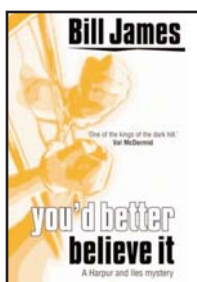


**Greg ILES****The Devil's Punchbowl****480pp Tp \$33.00**

Urged by old friends to try to restore his hometown of Natchez, Mississippi to its former glory, Penn Cage has ridden into office on a tide of support for change. But in its quest for jobs and money, Natchez has turned to casino gambling. Five steamboats float on the river, but one boat isn't like the others. The Magnolia Queen has found a way to pull the big players from Las Vegas, and with them comes an unquenchable taste for one thing - blood sport, and the vices that go with it. When a childhood friend who brings Penn evidence of these crimes is brutally murdered, the full weight of Penn's failure to protect this city hits home. So begins his quest to find the men responsible. But it's a hunt he begins alone, for the local authorities have been corrupted. With his family's life at stake, Penn realizes his only allies are those bound to him by blood or honour. *Due Jan* (American)

**Bill JAMES****You'd Better Believe It (1985)****190pp Pb 21.95**

Harpur & Iles #1. Harpur's domain is a small seaport city south of London. It's not unusual for the big town criminals to consider such a spot as easy prey. At such times a policeman must rely keenly upon his colleagues, to be sure, and also upon his retinue of narks. This time it's a Lloyd's Bank branch that's the target. When the heist is postponed, a policeman is killed. One nark, then another, is murdered. As Harpur becomes driven to his limit, he must bypass regulations and settle things once and for all with a vicious crook named Holly. But not necessarily on his own terms. (Welsh)

**Bill JAMES****The Lolita Man (1986)****205pp Pb \$21.95**

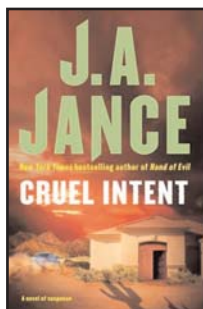
Harpur & Iles #2. Five teenage girls have been raped and murdered, and the criminal is still at large. Detective Chief Superintendent Colin Harpur, assigned to the case, is a tough hunter, but so is "the Lolita man," watching the schoolyards. Now it looks as if the daughter of Harpur's friend may be the latest victim. Virtually obsessed with the urgency of the matter, and hampered by the bitter police rivalry that is jeopardizing the case, Harpur decides to go it alone. (Welsh)

Bill JAMES**Halo Parade (1987)****208pp Pb 21.95**

Harpur & Iles #3. Detective Chief Superintendent Colin Harpur is disconsolate. His mistress has recently married another cop and Ray Street, the young lad whom Colin sent undercover to infiltrate a drug lord and his gang, is now recklessly endangering himself. When Street is murdered, Harpur plants evidence implicating the drug lord, but a crafty barrister sways the jury, and the drug lord is freed. The extralegal comeuppance finds rank and file cops applauding the vigilante justice rendered by their superiors, who have avenged one of their own, the dead Ray Street. (Welsh)

J A JANCE**Cruel Intent****Alison Reynolds #4.**

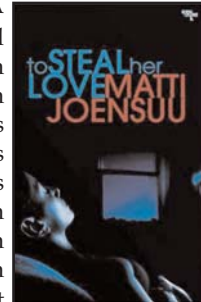
When Ali hires a contractor to help remodel her home, the last thing she expects is a suspected killer. But when the savagely murdered body of Morgan Forester is found by her twin daughters, Ali's contractor Logan is the primary suspect. Logan swears he has nothing to do with the killing, but no one, including Ali's friend, Detective Dave Holman, believes him. Can Ali help Logan prove his innocence? Will it cost her a friendship or something even more precious than that? *Due Jan* (American)

352pp Tp \$29.95**Quintin JARDINE****Inhuman Remains****384pp Tp \$33.00**

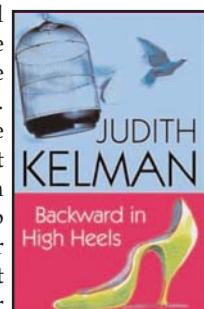
Primavera Phillips #1. Her mind still filled with thoughts of her dead ex-husband, Oz, Primavera Blackstone is in Spain with their son Tom when their peace is breached again with the arrival of her elderly but formidable aunt, Adrienne McGowan. All is not well in Auntie Ades world. Her roguish son Frank has become involved with a shady international casino project and has disappeared. Prim flies to Seville to track him down, only to find herself a fugitive, with her life under threat, as her aunt joins the missing persons list, and Tom is forced to flee to safety. As she and her companion in danger cross Spain in a struggle to keep themselves alive, and to free Adrienne, Prim finds herself at the centre of a maelstrom of mystery... *Due Jan* (Scottish)

**Matti JOENSUU****To Steal Her Love****314pp Tp \$30.00**

Harjunpaa #3. A strange nocturnal visitor tiptoes through apartments in Helsinki. Nothing is stolen, nothing is destroyed. Numerous women wake to an unknown presence in their bedroom, but in the light of morning, it all seems a dream. At first the police take little notice, and the women themselves begin to doubt their own sanity. But evidence accumulates, and the net closes, Tipi, a skilful picker of locks, falls in love with one of his night time women. He shadows her, daring to approach her secretly only at night. But then Tipi's lock picking skills are needed for a break in by some of his professional criminal brothers. The results of falling in love and a life of crime are tragic for Tipi. For police sergeant Timo Harjunpaa, times are also hard. He is forced in his private life to reassess his values, the significance of those dearest to him, and the nature of love and guilt. (Finnish)

**Judith KELMAN****Backward in High Heels****384pp Tp \$27.95**

The day Maggie heard her husband's office had burned down, she was heartbroken. Never again would he refuse a restaurant table, nigger about a hotel room or carp about the Yankees or the Giants. But actually, the disaster was worse than she thought. Harold wasn't in the building - he was in bed with a 23 year old. Now he's leaving her, and Maggie has to pull herself together. Who should she listen to? The lawyer who's certain he's diddling her on the settlement? Janine, fashionista and benevolent bully, whose motto is "A bitch in time does fine"? Or her overbearing mother, who keeps pointing out that a woman Maggie's age is statistically more likely to be kidnapped by aliens than to find another man? *Due Jan* (American)

**Alice KIMBERLY****The Ghost and the Haunted****Mansion 272pp Pb \$16.95**


Haunted Bookshop Mystery #5. When the local mailman inherits a haunted mansion and demands an exorcism, bookshop owner Pen must act fast to save her favourite ghost, 1940s detective Jack Sheppard, before it's too late. *Due Jan* (American)

**Matthew KLEIN**

 **Conned (aka Con Ed 2007)**
304pp Pb \$20.00

Kip Largo has recently emerged from a jail term for security fraud. He used to be a master conman, but now he's trying to go straight, working at a dry cleaner's while running an internet business on the side. But when Lauren Napier, the wife of a big Las Vegas businessman comes to him with a proposition to steal \$20 million of her husband Ed Napier's money, Kip can't resist. He recruits some friends. Jessica, a stripper turned porn producer, his wayward son, Toby and Peter, a brilliant college hacker. They convince Napier that they've developed software that predicts stock prices, and with the smell of so much money in the air, Napier can't wait to invest. But things don't go to plan. It quickly emerges that someone on the inside is feeding information to another party. The con's in tatters, and Kip must fight to keep himself, and his son, alive. *Due Jan* (American)

Rita LAKIN

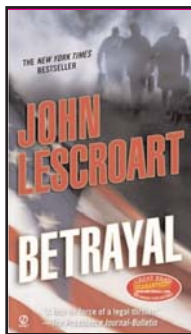
 **Getting Old is a Disaster**
368pp Pb \$16.95

Gladdy Gold Mystery #5. Back from schlepping all over New York City, PI Gladdy Gold is happy to be on her Florida turf again, especially now that she and boyfriend Jack Langford are officially an item. But no sooner have the yenta brigade gotten back to their routine than a notorious outlaw, aka the "Grandpa Bandit," issues Gladdy's detective agency a direct challenge. *Catch me if you can.* The dapper thief has already knocked over six Fort Lauderdale banks. It's up to Gladdy and the girls to stop him before he hits the next one. But when a killer hurricane leads to the discovery of a 50 year old skeleton, they have to put the bandit on the back burner. With the storm wreaking havoc and a dark mystery swirling around the Lanai Gardens retirement community, Gladdy and the girls are about to confront a ruthless killer determined to bury the past, and them along with it.... (American)

John LESCROART

 **Betrayal** **576pp Pb \$23.95**


Dismas Hardy agrees to take an appeal to overturn the murder conviction of National Guard reservist Evan Scholler. Scholler had plenty of reasons for revenge but as Dismas delves into the case, he begins to uncover a terrible truth that drops him right into the complicated world of government conspiracy, assassination, and betrayal. *Due Jan* (American)

**Jeff LINDSAY**

 **Dexter by Design**
320pp Tp \$33.00

Dexter #4. Being a blood spatter analyst who hates the sight of blood has always made Dexter's work for the Miami PD tough. But it means he's very neat when it comes to his out of hours hobby, murder. Of course, the fact Dexter only kills bad people helps too. Now Dex is facing a disturbing situation. He's used to blood at work, and blood when he's out with the dark passenger (the voice that guides him on his deadly outings). But he's not sure what to make of the man who says blood is art. Using bodies as his canvas, someone is out there expressing themselves in the most lethal and painful of ways. If Dexter's to escape the scalpel and avoid becoming the latest exhibit, he needs somewhere to run and he might just have found the perfect place. With his wedding looming, completing his nice guy disguise, Dexter's honeymoon might just save his skin. *Due Jan* (American)

Geoff McGEACHIN

 **Dead and Kicking**
304pp Pb \$29.95

A job as stills photographer and some top notch nosh were two good reasons for Alby Murdock to be in Saigon. The third was that he had to clear out of Sydney and the spy fame for a while. But when Alby snaps a photo of the wrong passing cyclo, suddenly more action is taking place off camera than on. Alongside his old flame, Jezebel Quick and his new friend, the alluring Inspector Hoang, Alby is thrust into the murky, watch your back world of casino crime lords, bent politicians, rogue expats, killer fish and ruthless celebrity chefs. *Due Jan* (Australian)

G A McKEVETT

 **Poisoned Tarts** **256pp Pb \$16.95**

Savannah Reid Mystery #13. The Skeleton Key Three, a celebute clique so named by the media because of their super skinny figures and fat trust funds, are in the spotlight again. It seems the one member of the Three who was neither wealthy nor particularly svelte hasn't been heard from in days. The missing girl is Daisy O'Neil, and she had little in common with her so called friends Tiffany, Kiki, and Bunny. When Savannah learns that Tiffany's acting aspirations were threatened by Daisy's talent, the poor little rich girl looks guilty. But just when Savannah thinks she has it figured out, the vibe surrounding the Skeleton Key Three changes. As preparations are being made for Halloween, the patriarch himself is spotted dressed as Dracula, complete with a real stake through his no longer beating heart. Savannah will have to put her Halloween candy on the shelf until she's deserving of a reward and find a killer fast, before more Hollywood money becomes buried treasure... *Due Jan* (American)

John MACKEN

 **Trial by Blood** **528pp Pb \$21.95**


Reuben Maitland #3. Reuben Maitland has lost everything: his job, his marriage, and his reputation. Fired from CID's elite forensic investigation unit, he is forced to turn to the other side of the law to find work. Michael Brawn is currently enjoying the hospitality of Her Majesty at Pentonville maximum security prison. He is not who he claims to be. He has been placed there on forged genetic evidence: evidence that was submitted to the court on Reuben's authority. But who is he, and why is he there? Reuben is offered one chance to clear his name. He needs to discover Brawn's real identity and, more importantly, his reason for falsely entering prison. And there is only one way of getting to him. Reuben is going to have to enter Pentonville. But as he is about to find out, prison is a very dangerous place for an ex copper. *Due Jan* (English)

Shane MALONEY

 **The Next Murray Whelan Trilogy**
814pp Pb \$34.95


An omnibus of *The Big Ask*, *Something Fishy* and *Sucked In*. A disastrous election result is looming, and Murray's days as a political minder seem numbered. With a runaway son on his hands, the police at his heels, and a gun buried in the backyard, Murray Whelan faces his toughest test yet. *Due Jan* (Australian)

Henning MANKELL

 **Sidetracked (1995)**
512pp Pb \$23.95

Kurt Wallander #4. Midsummer approaches, and Wallander prepares for a holiday with the new woman in his life, hopeful that his wayward daughter and his ageing father will cope without him. But his summer is ruined when a girl commits suicide before his eyes, and a former minister of justice is butchered in the first of a series of apparently motiveless murders. Wallander's hunt for the girl's identity and his furious pursuit of a killer who scalps his victims will throw him and those he loves most into mortal danger. *Due Jan* (Swedish)

Henning MANKELL

 **One Step Behind (1997)**
544pp Pb \$23.95

Kurt Wallander #6. It is Midsummer's Eve. Three young friends meet in a wood to act out an elaborate masque. But unknown to them, they are being watched. Each is killed by a single bullet. Soon afterwards, one of Inspector Wallander's colleagues is found murdered. Is it the same killer, and what could the connection be? In this investigation Wallander is always, tantalisingly, one step behind. *Due Jan* (Swedish)

**Henning MANKELL****Firewall (1998)****544pp Pb \$23.95**

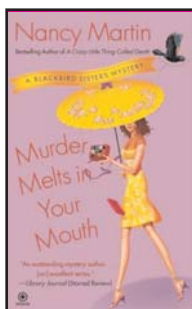
Kurt Wallander #7. A man inexplicably falls to the ground dead. A taxi driver is brutally murdered by two teenaged girls who appal local policemen with their lack of remorse. One girl escapes police custody. Soon afterwards a blackout covers half the country. When an engineer arrives at the malfunctioning power station, he makes a grisly discovery. Inspector Kurt Wallander is sure that these events must be linked. The search for answers leads Wallander dangerously close to a shadowy group of anarchic terrorists, hidden within the anonymity of cyberspace. Somehow these criminals seem always to know the police's next move and Wallander finds himself fighting to outsmart them. *Due Jan* (Swedish)

Michael MARSHALL**Bad Things****400pp Tp \$33.00**

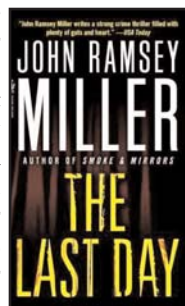
On a beautiful summer's afternoon four year old Scott Henderson walked out onto a jetty over a lake in Black Ridge, Washington State. He never came back. John Henderson's world ended that day, but three years later he's still alive. Living a life, of sorts. Getting by. Until one night he receives an email from a stranger who claims to know what happened to his little boy. Against his better judgement Henderson returns to Black Ridge, unleashing a terrifying sequence of events that threatens to destroy what remains of everything he once held dear. Bad things don't just happen to other people, they're waiting round the corner for you too. And when they start to make their way in through the cracks in your life, you won't know until it's far too late... *Due Jan* (English)

**Nancy MARTIN****Murder Melts in Your Mouth****304pp Pb \$16.95**

Blackbird Sisters Mystery #7. Down to earth debutante Nora Blackbird is having a meltdown. A noted Philly philanthropist has taken a swan dive from an office balcony and Nora's friend Lexie stands accused of the murder. Then her scheming parents reappear, sending all three Blackbird sisters into a panic. Now Nora must uncover her parents' scandalous high jinks before she winds up taking the heat. *Due Jan* (American)

**John Ramsey MILLER****The Last Day** **432pp Pb \$16.95**

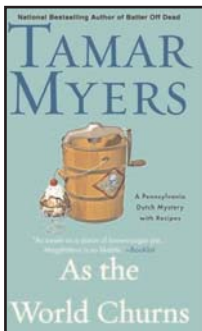
On the edge of the North Carolina woods, behind an isolated modern house, the watcher patiently waits. He knows all about the couple who live there—a talented surgeon and a successful businessman. He knows they are numb with grief, and he knows what is going to happen next, and why. For Dr Natasha McCarty and her husband, Ward, their son's tragic death has shaped every moment of the last year. But to add to their pain, a new strangeness is suddenly engulfing them. Natasha's hands have begun to shake. A prized memento has been stolen. Then a sordid scandal explodes, threatening everything they've built. And now, as the anniversary of their son's death approaches, for reasons they can't guess, from a place they can't see, an extraordinary evil will emerge before their eyes. Because a killer has chosen this day as their last... *Due Jan* (American)

**Rick MOFINA****Six Seconds** **496pp Pb \$16.95**

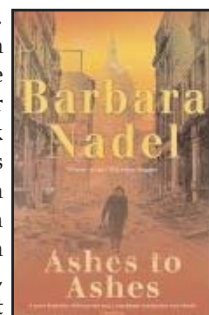
Three strangers thrown together in a plan to change the world, in only six seconds. The countdown has begun. A vengeful woman who aches for her place in paradise. In Iraq, an aid worker whose husband and child were killed in a brutal attack, saves the life of an American, believing he can help her avenge her family's death. An anguished mother desperate to find her child. In California, a mother arrives to pick up her son from school, only to discover that her husband has taken their child and vanished without a trace. A detective in need of redemption. Haunted by the past, an off duty cop launches his own investigation into the death of a little girl, leading him to a school. *Due Jan* (Canadian)

Tamar MYERS**As the World Churns****320pp Pb \$16.95**

Pennsylvania Dutch Mystery #16. Magdalena Yoder may be finally married to big time Manhattan doctor Gabriel Rosen, but she's still a small town girl at heart, and thrilled to emcee the first Hernia Holstein Competition, until someone clobbers the contest's originator and both Gabe and his daughter Alison go missing. Now Magdalena vows to track down clues until the cows and her family come home. *Due Jan* (American)

**Barbara NADEL****Ashes to Ashes** **352pp Pb \$20.00**

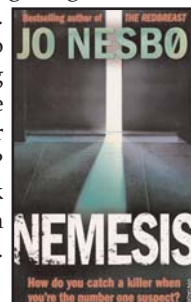
Francis Hancock #3. As the German Luftwaffe bomb the capital, undertaker Francis Hancock suddenly finds himself caught up in the middle of a terrifying abduction plot. It's 29 December, 1940, the night that Hitler has chosen to destroy London under a barrage of flaming incendiary bombs. Their main target, St Paul's cathedral, is where Francis Hancock is sheltering. But the First World War veteran doesn't just have bombs to contend with. A young girl, who was also sheltering in the cathedral, has vanished. Then some of those charged with protecting the building are brutally murdered. Hancock must face both his own demons and fears in his struggle to catch those responsible and bring them to justice... *Due Jan* (English)

**Barbara NADEL****River of the Dead****320pp Tp \$33.00**

Cetin Ikmen #11. Convicted murderer and drug baron Yusuf Kaya has escaped from Istanbul prison. Inspector Cetin Ikmen is called to investigate Kaya's contacts in the city, while Inspector Suleyman heads to Kaya's hometown of Mardin, a dangerous city on the Syrian border. Back in Istanbul, as Ikmen delves deeper into Kaya's past, the body count continues to rise. Meanwhile, Suleyman discovers that Kaya has another wife in Mardin, an American woman heavily guarded by members of the Kaya clan. It's not long before the two Inspectors are caught up in a terrifying web of arms and drug running, terrorism, blackmail and murder... *Due Jan* (English)

Jo NESBO**Nemesis** **720pp Pb 21.95**

Harry Hole #3. Grainy CCTV footage shows a man walking into a bank and putting a gun to a cashier's head. He tells her to count to 25. When he doesn't get his money in time, she is executed. Detective Harry Hole is assigned to the case. While Harry's girlfriend is away in Russia, an old flame gets in touch. He goes to dinner at her house and wakes up at home with no memory of the past 12 hours. The same morning the girl is found shot dead in her bed. Then Harry begins to receive threatening emails. Is someone trying to frame him for this unexplained death? Meanwhile the bank robberies continue with unparalleled savagery. *Due Jan* (Norwegian)




**Kevin O'BRIEN****Final Breath** 416pp Pb \$16.95

At first, the deaths seem random. A young Portland couple brutally murdered in a game gone awry, a Chicago woman who plummeted to her death from an office building, an aspiring screenwriter asphyxiated in his New York apartment. But the macabre souvenirs television reporter Sydney Jordan receives hint at a connection that is both personal and terrifying. After events in her own life went wrong, Sydney fled to Seattle with her teenage son. But instead of getting a fresh start, Sydney is plagued by strange occurrences. Someone is watching, someone who knows her intimately...someone who's just waiting to play the next move in a twisted game. She is his chosen one. Every murder is a sign, and soon, Sydney will understand why each victim had to suffer, and why she's the next in line. *Due Jan* (American)

Michael PALMER **The First Patient**

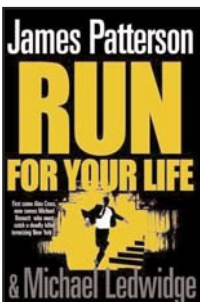
464pp Pb \$23.95

Two helicopters disrupt the peace of Dr Gabe Singleton's remote Wyoming ranch. From one of them strides the President of the United States with a stunning request which will turn Gabe's quiet life upside down. President Stoddard's personal physician has suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, and he needs Gabe to take the man's place. Reluctantly, Gabe agrees, but soon he discovers that critical details concerning the President's health have been kept from him. Suspecting that the President's worsening condition may not be due to natural causes, Gabe sets out to uncover who is behind his mysterious illness. But the more questions he asks, the more Gabe seems to be putting himself in danger. *Due Jan* (American)

James PATTERSON **Run for Your Life**

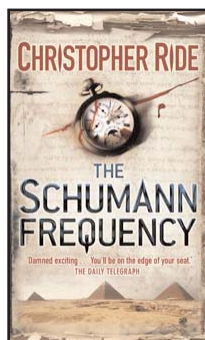
384pp Tp \$32.95

Michael Bennett #2. A calculating killer who calls himself The Teacher is taking on New York City, killing the powerful and the arrogant. His message is clear, remember your manners or suffer the consequences. For some, it seems that the rich are finally getting what they deserve. For New York's elite, it is a call to terror. Only one man can tackle such a high-profile case: Detective Mike Bennett. The pressure is enough for anyone, but Mike also has to care for his 10 children. Discovering a secret pattern in The Teacher's lessons, Detective Bennett realizes he has just hours to save New York from the greatest disaster in its history. *Due Jan* (American)

**Christopher RIDE** **The Schumann Frequency**

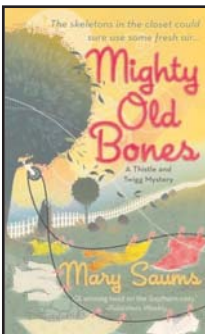
Pb \$21.95

The Dead Sea Scrolls have revealed a stunning secret, an Overseer must cross generations to save the world. Time itself is moving too quickly, with each day becoming shorter than the last. Society is unravelling, people are violently out of control, no one is safe. *Due Jan* (Australian)

**Mary SAUMS** **Mighty Old Bones**

320pp Pb \$16.95

Thistle & Twigg Mystery #2. Jane Thistle and Phoebe Twigg are as different as two best friends can be. Phoebe has never seen any reason to leave her small Alabama hometown, while Jane, once happily married to a career military officer, has travelled all over the world. But somehow, these two women, both of them widowed, always manage to make life in the slow lane a wild ride. Tullulah can be a sleepy little town but no one sleeps through the night a thunderstorm knocks down a tree on Jane's property, uncovering a pile of skeletal remains beneath. Jane happens to know a bit about archaeology, and has friends in high places. So she invites an archaeological expert to come over for a look, only to find that things in Tullulah are not at all as they seem. Now it's up to the town's superior senior sleuths Thistle and Twigg to dig up the truth. (American)

**Theresa SCHWEGEL** **Person of Interest**

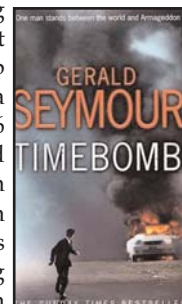
352pp Pb \$18.95

Leslie McHugh is married to an undercover cop. She thinks she knows what it's like to share her life with a man who spends his days living a lie, who keeps secrets for a living, who trusts no one, not even her. But what does she really know about her husband Craig? When \$1000.00 disappears from their bank account, Leslie wants answers. Before she can even ask questions, though, Ivy, their 17 year old daughter who's on a collision course with trouble, turns up at the centre of Craig's investigation into a snitch's violent death. Leslie's had enough. She's determined to get to the truth and protect her family, but at what cost? (American)

Gerald SEYMOUR **Timebomb**

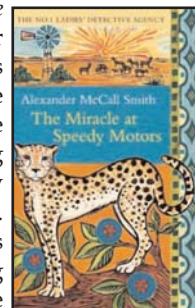
592pp Pb \$21.95

In 1992, after being fired from a top secret nuclear facility, a top KGB man buried a nuclear suitcase. 16 years later he has found a buyer for it. An exchange point in Eastern Europe is agreed upon. Travelling with the buyer is an undercover policeman, working for MI6. But as their shadowy journey across Europe begins, it becomes clear to a top psychiatrist at MI6, that their man may be suffering from Stockholm Syndrome and the whole operation is very likely to be thrown into jeopardy... *Due Jan* (English)

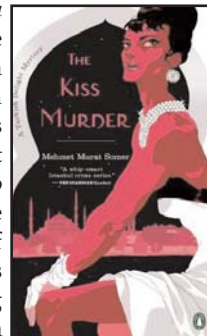
**Alexander McCall SMITH** **The Miracle at Speedy Motors**

256pp Pb 23.00

No 1 Ladies Detective Agency #9. It has never occurred to Precious Ramotswe that there might be disadvantages to being the best known lady detective in Botswana. But when she receives a threatening anonymous letter, she is compelled to reconsider her unconquerable belief in a kind world and good neighbours. While she ponders the identity of the letter writer Mma Ramotswe has a further set of problems to solve, both professional and personal. There is an adopted child's poignant search for her true family, and Mr J L B Matekoni's pursuit of an expensive miracle for their own foster daughter Motholeli. *Due Jan* (Scottish)

**Mehmet Murat SOMER** **The Kiss Murder** 256pp Tp \$32.95

Hop Ciki Yaya Mystery. A male computer technician by day and a transvestite hostess of Istanbul's most notorious nightclub by night, the unnamed heroine of "The Kiss Murder" is the most charming and hilarious sleuth to debut in recent memory. When Buse, one of the "girls" at her club, fears someone is after private letters from a former lover, she comes to her boss for help. The next day Buse is dead and our girl must find the murderers before they find her. Fortunately, she is well armed with beauty, wit, the wardrobe of Audrey Hepburn, and expert Thai kickboxing skills...*Due Jan* (Turkish)

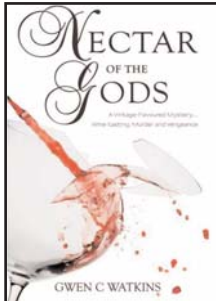


**Charles TODD****A Pale Horse 368pp Tp \$23.00**

Ian Rutledge #10. Late on a spring night in 1920, five boys cross the Yorkshire dales to the ruins of Fountains Abbey, intent on raising the Devil. Instead, they stumble over the Devil himself, sitting there watching them. Terrified, they run for their lives, leaving behind a book on alchemy stolen from their schoolmaster. The next morning, a body is discovered in the cloisters of the abbey, a man swathed in a cloak and wearing a gas mask. There are no clues other than the left behind book. In an effort to uncover the dead man's identity, one of the police constables sketches a likeness to send to other police stations. It turns out there's a strong chance the man worked on poisoned gases for the British government after the Germans had used them at Ypres during the late war. Scotland Yard dispatches Inspector Rutledge to confirm the ID and to find out why the man died in such mysterious circumstances. Rutledge begins his investigation, dealing with villagers who clearly have something to hide and trying to decipher if the death links back to the Great War. And what does the huge chalk sculpture of a pale horse of the Apocalypse have to do with the crime? *Due Jan* (American)

Gwen WATKINS**Nectar of the Gods****383pp Tp \$25.00**

Struggling to come to grips with the death of her husband and business partner, Sarah Bennett is just beginning to stabilize the precarious financial state of her Atlanta based wine importing company and get her personal life back in order, when she finds herself embroiled in a bitter battle with the brand manager for Bluestone Cellars, a historic family winery now owned by the Addison Group, Australia's largest and most powerful wine conglomerate. However, she is soon attacked by a knife wielding killer and people around her start dying. (American)

**Camilla WAY****Little Bird****Pb \$25.00**

She grew up in the forest in France without speech. Snatched at the age of three by a troubled mute man, all she learns is bird song. When she is found as a teenager, the media frenzy brings 'Little Bird' to a famous American linguist. So Elodie grows up in another country, with a new identity in a household sometimes more hostile than the forest she left. When violence strikes, Elodie flees again. She eventually ends up in London, known now as 'Kate.' She is determined to put the past behind her and lead a normal life. But what happens if someone from her past won't let her go? What happens if someone falls in love with her? *Due Jan* (English)

Deborah WEBB**Find Me****352pp Pb \$18.95**

Investigative reporter Sarah Newton debunks supernatural myths, and forces the truth to light whether people want to hear it or not. Now, with a popular teenager found tortured and murdered and another girl missing, Sarah's out to prove it's not the work of an ancient curse, but a cold blooded killer. She'll expose one Maine village's darkest secrets, while keeping the truth about her own past hidden from view. As Youngstown's newest councilman, Kale Conner's unofficial job is to minimize the bad publicity from Sarah's stories and, if possible, to keep her in line. But with time running out, and his own family at stake, Kale's finding his neighbours' terrible deeds might be too deadly to sweep under the rug, and he and Sarah are headed toward a heated endgame with only one shocking way out... *Due Jan* (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME

**Paul DOHERTY****Nightshade****448pp Pb \$20.00**

Hugh Corbett #16. January 1304 and Hugh Corbett, emissary of King Edward I, has been charged with another dangerous mission. Scrope, an unscrupulous manor lord, has reneged on his promise to hand over a priceless ornate cross he stole from the Templars during the Crusades. Furthermore, he has massacred as heretics 14 members of a religious order, whose corpses now hang in the woods near Mistleham in Essex. The King sends Corbett to Mistleham in his stead. But as Corbett reaches the troubled village, it becomes obvious that the situation has worsened. A mysterious Bowman has appeared, killing townspeople at random. Is one of the Brethren responsible, or have the Templars arrived to wreak revenge? Can Corbett restore Mistleham to peace, and return the treasure to the King, before further blood is shed? *Due Jan* (English)

Margaret FRAZER**The Apostate's Tale 320pp Pb \$18.95**

Dame Frevisse Mystery #17. Dame Frevisse must determine whether Sister Cecely, newly returned to the nunnery with her young son, is truly interested in repenting for her sins or if she's just in hiding after involvement in schemes that threaten everyone at St Frideswide. *Due Jan* (American)

Ann GRANGER**A Mortal Curiosity 416pp Pb \$20.00**

Lizzie Martin #2. Lizzie Martin, lady's companion, has been sent from London to the New Forest to comfort a young woman whose baby has tragically died. A sad enough task, but things take an even darker turn when a rat catcher is found murdered in the garden, and the young woman is discovered beside the body, crying and covered in blood. Not knowing where else to turn, Lizzie calls upon her friend Inspector Ben Ross from Scotland Yard to solve the horrific crime. *Due Jan* (English)

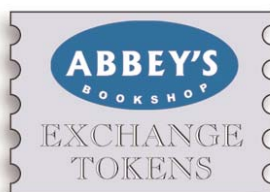
Susanna GREGORY**Westminster Poisoner****480pp Hb \$55.00**

Chaloner #4. After the Puritan ban on Christmas festivities Restoration London is awash with excess between Christmas Eve and Twelfth Night, but the two men found in Westminster Hall had not died from a surfeit of gluttony, but from poison. The Lord Chancellor appoints Chaloner as his investigator into the killings, believing them to be of scant importance to the affairs of state he deals with. But Chaloner reveals a stinking seam of corruption in the Palace of White Hall, where even the Queen is a victim to the greed of courtiers and functionaries. And the pickings are so rich that men are prepared to go to any lengths to save their own skins and their stolen fortunes. *Due Jan* (English)

Sharan NEWMAN**The Shanghai Tunnel****384pp Pb \$18.95**

Portland, 1868. It is a rough hewn place, a trading post that has dreams of becoming a metropolis. Horace Stratton, one of Portland's wealthiest heirs, has decided to come home for good after amassing yet another fortune in Shanghai. With him comes his wife Emily, a shy daughter of missionaries, and their teenaged son. On the brink of that happy return, Horace suddenly falls ill and dies in San Francisco. Emily and her son bring her husband home to Portland and they try to settle into this new culture. While they look as if they should belong, Portland is a strange and unsettling place for them. Emily is guilt ridden, but sorrow is one of the few emotions she didn't feel when told of her husband's passing. For Emily had learned more about her husband's past than anyone would believe. And she discovers that all of his schemes did not die with him. *Due Jan* (American)

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**Caro PEACOCK****Death of a Dancer**
(aka *A Dangerous Affair*)**384pp Pb \$25.00***Liberty Lane* #2.

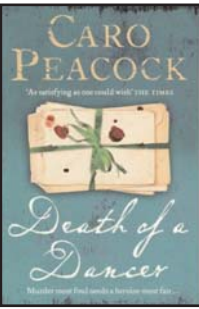
Duelling, derring do, and dastardly deeds are all in a day's work for Liberty Lane. The Augustus theatre likes to put on a good show. But when a public spat erupts between two dancers on the London stage, it comes to a dramatic conclusion that definitely wasn't part of the script. One dead, the other arrested for murder. As far as the jury's concerned, it's an open and shut case, but Liberty Lane believes otherwise. Soon she's leading her own investigation, in a desperate race against the hangman's noose. While the criminal underworld may be no place for a lady, there's no place for a criminal to hide once Liberty's on the case! *Due Jan* (English)

Michael SCHEIN**Just Deceits:****A Historical Courtroom Mystery****328pp Tp \$39.95**

In 1793, Virginia's most powerful family found itself embroiled in scandal. Richard Randolph and his sister in law Nancy Randolph, were charged with adultery and infanticide. Richard Randolph demanded a public trial. The Randolphs hired John Marshall and, unbeknownst to Marshall, Patrick Henry. Just Deceits portrays the remarkable defence team of Patrick Henry and John Marshall battling each other, their clients, the prosecution, and truth itself, in an effort to save their clients from the gallows. (American)

Diane STUCKART**The Queen's Gambit 336pp Pb \$18.95**

Leonardo da Vinci Mystery #1. Court Engineer Leonardo da Vinci conjures a living chess game for the Duke of Milan using his royal court as chess pieces. But when one "piece" is murdered, da Vinci's scrupulous eye for detail is needed to find the killer. *Due Jan* (American)

**Diane STUCKART****Portrait of a Lady 336pp Tp \$32.95**

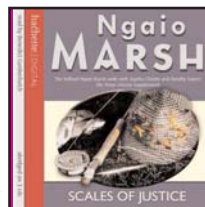
Leonardo da Vinci Mystery #2. As court engineer to the Duke of Milan, Leonardo da Vinci turns his superior mind to a variety of pursuits, from painting to solving the occasional murder. After the deaths of two female servants, Leonardo asks his apprentice, Dino, to go undercover disguised as a woman in the service of the Duke's ward, Contessa Caterina. This should be easy enough, given that 'Dino' is in reality Delfina, a young woman masquerading as a boy to serve as Leonardo's apprentice. Delfina is soon torn between her loyalty to Leonardo and her growing feelings for Gregorio, the handsome captain of the Duke's guard. But if what the Contessa's tarot cards foretold is correct, Delfina might be destined to lose her heart and perhaps her life. *Due Jan* (American)

David WISHART**Illegally Dead****272pp Pb \$20.00**

Marcus Corvinus #12. When Corvinus receives a letter, with a tantalising PS, from his adopted daughter, Marilla, mentioning there might have been a murder, he hot foots it to Castrimoenium at once. Not that everyone agrees that Lucius Hostilius was murdered. Poison was apparently the means of death, but Lucius was terminally ill. Although he hasn't any official investigative status, Corvinus can't resist doing a little amateur sleuthing. He has barely begun when two other corpses turn up and he is formally on the case. Lucius had been suffering something of a personality change because of his illness, so there is no shortage of suspects among friends and family whom he had antagonised. But Corvinus goes up many a blind alley before arriving at the heart of the mystery... *Due Jan* (Scottish)

**CRIME
AUDIO****Ngaio MARSH****Scales of Justice (1955)****read by Benedict Cumberbatch****3 CDs \$45.00**

Roderick Alleyn. The lives of the inhabitants of Swevenings are disrupted only by a fierce competition to catch the Old Un, a monster trout known to dwell in a beautiful stream which winds past their homes. Then one of their small community is found brutally murdered, beside him is the freshly killed trout. Both died by violence but Chief Detective Inspector Roderick Alleyn's murder investigation seems to be much more interested in the fish. *Due Jan* (New Zealand)

**CRIME
NON-FICTION****Michaele BALLARD****Beauty Sleep:****A Glamorous Mother, a Woman from Her Past, and Her Mysterious Death****256pp Pb \$16.95**

On April 10, 2001, Sandra Baker, a recently separated, 45 year old mother of two, went for a facelift and a new lease on life. But the nurse anaesthetist was a woman from her past and Sandra's future was in jeopardy...Decades before, in a world of high school cliques and competition, Sally Jordan Hill had a crush on a guy whose attentions turned toward Sandra. Little did Sandra know how jealous Sally might have been...Once Nurse Sally had Sandra in her care, she administered a lethal dose of the painkiller Fentanyl. Within hours, Sandra was brain dead and her death was ruled a medical mistake. But earlier, Sally's co workers heard her say "That's the woman who stole my boyfriend in high school," and soon, a determined detective would find new clues to convince a judge that Sandra's death was no accident... (American)

Robert BEATTIE**Language of Evil 352pp Pb \$18.95**

Brilliant linguist, charming professor, and renowned writer Tom Murray had a way with words. He used them to seduce, and he used them to get away with murder. Erudite Kansas City professor Tom Murray seduced, then married his starry eyed student Carmin Ross. But when Carmin attempted to leave their violent marriage, Tom stabbed her in the throat 13 times, but left behind no evidence. Convinced he'd committed a perfect crime, Tom didn't even solicit a lawyer. But he hadn't counted on relentless small town deputy sheriff Doug Wood, who refused to be underestimated. What happened next would result in one of the most unforgettable, shocking, and unexpected trials in Kansas state history. *Due Jan* (American)

Jimmy BRESLIN**The Good Rat: A True Mafia Story****224pp Tp \$32.95**

He came from the same streets as mob bosses John Gotti and Vito Genovese. Breslin shows us the people and places that defined the Mafia. Here are Sammy 'The Bull' Gravano, Tony Cafe, 'Gaspipie' Casso and, woven throughout, the tale of Burt Kaplan, one of the most devastating turncoats of all time. Capturing the moments in which the Mafia was made and broken, Breslin combines the most recent, the most memorable and the long forgotten stories into a sharp eyed portrait of the Mob as it lived and breathed in its heyday and as it struggles to survive. *Due Jan* (American)

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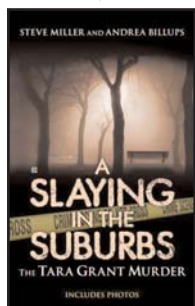
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Don LASSETER & Ronald BOWERS

You'll Never Find My Body

320pp Pb \$16.95

The harrowing true story of a courageous female prosecutor who, 14 years after Ann Racz's disappearance, reopens the case. She crusades against husband John Racz, murderer who had left behind no evidence, no witnesses, and no remorse. *Due Jan* (American)



Steve MILLER & Andrea BILLUPS

A Slaying in the Suburbs: The Tara Grant Murder

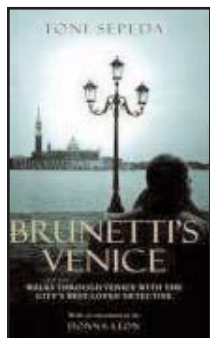
336pp Pb \$18.95

To their suburban Detroit neighbours, Stephen and Tara Grant were happy as could be. But their marriage, plagued by resentment and extramarital affairs, was held together only by their children. Until the night Stephen snapped, strangled and dismembered his wife, then disposed of her body piece by piece in the very park his children played in. *Due Jan* (American)

Toni SEPEDA

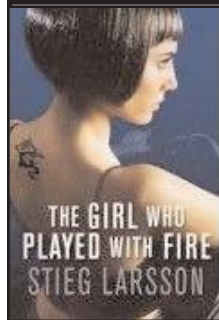
Brunetti's Venice

304pp Tp \$34.95



Visitors to Venice might hope to find a Venetian friend who will guide them through the narrow streets, explaining a bit of history here, a story from his youth there, perhaps grumbling about the tourists, occasionally stopping for a glass of prosecco or to gossip with friends... "Brunetti's Venice" does all these things as it moves through the famous city with Commissario Guido Brunetti, the much loved Venetian detective of Donna Leon's bestselling novels. Presented as a series of walks through Venice and featuring atmospheric extracts from relevant parts of the novels, it is woven together by a commentary that links Brunetti's emotional and visual responses to places he has known all his life with the inquisitiveness of the visitor. The first walk starts at La Fenice Opera house and ends at the iconic Rialto Bridge. Each consequent route weaves interlinking paths through Venice and catches the secrets, sounds, sights and smells of Venice past and present. Enchanting and practically useful, "Brunetti's Venice" is both a walking guide and an evocative narrative of the life of this most magical city for any Brunetti fan. *Due Jan* (American)

RECOMMENDED READING



Stieg LARSSON

The Girl Who Played with Fire

Tp 569pp \$32.95

The second title in the Millennium trilogy following *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. Lisbeth Salander has been implicated in a triple murder connected with sex trafficking, and her history of unpredictable and vengeful behaviour makes her a very convincing suspect. But no one can find her. Mikael Blomkvist, using all his resources to prove Salander's innocence, begins to uncover the truth about her strange past. A great read. - *Peter*



Crime Chronicle is compiled and edited by Peter Milne and Ann Leahy



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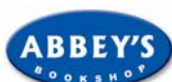
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