

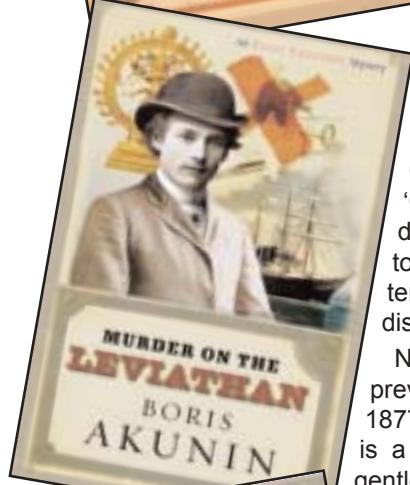
CRIME CHRONICLE

"WHERE A GOOD CRIME
CAN BE HAD BY ALL"

ISSUE #229

FEBRUARY 2005

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH BORIS AKUNIN



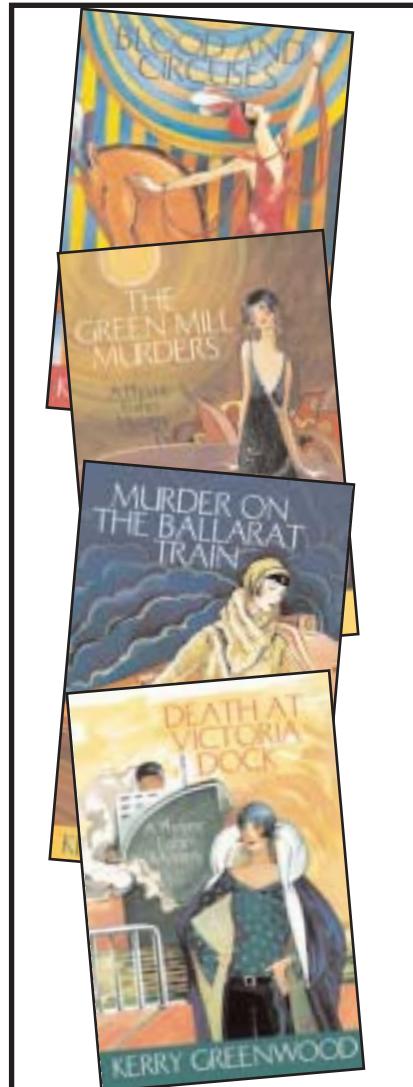
Boris Akunin burst onto the English crime world in 2003 with his first *Erast Fandorin* mystery, **The Winter Queen** (Pb 19.95), set in Moscow, 1876. A young law student commits suicide in broad daylight in Moscow's Alexander Gardens. But this is no ordinary death, for the young man was the son of an influential industrialist. Erast Fandorin, a hotheaded new recruit to the Criminal Investigation Department, is assigned to the case. Brilliant, young and sophisticated, Fandorin embarks on an investigation that will take him from the palatial mansions of Moscow to the seedy backstreets of London in his hunt for the conspirators.

2004 saw the publication of the second volume, **Murder on the Leviathan** (Pb 19.95). On 15 March 1878, Lord Littleby, an English eccentric and collector, is found murdered in his Paris house, together with nine members of his staff. A gold whale is found in the victim's hand – a badge owned only by the first class ticket holders on the maiden voyage of the Leviathan, the world's largest steamship. Commissioner Gauche of the French police is called to solve the 'Crime of the Century' and narrows the suspects down to ten, who are forced to eat every meal together in the ship's Windsor Suite. Amongst these ten is the elegant young Erast Fandorin. Can he discover the murderer's identity before Gauche?

Now the third adventure, which is set between the previous two books during the Russo-Turkish War of 1877, **Turkish Gambit** (Tp 29.95), is available. There is a traitor in the Russian camp and our reluctant gentleman sleuth will need to resurrect all of his dormant powers of detection if he is to unmask the traitor, help the Russians to victory and smooth the path of young love.

Boris Akunin is the pseudonym of Grigory Chkhartishvili. He has been compared to Gogol, Tolstoy and Arthur Conan Doyle and, in Russia, his *Erast Fandorin* books have sold over ten million copies. His accomplished writing is a treat, as he writes with such intelligence and humour, and I can heartily recommend the series to you. I, for one, can hardly wait another year for the next instalment, which could be set in Japan.

Peter



KERRY GREENWOOD REPRINTS

The re-issues of the earlier *Phryne Fisher* titles will be completed in February and March with the following reprints: February **Blood and Circuses** #5 (Pb 19.95) and **The Green Mill Murders** #6 (Pb 19.95) and in March **Murder on the Ballarat Train** #3 (Pb 19.95) and **Death at Victoria Dock** #4 (Pb 19.95). The 15th in the series I would expect around June this year, but at this stage I have no idea of the title.

Peter



MODERN CRIME

Paul ADAM

Flash Point

490pp Pb 19.95

Camerawoman Maggie Walsh travels to McLeod Ganj, home of the Tibetan government in exile, where the Dalai Lama is secretly dying. Smuggling herself into the compound, Maggie films the footage she knows will make her a fortune. But when an idealistic young monk Tsering thwarts her escape, her film is confiscated. When she is finally released, the Dalai Lama's death has been announced to the world and Maggie heads to his homeland to capture his people's reaction. Tsering, too, is heading for Tibet. As their paths cross, Tsering and Maggie find themselves drawn together in the most dangerous of quests. For once the Chinese Army discover who they are looking for, there is no way they will be allowed to leave Tibet alive. (British)



KEY

ACADEMIC

BANKING

CANINE DETECTIVES

CLERICAL

COSY/MALICE DOMESTIC

CULINARY/FOOD

FBI

FELINE DETECTIVES

FORENSIC

HORSE RACING MYSTERY

MEDICAL

MILITARY

NATIVE AMERICAN

POLICE PROCEDURAL

POLITICAL/LEGAL

PSYCHOLOGICAL

PRIVATE EYE

ROMANTIC SUSPENSE

SPORT

SPY

SUSPENSE/THRILLER

AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB

Donna ANDERS

Afraid of the Dark



373pp Pb 16.95

As a single mother struggling to get by in a tough neighbourhood, policewoman Jessie Cline knows she cannot protect her son from the streets forever. For his sake, she takes a job as assistant police chief in a small island town off the coast of Washington state where she lived as a child. But her search for a safe haven will lead her toward more danger than she ever imagined. Someone on the island knows Jessie very well, and will do anything to drive her away. They will stalk her. They will frighten her. And if she cannot unravel a sinister disappearance that connects her past to the present, they will kill her! (American)

Sarah ANDREWS



Earth Colors **368pp Pb 16.95**

Asked to investigate a famed painting that may be a counterfeit, forensic geologist Em Hansen undertakes a journey through several states and discovers that she is on the trail of a murderer when her client begins to suffer the effects of poisoning. (American)

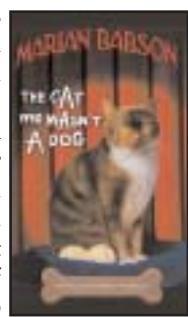
Marion BABSON



The Cat Who Wasn't a Dog

206pp Pb 16.95

Dame Cecile Savoy's revolting floor mop of a Pekinese has passed away at a ripe old age. Now, the aging British actress convinces her rivals on stage and screen, Trixie and Evangeline, to support her in her hour of grief by accompanying her to a taxidermist. But it is a cab ride straight into a cat-astrophe! No sooner do the three elderly thespians enter Stuff Yours than they discover a dead body, a live kitty in a cage and flames bursting from the back room. Fortunately for a rare Japanese bobtail called Cho-Cho-San, Trixie grabs the cat before fleeing the scene. Cho-Cho-San knows more than she is letting on as the curtain goes up on foul play, murderous jealousies and a killer who may be going to the dogs. (American)



Linda BARNES



Deep Pockets **320pp Pb 16.95**

A Carlotta Carlyle mystery. Hired by a respected Harvard professor whose indiscretions with a student are being threatened by a blackmailer, Carlotta struggles with her morals to track down the blackmailer, a case complicated by a suspicious death. (American)



Karen Grigsby BATES

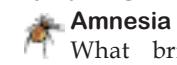
Plain Brown Wrapper



368pp Pb 16.95

An Alex Powell novel. While attending the annual National Association of Black Journalists Conference, columnist Alex Powell turns sleuth when her former publisher, Everett Carson, who was supposed to receive the Journalist of the Year Award, is found dead prior to the ceremony. (American)

David BEST



Amnesia

325pp Pb 16.95

What brings psychiatrist Marti Segerson to the isolated asylum in rural Tennessee? Is it the madman who killed her sister years ago? Marti never forgot the horror or her need for revenge but in this strange institution, something else is happening: mind games that cross the line between illusion and reality. And not even murder is what it seems. (American)

Claudia BISHOP



Buried by Breakfast

253pp Pb 16.95

A Hemlock Falls mystery. A raucous group is protesting the planned relocation of the local Civil War cemetery, when their leader turns up dead. Now, Meg and Quill must catch a killer before another local VIP is greeted with an untimely RIP. (American)

Victoria BLAKE



Bloodless Shadow

320pp Pb 12.95

This novel introduces PI Samantha Falconer, a fascinating series character whose private life is as intriguing as her cases. Four times world judo champion, Sam now runs the Gentle Way investigation agency in London. But when her brother Mark asks her to return to Oxford to investigate the disappearance of a young woman, she finds herself confronting a past she hoped she had left behind. Soon she receives a letter from a man who has been dead for 28 years, her father. (British)

Anna BLUNDY



Faith Without Doubt

282pp Tp 32.95

2003, war-torn Baghdad: Saddam Hussein may be hiding in a hole, but foreign correspondent Faith Zanetti is once again at the heart of the action. And once again, she is loving it: the heat, the rush, the danger, and dare she say it, the excitement. But there is one bombshell that even Faith is not prepared for. Green-eyed weapons inspector Joshua Klein is powerful, wise and seductive, and he has also got the stories Faith needs. Standing under fire with this man, she feels safer than she has ever felt before. But in fact, she is in more danger than ever - buffeted by passion for a man whose allegiances are as mysterious as he is elusive. (British)

**Kate BORDEN****Death of a Trickster****200pp Pb 16.95**

A Cobb's Landing mystery. The body of the police chief's teenage son is found during Cobb's Landing's annual Halloween pumpkin float and full-time mayor Peggy Turner must turn part-time sleuth to catch the culprit. (American)

Alafair BURKE**Judgment Calls 313pp Pb 12.95**

Deputy DA Samantha Kincaid walks into her office in Portland's Drug and Vice Division one Monday morning to find three police officers waiting for her. A 13-year-old girl has been attacked and left for dead on the city's outskirts. Given the lack of evidence, most lawyers would settle for an assault charge; Samantha, unnerved by the viciousness of the crime, decides to go for attempted murder. But as she prepares for the trial, she uncovers a dangerous trail leading to an earlier high-profile death penalty case, a prostitution ring of underage girls, and a possible serial killer. New series. (American)

Richard BURKE**Frozen 310pp Pb 12.95**

When his childhood friend Verity is found at the foot of Beachy Head, barely alive, Harry's life is thrown into turmoil. He cannot accept that the happy-go-lucky girl he grew up with would try to kill herself. He should know. He was closer to her than anyone, wasn't he? As Verity lies in a coma, damaged beyond repair, Harry is haunted by memories of their childhood and by the knowledge that what they once shared is lost forever. Why was Verity's flat burgled? Why was she secretly seeing a psychiatrist? (British)

Joanna CARL**The Chocolate Puppy Puzzle****227pp Pb 14.95**

A Chocoholic mystery. Hollywood comes to Michigan when a film producer decides to turn a local author's romance novel into a blockbuster. Although the movie mogul's chocolate Labrador is charming, Lee McKinney thinks the producer's talk is a bunch of sweet nothings and she grows even more suspicious when she stumbles upon a dead body. (American)

Massimo CARLOTTO**The Columbian Mule****184pp Pb 12.95**

When Colombian Arias Cuevas is caught trying to smuggle drugs through Venice airport, his fear is not fuelled by the idea of prison. He is much more frightened of his aunt; it was her coke he stole. The case brings the Alligator (former blues singer, ex-convict, unlicensed PI) into contact with a whole host of devious, double-bluffing characters and pushes him into a position where he may have to cross one moral line too far. (Italian)

Agatha CHRISTIE**Poirot: Four Classic Cases****772pp Tp 39.95**

A brand new Poirot omnibus, featuring four of the world-renowned detective's most challenging cases: *Three-Act Tragedy*, *Sad Cypress*, *Evil Under the Sun* and *The Hollow*. The 1930s/40s were dangerous times. Wherever he went, Hercule Poirot was followed by death. With all this killing, he sometimes wondered if anyone knew there was a common enemy! At an apparently respectable dinner party, a vicar is the first to die... An elderly stroke victim dies in testate... A beautiful woman is strangled to death on a remote beach... His jealous wife shoots a young doctor in broad daylight... (British)

Mary & Carol Higgins CLARK**The Christmas Thief****204pp Hb 34.95**

Alvirah Meehan, the lottery winner turned amateur sleuth, teams up with PI Regan Reilly to solve another Christmas mystery. This time they get in the middle of a case involving a beautiful 80-foot blue spruce that has been chosen to spend the holidays as the Rockefeller Centre's famous Christmas tree. The folks who picked the tree do not have a clue that attached to a branch is a flask, chock-full of priceless diamonds that Packy Noonan, a scam artist just released from prison, had hidden there over 12 years ago. (American)

Stuart COHEN**The Stone Angels****368pp Pb 12.95**

Comisario Miguel Fortunato has been in the Buenos Aires police for a long time. His pockets have seen more than half a million dollars in bribes over the years. Some time ago, Robert Waterbury, an American novelist, was found shot dead on Fortunato's patch, officially a drugs deal gone badly. Corruption seeps from the city's every pore in this atmospheric thriller, where no one is quite what they claim to be and you pick your heroes from the bad, the very bad and the indescribably worse. (American)

Barbara COLLEY**Polished Off****288pp Pb 16.95**

W h i l e cleaning a wealthy client's mansion, Charlotte LeRue, owner of Maid-for-a-Day, finds herself knee deep in mystery when she stumbles upon an urn containing human bones, a grisly discovery that puts a damper on her nephew's wedding plans, especially since his fiancée is the prime suspect. (American)

Jodi COMPTON**Sympathy Between Humans****448pp Tp 32.95**

On the heels of her best-selling debut (see below), comes a new novel featuring Detective Sarah Pribek, who is drawn into a tangled family mystery as she struggles with the aftermath of a case that changed her forever. Six months after the death of a small-time criminal in rural Minnesota, Sarah is still protecting the identity of a killer. And now, a zealous DA's investigator has come to town, determined to make an arrest. (American)

Jodi COMPTON**The 37th Hour 336pp Pb 18.95**

Do you know what the people you love are capable of? Sarah Pribek is a police officer in the Missing Persons department. She knows that the first 36 hours in a missing persons' case are the most crucial. When she learns, at the 37th hour, that her husband Shiloh has failed to show up for FBI training in Quantico, Sarah commences a Missing Persons search. The search takes her to his family where she hears of a sister she never knew he had; to New Mexico, where (coincidentally?) she grew up, and finally back to Genevieve, her ex police partner, where all the threads of this brilliantly told novel come together. (American)

Susan CONANT**Bride and Groom 272pp Pb 16.95**

On the eve of her wedding to her veterinarian lover, dog trainer Holly Winter becomes caught up in an investigation into a serial killer who appears to be targeting female dog lovers, a case complicated by her discovery that she may next on the killer's list of potential victims. (American)

Michael CONNELLY (editor)**The Best American Mystery Stories****#4 328pp Tp 35.00**

Michael Connelly says, "The short story deals with issues and themes large and small. But it does it succinctly and quickly. The short story is a car for the short track. Put the top down and power into the curves." This year's instalment boasts pulse-quickening stories from all reaches of the genre. His choices include the Prohibition-era tale of a scorned lover's revenge, a bar owner's gutsy attempt to outwit the mob and a tale of murder by psychology. This edition features mystery favourites Elmore Leonard, Walter Mosley, James Crumley and Joyce Carol Oates as well as talented up-and-comers, for a diverse collection sure to thrill all readers. (American)

**John CONNOR****Phoenix** 330pp Pb 12.95

Wonderful debut novel set in Yorkshire from talented young English lawyer turned crime writer, introducing Detective Constable Karen Sharpe. (British)

David CORBETT**The Devil's Redhead****400pp Pb 12.95**

Dan Abatangelo and Shel Beaudry are two 'for life' lovers, whose adventures as the last of the independent 'gentleman' marijuana smugglers come to an abrupt end with their arrest in Las Vegas. Dan pleads guilty and receives a 10-year sentence in exchange for a more lenient term for Shel. Released from prison, Shel struggles to keep her life on track without Dan's emotional support. (American)

Vena CORK**Thorn****340pp Tp 32.95**

The Thorns are living a happy family life in North West London when a tragedy changes their lives forever. Rosa takes a job as a drama teacher in the tough local comprehensive to which her 17-year-old son and 14-year-old daughter also attend. Then someone begins to stalk her daughter and sinister events unfold. Who could be the perpetrator of such malice? Is it the schizophrenic gardener who tends the park opposite their house? The head teacher is very interested in the attractive Rosa. Then there are her neighbours... *Debut mystery.* (British)

Sandy CURTIS**Until Death****339pp Pb 19.95**

In a war-torn African country, a mercenary slits the throat of a young native girl. 14 years later and half a world away in Sydney, Libby Daniels staggers out of bed in her parents' harbour side home to see two men crouched over her mother's battered body. Already in shock, she hears them say, 'Libby killed her'. Terrified, she flees to Brisbane, where she hopes to find help from the grandfather she has not seen for years. Brutally mugged on the city streets, she takes refuge on the doorstep of Conor Martin, a man with his own horrifying secrets. Distrustful and suspicious, Libby and Conor are wary of each other, until past and present collide in a violent attack that forces them to confront their enemies. (Australian)

Patrick DAVIS**The Commander (2002)****449pp Pb 16.95**

Unfairly passed over for promotion, Air Force investigator Burton Webber resigns from the service to work with his wife. He reluctantly takes the case of a murdered Asian American girl, whose killer is being protected by the highest levels of the Korean and American governments. (American)

Gene DeWEESE**Murder in the Blood****270pp Pb 14.95**

A *Sheriff Frank Decker mystery.* When local history teacher Lou Cameron disappears, Decker is puzzled by accusations of embezzlement even if they do come from wealthy and influential Nathaniel Wetherston, whose family has owned half of Farrell County for a century. Decker's investigation leads him on a strange and twisted trail back into the Wetherston family history, where a century-old murder holds the key to the scandalous secrets lurking in Decker's backyard. (American)

Michael DiMERCURIO**Emergency Deep****464pp Pb 18.95**

A Middle-Eastern terrorist cabal has acquired a Soviet submarine so technically advanced it is able to outrun any torpedo or enemy vessel and strike at will. With a payload of stolen nuclear missiles, it will enable the terrorists to strike directly at Israel and throw the world into chaos. Only one man can infiltrate the group, take the helm and stop a holocaust. (American)

G H EPHRON**Obsessed** 306pp Pb 16.95

Dr Peter Zak is obsessed with finding the stalker who is terrorising his new intern Dr Emily Ryan and sets out on a trail of escalating violence as it leads him into dark and deadly places too close to home. Obsessed with isolating a cure to a fatal brain disease that could mean international recognition and millions of dollars, researchers will stop at nothing, break every rule, use every deviant act (including mutilation and murder) to achieve their goal. Bent on destroying the vicious web of deception, sexual jealousy and death that threatens Ryan and the lives of his patients, Zak must expose the deviant killer even if he has to risk his own life to do it. (American)

G M FORD**Red Tide** 313pp Tp 30.00

A *Frank Corso novel.* Disgraced journalist and successful true crime writer Corso finds himself evacuated from his friend Meg Dougherty's first photographic display when terrorists strike the Seattle bus tunnel. As the city grinds to a halt, Corso is determined to find a way into the tunnel to discover for himself what has happened, and what he sees is more shocking than he could ever have imagined. Meanwhile Meg, unaware of the nightmare unfolding across town, suspects she is being pursued by her former lover and returns home to a horrific scene of her own. (American)

**John FRANCOME****Back Hander****315pp Tp 32.95**

Not much is going right for jockey Alan Morrell. He cannot get the rides he needs and when he sets up a bloodstock partnership a tragic accident robs him of the business and his best friend Lee. Now Alan owes \$100,000 and his only asset is a racehorse that has yet to be put to the test. But all that fades into insignificance next to the suspicion that Lee's fatal fall was more than an accident... (British)

Yasmine GALENORN**Murder Under a Mystic Moon****288pp Pb 14.95**

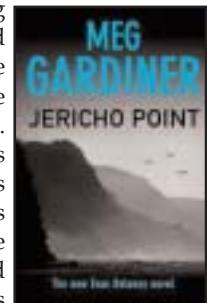
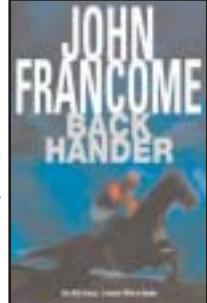
A *Chin and China mystery.* Psychic Emerald O'Briens's life is complicated enough, with her daughter's birthday on the horizon and the fall festival in progress, but when she stumbles upon the body of her friend Jimbo's missing pal, a death blamed on a cougar attack, she realises that there is an all-too-human killer stalking prey in the woods surrounding the Klickavail Valley enclave. (American)

Meg GARDINER**Jericho Point**

When a young woman tumbles dead onto the beach, the police identify the body as Evan Delaney. Except that Evan is very much alive. It is her identity that has been stolen. And the thief has compromised more than just Evan's bank account; the thief has been scamming money from rich Hollywood wannabes, including a vicious drug boss. He wants his money back. From Evan. Soon she finds herself harassed by drug runners and suspected of murder. (American)

Paul GARRISON**The Ripple Effect****420pp Pb 18.95**

Aiden Page wanted only to escape. The CFO of a bank deep in debt and under investigation by the Department of Justice, Aiden saw his chance and took it, leaving behind his family, his creditors and his persecutors by convincing them of his death. He succeeds in his deception until one night when, tortured by guilt and loneliness, he places a call to his teenage daughter, Morgan. He only utters a single word, but like a solitary ripple spreading across the water, it is enough to convince Morgan that her father is still alive. (American)



**Victor GISCHLER****The Pistol Poets** 325pp Pb 24.95

Here Gischler draws us into a wild and wicked world, where tenured professors are busy burying bodies, cash-up-front PI's hunt for missing co-eds and one desperate street-tough has to decide which he would rather be: a live poet or a dead criminal. Featuring the sleaziest, sorriest and most captivating group of criminal lowlives, sexed-up academics, poets and rappers ever to collide in one crime novel, this book speeds deliriously to its electrifying payoff. (American)

Leslie GLASS**Over his Dead Body****373pp Pb 16.95**

In this delightfully infectious novel of love and intrigue, Leslie Glass puts a sly and sexy spin on two of life's most devastating certainties: death and taxes. She blends supreme suspense and warm-hearted romantic comedy into a perfect mélange. (American)

Christine GOFF**Death takes a Gander****211pp Pb 14.95**

A *Birdwatcher's mystery*. Fish and Wildlife Special Agent Angela Dimato is suspicious when her partner's death is ruled a suicide. When hundreds of geese are found dead or dying and guests at the Drummond Hotel fall ill, Angela learns that killers of a feather flock together. (American)

Caroline GRAHAME**Ghost in the Machine****480pp Pb 18.95**

A *Detective Chief Inspector Barnaby novel #9*. Mallory Lawson believes that inheriting his aunt's beautiful house in Forbes Abbot may have saved his sanity. It enables him to take early retirement from his appalling teaching job in London and for his wife Kate to realize her dream of starting her own company. Life will be so much simpler in the country, won't it? But Forbes Abbot is not quite the close-knit community it seems, and little differences and squabbles can become violent, even murderous. DCI Barnaby has encountered many intriguing cases, but the case of the ghost in the machine is one to test even the most experienced of detectives. (British)

Andrew GREELEY**The Bishop Goes to the University****250pp Pb 16.95**

A *Bishop Blackie Ryan novel*. The Cardinal dispatches Blackie to the University on the South Side of Chicago to investigate a baffling locked-room mystery. Someone has assassinated a Russian Orthodox monk in his office at the Divinity School, despite the fact that the door of his office was bolted shut from the inside and no killer was found within. Who shot Brother Semyon Ivanovich Popov? (American)

Kerry GREENWOOD**Heavenly Pleasures****278pp Pb 19.95**

A *Corinna Chapman mystery #2*. No one has less interest in mysteries than Corinna Chapman, who has bread to bake, but they seem to be arising spontaneously in the vicinity of her bakery, Earthly Delights. But disturbing things are also happening close to home. Juliette Lefebvre, the owner of Heavenly Pleasures and maker of the most gorgeous chocolates in town, is distraught. Someone is spiking her very expensive chocolates. Is it a joke, or is it a warning that worse may yet happen? If you would like to find out more about Corinna, her bakery and her recipes, log on to www.earthlydelights.net.au. (Australian)

Carolyn HAINES**Hallowed Bones****384pp Pb 16.95**

A *mystery from the Mississippi Delta #5*. Sarah Booth Delaney is both a Southern lady and a skilled detective, but her latest case takes her into the murky world of New Orleans where motives for murder and a list of suspects are as numerous as the stories of spiritual malfeasance that permeate the air. (American)

Denise HAMILTON**The Jasmine Trade****275pp Pb 12.95**

The death of bride-to-be Marina Chang in a supposed carjacking sends Los Angeles Times reporter Eve Diamond on the trail of California's parachute kids, wealthy Asian teens living alone while their parents run Hong Kong businesses. (American)

John HARRIMAN**Delta Force 348pp Pb 16.95**

 *Operation Michael's Sword: #1 in the series*. From a commercial airliner, Delta Force officer Connor Tyler watches the surreal obliteration of the World Trade Centre. As far as he is concerned, a war has begun. Tyler and the Delta Force feel they have let America down and are not about to let that happen again. They vow to boldly put Swift Sword into action, an anti-terrorism plan so radical that the Pentagon buried it like a dirty little secret. They will hit back at America's enemies with a wrath from which there is no sanctuary. (American)

Lee HARRIS**Murder in Alphabet City****304pp Pb 16.95**

A *Manhattan mystery*. Promoted to detective first-grade with the NYPD, Jane Bauer is delighted to be back after her near fatal run in with a killer, but her latest case, a cold case involving the supposed suicide by starvation death of schizophrenic Anderson Stratton, has little chance of being solved, until her team stumbles upon another grisly 'suicide' that may be connected. (American)

Janis HARRISON**Reap a Wicked Harvest****272pp Pb 16.95**

A *Gardening mystery*. Florist Bretta Solomon is none too happy when she is forced to spend her free time attending a funeral for which her shop provided the arrangements or to attend the Customer Appreciation fair at Parker Wholesale Greenhouse, an event that is turned upside down by the brutal murder of a greenhouse assistant. (American)

M HERRON**The Last Voice You Hear****285pp Hb 45.00**

When a woman dies beneath the wheels of a train and her newly acquired lover fails to turn up at the funeral, PI Zoe Boehm is hired to find him. Zoe only finds more questions: where did Alan Talmadge come from? Why does he appear to have no history? How did he meet Caroline Daniels? And has he killed before? Accustomed to finding answers to the questions she asks and to finding the people she looks for, Zoe's search leads her nearer to the hearts of two very different kinds of criminal and she starts to wonder whether the man she is looking for has found her first. And if he has, is that going to make her another victim, or might it prove to be her salvation? (British)

Joan HESS**Muletrain to Maggody****352pp Pb 16.95**

An *Arly Hanks mystery*. Anticipating the filming of a Civil War documentary, the citizens of Maggody become excited over rumours that Confederate gold may be hidden in a local cave, prompting a flood of outside visitors, including an apparently murderous ghost. (American)

Reginald HILL**Good Morning, Midnight****612pp Pb 18.95**

Featuring *Dalziel and Pascoe*. Pal Maciver's suicide in a locked room exactly mirrors that of his father 10 years earlier. In each case accusing fingers point towards Pal's stepmother, the beautiful enigmatic Kay Kafka. But she turns out to have a formidable champion, Mid-Yorkshire's own super-heavyweight, DS Andrew Dalziel. DCI Peter Pascoe, nominally in charge of the investigation, finds he is constantly body-checked by his superior as he tries to disentangle the complex relationships of the Maciver family. At first these inquiries seem local and domestic. What really happened between Pal and his stepmother? And how has key witness and exotic hooker Dolores, Our Lady of Pain, contrived to disappear from the face of Mid-Yorkshire? (British)

**Tony HILLERMAN****Skeleton Man** 241pp Hb 56.00

A Joe Leaphorn and Sgt Jim Chee novel. Leaphorn comes out of retirement to help investigate what seems to be a trading post robbery. Proving the kid's innocence requires finding the remains of one of 172 people whose bodies were scattered among the cliffs of the Grand Canyon in an epic airline disaster 50 years ago. That passenger had handcuffed to his wrist an attaché case containing a fortune in diamonds. The daughter of the long-dead diamond dealer is also seeking his body. So is a most unpleasant fellow willing to kill to make sure she does not succeed. These two tense tales collide deep in the canyon at the place where an old man died trying to build a cult reviving reverence for the Hopi guardian of the Underworld. It is a race to the finish in a thunderous monsoon storm to see who will survive, who will be brought to justice and who will finally unearth the Skeleton Man. (American)

Jane Stanton HITCHCOCK
Social Crimes (2002)

338pp Pb 24.95

A tale of revenge set in the privileged world of New York society, this massive US best-seller is now available here in paperback. "Deliciously dark... A killer read" - *People*. "Riveting... Hitchcock draws upon her intimate knowledge of the upper echelon to expose the dark secrets of a ratified society" - *New York Post*. (American)

Jane Stanton HITCHCOCK
Trick of the Eye (1993)

275pp Pb 24.95

A novel of psychological suspense set in the social world of art and money. Faith Crowell is 39 years old, content in an artist's life that is solitary yet not lonely. But when she is commissioned to paint the ballroom of an opulent Long Island estate, the family's dark secrets begin to unfold. (American)

Bill JAMES**Easy Streets** 191pp Hb 45.00

A Harpur and Iles mystery #21. For years, Harpur's slippery boss, Desmond Iles, had a nod-and-wink arrangement with drug dealers on his patch. Iles would turn a blind eye to their businesses if they kept the peace. But the pact is knocked sideways by a slackening in drugs legislation. When competition grows and profits slide, gang war erupts. Harpur is called in to end the chaos. But, he is on his own, with Iles feeling justified by the new disorder and violence as proof that his way of running things was right. 'Another dodgy gavotte by the master of the revels (...) Quite brilliant.' *Literary Review*. (British)

Iris JOHANSEN**Blind Alley**

An Eve Duncan forensic thriller.

Instantly Eve's peaceful life is shattered: The sanctuary of the lakeside cottage she shares with Atlanta detective Joe Quinn and their adopted daughter Jane has been invaded by a killer who has sent the grimmest of threats: the face of his next victim. To stop him, Eve must put her own life in the balance and question everything and everyone she trusts. Not even Quinn can go where Eve must go this time. (American)

Linda JOHNSTON**Sit, Stay, Slay** 304pp Pb 14.95

A Kendra Ballantyne Pet-Sitter mystery. Fired from her LA law firm, attorney Kendra Ballantyne embarks on a new career as a free-lance pet-sitter, only to discover that her client list is growing smaller every day, and teams up with sexy detective Jeff Hubbard to uncover the killer. (American)

Stuart KAMINSKY**Midnight Pass** 269pp Pb 16.95

A Lew Fonesca novel. The shrink Lew has been seeing wants him to finally dump all the grief he is carrying around so he can have more than a half-life. And Sally, the pretty single mom and social worker who has helped Lew in the past, wants to deepen their friendship. On top of that, a local minister asks him to find a town council member who has gone missing just before a crucial vote that could ruin a struggling community while a distraught father asks him to track down his wife and two kids, who Lew suspects ran off with the man's best friend. When people start showing up dead, Lew knows he is in way over his head and this time he may not be able make it all come out okay. (American)

Kate KINGSBURY**Fire When Ready**

216pp Pb 14.95

A Manor House Mystery #7. WWII, England. There is no evidence that Sitting Marsh's munitions factory was bombed by the Luftwaffe, so it is up to Lady Elizabeth Hartleigh Compton to discern whom in the sleepy little community sabotaged the plant and killed the owner. (American)

Joe LANSDALE**Sunset and Sawdust**

321pp Hb 35.00

It begins with an explosion: Sunset Jones kills her husband with a bullet to the brain. Never mind that he was raping her. Pete Jones was constable of the small sawmill town of Camp Rapture where no woman, least of all Pete's, refuses her husband what he wants. So everyone is surprised and angry when Sunset is named the new constable. Joe Lansdale brings the thick backwoods and swamps of East Texas vividly to life, and he paints a powerfully evocative picture of a time when Jim Crow and the Klan ruled virtually unopposed, when the oil boom was rolling into and over Texas, when any woman who did not know her place was considered a threat and a target. (American)

Jodie LARSEN**The Darkest Night**

238pp Pb 16.95

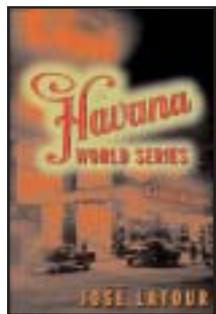
A Kaycee Miller mystery. People are disappearing from national parks for no apparent reason. As the ghastly numbers climb, investigators desperately search for a connection between the victims. Are they having a strange mystical experience, inspired by a hot new bestseller? Or is something less spiritual, more sinister behind the untimely disappearances? Kaycee Miller and Max Masterson - the human half of a certified Search and Rescue K-9 team - risk their lives to discover the truth. A strange book found in each victim's home might provide the link they have sought but what does it mean? As Kaycee brings all her skills to bear on the unfathomable case, she still must contend with a problem just as troubling: her ongoing battle with fading eyesight and inevitable blindness. (American)

Jose LATOUR**Havana World Series**

320pp Tp 29.95

It is the 1958 baseball World Series and more money is at stake than ever. For the first time the New York Yankees are the underdogs and the bets are just rolling in. A large part of this money is rolling into Cuba. Batista may be sitting in the President's palace, but the famous gangster Meyer Lansky really runs the place and he is looking to clean up like never before.

Meanwhile, five Cubans are planning to do the unthinkable. Rob the mob. Thus begins a dark, powerful and warm heist novel that shows Ocean's 11 how they do things Latin-style. (Cuban)



**Victoria LAURIE****Abby Cooper, Psychic Eye****295pp Pb 14.95**

We predict amazing success for this brand-new mystery series starring Abby Cooper, who is a psychic intuitive. But her insight failed her when she did not foresee the death of one of her clients - or that the lead investigator for the case is the gorgeous blind date she just met. Now, with the police suspicious of her abilities and a killer on the loose, Abby's future looks more uncertain than ever. (American)

John LAWTON**Bluffing Mr Churchill****402pp Pb 18.95**

A *Frederick Troy novel*. Lawton transports readers to 1941 London during the German Blitz, brilliantly re-creating the era of ration tickets, air raids and bomb shelters. Wolfgang Stahl, an American spy operating undercover as an SS officer, has fled Germany with Hitler's secret blueprints for the invasion of Russia. As American, British and German operatives race through war-torn London in search of the spy, bodies begin to pile up and the question arises: Are Stahl and his American contact being played by one of their own? In this game of spy vs. spy, only Sergeant Troy of Scotland Yard will be shrewd enough to uncover the truth. (British)

Heather LOWELL**No Escape****352pp Tp 27.95**

Kelly Martin is a frightened teenage runaway who made a scandalous accusation, then vanished, leaving Los Angeles prosecutor Tessa Jacobi with a ticking bomb of a case on her hands. When the investigation leads her to chic nightclubs, shadowy business deals and whispers of sexual slavery, Tessa understands that she is out of her league. So she asks for help from a man whose contacts and experience can help her bring Kelly home. (American)

Terry LUDWIG**Getting Garbo****332pp Pb 24.95**

A *novel of Hollywood noir*. Set in the glamorous, cruel and often bizarre Hollywood era of the 1950s, this is a hilarious and suspenseful novel of the cinema's Golden Age. 19-year old Reva Hess is a charming autograph collector and #1 fan of Roy Darnell, star of the hit TV series *Jack Havoc*. Soon, the confusion between Roy's own personality and the dashing dangerous Jack Havoc becomes an ominous obsession and turns to murder. Along the way, Ludwig brings the old Hollywood to life, evoking the giant screen figures of Humphrey Bogart, Burt Lancaster, Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra as well as the off-screen ruthlessness of Jack Warner. (American)

Val McDERMID**Report for Murder (1987)****343pp Pb 18.95**

A *Lindsay Gordon mystery #1*. A self-proclaimed 'cynical socialist lesbian feminist journalist' with a penchant for hanging around police interrogation rooms under suspicion of some crime or other, Lindsay Gordon is strapped for cash. Why else would she agree to cover a fund-raising gala at a girls' public school? But when the star attraction is found garroted with her own cello string minutes before she is due on stage, Lindsay finds herself investigating a vicious murder. Who would have wanted Lorna Smith Cooper dead? (British)

Robert MCGILL**The Mysteries****341pp Tp 32.95**

Robert, a young traveller, finds himself in the small Ontario town of Sunshine, in the middle of a party at the town's wildlife park. He has been given a dirty yellow notebook by the stranger he picked up on the way. The stranger told him to give it to an Alice Pedersen. But Alice Pedersen disappeared two years ago. And there is a tiger on the loose. Told from the perspective of several of the townsfolk, the mystery of Alice's disappearance slowly unravels, at the same time revealing the dark and murky secrets of the inhabitants of Sunshine. (Canadian)

Anthony McGOWAN**Stag Hunt****336pp Pb 20.95**

A brilliant new talent bursts onto the scene with a chilling tale of retribution. The smiling one; the one who hurt; the shy one; the one who cried; the one who kissed: That is how he remembers the gang of boys who tormented him when he was a child. Now 20 years have passed and it is time to make them pay. But into the finely wrought net stumbles one man who had nothing to do with the nastiness in that minor public school. Matthew Moriarty carries demons of his own, but when Dominic Chance invites him along to a stag weekend in a remote country house, lost on a fold of the country beyond the reach of mobile telephones, he could never imagine the horror that waits. Or the beauty... (British)

G A McKEVETT**Cereal Killer****315pp Pb 16.95**

A *Savannah Reid Mystery #8*. As the new spokesperson for Wentworth's Slenda Flakes, Cait Connor needed to lose 30 pounds in 60 days and apparently died trying. It all seems cut and dried until another plus model is killed in a hit-and-run. Now Savannah is really determined to avenge her curvaceous sisters... even if it means going undercover for the camera. There are more models on the Slenda Flakes campaign who could be at risk, and enough suspects to keep Savannah hopping. (American)

Tim McLOUGHLIN (editor)**Brooklyn Noir****366pp Pb 24.95**

New York's punchiest borough asserts its criminal legacy with all new stories from a magnificent set of today's best writers. Each contributor presents a brand new story set in a distinct neighbourhood. This anthology mixes masters of genre with the best of New York's literary fiction community and, of course, leaving room for new blood. These brilliant and chilling stories see crime striking in communities of Russians, Jamaicans, Puerto Ricans, Italians, Irish and many other ethnicities in the most diverse urban location on the planet. (American)

Steve MOSBY**The Third Person****296pp Pb 12.95**

Amy Sinclair did not come back. Now Jason sits at home and cruises the same horrific websites that she once walked through to find her kidnapper. But when he lays a trap for a monster that he meets in a chat-room, he gets more than he bargained for. He finds that nothing in this story is as it seems and that the clues lie in the mistakes of his own past. (British)

Shirley Rousseau MURPHY**Cat Fear No Evil****384pp Pb 16.95**

A *Joe Grey mystery*. Becoming suspicious in the wake of several burglaries and the untimely death of a waiter, detective Joe Grey and his tabby sidekick Dulcie follow leads that force them into a confrontation with a renegade tomcat Joe hoped he would not see again. (American)

Tamar MYERS**Thou Shalt Not Grill****272pp Pb 16.95**

A *Pennsylvania Dutch mystery with recipes*. Hoping to put her culinary skills to work for the celebration of the bicentennial of Hernia, Pennsylvania, innkeeper Magdalene Yoder finds the festivities cut short when one of her guests is found murdered. (American)

Tim MYERS**Snuffed Out****182pp Pb 14.95**

A *Candlemaking mystery #2*. When the power goes out in Harrison Black's candle shop, he finds his tenant electrocuted. Now Harrison will burn the candle at both ends to catch a killer as the tenant's death starts to look shockingly like murder. (American)



**Barbara NADEL****Deadly Web #7 320pp Tp 32.95**

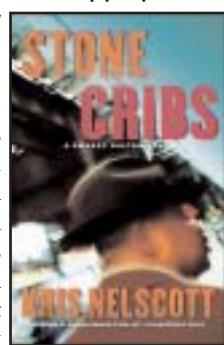
Young people go to extremes to get their kicks nowadays. A naked teenage girl is found dead near the beautiful Byzantine Yoros Castle in Turkey. She has stabbed herself through the heart but there is evidence of bizarre sexual practice. In another part of Istanbul, a young boy seems to have committed suicide in similar circumstances. What dark rituals could have compelled them to fatal self abuse? Inspectors Cetin Ikmen and Mehmet Suleyman follow an Internet trail that leads them to an underworld of Goth nightclubs and satanic worship. But even those murky shadows hide more than they reveal and the answers to an ever increasing number of suspicious deaths is more shocking and terrible than they could ever have imagined. (British)

Kris NELSCOTT**Stone Cribs 323pp Tp 29.95**

A *Smokey* Dalton novel #4.

1969, Chicago.

After a night out, Smokey and his girlfriend find a young woman bleeding to death in his neighbour's apartment. Upon arriving with her at the hospital, they discover that her injuries are due to the botched illegal abortion she had after being raped. The woman survives, but the fallout is deadly: Her ex-husband vows revenge at any cost. And in a city torn apart by racial strife, gang wars and a burgeoning drug problem, Smokey believes that cost could be too high. Nelscott has authored another heart-stopping, complicated novel of a country ripped apart at the seams and a lone man doing all he can to put things right. (American)

**Hilary NORMAN****Guilt**

Abigail Allen's deepest, darkest secret is that when she was 13 years old, she was responsible for killing her parents and boyfriend in an accident. Now a cellist with a modest career, guilt has become Abigail's most constant

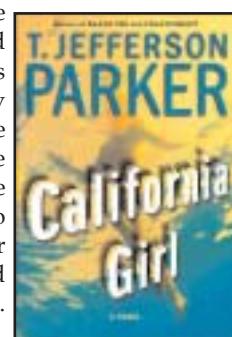
companion. She has reconciled herself to living alone. Alone, she knows, is what she deserves until she meets Silas Graves, a possessive, jealous man, who can forgive almost anything except betrayal. They have two things in common: Their secrets. And death. Abigail will not betray him. She had better not. (British)

Baroness ORCZY**The Old Man in the Corner (1924) 220pp Tp 25.95**

This is a collection of 12 short stories from the author of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (Pb 11.95). They concern a mysterious armchair detective who solves crimes from reports and using logic. Murders, blackmail, theft and deception: all have as their setting the fog cloaked Edwardian streets of London. (Hungarian)

T Jefferson PARKER**California Girl 370pp Tp 29.95**

California in the 1960s and the winds of change are raging. Orange groves uprooted for tract houses, people flooding into Orange County, strange new ideas in the air about war, music, sex, drugs and new influences ranging from Richard Nixon to Timothy Leary. For the Becker brothers, however, the past is always present and it comes crashing back full force when the body of the lovely and mysterious Janelle Vonn is discovered in an abandoned orange-packing plant. The Beckers and the Vonns have a history, beginning years ago in high school with a rumble between the brothers of each clan. But boys grow up. Now one Becker brother is a cop on his first homicide case. One is a minister yearning to perform just one miracle. One is a reporter drunk with ambition. And all three are about to collide with the changing world of 1968 as each brother, in his own unique way, tries to find Janelle's killer. As suspects multiply and secrets are exposed, the three Becker brothers are drawn further into the case, deeper into the past, and closer to danger. (American)

**James PATTERSON****& Howard ROUGHAN****Honeymoon**

This explosive new thriller introduces a bride who is beautiful, talented, devoted and deadly. When a young investment banker dies of baffling causes FBI agent John O'Hara immediately suspects the only witness, the banker's alluring and mysterious fiancée. Nora Sinclair is a beautiful decorator who expects the best, and will do anything to get it. Agent O'Hara keeps closing in, but the stronger his case; the less he knows whether he is pursuing justice or his own fatal obsession. In a novel so compelling it reads like collaboration with Alfred Hitchcock, James Patterson unveils surprise after surprise that will keep readers guessing until the last deadly kiss. (American)

Joanne PENCE**Courting Disaster****355pp Pb 16.95**

An *Angie Amalfi Mystery*. Normally the dilettante chef and freelance food writer would rather be deep-fried than let her control-freak mother plan the party celebrating her engagement to San Francisco homicide detective Paavo Smith. But there is already too much on the bride-to-be's plate ... and much of it is murderous. Stir in a vengeful stalker, some strange happenings on a fishing boat and a second heaping helping of homicide and it looks like poor Paavo may end up celebrating solo, due to the untimely DOA of his hapless fiancée! (American)

Twist PHELAN**Family Claims 272pp Pb 16.95**

On the verge of leaving the family law firm for a better job, attorney Hannah Dain finds her career on the line when a real-estate deal suddenly goes awry. With \$2m of investors' money disappearing, she sets out to uncover the truth about the scheme. (American)

Naomi RAND**Stealing for a Living****325pp Pb 16.95**

An *Emma Price Mystery*. Single motherhood hit Emma Price like a sledgehammer, a double whammy to go along with the considerable pressures of her job as an investigator with the Capital Defenders Office. Having to raise a toddler and a troubled teen and dig up mitigating evidence to possibly save an accused murderer from death row is already a considerable load. Add to that an eyebrow-raising affair with a New York City cop and a pressing need to solve the slaying of an old friend — a controversial political activist — and Emma's already full plate is seriously overflowing. But her dedication to justice is as strong as her commitment to family. (American)

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**Robert RANDISI****Blood of Angels****355pp Pb 16.95**

Young boys are being kidnapped in Chicago and turning up dead, strangled to death. Shockingly, the same thing is happening in St Louis, but there the victims are young girls. Is it one killer seeking different victims in different cities, or could it be two killers at work with frighteningly similar methods? That is what Joe Keough and his partner Harriet Conners have to find out. (American)

Ian RANKIN**Watchman (1988) 253pp Pb 18.95**

This new edition, available for the first time in 15 years, contains a new introduction from the author. Bombs are exploding in the streets of London, but life seems to have planted subtler booby-traps for Miles Flint. Miles is a spy. His job is to watch and to listen, then to report back to his superiors, nothing more. The job appeals to Miles. He does not lust after promotion, and he does not want action. He wants, just for once, not to botch a case. Having lost one suspect - with horrific consequences - Miles becomes too involved with another, a young Irishwoman. His marriage seems ready to crumble to dust. So does his home. (British)

Sue RANN**Looking for Mr Nobody****320pp Pb 19.95**

Jan Wolf scrapes a living as a pavement artist in Amsterdam. But when a close friend is abducted by sinister men in black, Wolf commits himself to a course of action that puts him on a collision course with his own elusive past - a past he knows only through nightmares. Now the police want to talk to him, the men in black want him dead and there is an American redhead on his tail with a Lara Croft fixation and a Glock-17 in her purse... Wolf is being hunted down. (British)

Patrick REDMOND**Apple of my Eye****516pp Pb 18.95**

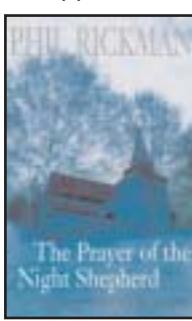
When young lawyer Daniel Latimer meets his beautiful stepsister Christina at the funeral of a family friend, little do either of them realise the momentous chain of events that is about to be unleashed. Darker currents begin to surface when Daniel realises that something very unhealthy is developing between his stepfather and his stepsister; he decides to seek help from the two people closest to Christina: her brother and grandmother. But as he begins to explore her past, he sees that Christina is a far more complex and disturbed personality than he imagined, and that by trying to manipulate her emotions, Robert is unleashing demons that he will not be able to control... (British)

Nicholas RHEA**The Curse of the Golden Trough****256pp Hb 45.00**

When Montague Pluke takes a holiday abroad in the Italian medieval town of Siena, he is dismayed to discover the authorities there deny the existence of the world famous Golden Trough. Even though the Golden Trough of Siena has not been seen for 600 years, Pluke is determined to find it. (British)

Phil RICKMAN**The Prayer of the Night Shepherd****628pp Pb 19.95**

The 6th Merrily Watkins mystery. A redundant TV producer has taken a Victorian mansion on the Welsh border to use for murder mystery weekends. Convinced that the mansion is the site of Conan Doyle's



Baskerville story, he invites trouble when his meddling in the spiritual realm attracts an unwholesome force that is far from fictional. (British)

J D ROBB**Visions in Death****320pp Pb 19.95**

An Eve Dallas investigation #19. A young mother is found raped and strangled in the park, her body naked but for what appears to be a red ribbon tied around her neck. As Eve starts investigating Elisa Maplewood's friends and relations, an offer of help comes from an unlikely source. The only reason Eve agrees to meet with psychic Celina Sanchez is that she is a friend of a friend. But Celina claims to have experienced visions of the killer and can recite precise details of the case - details that the police have kept to themselves. Though Eve remains skeptical of Celina's abilities, she will use all the resources she can to track down the killer before he strikes again. (American)

David ROBBINS**Last Citadel****541pp Pb 18.95**

After the cataclysmic fall of Stalingrad, Germany's campaign in Russia stood on a knife's edge. Hitler had to break Russia quickly or the war would be over. Thus Operation Citadel was conceived. This was a plan to eliminate the huge salient around the Russian city of Kursk and trap the enormous Soviet Army in a noose of German steel. The only trouble was that the Russians knew it was coming... (American)

David ROBERTS**The More Deceived****246pp Hb 45.00**

A murder mystery featuring Lord Edward Corinth and Verity Browne. Winston Churchill is dismayed to receive

unauthorised

information on the perilous state of Britain's rearmament programme in the year 1937. The Foreign Office brings in Lord Edward Corinth to investigate the leaks. Falling rapidly under Churchill's spell, he is sidetracked from the investigation to concentrate instead on finding the murderer of a Foreign Office official, who could have been one of Churchill's sources. He soon finds himself trying to untangle a web of deception that threatens the security of the state. (British)

**Carol SMITH****Hidden Agenda** 404pp Pb 19.95

Devastated by the shocking news that old school-friend Suzy Palmer faces execution in Louisiana for the murder of her children, London rabbi Deborah Hirsch enlists the aid of her former classmates in an attempt to get her off. She cannot be anything but innocent; the Suzy they have known and loved all these years could never hurt a fly. Aided by Miss Holbrook, Suzy's former art teacher, the friends unite to prove her innocence. Back and forth across 30 years they slowly piece together what happened. And even more shocking than Suzy's plight is the knowledge that one of their numbers has betrayed her. (British)

Leann SWEENEY**A Wedding to Die For****272pp Pb 16.95**

A *Yellow Rose* mystery #2. When Texas heiress-turned-private detective Abby Rose accepts the case of a bride-to-be looking her birth mother before her wedding, the inexperienced investigator is suddenly in over her head when murder interrupts the reception festivities, and Abby launches her own probe into the mystery mother and a matrimonial murderer. (American)

Kathy Hogan TROCHECK**Happy Never After****320pp Pb 16.95**

A *Callahan Garrity* mystery. When the temperamental president of a thriving Atlanta recording company is found dead in his home, former cop and part time sleuth Callahan Garrity must keep 1960s rock star Rita Fontaine out of jail in a fast paced story of fame and deceit. (American)

David WOLSTENCRAFT**Good News, Bad News****356pp Tp 32.95**

The stunning debut novel from the creator of *Spooks*, the BAFTA award-winning spy drama. A secret agent is trained to try to think of every possible outcome and eventuality. Who could have guessed, though, that a bureaucratic error would send two men to the same 'cover' job, working in a shabby photo-processing booth, where each must keep his real identity secret from the other, while awaiting orders? Or that those orders would be to assassinate ... each other? Thrown together by this apparently ghastly mistake, Charlie and George decide to go on the run. Slick, clever, teasing and suspenseful, full of tradecraft for the traditional espionage fan and a modern sensibility for a whole new generation of readers, who might well be more used to watching *Spooks*. (British)

Juli ZEH**Eagles and Angels****328pp Pb 21.95**

Max, while grieving for his criminal girlfriend Jessie, slides into a drug-induced oblivion, his personal and professional descent assured. As he probes into Jessie's past, a sinister web of conspiracy is drawn around him, with a cast of international lawyers, UNO politicians and mass murderers. *The Guardian* says, "Zeh's style is always enjoyable, her characters are vivacious and thrilling... (But) what shines through is her exhilarating ambition". This was the winner of the *German Book Award* for most successful debut novel. (German)

**CRIME
AUDIO****Alexander McCALL SMITH****In the Company of Cheerful Ladies****5xCDs 6hours 39.95****The Full Cupboard of Life** 5xCDs
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Phyllis Logan reads this abridged audio book.

**HISTORICAL
CRIME****Boris AKUNIN****Murder on the Leviathan****249pp Pb 19.95**

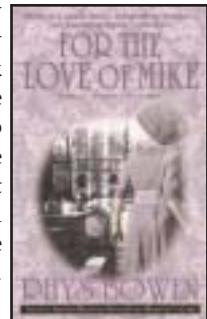
An *Erast Fandorin* mystery. March 1878, Paris. Lord Littleby, an English eccentric and collector, is found murdered in his Paris house together with nine members of his staff. A gold whale in the victim's hand leads Erast Fandorin to board the Leviathan, the world's largest steamship, as the murderer is one of the 142 first class passengers. "Akunin is an outstanding novelist...Fandorin is a beautifully drawn character who more than lives up to comparisons with Hercule Poirot or Sherlock Holmes...The characters are delightful and you can imagine them in a Woody Allen version of an Agatha Christie novel...Akunin's work is gloriously tongue-in-cheek but seriously edge-of-your-seat at the same time." - *The Daily Express*. (Russian)

Boris AKUNIN**Turkish Gambit****230pp Tp 29.95**

An *Erast Fandorin* mystery. 1877, Paris. The Russo-Turkish war is at a critical juncture and Fandorin, broken-hearted and disillusioned, has gone to the front in an attempt to forget his sorrows. Captured by the Turks, he wins his freedom in a game of backgammon, before finding himself the unlikely rescuer of Varvara Suvorova - a 'progressive' Russian woman trying to make her way to the Russian headquarters to join her fiancé. Fandorin's efforts to steer clear of affairs of state are thwarted when a traitor is discovered within the Russian camp. Our reluctant gentleman sleuth will need to resurrect all of his dormant powers of detection if he is to unmask the traitor, help the Russians to victory and smooth the path of young love in this sparkling page-turner. (Russian)

Rhys BOWEN**For the Love of Mike** 337pp Pb 16.95

A *Molly Murphy* mystery #2. 1900s, New York City. Molly is determined to be a private detective, but there are many places in the city where women are just not welcome! Then two business opportunities pop up simultaneously. An aristocratic family in Dublin fears their daughter has fled to the New World with her unsavoury boyfriend, and they hire Molly to track them down. Then she is asked to go undercover as a piece worker in the garment business and investigate some industrial espionage. (American)

**Fiona BUCKLEY****The Fugitive Queen** 277pp Tp 29.00

An Ursula Blanchard mystery at Queen Elizabeth I's court #7. 1568, England. It has been three years since Ursula exchanged her work as a spy for the relative calm of married life. But Elizabeth summons her: She is to pluck Penelope Mason, her inappropriately flirtatious protégé, from court and find the disgraced girl a husband, and she is also to deliver a secret warning to arch rival, Mary, Queen of Scots. Gradually, Ursula understands the true delicacy and danger of this mission. Exiled after the suspicious death of her husband, Mary is now a guest in Bolton Castle. Ursula, with her blade-sharp acuity, can outsmart Mary's notorious charm and sidestep treasonous traps while extracting the truth. But can she protect her from a deadly game where murder is a small price to pay? (British)

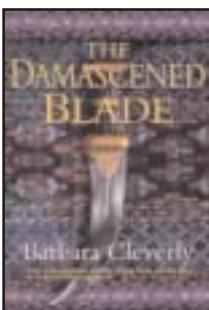


Barbara CLEVERLY

The Damascened Blade

297pp Pb 21.95

1910, Northwest Frontier. Ignoring the command to retreat to base, the Scotsman sets out alone to rescue his fellow officer from Pathan tribesmen who are slowly torturing him to death. A decade later



the backwash of this tragedy threatens to engulf Joe Sandilands. On secondment from Scotland Yard, Joe is spending a fortnight with his old army friend James Lindsay, commander of the frontline fort at Gor Khatri. After a skirmish, which results in the death of a Pathan prince and the taking of hostages, Joe and his companion James are given seven days in which to identify, arrest and execute the killer before the frontier erupts into war. This won the prestigious *Ellis Peters Dagger* awarded to the best historical crime novel of 2004. (British)

Martin DAVIES

Mrs Hudson and the Spirit's Curse

310pp Tp 29.00

1890s, London. Newly employed as housekeeper to the eminent detective Sherlock Holmes and the ever-present Dr Watson, the stalwart Mrs Hudson tends to mind her own affairs as long as others mind theirs. But when a terrified young man shows up pleading for help from Holmes, she finds herself a bit more involved than usual. He says he is the victim of a Sumatran curse, having already narrowly missed death. This is a first novel; it was written by Davies as a 70th birthday present for his father, who had frequently wondered what life had been like for Holmes' housekeeper! (British)

Carole Nelson DOUGLAS

Good Night, Mr Holmes (1989)

416pp Pb 18.95

An Irene Adler mystery #1. The beautiful American opera singer, who once outwitted Sherlock Holmes, is here given an unexpected talent: she is a superb detective, as Oscar Wilde and Bram Stoker can attest. Even Holmes himself must admit, albeit grudgingly, that she acquires herself competently. But in matters of the heart she encounters difficulty. The Crown Prince of Bohemia proves to be a cad. Will barrister Godfrey Norton be able to convince Irene that not all handsome men are cut from the same broadcloth? Winner of the *American Mystery Award for Best Novel of Romantic Suspense* and the *Romantic Times Book Club Award for Best Historical Mystery*. (American)

Margaret FRAZER

The Hunter's Tale 323pp Pb 16.95

A Dame Frevisse Medieval mystery #13. 1448, England. When the vicious Sir Ralph Woderove is found murdered near his estate, nobody mourns. With stringent conditions set out in his will, evil Sir Ralph seems to have found a way to control his family from beyond the grave. When Tom, his eldest son, also dies, Dame Frevisse returns to the castle to put an end to the family hostilities. (American)

Ashley GARDNER

The Glass House 249pp Pb 14.95

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DSC Joe D'ALO with David ASTLE
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Ron FELBER

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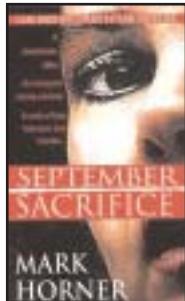
The Double Life of a Mafia Doctor. This is the true story of a 'nerdy, Jewish kid from the Bronx', who, through a series of circumstances, became physician to top Mafia Dons including John Gotti, Carlos Gambino and Joe Bonanno. At the same time, his reputation as a medical genius was spreading and he was fast becoming one of the nation's leading cardiac surgeons. Ron Felber paints a vivid portrait of this doctor's unlikely life in the fastlane as he is immersed in the days of disco and drugs and becomes a top confidante of New York's most notorious criminals. (American)

Susannah FULLERTON
Jane Austen & Crime

Jane Austen has her darker side: adultery, murder, dueling, poaching, theft and even murder. This book shows the crimes Austen used in her novels and puts them in the context of a Georgian framework. It examines the symbolism and morality of crime and punishment in her fiction and shows how her contemporaries would have reacted and how perpetrators would have been punished. It is written by the President of the Jane Austen Society of Australia, and according to Austen biographer Claire Tomalin, Fullerton has made a new approach to Austen possible. (Australian)

Mark HORNER

September Sacrifice

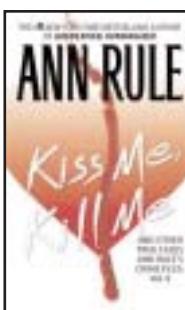


"If I'm ever late for work, call the police!" That is what Albuquerque, New Mexico, bank teller Girly Chew told her boss. The Malaysian-born beauty lived in mortal fear of her pathologically deranged husband and had taken out a restraining order against him. She was late for work for the first and last time on 10 September, 1999. Without a body to provide crucial clues, police were up against a mighty challenge. (American)

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Ann RULE

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Ann Rule's Crime Files #9. This book reveals how lovers become predators, how sex and lust can push ordinary people to desperate acts and how investigators and forensics experts work to unravel the most entangled crimes of passion. Extracting behind-the-scenes details, Rule makes these volatile relationships utterly real, and masterfully recreates the ill-fated chains of events. In every case, the victim unknowingly trusted a stranger with the sociopathic skill to hide their dark motives, until it was too late to escape a web of deadly lies, fatal promises and homicidal possession. (American)

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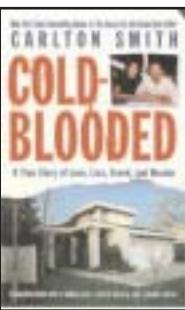
Underbelly 8

More true crime stories. From underbelly to onya belly: gangsters use guns to climb out of the gutter, but often find themselves back in it, handcuffed or even dead. This is Australia's underbelly. (Australian)

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Elisa reported California attorney Larry McNabney missing in September 2001; she claimed he abandoned her after a heated argument and joined a cult. When Larry's body was found in a shallow grave three months later, Elisa was gone. Driving a red convertible Jaguar, her brown hair bleached blonde, Mrs McNabney was already speeding toward Florida with a new identity. An insinuating beauty, she had 38 aliases and a rap sheet 113 pages long. In the wake of Elisa's stunning confession and conviction, there was one more shocking surprise yet to come from the poisonous black widow. (American)

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Crime Chronicle is compiled and edited by Peter Milne and Shelley Kay

