

Crime

"where a good crime
can be had by all"



chronicle



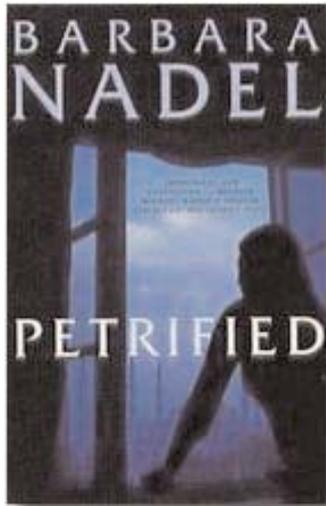
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Issue #218

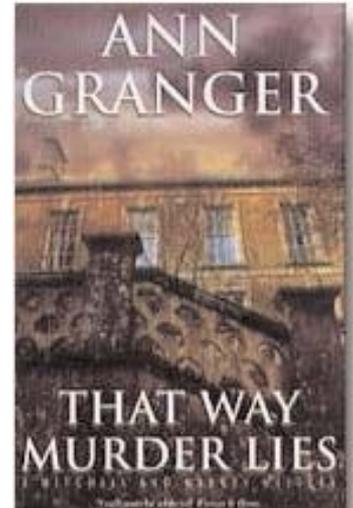
March 2004

FOUR GREAT AUTHORS, FOUR GREAT BOOKS...



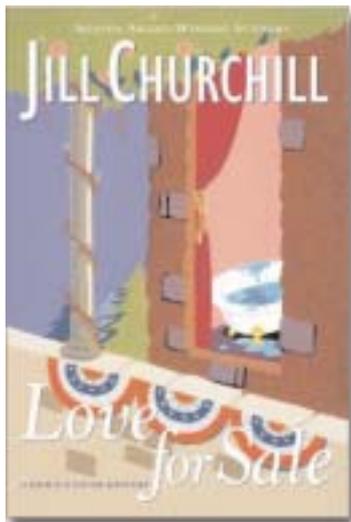
Barbara NADEL
Petrified (320pp Tp 32.95)

The disappearance of two children deeply concerns Inspector Cetin Ikmet, but even more worrying is that their own family members can't seem to agree when and where they were last seen. Are they covering up and why? The answer, when it comes, is even more shocking than the crime. The sixth in this excellent series set in Istanbul.



Ann GRANGER
That Way Murder Lies (288pp Tp 32.95)

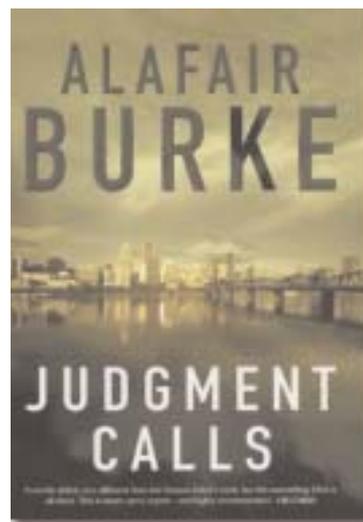
Alan Markby and Meredith Mitchell tackle a new case when a middle-aged woman starts to receive poison pen letters relating to a murder of which she was acquitted when she was twenty. But this mystery is not the only thing they need to resolve. There's also the question of their own on-off relationship. The fifteenth in this great English police series.



Jill CHURCHILL
Love for Sale (214pp Pb 15.95)

In 1932, siblings and socialite sleuths Lily and Robert Brewster rent out their Grace and Favor Cottage to a mysterious stranger for a secret meeting, and become caught up in the kidnapping of a local boy and the murder of one of their mystery guests.

This is the fourth in the Grace and Favor series.



Alafair BURKE
Judgment Calls
(352pp Tp 24.95)

An apparently simple assault case spirals into a complex web of violence and deception in this bold debut thriller from the daughter of James Lee Burke. Deputy DA Samantha Kincaid walks into her office in Portland's Drug & Vice Division one Monday morning to find three police officers waiting for her. A 13-year-old girl has been brutally attacked and left for dead on the city's outskirts. Given the lack of evidence, most lawyers would settle for a simple assault charge; Samantha, unnerved by the viciousness of the crime, decides to go for attempted murder. Seamlessly moving between courtroom and criminal investigation, this debut novel reveals not only an insider's knowledge of the justice system, but a fresh new voice in the world of crime writing.



Modern Crime

Susan Wittig ALBERT
Indigo Dying



267pp Pb 15.95

A China Bayles mystery #11. China heads to the tiny town of Indigo, Texas, to teach a 'Colours to Dye For' workshop. But she quickly discovers that Indigo is a town with more than its share of dark secrets and someone thinks they are worth killing to keep. (American)

Donna ANDREWS



Crouching Buzzard,
Leaping Loon 320pp Pb 15.95

A Meg Langslow mystery #4. The atmosphere at work is so consistently loony that the office mail cart makes several passes through the reception room, with the office practical joker lying on top of it pretending to be dead, before Meg realises that he has become the victim of someone who was not joking at all. He has been murdered for real. (American)



Nancy ATHERTON



Aunt Dimity Takes a Holiday
212pp Pb 15.95

When Lori Shepherd's husband, Bill, is summoned to a will reading at the Earl of Harrisford's resplendent Palladian home, Lori herself thinks she is just along for the ride. But this gathering of the entire Harrisford clan, all of them affected by the Earl's new will, devolves into a dangerous family dispute. Thoroughly modern cosy. (American)

Ace ATKINS



Dark End of the Street
400pp Pb 17.95

A Nick Travers mystery #3. Travers came of age in a smoky New Orleans bar and he owes a monumental debt to its owners, Jo Jo and Loretta, who took him under their wings. Now Loretta wants Nick to locate her missing brother, the legendary singer Clyde James, who vanished in the 1960s after his wife and a band member were murdered. (American)

Robert BARNARD



A Cry from the Dark
260pp Hb 49.95

Master of mystery and internationally acclaimed for his suspenseful, witty literary gems, Barnard cleverly mixes past and present in this outstanding novel, an intriguing tour de force sweeping from 1930s Australia to contemporary London. Barnard won the *CWA Cartier Diamond Dagger* for lifetime achievement in 2003. (English)

Robert BARNARD



The Mistress of Alderley
347pp Pb 19.95

Actress Caroline Fawley is enjoying life in her new role as 'the mistress of Alderley'. She laps up the attention she receives from her new neighbours in the Yorkshire village of Marsham. But Caroline's idyllic life is shattered when a young man, looking remarkably like her lover Marius Fleetwood, unexpectedly turns up on her doorstep. Within a few weeks Marius has gone missing and soon a body turns up in this comedy of manners. (English)

Nevada BARR



Flashback 393pp Pb 17.95

An Anna Pigeon mystery #11. When Anna Pigeon flees a marriage proposal to do ranger service on Garden Key in Dry Tortugas National Park, she finds that the past (the island was once a prison) and the present (an exploding boat scatters unidentified body parts) are eerily conjoined. This is a solid addition to the series. (American)

Beverly BARTON



The Last to Die 399pp Pb 15.95

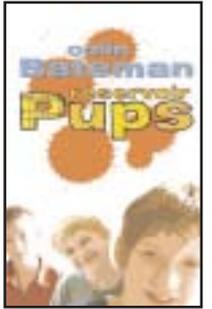
When Jamie Upton is viciously slain, Cherokee Pointe citizens suspect his former lover, Jazzy Talbot. The killer strikes again and again, meaningfully leaving Jazzy's death until last. This is a chilling read. (American)

Colin BATEMAN



Reservoir Pups 312pp Pb 17.95

Eddie is new in town. While he hangs around waiting for school to begin he is drawn into a gang of boys who are running elaborate scams in town. Engaged on his first task, he discovers more than he bargained for when he overhears a plan to kidnap babies from the local hospital. (English)



Cynthia BAXTER



Dead Canaries Don't Sing
400pp Pb 15.95

A Reigning Cats and Dogs mystery. The sun is barely up and the day is already going to the dogs. Literally. As Dr Jessica Popper embarks on a house call to a local horse farm, her one-eyed Dalmatian, Lou, and her tailless Westie, Max, stumble upon something unexpected: a corpse half buried in the woods. (American)

James BEAUSEIGNEUR



Birth of an Age 349pp Pb 15.95

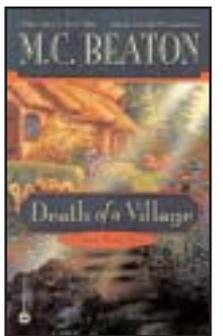
The Christ Clone trilogy #2. Formerly involved in politics on a full-time basis, James BeauSeigneur has managed several campaigns and in 1980 ran for US Congress against Al Gore. He has four years of experience in military intelligence, including two and a half years as a linguist and analyst with the National Security Agency. (American)

M C BEATON



Death of a Village
261pp Pb 15.95

A Hamish Macbeth mystery. Hamish is quite disturbed when a very agitated Elspeth Grant arrives in his garden. It seems that three citizens of nearby Stoyre have moved to Loch-dubh in a hurry, but they are quite unwilling to offer Elspeth any facts as to why. After many frights and dangers, Hamish soon discovers that a sunken WW I German ship, and its cache of gold bullion, are the key to solving the strange demise of the once lively village. (Scottish)



William BERNHARDT



Death Row 416pp Pb 17.95

A Ben Kincaid mystery. Bernhardt ratchets up the suspense quotient to near-heart stopping new levels and challenges even the most jaded thriller readers to keep up with the twists and turns. Crime will never pay. But crime fiction, served up with the wit, grit and sheer virtuosity of Bernhardt, always pays off. (American)

KEY

academic



banking



canine detectives



clerical



cosy/mal ice domestic



cul inary/food



fbi



fel ine detectives



forensic



horse racing mystery



medical



military



native american



pol ice procedur al



pol itical /legal



psycho logical



private eye



romantic suspense



spor t



spy



suspense/thriller



AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB

**Victoria BLAKE****Bloodless Shadow****288pp Tp 24.95**

A *PI Samantha Falconer novel #1*. Sam is pretty good at taking care of herself. Four times world judo champion, she 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 woman, Sam finds herself confronting a past she hoped she had left behind. (English)

Jane BOLITHO**The Cornish Novels****400pp Pb 34.95**

A *Rose Trevelyan trilogy*. Includes **Snapped in Cornwall** (1997), **Framed in Cornwall** (1998) and **Buried in Cornwall** (1999). (English)

Michael BOND**Monsieur Pamplemousse Hits the****Headlines #14 213pp Hb 49.95**

When a TV chef downs an oyster in close-up and consequently dies on screen, Pommes Frites, sniffer dog extraordinaire, thinks good riddance to bad rubbish. Subsequent events prove him right, as usual, but not before he and Pamplemousse enter a bizarre world of lust, murder and blackmail. (English)

Rhys BOWEN**Evan Only Knows****255pp Pb 15.95**

A *Constable Evans mystery #7*. The young thug convicted of murdering Evan's father several years earlier is suspected of murder once more. Tony Mancini only served four years in prison and now he is accused on killing his boss' daughter but Evan believes the youth is innocent. (English)

Tom BRADBY**The White Russian****550pp Pb 21.95**

St Petersburg in 1917 is a city on the brink of revolution where the jackals of the Secret Police intrigue for their own survival as their aristocratic masters indulge in one last, desperate round of hedonism. For Sandro Ruzsky, chief investigator, even this decaying world provides the opportunity for a new beginning. Banished to Siberia four years ago for pursuing a case his superiors would rather he had quietly buried, Ruzsky finds himself investigating the murders of a young couple found on the ice of the frozen river Neva. (Irish)

Steve BREWER**Crazy Love 250pp Pb 13.95**

A *Bubba Mabry mystery #6*. Soft-boiled Albuquerque PI Bubba Mabry gets to see how the other half lives, and how they die, when he is hired by a mild-mannered millionaire to find out who is his wife's lover. (American)

Sandra BROWN**Hello, Darkness 448pp Pb 18.95**

Talk-show host Paris Gibson blames herself for her husband's death while her affair with police psychologist Dean Malloy has turned sour. But Dean and Paris are unexpectedly thrown back together when a caller announces that he has kidnapped a woman and plans to kill her within 72 hours. (English)

T Davis BUNN**Winner Take All****405pp Pb 17.95**

Following a surprising courtroom victory, attorney Marcus Glenwood takes on an equally surprising new client: Dale Steadman, the CEO of the very company Marcus prosecuted. His job is to find Steadman's dangerously unstable ex-wife, opera singer Erin Brandt, who has kidnapped their baby daughter. (American)

James Lee BURKE**Lay Down My Sword & Shield****305pp Pb 17.95**

Hack Holland is a product of the South, both old and new. Hard drinking, ex-POW and a wealthy, progressive Democrat, he stands in the long shadow cast by his ancestors. When Holland's candidacy for a congressional seat brings him increasingly into conflict with those around him, his almost unwitting involvement with a violent civil rights conflict forces him to reassess his future and his past. (American)

Jan BURKE**Eighteen****439pp Pb 17.95**

This is a selection of Burke's short fiction including the *Agatha Award* nominated story 'Devotion'. They are sure to satisfy long-time fans and newcomers. (American)

Richard BURKE**Frozen****272pp Tp 24.95**

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? (English)

Stephen CANNELL**Hollywood Tough****346pp Pb 17.95**

Detective Shane Scully is back in the good graces of the department, hailed as a hero after bringing down a deadly gang of rogue cops. At a glamorous Hollywood party with his new wife Alexa, Shane overhears a famous producer make a suspicious remark about the strange deaths of two ex-wives. Is he serious or merely joking around with his coterie of hangers-on? (American)

Massimo CARLOTTO**The Colombian Mule****160pp Tp 24.95**

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 cocaine he took off with. A pacy, witty crime thriller, an Italian *Pulp Fiction*. (Italian)

Laura CHILDS**Photo Finished 260pp Pb 13.95**

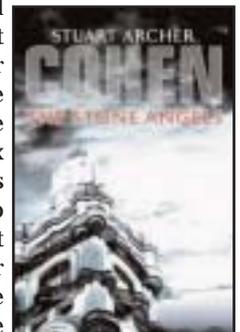
A *Scrapbooking mystery #2*. New Orleans scrapbooking shop owner Carmela Bertrand is hosting a late-night 'Crop Till You Drop' session when a neighbouring antique-shop owner winds up murdered in the alley. Now, Carmela must rearrange the jumble of clues and pick out the killer. (American)

Harlan COBEN**No Second Chance****400pp Pb 18.95**

It starts with an excruciating premise: What would you do if your infant were kidnapped? Coben's hero, a plastic surgeon specialising in paediatrics, has no known enemies. However, when he wakes up 12 days after having been shot, he discovers his wife is dead, his six-month-old daughter has been kidnapped and he is the main suspect! (American)

Stuart COHEN**The Stone Angels****320pp Tp 24.95**

Commisario Miguel Fortunato is a recent widower near retirement with the Buenos Aires Police Department. Six months ago he was ordered to kidnap foreigner Robert Waterbury for reasons never made clear to him. The kidnapping turned to murder. Now, the Americans are sending their own investigator and Fortunato is assigned to assist and support her. When he meets the young, inexperienced Athena Fowler, fresh from the university, he realises that the Americans are not eager to solve the crime either. (English)

**Susan CONANT****The Dogfather 259pp Pb 15.95**

A *Dog Lover's mystery*. Holly Winter has got a hot new gig: dog trainer to the Mob. Big Boss Enzo Guarini has recruited her to train his new pup. But when Guarini's right-hand man is shot dead, Holly's caught between a violent vendetta and a family well trained in murder. Author Conant is a three-time recipient of the *Maxwell Award for Fiction Writing* given by the Dog Writer's Association of America! (American)

**John CONNOR**

 **Phoenix** 304pp Tp 24.95
In this stunning, grittily authentic debut novel, young Yorkshire-based barrister, John Connor, introduces Detective Constable Karen Sharpe. The 8th April 1996 was a bad day for Karen Sharpe, the eighth anniversary of something so deeply buried she had hoped to forget it ever happened. But this year booze was not going to help her because some time after midnight, Phil Leech, her DS and partner on Operation Anvil, is executed in a military style killing, whilst Fiona Mitchell, his pretty 21-year-old informant, is found face up on a South Pennine moor. (English)

David CORBETT

 **The Devil's Redhead** 384pp Tp 24.95
A gripping noir debut about two grifters who, like Bonnie and Clyde, will go a long way for love, except staying within the law. (American)

Neil CROSS

 **Always the Sun** 318pp Tp 24.95
What do you do when your son is bullied? How far will you go to protect him from those who seek to cause him harm? Jamie is 13 years old, an only child. His mother has recently died. He and his father Sam have moved to Sam's hometown. A fresh start. An aunt to lend support. A new job for Sam, a new school for Jamie. But one day Jamie comes home, bearing the scars of every parent's nightmare. Something must be done. So it begins... (English)

Clare CURZON

 **A Meeting of Minds** 246pp Hb 49.95
An intriguing and thought-provoking mystery, this is the latest in the popular series featuring Mike Yeading and the Thames Valley CID. (English)

Judith CUTLER

 **Power Shift** 288pp Pb 18.95
Kate Power is newly promoted and in charge of her own station. So, in addition to getting used to the pressures of responsibility and gaining the respect of a new team, she has to get to know a new neighbourhood, with new problems and new crimes. (English)

Claire DANIELS

 **Strangled Intuition** 293pp Pb 15.95
When a party ends with one of Cally's massage clients strangled with her own necklace, the police suspect the husband, but one look at his aura and Cally knows that he is not a killer. (American)

Christopher DARDEN & Dick LOCHTE

 **The Last Defense** 382pp Pb 17.95
Young lawyer Mercer Early juggles a puzzling murder case and a forbidden love affair with his boss's daughter. (American)

Jeffrey DEAVER

 **The Vanished Man** 419pp Pb 19.95
A Lincoln Rhyme mystery #5. A killer flees the scene of a homicide at a Manhattan music school and locks himself in a classroom surrounded by police. A scream rings out, then a gunshot. The police break in. The room is empty. Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs are pitted against a killer with one final, horrific trick to play. (American)

Irene DISCHE

 **The Job** 160pp Pb 21.95
As an infamously heartless Kurdish assassin makes his cool, controlled preparations for a contract killing, he has not reckoned on New York's bustling anonymity and its squirting jam donuts, nor on the distractions of an elderly neighbour who shares her tinned sardines with him in his lonely hours. A mix of satire, intrigue and oddball lethal suspense, this is a deft tale of light and shadows, which hits unexpected targets of human emotion. (American)

Tim DORSEY

 **The Stingray Shuffle** 379pp Pb 17.95
When serial-killing, local Florida historian Serge Storms is off his medications, no one is safe. Not Russian hoods, Jamaican mobsters, spoiled frat boys, women's book clubs, drug dealers or Vegas-rejected local lounge acts! Especially when \$5 million in cash in a bugged suitcase is still racing up and down the Eastern Seaboard. But in the oddball circus known as the Sunshine State, little things, like astronomical body counts, tend to get lost in the shuffle. (American)

Catherine DUNBAR

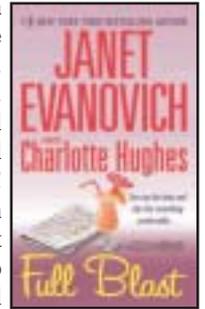
 **False Images** 300pp Pb 15.95
A Poisoned Pen Press mystery. Moving quietly and intelligently, but with a clear sense of menace, Dunbar's twisty plot is peopled with vivid, sympathetic characters. After authoring several historical sagas, she succeeds in crafting a well-imagined, suspenseful thriller about art fraud. (American)

Barry EISLER

 **Hard Rain** 352pp Tp 29.95
John Rain, jazz fan, single-malt whiskey connoisseur and honourable assassin, is dragged out of retirement, first by blackmail and then by revenge. Featuring many of the characters so vividly brought to life in *Rain Fall* (Pb 17.95), Eisler takes us on another journey into a world of spooks, double-crosses and elaborately executed 'terminations'. (American)

**Janet EVANOVICH & Charlotte HUGHES**

 **Full Blast #2** 352pp Pb 19.95
There is never a dull moment for the residents of Beaumont, South Carolina. Lately, a heat wave has spiked the mercury and everyone's sex drive! These days, when Jamie runs into Max, it is all she can do not to tear his clothes off, and the feeling is mutual. Meanwhile, the lingerie shop is having a sale on edible underwear, while the bakery's selling aphrodisiac-laced brownies and x-rated birthday cakes. But when someone starts bumping-off some of the town's more annoying citizens, all clues lead straight to the new personals section in Jamie's newspaper. (American)

**Nancy FAIRBANKS**

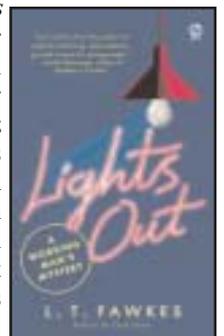
 **The Perils of Paella** 290pp Pb 13.95
A Culinary mystery. Food writer Carolyn gets to challenge her taste-testing skills again, this time in Barcelona. Her first feast is for the eyes at a modern art museum where her friend Roberta is the resident scholar. There, she catches a performance art piece about death, planted a little too firmly in reality. One of the actors is not acting; she's dead! And now, Carolyn is in the middle of a new investigation into a very unsavoury crime. (American)

Jerrilyn FARMER

 **Mumbo Gumbo** 352pp Pb 15.95
A Madeline Bean novel. Murder meets Hollywood when Maddie joins the oddball staff of TV's hottest new culinary series. However, the show is on the brink of disaster, with the head writer missing and staffers quitting or disappearing weekly, until a secret room, a priceless packet of Kool-Aid and a bubbling Cajun gumbo bring Maddie face-to-face with a murderer. (American)

L T FAWKES

 **Lights Out** 256pp Pb 13.95
A Working Man's mystery #2. After stewing in jail and getting dumped by his wife, Terry Saltz is finally getting his life back. But then a man is knocked off in his trailer park and guess who is caught holding the gun? His ex-wife, Marylou, drunk as a skunk. She may be mean, but Marylou is no killer. Now Terry has to butt in and get her off the hook because no one is getting away with murder in his backyard. (American)



**Robert FERRIGNO** **Scavenger Hunt 368pp Pb 21.95**

 While on an LA party-scene scavenger hunt, reporter Jimmy Gage meets Garrett Walsh, a former boy-wonder director who has just been released from prison after serving seven years for the drug-rage murder of a seemingly innocent teenage girl. Out of prison and out for justice, Walsh chooses Jimmy to help him clear his name by getting the right people to read his newest script, *Fall Guy*, the story of the set-up that sent him away. (American)

Monica FERRIS **Cutwork 258pp Pb 15.95**

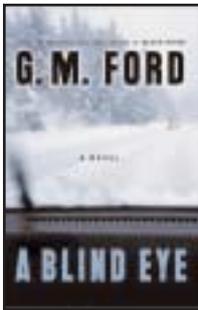
A Needlecraft mystery #7. After an artisan is murdered at the art fair in Excelsior, Minnesota, everyone is on pins and needles. It is up to needlework shop owner Betsy Devonshire to figure out who had designs on the dead designer. (American)

Joanne FLUKE **Lemon Meringue Pie Murder 337pp Pb 15.95**

A Hannah Swenson mystery. Who could have killed voluptuous Rhonda Scharf, whose half-buried body Hannah's interfering mother discovers in the basement of an old house one of Hannah's swains has just purchased? The investigation proceeds unhurriedly, with plenty of time for cookies, coffee and small-town gossip. (American)

G M FORD **A Blind Eye 294pp Tp 30.00**

A Frank Corso novel. With only eight days to solve a multiple homicide, Corso begins a hunt that will carry him halfway across the country and through a chilling history of violence, terror and bloodshed that



spreads from the small town of Avalon, Wisconsin, to the remote farmlands of New York State. And his single-minded pursuit will make him a marked man, (the target of a rage-driven maniac, a master of cunning reinvention,) as he draws closer to the shocking truth that is hidden away in an isolated mountain community, where no law protects the innocent. (American)

Reg GADNEY **The Scholar of Extortion 381pp Tp 29.95**

 This is an exhilarating, white-knuckle thriller about modern piracy in the Far East, and for many critics this book sees Gadney at the height of his powers. In Klaas-Pieter Terajima, he has created perhaps one of the most convincing psychopaths in contemporary fiction. (English)

Luiz Alfred GARCIA-ROZA **December Heat 288pp Tp 29.00**
An Inspector Espinosa mystery #2.

The first Espinosa mystery, **The Silence of the Rain** (Pb 22.00), won audiences with its steamy evocation of exotic Rio de Janeiro, its singular narrative approach, and its highly appealing protagonist. In this second in the series, Garcia-Roza once again delivers a story as unusual as it is complex, with a resolution sure to elude, and ultimately delight, even the most discerning crime readers. (Brazilian)

Meg GARDINER **Mission Canyon 432pp Pb 18.95**

Evan Delaney has come to terms with the hit-and-run crash that left her boyfriend, Jesse Blackburn, in a wheelchair and killed his best friend in **China Lake** (Pb 18.95). But when she hears that the driver, Franklin Brand, is back in Santa Barbara, she is determined to help Jesse bring him to book for his crime. Then, witnesses to the hit-and-run start dying and Jesse's search for justice becomes a hunger for vengeance, as powerful interests determine to stop him and Evan once and for all. (American)

Lisa GARDNER **The Survivors' Club 437pp Pb 17.95**

 Jillian, Carol and Meg will not consider themselves victims; they are survivors of a terrible crime that hit the headlines and changed their lives forever. And now that Eddie Como, the College Hill Rapist, has been shot down outside a packed courthouse moments before his trial, all three women are openly ecstatic that he is dead. They are also the prime suspects in his murder. (English)

P L GAUS **Cast a Blue Shadow 225pp Tp 29.00**

An Ohio Amish mystery. Previous Gaus mysteries have concentrated on various elements in the life of Prof Michael Branden: his job as a history professor at Millersburg College, his relationship with childhood friends Pastor Cal Troyer and Sheriff Bruce Robertson and his interaction with the Amish in his northern Ohio community. This fourth mystery is a compelling combination of these aspects of Branden's life and more. (American)

Alan GLYNN **The Dark Fields 352pp Pb 22.95**

Imagine a drug that makes your brain function with perfect efficiency, tapping into your most fundamental resources of intelligence and drive, releasing all the passive knowledge you had ever accumulated? A drug that made you focused, charming, fast and even attractive? Eddie Spinola is on such a drug. It is called MDT-48, and it is Viagra for the brain. But while MDT is helping Eddie achieve the kind of success he has only dreamed about, it is also chipping away at his sanity. (Irish)

Lee GOLDBERG **Diagnosis Murder: The Death Merchant 245pp Pb 13.95**

Dr Mark Sloan and his son have their vacation interrupted when a local restaurateur washes up on the shore, supposedly killed by a shark. (American)

Joel GOLDMAN **Cold Truth 414pp Pb 15.95**

When a syndicated radio psychiatrist is defenestrated, her life is brought to a brutal end. However, when a woman patient owns up to the murder, DA Lou Mason realises something about his client's story does not add up. Is she protecting a deadly psychopath whose agenda is far from complete? (American)

Winston GRAHAM **Marnie (1961) 310pp Hb 30.95**

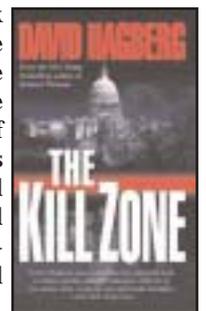
 The novel that became a classic Hitchcock film. Marnie seems a charming woman, but no one knows her real name or anything about her at all. Now Marnie has walked into a trap. The game is over - or would be - if the man who trapped her hadn't caught himself as well! (English)

John GRISHAM **The Last Juror 355pp Hb 49.95**

In 1970, one of Mississippi's more colourful weekly newspapers, *The Ford County Times*, went bankrupt. To the surprise and dismay of many, ownership was assumed by a 23-year-old college drop-out named Willie Traynor. The future of the paper looked grim until a young mother was brutally raped and murdered by a member of the notorious Padgitt family. Traynor reported all the gruesome details and his newspaper began to prosper. The murderer, Danny Padgitt, was tried before a packed courtroom in Clanton, Mississippi. The trial came to a startling and dramatic end when the defendant threatened revenge against the jurors if they convicted him. Nevertheless, they found him guilty, and he was sentenced to life in prison. But in Mississippi in 1970, 'life' didn't necessarily mean 'life', and nine years later Danny Padgitt managed to get himself paroled. He returned to Ford County, and the retribution began. (American)

David HAGBERG **The Kill Zone 437pp Pb 17.95**

When Kirk McGarvey is made interim director of the CIA, what should have been the culmination of his career, has activated a 20-year-old Russian plot sponsored by his former arch-enemy, General Baranov. (American)



**Brian HAIG** **Mortal Allies 564pp Pb 18.95**

Major Sean Drummond is back! Assigned to South Korea as an advocate for a gay officer accused of brutally killing the son of a South Korean war hero, Drummond is teamed up with an old law school nemesis, curvy attorney Katherine Carson. Drummond is as distraught to be working with a woman who knows how to push all his buttons, as he is to be defending this client. However, it is just this lack of political correctness that makes him the one man the CIA can trust with its disturbing secrets. Drummond quickly learns that what appears to be an open and shut case is really just the top layer of a deep conspiracy. (American)

Carolyn HAINES **Crossed Bones 384pp Pb 15.95**

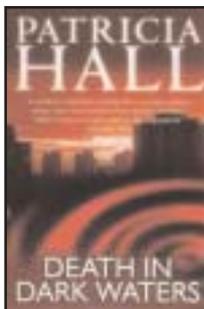
A *Mississippi Delta mystery* #4. In rich, atmospheric mysteries set against the backdrop of modern-day Mississippi, Carolyn Haines has given the southern belle a brilliantly hip makeover. Now, her unforgettable heroine, Sarah Booth Delaney, is back with a tale about skeletons in closets and elsewhere. (American)

Patricia HALL **Dead Reckoning 280pp Hb 49.95**

An *Ackroyd and Thackeray mystery*. With racial tensions already running high throughout the city, the prospect of mass redundancies at the heart of Bradfield's Muslim community could cause even more trouble. And as the British Patriotic Party start campaigning for local elections, violence spills onto the streets and areas of Bradfield go up in flames. (English)

Patricia HALL **Death in Dark Waters 273pp Pb 19.95**

After a night out clubbing, the son of a wealthy local businessman is knocked down and left in a coma. His father wants to know who supplied him with ecstasy and Michael Thackeray is put on the case. Meanwhile, his girlfriend Laura Ackroyd is conducting her own investigation into the local drugs problem. (English)

**Denise HAMILTON** **Jasmine Trade (2001) 352pp Tp 24.95**

An *Eve Diamond Novel* #1. The story of May-li and her journey from a poor farming home in Fujian, China, to a brothel in Los Angeles is one that Eve will fight to tell and will never forget. (American)

Denise HAMILTON **Sugar Skull 374pp Pb 15.95**

An *Eve Diamond novel* #2. When a distraught father breaks past security to beg for her help, Los Angeles Times reporter Eve Diamond can't refuse. His daughter, caught up in the rough "squatter" lifestyle, is missing and Eve, sensing a scoop, wants to know why a privileged teen from Pasadena would hook up with the dregs of Hollywood. When the girl is found dead, Eve suspects there is more going on than the tragic death of a rebellious youth. (American)

Patricia HARDWIN **Arson and Old Lace 304pp Pb 14.95**

A *Far Wychwood Mystery*. "You're a librarian, not a detective," Catherine Penny's daughter reminds her. But Catherine, suddenly single in her sixties, finds it easy to slip into sleuthing mode when she leaves behind a failed marriage in New York City for a lovely 17th century cottage in the idyllic English village of Far Wychwood. (American)

Charlaine HARRIS **Last Scene Alive 251pp Pb 13.95**

An *Aurora Teagarden mystery*. 'Roe' Teagarden relives past history when a movie crew settles in town to make a film based on her first sleuthing adventure. The crew includes both Robin Crusoe, her former co-sleuth and a true-crime writer, and her hate-filled stepson. Before long, murder strikes again. A delightful series. (American)

Lee HARRIS **The Bar Mitzvah Murder 272pp Pb 15.95**

For suburban sleuth Christine Bennett, the chance to visit the Holy Land is a dream come true. Her best friend Melanie Gross will be in Jerusalem at the same time for the Bar Mitzvah of her very wealthy cousin. The beauty and mystery of the golden city is overwhelming, and Christine is excited about exploring every part of it until Melanie's wealthy cousin Gabe disappears without a trace, turning her vacation tour into a trail of clues that leads to a cold and cunning killer. (American)

Libby Fischer HELLMANN **An Image of Death 304pp Pb 15.95**

Working-mum sleuth and documentary-maker, Ellie Foreman's plans get thrown for a loop when a mysterious package appears at her door one winter night. Inside she finds a surveillance video showing the murder of a young woman. Who was this woman and what is her connection to Ellie? (American)

**Joan HESS** **Maggody and the Moonbeams 327pp Pb 15.95**

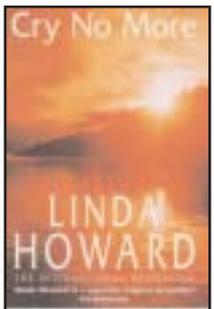
An *Arly Hanks mystery*. Enforcing law and order in the Ozarks just got tougher for Arly Hanks. Chaperoning the church youth group, she must keep 10 hormonally-challenged teens in line on a retreat to Camp Pearly Gates. But adolescent angst soon turns to shocking revelation when the body of a white-robed woman turns up on the campgrounds. (American)

Jilliane HOFFMAN **Retribution 416pp Tp 29.95**

One rainy night in New York City, outstanding law student Chloe Larson wakes from a terrible nightmare. But it is not a nightmare; she is savagely violated in her own bedroom. 12 years later, she is forging a formidable reputation as an attorney and a vicious serial killer is on the loose. (American)

Linda HOWARD **Cry No More 384pp Tp 32.95**

On a sultry afternoon in a small dusty village, Milla Boone faces every parent's nightmare. Two assailants kidnap her six-week-old son, leaving Milla in a pool of blood, left for dead. For 10 years, Milla's



resolve to find her son never wavers. Returning to the scene of the crime, she begins to piece together not only her son's fate, but the fate of countless other children who have disappeared into what appears to be an elaborate and highly lucrative baby smuggling ring. Cautiously, she joins forces with James Diaz, a dangerous stranger with his own agenda, a man who is as untrusting as he is untrustworthy. As Milla's search for her son intensifies, along with a growing desire for Diaz, the quest becomes more treacherous. Suddenly, entangled in an intricate criminal network of conspiracy and murder, she finds herself the target of a lethal force of hired assassins that aims to silence her permanently. (English)

Donald JAMES **Walking the Shadows 400pp Pb 21.95**

Tom Chapel comes to St Juste to discover why a local man, Marcel Coultard, has left his \$28m fortune to his daughter Romilly, and why shortly after his bequest, Romilly was abducted and attacked, and left in a life-threatening coma. The local police are not forthcoming: there is a code of silence about Romilly and another dead girl, a silence which suggests a deeper and abiding mystery that Tom must uncover. (English)

**Quinton JARDINE****Fallen Gods 320pp Pb 18.95**

The heat is on for DCC Bob Skinner, Scotland's most revered and, in some circles, most feared cop. His career hangs by a thread, as a recent illness gives his enemies a weapon to use against him. A body found in the detritus of a flood is identified as the hated brother whose existence he has kept hidden for years. On the crime front, an incendiary device destroys a valuable painting in the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh. But is he still up to the challenge...? (English)

Faye KELLERMAN**Street Dreams 560pp Pb 19.95**

A *Cindy Decker* mystery #2. While on routine patrol, LAPD Officer Cindy Decker rescues a newborn abandoned in an alley dumpster. But she cannot call it a night until she sees the infant safe in a hospital. Armed with advice from her overworked detective father, Cindy searches through inner-city Hollywood, following a treacherous trail filled with drug lords to find the child's mother. (American)

Lee Charles KELLEY**Murder Unleashed****288pp Pb 15.95**

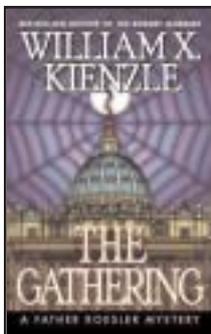
Kennel owner and ex-big city cop Jack Field cares more about dogs than he does about people, with the exception of his lady-love, sexy local medical examiner Dr Jamie Cutter. When a helpless canine is unfairly accused of murdering a State Supreme Court Justice in his car, Jack has to get involved! (American)

Susan KELLY**Cold Blood 276pp Hb 49.95**

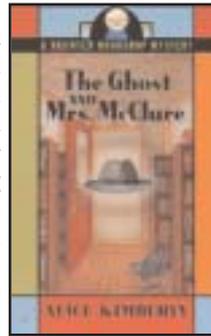
A *Gregory Summers* mystery. When Sir John Hathaway retires to Newbury after defending the alleged killer of a newsreader, his family becomes the target of vandalism and Sir John starts receiving death threats. (English)

William KIENZLE**The Gathering 296pp Pb 15.95**

A *Father Koehler* mystery. Way back in the 1940s, they had all been young together. Six Detroit adolescents moving step by measured step into the bosom of the church. Or so they believed. Now, more than 50 years later, one of the six has died a sudden, violent death, and Koehler is sadly suspicious that someone in this tiny band of lifelong friends may be responsible. But who and why? Before long, he has reason to believe he knows the shocking answer. (American)

**Alice KIMBERLY****The Ghost and Mrs McClure 272pp Pb 13.95**

Penelope Thornton-McClure manages a Rhode Island bookshop rumoured to be haunted. When a bestselling author drops dead signing books, the first clue of foul play comes from the store's full-time ghost, a PI murdered on the very spot more than 50 years ago. Is he a figment of Pen's overactive imagination? Or is the likable, fedora-wearing spectre the only hope Pen has to solve the crime? (American)

**Laurie KING****Keeping Watch 400pp Tp 27.00**

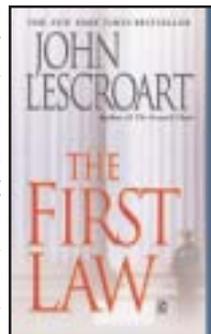
Near retirement after years of rescuing children, Alan Carmichael embarks on one last mission to rescue a teenager from an abusive parent, but after the boy is safely hidden away, Alan begins to doubt his decision to intervene. (American)

Bill KNOX**The Man in the Bottle****189pp Hb 42.95**

Thane and Moss are asked to help identify the body of a poacher who apparently killed himself while dynamiting a salmon pool, but there are two surprises: firstly, he had a companion who has now disappeared; and secondly, he was linked to an assassination attempt on a politician from Moscow. (Scottish)

John LESCROART**The First Law 421pp Pb 17.95**

They date back to the wilder days of San Francisco's vigilante past, a private police force that keeps watch for paying clients. Unfortunately, Sam Silverman could no longer afford special protection, and he may have paid with his life. Dismas Hardy, putting together a high-stakes lawsuit against the security firm, suddenly finds himself defending a local bar owner accused in Silverman's death. (American)

**Laura LIPPMAN****Every Secret Thing 388pp Tp 29.95**

Lippman steps outside her Tess Monaghan series to deliver her darkest, most troubling tale and vaults into the crime-fiction elite with a haunting story of murder, fate's accidents and the stories we tell ourselves when we try to make sense of the unthinkable. (American)

John MANNOCK**Iron Coffin 385pp Pb 15.95**

Strafed and depth charged by American bombers, reeling from damage and with supplies running low, a German U-boat limps along toward the coastal bayous of Louisiana where the crew's only chance of survival rests in the hands of an isolated group of people who recognise no government and no war. There, in the heart of the enemy, Nazi gold can buy help. But gold can also buy betrayal. An electrifying WWII thriller debut from a former Special Forces sniper. (American)

Ed McBAIN**Fat Ollie's Book****291pp Pb 17.95**

A novel of the 87th Precinct. All at once, Fat Ollie Weeks had a truly brilliant idea but, as any real writer could tell you, that is how inspiration strikes - with the sudden force of a violent crime. Known more for his foul mouth and short temper than his way with words, Detective Weeks has written a novel. But just as Isola is rocked by the murder of a mayoral candidate, the only copy of Ollie's manuscript is stolen. (American)

Ed McBAIN**The Frumious Bandersnatch****304pp Tp 29.95**

A novel of the 87th Precinct. In this brilliant look at the music industry, McBain once again combines his mastery of the form with the fast-paced dialogue and intricate plotting that has become his signature. (American)

Alexander McCALL SMITH**Morality for Beautiful Girls****224pp Pb 22.95**

The No 1 Detective Agency #3. Continuing the adventures of Mma Ramotswe, this book finds her expanding her business to take in the world of car repair and a beauty pageant. McCall Smith's sense of humour and gentle charm have created a substantial cult following. (Scottish)

Michael McCLELLAND**Oyster Blues 343pp Pb 15.95**

In this debut comic crime novel, Harry Harper desperately takes a job from two mob goons to sail their boat to Miami with a coffin on board. Then he meets an oyster shucker called Jane Ellen Ashley and then the trouble really rolls in. (American)

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**Judith McNAUGHT** **Someone to Watch Over Me** 494pp Pb 18.95

Leigh Kendall revelled in her stellar Broadway acting career and in her marriage to Logan Manning, scion of an old New York family. When her husband finds the perfect mountain property for their dream house, he decides to surprise Leigh with her first view of the site. Driving upstate on a winter's night, Leigh is run off the road in the midst of a blinding blizzard. When she awakes in the local hospital, seriously injured, the police inform her that her husband has mysteriously disappeared, and Leigh, although obviously distraught, becomes the focus of their suspicions. (American)

Deon MEYER **Heart of the Hunter** 419pp Tp 32.95

When Johnny K is kidnapped and held to ransom, his daughter turns to the only man she knows can help her, his old friend Tiny. The kidnappers want a disk from her safe that contains extremely sensitive data, and she has 72 hours in which to deliver, or her father will die. But there are those watching Tiny's every move, monitoring, waiting for him trip up and lead them to what they want. (South African)

Tamar MYERS **Custard's Last Stand** 249pp Pb 13.95

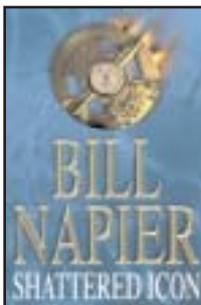
A *Pennsylvania Dutch* mystery with recipes. When Colonel George Custard decides to build a glitzy new hotel in Hernia, outraged residents protest the project. Soon after, the colonel is found shot to death at the PennDutch Inn. Now, Magdalena Yoder must find out who caused Custard's last stand and save her beloved town. (American)

Tim MYERS **At Wick's End** 179pp Pb 13.95

A *Candlemaking* mystery. Upon his Great-Aunt Belle's death, Harrison Black inherits her candle shop. When he begins to suspect foul play in her death, he does a bit of sleuthing. But it looks like he is playing with fire because somebody wants Harrison to mind his own beeswax... (American)

Bill NAPIER **Shattered Icon** 416pp Pb 19.95

As an antique map dealer in a small English town, Harry Blake appreciates the quiet life. But when a local landowner asks him to value a 400-year-old journal and 12 hours later he is brutally murdered, Harry's peace of mind is shattered. What does the dusty old journal contain? (English)

**Jonathan NASAW** **Fear Itself** 470pp Pb 18.95

Is it possible to be scared to death? FBI Special Agent Pender thinks so when a man afraid of heights falls 19 stories to his death and a woman terrified of blood is found with her wrists slashed. Could it be that the apparent suicides are actually the work of a twisted psychopath? (American)

Kris NELSCOTT **Thin Walls** 387pp Tp 29.95

A *Smokey Dalton* mystery. Set around Christmas 1969, this new novel finds the African American PI still living in Chicago with 11 year old son Jimmy and still hiding from FBI agents, who know that Jimmy is the only witness to what really happened to Martin Luther King, Jr. This time, though, Smokey and Jimmy face new problems. (American)

Hilary NORMAN **No Escape** 392pp Pb 19.95

Some people find it hard to trust Robin Allbeury, a wealthy lawyer and an expert on marital secrets. Allbeury runs an unorthodox sideline, helping troubled wives escape from their abusive marriages. Lizzie Piper seems to have the perfect life, but nobody really knows what goes on inside a marriage, or what can happen behind closed doors. This is genuinely scary with touches of sheer horror. (English)

Oliver NORTH with Joe MUSSER **Mission Compromised** 637pp Pb 18.95

From Oliver North, bestselling author, combat-decorated military hero and patriot, comes a blisteringly authentic novel of duty, treason, corrupted truth and stolen honour, a breathtaking adventure ripped from today's headlines. (American)

P J PARRISH **Island of Bones** 382pp Pb 15.95

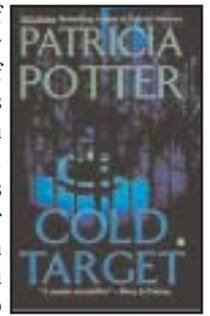
Set in the late 1980s, the newest addition to Parrish's Louis Kincaid mystery series, (**Thicker Than Water** Pb 18.95) lures readers in from the outset when a young woman's bullet-ridden corpse is found tangled in mangrove roots on Florida's beautiful, tropical seacoast. (American)

James PATTERSON **3rd Degree** 400pp Tp 32.95

Detective Lindsay Boxer and Assistant DA Jill Bernhardt are enjoying a quiet afternoon in San Francisco when a townhouse across the street explodes in flames. Soon a wave of violent incidents, all with links to political terrorism and involving 'August Spies', sweeps through the city. An upcoming economic summit of the world's most powerful nations will surely be a target. And the Women's Murder Club has to get to the bottom of the violence before it is too late. (American)

Patricia POTTER **Cold Target** 422pp Pb 15.95

In the dead of night, Holly Matthews, the wife of a New Orleans Senator, takes her son and flees for her life. At her mother's deathbed, lawyer Meredith Rawson learns that she has a sister and promises to find her. Two women are linked in a conspiracy of lies that could shatter their lives and their dreams of love. (American)

**Michael PRESCOTT** **In Dark Places** 371pp Pb 15.95

A brilliant female scientist on the verge of a remarkable discovery in psychiatric medicine. A troubled cop with a terrifying secret. A serial killer with plans for both of them. It begins with the killer's escape from a mental hospital. It ends in places darker than anyone's dared to go before... (American)

Michael PYE **Taking Lives (1999)** 384pp Pb 21.95

Since he was 17, Martin has been taking both lives and identities. Having just killed art historian Christopher Hart, Martin takes on his plans to travel to Portugal, unaware that another art historian investigating the disappearance of some valuable prints is trailing him. Film tie in edition. (English)

Julian RATHBONE **As Bad As It Gets** 261pp Hb 49.95

From a mugging in Nairobi, through meetings with lions and a Maasai warrior, to a truly scary escape from the sewer beneath Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, PI Chris Shovelin faces beatings, corrupt police, shootings, wild elephants and a crazed killer who will not give up. (English)

Christopher RICE **The Snow Garden** 534pp Pb 17.95

In the darkening chill of winter, three Atherton University freshmen are being mysteriously drawn together by fate and a compulsion they cannot comprehend. But the intricate webs of deceit that they have spun to protect themselves are slowly twisted into shackles that chain them to their doom. Snowbound and trapped on the campus, the friends find themselves unwilling pawns in the machinations of a malevolent force that has taken hold of Atherton; all their oldest fears, veiled passions and secret nightmares are about to come to life. (American)

**Michael RIDPATH**

Fatal Error 439pp Pb 19.95
The year is 1999 and Internet companies are springing up everywhere. Anything seems possible for those who think big. So when David Lane, a cautious banker, is invited to help start up a dotcom, he decides that for once he will do something dangerous. If only he had realised quite how dangerous! (English)

Cynthia RIGGS

The Cranefly Orchid Murders 261pp pb 13.95
A Martha's Vineyard mystery. To keep eager developers off Martha's Vineyard, poet-detective Victoria Trumbull searches for loopholes and finds a patch of endangered cranefly orchids. But she also discovers one of the developers' underhanded lawyers pushing up daisies. And if Victoria isn't careful, a killer might take her off the endangered list and make her extinct! (American)

David ROBBINS

Last Citadel 424pp Tp 29.95
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... This is the story of that battle through the eyes of a remarkable group of people - the men and women who fought it. All in all, 2m soldiers, 6000 tanks and 4000 aircraft fought in the seven day offensive and after their defeat, the Germans never took another step forward into the Motherland. (English)

David ROLLINS

Rogue Element 425pp Pb 19.95
An explosion on board a 747 plunges Joe Light and his fellow passengers into everyone's worst nightmare. The aircraft plummets. On board, sheer panic. Indonesia claims it doesn't know where the wreckage is; ASIS discovers otherwise. This is no accident and there are survivors. Sgt Tom Wilkes, Australian Special Air Service, gets the call: Extract the survivors, learn the truth. Wilkes leads his team through the Indonesian jungle in a desperate covert battle to avert all-out war. John Birmingham says Rollins' writing "Shrieks across the page like a scramjet and hits home like a small nuke." (Australian)

Karen ROSE

Have You Seen Her? 500pp Pb 13.95
Offering heart-racing thrills, both in the bedroom and the forensics lab, this second romantic intrigue from Rose (**Don't Tell** Pb 15.95) showcases her growing talent. (American)

MJ ROSE

Sheet Music 326pp Pb 22.95
From a seductive storyteller who dares to plumb the dark, passionate depths of the heart and soul comes an absorbing new erotic thriller that is also a gripping tale of psychological suspense. (American)

Zoe SHARP

Hard Knocks 320pp Pb 19.95
 A Charlie Fox mystery #3. Charlie really did not care who shot dead her ex-army comrade, Kirk Salter, during a bodyguard-training course in Germany. But when old flame Sean Meyer asks her to go undercover and find out what happened she just couldn't bring herself to refuse. Keeping her nerve is not easy when events bring back fears and memories she has worked so hard to forget. It is clear there are secrets at Einsbaden Manor that people are willing to kill to conceal. To find out what is going on, Charlie must face up to her past and move quickly, before she becomes the next casualty. She expected training to be tough, but can she graduate from this school of hard knocks alive? (American)

Georges SIMENON

Maigret and the Ghost (1964) 140pp Pb 22.00
Maigret in Court (1960) 126pp Pb 22.00
The Friend of Madame Maigret (1950) 160pp Pb 22.00
The Hotel Majestic (1942) 140pp Pb 22.00
The Man on the Boulevard (1953) 170pp Pb 22.00

Here are five more titles from the master of French crime fiction, re-released in the Penguin Modern Classics series. (French)

Gerald SEYMOUR

Traitor's Kiss 540pp Pb 19.95
Officially the Cold War is over. Between former enemies, the hand of friendship is exchanged in public. In private the intelligence war goes on. Russian naval officer, Viktor Archenko, passes information to MI6. Suddenly, he stops using the dead drop. It is time to get him out but a new breed plays the spy game now, men like Gabriel Locke... (English)

Vicki STIEFEL

Body Parts 416pp Pb 15.95
Stiefel creates a tenacious but vulnerable heroine in Massachusetts homicide counsellor Tally Whyte, who narrates this tale about a serial killer nicknamed the Harvester. (American)

Carlene THOMPSON

If She Should Die 418pp Pb 15.95
Christine is plunged into her lost sister's dark and mysterious world when her diary turns up unexpectedly. Clearly, in the days before her disappearance, Dara was certain somebody was stalking her. As past melds hauntingly with present, people who knew Dara are meeting tragic fates. Now, someone is watching Christine's every move, perhaps just the way they once watched Dara, right before she died. If, indeed, she really did die! (American)

Allan TOPOL

Conspiracy 386pp Pb 17.95
Topol's bestseller **Spy Dance** (Pb 18.95) was hailed as an instant classic. Now, he sets the stakes even higher in a treacherous international power play where the winner will control the single most influential office in the world. (American)

M J TROW

Maxwell's Inspection 271pp Hb 49.95
A Peter Maxwell mystery #9. Mad Max and his school Leighford High are up for their four-yearly Ofsted Inspection, every teacher's nightmare. By the third day the atmosphere is decidedly fraught and when one of the inspectors is found dead, the police are called in. (Welsh)

Judith VAN GIESON

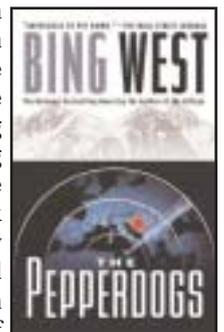
The Shadow of Venus 259pp Pb 13.95
A Claire Reynier mystery. The murder of a young woman takes rare book expert Claire Reynier into Albuquerque's dark streets, where she must shed light on the shadows of the past. (American)

Ann WALDRON

Death of a Princeton President 244pp Pb 13.95
Death is Academic series. When Princeton's first female president is strangled, Professor McLeod Delaney must face the administration's stonewalling and a host of shady suspects to discover who placed her highly esteemed former colleague on permanent sabbatical. (American)

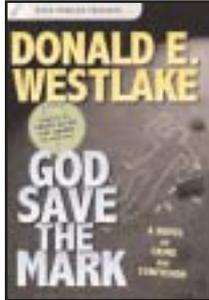
Bing WEST

The Pepperdogs 417pp Pb 17.95
At the end of a three-month tour in Kosovo, five American Marine reservists are looking forward to going home until one of the men runs into a pack of bloodthirsty Serbian soldiers, and disappears. This is an explosive novel of high-tech warfare, international politics and the unbreakable bonds of loyalty under fire. (American)



**Donald WESTLAKE****God Save the Mark**

Every itinerant grifter, hypester, bunk artist, short-conner, amuser, shearer, short-changer, green-goods worker, pennyweighter, ring dropper, and yentzer to hit New York City considers his trip incomplete until he has also hit Fred Fitch. Fred is the con-man's version of Monopoly's Go: Pass Fred Fitch, collect \$200 and move on. What happens to Fred Fitch when his long-lost Uncle Matt dies and leaves Fred \$300,000, shouldn't happen to the ball in a pinball machine. (American)

268pp Tp 32.95**Donald WESTLAKE****The Scared Stiff**

Some days you just might be better off dead. So it is that Barry Lee and Lola, his beautiful South American wife and partner in con artistry, set out to play the globalisation of the insurance industry to their advantage. The story of their journey to Lola's native Guerrero and their sure-fire scheme to pull off the perfect con, which begins with the staging of Barry's spectacular and very public accidental death, becomes increasingly perilous as he attempts to negotiate his afterlife in a world he in no way understands. To his surprise, some of Lola's more blunt-minded and ham-fisted cousins are figuring that if the whole family's going to get rich with Barry Lee dead, he is not dead enough... (American)

247pp Tp 29.95**Stephen WHITE****The Best Revenge 512pp Pb 19.95**

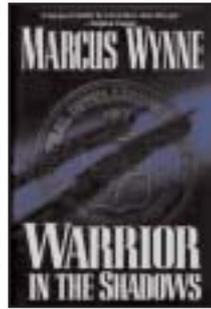
White shines a brilliant light on the darkness that hides just beneath the surface of ordinary lives, on the fears that cripple us and the prisons we create; prisons of the body, mind and spirit. This thriller of runaway tension taps into our most closely guarded fears, taking us on a harrowing journey into a realm of terror and pain, of love gone wrong and vengeance gone mad. (American)

David WILLIAMS**Practise to Deceive**

An Inspector Parry mystery. The cold-blooded murder of Kevin Rees, Auxiliary Nurse at the private Howell Clinic for stroke victims, is greeted with sorrow by all who knew him. But is Dr Edwin Howell, maverick neuro-psychiatrist and co-owner of the clinic, just saving face when he anxiously divines the crime was the work of a burglar? (English)

276pp Hb 49.95**Marcus WYNNE****Warrior in the Shadows**

Trading in his guns for a camera, Charley Payne finds his new life as a forensic photographer uneventful and peaceful until he is called in to photograph a gruesome murder scene. There are no fingerprints and only one clue, a bizarre Aboriginal painting. When his partner Bobby Lee and his family turn up dead, Charley returns to the way of the gun. But he will be fighting a war on a drug lord's turf in the Australian outback. It is a fight to the death that took place in the Aboriginal dream world five centuries before. (American)

340pp Pb 17.95

HISTORICAL CRIME

**Emily BRIGHTWELL****Mrs Jeffries Sweeps the Chimney**

A Victorian mystery. A dead man dressed like a vicar is propped against a church wall, clutching the address of an abandoned, dilapidated cottage with a human skeleton inside. Inspector Witherspoon's only prayer is to seek the counsel of his housekeeper and secret weapon, Mrs Jeffries, who proves that a great crime solver's work is never done. (American)

212pp Pb 15.95**David DICKINSON****Death of an Old Master**

A murder mystery featuring Lord Francis Powerscourt #3. England, 1899. American nouveau riches millionaires, whose new world money carries off old masters' paintings across the Atlantic, invade London's art dealerships. Powerscourt embarks on an odyssey through the treacherous world of art dealers and picture restorers in pursuit of a master forger. (Irish)

314pp Hb 42.95**David DICKINSON****Death and the Jubilee 288pp Pb 21.95**

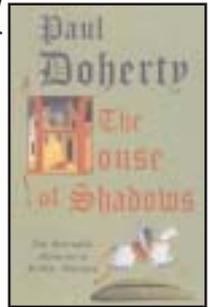
A murder mystery featuring Lord Francis Powerscourt #2. 1897. London is preparing for Victoria's Diamond Jubilee but early on a February morning a corpse with no head or hands is dragged out of the Thames near London Bridge. Powerscourt's investigation leads him to a mansion in Oxfordshire where he realises that he and his family are in mortal danger. (Irish)

Paul DOHERTY**The Godless Man 303pp Pb 21.95**

An Alexander the Great mystery. 334 AD. Alexander has smashed the Persian armies at the battle of the Granicus and is roaming the Western Persian Empire like a hungry predator, living up to his nickname of 'the Wolf of Macedon'. Arriving in the great city of Ephesus, the success of his campaign is threatened by a series of violent murders brought about by a high-ranking Persian spy known only as 'the Centaur'. (English)

Paul DOHERTY**The House of Shadows****309pp Hb 59.95**

The Sorrowful Mysteries of Brother Athelstan. Southwark, 1380. A series of brutal murders at a tavern interrupts Brother Athelstan's rehearsals for the annual Christmas mystery play. He resolves to solve not only these grisly deaths, but also their source, the Great Robbery of the Lombard treasure, which occurred in Southwark some 20 years earlier. (English)

**Carol Nelson DOUGLAS****The Adventuress (1991)**

An Irene Adler mystery featuring Sherlock Holmes. Europe, 1888. Our diva/detective and her bridegroom, handsome barrister Godfrey Norton, are honeymooning in Paris when they become embroiled in an investigation: a drowned sailor's body has been recovered from the Seine, and on his chest is a tattoo. This novel was originally published as **Good Morning, Irene**. (American)

393pp Pb 15.95**Thomas EIDSON****The Missing (1995) 299pp Pb 18.95**

American, 1886. Old Samuel Jones, broken in body and soul, has ridden hard to reach his daughter's remote New Mexico ranch, so that he can die there. But Maggie Baldwin, grown and with children of her own, wants nothing to do with this man who abandoned her mother 30 years earlier to live with the Indians. Nothing, that is, until renegade Apaches shoot Maggie's husband and kidnap her oldest daughter. Then, she has no choice but to ride with the dying father she detests in a desperate attempt to rescue her child before the girl disappears forever into the vast twilight land of old Mexico. Film tie-in edition. (American)



**Sylvian HAMILTON****Gleemaiden 288pp Tp 32.95**

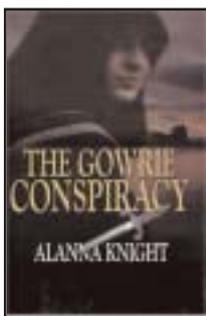
A Sir Richard Stracchan mystery #3. Medieval England. Stracchan has lost the woman he loved to his enemies. His first task is to find her. His second, to escort the great bell, Gaudete, to its resting place in Durham. His third, to save from her enemies the Gleemaiden of the title and the mysterious child she protects. (Scottish)

Simon HAWKE**Much Ado About Murder****234pp Tp 29.95**

A Shakespeare and Smythe mystery #3. Elizabethan England. Due to the plague, all of London's theatres have been closed, forcing our intrepid duo to seek employment in other lines of work; Smythe, smithing and Will, poeting. Then a murder rocks all of London. The duo decides to solve the crime, but they must rely on their wits to survive both the conspiracies and the cutthroat business of Elizabethan theatre. (American)

Alanna KNIGHT**The Gowrie Conspiracy****249pp Hb 49.95**

July 1660, Falkland Palace, Fife. After rescuing King James VI from a runaway horse, Tam Elidor finds himself in favour. As the King's new object of affection, Tam has become the target for jealous courtiers and their attentions are seriously hampering his investigation into the murder of Margaret Agnew. (Scottish)

**Michael KURLAND (editor)****My Sherlock Holmes 370pp Tp 32.95**

Untold Stories of the great Detective. "Purists may baulk, but this collection of Sherlock Holmes stories by a diverse group of authors and imitators is extremely entertaining. Rather than adhering strictly to Conan Doyle's narrative style, the featured authors write original tales recounted by characters other than Dr John Watson. Drawn directly from the original canon, each of these characters brings a new sensibility and adds a new dimension to the Holmes legend. These characters, which include Irene Adler, Dr Moriarty, Mrs Hudson, both the first and the second Mrs Watson, Colonel Sebastian Moran and Billy the page boy, all view Holmes and his exploits through the prism of their own interests, experiences and relationships with the great detective. Most Holmes aficionados will welcome this delightful addition to the ever-growing mythology of their immortal fictional hero." - Margaret Flanagan, *Booklist*. (Various)

Matthew PEARL**The Dante Club 370pp Pb 22.95**

Boston, 1865. A small group of elite scholars prepares to introduce Dante's vision of hell to America. But so does a murderer. The powerful old guard of Harvard College wants to keep Dante in obscurity, believing that the infiltration of such foreign superstitions will prove as corrupting as the immigrants invading Boston Harbour. The members of the Dante Club fight to keep their sacred literary cause alive, but their plans fall apart when a series of murders erupts through Boston and Cambridge. Only this small group of scholars realises that the gruesome killings are modelled on the descriptions of Hell's punishments from *Dante's Inferno*. With the police baffled, lives endangered and Dante's literary future at stake, the Dante Club must shed its sheltered literary existence and find a way to stop the killer. (American)

Candace ROBB**The Fire in the Flint 311pp Tp 32.95**

A Margaret Kerr mystery. This was advertised in the December 2003 Crime Chronicle but it did not arrive until February. Now in stock. (English)



CRIME NON-FICTION

John DICKIE**Cosa Nostra 479pp Tp 39.95**

A History of the Sicilian Mafia. It has been given many names since it was founded in the mid-19th century: the Sect, the Brotherhood, the Honoured Society and now, Cosa Nostra. Yet, as times have changed, the Mafia's subtle and bloody methods have remained the same. This book reconstructs the complete history of the Sicilian Mafia from its origins to the modern day, from the lemon groves and sulphur mines of Sicily, to the streets of Manhattan. (English)

Denise LITTLE & Laura HAYDEN (editors)**The Official Nora Roberts Companion 480pp Tp 35.00**

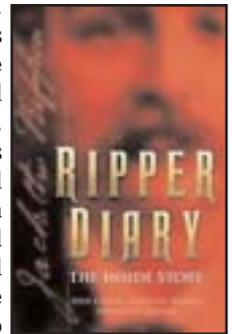
With insights into her life, work and career, as well as little-known facts about her most popular novels, this beautifully designed book celebrates Nora Roberts's enduring legacy of powerful, passionate storytelling. It contains: a complete, cross-referenced list of her books (including those written as J D Robb) with trivia, quotes and family trees; a timeline of her career, with a list of major milestones; inspiring true stories of how her books have changed fans' lives, a list of fan clubs, photos and favourite lists; and romance writers, industry insiders, booksellers, reviewers and fans talk about her successes. Plus Roberts shares her travel adventures and discusses the fine art of writing romance. (English)

Stephen KNIGHT**Crime Fiction 1800-2000****270pp Tp 40.00**

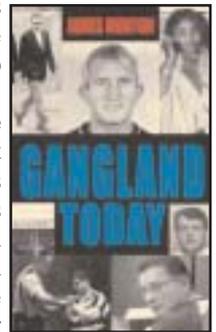
Detection, Death, Diversity. This is a full analytic survey of crime fiction from its origins in the 19th century to the most contemporary developments. Knight explains how and why the various forms of the genre evolved, explores major authors and movements, and argues that the genre as a whole has three parts: the early development of detection, the growing emphasis on death and the modern celebration of diversity. The best criticism is cited and the book provides full references and a helpful chronology, making this a complete study of a popular and still relatively under examined genre. (English)

Seth LINDER, Caroline MORRIS & Keith SKINNER**Ripper Diary****280pp Hb 42.95***The Inside Story.*

Every bit as mysterious as the Whitechapel murders themselves, the Ripper Diaries have intrigued both historical researchers and Ripperologists since they first came to light in 1992. Either one of the most sensational finds of the 20th century or one of its most brilliant literary hoaxes, the diary of Jack the Ripper has created its own tangled and tortuous history. It is this history the authors disentangle in a work of literary sleuthing that offers a reassessment of the evidence and insight into the personalities involved in Ripper research. (English)

**James MORTON****Gangland Today****662pp Pb 19.95**

With organised gangs making increasing use of technology to expand their empires, crime is more international than it has ever been. This book charts the effects of a changing world on everything from prostitution to people smuggling, identity theft to old-fashioned robbery. Morton covers both the current activities of well-known gangs from the Mafia to the South American drug cartels, as well as several less familiar operations: the kings of crime in Israel; the Middle East, from where much crime in India is controlled; the Canadian bikers' war to control the drug trade, which has cost scores of lives of players and innocent bystanders alike. (English)



Leonard PIPER

Dangerous Waters

250pp Hb 59.95

The Life and Death of Erskine Childers. In **The Riddle of the Sands** (Pb 22.95), a gripping spy story set amongst the shoals and mists of the North Sea coast in the years before WWI, Erskine Childers fathered the modern genre of spy adventures, as well as writing a great yachting classic. Unlike John Buchan or John Le Carre, however, Childers himself led a life involving spying, gun-running, conspiracy and a constant search for adventure and danger, which led in the end to his execution by firing squad in Ireland in 1923. (English)

Martin PRIESTMAN (editor)

The Cambridge Companion to Crime Fiction

283pp Tp 49.95

This book covers British and American crime fiction from the 18th century to the end of the 20th. As well as discussing the detective fiction of writers like Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie and Raymond Chandler, it considers other kinds of fiction where crime plays a substantial part, such as the thriller and spy fiction. The collection, by an international team of established specialists, offers students invaluable reference material including a chronology and guides to further reading. (English)

Michael REYNOLDS

Dead Ends

290pp Pb 15.95

The story of the first officially recognised woman serial killer in history, Aileen Wuornos, who cold bloodedly murdered seven strangers. (American)

Patricia SPRINGER

Murder So Cold

304pp Pb 15.95

A father's deadly rage, a daughter's tragic legacy. Brings to life the disturbing true story of Russ Smith who, unbeknownst to his neighbours and friends, murdered his wife of eight years but told everyone, including his young daughter, that she ran away with another man. It was a crime that remained unsolved until 'cold case' investigators brought a crucial statement to light. (American)

Steve VOGEL

Reasonable Doubt

428pp Pb 15.95

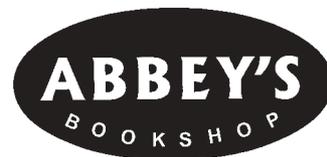
A shocking story of lust and murder in the American heartland. Could David Hendricks, the grief-stricken father, have methodically hacked to death his wife and children before he left on a business trip? And why would a devoted member of a fundamentalist religious group want his family eliminated? (American)

Sue WILTZ

Slave Master

351pp Pb 15.95

This is another dreadful tale about how a podgy, bespectacled man with a 36-year marriage history with the same woman, became America's first known cyber serial killer. John Edward Robinson had even been honoured a Man of the Year for his work with the handicapped! (American)



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DASHIELL HAMMETT PRIZE NOMINEES

The International Association of Crime Writers North America has announced the 2004 Hammett Prize nominees as follows:

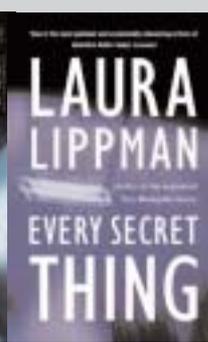
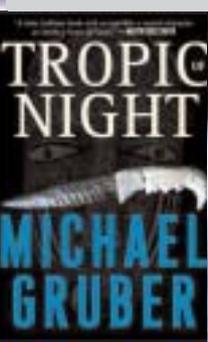
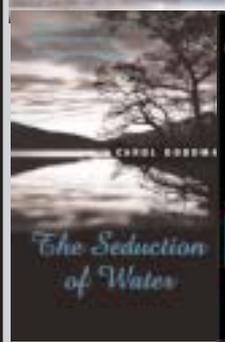
The Delicate Storm by Giles Blunt (Tp 29.95)

The Seduction of Water by Carol Goodman (Pb 22.95)

Tropic of Night by Michael Gruber (Pb 16.95 Due May)

Shutter Island by Dennis Lehane (Tp 29.95)

Every Secret Thing by Laura Lippman (Tp 29.95)



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

