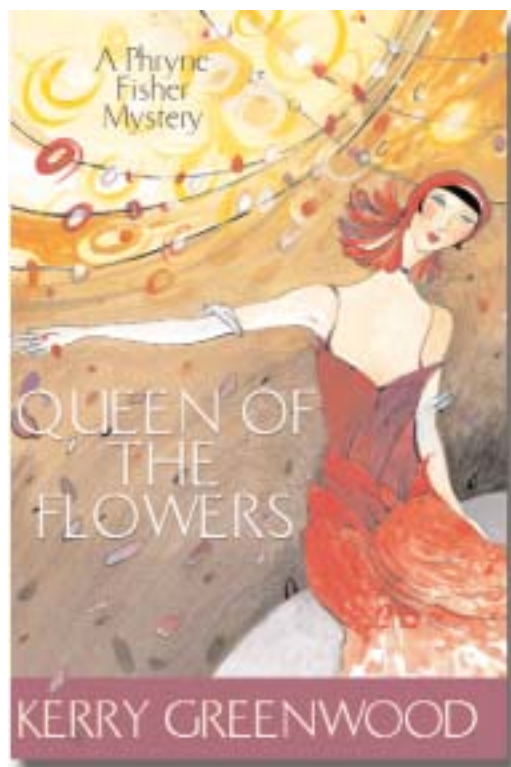


CRIME CHRONICLE

"WHERE A GOOD CRIME CAN BE HAD BY ALL"

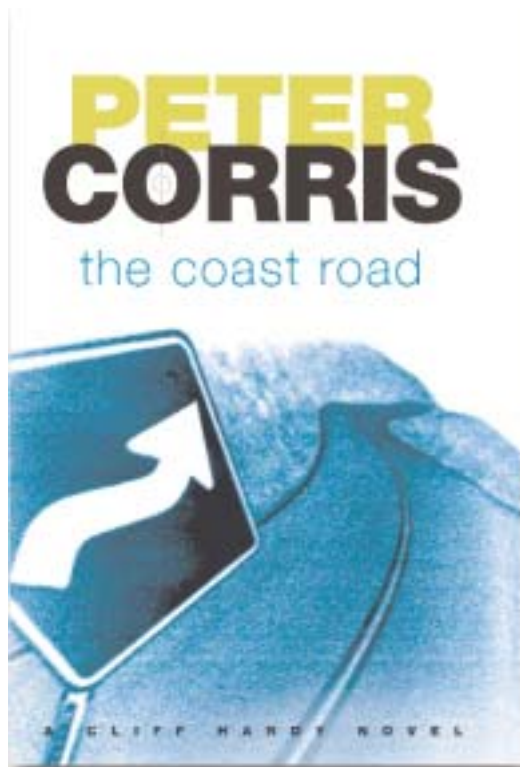
ISSUE #220 MAY 2004

COMING IN JUNE - GREAT AUSTRALIAN CRIME



Kerry GREENWOOD
Queen of the Flowers Pb \$19.95

With a dash of glamour and serious helpings of style, the debonair Phryne Fisher returns, in her 14th escapade, as St Kilda's 'Queen of Flowers'. Upsetting the festivities though, is Phryne's adopted daughter Ruth, who has disappeared. And Phryne must find her amongst the yachters, millionaires, thieves and prostitutes who flourish at the carnival. Another wonderful delight that I enjoyed immensely. Also being re-issued with this new book is **Ruddy Gore** (19.95), the 7th in the series. (Kerry Greenwood will attend The Sydney Writers' Festival this month.)



Peter CORRIS
The Coast Road Pb \$19.95

Frederick Farmer died when his weekender burned to the ground. Death by accident, the police found, but not so Cliff Hardy, especially when the sole beneficiary is a rich young widow. But just as Hardy is diving deep into the mire, he receives a panic-stricken call from Marisha Karatsky, an exotic, dark-eyed interpreter who has gotten well and truly under Hardy's battered guard. This is the 27th in this long running series and another pleasure I found to read. (Note: I do from time to time receive proof copies of advance titles, hence my comments).

Peter



The following local crime writers will be attending at this year's Sydney Writers' Festival (17 to 23 May):

- Jane GOODALL, author of **The Walker** (Tp \$29.95)
- Wayne GROGAN, author of **Junkie Pilgrim** (Pb \$22.95)
- Barry MAITLAND, author of **The Verge Practice** (Tp \$29.95)
- Lee TULLOCH, author of **The Cutting** (Pb \$22.00)


The Dutch author of **The Vanishing** (Pb \$19.95), Tim KRABBE, is the only international crime writer at this year's festival.

Programmes for the Sydney Writers' Festival are available at Abbey's Bookshop.



MODERN CRIME


Donna ANDREWS

 [Click Here for Murder](#)
295pp Pb 15.95


Turing Hopper is an Artificial Intelligence Personality with a mind like Miss Marple and hardware that hides a suspiciously human heart. Of course, it is hard to do legwork without legs, so when her human colleague Ray is murdered, she will have to think fast and rely on the help of her friends. But when the almost sentient, mainframe sleuth recognises an enemy within the walls of her lab, she realises that whatever was after Ray might well have her on its hit list too. (American)




Sarah ANDREWS

 **Killer Dust** 336pp Pb 15.95
A mystery featuring forensic geologist Em Hansen. With its suspenseful story that begins in a cloud of dust and leads all the way to NASA, this is another top-notch mystery full of the impeccably researched popular science and the complex, engaging characters Sarah Andrews's many fans have come to expect from her award-winning series. (American)


Jennifer APODACA

 **Dying to Meet You** 304pp Pb 13.95
A Samantha Shaw mystery. The irrepressible owner of the Heart Mates Dating Service knows love can be tough. Even tougher is turning up at the home of her ex-client Faye Miller just in time to find Faye's dead body. The scene gets worse when arrogant Detective Logan Vance arrives with the newspapers and Sam's own bad-boy amor PI Gabe Pulizzi tries to muscle in on the action. In between dodging assassination attempts and tangling with Vance, Sam needs to find a lead she can run with before she loses her business, her boyfriend and maybe her life. (American)

Faith BALDWIN

 **Skyscraper (1931)** 269pp Tp 27.95
First published in the same year the Empire State Building opened its doors, this novel marks the advent of a new kind of romance plot and a new kind of heroine. Like so many young women protagonists before her, Lynn faces choices that will determine the course and quality of the rest of her life. Sexual bargains and betrayals, insider trades, financial manoeuvres and legal shenanigans make this great pulp fiction from the Femmes Fatales imprint of the Feminist Press. (American)

Anthony BERKELEY

 **The Poisoned Chocolates Case (1936)** 233pp Tp 25.95
Print-on-Demand series. A journalist as well as a novelist, Anthony Berkeley was a founding member of the Detection Club and one of crime fiction's greatest innovators. He was one of the first to predict the development of the 'psychological' crime novel and he sometimes wrote under the pseudonym of Francis Iles. He wrote 24 novels, 10 of which feature his amateur detective, Roger Sheringham. In this, Sheringham investigates his most famous case: When Joan Bendix makes a bet with her husband for a box of chocolates; no one imagines that winning will cost her her life. The Sheringham Crime Circle finds the unusual case baffling, but eventually come up with some very interesting theories, which they then proceed to disprove one by one. (English)


Hilary BONNER

 **When the Dead Cry Out** 389pp Pb 22.95
One summer day Clara Marshall vanished without trace. A few days later, her children also disappeared and were never seen again. Richard, her heartbroken husband, claimed his wife was having an affair with an Australian backpacker and that she had run away with him, destroying the family forever. That was 27 years ago. John Kelly, veteran journalist, covered the case when he was a trainee reporter and he suspected something far more sinister. Police enquiries discovered no Australian backpacker. DS Karen Meadows, familiar with case since childhood, is only too aware that many suspect Marshall of murdering his wife and children. But where are the bodies? (English)


Simon BRETT

 **Murder in the Museum** 372pp Pb 22.00
A Fethering mystery. Bracketts, an Elizabethan house near Fethering, is about to be turned into a museum. Once the home of celebrated poet Esmund Chadleigh, it will become a shrine to his life and poetry. But the transition from house to museum is running far from smoothly, because buried in the kitchen garden is a human skeleton. And before too long, there is a second body, not yet cold. Murder is no longer just a dreadful possibility, but a certainty. It is a case that will test the sleuthing powers of Board member Carole Seddon and her friend Jude as never before. (English)

Suzanne BROCKMANN


 **Gone too Far** 536pp Pb 15.95
In her sizzling, award-winning novels of suspense, Brockmann delves into the adrenaline-rushed world of counter terrorism and taps into the real passions of its brave men and women. In this novel she spins a story of action, intrigue and romance, as a US Navy SEAL and an FBI agent race to unravel a mystery while confronting their own unresolved feelings for each other. (American)

Dan BROWN

 **Digital Fortress (1998)** 510pp Pb 19.95
When the National Security Agency's invincible code-breaking machine encounters a code it cannot break, the agency calls in its head cryptographer Susan Fletcher, a brilliant, beautiful mathematician. What she uncovers sends shock waves through the corridors of power. The NSA is being held hostage by a code so complex that, if released, would cripple US intelligence. Caught in an accelerating tempest of secrecy and lies, Fletcher battles to save the agency she believes in. By the author of *The Da Vinci Code* (Pb 19.95). (American)

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	


**Bob BURTON**

 **Crimson Hit** 301pp Pb 13.95
This is the first book in a new series starring San Diego's top bounty hunter, Dev Shannon. Too bad his latest assignment is personal. Drug kingpin Julio Sanchez has taken out one of Dev's oldest friends and before he can do anything about it, Dev will have to clear up two other cases. Some quality time with Google (the bail enforcer's best friend), some moral support from his Siamese cat Futa and the usual bit of dirty pool should do the trick! (American)


Chester D CAMPBELL

 **Secret of the Scroll** 243pp Tp 26.95
Retired US Air Force OSI agent Greg McKenzie thinks his troubles with the Metro Nashville Police are a problem until he brings a souvenir Dead Sea Scroll home from the Holy Land and things go from bad to worse. A Palestinian terrorist group invades his home, taking his wife Jill hostage. He finds himself with an ancient Hebrew scroll worth millions, wanted by both the Palestinians and a radical far-right Israeli organisation. When he tries to exchange it for Jill's freedom, everything goes wrong. The scroll has a secret with calamitous possibilities in the wrong hands. (American)


Suzanne CHAZIN

 **Fireplay** 307pp Pb 15.95
After a fire kills two of New York's bravest, Georgia Skeehan is forced to collaborate with an arsonist-turned-FBI informant; a man she believes is a master 'torch'. As Georgia is drawn deep undercover, the truth (and her own desire for vengeance) brings her closer to a killer. Close enough to burn. (American)


Lee CHILD

 **The Enemy** 412pp Tp 32.95
Lee Child's new stomach-churning, palm-sweating thriller turns back the clock to Jack Reacher's army days. For the first time we meet a younger Reacher, a Reacher not yet disillusioned with military life. A Reacher with family. A Reacher in dog tags and starched uniform who imposes army discipline, if only in his own pragmatic way. A Reacher as far from the no-credit card, no-last-known-address drifter of the previous eight novels as is possible to imagine. With the Berlin Wall coming down, the US army is under pressure to downsize. Jack Reacher is the duty Military Police officer on a base in North Carolina when he takes a call reporting a dead soldier. The body was found in a sleazy motel used by local hookers. Reacher tells the local cop to handle it; it sounds like the guy just had a heart attack. But the dead man turns out to have been a two-star general on a secret mission. (English)


Lee CHILD

 **Persuader** 540pp Pb 19.95
Never forgive, never forget. That is Jack Reacher's standard operating procedure. And Francis Xavier Quinn was the worst guy he had ever met. He had done truly unforgivable things. So Reacher was glad to know he was dead. Until the day he saw him, alive and well, riding in a limousine outside Boston's Symphony Hall. Never apologise. Never explain. When Reacher witnesses a brutal attempt to kidnap a terrified young student on a New England campus, he takes the law into his own hands. Has he lost his sense of right and wrong? Just because this time, it is personal? (English)


Mary Higgins CLARK

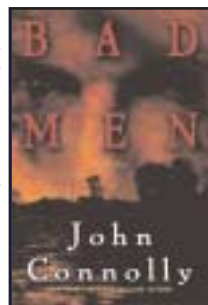
 **The Second Time Round** 302pp Pb 16.95
Nicholas Spencer, charismatic head of the medical research company Gen-Stone, involved in the development of an anti-cancer vaccine, suddenly disappears. His private plane crashes but his body is not found. Rocking the financial and medical world even more comes the shocking revelation that Spencer had looted Gen-Stone of huge sums of money and that his wife Lynn is accused of having participated in the scam. Narrowly escaping death when her mansion is set on fire, Lynn turns to her stepsister Carley, a columnist for the Wall Street Weekly, to help prove that she was not her husband's accomplice. Is Nicholas Spencer dead or in hiding? Was he guilty or set up? And as the facts begin to unfold, she becomes the focus of a dangerous group involved in a sinister and fraudulent scheme. (American)


Michael CONNELLY

 **The Poet (1996)** 480pp Pb 9.95
This specially priced edition contains an exclusive extract from its soon-to-be-released sequel, **The Narrows** (Tp 29.95). The Poet is a brutal and sadistic serial killer who specialises in killing cops. Harry Bosch is a cop who specialises in catching serial killers. James Lee Burke said this novel is "one of the most authentic pieces of crime writing" he has ever read. (English)


John CONNOLLY

 **Bad Men** 534pp Pb 18.95
300 years ago, the settlers on the island of Sanctuary were betrayed by one of their own and slaughtered. Now, a band of killers has returned to seek revenge on a young woman and her son. The only people who stand in their way are a rookie officer and the island's resident policeman. (Irish)


**John CREED**

 **The Day of the Dead** 246pp Pb 19.95
A Jack Valentine thriller. Intelligence officer Valentine sets out on another dangerous mission to rescue a friend's daughter and the woman he loves from an evil drug baron. In New York he teams up with his old ally Liam Mellows and they end up in Mexico, where the Day of the Dead is being celebrated. (Irish)


Clive CUSSLER

 **Golden Buddha** 420pp Hb 49.95
The creator of the bestselling NUMA and Dirk Pitt series introduces his latest high-seas action hero: the enigmatic captain of the *Oregon*, Juan Cabrillo. Only Cabrillo could convert the interior of a nondescript lumber hauler into a state-of-the-art spy ship and only he could take the helm on the dangerous covert missions it carries out for whatever US agency pays the price. In his first feature-length adventure, it is up to Cabrillo and his crew of expert intelligence and naval men to put Tibet back in the hands of the Dalai Lama by striking a deal with the Russians and the Chinese. His gambling chip is a golden Buddha containing records of vast oil reserves in the disputed land. But first he will have to locate and steal the all-important artefact. And there are certain people who would do anything in their power to see him fail. (American)

Emma DARCY

 **Who Killed Camilla?** 407pp Pb 18.95
Hollywood's hottest property Camilla Page has just wrapped up the shoot of her latest movie and she has chosen an exclusive Barrier Reef island resort as the setting for her surprise wedding to Australian cameraman Jimmy Ryder, a man hell-bent on riding the gravy train that has come his way. Amongst the invited guests is KC Gordon, successful romance novelist whose latest bestseller was adapted for the film hyped to become the biggest-grossing romantic comedy ever. However, KC soon realises the tropical paradise is a host to murder... (Australian)

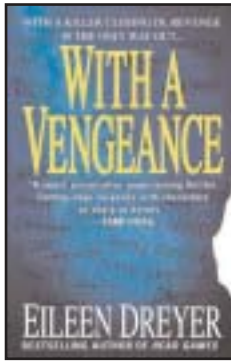
Richard DOOLING

 **Bet Your Life** 340pp Tp 26.95
Carver Hartnett is an insurance fraud investigator and an expert in spotting scams: Terminally ill people are selling their life insurance policies to investors who collect the payout when they die. Seem simple enough, but what if the person isn't really sick? Carver gets a call from his provocative and gorgeous colleague Miranda when their friend Lenny dies during a computer game, and a strange narrative unfolds around a possible murder and a huge insurance fraud. (American)

**Eileen DREYER****With a Vengeance**

334pp Pb 15.95

Maggie O'Brien is tough. She has to be, as a tactical emergency medic for the St Louis SWAT team and a trauma nurse at Blymore Memorial. As the daughter of a violent ex-cop, she prefers wits over weapons. Just before a psychotic former FBI agent known as Montana Bob dies in the ER from superficial wounds following a botched standoff, he reveals a secret about Blymore. It is called The List, a chillingly precise run-down of expendable citizens and patients. And one by one, under Maggie's care, they are dying from inexplicable causes. Who is framing Maggie? (American)

**Rod DUNCAN****Breakbeat**

402pp Pb 18.95

Daz Croxley is an unemployable, inner-city dwelling, retro-punk who is illiterate because of dyslexia but possessed of his own peculiar intelligence. Struggling to pay off his corrupt landlord, Daz loots an electronics shop during an inner-city riot. Included in his bounty are a handful of sequentially numbered 20-pound notes. This money comes from a vastly larger hoard, the product of a fraudulent property deal, a hoard for which men have already died. When word leaks out that Daz knows the location of the money, the lives of his few real friends are in peril. His only hope is to play his pursuers off against each other in a deadly game of bluff and double bluff. (English)

Stanley ELLIN**The Eighth Circle (1958)**

295pp Pb 19.95

Crime Masterworks series #35. Murray Kirk runs his private investigation agency like the business it is: he isn't interested in justice or crusades, just the profit and loss account. When he's asked to act for a young policeman accused of bribery, because he knows something about police corruption in New York City, he isn't too keen. He just can't see the profit - until he meets the man's fiancée. And then Kirk's motives become uncomfortably confused, and he finds himself descending swiftly into a grey world of bookmakers, gangsters, grafters and corrupt politicians, a world where setting up an honest cop is all in a day's work. (American)

Linda FAIRSTEIN**The Bone Vault 470pp Pb 19.95**

Linda Fairstein takes us behind the scenes of some of New York's magnificent and mysterious institutions in her most electrifying Alexandra Cooper thriller yet. It begins in the glorious Temple of Dendur at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where wealthy donors have gathered to hear plans for a controversial new exhibit. An uneasy mix of scholarship and showbiz, the exhibition has raised fierce opposition from some of the museum's elite: IMAX time trips and Rembrandt refrigerator magnets have no place for them at the Met. Assistant DA Cooper, off duty for the evening, observes the proceedings with bemused interest until the Met director suddenly pulls her aside; the body of a young researcher has been found in an ancient Egyptian sarcophagus. Teaming up with cops, Alex must penetrate the silent sentinels comprising New York's museum society to find a killer. (American)

Dan FESPERMAN**The Small Boat of Great Sorrows**

458pp Pb 19.95

Fesperman is a reporter for the Baltimore Sun and worked in its Berlin bureau during the years of civil war in former Yugoslavia, as well as in Afghanistan during the recent conflict. His first novel, **Lie in the Dark** (Pb 19.95), won the CWA John Creasey award for best first crime novel in 1999 and this, his second novel won the 2003 CWA Steel Dagger for Thriller of the Year. Vlado Petric, former detective in war-torn Sarajevo, has left his beloved homeland to join his wife and daughter in Germany. When Calvin Pine, who works for the International War Crimes Tribunal, tells Petric that they want him to go to The Hague, it doesn't take Petric long to accept, especially when Pine tells him they are after a big fish: one of the men who they think is responsible for the terrible massacre of Srebrenica. What Petric doesn't know is that he is also being used as bait to lure into the open a murderer from the previous generation; a man whose activities in the Second World War makes the current generation of killers look like amateurs. (American)

Jessica FLETCHER & Donald BAIN**Murder, She Wrote #20**

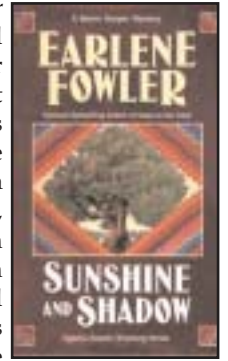
260pp Pb 15.95

Dying to Retire. Jessica Fletcher is in a Florida retirement community for the funeral of a dear old friend whose heart gave out, only to discover that the woman's death from natural causes might have been artificially induced. With the help of a feisty group of young-in-spirit retirees, Jessica must track down the clues and find out who prescribed the fatal treatment. (American)

Earlene FOWLER**Sunshine and Shadow**

290pp Pb 15.95

A *Benni Harper mystery #10*. Spirited ex-cowgirl, quilter and folk-art expert Benni Harper is investigating the connection between her favourite author, the murder of a family friend and a crazy quilt. And when she starts receiving strange phone calls and anonymous letters telling her she will be the next victim, her interest in the case becomes even more urgent. (American)

**Kathryn FOX****Malicious Intent 345pp Tp 30.00**

A *Dr Anya Crichton mystery #1*. This debut novel by Sydney doctor Kathryn Fox is a compelling read. At a meet-the-author function for Jeffrey Deaver she happened to ask some pertinent questions and he was so taken with her that he offered to be her mentor. The result is this novel, starring forensic physician Anya Crichton, the only freelancer in the field. She has all the normal problems of the professional classes: paying child support and a mortgage, while struggling to get her business off the ground. Like Gabrielle Lord, author Fox is compelled to mull over serial sex crimes against women. In this example, however, much attention is paid to Lebanese patriarchies, social worker psychologists and vulnerable and virginal young women. The first three quarters of the novel are great but the denouement could have been prolonged to build suspense. All over, however, I really liked the Sydney setting, the major female players (especially DS Kate Farrer) and the killer's comeuppance. - *Shelley* (Australian)

Anthea FRASER**Jigsaw**

252pp Hb 49.95

Rona Parish is back and ready to embark on an assignment to write a series of articles to coincide with the 500th anniversary of the local market town of Buckford. One interview soon raises unresolved questions about a recent murder and Rona's investigative antennae are instantly on the alert. (English)

ORDER ONLINE...



www.abbey.com.au

**Joseph GEARY****Spiral** 466pp Pb 18.95

For six years, Nicholas Greer has been working on a biography of the late British painter, Frank Spira. Then comes the call that changes his life forever. Former art critic Barb Segal informs him that she has just bumped into Spira's ex-lover, Jacob Grossman, who disappeared in 1972 and has never been seen since, until now. When Nick tracks him down in New York, Grossman mentions a mysterious painting, *The Incarnation*, which Spira was alleged to have painted in Tangier in the late 1950s. If it exists, this painting would be worth over US\$6m. An hour after this meeting, Grossman is brutally murdered. A prime suspect in the ensuing police investigation, Nick's only hope of proving his innocence is to find out the truth about *The Incarnation*. What exactly happened in Tangier in 1957? And just who is the sinister Collector who is shadowing Nick? The truth about Spira's elusive masterpiece is more horrific, more shocking than Nick could ever have imagined. (English)

Lucretia GRINDLE**The Nightspinners** 404pp Pb 18.95

Marina is dead; her body discovered only three days after the killer struck in her apartment in Virginia. But what haunts Susannah the most is the phone call she never returned, the last chance she would be given to make amends with her twin sister. (American)

Colin HARRISON**The Havana Room** 385pp Tp 29.95

Bill Wyeth is a successful real-estate attorney in his late 30s with a wife and son, who, by the merest chance, loses everything: family, job and social status. Restoration seems unlikely, redemption impossible, when Wyeth finds himself in an old-time Manhattan steakhouse. The manager, Allison Sparks, sexy, complicated and independent in all ways, intrigues him. She also controls access to the restaurant's private bar. This is the Havana Room, and what goes on in there, he is told, is secret. Wyeth agrees to help Jay Rainey conclude a last-minute, midnight real-estate transaction. As soon as he sees the players and the paperwork, he knows something is wrong. When Wyeth is finally admitted to the Havana Room, the survival of its inhabitants is most uncertain. (American)

Carolyn HART**Design for Murder (1987)** 216pp Hb 49.95

A Death on Demand murder mystery #2. Annie is asked to stage a murder for the annual springhouse tour, sponsored by the Historical Society of Chastain, South Carolina. Her only problem is deciding which fictional murder to stage until, of course, a corpse turns up in the town pond. Reprint. (American)

J M HAYES**Prairie Gothic** 264pp Pb 15.95

A Poisoned Pen Press mystery. Benteen County, Kansas, is a hellhole in summer under scorching heat and winds but turns even meaner in winter. As a howling blizzard blows, Sheriff English is presented with a missing doll and a dead baby? Switched, but by whom? And why? The elderly coroner disclaims any knowledge, but seems faintly uneasy, especially when the swastika on the tiny corpse is revealed. Meanwhile, the sheriff's half-brother Harvey Edward Maddox, known as Mad Dog for his invocation of his Amerindian heritage, has picked up a naked dead body from the Sunshine Towers retirement home and is heading towards a treetop burial when diverted by the storm. In a makeshift mound nearby, Mad Dog's pet hybrid-wolf finds a child's skull and evidence of mature bones as well as a fading ID for a living County Supervisor. Can the Hornbaker clan really be as gothic as it seems? And what of the tiny woman in the red shoes back at the Towers who calls herself Dorothy, underlying an odd note of Oz. (American)

Lynne HEITMAN**First Class Killing** 372pp Pb 15.95

Tough, resourceful and beautiful, Alex Shanahan survived the cutthroat corporate world on her terms. But now she is using her hard-earned experience as a private investigator. She is hired to check out an airline that has been serving more than just complimentary peanuts: there is a high-end prostitution ring catering to first-class passengers. Alex goes undercover as a flight attendant to infiltrate the group. But when her cover is blown, she knows it is only a matter of time before her next flight is her last. (American)

Dorothy HUGHES**In a Lonely Place (1947)** 250pp Tp 27.95

This is a classic noir tale of American machismo gone mad and the book that inspired the famous 1950 film starring Humphrey Bogart. The setting is post-WW2 Los Angeles where the golden promise of Southern California is running headlong into bleak reality for local residents. Returning veterans face a crisis of identity and masculinity while the wide boulevards and dark canyons of the city have become hunting grounds for a serial killer who preys on young working girls waiting alone in bars or at lonely bus stops. Hardboiled mystery writer Dorothy Hughes employs a bold narrative strategy, writing from inside the mind of a man who may himself be the murderer. (American)

Roberta ISLEIB**Putt to Death** 256pp Pb 13.95

A Golf Lover's mystery. Touring pro-golfer Cassie Burdette stumbles over the body of a club member who was trying to turn a posh Connecticut country club into an environmentally friendly, Jack-and-Jill domain. It is then that she realises that golf can be a contact sport. (American)

Iris JOHANSEN**Firestorm** 323pp Tp 30.00

Kerry Murphy works as an arson investigator with her evidence-sniffing dog, Sam. Together they are a great team, but her life is about to change in the time it takes to strike a match. The deadly flames of her past are back, and from out of the ashes a stranger appears. Who is Silver? And why has he chosen her in the desperate race to find a killer determined to ignite hell on earth? Kerry and Silver may not have a chance against a psychopath who is as cold-hearted as his method is red-hot. To save themselves and the innocent lives at stake, Kerry will have to do what she hoped she would never have to do: *fight fire with fire*. (American)


Dolores JOHNSON**Buttons and Foes** 251pp Pb 13.95

A Mandy Dyer mystery. Denver drycleaner Mandy Dyer is shocked to learn that customer and dear friend Thelma Chadwick has died, victim of a tragic fall down the basement steps. The woman also left Mandy something, two trash bags packed with worthless old clothing. Mandy notices some antique buttons sewn onto the dresses and suspects Thelma was trying to send her a message. Were those unusual buttons worth a small fortune? Convinced the button mystery is linked to her friend's sudden demise, Mandy starts nosing around the local button-collecting clubs and stumbles onto another murder. (American)


Jonathan KELLERMAN**The Conspiracy Club** 416pp Pb 19.95

Dedicated young psychologist Dr Jeremy Carrier is unschooled in the ways of violent crime and incalculable evil until both irreversibly touch his life. When his romance with nurse Jocelyn Banks is cut short by her kidnapping and brutal murder, he is left emotionally devastated and is being warily eyed by police seeking a prime suspect in the unsolved killing. To escape the pain, he buries himself in his work. But when more women turn up murdered in the same gruesome fashion as Jocelyn, the suspicion surrounding Jeremy intensifies and the only way for him to prove his innocence is to follow the trail of a cunning psychopath. (American)


**Jonathan KELLERMAN**

 **Therapy** 414pp Tp 32.95
An Alex Delaware novel. Investigating a lovers' lane murder of a pair of college students, Homicide Lieutenant Milo Sturgis enlists the help of Alex Delaware. As the two peel back layer upon layer of deception, they encounter shocking truths that extend way beyond the slaughter of the two young lovers. Something other than therapy has been taking place within the plush, soundproof chambers of the young man's therapist... (American)


Kate KINGSBURY

 **Berried Alive** 202pp Pb 13.95
A Manor House mystery #6. As respected guardian of Sitting Marsh, Elizabeth Hartleigh Compton must root out who poisoned four American servicemen, and why, before another soldier succumbs. (American)


Henning MANKELL

 **The Return of the Dancing Master** 520pp Pb 19.95
 Herbert Molin, a retired police officer, lives alone in a remote cottage in northern Sweden. Two things seem to consume him; his passion for the tango and an obsession with demons. Early one morning, shots shatter his window and by the time his body is found, it is almost unrecognisable. Stefan Lindman is another off-the-job police officer. On extended sick leave, due to having cancer of the tongue, Lindman hears about the murder of his former colleague and, in a bid to take his mind off his own problems, decides to investigate. As his investigation becomes increasingly complex, it is with both horror and disbelief that Lindman uncovers links to a global web of neo-Nazi activity. Written with all the usual flair so highly commended by Mankell's fans, this intricate crime novel with its cast of new characters, heralds the end of the Kurt Wallander mysteries and yet, ultimately, it leads the story back to Wallander's Ystad. (Swedish)


Nancy MARTIN

 **Some Like it Lethal** 310pp Pb 15.95
A Blackbird Sisters mystery #3. When the husband of a wealthy dog food heiress is found bludgeoned to death at an exclusive hunt club, Nora Blackbird is as surprised as anyone. Worse still, the evidence points toward a devious blackmail scheme with Nora's sister Emma as the main suspect. Investigating with the help of friend and foe alike, Nora uncovers the secrets of some of Philadelphia's high-and-mightiest, and attracts the unwanted attentions of the real killer... (American)


John MAXIM

 **Bannerman's Ghosts #5** 545pp Pb 17.95
 A long-awaited package has finally arrived at the fortified estate of billionaire sociopath Artemus Bourne. But instead of containing the anticipated biological nightmare one of his offshore firms created, inside are three severed human heads. It is an act of vengeance by a man long thought dead and has set in motion a drama too terrifying to imagine; one that will ensnare ex-government assassin Paul Bannerman and his 'ghosts', operatives assumed dead but hiding in suburban Connecticut. The clock is ticking rapidly down to Armageddon, and if Bannerman makes one wrong move, everything that breathes in the world will die. (American)


Val McDERMID

 **The Distant Echo** 561pp Pb 18.95
 On a freezing Fife morning, four drunken students stumble upon the body of a woman lying in the snow. Rosie has been raped, stabbed and left for dead in an ancient Pictish cemetery. And the only suspects are the four young men now stained with her blood. 25 years later, the police mount a review of Rosie's unsolved murder and the four suspects. But when one of them dies in a suspicious house fire and another in a burglary gone wrong, it seems that someone is pursuing their own brand of justice. For the remaining two there is only one way to avoid becoming the next victim: find out who really killed Rosie all those years ago. (Scottish)


Gregory McDONALD

 **The Buck Passes Flynn (1981)** 216pp Tp 27.00
 On medical leave from the Boston Police Department, eccentric Police Inspector and offbeat operative Francis Xavier Flynn might have his most perplexing assignment yet. Someone is giving away hundreds of millions of dollars, and Flynn has to find out whom in a hurry. As he races from Texas to Las Vegas, from Massachusetts to Russia, Flynn quickly discovers that this is not the pastime of an eccentric billionaire, nor is it a nefarious counterfeiting scheme. So, what is it? (American)


Gregory McDONALD

 **Flynn's In (1984)** 201pp Tp 27.00
 When Police Commissioner D'Esopo suddenly summons Flynn to a secret wilderness compound far outside of their jurisdiction, Flynn is a little surprised to find himself the hostage of a secret club of the Nation's most powerful and peculiar. Famous for his irreverent methods and razor sharp intellect, Flynn is forced to conduct a murder investigation. But before one murder is even solved, membership at the Rod and Gun Club continues to drop. (American)


Anthony McGOWAN

 **Stag Hunt** 326pp Tp 32.95
 It is time to make the gang of boys who tormented him as a child 20 years ago pay for the damage. But into the finely wrought net stumbles one man who had nothing to do with the nastiness at 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 in a fold of Cornwall beyond the reach of mobile phones, he could never imagine the horror that waits. Or the beauty... (English)

Clinton McKINZIE

 **Trial by Ice and Fire** 368pp Pb 15.95
 Antonio Burns is sent to protect Wyoming prosecutor Cali Morrow, a former ski racer being threatened by a stalker. Cali is the daughter of one of America's hottest movie stars and Antonio has a hard time resisting the woman he is supposed to be protecting and stomaching the social swirl of those who make Jackson Hole their playground. With the Feds closing in on his sociopathic brother, Antonio can feel his own personal lifeline slipping out of his grasp when he becomes the target of a madman. In this powerhouse thriller, Clinton McKinzie brings us characters that are living on the edge, a plot that delivers one body-slammng surprise after another, and a novel that is his most fully realised and exciting to date. (American)

David MICHIE

 **Expiry Date** 438pp Pb 19.95
 Lorna Reid becomes a medical heroine when the results of her research into an anti-ageing drug were published. Working with a panel of patients suffering from progeria, she had proved that the drug, NP3, could arrest or reverse their abnormal ageing process. Then, when one of her best patients dies, she becomes aware the 30 year old research on which NP3 is based needs to be re-examined. She tracks down the original scientist who dies in a mysterious fire. Then test results on her patients begin to go wrong. However, she can see irrefutable evidence that these people are in much better shape than before they were given the drug. Who is sabotaging proven lifesaving treatment? Once again David Michie skilfully taps into a highly topical subject, where the greed of the corporate suits running the big pharmaceutical and health corporations far outweighs any respect for human life. (Rhodesian)



**Fiona MOUNTAIN****Pale as the Dead****339pp Pb 17.95**

After selling out in December 2003, this is back in stock! Natasha's investigations are a matter of life and death, involving secrets, scandals, supernatural happenings, forgotten tragedies and buried crimes. The disappearance of a young girl called Bethany appears to be linked to Lizzie Siddall, the haunting, ethereal, Pre-Raphaelite model and wife of painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Lizzie's tragic life was cut short by an overdose of laudanum. Was it accident or suicide? And why is Bethany so obsessed with her, and so determined to put herself beyond the reach of her lover Adam? (American)

Magdalen NABB**Death of an Englishman (1981)****238pp Pb 19.95**

A Marshal Guarnaccia mystery. It could not have been a more inconvenient time for murder. Florence was alive with Christmas shoppers, half the Carabinieri were already on leave and the Marshal had flu. That left the enthusiastic but inexperienced Bacci to deal with the murder of a seemingly respectable Englishman abroad. (English)

Magdalen NABB**The Marshal Makes His Report (1991)****300pp Pb 19.95**

A Marshal Guarnaccia mystery. After all the years that Marshal has commanded the Carabinieri Station housed in the Pitti Palace, great paintings are as familiar a part of his life as the snarled-up traffic, the marble facades, drug-dealing, high fashion and higher pollution of his adopted city of Florence. Still, he does not consciously know anything about art and if he joins battle with a successful forger, it is only as a favour to an old friend and because the man fascinates him. Then he is dragged into a last-ditch attempt to nail the serial killer who has ritually slaughtered seven couples over the last ten years, only to find himself faced with a forgery in his own line of business, and the problems are distressingly familiar. (English)

Magdalen NABB**Some Bitter Taste (1995)****309pp Pb 19.95**

A Marshal Guarnaccia mystery. Sara Hirsch, a nervous elderly spinster, still lives in the flat in which she was raised above a Florentine antiquities shop. She calls Marshal for help, sure that strangers have been in her apartment. The marshal is preoccupied with an investigation into an Albanian prostitution ring and before he can respond to her latest alarm, she is found dead. His search for the villains brings him into confrontation with Jewish refugees from fascism and with English expatriates, including the ailing heir to Villa L'Uliveto, Sir Christopher Wrothesly... (English)

Chris NILES**Vanished****389pp Pb 18.95**

It all started with a little twist of the truth. Sophie Graham is working in a bar when her old school friend Electra walks in with her parents. Reluctant to admit to this glamorous family that she is a member of staff, Sophie decides to elaborate her dull life and announces that she is a private investigator. Months later, she is contacted by Electra's wealthy father, who tells her that his daughter has gone missing and he would like to pay Sophie to find her. Sophie, still haunted by disturbing memories of her school days with Electra and the in crowd who bullied her, and tempted also by the generous sum of money offered, decides she must get involved and agrees to begin the search. But as Sophie lets herself into Electra's apartment for the first time, she opens herself to temptations she never had. Soon Sophie realises that her lie has exposed her to a conspiracy... (English)

June Duncan OWEN**The Missing Wife****243pp Tp 23.95**

The so-called mail order bride phenomenon developed to fill the needs of lonely men, particularly in regional Australia. But the marriages did not always work out. Nilanthi was such a bride. The youngest of five daughters in a family where status was higher than income, her parents had difficulty providing a dowry large enough to attract a suitably well-to-do husband. Believing all Westerners were rich, she chose to take her chances with a farmer in faraway Australia. When she goes missing, however, a Sydney history teacher called Laura sets about finding the young woman. (Australian)

Julie PARSONS**The Guilty Heart****387pp Pb 19.95**

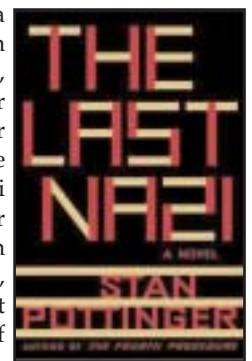
Is it possible to run away from a guilty heart? 10 years ago, eight-year-old Owen Cassidy disappeared. His disappearance left his father Nick distraught and full of guilt because he had spent the afternoon in bed with one of their neighbours. It was an affair that would tear his family apart. The aftermath of Owen's disappearance drove Nick away from his wife and home, to America. He has moved from city to city, trying to forget. Now a sudden encounter forces Nick to return to Dublin to confront his demons to find out exactly what happened to his son. Little does he realise that his investigations will soon unleash further violence, taking him into a terrifying world that he barely knew existed... (New Zealand)

**Eliot PATTISON****Bone Mountain 631pp Pb 21.95**

When disgraced former inspector Shan Tao Yun joins a group of reverent Tibetans returning a sacred artefact to its home, it seems he has at last found the peace he has struggled for since leaving prison. What starts as a spiritual pilgrimage, however, quickly turns into a desperate flight through the Tibetan wilderness as the outlawed monk who guides them is murdered and Sham discovers that the artefact has recently been stolen from the Chinese army. (American)

Stan POTTINGER**The Last Nazi 374pp Tp 32.95**

Melissa Gale is an attractive, ambitious lawyer and investigator for the Justice Department's Nazi Hunters. Her quarry, known only as Adalwolf, was the brilliant young protégé of Dr Josef Mengele, the Butcher of Auschwitz. Presumed dead for almost 50 years, Adalwolf has suddenly reappeared in the USA to take the lives of three people in a chilling, unusual way. Melissa stalks Adalwolf to bring him to justice, only to discover that he is actually stalking her. She has something he wants: a personal medical history that holds the key to his plan for the ultimate crime. Using a deadly biological virus born of the genetic projects started in the Nazi labs, Adalwolf is about to unleash the ultimate weapon of mass destruction. Melissa and the baby she is carrying could be the key to his success. (American)




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Andrew PYPER**Dark Descent****383pp Pb 15.95**

At the dawn of the new millennium, young, dot-com millionaires Wallace and Bates travel to Brazil to market their breakthrough product, Hypothesis. It is a 'morality machine' designed to help people make the best decisions of their lives but when they impulsively join an eco-tour deep into the Amazon rainforest, they may have sealed their own dire fates. In the dead of night, their boat is attacked and they are kidnapped along with their enigmatic female interpreter. Imprisoned and savagely tortured, they struggle to hold on to their humanity. But after Wallace engineers a violent escape, the survivors' own hidden dark natures emerge, posing a threat more lethal than either the jungle or merciless gunmen. This book was previously published as **The Trade Mission** in 2002. (American)


**Kathy REICHS**

 **Bare Bones** 420pp Pb 19.95
First, there is the newborn skeleton found in a wood stove. Then, a pilot and his passenger are found burnt and covered in a strange black substance. Most puzzling is a cache of bones, some animal, and some human. All the pieces seem to lead back to an isolated farm. Can Dr Brennan decipher the clues in time? (Canadian)


Rick RIORDAN

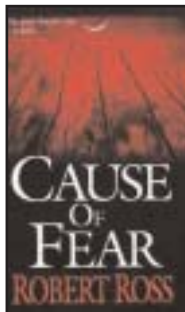
 **Cold Springs** 385pp Pb 15.95
Chadwick's life was balanced on a knife's edge: his career, his marriage and his relationship with his dangerously troubled daughter. And then one autumn night, the worst possible thing happened.... Now, a decade later, Chadwick's heart is on the mend. Working for an old military buddy, he saves kids for a living, escorting troubled teens to a Texas wilderness school that specialises in the toughest brand of love. Until he gets the phone call that threatens to shatter his life all over again. (American)

J D ROBB (Nora Roberts)

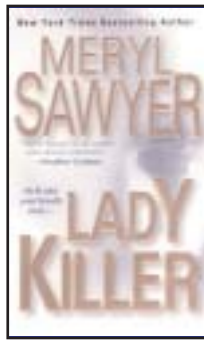
 **Divided in Death #18** 361pp Tp 32.95
Found alone on the streets as a child, Eve Dallas has built a new identity and future as a cop. The hard-edged and coolheaded detective fights for truth and justice, but she still has one very human weakness, enigmatic Irish billionaire, Roarke. And when a trusted employee of Roarke Enterprises is a suspect in a double-homicide, Roarke comes to Eve for help. She believes there was more to the killing than jealous rage; all computer files were deliberately corrupted. To Roarke, it is the computer attack that poses the real threat because the company has been under a code-red government contract to develop a program that would shield against techno-terrorists. But a deadly new breed of hackers is not afraid to kill to protect their secret. Eve Dallas has to shut them down before the nightmare can spread to the whole country. (American)


Robert ROSS

 **Cause of Fear** 299pp Pb 15.95
Linda Leigh has been plain Jane all her life until Geoffrey Manwaring, a handsome college professor, falls in love with her. The only shadow cast on their upcoming marriage is Geoff's son Josh's refusal to accept Linda into his life, insisting his AWOL mother will return to claim him. When Gabrielle does return, she plans to keep Linda out of their lives forever. (American)

**Meryl SAWYER**

 **Lady Killer** 416pp Pb 15.95
He preys on smart, successful and professional women, the kind who do not realise how vulnerable they are until it is too late. As the *San Francisco Herald's* 'Love Doctor', Jessica Crawford has her own opinions about what kind of man is compelled to brutally murder successful women. After the killings begin, she decides to use her nationally syndicated column to profile this Lady Killer. As the reporter on the story, Cole Rawlings fears that Jessica's articles may make her the next victim. He has seen up close what this man is capable of and soon, so has Jessica because the latest victim is her best friend... (American)


**Wallace STROBY**

 **The Barbed-Wire Kiss** 334pp Pb 15.95
Two years ago, Harry Rane's wife died after a bout with cancer. Then, grief-stricken and careless, he went back to his job as a New Jersey state cop and got shot in the line of duty. He took early retirement, and now lives in an old farmhouse in rural New Jersey and takes life one day at a time. It is not much, but he gets by. Things change when an old friend from grade school days in Long Branch calls him for help. Bobby was Harry's best friend until graduation, when Harry went to the police academy and Bobby went another way. Now he has gotten in over his head for \$50,000 to Eddie Fallon, a local crime boss. (American)


Grant SUTHERLAND

 **The Consignment** 403pp Pb 17.95
This is a novel of conspiracy, conscience and terrifying deception, a novel stretching from the upheaval of the Gulf War to the inner secrets of the current Pentagon. Captain Ned Rourke of the US Rangers always expected war to be hell, but he never imagined that his men would be cut down in the Gulf War with weapons created by his own country. Disillusioned, betrayed and looking for justice, he is determined to find those responsible and make them pay the price. (American)


**William TAPPLY**

 **Past Tense** 292pp Pb 15.95
A *Brady Coyne* novel. When Boston lawyer Brady Coyne takes his girlfriend Evie up to Cape Cod for a romantic weekend getaway, the last thing he expects to find in the driveway of their secluded cottage is the body of her murdered ex-husband. But when police declare her a chief suspect, Evie disappears without a trace, leaving Brady to face sceptical small-town cops. Watched at every turn, he goes looking for his girl, knowing he has to find the real killer if he ever hopes to clear her name and save his own reputation. More corpses surface as Brady races against the clock to find the truth, taking him closer and closer to a deadly secret from the past and a twisted killer. (American)

Valerie TAYLOR

 **The Girls in 3-B (1959)** 206pp Hb 27.95
An honest, explosive novel that turns conventional ideas of 1950s life and femininity upside down, it reveals in heart-breaking detail the hidden world of mid-century America, where women live on their own in seedy apartments, have premarital sex, get illegal abortions, yearn to be artists, experiment with drugs, and, if they are so inclined, discover a mannered, thriving lesbian underworld. With poverty never more than a pay check away, the girls in 3-B inhabit a world in which their bodies are sometimes their only currency, and their ambitions are limited by both their meagre resources and the blatant sexism of their time. The characters in the novel are, surprisingly, far more self-aware and daring than most contemporary images of 1950s America. A classic pulp tale. (American)

PJ TRACY

 **Monkeewrench** 409pp Pb 15.95
People are dying for the new computer game by the software company Monkeewrench. Literally. With Serial Killer Detective out in limited release, the real-life murders of a jogger and a young woman have already mimicked the first two scenarios in the game. But Grace McBride and her eccentric Monkeewrench partners are caught in a vice. If they tell the Minneapolis police of the link between their game and the murders, they will shine a spotlight on the past they thought they had erased and the horror they thought they'd left behind. If they don't, 18 more people will die... **NB:** For reasons yet to be diagnosed, this book was published in trade paperback under the title *Want to Play* (Tp 29.95), which we sold in large quantities at the end of last year. Hold on to those copies, they may become collectible, since this book seems to be bestseller material with its *Matrix*-style content. (American)

**Sylvia Maultash WARSH****Find Me Again 415pp Pb 17.95**

Still coming to terms with the death of her husband, Dr Rebecca Temple tries to continue her practice and carry on with life as usual. She meets a charming Polish count who has written a historical novel based on his family. During a visit to his home, she discovers a murder and soon realises that the count's manuscript may contain clues to the killer's identity. Frustrated by the inaction of a sceptical police department, she scours the manuscript for answers and journeys back to Enlightenment Europe to uncover the true story of a love affair between the girl who would become Catharine the Great, and the young man who would become the last king of Poland. This enthralling mystery spans three centuries and is short-listed for the 2004 *Edgar Allan Poe Award* for Best Paperback Original. (German/Canadian)

Katie WHIT**A Body to Die For 384pp Pb 15.95**

A *Bailey Weggins mystery* #2. Magazine writer-turned-sleuth, Bailey Weggins is in desperate need of a little R&R after solving the murder of her boss's nanny in *If Looks Could Kill* (Pb 18.95). A trip to the Cedar Inn Spa seems like the perfect remedy but when Bailey goes to the massage room to retrieve her lost watch and finds a dead body getting a seaweed wrap, her detective instincts are unable to go on hiatus. As she uncovers the victim's mysterious past, she finds herself becoming infatuated with Jeffrey Beck, a detective working on the case. Meanwhile, another horrifying murder is committed at the inn and Bailey finds herself the killer's next target. (American)

Laura WILSON**Hello Bunny Alice 281pp Pb 17.95**

In 1967, Bunny Girl Alice Jones met Lenny Maxted (one half of the brilliant comic duo, Maxted and Flowers) and fell deeply in love with him. But, like so many great comics, Lenny had a dark side. Their love affair ended when Alice found his body hanging from a beam in a Wiltshire cottage. Seven years after his death, in the long hot summer of 1976, Alice is leading a quiet, almost reclusive life in an Oxfordshire farmhouse when, out of the blue, Lenny's partner, Jack Flowers, turns up on her doorstep. Alice has not seen him since Lenny's funeral, but her surprise and pleasure turn in to an all too familiar sense of unease when she discovers that he is distressed and drinking heavily. At the same time a car containing human remains is fished out of a Wiltshire lake. (English)

**Valerie WOLZIEN****Death in a Beach Chair 258pp Pb 15.95**

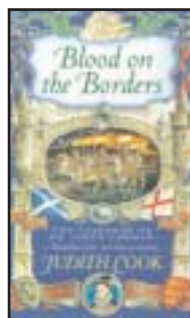
A *Susan Henshaw mystery*. For Susan and Jed Henshaw and their friends Kathleen and Jerry Gordon, the tiny Caribbean resort called Compass Bay has everything. White sand, luxurious cottages, rum punches to die for, even a gorgeous unattached blonde ornamenting the premises. But Kathleen and Jerry are having marital problems, and when the mysterious blonde turns up murdered, the cloud hanging over their little paradise grows blacker. It turns out that the victim is the once-frumpy sister of Jerry's first wife. Many years ago, Susan, Jed and Jerry had known her well, and the island police do not believe it is coincidence that she appeared at Compass Bay at the same time as her old friends. Nor does Susan, who shifts into investigative red alert and finds a serpent in Eden, its fangs loaded with venom. (American)

**Stuart WOODS****Capital Crimes 354pp Pb 17.95**

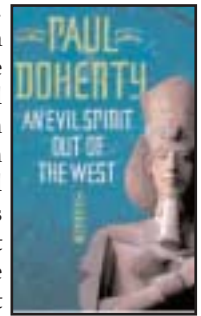
Will Lee, the courageous and uncompromising senator from Georgia, is back as President of the USA in this fifth book of the series. When a prominent conservative politician is killed inside his lakeside cabin, authorities have no suspect in sight. Then two more seemingly isolated deaths, achieved by very different means, are feared to be linked to the same murderer. With the help of his CIA director wife, Kate Rule Lee, Will is thrust in the middle of the deadly game to catch the most clever and professional of killers before he can strike again. (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME**Judith COOK****Blood on the Borders 296pp Pb 22.95**

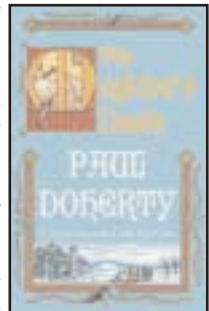
The Casebook of Dr Simon Forman, Elizabethan doctor and solver of mysteries. May Day 1592, Edinburgh. Forman is woken by a hammering at his door and a man outside dying from a sword thrust. Next morning, he is summoned to Whitehall and accused of harbouring enemies of the state. He soon realises death is stalking him and that he must quickly identify a ruthless killer. (English)

**Paul DOHERTY****An Evil Spirit Out of the West 608pp Pb 18.95**

Akhenaten trilogy #1. *Ancient Egypt*. Known as the Veiled One, the ugly and deformed Akhenaten is a shadowy figure. As a child he is overlooked and despised by his own father. As an adult he is thrust into the political limelight when his elder brother dies. Mahu, ambitious and ruthless, watches the young prince carve his own path to power. He becomes Akhenaten's alter ego, his protector and confidant, standing by as Akhenaten proclaims that there is only one God, the Aten, and that he is God's only son. Revolution and chaos follow in this dramatic reign filled with fraud, abduction, assassination, betrayal and treachery. But when Mahu becomes suspicious of Akhenaten's majestic and glorious wife Nefertiti, and the political skill of her brother, Ay, it seems that a hidden and malign influence may also be at work. And then Akhenaten disappears... (English)

**Paul DOHERTY****The Magician's Death 288pp Tp 32.95**

A *Sir Hugh Corbett mystery* #14. *13th century, Paris*. The English Franciscan monk and scholar Roger Bacon claimed to have studied and seen many marvels of nature and science and concealed these in a book written in an unbreakable code called the 'Secret of Secrets'. Sir Hugh Corbett, Keeper of the Secret Seal of Edward I of England, has been instructed to organise agents in Paris to steal this book. They do so but pay a bloody, violent price and the French King Philip IV now wishes a meeting between the scholars of England and France to discuss the possibility of breaking the code. The meeting takes place at Corfe Castle, which becomes a place of murder, mystery and mayhem. Young women from the castle are being slain whilst, in the nearby forest, the outlaw Horehound is deeply concerned by the horrors he has seen there. The situation becomes more serious when two of the French scholars die in rather sinister circumstances. Corbett and Ranulf-atte-Newgate have to thread this maze of malevolent murder whilst, at the same time, trying to decipher the great secrets of one of England's most outstanding scholars. (English)



**Oakley HALL****Ambrose Bierce and the One-Eyed Jacks #3**
216pp Pb 27.00

1891, San Francisco. San Francisco's legendary newspaperman and sometime-sleuth, is hardly surprised to be consulted by William Randolph Hearst when the latter's mistress finds



herself photographically compromised. But in the rough 1890s Bay Area streets, Hearst's is not the only case on the boil. Bierce and his sidekick Tom Redmond follow a trail of murder that leads from a sinister British yachtsman to a photographer of female flesh, via the beauty queen of the Portuguese Pentecostal festival, white slavers, Dionysian revels and a shocking photography ring. Bierce's unravelling of it all sheds a blinding light on parental guilt and fin-de-siecle morality. (American)

Tom HARPER**The Mosaic of Shadows**

275pp Tp 32.95

A Byzantine mystery. 1096, Byzantium. In Constantinople, a soldier has died from a bolt through his chest whilst standing only inches away from the emperor. In secrecy, Demetrios is commissioned to investigate the murder before the assassin can strike again. His search leads him through the slums of Constantinople where he finds Thomas, a Frankish youth who is recently orphaned. On discovering that it was Thomas who fired the bolt, Demetrios decides to protect the boy and use him to discover the identity of the foreigner, known only as 'the monk', who commissioned the murder. Believing that there must be foreign involvement, Demetrios takes his quest into the cutthroat world of Italian and Frankish merchants vying for large slices of the transcontinental trade, which passes through Byzantium. Little does he expect to find a thread that will lead him into the heart of a conspiracy spanning two continents and decades of history. (English)

Michael KILIAN**A Grave at Glorieta** 292pp Pb 15.95

A Harrison Raines Civil War mystery. March, 1862, Glorieta Pass. Harry Raines and his partner Joseph 'Boston' Leahy are assigned to uncover Confederate operations in the West. But when their contact is murdered, and Leahy is accused of the crime, Harry must root out the killer and the intelligence vital to the Union cause. (American)

Anna MACLEAN**Louisa and the Missing Heiress**
293pp Pb 13.95

A Louisa May Alcott mystery #1. 1887, Massachusetts. In this delightful new tale of dark secrets, mysterious men and heiresses in distress, Louisa May Alcott, the beloved author of *Little Women* (Pb 12.95), is cast in the role of amateur sleuth. She investigates crimes more heinous than anything she can imagine in her 'blood and thunder' romances. (American)

Elizabeth PETERS**Guardian of the Horizon**

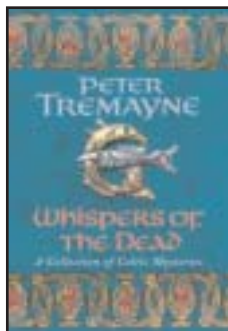
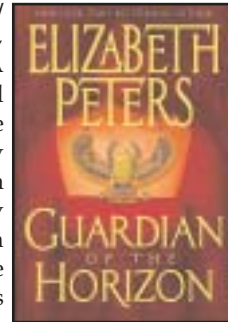
399pp Hb 49.95

An Amelia Peabody mystery #16. 1909, Kent, England. A hitherto lost journal of the indomitable Amelia Peabody has been miraculously recovered: a chronicle from one of the missing years (1907-8), shedding new light on an already exceptional career, a remarkable family and an unexpected terror. Ousted from their most recent archaeological dig and banned forever from the Valley of the Kings, the Emersons are spending a quiet summer at home when a mysterious messenger arrives. Claiming to be the teenage brother of their dear friend Tarek, prince of the mysterious Lost Oasis, the charismatic herald brings troubling news of a strange malady that has struck down Tarek's heir and conveys his brother's urgent need for help only they can provide. Driven by loyalty, the family sets off in secret for the land time forgot, a mountain fortress from which they narrowly escaped 10 years before. (American)

Peter TREMAYNE**Whispers of the Dead**

307pp Hb 59.95

A Collection of Sister Fidelma mysteries #14. Ancient Ireland. Fidelma of Cashel, sister to the King of Muman, a 'religieuse' of the Celtic Church and an advocate of the Brehon courts, returns in this new collection of 15 tales. These stories of murder, mayhem and mystery are not merely spellbinders but also provide insight into the ways and mores of the complex, fascinating society of 7th century Ireland, as well as heretofore unrevealed background details of Fidelma herself. (Irish)

**CRIME
NON-FICTION****Enrique CIRULES****The Mafia in Havana** 170pp Tp 28.00

A dramatic account of the pre-revolution era in Cuba, describing the culture of casinos, cabarets and drugs on an island frequented by Hollywood celebrities and infamous Mafia bosses. It is a tale of corruption and organised crime, where politicians are sold to the highest bidder and where real power lies with the Mafia and other US interests. It describes a Havana dominated by drug trafficking, gambling and prostitution. A highly readable but rigorous study of a fascinating period of history from 1934 to 1958, this book uses both Cuban and US sources to document the intertwined relationships between Washington, the Mafia and the pre-revolution governments in Cuba. (Cuban)

Elizabeth GEORGE**Write Away**

296pp Tp 34.95

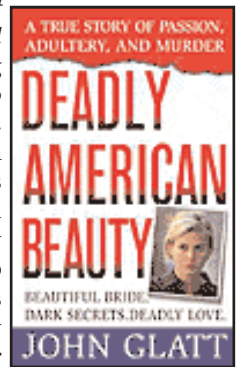
One Novelist's Approach to Fiction and the Writing Life. This is an inspiring template for any would-be author of fiction from one of the world's most successful crime writers. Sharing her wealth of experience, Elizabeth George illustrates her points about plot, characterisation and technique with extracts from her own and other author's work. She has a concise and wonderful teaching style, making the whole process sound much easier than it is. (English)

John GLATT**Deadly American Beauty**

292pp Pb 15.95

A true story of passion, adultery and murder. Greg

DeVillers was a top biotech executive, and Kristen Rossum was embarking on a career in toxicology at the San Diego Medical Examiner's office. But only months shy of their second anniversary, Kristen found her handsome husband dead from a drug overdose, his corpse sprinkled with rose petals. By his side was their wedding photo. The scene was reminiscent of *American Beauty*, one of Kristen's favourite movies. Authorities deemed it a suicide until they discovered that the rare poison found in Greg's body was the same poison missing from Kristen's office. This story also features Kristin's Australian lover, Michael Robertson, who is still under investigation. (American)





Phillip KNIGHTLEY
The Second Oldest Profession

516pp Tp 48.00

Spies and Spying in the Twentieth Century. "If our leaders manage only one book this year, they could do a lot worse than pick up Phillip Knightley's and discover what imbecilities are committed in the hallowed name of intelligence." This slap in the face comment is how John Le Carre thinks of this profession, which was bureaucratized with the creation of Her Majesty's Secret Intelligence Service in dubious circumstances in 1909. Other countries followed, until no country considered itself a nation until it had a corps of spies. In assessing the real role of the spy, the author answers crucial questions. Did they make any difference to the course of history? Or was spying the biggest confidence trick of all time? This is a revised version of the original 1986 edition and has a new introduction. (English)

Thomas MAURELLIO & Ann DARBY
The Dollhouse Murders

165pp Hb 34.95

A forensic expert investigates six little crimes. The doll is dead. Did Ken do it? These stories of miniature crimes are illustrated in gorgeous colour photographs to reveal real CSI techniques. Thomas Mauriello



has been teaching modern CSI techniques for 26 years. Now, he uses his tried and tested crime scene dioramas to bring the science of modern crime investigation to everyone. Each of his six miniature crime scene dioramas contains clues to preliminarily determine cause of death - accident, suicide or homicide. A large photo of the dollhouse scene including murder weapons, victims, obvious clues and red herrings introduces each crime. The text, written by award-winning journalist Ann Darby, takes the reader through what the detective learns when he arrives at the scene, to the key questions and clues, and then, finally, to the investigator's explanation of what really happened. After the first wide-angle photo, five follow-up photos focus on key clues spreading out through the remaining chapter. (American)

Carol ROTHGEB

Hometown Killer

378pp Pb 15.95

William K Sapp was a father of three but behind his mask of seeming normalcy lay a murderous rage toward women. Here is the true story of a town besieged and of the relentless manhunt that tracked Sapp through the years, finally bringing him to justice. (American)

Ann RULE
Last Dance, Last Chance

463pp Pb 19.95

And other true cases. *Crime Files, V8.* Dr Anthony Pignataro was a cosmetic surgeon and a famed medical researcher whose flashy red Lamborghini and flamboyant lifestyle in western New York State suggested a highly successful career. But appearances, as this shocking insider account of Pignataro's tailspin from physician to prisoner proves, can be deceiving and, for the doctor's wife, very nearly deadly. Read about this deadly poisoner, his ego and the powerful need to survive by his wife and her children. (American)



Chandak SENGOOPTA

Imprint of the Raj

234pp Pb 25.00

A fascinating account of the invention of fingerprinting in colonial India and the story of how the technique was exported back to Victorian England. Opening with the first case in a British criminal court to use the radical new technique of fingerprinting to identify the perpetrators of crime in 1902 this riveting book takes us back to the origins of fingerprinting in India. (Indian)

Donald THOMAS

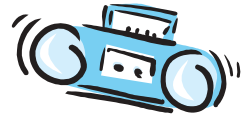
An Underworld at War

429pp Pb 24.95

Spivs, Deserters, Racketeers and Civilians in the Second World War. The activities of the underworld, extending into a civilian black market and the armed forces, are one of the great, untold stories of WWII. The profits of civilian racketeering dwarfed the rewards of smash-and-grab or safe breaking, though these continued apace. Professional gangs raided government offices for ration books and underground presses counterfeited petrol and clothing coupons in tens of thousands. The scale of theft in the army was also colossal, with whole consignments of cigarettes, razor blades and NAAFI stores disappearing. Donald Thomas draws on extensive archive material to tell the extraordinary tale of these less-heroic Britons. The facts he uncovers are often so preposterous that in a novel they would seem unbelievable. (English)



CRIME AUDIO



Dan BROWN

The Da Vinci Code

4xCassettes 400mins 35.00

This unabridged version is read by Jeff Harding.

Agatha CHRISTIE

The Agatha Christie Reader series

V1, 2, 3 & 4

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This series promises flawless stories in flawless English that are flawlessly read, although they are designed for people who wish to improve their English skills by the method of 'reading, hearing and understanding'. Volume 1 contains *The Blood Stained Pavement, Wireless, The Hound of Death and Four-and-Twenty Blackbirds*. Volume 2 promises *Death by Drowning, The Plymouth Express, The Lamp and The Case of the Missing Lady*. Volume 3 offers *Witness for the Prosecution, The Double Clue, The Case of the Perfect Maid and The Dressmaker's Doll*. Volume 4 includes: *Double Sin, The Idol House of Astarte, The Adventure of the Sinister Stranger and The Last Séance*.

Agatha CHRISTIE

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Harlan COBEN

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The Tristan Betrayal

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Paul Michael narrates this abridged version.

James PATTERSON

The Lake House

4xCassettes 6hrs 44.95

Abridged by Peter Mackie and read by Lorelei King.

Ian RANKIN

A Question of Blood

6xCDs 6hrs 40mins 49.95

Read by James MacPherson who played DCI Jardine in *Taggart* for 15 years.

Dorothy L SAYERS

The Lord Peter Wimsey Collection V1

8x CDs 8.5hrs 89.95

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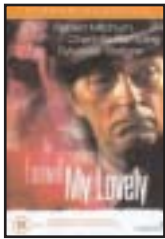
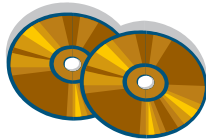
Georges SIMENON

The Maigret Collection

6x Cassettes 9hrs 59.95

This collection contains 12 dramatisations of the best Maigret detective dramas. It stars Maurice Denham as Maigret and Michael Gough as Simenon.

CRIME DVDS



Raymond CHANDLER Farewell, My Lovely

91 mins 10.00

This screen version of Chandler's classic story recreates the neon-drenched, smoke-filled Los Angeles of 1941 and stars Robert Mitchum, Charlotte Rampling and Sylvester Stallone.

Joel & Ethan COHEN Fargo Special Edition

94 mins 37.00

Winning the *Best Original Screenplay Oscar* in 1996, this police procedural is already a cult classic. Marge is a coffee-drinking, parka-wearing and extremely pregnant Police Chief who stops at nothing to catch a kidnapper whose plan goes awry when the victim runs off with the crooks. Includes documentary and interview with the Coen Brothers.



Jeffrey DEAVER The Bone Collector

114 mins 36.50

This collectors' edition has special features including director Phil Noyce's commentary, original wide screen presentation and lots more. A diabolical killer in Manhattan leaves a trail of cryptic messages for detectives who are played by Angelina Jolie and Denzel Washington. (American)

Thomas HARRIS The Silence of the Lambs

120 mins 44.95

This 2-disk special edition has many extra features including deleted scenes, a documentary and an out-takes reel.

Alfred HITCHCOCK

The Man Who Knew Too Much (1955)

100 mins 35.95

James Stewart and Doris Day are superb in this brilliant suspense thriller from the undisputed master.

Gregor JORDAN

Two Hands

90 mins 14.95

Winning five *AFI Awards*, this is the story of what happens to Jimmy (Heath Ledger) when he loses \$10,000 of underworld money. Also stars Brian Brown and Rose Byrne.

Robert LUDLUM

The Bourne Identity

113 mins 35.00

Rescued with two bullets in his back, Jason Bourne (Matt Damon) has completely lost his memory. Getting it back is going to save his life.

Troy Kennedy MARTIN

Edge of Darkness

314 mins 49.95

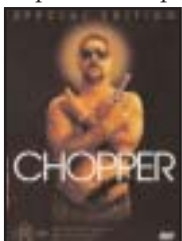
This apocalyptic political thriller swept the boards at the BAFTAs in the 1980s and became a cult classic television drama. Yorkshire detective Ronald Craven investigates the murder of his daughter and spirals into a political conspiracy. (British)

Christopher McQUARRIE

The Usual Suspects

101 mins 36.50

Driven by outstanding performances from Gabriel Byrne, Stephen Baldwin and Pete Postlewaite, this electrifying thriller is the story of five crooks who team up to pull off the perfect heist.



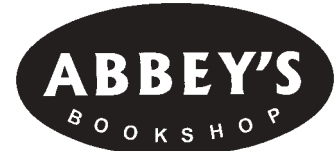
Mark Brandon READ Chopper

90 mins 34.95

This internationally acclaimed, award-winning feature film has been perfectly captured on DVD, with an arsenal of extra features and never-before-seen footage of Eric Banna and the director meeting the *real* Chopper for research purposes. (Australian)



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



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