

CRIME CHRONICLE

"WHERE A GOOD CRIME CAN BE HAD BY ALL"

ISSUE #232 MAY 2005

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH MICHAEL JECKS

The Chapel of Bones (334pp Pb 18.95)

Coming in June is the 18th in the wonderful series featuring Sir Baldwin Furnshill and Bailiff Simon Puttock. 40 years ago, Exeter Cathedral Close rang to the clamour of weapons, shouts of defiance and screams of pain. Afterwards, the bodies lying in their own blood bore silent witness to the conflicts that were tearing at the heart of the Cathedral itself. Today, in 1323, more deaths have occurred. Is the first an accident? The second is surely murder, brutal and foul. Once again, vicious slaying has polluted the Cathedral Close, but this time the killer will not be so easy to capture and execute. The victim, Henry Potell, a wealthy saddler, was feared and hated – he held secrets that some were keen to keep hidden, while others wanted him destroyed for his savage deeds all those years ago. For Sir Baldwin and Simon, the truth is increasingly mysterious. Who among Henry Potell's companions could have wanted him dead? Was it someone whose ties to Potell are dark and sinister? What first appears to be a matter of lust or greed soon grows much more troubling as Baldwin becomes aware of the disturbing and ominous Chapel of Bones, built long ago in reparation for a terrible murder.

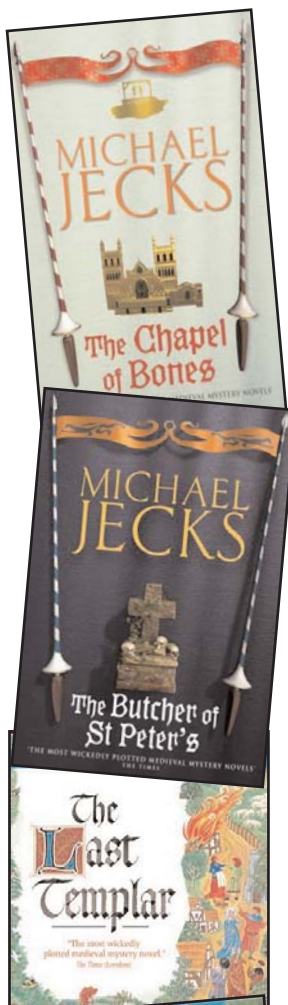
The Butcher of St Peter's (416pp Hb 59.95)

Also coming in June is the 19th in the series. When a merchant in Exeter hears an intruder in his home one night, his first thought is to conceal his adulterous lover. But then he witnesses a sinister figure stooping over the bed of his only child, a figure who almost seems to vanish into thin air. Two years on and the identity of the intruder has become common knowledge: the idiot of the city who lost his own children many years ago, and who seems doomed to wander the town searching for them. But when a boy disappears, suspicion immediately falls on him. The local constable is determined to solve the mystery, as his own son disappeared some years ago and he always suspected the fool. Sir Baldwin is asked to follow a lead to the manor of Bishop's Clyst to find out what happened. While he is there, a body is found under the stone bridge – the body of a boy, but not the one who recently went missing.

All the earlier titles in the series, set in the 14th century, are available and if you haven't tried Michael Jecks then you have a treat in store. The series, all in paperback and all \$18.95, are: 1. **The Last Templar**, 2. **The Merchant's Partner**, 3. **A Moorland Hanging**, 4. **The Crediton Killings**, 5. **The Abbot's Gibbet**, 6. **The Leper's Return**, 7. **Squire Throwleigh's Heir**, 8. **Belladonna at Belstone**, 9. **The Traitor of St Giles**, 10. **The Boy Bishop's Glovemaker**, 11. **Tournament of Blood**, 12. **The Sticklepath Strangler**, 13. **The Devil's Acolyte**, 14. **The Mad Monk of Gidleigh**, 15. **The Templar's Penance**, 16. **The Outlaws of Ennor**, and 17. **The Tolls of Death**.

Michael Jeck's knowledge of medieval history is impressive and he uses it to great effect. I heartily recommend this series.

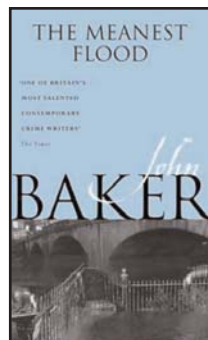
Peter



We normally don't blow our own trumpet, but American crime author Dana Cameron (**Fugitive Truth** Pb 16.95; **Grave Consequences** Pb 16.95; **Past Malice** Pb 16.95; and **Site Unseen** Pb 16.95) paid a flying visit to Abbey's just before Easter and her comments were: "What a terrific store! The mystery section was as formidable as people told me it would be." Compliments are nice now and again.

**MODERN CRIME****John BAKER****The Meanest Flood**

407pp Pb 18.95



A Sam Turner novel #6. Turner returns to his home town, after completing a case in Nottingham, to find storm clouds gathering and the police waiting for him. He discovers that two of his ex-wives have been killed and he is a suspect. He is released on condition that he does not leave York, but he sees a pattern in the two murders and guesses that the next victim will be another ex-wife, Julie. Sam rushes to Oslo, but his efforts are in vain. She too is killed. He goes on he run, dodging not only the police but the real killer. (British)

**Giles BLUNT****Black Fly Season**

372pp Tp 29.95

This is the third atmospheric psychological thriller featuring detectives Cardinal and Delorme, from the award-winning author of **Forty Words for Sorrow** (Pb 18.95). It is early summer in Algonquin Bay and the black flies are not the only ones out for blood. Someone is trying to kill a young red-haired woman, who after being shot in the head with a small-calibre weapon cannot remember her own name or where she is from, let alone why anyone would want to hurt her. Then a body turns up, horribly mutilated. Wombat Guthrie, biker and drug dealer, has taken his last ride. It seems inconceivable that the two cases could be linked, but as detectives Cardinal and Delorme pursue their investigations the name 'Red Bear' keeps cropping up. An Iroquois shaman, Red Bear, has recently moved into the drug trade, enlisting the aid of the spirit world to direct his followers to rival gangs' drugs and money. In return, the 'spirits' demand sacrifice — human sacrifice. (Canadian)

Tom BRADBY**The God of Chaos**

405pp Tp 32.95

Cairo in June 1942 is a city blistering under the lash of a relentless summer and panicked by the implacable advance of Hitler's most talented general, Erwin Rommel. It is the worst possible time and place for the body of a senior British officer to be found in a rubbish bin, bathed in blood. His murder has been made to look like a political assassination by local extremists opposed to British rule, but former New York cop Joe Quinn senses more fundamental human emotions at play. His investigation leads him to the heart of Cairo's high command and the possibility that a highly placed spy is feeding the allies' most sensitive secrets to Rommel. (British)

Simon BRETT**The Hanging in the Hotel**

375pp Pb 22.00

The Hopwicke Country House Hotel, owned by Jude's glamorous friend Suzy Longthorne, is to host an event for the all-male society, The Pillars of Sussex. On the night, Jude helps Suzy serve dinner, and in the early hours of the morning they watch with relief as the guests drag themselves to their beds. The next morning, one young solicitor does not come down for breakfast. Jude heads for Nigel Ackford's room, presuming he is feeling the effects of the night before. It soon becomes apparent, however, that Nigel has been spared his hangover. For Jude finds him hanging from the beams of his four-poster bed... (British)

Rachel BUTLER**The Assassin** 357pp Pb 16.95

Selena McCaffrey knows what it is like to fight for your life, to hone your body until it is sharp and to never let down your guard for anyone. With a 40-calibre Smith & Wesson and a double-edged dagger packed in her bags, she is going to kill a man. 14 years ago, a chance encounter plunged her into the grasp of criminal mastermind William Davis, who became her protector and twisted father-figure. Now William has ordered her to move in next door to a Tulsa cop investigating a triple homicide. A man of quiet strength, Detective Tony Ceola is closer than he knows to bringing down William's criminal empire. (American)

Andrea CAMILLERI**Excursion to Tindari**

293pp Tp 27.00

An Inspector Montalbano mystery. Andrea Camilleri's savvy and darkly comic take on Sicilian life leads Montalbano into his most bone-chilling case yet. In two seemingly unrelated crimes, a young Don Juan is found murdered and an elderly couple is reported missing after an excursion to the ancient site of Tindari. As Montalbano works to solve both cases, he stumbles onto Sicily's ghastly new age of brutal and anonymous criminality. (Italian)

Massimo CARLOTTO**The Master of Knots**

184pp Tp 29.95

Alligator is a former blues singer and ex-convict and now a PI, who finds himself pulled into a dark and unsettling case that uncovers an Italy known to very few. When Helena Giraldi is abducted, her husband approaches Alligator and his friends for help. Helena and Mariano lead a secret double life involving Italy's clandestine S&M scene. But Mariano seems more worried about losing his job and reputation than about seeing his wife again. As more members of the underground scene start to disappear, Alligator's team find themselves in a race against time to reveal the true identity of The Master of Knots. (Italian)

Lee CHILD**One Shot**

363pp Tp 32.95

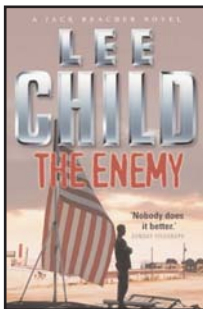
A Jack Reacher novel. A lone gunman unleashes pandemonium when he shoots into a crowd of people in a public plaza in Indiana. Five people are killed in cold blood, shot through the head. But he leaves a perfect trail of evidence behind him, and soon the local police chief tracks him down. After his arrest, the shooter's only words are, 'Get Jack Reacher for me.' What could possibly connect this psychopath and the wandering dropout ex army cop? Critics call Lee Child's thriller series 'addictive', so here is our annual, much-longed for, Reacher fix! (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

**Lee CHILD** **The Enemy****559pp Pb 19.95**

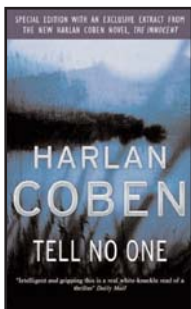
A Jack Reacher novel. New Year's Day, 1990. The Berlin Wall is coming down and the Cold War is ending. Jack Reacher is the duty Military Police officer on a base in North Carolina when a soldier's body is discovered in a sleazy motel. Reacher tells the local cop to handle it; it sounds like the guy just had a heart attack. But the dead man turns out to have been a general on a top-secret mission. And when Reacher goes to the general's house to break the news, he finds a corpse: the general's wife. Lee Child's latest stomach-churning thriller turns back the clock to Reacher's younger days. (American)

**Mary Higgins CLARK** **Night-Time is My Time****431pp Pb 18.95**

The definition of an owl had always pleased him: "I am the owl," he would whisper to himself after he had selected his prey, "and night-time is my time." Jean Sheridan, a prominent historian, returns to her hometown to attend the 20-year reunion of Stonecroft Academy, where she is to be honoured along with six other members of her class. There is, however, something uneasy in the air: one woman in the group, Alison Kenall, a beautiful, high-powered Hollywood agent, died just a few days before, drowned in her pool during an early morning swim. She is the fifth woman in the class whose life has come to a sudden, mysterious end. (American)

Harlan COBEN **Tell No One****345pp Pb 9.95**

Eight years ago, David Beck was knocked unconscious and left for dead, and his wife Elizabeth was kidnapped and murdered. For the next eight years Dr Beck relived the horror of what happened every day of his life. Then one afternoon, he receives an anonymous e-mail telling him to log on to a certain web-site at a certain time, using a code that only he and his wife knew. The screen opens on to a web cam and it is Elizabeth's image he sees. Is it a practical joke? (American)

**Harlan COBEN** **Three Great Novels 691pp Tp 29.95**

This edition contains **Darkest Fear** (2000), **Gone for Good** (2001) and **Tell No One** (2002). (American)

Michael CONNELLY **The Narrows 391pp Pb 18.95**

This is the sequel to **The Poet** (Pb 17.95). Former FBI agent Rachel Walling is working a dead-end stint in South Dakota when she gets the call she has been dreading for four years. The Poet is back. And he has not forgotten Rachel. He has a special present for her. Harry Bosch is adjusting to life in Las Vegas as a PI and a new father. He gets a call, too, from the widow of an FBI friend who died in suspicious circumstances after apprehending The Poet. Also available as CD audio book read by David Soul (\$49.95). (American)

Michael CONNELLY **Three Great Novels:** **The Bestsellers 807pp Tp 29.95**

Here we have **A Darkness More Than Night** (2000), **City of Bones** (2002) and **Chasing the Dime** (2002). (American)

John CONNOR **The Playroom 346pp Tp 29.95**

A Detective Constable Karen Sharpe investigation. On her 13th birthday, the daughter of a Bradford judge is kidnapped in West Yorkshire, sparking Operation Shade, a massive 50-strong detective investigation working against the clock to locate her. Meanwhile, left off the Shade investigation because of her past encounters with DCS Munro, DC Karen Sharpe is pursuing her own single-handed enquiry into historic child abuse allegations. Events spiral out of control and drag her towards a terrifying confrontation with a man who will stop at nothing to keep the past hidden. (British)

Catherine COULTER **Blow Out 356pp Pb 18.95**

This is the case that pushes FBI agents Sherlock and Savich to the edge when they investigate the murder of a Supreme Court Justice. Is the murder a terrorist act or is it something more personal? Within 24 hours, there is another murder with the same MO. (American)

Robert CRAIS **The Forgotten Man****342pp Tp 29.95**

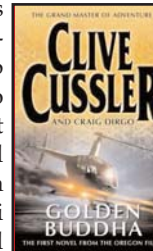
An Elvis Cole novel. Six months after nearly losing everything to the men who kidnapped his girlfriend's 10-year-old son, Elvis Cole receives an ominous phone call from the LAPD. An unidentified body has been found in a seedy Los Angeles alley and Elvis is called to the scene. When he arrives to view the body, cops scrutinize his reaction, telling him the only thing found in the room was a packet of newspaper articles on Cole's past exploits. Finally, he is told that before the man died, he said he was Elvis's father. As Elvis and long-time partner Joe Pike approach the true identity of the dead man, they unwittingly walk straight into a hornet's nest. (American)

Sandy CURTIS **Dangerous Deception****295pp Tp 30.00**

Driving alone on a rainy Melbourne night, Professor John Raymond suffers a stroke and is involved in a fatal accident. A week later, brilliant young scientist Breeanna Montgomery arrives home from work and is attacked by a black-clad stranger. She disappears without a trace. Then dive-boat operator Rogan McKay awakens at midnight with terrible pain tearing through his body. When Rogan discovers his identical twin, Liam, is missing, he flies to Melbourne to search for him. He finds out that Liam, a PI, had been hired to locate Breeanna. When Rogan discovers Breeanna and confronts her, a shocking chain of events unfolds as Rogan learns her dark family secrets. But nothing he comes to know about the woman that he is falling in love with will be as astounding as the truth about the project Professor Raymond was trying to hide. Sandy Curtis is also the author of **Black Ice** (Pb 16.95), **Deadly Tide** (Pb 18.95) and **Until Death** (Pb 19.95), and lives in Bundaberg on Queensland's Central Coast. (Australian)

Clive CUSSLER and Craig DIRGO **Golden Buddha 419pp Pb 19.95**


#1 in the Oregon Files series. In his first feature-length adventure, it is up to Captain Juan 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)

**PARKING**


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Sun	
(& any day after 5pm)	\$12 flat


**Clive CUSSLER & Craig DIRGO**

 **Sacred Stone** 406pp Hb 49.95
Oregon Files #2. In the remote wastes of Greenland, an ancient artefact possessing catastrophic radioactive power is unearthed. But the astounding find puts the world at risk. Caught between two militant factions bent on wholesale slaughter, Juan Cabrillo and his network of spies known as The Corporation must fight to protect the stone and prevent the outbreak of World War III. (American)


Mary DAHEIM

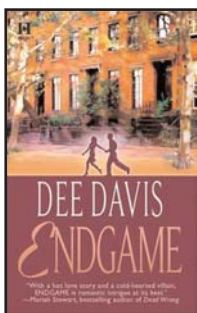
 **The Alpine Pursuit** 273pp Pb 16.95
An Emma Lord mystery. For a small town newspaper like *The Alpine Advocate*, a new play at the local community college is big news. Editor and publisher Emma Lord is duty-bound to attend opening night, but expects the amateur enterprise will serve only as a cure for insomnia. The play is dubbed 'a black comedy,' but the only laughs Emma gets are from the bad acting and the wretched script Hans Berenger, dean of students, was not well known or well liked around Alpine, but the audience found his death scene genuinely convincing, until they realised he wasn't acting. (American)


Mary Janice DAVIDSON, Amy GARVEY, Jennifer APODACA & Nancy COHEN

 **"Wicked" Women Whodunit** 329pp Tp 29.95
Doesn't it just figure? You meet the guy of your dreams. There is enough electricity to start a wild fire. And then there is a murder to put a crimp in your plans. But not necessarily... Get ready for some sensual sleuthing with four hot mysteries for the insatiably romantic. (American)


Dee DAVIS

 **Endgame** 377pp Pb 16.95
FBI criminal profiler Madison Harper understands dangerous minds. Tough, tenacious, with nerves of steel, she is the best of the best. So is her new partner, Gabriel Rourke, a crack CIA operative who likes to do things his way. When the two are forced to jointly head up a task force investigating murder in high places, it is no surprise that sparks begin to fly. As Madison and Gabriel race through a shadow world of power, politics and deadly secrets, the passion that simmers between them soon ignites. But a clever killer at the top of his game has challenged Madison to play to the very end. Now all she can trust is her instincts and Gabriel, the one man reckless enough to keep her alive. (American)


**Jeffery DEEVER**

 **Garden of Beasts** 448pp Pb 19.95
Paul Schumann is a contract hit man who is taken to meet an official in Army Intelligence and given a choice: he can spend the rest of his life in jail, or he can help his country. He is to pose as a member of the 1936 Olympic team, travel to Berlin and kill a high-ranking Nazi close to Hitler. Schumann has been picked because he is a second generation German-American and can speak the language fluently. Or at least that is what they lead him to believe. This novel on the CWA Steel Dagger for Best Thriller 2004. (American)


Rick DEWHURST

 **Bye Bye Bertie** 168pp Tp 25.00
A Joe LaFlam mystery. Joe LaFlam is a desperate-to-mate single Christian. One fine day, a potential prospect, er, client walks through his office door and drops an intriguing case on his desk. The lovely (soon-to-be-found-out heiress) client's sister is missing. "Bertie's joined a cult." Everyman Joe sets off to solve what will become not one but two kidnapping cases, to save the day, and get the girl (but not necessarily in that order). After twist upon twist (and some providential sleuthing), the ending may not turn out as Joe planned. It just might be better than he ever dreamed, or worse. (Canadian)


Sean DOOLITTLE

 **Burn** 344pp Pb 16.95
In California, the hills are on fire. Not a good sign for Andrew Kindler, who just came west to get away from his past as an arsonist. In fact, almost from the moment he sets foot in his cousin's Santa Monica beach house, the heat starts swirling around him. First there is the cop who thinks Andrew might know something about a murder suspect. Then there is the suspect's sister, who is willing to pay Andrew \$5,000 for the same information. Now Andrew must solve a murder he knows nothing about, find a killer he has never met, and unravel a family's explosive secret. His reward? To live another day. (American)


Carola DUNN

 **Die Laughing** 299pp Pb 16.95
A Daisy Dalrymple mystery #12. Spring hemlines for 1924 have risen almost to the knee, to the dismay of Daisy's mama-in-law. But Daisy has encountered a problem that eclipses her domestic dilemmas. A visit to the one person sure to instil terror into Daisy's heart, the local dentist, turns out even worse than expected when she discovers Raymond Talmadge slumped dead in his chair, a nitrous oxide mask clamped to his smiling face. Others may believe the dentist was a secret dope fiend whose addiction took a tragic turn, but Daisy and her husband, Chief Inspector Alec Fletcher, are sure he was murdered. (American)


Laura DURHAM

 **Better Off Wed** 241pp Pb 16.95
An Annabelle Archer mystery. The murder of a particularly difficult mother-of-the-bride has cast a pall on wedding planner Annabelle Archer's latest triumph, while suspicion falls heavily on her sometime business partner Richard Gerard. Annabelle knows that even her wedding emergency kit will not be able to salvage their careers if she and Richard cannot find the real culprit. It is no easy task since the slain matron was most hated, but Annabelle navigates her way through Washington's colourful wedding industry and powerful social scene on the deadly trail of a killer. (American)


**Reg EGAN**

 **Lottie** 308pp Pb 24.95
This is Reg Egan's fictionalised novel of a true crime story. It begins with Ethel Griggs' sudden death in the Victorian country town of Omeo in 1928. Meanwhile, rumours of her husband's affair with the daughter of a Methodist elder are rife. So rife that police order the exhumation of Grigg's body and the young mother of an 11-month-old is found to have died by arsenic poisoning. Reverend Ronald Griggs is charged with her cruel and heartless murder. (Australian)

David ELLIS

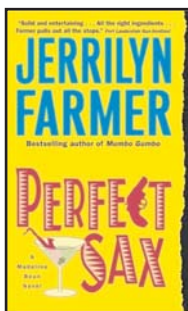
 **Jury of One** 421pp Pb 18.95
Children's rights advocate Shelly Trotter is out of her depth in criminal court, defending a teenager accused of killing a cop. And when she discovers that he may be her own son, nothing - not legal ethics, not political pressure - will stop her from keeping him off of death row. (American)

Linda FAIRSTEIN

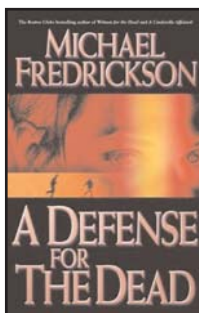
 **The Kills** 469pp Pb 19.95
Paige Vallis claimed that she gave in to Tripping's sexual demands because he had threatened to harm his son if she didn't. Prosecuting the ex-CIA man, Alexandra Cooper knew she had her work cut out to convince the jury, but before Paige could complete her testimony on the stand she is found dead, strangled in her own apartment building, just hours after she confessed to a relationship with another ex-CIA operative. While the accusation of rape against Tripping is dropped, he has other charges to face, not least abusing his own child. Chapman and Mercer set out to discover who so conveniently killed the woman who could have put him behind bars. (American)

**Jerrilyn FARMER****Perfect Sax** 369pp Pb 16.95

A Madeline Bean mystery. The dazzling Jazz Ball for the prestigious Woodburn School of Music promises to be event planner Madeline Bean's greatest triumph to date, both professionally and personally. Of course, then everything goes straight to hell. Having to contend with a heap of celebrity trash, a ranting vocal coach, his rabid bitch of a girlfriend, and duelling pre-teen music prodigies is bad enough. But when the furious bidding war for the prize item to be auctioned off (a one-of-a-kind, sterling silver Selmer Mark VI tenor saxophone) almost results in bloodshed, and the perfect sax subsequently vanishes, Madeline can not help but wonder what else could possibly go wrong. (American)

**Michael FREDRICKSON****A Defense for the Dead**

The murderer is known as Van Gogh. Leaving a bloody trail of bodies up and down the east coast, every one of the serial killer's targets receives his gruesome signature: the removal of the victim's right ear. After 10 such bodies, the FBI tracks him down and takes him out, putting an end to a horrific mystery. For Boston attorney Jimmy Morrissey, however, Van Gogh's death is only the beginning. Things get worse when two FBI agents let him in on a chilling piece of evidence found in Van Gogh's apartment: a beautiful woman's headshot, with Morrissey's name and address on the back, a message from beyond the grave. (American)

**Stephen FREY****Shadow Account** 368pp Pb 18.95

His novels of big money and murder in the world of finance have earned bestselling author Stephen Frey a richly deserved reputation as a master of suspense who always delivers a high yield. Now he raises the stakes, and the risk factor, in a new thriller that pits a young Wall Street player against corporate conspiracy and White House intrigue in a dangerous game of double crosses, dirty tricks and deadly consequences. (American)

**Eric GARCIA****Hot and Sweaty Rex**

Beginning with **Casual Rex** (Pb 22.95) and **Anonymous Rex** (Pb 21.95), here is #3 in this genre-bending, species-bending, gender-bending romp of a series. What if the dinosaurs faked their own extinction? They move freely among us, wearing elaborate disguises that make them indistinguishable from average Joe. PI Vincent Rubio is influenced into working for the dino Mob. His assignment takes him to Miami, where his collision with another dino Mob leads to belly chuckling mayhem. (American)

Lisa GARDNER**Three Great Novels: The Thrillers**

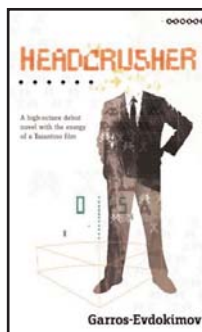
This selection contains: **The Next Accident** (2001), **The Survivors Club** (2001) and **The Killing Hour** (2003). (American)

Julie GARWOOD**Murder List** 425pp Pb 18.95

There are few authors who can weave nail-biting thrills, edge-of-your-seat drama and romantic suspense as masterfully as Julie Garwood. Now she ratchets up the tension with this novel in which evil is on the hunt and proves to be methodically organised and chillingly successful. Hotel heiress Regan Madison is shocked when murder enters her life after attending a shady self-help guru's seminar. (American)

Alexander GARROS & Aleksei EVDOKIMOV**Headcrusher** 307pp Tp 32.95

26-year-old Vadim hates his job in the PR department of Latvia's biggest bank. He spends his time playing Headcrusher, his favourite shoot-em-up computer game, and composing insulting emails about his bosses. When his manager catches him, Vadim kills him. Then he kills the bank's security guard too, and embarks on a spree, putting paid to anyone who annoys him. But, as he becomes embroiled in the murky activities of the corrupt bank, which is laundering money for Mafia criminals, he starts to lose touch with reality. Where does truth end and fantasy begin? Is life just one big computer game? This high-octane debut novel has the energy of a Tarantino film, the game-playing of *The Matrix* and the philosophical quirkiness of *Fight Club*. Nothing quite like it has come out of Russia before. It has been picked up by publishers around the world and now looks set to be an international cult novel. (Russian)

**Elizabeth GEORGE****With No One as Witness**

The new *Inspector Lynley* mystery. Elizabeth George creates a serial killer for the first time, setting the globally popular Inspector Lynley his most shocking case yet. When the Metropolitan Police fail to realise a serial killer is at work, London ignites over the fact that the killer's victims are young, black and mixed race boys. Institutionalised prejudice is claimed by the community's activists and tabloids alike. Lynley is given the case, and his Scotland Yard task force is soon handling more killings and a looming tragedy. (American)

David GIBBONS**Atlantis** 337pp Tp 32.95

Archaeologist Jack Howard is a brave but cautious man. When he embarked on a new search for buried treasure in the Mediterranean, he knew it was a long shot. When he uncovered a golden disc that spoke of a lost civilisation more advanced than any in the ancient world, he started to get excited. But when Howard and his intrepid crew finally got close to uncovering the secrets the sea had held for thousands of years, nothing could have prepared them for what they would find... (British)

Alan GOLD**True Crime** 295pp Pb 16.95

First in a new series based on actual cases. Meet Lou Tedesco, food and film critic for the *Stumptown Weekly* in Oregon. He has stumbled upon a scoop that is off his regular beat; a double murder that the local police chief does not want Lou snooping into. (American)


Ed GORMAN**Blood Moon** 305pp Pb 16.95

New Hope is the kind of small town that restores a hardened FBI agent's faith in America. But when mysteriously seductive Nora Connors gives Robert Payne \$25,000 to find the maniac who brutally killed her young daughter, he uncovers this close-knit community's most sordid secrets. (American)

Allan GUTHRIE**Kiss Her Goodbye** 223pp Pb 16.95

A *Hard Case Crime* novel. When people in Edinburgh want to borrow money, they go to Cooper. When they do not pay it back, they get a visit from Joe Hope. But now Joe's got problems of his own. His teenage daughter is found dead, an apparent suicide. Then the police arrest him for murder. But for once in his life, Joe is innocent. With help from Scotland's hardest men, he sets out to deliver his own brutal brand of justice. This debut novel was shortlisted for the *Debut Dagger Award* by the *Crime Writers' Association*. (British)

**Colin HARRISON** **The Havana Room 385pp Pb 18.95**

 Bill Wyeth is a successful attorney with a beautiful wife and son who, in one devastating night, loses everything: family, job, status. Moving out of his home and into a lousy flat, he tramps around Manhattan in a suit and tie disguised as a businessman until he wanders into an old-time steakhouse and becomes intrigued by the restaurant's sexy manager Allison Sparks, and by a virtually unnoticeable door. It leads to the mysterious Havana Room, which only the privileged can enter. Bill gains Allison's confidence and is invited into the room, but he finds himself sucked into a dark and terrifying world. (American)

Patricia HARWIN **Slaying is Such Sweet Sorrow 272pp Pb 16.95**

A Far Wychwood Mystery. Librarian and former New Yorker Catherine Penny has already sleuthed out the truth behind a deadly house fire since settling in the tiny English town of Far Wychwood. But when her ex-husband, who left her single in her 60s, arrives with his new lady love to attend a family affair, Catherine cannot avoid him. But the shock of their son-in-law Peter not being chosen for a prestigious appointment at Oxford's Mercy College is matched only by who is: pompous, womanising scholar Edgar Stone. And when Stone is found murdered, Peter's guilt seems hardly academic. (American)

Jeremiah HEALY **Turnabout 325pp Pb 16.95**

When General Alexander Van Horne's grandson Kenny is kidnapped, the general calls Matthew Langway, former FBI agent and current security advisor, to head the search. And to do it quietly; no police, no FBI! Langway does not want to take the case, but \$10,000 can be very persuasive. Langway quickly decides the kidnapping has to be an inside job. But when he starts asking questions, he runs into a very solid wall. Everyone seems to be hiding something and no one wants to talk. Surrounded by family secrets and outright lies, Langway has to sort out the truth before Kenny's time runs out. (American)


Greg HERREN **Jackson Square Jazz 311pp Tp 29.95**

As refreshing as an ice-cold bottle of beer, as sexy as the sultry bars and smoky jazz clubs of New Orleans, this is another wonderful, strange trip down south in the company of the most deliciously decadent PI ever to wear a thong and be proud of it. "When Herren introduced young, well-muscled former New Orleans bar dancer Scotty Bradley, he gave crime fiction one of its most engaging gay heroes." - *Booklist* (American)

David HEWSON **The Villa of Mysteries 501pp Pb 19.95**

This is the second novel in the Italian crime series set in Rome, featuring the Caravaggio-loving Detective Nic Costa. In this title, when a young woman turns up dead in a peat bog, a maverick pathologist thinks she is the victim of an ancient Roman ritual. But the pathologist is wrong! (British)


Jilliane HOFFMAN **Last Witness 374pp Tp 29.95**

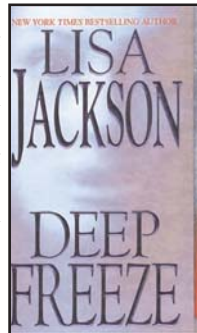
 Cops are dying: Hunted down while on patrol, they are being murdered while trying to protect the citizens of Miami from this very type of crime. Dominick Falconetti, an agent with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, is charged with heading a task force to investigate. A tense, gripping crime drama set against the richly detailed background of the Miami legal system and police department, this is an extraordinary novel. (American)


Richard HOYT **The Weatherman's Daughters 304pp Pb 16.95**

A John Denson mystery. Frustrated by his inability to trace a criminal monster, Denson sets down his scepticism and accepts, provisionally, the shamanistic ways of his Native partner, Willie Prettybird. Out-of-body flying? Entering the spirit of an animal? Can it be true? Can Denson solve murders by playing Carlos Castaneda to Willie's Don Juan? Two daughters of a Portland weatherman have been killed for no apparent reason. Denson and Willie are called from their remote cabins on Whorehouse meadow in the Cascade Mountains to investigate. An exotic dancer wants to join the investigation, and Denson cannot resist her. But does she really intend to help? Or is she a spy or saboteur? (American)

Lisa JACKSON **Deep Freeze 507pp Pb 18.95**

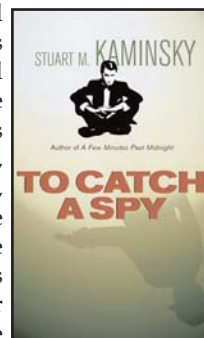
 Former movie star Jenna Hughes left Hollywood for an isolated farm in Oregon to get away from fame. But someone has followed her; an obsessed fan whose letters are personal and deeply disturbing. And while Jenna's already shaken up by what she has seen on paper, she would be terrified if she knew what Sheriff Shane Carter is investigating. It is a shocking case that started with the discovery of a dead woman in the woods. Now two more women are missing, one of whom bears a striking resemblance to Jenna. (American)


**Daniel KALLA** **Pandemic 407pp Pb 18.95**

 Dr Noah Haldane, of the World Health Organisation, knows that humanity is overdue for a new killer flu, like the great influenza pandemic of 1919 that killed more than 20 million people in less than four months. So when a mysterious new strain of flu is reported in the Gansu Province of mainland China, WHO immediately sends a team to investigate. Haldane and his colleagues discover that the new disease, dubbed Acute Respiratory Collapse Syndrome, kills one in four victims, regardless of their age or health. In an age when every single person in the world is connected by three commercial flights or fewer, a killer bug can travel much faster than the flu of 1919. Especially when someone is spreading the virus on purpose. (Canadian)

Stuart KAMINSKY **To Catch a Spy 248pp Pb 18.95**

 Hollywood gumshoe Toby Peters - who has played sleuth to such movie luminaries as Humphrey Bogart, the Marx Brothers, Bette Davis, Mae West and Charlie Chaplin - now finds himself working for Cary Grant. The assignment seems simple enough - Grant merely wants Toby to deliver a package and pick up an envelope at Elysian Park in the middle of the night. As always, Toby can count on the aid of his friends: a melancholy dentist; a huge wrestler-turned-poet; a suave, multilingual, Swiss little person; and Mrs Irene Plaut, Toby's daffy but dogged landlady. All four lend Toby their dubious talents in a riotous plot that brings the hapless PI and unflappable Cary Grant to a genuinely cliffhanging climax. (American)

**Day KEENE** **Home is the Sailor (1952) 203pp Pb 16.95**

 *A Hard Case Crime novel.* This is Keene's greatest novel, published for the first time in 37 years. After years at sea, Swede Nelson just wanted to find a nice girl and settle down. What he found was Corliss Mason: sensual, irresistible and deadly. Soon Swede's helping Corliss cover up a killing, but how long can they get away with murder? And why can't he shake the terrible suspicion that he is being set up? Bill Pronzini says this novel "is fast and furiously paced, as savagely elemental as early Spillane. Strong meat for the hardboiled palate." (American)

**Faye & Jonathan KELLERMAN****Double Homicide 372pp Pb 19.95**

Each novel is only 181 pages short, so do not be misled by the total number of pages (above). In their first collaboration, two masters of the thriller genre introduce two different sets of cops in two different cities. In Santa Fe, Darrel Two Moons and Steve Katz are called to the scene of a blunt-force homicide. Did the deceased, a wealthy art dealer, stumble on a burglar stealing a priceless painting, or did one of his many enemies finally seek revenge? In downtown Boston, Dorothy Breton finds that her elder son is a witness to the killing of a promising athlete in a shoot-out. The evidence is stacked against the obvious culprit until the autopsy shows the young man did not die of gunshot wounds... (American)

Lee Charles KELLEY**To Collar a Killer 284pp Pb 16.95**

Someone is trying awfully hard to frame the dog-savvy ex-detective Jack Field and he is determined to find out why; even though everyone, from a billionaire inventor to a San Diego drug lord, to a whole passel of professional killers, is equally determined to stop him and his doggie pals dead in their tracks. (American)

Jon LAND**The Last Prophecy 420pp Pb 16.95**

1945: An American medical unit uncovers something beneath a body-laden trench while liberating a concentration camp. 60 years later, the survivors of that unit are systematically murdered because of what they saw. 2004: Enter former Palestinian-American detective Ben Kamal and his Israeli counterpart, Danielle Barnea. Working for the United Nations, they are forced to return to the Middle East to investigate a massacre in a Palestinian village. They quickly learn that the roots of that massacre lie elsewhere, in another era, on another continent. (American)

Stephen LEATHER**Soft Target 424pp Tp 32.95**

There is only one thing more dangerous than a corrupt cop and that is a corrupt cop with a gun. When a group of armed police in an elite unit turn maverick and start to rip-off drug dealers at gunpoint, undercover cop Dan 'Spider' Shepherd is given his most dangerous mission so far. Shepherd is ordered to infiltrate the tight-knit team, to gain their confidence and to ultimately betray them. As Shepherd finds himself in the firing line, he has to decide exactly where his loyalties lie. (British)

Donna LEON**Doctored Evidence 322pp Pb 21.95**

A Commissario Brunetti novel #13. When the body of an wealthy elderly woman is found, brutally murdered in her Venetian flat, it is soon clear to the police that the prime suspect is her Romanian maid, who has disappeared and is heading for Romania. Commissario Brunetti decides - unofficially - to take the case on himself. As Brunetti learns more of the old woman's family, it becomes clear that this is probably not a crime motivated by greed, rather that the probable motive connects with the temptations of lust. But perhaps Brunetti is following a false trail and thinking of the wrong deadly sin altogether. (British)

Gabrielle LORD**Spiking the Girl 336pp Pb 19.95**

When PI Gemma Lincoln agrees to investigate a missing student from exclusive Netherleigh Park Ladies' College, she finds herself drawn into a double murder case surrounded by a wall of silence. Her other cases include a woman whose ex-husband still terrorises her at night; a grieving widower who wants to know what happened to his late wife's remains; a young woman who wants DNA material from a famous sporting figure who may be her father; and, the elderly mother of Gemma's piano teacher, who swears there is 'an animal' in her second storey flat and wants a surveillance camera installed to prove it. Every instinct warns Gemma that she herself is under surveillance. (Australian)

Peter LOVESEY**The Circle 358pp Hb 39.95**

Bob Naylor decides to join a writers' circle, believing he might gain some expert help with the poetry that spills out of his imagination. He discovers a motley collection of wannabe authors and just as he is deciding not to formally join the group, he learns that a publisher has been killed. Officer Henrietta Mallin arrests their Chairman. Bob, the only writer who had not met the dead man, is persuaded by some other members of the group to do some investigating of his own. And that is when the trouble really starts, because another death turns the spotlight of suspicion on to him. (British)

Henning MANKELL**Before the Frost 470pp Pb 19.95**

A Linda Wallander mystery #1. A string of macabre incidents, including attacks on domestic animals, have been taking place, and Inspector Wallander fears that these disturbances could be the prelude to attacks on humans on an even more alarming scale. Linda, in preparation to join the police force, arrives at Ystad. Exhibiting the maverick approach and the flaring temper of her father, she becomes entangled in a case involving a group of religious extremists who are bent on punishing the world's sinners. Following on from the enormous success of the Kurt Wallander mysteries, Henning Mankell has begun an outstanding new chapter in crime writing. (Swedish)

Steve MARTINI**The List (1997)****& Critical Mass (1998)****999pp Pb 17.95**

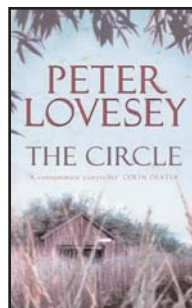
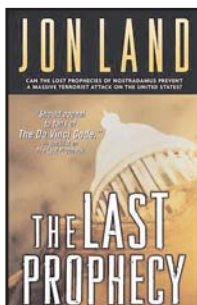
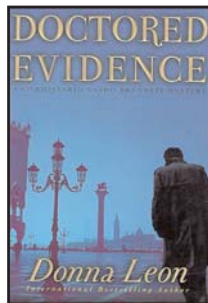
Together in one volume for the first time, two sensational thrillers by Steve Martini. (American)

Ed McBAIN**Alice in Jeopardy 292pp Tp 29.95**

Things have been tough for widow Alice Glendenning, but they quickly become a nightmare when her children Ashley and Jamie do not come home on the school bus one day, and Alice gets a phone call from a woman claiming to have them. When the kidnapper calls again and asks for a ransom identical to the amount Alice is due from the insurance agency for husband Eddie's fatal accident, Alice forgoes contacting the police and instead calls Charlie Hobbs for help. Ed McBain skilfully weaves together an elegant plot and compelling characters in this gripping tale of mystery, money and mayhem. (American)

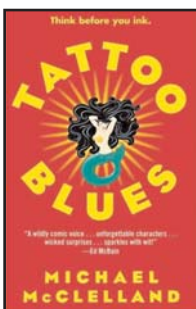
Alexander McCALL SMITH**In the Company of Cheerful Ladies 264pp Pb 22.95**

Precious Ramotswe, that cheerful Botswanan private investigator of 'traditional build', is now married to Mr Matekoni of Tlokweng Road Speedy Motors. The Agency is busy, but Mma Ramotswe cannot ignore the plea which is made by a woman who comes to her with a tale of particular misfortune. (British)

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**Michael McCLELLAND****Tattoo Blues** 291pp Pb 16.95

Runaway rich girl Desiree Dean is *nobody's* condiment. So when she discovers her brand-new Chinese character tattoo actually reads 'with hot sauce', she confronts the artist at his parlour and accidentally ignites an explosion that blows away half the block. It also leaves the injured Desiree in the care of a notorious lesbian clam pirate (yes, you read it right) and all of Cedar Key in an uproar. Now Desiree, along with Cedar Key's slightly eccentric residents and a slightly alcoholic tabloid reporter, has to fight like hell to protect the town from big money, corrupt politics and other scourges of civilization when a developer stops at nothing to establish a casino. (American)

**Val McDERMID****Union Jack (1993)**

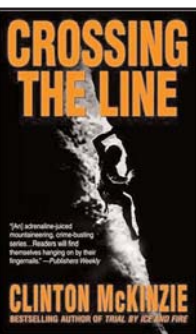
307pp Pb 18.95

A *Lindsay Gordon mystery* #4. Leaving her new home in California for a trade union conference in Sheffield, Lindsay Gordon finds herself in the company of old friends and older enemies, including Tom Jack. When this unethical union leader is found dead, having catapulted out of Lindsay's 10th-floor hotel room, she is taken in for questioning by the police. Hoping to clear her name by finding the real killer, Lindsay searches among hundreds of unruly union delegates for a murderer who may have struck once before. (British)

Clinton McKINZIE**Crossing the Line**

432pp Pb 16.95

Clinton McKenzie writes powerhouse thrillers that are like nothing you have ever read; novels that crackle with raw emotion and brilliantly explore the nature of risk: the risk that lovers take, adventurers seek and men and women live with on both sides of the law. In this novel, set against the breathtaking Rocky Mountain landscape that he has made his own, the author brings back Special Agent Antonio Burns and his renegade brother Roberto to make a treacherous descent into a world of loss, betrayal and terror. (American)

**Kyle MILLS****Free Fall**

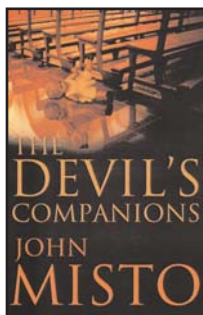
564pp Pb 19.95

A top-secret FBI file, which was buried in an anonymous government warehouse since J Edgar Hoover's death, is missing. The unlucky student who uncovered it is dead, and now his ex-girlfriend is on the run, accused of murder. The only man everyone agrees can find her is 'off-duty', suspended and under the threat of prosecution by the bureau itself. Mark Beamon knows better than anyone that this is his last shot to save his career. Tracking the young woman down, though, will be the hardest assignment he has ever tackled, for she is a world-class rock-climber who can drop out of sight anywhere in the globe. Beamon has no room for wrong guesses or moves if he is to avoid free falling out of the bureau and straight into prison, or worse. (American)

John MISTO**The Devil's Companions**

352pp Tp 32.95

On Christmas Eve, three-year-old Anna Brennan disappears from a crowded church during midnight mass. She is kidnapped, believed murdered. 20 years later, in the process of a burglary investigation, a startling piece of evidence accidentally comes to light. Could Anna still be alive? If so, who abducted her and why? DC Greg Raine is assigned the task of solving the case and reuniting Anna with her parents. But a nightmare of treachery and murder lies ahead. In a shattering climax, the detective unearths the secret behind Anna's disappearance. It is a discovery that comes at a terrifying price. (Australian)

**David MORRELL****Nightscape**

416pp Pb 19.95

By and large, the kind of tales an author writes are metaphors for the scars in the nooks and crannies of their psyche. In David Morrell's youth, thrillers and horror stories provided an escape from his nightmarish reality. Is it any wonder that, as an adult obsessed with being a writer, he has compulsively turned to the types of stories that provided escape when he was a child? Written with the haunting emotional intensity and lightning pace that has made David Morrell a master of high-action suspense writing, this collection of stories will leave you dazzled. (American)

**Walter MOSLEY****Little Scarlet** 342pp Pb 18.95

An *Easy Rawlins mystery*. Just after riots tear through Los Angeles in 1965, the police turn up at Easy Rawlin's doorstep to ask for his help. A man was wrenched from his car by a mob at the riots' peak and escaped into a nearby building. Soon afterward, a woman was found dead in that building and the fleeing man is the obvious suspect. But the man has vanished. The police fear that their presence in certain neighbourhoods could spark a new inferno, so they ask Easy Rawlins to see what he can discover. Mosley's lean and musical vernacular captures the heat and the rhythm of Los Angeles' heart, where danger is the common currency of everyday life. (American)

Chris NYST**Crook as Rookwood**

455pp Tp 29.95

In an inner suburb of Sydney, a pensioner is bashed in his own home. An old Labor Party stalwart loses the faith and goes looking for someone to blame. And a young woman called Slick finds an unsettling connection between the death of her ex-husband and her new boss. When Gold Coast lawyer Eddie Moran comes to Sydney to look after Slick's interests after the death of her ex, he finds a simple drug overdose is not so simple after all. It is not just the crooked cops, it is the strong whiff of a deal being done higher up and well offstage. From sleazy Sydney backstreets to the new-money glamour of the Gold Coast, this is the world where politics and business meet, and where the consequences are far-reaching and surprising. From the writer of the hit film *Gettin' Square*. (Australian)

Robert PARKER**Bad Business**

310pp Pb 19.95



The latest *Spenser novel*. When Marlene Cowley hires Spenser to see if her husband Trent is cheating on her, he encounters more than he bargained for. Not only does he find a two-timing husband, but a second investigator as well, hired by the husband to watch his wife. As a result of their joint efforts, Spenser soon finds himself investigating both individual depravity and corporate corruption. (American)

P J PARRISH**A Killing Rain**

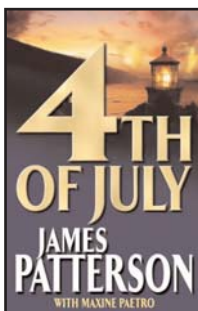
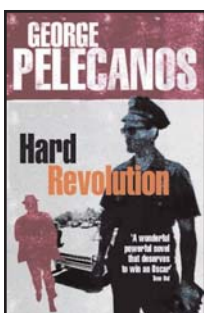
383pp Pb 16.95



Deep in the Florida Everglades, a hunter stalks the ultimate prey... For Detective Louis Kincaid, what should have been a routine case has taken a grisly turn, leading to the lair of a predator whose prized trophies are human relics. Now, with time running out, Kincaid is on a desperate hunt of his own, tracking a twisted adversary more ruthless than he ever imagined. (American)

**James PATTERSON****4th of July****320pp Tp 32.95**

A *Womens Murder Club* mystery. A young man is found dead in a seedy hotel room; electrocuted in his bath with a toaster. This is the second electrocution murder. Detective Lindsay Boxer has come across and the graffiti message left at the scene of the crime is the same: 'Nobody cares anymore'. What does it refer to? The one clue Lindsay and her partner Jacobi have is that a black Mercedes was spotted at the scene of both murders. But when they follow a car they think is connected, they get more than they bargained for. (American)

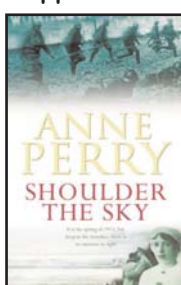
**George PELECANOS****Hard Revolution****375pp Pb 19.95**

It is the spring of 1968 and the sun shines down on an America on the brink of civil war. Martin Luther King preaches in vain for non-violent protest and the ghettos of Washington DC seethe with anger. In

the middle of this powder-keg is thrust a young black cop, barely out of school himself. Derek Strange believes passionately that he can make a difference, but his friends and family think he is a traitor and a patsy of the white establishment. When Dr King is assassinated on the balcony of his motel in Memphis, black America rises as one to condemn the slaying of their hero. For one week, it seems that the whole country will fall. (American)

Anne PERRY**Shoulder the Sky 320pp Pb 19.95**

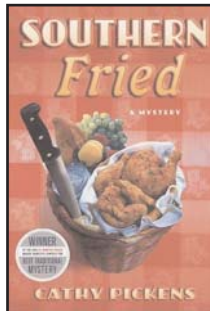
In April 1915, Joseph Reavley is serving as chaplain on the Front Line at Ypres. The war that should have been 'over by Christmas' has already decimated the British Expeditionary Force. To Joseph's sector comes



an ambitious young war correspondent determined to expose the horrors of trench life. But before he can dispatch his piece, he is found dead in no-man's-land. Joseph's search for the truth takes him to London and the beaches of Gallipoli to face a desperate moral judgment which challenges every belief he holds. (British)

Cathy PICKENS**Southern Fried 323pp Pb 16.95**

Avery Andres has just been downsized from her job in a law office in a North Carolina city and has returned to her small home town to lick her wounds and consider trying to set up a law practice there. She quickly gets a client or two, and immediately the company building owned by one is destroyed by arson, and the body found inside was quite probably murdered. Meanwhile, an old high-school classmate has told the entire county that he is hopelessly in love with Avery and makes several attempts at spectacular suicides, each one of them carefully set up not to work. All in all, Avery finds that small-town life is not nearly so dull as she feared... and sometimes wishes it were. (American)

**Ann PURSER****Weeping on Wednesday****292pp Pb 16.95**

A *Lois Meade* Mystery. Working mum and owner of a cleaning business, Lois has just hired on the daughter of the Abrahams, an eccentric, reclusive family. But when strange letters and omens put everyone on edge, Lois wonders if the rumours about the Abrahams are the key to a terrible secret. (American)

Ian RANKIN**Rebus: Capital Crimes****1016pp Tp 29.95**

This edition contains three Detective Inspector John Rebus novels: *Dead Souls* (1999), *Set in Darkness* (2000) and *The Falls* (2001). The *New Statesman* has called Rankin, "One of Britain's leading novelists in any genre". (British)

Kathy REICHS**Monday Mourning****445pp Pb 19.95**

Three skeletons are found in the basement of a pizza parlour. The building is old, with a colourful past, and Homicide Detective Luc Claudel dismisses the remains as historic. But Forensic Anthropologist Tempe Brennan has her doubts. Something about the bones of these three young women suggests a different message: murder. A cold case, but Claudel's case nonetheless. Brennan is in Montreal to testify as an expert witness at a trial. Digging up more bones was not on her agenda. And to make matters worse, her sometime-lover Detective Andrew Ryan disappears just as Tempe is beginning to trust him. (Canadian)

David ROLLINS**Sword of Allah 515pp Pb 19.95**

In Papua New Guinea, primitive highlanders are armed with AK-47s. In the Persian Gulf, a fishing boat has a sinister cargo. At a luxury hotel in Manila, a 'financial planner' has a rendezvous with men on the world's Most Wanted list. In Israel's West Bank, the unwinnable war continues to rage. And in Canberra, top intelligence and police specialists assemble to find out why terrorists from either side of the world are joining forces in Australia's back yard. Present is Sgt Tom Wilkes of the Australian Special Air Service Regiment. Wilkes is seconded to the CIA where he spearheads the action team set up to fight the latest extremist menace, a plan more monstrous than anyone, even the experts, could have foretold. Gripping, intelligent and terrifying, this is the ultimate thriller for the post-9/11 world. (Australian)

David ROTENBERG**The Lake Ching Murders (2001)****296pp Pb 14.95**

A *mystery of Fire and Ice*. Zhong Fong's English is excellent, but he has not needed it for 54 months since being reduced to convicted political felon and exiled. But there has been a mass murder, the victims all influential foreigners. The killings took place on a pleasure boat on Lake Ching, almost within sight of Zhong's hut. It is an area where only Zhong is an investigator with a record of successful cases and that makes him the only one available who can possibly protect China's rulers from something far worse than worldwide embarrassment. (Canadian)


David ROTENBERG**The Shanghai Murders (1998)****315pp Pb 14.95**

A *mystery of Love and Ivory*. Library Journal says, "This awesome first novel slides readers into the crowded, booming, dangerous morass of modern Shanghai, where homicide inspector Zhong Fong looks for a lethally talented assassin. This is an excellent police procedural with exotic, foreboding surroundings and a wonderfully nefarious plot. Highly recommended." (Canadian)


Ray SHANNON**Firecracker****289pp Pb 18.95**

A beautiful and resourceful pregnant woman only weeks from her due date... the charming but disingenuous Dallas Cowboy who fathered her baby... a sadistic man with delusions of a new life... and a Super Bowl betting slip worth a potential \$1.25 million, all come together in a rollercoaster ride of dark humour and suspense on the Las Vegas strip. (American)


**Daniel SILVA**

 **A Death in Vienna** 390pp Pb 18.95
Art restorer and sometime spy, Gabriel Allon is sent to Vienna to investigate a bombing and uncovers a portrait of evil stretching across 60 years and thousands of lives and into his own personal nightmares. (American)


Ian SLATER

 **Payback: WWII** 334pp Pb 16.95
Three terrorist missiles have struck three jetliners filled with innocent people. America knows this shock all too well. But unlike 9/11, the nation is already on a war footing. The White House and Pentagon are primed. All they need now is a target and someone bold and expendable enough to strike it. That someone is retired General Douglas Freeman, the infamous warrior who has proved his courage, made his enemies and built his legend from body-strewn battlegrounds to the snake pits of Washington. Some desktop warriors expect Freeman to fail, especially when an unexpected foe meets his team on the Sea of Japan. But Freeman will not turn back even as his plan explodes in his face and the Pacific Rim roils over because this old soldier can taste his ultimate reward. (American)

Peter Moore SMITH

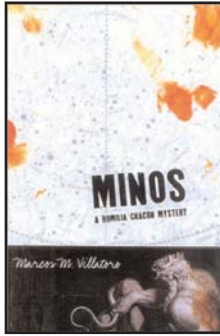
 **Los Angeles** 336pp Tp 32.95
'Angel', says a hoarse voice over a crackling cell phone connection and then she is gone. Angel Veronchek is convinced that the voice belonged to his mysterious and beautiful new neighbour, Angela, and that she is terrified for her life. The son of one of Hollywood's most powerful producers, Angel has renounced a world of wealth and glamour that most people only dream of. It is only Angela's arrival, and then her eerie disappearance, that knocks his solitary, reclusive life off balance, and plunge him into the sinister world of Los Angeles nights, a world of secrets that aren't meant to be told, and lost people who aren't meant to be found. (American)


Vicki STIEFEL

 **The Dead Stone** 374pp Pb 16.95
It starts with a mysterious phone call, summoning homicide counsellor Tally Whyte back to the hometown she thought she had left far behind her. Almost as soon as she arrives, Tally hears that a young woman she knew as a child has been found ritualistically murdered and mutilated. The deeper Tally probes into the bizarre murder, the more chilling it becomes. Each glimpse into the killer's dark mind only unnerves her more. Despite frustrating secrets and silences, Tally suspects she is getting close to the truth, but perhaps she is getting too close for her own good. As each new body is found, Tally has to wonder, will she be next? (American)


Marcos VILLATORO

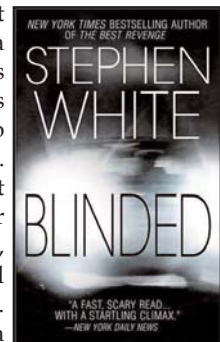
 **Minos** 385pp Pb 16.95
A Romilia Chacón mystery #2. The award-winning **Home Killings** (Pb 16.95 see *October 2004 Chronicle*), Villatoro's first Romilia Chacón novel, won dazzling acclaim for its fusion of character, suspense and a gripping police procedural swirling around a fiery Latina detective. Now, in a new novel filled with the same remarkable precision and power, Romilia Chacón turns back to the reason she became a cop in the first place: to hunt for the sadist who took her sister's life and has kept on killing ever since. (South American)


**Randy Wayne WHITE**

 **Tampa Burn** 393pp Pb 18.95
The abduction of Doc Ford's son pulls the former assassin back into business and into the trap of an avenging politico with a twisted and violent plan of revenge. (American)


Stephen WHITE

 **Blinded** 499pp Pb 19.95
Psychologist Alan Gregory has a new patient: Gibbs Storey, whose looks turn grown men into dazzled adolescents. She tells Alan that she thinks her husband, Sterling, may have murdered one of her friends. Blandly recounting a history of dangerous sexual encounters, Gibbs stuns Alan with another revelation: she thinks there are other victims ...and that her husband will kill again. Struggling with a strict confidentiality agreement, Alan walks a perilous ethical line by revealing just enough to interest his detective friend Sam Purdy. But are they too late to stop more killings? (American)

**Michael WIECEK**

 **Exit Strategy** 375pp Pb 16.95
An assault on Blindside, a high-tech corporation dealing in computer espionage, leaves eight employees blown away. But the faceless killers made two mistakes: They left two witnesses. Postal employee Molly Gannon and hacker Jeb Picot are suspected by authorities as accomplices. They have only one way to clear their names: unearth the secrets buried in the ashes of Blindside. (American)

Valerie WOLZIEN

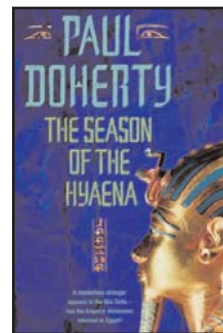
 **Death in Duplicate** 263pp Pb 16.95
A Susan Henshaw mystery. Susan and Jeb Henshaw are the proud grandparents of beautiful twins, and their daughter and son-in-law are temporarily moving into the Henshaws' Connecticut home with their tiny bundles of joy. Added to the mix are two giant bullmastiffs and a nanny. However, neighbour Nadine Baines soon starts to rain on their parade when she recognises the nanny as a suspect in several recent shady deaths at a nursing home. Then Nadine is found in her kitchen with a knife protruding from her chest. (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME**David DICKINSON**

Death of an Old Master 314pp Pb 24.95
A murder mystery featuring Lord Francis Powerscourt. 1899, England. It is Titian and a host of other Renaissance painters that command the attention of author David Dickinson and his discreet society investigator Lord Powerscourt. The celebrated 1899 exhibition of Venetian paintings has just opened in London when a leading art critic, Christopher Montague, is found garroted in his study. Powerscourt turns up a motive soon enough; Montague was to publish an article alleging the Old Masters on sale for fortunes in American dollars were recently executed forgeries. In search of his suspect, Powerscourt traverses a treacherous world of art dealers and picture restorers before arriving in sun-baked, sinister Corsica. (British)

Paul DOHERTY

The Season of the Hyaena 320pp Tp 32.95
An Ancient Egyptian mystery #5. Mahu, former Chief of Police and Keeper of the Secrets of the Heart, is sitting down to record his memories. He sees uneasy quiet reigning in the Royal Circle at Thebes, after the disappearance of the Pharaoh Akenhaten and the abandonment of his new, sun-worshipping religion. Members of different factions are barely held together by loyalty to the six-year-old Emperor, Tutankhamun. Then extraordinary news reaches the Council: Akenhaten has returned to Egypt. The words are greeted with dismay by all who hear them, for surely Akenhaten is dead? (British)

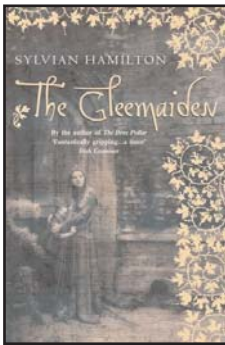


**Paul DOHERTY****The Song of the Gladiator****336pp Pb 18.95**

A Roman mystery #3. 313 AD, Rome. The Emperor Constantine and his mother Helena are trying to make sense of the new Christian religion which is spreading through the Empire. Scholars are locked in a bitter struggle over whether Christ really was the son of God, and Constantine invites delegates from both sides to debate before him at his villa. Now strange things start to happen. Envoys from both sides are found murdered in a most macabre way. The villa is secretly attacked, and the Holy Sword is stolen. Helena calls on the help of her secret agent Claudia, that shrewd, unobtrusive detective, to untangle the dangerous web of intrigue. As she sets to work, the spy is also facing a crisis in her own life. (British)

Sylvian HAMILTON**The Gleemaiden****405pp Pb 21.95**

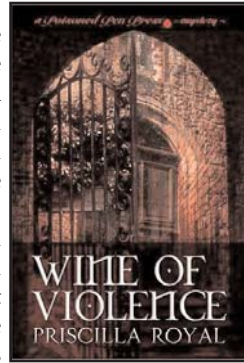
A Sir Richard Straccan novel #3. Early 13th century, England. At the end of **The Pendragon Banner** (Pb 21.95), Straccan had lost the woman he loved when she was captured by his enemies. His first task in this story is to find her. His second, to escort the great bell, Gaudete, to its resting place in Durham. His third to save from her enemies the Gleemaiden of the title and the mysterious child she protects. (British)

**Simon LEVACK****Shadow of the Lords 392pp Tp 29.95**

An Aztec mystery #2. 1517, Mexico. A strange figure has been seen running through the streets, a man with the face of a serpent, his body covered with glittering green feathers: Quetzalcoatl, the most powerful of the Aztec gods. Yaotl, the Chief Minister's slave, has more important matters to worry about. Engaged in a desperate search for his son, he is on the run from his vengeful master, Lord Feathered-in-Black. If the Chief Minister catches him, Yaotl can expect a grisly fate. Attempting to escape his master's bloodthirsty warriors, Yaotl stumbles upon a dismembered, unrecognisable corpse. As he pieces together the clues as to who the dead man was and how he died, Yaotl finds himself drawn into an affair of greed, jealousy and lust among the ancient, secretive society of the feather workers, the Aztec's foremost craftsmen. (American)

Priscilla ROYAL**Wine of Violence #1 226pp Pb 16.95**

1270, England. Although the Simon de Montfort rebellion is over, the smell of death still hangs like smoke over the land. Even in the small priory of Tyndal on the remote East Anglian coast, the monks and nuns of the Order of Fontevraud long for a return to tranquil routine. Their hopes are dashed, however, when the young and inexperienced Eleanor of Wynethorpe is appointed their new prioress over someone of their own choosing. Nor are Eleanor's own prayers for a peaceful transition answered. Only a day after her arrival, a brutally murdered monk is found in the cloister gardens and Brother Thomas, a young priest with a troubled past, arrives to bring her a more personal grief. Now she must not only struggle to gain the respect of her terrified and resentful flock, but also cope with violence, lust and greed in a place dedicated to love and peace. (American)

**Peter TREMAYNE****The Lepers Bell****369pp Pb 18.95**

A novel of Ancient Ireland starring Sister Fidelma #15. A servant has been murdered. The baby in her charge has been abducted. Fidelma of Cashel has solved many horrendous crimes in her career as an advocate of the ancient Brehon courts of Ireland, but this case is different for her and her companion as it is their son who has been abducted. (British)

Martin STEPHEN**The Galleon's Grave 342pp Hb 22.95**

Henry Gresham and the Spanish Armada #3. 1588, London. King Philip of Spain has assembled the greatest fleet and the most powerful army in the world. It is envisaged that the Armada, commanded by the brave and chivalric Duke Medina Sidonia, will crush the English and bring an end to the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Caught up in the intrigues of court as its inhabitants jostle for power and favour, Henry Gresham realises that many resent his youth, wealth and good looks. His position as a spy for Walsingham further endangers his life and when he finds himself sailing on the Armada in order to spy on Sir Francis Drake, he is not entirely certain where the real threat lies... **This is a Special Offer: the Hardback (45.00) can be bought at Paperback price.** (British)

Jacqueline WINSPEAR**Maisie Dobbs****311pp Pb 20.95**

A Maisie Dobbs mystery #1. 1929, London. Young, feisty Maisie Dobbs has recently set herself up as a private detective. Such a move may not seem especially startling. But this is 1929, and Maisie is exceptional in many ways. Having started as a maid to the London aristocracy, studied her way to Cambridge and served as a nurse in the Great War, Maisie has wisdom, experience and understanding beyond her years. Little does she realise the extent to which this strength of character is soon to be tested. For her first case forces her to uncover secrets long buried, and to confront ghosts from her own past. In Maisie, Jacqueline Winspear has created a character that readers will immediately take to their hearts. Her first case combines a gripping investigation with a moving portrait of love and loss. It marks the beginning of a wonderful new detective series. (British)

Elizabeth PETERS**The Serpent on the Crown (350pp Hb 49.95)**

An Amelia Peabody mystery #17. 1922, Valley of the Kings, Egypt. With the lengthy ban on the Emerson's archaeological activities lifted, Amelia Peabody and her family look forward to delving once more into the age-old mysteries buried in Egypt's ever-shifting sands. But a widow's strange story and even stranger request is about to plunge them into a storm of secrets, treachery, superstition and murder. The woman, a well-known author, has come bearing an ill-gotten treasure, which she claims is cursed. Already, she insists, it has taken the life of her husband, and unless it is returned to the tomb from which it was stolen, more people will die. Intrigued by the mystery, Amelia and her clan resolve to uncover the secrets of the statue's origins, setting off on a trail that twists and turns in directions they never anticipated and, perhaps, toward an old nemesis with unscrupulous new designs. But each step toward the truth seems to reveal another peril, suggesting to the intrepid Amelia that the curse is more than mere superstition. And its next victim might well be her irascible husband, Radcliffe, their beloved son, Ramses, his lovely wife, Nefret ... or Amelia Peabody herself. (American)

SPECIAL OFFER

Buy **The Serpent and the Crown** and you can purchase a copy of **Amelia Peabody's Egypt: A Compendium** (335pp Hb) for just \$29.95 instead of the RRP \$59.95 ...while stocks last!

CRIME NON-FICTION



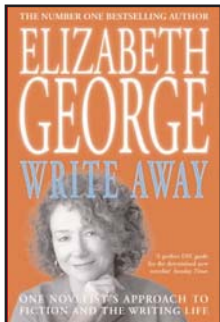
Amber FREY
Witness

210pp Hb 45.00

For the Prosecution of Scott Peterson. This is the chilling story of how a young woman became ensnared in Scott Peterson's web of lies, then risked everything to seek justice for Laci Peterson and her unborn child, Conner. It is also a story of forgiveness and faith, and of one woman's struggle to live with an open and honest heart. (American)

Elizabeth GEORGE
Write Away

296pp Pb 22.95



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 most successful writers of crime fiction in the world. Drawing extensively on her own work and that of other bestselling writers including Stephen King, Harper Lee, Dennis Lehane and many others, she illustrates her points about plotting, characterisation and technique with great clarity. She also includes extracts from her own Journals - the diaries she keeps as she writes each of her novels - and these give us an unprecedented insight into the creative mind, with all its highs and lows. (British)

Tony THOMPSON
Gangs

405pp Pb 24.95

A Journey into the Heart of the British Underworld. The original *Gangland Britain* was conceived and written at a time when organised crime in the UK was still in its infancy. Eight years on the picture has changed dramatically. Organised crime is now the country's third biggest industry. The number of gangland murders, shootings and kidnappings, along with the levels of drug trafficking, people smuggling and money laundering, have all experienced phenomenal growth. Multi-million pound drug deals and vicious turf wars have spread out from the inner cities and now affect even the most rural communities. The day-to-day impact of organised crime on our lives has never been greater. From Triad human traffickers in Dover and ecstasy factory owners in Liverpool, to Albanian vice barons in London and gun toting teenage crack dealers in Birmingham, this book reveals the inside story of contemporary organised crime. (British)

Ken TURNER & Lesley TURNER
Halfway to Justice

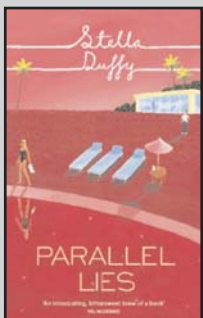
240pp Tp 24.95

One Man's Fight to Bring His Daughter's Killer to Justice. In the early hours of 6 June 1993, 22-year-old Shirree Turner was brutally murdered. This book describes her father Ken's experience during the police investigation and his ongoing pursuit of justice after the acquittal of her alleged killer. This heartfelt story is about coping with loss and emotional trauma while fighting for justice and reform of the court system. (Australian)

STAFF REVIEW

Stella DUFFY

Parallel Lies (256pp Hb 35.00)



Ever considered what might occur when a *ménage à trois* goes wrong? Sex, lies and endless deceptions abound in this sardonic tale of who did whom the ultimate wrong. Yana, a Russian-born Hollywood star, lives with Jimmy (a mere television star) in Beverley Hills with her adored PA, Penny. It is a somewhat uneasy partnership; things are never quite what they seem and people are never quite who they say they are, yet the threesome manage to keep each other's secrets from the public with a fair degree of success and spin-doctoring. Then Yana is sent a series of threatening letters from an extremely well-informed, anonymous source. Suspicion of betrayal turns to fear, which in turn leads to murder. The perils of ambition are as dangerously twisted as those who aspire to love and be loved in this darkling tale. - Cara



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by Peter Milne and Shelley Kay



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