

# CRIME CHRONICLE

“WHERE A GOOD CRIME CAN BE HAD BY ALL”

ISSUE #209 JUNE 2003

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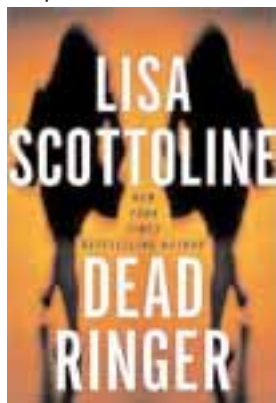
Plus a large and excellent selection of quality non-fiction from Australia and America.

Sat 14 — Sun 29 June

## FEATURED TITLE

**Dead Ringer by Lisa Scottoline**

*The 10th mystery featuring the Philadelphia all-woman law firm.*



Tp \$30.00

Ace lawyer Bennie Rosato is duelling evil in the form of her own twin sister, who has returned to Philadelphia and is up to no good. At the same time, Bennie's law firm is in trouble, so she takes on a potentially lucrative class action to try to save the day. Meanwhile, her colleague Mary DiNunzio persists in bringing in a case that looks more like an Italian wedding than a lawsuit. But then a mysterious stranger appears just in time to help Bennie in the fight of her life, for her life.

Lisa Scottoline's legal suspense novels are a law unto themselves – biting humour, social satire and snappy dialogue. Backlist titles are **Courting Trouble** (Pb 18.95 due June), **Everywhere That Mary Went** (Pb 21.95), **Final Appeal** (Pb 21.95), **Legal Tender** (Pb 17.95), **Mistaken Identity** (Pb 17.95), **Moment of Truth** (Pb 17.95), **Rough Justice** (Pb 17.95), **Running from the Law** (Pb 17.95) and **Vendetta Defence** (Pb 17.95).

*Peter*

**WE ARE OPEN!**  
Queen's Birthday Mon 9 June  
10am-5pm

**CLOSED FOR STOCKTAKE**  
Tues 3 June  
from 3pm



### MODERN CRIME

**Kenneth ABEL**  
**Burying Field**

**Pb 18.95**

When four white teenagers desecrate an old slave burial ground, racial tensions explode and Danny Chaisson finds himself on the wrong side of a bitter struggle over land, power and memory in a small Louisiana town. Hired by a wealthy real estate developer to protect his interest in a valuable piece of property, Danny discovers that even the past cannot stay buried for long in the rich soil of the bayou country. As the violence spreads and more bodies surface, only Danny's determination to dig up this region's bloody past can stop a cycle of fear and hatred that seems as old as the land itself. (American)



**Jennifer APODACA**



**Dating can be Murder**

**286pp Pb 16.95**

*A Samantha Shaw mystery.* Outraged at discovering her condom-selling husband's infidelities, Samantha reinvents herself after his untimely death. She sells his prize car, has breast augmentation surgery and purchases a dating service. But then people begin demanding money that her husband apparently skimmed as a drug runner. After someone who threatened her is killed, she reinvents herself again by becoming an amateur private investigator. (American)

**Beverly BARTON**



**The Fifth Victim 349pp Pb 17.95**

Genny has visions that leave her drained and helpless, but when she sees a young woman being sacrificed on an altar, she is able to tell her cousin, the sheriff, exactly where to find her. The similarity between this murder and an earlier series of killings brings FBI agent Lucas Sloan, who is searching for the murderer of his niece, to town. Lucas does not believe in paranormal powers, but finds himself falling head over heels in love with Genny. Then a profiler informs them that the killings occur in a series of five; the first four victims are picked at random, but the fifth is always a woman with paranormal abilities. (American)

**Claudia BISHOP**



**Fried by Jury 240pp Pb 16.95**

*A Hemlock Falls mystery.* When the judge for a deep-fat-frying contest disappears, along with a butcher's knife from Quill and Meg's kitchen, the Quilliam sisters know they have a new murder to solve. (American)

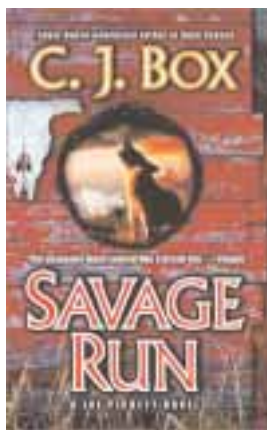
**C J BOX**



**Savage Run**

**Pb 17.95**

*A Joe Pickett mystery #2.* When a massive explosion occurs deep within the forests of Twelve Sleep County and a colourful environmental activist appears to have perished in the blast, Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett is called to the scene to help investigate. He soon discovers clues that lead to a deadly conspiracy, one that will test his courage, his survival skills and his determination to "do the right thing" despite all costs. (American)



**Laurie BRETON**



**Final Exit**

**328pp Tp 24.95**

When FBI agent Caro Monahan walks back into the life of homicide lieutenant Connor Rafferty, the sizzle is undeniable. They are back together, albeit reluctantly, to find the serial killer who is terrorising Boston. Amid bureaucratic red tape and a mounting body count, they uncover evidence that points to a decade-old unsolved homicide. The tension escalates when the killer develops a psychotic preoccupation with Caro. (Australian)

**Dorothy CANNELL**



**The Importance of Being**

**Ernestine**

**Pb 18.95**

*An Ellie Haskell mystery.* Ellie has been missing her caustic, corpulent housekeeper since she began moonlighting at a PI's office. So, when Mrs M invites her to Jugg's office one night, Ellie is delighted. Just as the ladies have settled into a drink, a client, Lady Krumley, walks in. Mistaking the two for PI's, she reveals her tale of woe. 30-years-ago she wrongfully dismissed her parlour maid, Flossie, who died young, swearing vengeance on all Krumleys. Now, several Krumleys have had fatal accidents: could Flossie's daughter, Ernestine, be the cause? Feeling magnanimous, Ellie and Mrs M take on the case. But can they find the killer without killing each other first? (American)

**Laura CHILDS**



**Keepsake Crimes**

**Pb 16.95**

*A Scrap-booking mystery.* New Orleans scrap-booking shop owner, Carmela Bertrand, delights her customers with the sophisticated looks she achieves with their scrapbooks. But among her client's keepsakes she finds a tip of her own — about a murder! (American)

**Jill CHURCHILL**



**The House of Seven Mabels**

**256pp Pb 18.95**

*A Jane Jeffry mystery #13.* "Home-making" is about to take on a whole new meaning for Jane, now that she has agreed to help the prosperously divorced Bitsy Burnside restore and redecorate a decrepit old neighbourhood mansion. Bitsy's decision to employ an almost all-woman crew has prompted Jane's quick-witted best bud Shelley Nowack to dub the project "the House of Seven Mabels", but it has also engendered some nasty ill will. And when what begins as a series of anonymous, mean-spirited "pranks" ends up leaving one of the workwomen lying dead at the foot of a staircase, Jane and Shelley decide to try and nail the assassin. (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**

**Mary Higgins CLARK****The Second Time Around**  
302pp Hb 36.95

Nicholas Spencer, charismatic head of the medical research company Gen-stone, involved in the development of an anticancer vaccine, suddenly disappears. His private plane crashes en route to Puerto Rico, but his body is not found. Early results of the vaccine seemed highly promising. Yet, coinciding with his disappearance comes news that the FDA is denying approval. Marcia DeCarlo, the columnist for the Wall Street Weekly, is assigned to cover the story. As she proceeds with her investigation, she is confronted by seemingly impenetrable questions. And as the facts begin to unfold, she becomes the target of a dangerous group involved in a sinister and fraudulent scheme. (American)

**Max Allan COLLINS****Chicago Confidential**  
300pp Pb 18.95

A Nathan Heller novel. It is 1950 and Heller has returned home to Chicago, where a congressional probe into organised crime sparks an all-out mob war. Heller's partner is among the victims. An astonishing mix of fact and fiction, this new thriller features characters such as singer Frank Sinatra, mobster Sam Giancana, Senator Joe McCarthy and Hollywood bombshell-in-the-making, Jayne Mansfield. (American)

**Kenneth COOK****Wake in Fright (1961)**  
203pp Pb 22.00

In the town of Bundanyabba, John Grant, a young schoolmaster, knows he is in hell. What he does not know is how to get out. He discovers gambling and ruins himself financially. Then he plunges into a self-destructive cycle of alcohol, sex and spiritual abuse. This book was so successful in the 1960s that it became a prescribed school text, no doubt turning off a generation or two to the pleasures of the outback. 40 years on, it still stands up as a coming-of-age drama and is widely known as a classic Australian thriller. (Australian)

**Stephen COONTS****Saucer** 329pp Pb 17.95

140,000 years later... Seismic surveyor Rip Cantrell has made an exhilarating discovery: a flying saucer embedded in the Sahara sandstone. Buried for eons, it is not the invention of modern man. Computer-equipped, it cannot belong to ancient man. Rip is betting his life on the only alternative. If the ship's memory bank holds the proof he needs, it is going to rock civilisation and make Rip a very famous man. (American)

**Carole Ann DOUGLAS****Cat in a Midnight Choir**  
416pp Pb 18.95

A *Midnight Louie mystery* #14. Our black cat detective and his daughter, Midnight Louise, are hunting a mysterious organisation of renegade magicians called the Synth and their scheming Siamese assistants. While the felines battle black magic, the plucky PR freelancer Temple Barr investigates the Synth too, despite the discouragement of homicide lieutenant CR Molina. The search has boiled down to two suspects: Temple's current significant other and Molina's ex-lover. As Louie and his human friends sink deeper into a lose-lose situation, there does not seem to be a way out... except, maybe, another murder! (American)

**David DUN****Overfall** 475pp Pb 18.95

After rescuing distressed celebrity Anna Wade from drowning, Sam becomes entangled in an investigation involving her brother, Jason. Jason's connection with secret intelligence, terrorists and fierce dictators is just the thing for Sam, an anti-terrorist expert for hire. (American)

**Aaron ELKINS****Turncoat** Pb 21.00

It begins with the appearance of a stranger at his door. An unwelcome visitor ranting madly about money, death and forgiveness; a man known all too well to Pete's distraught wife, Lily: her father. The next day the man is dead, and Lily disappears, leaving a note behind begging Pete not to follow. Now, he embarks on a twisted and perilous journey that will carry him to places where the hideous crimes of the Nazi aggressors remain fresh in the minds of those who cannot forget or forgive. Suddenly, an ordinary American has become more than a concerned husband; he has become the target of desperate, dangerous men and their terrifying vengeance. (American)

**Lisa GARDNER****The Next Accident** 339pp Pb 17.95

FBI Agent Pierce Quincy is haunted by his daughter's death in a drink driving accident. Rainie Connor is an ex-cop with a past overshadowed by violence. She once involved Pierce in a harrowing case that brought them together personally and professionally. Then, he came to her rescue. Now it is time for her to help him. His daughter's killer has an insatiable hunger for revenge. He is not satisfied with taking his victims' lives; he wants to get inside their minds and strip them of every defence. And his target is Quincy's only surviving daughter. Rainie believes that the only way to stop him is to put herself directly into the killer's murderous path and become the next accident. (American)

**Paul GARRISON****Buried at Sea** 456pp Pb 21.00

Hired as a deckhand and personal trainer to a wealthy investment banker, Jim Leighton's dream of adventure came true when he set sail for Rio de Janeiro onboard the luxury yacht *Hustle*. But in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, Jim's enigmatic employer, Will Spark, makes a startling announcement: they are being pursued by someone who wants them dead. With no previous sailing experience, Jim is suddenly trapped in a harrowing race for survival across the vast waters of the globe. And his options are rapidly being reduced to two: sail or die. (American)

**Heather GRAHAM****Picture Me Dead** 347pp Tp 24.95

Ashley Montague is nearing the end of her police training but nothing has prepared this rookie for the rite of passage that will take her on a deadly ride into the underbelly of Miami's drug world. It begins with the shocking discovery of a body on the highway and her glimpse of a mysterious hooded figure watching from the side of the road. At another crime scene in the heart of the Everglades, Detective Jake Dileccio stares at the body of a mutilated woman, the victim identical to those of a cult leader he had put behind bars five years ago. Is this a copycat killing, or have his deepest fears been realised? Is the wrong man behind bars and the real killer still on the hunt? (American)


**Ginna GRAY****The Witness** 377pp Pb 14.95

In the blink of an eye, Lauren Brownly's life changed forever. Late one night the concert pianist witnessed a grisly murder, and with it came a devastating truth: crime lord Carlo Giovesi had financed her career. Now her testimony against him could finally bring him down. (American)


**Tim GREEN****The Fourth Perimeter** 329pp Pb 19.95

Kurt Ford is a former Secret Service agent who became one of the most successful high-tech entrepreneurs in America. A widower with one child, he considers his proudest achievement to be his son, Collin, a young Secret Service agent assigned to guard the US president. Then, on a foggy night in Georgetown, Collin makes a fatal mistake and when his body is found in his apartment, the police rule the death a suicide. Devastated, Ford discovers that several other young agents have also died and that they all witnessed a strange, secret meeting involving the president at a remote Maryland farmhouse. Is the person behind the murders none other than the President of the USA? (American)


**Jeff GULVIN**

 **The Procession** 423pp Pb 17.95  
The brutal murder of a fingerprint analyst drags Harrison back to front-line FBI duties. He traces the trail back to a clannish river community, who have worked on the Mississippi for centuries. There the FBI links the murder to a previously unsolved death of a young boy in the bayous. Now, Harrison must put his trust in a young street hood who seems to hold the keys to this vicious crime. (English)

**James HALL**

 **Blackwater Sound** 462pp Pb 18.95  
In the steamy shallows off the Florida coast, an airliner crashes, killing all aboard. Helping pull bodies from the water, reluctant investigator Thorn is drawn into a bizarre conspiracy. Someone has developed a jamming device of devastating potential. Now, the prototype has gone missing and there are some desperate people determined to find it. Soon, Thorn is caught up in a breathless pursuit that takes him from the Florida Keys to the big-game fishing grounds of the Bahamas, where the hunter can become the hunted. (American)

**Steve HAMILTON**


 **North of Nowhere** 261pp Pb 17.95  
When Alex McKnight is persuaded into a rare night out for a poker game, he knows it is a bad idea from the start. As the genial atmosphere rapidly deteriorates, three masked, armed robbers burst through the door and things get a whole lot worse... (American)

**Lee HARRIS**


 **Murder in Hell's Kitchen** 304pp Pb 18.95

A *Manhattan mystery*. Detective Jane Bauer is just two months and one case away from leaving the NYPD for a cushy desk job. Her last assignment: working for a special unit that tackles unsolved crimes. At a crossroads in her personal life, Jane relishes the chance to lose herself in a challenging investigation. Four years ago, Arlen Quill was found dead in the entryway to his apartment building, leaving no clues, no witnesses and no leads. When Jane decides to interview Quill's old neighbours, she makes a startling discovery: Every single occupant at the time of the murder subsequently disappeared. (American)


**Carolyn HART**

 **Engaged to Die** 311pp Hb 59.95  
A *Death-on-Demand mystery*. It is more than romance that intrigues mystery bookstore owner Annie Darling and her husband, Max, when wealthy, widowed art patron Virginia Neville announces her engagement to Jake O'Neill, at a gala opening at the Neville gallery. Virginia's joyful announcement leaves many of the gathered, especially certain members of her resentful extended stepfamily, quite peeved. And one of the guests takes the news harder than the rest: before the last champagne bubble pops, murder disrupts the grand celebration. (American)


**Patricia HIGHSMITH**

 **Ripley's Game** (1974) 253pp Pb 22.95  
This is the film tie-in edition. The movie stars John Malkovich as Ripley. In this novel, Ripley is looking for someone with no criminal record to commit two murders for a generous fee. (American)


**Patricia HIGHSMITH**

 **This Sweet Sickness** (1960) 282pp Tp 39.00  
David Kelsey has an unyielding conviction that life will turn out all right for him; he just has to fix the "Situation": he is in love with a married woman. Obsessed with Annabelle and the life he has imagined for them, David prepares to win her over, whatever it takes... (American)

**Lesley HORTON**

 **Snares of Guilt** 357pp Pb 17.95  
An *Inspector Handford investigation* #1. When a young Asian health therapist is found dead in the grounds of a Yorkshire nursing home, her husband's family make no secret of their pleasure at her death. Dangerous tensions are raked up from the past when Handford is assigned DS Khalid Ali in a blatant criticism of his bungled murder investigation a year ago. (English)

**Stephen HUNTER**


 **Pale Horse Coming** 567pp Pb 19.95  
Mississippi, 1951. Thebes State Penal Farm. Of the few who make the journey there, even fewer return. So when an old friend disappears inside, ex-marine and Arkansas State Police Sgt Earl Swagger takes a personal interest in the case. As he infiltrates the prison, what he experiences defies his wildest nightmares; it is a savage world where death is the only salvation. As tough as he is, Swagger barely escapes with his life and mind intact. Recruiting six of the hardest, deadliest gunmen ever known, bloody vengeance is soon at hand because Swagger is going back to Thebes. (American)

**Jon JACKSON**


 **Deadman** 263pp Pb 22.95  
A *Detective Sergeant Mulheisen mystery* #5. This time he is headed out of town, hot on the trail of Helen Sedlacek, who skipped out with a truckload of stolen cash after chopping down mob boss Carmine Busoni with a double-barrelled 12-gauge shotgun. A man fitting the description of Joe Service, Helen's lover and Mulheisen's nemesis, has turned up in hospital in a coma, having been shot in the face at close range. Mario Soper, a Mafia assassin with a contract on Joe, has turned up dead in a Montana irrigation ditch. But where is Helen and the money, and who killed Mario, and who shot Joe? (American)



**Donald JAMES**

 **Walking the Shadows** 433pp Tp 32.95  
Tom Chapel comes to St Juste to discover why a local man, Marcel Coulter, left his \$28m dollar fortune to his daughter Romilly, and why shortly after his bequest, she was abducted and attacked, and left in a life-threatening coma. The local police are not forthcoming: there is a code of silence about Romilly and another dead girl. His search takes him back to when this part of France was ruled by the Vichy government, at odds with the Resistance fighters who tried to smuggle Jews away to safety, Tom included. Not everyone made it: some were betrayed, but by who? Who amongst these French people could be harbouring a cold-blooded killer who, 40 years later, is prepared to kill and kill again to preserve his secret? (English)

**Iris JOHANSEN**

 **Dead Aim** 341pp Tp 30.00  
A celebrated photojournalist, Alex Graham has seen it all, but her latest assignment has forced her to cross a dangerous line. What happens when a reporter does more than just report? She has recorded some of the most tragic and heartbreaking of catastrophes, everything from natural disasters to infamous acts of terror. Her experiences have left her forever marked with the human side of tragedy. So, when a dam breaks in Arapahoe Junction, Colorado, Alex is once more at the site doing more than just snapping pictures, she is in the mud with a shovel digging for survivors. (American)

**Dorothy JOHNSTON****The White Tower****225pp Pb 22.95**

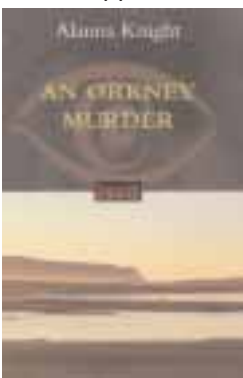
A Sandra Mahoney novel #2. A mild young man's addiction to a role-playing Internet game has led to his death. Disturbingly, his suicide is a bizarre echo of his chilling execution in the game; his only note a digital mirror image of his own death. But where do blame and responsibility lie in a world where powerful men are as seductive as they are unscrupulous? Mahoney finds that the threads of truth and illusion can easily wind into a choking scarf of manipulation and deceit. Ken Bruen believes that, "In years to come, the world will look to (this novel) as the moment Australian crime fiction got up off its hind legs and howled: We are here!" Highly recommended. (Australian)

**Michael JONES****The Honour Code of Green****469pp Pb 19.95**

Broke and desperate in New York, Australian lawyer Nick Barton inadvertently becomes involved in a Latin American drug syndicate. Catapulted to great wealth, he must fight to survive. Racing across the globe over three decades from Sydney to New York, from South America to Europe to Florida this story captures the heart of an era when "greed was good", but power was everything. (Australian)

**Alanna KNIGHT****An Orkney Murder****239pp Hb 39.95**

A long awaited holiday for Rose McQuinn, visiting her sister Emily in Orkney, takes on an unexpected and sinister twist when an archaeological dig for the grave of a 13th century princess, the Maid of Norway,



unearths a corpse of a more recent date. And Rose, always the investigator, finds that the closer she comes to finding the killer, the more she risks destroying her family's happiness. (Scottish)

**Lynda LaPLANTE****Royal Flush****340pp Pb 18.95**

"The Colonel" was the title given to the man rumoured to have masterminded the most successful robberies in the past decade. No one ever discovered his name. This is a novel of high adventure, furious plotting, blackmail and betrayal. (English)

**Donna LEON****Wilful Behaviour****355pp Pb 19.95**

A Commissario Brunetti investigation. When one of Paola's students comes to visit him, with a strange and vague interest in investigating the possibility of a pardon for a crime committed by her grandfather many years ago, Brunetti thinks little of it. But when the girl is found dead, Claudia Leonardo suddenly becomes Brunetti's case, no longer his wife's student. Claudia had no discernible living family; her only relationship is with an elderly Austrian woman, who was her grandfather's lover but not her grandmother. Brunetti is both intrigued and stunned by the extraordinary art collection the old woman keeps in her small, unprepossessing flat, but when she is found dead, the case opens up long buried secrets of the exploitation of Italian Jews during the war, secrets few in Italy are happy to explore... (English)

**Elmore LEONARD****Tishomingo Blues 308pp Pb 19.95**

Daredevil Dennis Lenahan has brought his act to the Tishomingo Lodge & Casino in Tunica, Mississippi. He dives off an 80-foot ladder into nine feet of water for the amusement of gamblers, gangsters and luscious belles. His riskiest feat, however, was witnessing a Dixie-style mob execution while atop his diving platform. Robert Taylor saw the hit also. A blues-loving Detroit hustler touring the Southland in a black Jaguar, Taylor's got his own secret agenda. And high-diver Dennis could be about to take a long, fatal fall, right into a mess of hoop skirts, Civil War play-acting and more trouble than he ever dreamed possible. (American)

**Elizabeth LOWELL****Running Scared****359pp Pb 14.95**

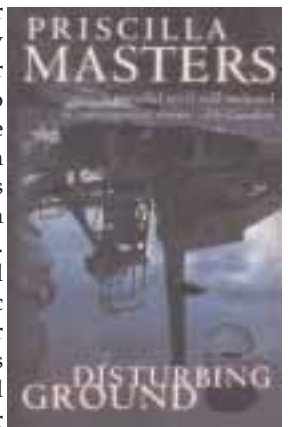
Risa Sheridan knows everything about gold: its mysteries, allure and perils. Her boss, Shane Tannahill, owner of the ultra-successful Las Vegas gambling Mecca, the Golden Fleece, is addicted to the stuff. Now, an ancient Celtic piece is being offered to Shane for his collection, with the promise of more to come, and the casino owner is hooked. But though she shares Shane's enthusiasm, Risa is wary because something about this particular artefact is mysterious and troubling, something that says, "Stay away." Soon people are dying all around them. Whether it is an ancient curse that has taken hold of their lives or the simple, murderous greed of unscrupulous adversaries, there is suddenly no place in the surreal, blinding glitter of Vegas for Risa and Shane to hide. (American)

**Robert LUDLUM & Gayle LYNDIS****The Paris Option 425pp Pb 18.95**

A Covert-One novel. The scientific community does not expect a workable DNA computer to be developed for years. But suddenly US fighter jets disappear from radar screens for a full five minutes, and there is no explanation. Utilities across the Western states cease functioning, and all telecommunications abruptly stop, with devastating consequences. This is not the work of a clever hacker, although Washington, worried about a panic, assures the public it is. Under the cover of visiting his friend Marty Zellerbach, Covert-One agent Jon Smith flies to Paris to investigate. Following a trail that leads him across two continents, Smith uncovers a web of deception that threatens to wreak havoc and forever reshape the world. (American)

**Priscilla MASTERS****Disturbing Ground****252pp Hb 49.95**

From her surgery window, Dr Megan Banesto watches as the body of Bianca Rhys is dragged from the local pond. A paranoid schizophrenic (famed for her outrageous claims and stories), her death does not come as a surprise to the local community. Soon after, when a 10-year-old child goes missing, Megan begins to wonder if Bianca's scandalous statements about disappearances from the village were really the truth, rather than symptoms of her disease. Set in the claustrophobic atmosphere of a small Welsh mining town, this is a gripping novel that seeks to find the truth about the shifting boundary between sanity and insanity. (English)

**Francine MATHEWS****The Secret Agent 516pp Pb 18.95**

Trained by the OSS, Jack Roderick plummeted into Bangkok one rainy morning in 1945 and never left. Silk King, pirate, ruthless collector of beautiful objects (especially women), Roderick was feared and respected as a foreign spy, a business kingpin and a trader in men's souls. And then, at the height of the Vietnam War, caught in a killing web of treachery and revenge that would determine the fate of his only son Rory, Jack walked into the jungle and vanished from the face of the earth. (American)

**Christine McGUIRE****Until Judgment Day****359pp Pb 18.95**

Kathryn Mackay has had her share of triumphs and tragedies throughout her career in the California DA's office. In and out of the courtroom, she has seen the best of times, such as her marriage to Santa Rita County Sheriff Dave Granz, and the worst of crimes, including the ones she is currently investigating: the serial murders of three local priests during the Christmas holiday season. Now it is up to Kathryn to stop the killer before he makes his final judgment... But with the spectre of sexual abuse and money laundering hanging high above the Church's spire, few individuals are willing to offer their confessions. (American)

**Judith McNAUGHT** **Someone to Watch Over Me****494pp Tp 27.95**

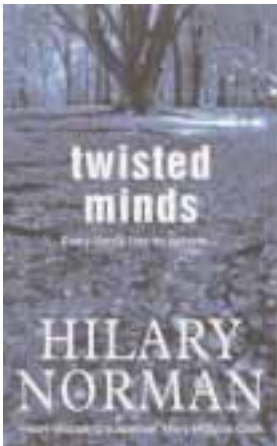
When the rich, successful husband of a beautiful New York actress mysteriously disappears, she plunges into a desperate search to find him, and into a menacing web of secrets, deception and danger. This is a thrilling tale filled with unrelenting suspense, unforgettable characters and powerful undercurrents of greed, ambition and desire. (American)

**Warren MURPHY** **The Destroyer #131 347pp Pb 17.95**

*Unnatural Selection.* Sexy scientist Dr Judith White, who first attempted to repopulate the earth with mutant, man-eating tiger people, has bounced back from extinction with a new and improved plan for world domination. (American)

**Hilary NORMAN** **Twisted Minds****439pp Pb 18.95**

From the day he sets foot in the Hampstead house that once belonged to his new wife's first husband, Matthew Gardner realises that life with Caroline is going to be



infinitely rougher than he had hoped. Her daughters, Flic and Imogen are charming to him in public but loathe him actively in private. If only their mother could see Matthew through their eyes, the girls feel, life would be so much easier. This is a tale of chillingly ruthless young sociopaths. (English)

**James PATTERSON & Peter de LONGE****The Beach House****388pp Pb 18.95**

Jack Mullen is in law school in New York City when the shocking news comes that his brother Peter has drowned in the ocean off East Hampton. Jack knows this could not be an accident. Someone must have wanted him dead. As Jack tries to uncover details, he confronts a barricade of lawyers, police and paid protectors who separate the multibillionaire summer residents from local workers like Peter. And he learns that Peter was not just parking cars at the summer parties of the rich, he was making serious money satisfying the sexual needs of the richest women and men in town. This novel reveals the secret lives of celebrities in a breathtaking drama of revenge. (American)

**Nora ROBERTS****Birthingright****465pp Tp 32.95**

When 5000-year-old human bones are found at a construction site in the small town of Woodsboro, the news draws archaeologist Callie Dunbrook out of her sabbatical and into a whirlwind of adventure, danger and romance. While overseeing the dig, she must try to make sense of a cloud of death and misfortune that hangs over the project. And she must cope with the presence of her irritating but irresistible ex-husband, Jake. Furthermore, when a stranger claims to know a secret about her privileged Boston childhood, she is forced to question her own past as well. A rich, thrilling, suspenseful tale, this novel follows an inspiring heroine, an intriguing hero and a cast of characters whose intertwined lives remind us that there is much more going on under the surface than meets the eye. (American)

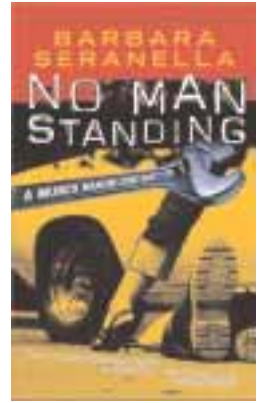
**S J ROZAN****Winter and Night****388pp Pb 18.95**

Private detective Bill Smith is thrown into the most provocative and personal case of his career when he receives a chilling late night telephone call from the NYPD, who are holding his 15-year-old nephew Gary. But before he can find out what is going on, Gary escapes Bill's custody and disappears into the dark and unfamiliar streets. Bill's search takes him to Gary's family in small town New Jersey, where he discovers that one of Gary's classmates was murdered. Bill delves into the crime, only to find it eerily similar to a decades-old murder-suicide. Now, with his nephew's future at stake, Bill must unravel a long-buried crime and confront the darkness of his own past... (American)

**Barbara SERANELLA****No Man Standing****342pp Pb 18.95**

*A Munch Mancini crime novel.*

Munch has not forgotten her old friend Ellen Summers. They were young and foolish together. They drank, did drugs and other things they would rather forget. But



so m e w h e r e

along the line, Munch went straight and Ellen went to prison. Now, Ellen is about to be freed from the California Institution for Women. She will have another chance to make a life. Or will she? Just a day before her release, her world falls apart when someone tortures and murders her mother and stepfather. (American)

**Clinton SMITH** **Exit Alpha****362pp Tp 29.95**

When five superpowers put their heads together in the name of global political stability, the result is EXIT: the most deadly and efficient intelligence agency ever known. It specialises in the removal and replacement of problematic people. The mandate is simple: do it quickly and do it properly. Ray Cain's long-term mission in Pakistan is over when he is recalled for a final assignment. The stakes are high, the players deadly and there can be only one winner. (Australian)

**Peter TEMPLE** **White Dog****337pp Tp 28.00**

*A Jack Irish thriller.* Mickey Franklin was funny, clever and dangerous but not anymore, now that a mysterious and beautiful sculptor named Sarah Longmore is accused of shooting him five times. By the time Jack pieces together the strange events that led to Mickey's death, he is in a world of shady deals, sexual secrets and untimely death, possibly his own. (Australian)

**Paul THOMAS** **The Empty Bed****354pp Pb 18.95**

Nick Souter believed in love. He and Ann had something special. He did not make a habit of going through her pockets but what is a man to do when he has a cold and a wife who helps herself to his hankies? You cannot blow your nose on an adulterous love-note, but it certainly took Nick's mind off his sniffles. Ann's shocking death leaves Nick bereft and the prime suspect. Acute and ironic, this novel is both a grimly funny self-portrait of a man watching his life unravel and an unnerving story of love and loss. (Australian)



**Simon TOLKIEN**

**The Stepmother 337pp Tp 29.95**  
One summer night, two men break into an isolated manor house and kill Lady Anne Robinson. Her son, Thomas, convinces the police that his father's beautiful personal assistant sent the killers; but Thomas is known for his overactive imagination, and he has reasons to lie. His father, Sir Peter Robinson, the British Minister of Defence, refuses to believe his son. Instead, he marries his assistant, Greta Grahame, and will be giving evidence for the defence at her trial. He will be the final witness. Author Simon Tolkien (yes, he is the grandson of JRR) combines legal suspense and psychological tension in this etched portrait of four people whose lives are changed by a murder. Tolkien expertly describes the art of the trial, the clash between Britain's social classes, and, most notably, the complexity of family relations. (English)

**Jess WALTER**

**Land of the Blind 289pp Tp 32.95**  
Burned out and working the weekend night shift, Caroline Mabry is confronted with the arrival of an apparently unstable but charming derelict, who announces that he wants to confess to a murder. At first she dismisses him as a nutcase. But when she realises he is former wunderkind politician Clark Mason, she agrees to let him write out his confession. 19 hours later, with Mason still feverishly writing, Caroline finds herself scrambling to investigate his long, progressively darker and more sinister tale before Monday morning arrives and the weekday detectives swoop in to take the case for themselves. (English)

**Valerie WOLZIEN**

**A Fashionable Murder 272pp Pb 18.95**  
A *Josie Pigeon* mystery. When the amateur sleuth joins her long-time beau, Sam, on a trip to New York City for a week, she suspects she will be looking at e n g a g e m e n t rings, not mug shots. Once they arrive in the Big Apple though, the constant reminders of Sam's wealthy, glamorous past make Josie feel like she is way out of her league. Then the body of his ex-girlfriend, the elegant Pamela Peel, turns up in Sam's apartment and he becomes the police's prime suspect in her murder. (American)



**Edward WRIGHT**

**Clea's Moon 282pp Tp 29.95**  
Winner of the CWA *Debut Dagger* for Fiction. Set in post-WW2 Los Angeles, this book introduces a complex and fascinating character, John Ray Horn. He is a former actor in B-grade westerns who is now, after serving prison time for assault, collecting debts for his erstwhile American Indian sidekick. A call from an old friend leads Horn to old secrets that involve his former stepdaughter, Clea, who has recently disappeared. When his friend dies under mysterious circumstances, Horn is desperate to uncover the truth and to find Clea and bring her home. Wright brilliantly captures the period in this suspenseful and richly atmospheric novel. (American)

**CRIME AUDIO**



**Kenneth COOK**

**Wake in Fright 4 x cassettes 200 minutes 32.95**  
**3 x compact discs 200 minutes 36.95**  
This classic is probably one of the most original and unnerving portraits of Australia ever created. It is read by Gabriel Andrews.

**Ngaio MARSH**

**A Man Lay Dead & A Surfeit Lampreys 2 x cassettes 115 minutes 21.95**  
Jeremy Clyde, Donald Sinden and John Moffatt star in two Inspector Alleyn dramatisations.

**Georges SIMENON**

**Maigret: A Man's Head 2 x cassettes 180 minutes 21.95**  
Nicholas le Prevost stars as the French detective in four new BBC Radio full cast dramatisations.

**CRIME NON-FICTION**



**John BIRMINGHAM**

**Dopeland 257pp Tp 29.95**  
*Taking the high road through Australia's marijuana culture.* With danger, disaster and madness always threatening to derail the fabulous Dopeland Tour, the reader can safely sit back and enjoy the ride. The author, on the other hand, has to deal with stoner babes, narcs, rednecks, plushies, Darth Maul and the terrifying Forest of Boners. This book, not necessarily a proper inclusion in this newsletter, nevertheless takes the reader through a hugely popular, yet largely illegal and undocumented, subculture present in Australia today. (Australian)

**Simon COOPER**

**The Deadly Game 237pp Pb 17.95**  
*The chilling true story of how a city was held to ransom.* In 1998, a madman sent six festively wrapped parcels to Barclays Bank in London. As workers opened them, booby traps were detonated. (English)

**Pete EARLEY and Gerald SHUR WITSEC: Inside the Federal Witness Protection Program 434pp Pb 21.00**

For decades no law enforcement program has been as cloaked in controversy and mystery as the witness protection programme. Now, for the first time, Shur, the man credited with its creation, teams with acclaimed investigative journalist Earley to tell the inside story of turncoats, crime-fighters, killers and ordinary human beings caught up in a life-and-death game of deception in the name of justice. (American)

**Howard ENGEL**

**Crimes of Passion 239pp Hb 39.95**

*An Unblinking Look at Murderous Love.* The very term "crimes of passion" can evoke deep-seated, primitive responses. We are fascinated, yet repelled, by the thought of such overwhelming rage and passion. This book examines some of history's most infamous cases, from Ruth Ellis and Lord Broughton, to OJ Simpson and Lorena Bobbit. (Canadian)



**Kinky FRIEDMAN**

**Kinky Friedman's Guide to Texas Etiquette 196pp Tp 34.00**

*Or, How to Get to Heaven or Hell Without Going Through Dallas-Fort Worth.* Well, butter my butt and call me a biscuit! Kinky is back and at his outrageous best in this hilarious guide to the Lone Star State. With George W in the White House, Americans are taking a second look at the state made famous by the Alamo, the armadillo, Willie Nelson and, well, Kinky Friedman. As the oldest living Jew in Texas who doesn't own any real estate, Kinky considers it his duty to educate Texans and non-Texans alike about the customs and habits of his native state. You will never look at Texas the same way again after you encounter the real-life characters in this book: From hometown heroes and outlaws to rich Texas oilmen and country stars, Kinky provides an insider's view of his state's customs, history and values. (American)

**Jack GIECK****Fatal Journey****350pp Pb 17.95**

Jesse Pratt was obsessed with his pretty 20-year-old secretary, Carrie Love. He alternately wooed her and stalked her. When she resisted, he forced her on a business excursion and raped and killed her. To conceal her identity, the would-be trucker drove his vehicle over the body. This is a story about how forensic science was used to capture him. (American)

**Dr Henry LEE & Frank TIRNADY****Blood Evidence****418pp Hb 54.00**

*How DNA is revolutionising the way we solve crimes.* Here the authors show how investigators can collect genetic evidence off everything from bloodstains to cigarette butts. More than just case histories, this book examines how DNA has altered not only the way we solve crimes and how courts evaluate evidence, but also the ethical implications of cloning, genetic modifications and the death penalty. (American)

**Fergus LINNANE****London's Underworld****372pp Hb 39.95**

*Three Centuries of Vice and Crime.* Full of vivid detail and characters, this book is an examination of the underside of the world's richest city as it evolved from the extreme violence of the early 18th century to the vastly more complex and lucrative, but no less violent, gangland of today. Linnane takes us on the nightmarish last journeys of condemned criminals to execution. We follow the ingenious criminals who carried out the first great train robbery in 1854 and the gang that robbed the Bank of England. We enter death-trap 18th century prisons, described as a "prototype of hell". We walk the crowded streets of Victorian London with its swarms of prostitutes, its magmen and garroters. We enter low drinking dens where prostitutes and their murderous accomplices practised their arts. We see the rise and fall of the interwar racecourse gangs and the battle for control of the West End, which bequeathed us much of the structure of present-day gangland. This story has the power to disturb and even disgust, but it is endlessly fascinating. (English)

**Lilian PIZZICHINI****Dead Men's Wages****267pp Pb 25.00**

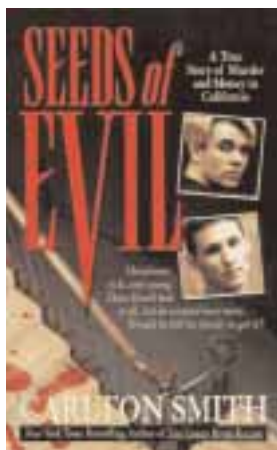
Winner of the *Non-Fiction CWA Gold Dagger Award* 2002. She was the granddaughter of Charlie Taylor, a notorious uptown villain. In this memoir, which is more like a novel, she observes his life as though watching a grainy newsreel of 20th century London. She shows what happens to a family when overwhelming personal greed replaces love and compassion. (English)

**Charley ROSEN****The Wizard of Odds****427pp Tp 36.95**

*How Jack Molinas almost destroyed the game of basketball.* Jack Molinas had it all: good looks, charm, an Ivy League education, a genius-level IQ of 175 and a huge talent for the game of basketball. He was also a gambling addict with a flair for larceny. This book chronicles the rise and fall of this outstanding NBA All-Star who fixed games, cavorted with the Mafia, produced pornographic films and was eventually murdered. (American)

**Carlton SMITH****Seeds of Evil****258pp Pb 15.95**

*A true story of murder and money in California.* Handsome, young and rich, Dana Ewell had it all, but he wanted even more. Would he kill his family to get it? Dana seemed strangely unaffected by the Easter Sunday murders of his mother, father and sister. Although he had an airtight alibi, Detective John Souza immediately suspected that the spoiled son with a new airplane and Armani suits was a murderous rogue. (American)



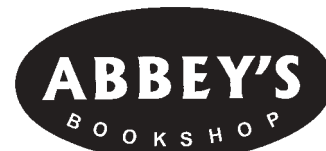
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