

Crime

"where a good crime can be had by all"



chronicle



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Issue #233

June 2005

EDGAR AWARD WINNERS

BEST NOVEL

California Girl

by T Jefferson Parker (Tp 29.95)

BEST FIRST NOVEL BY AN AMERICAN AUTHOR

Country of Origin by Don Lee (Tp 29.95)

BEST PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

The Confession

by Dominic Stansberry (Pb 16.95)

BEST CRITICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL

New Annotated Sherlock Holmes: Complete Short Stories

edited by Leslie Klinger (Hb Boxed Set 115.95)

BEST FACT CRIME

Conviction: Solving the Moxley Murder by Leonard Levitt (Hb 45.00)

SIMON & SCHUSTER/MARY HIGGINS CLARK AWARD

Grave Endings by Rochelle Krich (Hb 44.95)

Karl V

The Ultimate Game (417pp Tp 29.95)



This novel introduces CIA agent, Marco Burini and his boss, the enigmatic John Casey. In this high stakes scenario if Agent Burini fails, the Islamic radicals will finally have a weapon to kill millions. In this new and uncertain millennium, there are no boundaries any more. Money, men, weapons and information all move seamlessly across almost non-existent borders. There are no rules. Information is the key, it can save lives and Burini will do whatever it takes to get that information.

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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY
MON 13 JUNE
WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM



Modern Crime

Susan Wittig ALBERT

Dilly of a Death
322pp Pb 16.95

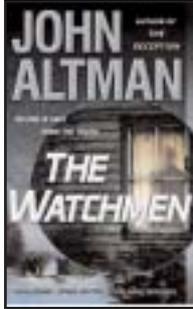
A *China Bayles mystery #12*. Lawyer-turned-herbalist China Bayles becomes immersed in a pickle season mystery in Pecan Springs, Texas. When a local pickle heiress turns up dead, it looks like things are not at all kosher. (American)



John ALTMAN

The Watchmen 321pp Pb 18.95

In a remote safe house three men are facing off: an unusually cooperative Al Qaeda prisoner who is under interrogation; a psychiatrist whose specialty is mind-altering drugs; and a CIA agent dispatched on an assassination mission. (American)



Jennifer APODACA

Ninja Soccer Moms
302pp Pb 14.95

A *Samantha Shaw mystery #3*. Her dating service is neglected, as Samantha Shaw's investigation of her friend Janie Tuggle's husband for embezzling soccer funds sees both Samantha and Janie become suspects in his murder. (American)

Campbell ARMSTRONG

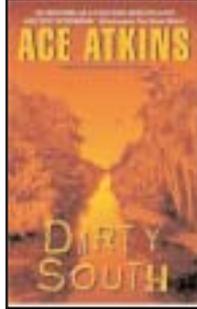
White Rage 502pp Pb 18.95

When a young Asian entrepreneur dies in a suspicious fall from his high-rise apartment and an Indian kindergarten teacher is gunned down in front of her class, it is clear to DS Lou Perlman that he is dealing with racially motivated murder. The emergence of a group called White Rage and a growing sense of fear mean that Perlman needs some answers quickly. At the same time, he needs to make sense of a crime that is closer to home — the mysterious shooting of his own brother Colin. Lou's conviction that the killing is connected to the underworld boss Leo Kilroy nags at his mind almost as much as his unspoken love for Colin's widow Miriam. (British)

Ace ATKINS

Dirty South 363pp Pb 18.95

A *Nick Travers thriller #4*. What if you had only 24-hours to save the life of a friend? The imminent murder of a former teammate — a player in the violence-prone, big money game of Big Easy rap music — is pulling ex-New Orleans Saints footballer-turned-blues historian Nick Travers into a world of fur-lined Bentleys and Cristal champagne. This is an unfamiliar New South — dirtier, deadlier, more vicious, where a music empire can fall in a sudden, bloody rain of bullets. And with the lives of a mogul and an angry teenage hip-hop prodigy at stake, Nick needs to put himself in the crossfire to find a missing \$700,000 and a killer who is coming too close. (American)



Linwood BARCLAY

Bad Move 390pp Pb 16.95

In the too-quiet town of Oakwood, only the lucky die of boredom... and new homeowner Zack Walker is not feeling lucky. Whoever said the suburbs were boring will think twice after reading this hilarious debut mystery, in which Dad learns the hard way that he does not always know best. (American)

Steve BERRY

The Romanov Prophecy
384pp Pb 16.95

Moscow: Present Day: Atlanta lawyer Miles Lord, fluent in Russian and well versed in the country's history, is thrilled to be in Moscow on the eve of such a momentous event. After the fall of Communism and a succession of weak governments, the Russian people have voted to bring back the monarchy. The new tsar will be chosen from the distant relatives of Nicholas II by a specially appointed commission, and Miles' job is to perform a background check on the Tsarist candidate favored by a powerful group of Western businessmen. But research quickly becomes the least of Miles' concerns when he is nearly killed by gunmen on a city plaza. (American)

Anthony BIDULKA

Amuse Bouche 267pp Pb 18.95

A *Russell Quant mystery #1*. A gay wedding gone bad. A missing groom. An unsullied reputation at risk. Enter Russell Quant: cute, gay and a rookie PI. Taking his cue from the style and humour of Robert B Parker, and evoking Armistead Maupin with his wit and warmth, Anthony Bidulka's debut mystery is a rich, saucy and engaging read. (American)

Michael BIEHL

Lawyered to Death
300pp Tp 28.95

A *Karen Hayes mystery*. Hospital attorney Karen Hayes, first introduced in the author's mystery novel **Doctored Evidence** (Pb 17.95) and married to a blues musician, is called on to defend CEO Arthur Winslow against a sexual harassment claim. But soon she finds herself defending him against a murder charge as well. This is a story about the corruption that masquerades as business savvy in many large organisations, never more timely than in today's post-Enron era. (American)

Alice BLANCHARD

The Breath taker
513pp Pb 19.95

Promise, Oklahoma is in the middle of south central USA, more commonly known as Tornado Alley. A deadly twister has left people dead and caused \$40m worth of damage. At first it seems as though the Pepper family are just four more statistics on the death roll, but Police Chief Charlie Grover's hunch they were murdered is supported by the post mortem. He seeks help from meteorological expert Dr Willa Bellman. Both of them are convinced that amongst the storm-chasers is the killer, but more deaths occur before the killer is stopped in a truly breathtaking climax. (American)

KEY

academic



banking



canine detectives



clerical



cosy/mal ice domestic



cul inary/food



fbi



fel ine detectives



forensic



hor se racing mystery



medical



mil itary



na tive american



pol ice procedur al



pol itical /legal



psy chol ogical



pr ivate eye



romantic suspense



spor t



spy



suspense/thriller



AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB

**James BORN**

Walking Money 289pp Pb 18.95
 "Putting 17 years of service with various law enforcement agencies to excellent use, Born delivers a riveting, serpentine tale of crooked cops, police politics and a \$1.5 million bag of money juggled from one pair of dishonest hands to another." (*Publishers' Weekly*) When a key witness is killed, Florida state cop Bill Tasker is framed for the whole thing. (American)

Rhys BOWEN

Evan's Gate 291pp Pb 16.95
 *A Constable Evans mystery #8.* Welsh constable Evan Evans has found the most delightful shepherd's cottage, but before he seals the deal, a five-year-old girl vanishes from a seaside caravan park. But he cannot help wondering if the abduction is related to the disappearance of another girl, 25 years ago. Now, as he and his fiancé try to build their dream house, he must also build a difficult case against a possible double murderer. (British)

C J BOX

Trophy Hunt 344pp Pb 16.95
 *A Joe Pickett mystery #4.* It is an idyllic late-summer day in Saddlestring and game warden Joe Pickett is fly-fishing with his two daughters when he stumbles upon the mutilated body of a moose. Whatever, or whoever, attacked the animal was ruthless. Shaken by the sight, Joe investigates only to find cattle killed in the same manner. Are the animals target practice for a killer about to move on to another, more challenging prey? Is there a modern-day Jack the Ripper on the loose in Saddlestring and is his rampage just beginning? (American)

Suzanne BROCKMANN

Hawken's Heart 248pp Pb 16.95
 Government agent Crash Hawken awakens in a Washington hospital only to learn that he is the prime suspect in the assassination attempt of a commanding officer. Charged with treason, conspiracy and murder, he is alone except for Nell Burns. She knows he could not have committed these crimes. Soon they are on the run, but first they have to survive another day. (American)

Christopher BROOKMYRE

Be My Enemy 390pp Pb 22.95
 It was a junket, a freebie. A 'team-building' weekend in the highlands for lawyers, advertising execs, businessmen, even the CEO of a charity. Oh, and a journalist, specially solicited for his renowned and voluble scepticism, Jack Parlabane. Amid the flying paintballs and flowing Shiraz even the most cynical admit the organisers have pulled some surprises, like being scared out of their wits. And that's before they find the first body... (British)

James Lee BURKE

Robicheaux: The Early Years 632pp Tp 29.95
 Three Great Novels: **The Neon Rain** (1987), **Heaven's Prisoners** (1987) and **Black Cherry Blues** (1989). (American)

April CHRISTOFFERSON

Patent to Kill 418pp Pb 18.95

 It is a new crime for a new century. Bio-piracy: the theft of the healing secrets of isolated, indigenous peoples. Dr Jake Scully does not want to think that his employer, Genchrom, is exploiting anyone, let alone killing natives for the unique properties of their DNA, but when he tries to blow the whistle on the company's criminal activities, he places his own life, and his family, in danger. (American)

**Jill CHURCHILL**

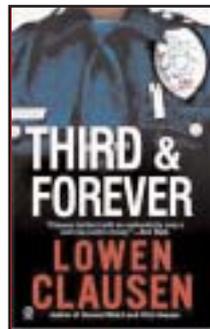
It Had to Be You 244pp Pb 16.95

 *A Grace and Favor mystery #5.* Comfortably ensconced in their late great-uncle's Grace and Favor mansion, brother and sister Robert and Lily Brewster are riding out the Depression, penniless but in high style. Now a new day is heralded by Franklin Roosevelt's inauguration. Barely recovered from his trip to Washington to witness the historic event, Robert is rushed by Lily to a nearby nursing home, where the Brewsters have agreed to lend a helping hand to the staff. But when an elderly resident is murdered in his bed, Robert and Lily realise the local police will need their able assistance especially since the slaying isn't the only big trouble in tiny Voorburg. The spring thaw has revealed another body, and the Brewster siblings must expose a cold-blooded criminal before he or she kills again. (American)

Lowen CLAUSEN

Third and Forever 376pp Pb 18.95

 When Officer Grace Stevens returns to college for an advanced degree, she does not expect to stumble into the web of a serial rapist whose charm and skill on the football field hide a much more sinister side. In the big money arena of college sports where winners are above the law, Grace finds herself playing a dangerous game against an opponent who does not like to lose. Ann Rule says, 'Clausen [writes] with an authenticity only a real cop could convey'. (American)

**Harlan COBEN**

The Innocent 370pp Tp 29.95
 Matt Hunter's life has already been blown apart once. A fight, a friend in trouble and the dull crack of someone's skull on the concrete cost him four years in jail, and a small sliver of his soul. When Matt got out he set about rebuilding his life. He carved himself a job as a lawyer and fell in love with a beautiful woman. The break in the road seemed only to have made him a stronger person. But now someone is following him, and Matt realises that his new existence is under threat. Suddenly Matt cannot trust anybody, least of all those he loves... (American)

Kurt CORRIHER

Someone to Kill 496pp Pb 18.95
 The man who called himself Mr Greene was purposeful, deliberate and very, very cold. He had no difficulty putting the device into the gray Honda belonging to investigative reporter Judith Lyles. Although John Pavlak and Judith planned to divorce, John is devastated by her death. A decorated veteran, he is not the sort of man to wait for the police to bring him answers. Assuming her murder was job related, John finds she was doing a story about Germany and lingering cold-war secrets. One step ahead of the police, he flees to Berlin. (American)

Ron CUTLER

Angel of Vengeance 385pp Pb 14.95

 The first to die was a convicted abuser recently released from prison: abducted, drawn and quartered, his body was displayed like a medieval warning. Next was a powerful man who had connections to the original victim and who suffered a similar grisly fate. When Holly is called in as a consultant, she quickly realizes she's on a trail as twisted as the criminal mind itself. The darkest pages of history soon reveal the killer's inspiration: a secret book of tortures penned in the bloodiest days of the Inquisition that has survived to feed a modern-day monster's sadistic imagination. (American)

Deborah DONNELLY

Death Takes a Honeymoon 335pp Pb 14.95

 *A Wedding Planner mystery.* Carnegie Kincaid can feel the heat when she reunites with an old flame in the wealthy resort community of Sun Valley but handsome smoke jumper Jack Packard is about to marry Carnegie's former best friend, now a famous TV actress. With a star-studded ceremony to pull off, Carnegie has no time for carnal urges. Especially once murder joins the party. The victim was a local hero who leapt from planes to fight fire. But was his impromptu skydive a smoke screen for something sinister? (American)

**Aaron ELKINS****Fellowship of Fear (1986)****282pp Pb 16.95**

A *Gideon Oliver mystery*. The first novel featuring forensic anthropologist Gideon Oliver, or The Skeleton Detective. (American)

Roger Jon ELLORY**Ghostheart****390pp Pb 19.95**

Annie O'Neill has it all: a cosy Manhattan apartment, a beautiful bookshop and a network of supportive friends. But at the heart of her life is a hole; a place vacated by her father when he died in her childhood. So when a mysterious man named Forrester enters the shop and claims to be her father's oldest friend, she jumps at the chance to find out more of her own past. But he is not being free with the answers she needs. He is much more interested in telling her a story about a ruthless ganglord and a 50-year-old betrayal, which she will realise (far too slowly) has something very much to do with her... (British)

Earl EMERSON**Pyro****299pp Pb 16.95**

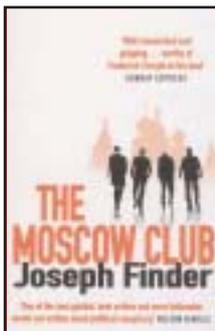
Emerson takes readers into the heart of the world's most dangerous profession, where the next alarm might bring sudden death. Based on stunning, actual events in the author's life, this electrifying new novel is a frightening duel between a Seattle firefighter and a man who wants to burn him down. (American)

K J ERICKSON**Alone at Night 274pp Pb 16.95**

A *Mars Bahr mystery*. Reassigned with his partner Nettie Frisch to Minneapolis's Cold Case Unit, Mars Bahr misses the adrenaline rush of the homicide squad, until a crime-finders TV show appeals to the public for new leads regarding the disappearance of teenage beauty Andrea Bergstad from a rural drugstore. Among the screwball responses is one sizzling hot tip. With shocking information kept secret for nearly 20 years, Mars suddenly faces a real and terrifying threat to himself and those he loves unless he can catch a killer... (American)

Joseph FINDER**The Moscow Club 540pp Pb 19.95**

In a deserted Moscow street, the chauffeur to a high-ranking official is strangled but not before he has smuggled out a tape hinting at the beginning of a hidden power struggle within the Kremlin. Hours later in New York, Charles Stone, a CIA agent, is given the tape's transcript. (American)

**Joseph FINDER****Paranoia****505pp Pb 18.95**

26-year-old Adam Cassidy is a low-level employee who hates his job at a high-tech corporation. When he manipulates the system to do something nice for a friend, he is charged with a federal crime. Corporate Security give him a choice between prison or a spy in the headquarters of their chief competitor. Adam is trained for his 'mission' and fed inside information when he lands a top job with the rival company. But then he finds that he has talents he never knew he possessed. He is rich, drives a Porsche, lives in a fabulous apartment and is dating the girl of his dreams. All he has to do is betray everyone he cares about and everything he believes in... (American)

Bill FITZHUGH**Radio Activity 354pp Pb 18.95**

This is classic Fitzhugh; a wickedly funny amateur investigation that turns up blackmail, murder, arson and a major FCC violation. This smart, satiric, southern romp of a novel draws heavily from the author's own experience as a Mississippi-born FM radio disc jockey from the 1970s. An offbeat and hilarious whodunit, which redefines the meaning of classic rock. (American)

Jessica FLETCHER & Donald BAIN**Murder, She Wrote #22****281pp Pb 16.95**

The Maine Mutiny. Jessica Fletcher is pitching in to help Cabot Cove's first Lobster Festival by writing an article about the lifestyle of the local lobstermen. But instead of getting the story, she becomes tangled in a net of intrigue and murder. And she better sink her claws into this case, or she may find herself becoming the next catch of the day. (American)

Kathryn FOX**Malicious Intent 445pp Pb 19.95**

While investigating the drug overdose of a teenage girl, pathologist and forensic physician Dr Anya Cricton discovers striking similarities between the case and a number of apparent suicides. (Australian)

Nicci FRENCH**Catch Me When I Fall****298pp Tp 29.95**

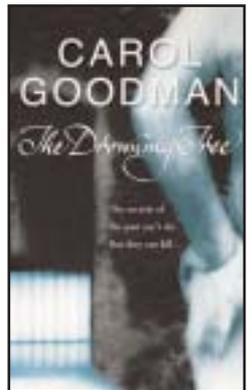
Holly Krauss is a successful young businesswoman with a stable home life, she is loved and admired by all who meet her. But that's only one side of Holly. The other sees her take regular walks on the wildside where she makes evermore reckless mistakes. And when those mistakes start mounting up, the two sides of Holly blur together and her life quickly spirals out of control. Are her fears just the paranoia of an illness or intimations of very real danger? And if she can no longer rely on her own judgement, who can she trust to catch her when she falls? (British)

Robert GODDARD**Sight Unseen****329pp Tp 32.95**

July 1981. The peaceful atmosphere at the ancient stone circle of Avebury is shattered by the abduction of toddler Tasmin Hall and the violent death of her sister Miranda. 23 years later, the case is reopened by DCI George Sharp, who never believed notorious paedophile Brian Radd was responsible, even if he did confess to Tasmin's abduction and murder. This is a classic Goddard mystery, full of his trademark twists and turns and deeply satisfying to the very last page. (British)

Carol GOODMAN**The Drowning Tree****467pp Pb 22.95**

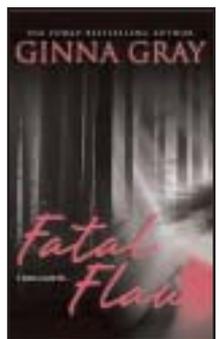
80 years after it was created, the Lady Window at Penrose College is due for restoration. The task falls to former alumna Juno McKay, who is restoring it in conjunction with her friend Christine Webb, an art historian



researching the window for her thesis. Christine discovers some new evidence that points to a mesmerising historical error. But this is controversial, and before Christine can expound on her idea to Juno, she is found dead in the lake. What other legacies have the Penroses bequeathed to the students at their college? (British)

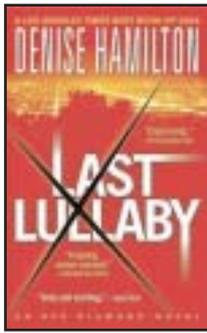
Ginna GRAY**Fatal Flaw****379pp Pb 16.95**

A murderer is targeting the women of Miers, Colorado, and so far the police have nothing to go on. Detective Casey O'Toole is assigned to jump-start the investigation, and she discovers two unsettling facts: the victims were all patients of a prominent plastic surgeon, and each of them bears an uncanny resemblance to herself. Ruled out as a suspect, Dr. Mark Adams offers to assist Casey in any way he can and, despite her resistance, their relationship quickly turns personal. The pressure on Casey to find the killer mounts steadily as terror grips the small mountain community. Then a stunning twist leads Casey to the deadly truth and to the face of a killer that is nearly as familiar as her own. (American)



**Denise HAMILTON** **Last Lullaby** 355pp Pb 16.95

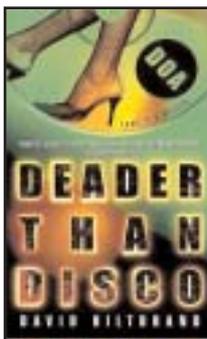
An Eve Diamond mystery #3. Her search to find the truth behind a child abduction takes LA Times reporter Eve Diamond into LA's sleazy hotels, cybercafes and into the upscale milieu of trendy restaurants and high-powered human-rights lawyers. Nothing is quite what it appears to be and nobody seems to want Eve to find the child. This is a richly nuanced crime novel from a gifted author who asks important questions and never settles for the superficial answer. Her powerful prose and passion for her native city shine through on every page. (American)

**Bonnie Hearn HILL** **Double Exposure** 377pp Pb 16.95

 Vintner Reebie Mahoney's investigation into the death of a former US president's mistress draws her back through the decades to the halcyon days of 1970s California and the colourful characters who once populated Jeanette's world: Television stars, gangsters, politicians. Someone amongst this disparate group of people was willing to go to murderous lengths to preserve a secret capable of toppling an administration. Two more murders are committed as Jeanette's secret closes around Reebie in a net of deception and half-truths. Trust is not Reebie's strong suit, but her life will depend on just that. (American)

David HILTBRAND **Deader than Disco** 288pp Pb 16.95

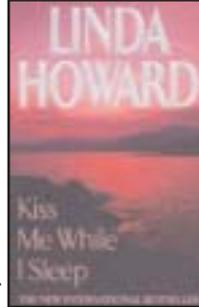
For 20 years, sex-drenched rock diva Angel has kept herself at the top of the pop charts and in the public eye, thanks to her uncanny knack for controversy and amazing talent for personal reinvention. But the dead body of a rising NBA hoop star has been discovered at Angel's LA pleasure palace and suddenly the most recognisable face in America is nowhere to be seen. The music world is private investigator Jim McNamara's arena, and its pulse, glitter and volume make him come alive. But how do you find a chameleon who could be anywhere and anyone? If McNamara cannot figure it out, the elusive enigma's next hit just might be, quite literally, number one with a bullet! (American)

**Victoria HOUSTON** **Dead Jitterbug** 259pp Pb 16.95

A Loon Lake Fishing mystery #6. Hope McDonald's advice column syndicates nationwide. So when Hope is murdered in her home, Chief Lewellyn Ferris can think of more than a few suspects. Now, she will have to think of the perfect bait to net a cold-blooded killer. (American)

Linda HOWARD **Kiss Me While I Sleep** 344pp Pb 19.95

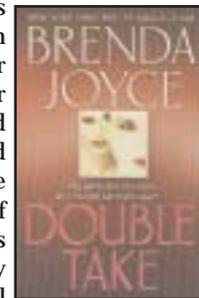
Efficient, professional, and without apology, Lily Mansfield is a hired assassin, working as a contract agent for the CIA. Her targets are the powerful and corrupt, those who cannot be touched by the law. Now, after 18 years of service, Lily has been drawn into a dangerous game that has not been sanctioned, seeking vengeance for her own reasons. Each move bolder than the next, she is compromising her superiors, drawing unwanted attention and endangering her very life. A CIA agent himself, Lucas Swain's orders are to either bring her in or bring her down. Keeping laser focus on her task at hand while vigilantly watching her back, Mansfield never sees the lethal peril that lies directly in her path...and how loyalty has a price. (American)

**Susan JAMES** **The Siren of Solace Glen** 308pp Pb 16.95

When an impossibly beautiful blonde arrives in town, fleeing a stalker, Flip must clean up after the dangerous flow of violence that follows her. (American)

Brenda JOYCE **Double Take** 376pp Pb 16.95

 Kait London has been estranged from her twin sister for years. She has never understood why and has always regretted it. When her phone rings in the middle of the night, Kait learns that Lana desperately needs her help. All Kait has to do is take her place, for two days, at her home in the horse country of Virginia. If Kate can play this role convincingly enough, she will save Lana's life... Kait had not been expecting Trev Coleman to be in residence. Worse, she is soon forced to recognise how darkly seductive he is and that he may very well be her worst enemy. Then she discovers that someone is deliberately stalking Lana... (American)

**Susan KANDEL** **I Dreamed I Married Perry Mason** 292pp Pb 16.95

A Cece Caruso mystery #1. Everybody in LA has problems. In addition to a bad case of writer's block and trying to save her daughter's marriage, former New Jersey beauty queen Cece Caruso has become obsessed with Gardner's literary courtroom magician, Perry Mason. And said obsession has led her to a prison inmate who once pled his case to the late great mystery writer. Suddenly, solving a 40-year-old murder has become her primary concern; that and finding a 1970 silk chiffon Ossie Clark to add to her collection of vintage clothing. But by channelling the inner sleuth she never knew she possessed, Cece may be stirring up a killer who is no character from a dog-eared paperback. (American)

John KATZENBACH **The Madman's Tale** 718pp Pb 21.95

A tour de force narrative journey through the eerily unpredictable mind of an utterly unusual hero, this novel will keep even the most astute thriller reader uncertain, unnerved and unable to resist the tantalizing twists and turns of this fiendishly suspenseful shadow show. (American)

Douglas KENNEDY **The Job** 501pp Pb 22.95

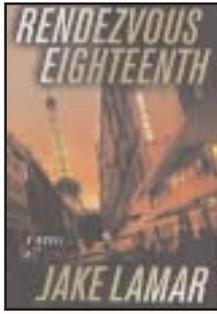
 Ned Allen is young, smart and upwardly mobile. Several years into his career as an ad salesman for a successful computer magazine, he has finally left his small-town roots behind, and is certain that the sophisticated Manhattan world he covets is his forever. His wife Lizzie is also a rising star of a prestigious PR firm. It seems that Ned has made it. But then he is forced to make some tough calls, among them a question of ethics and the small matter of whether to lie to his wife, and when the tough calls just keep getting tougher he finds himself on the brink of losing everything ... (American)

Richard KUNZMAN **Bloody Harvests** 403pp Tp 30.00

A trail of murder leads deep into a chilling underworld of poverty, superstition and the terror of witchcraft. Detective Harry Mason needs to discover if the recent gruesome death of a child is the work of a serial murderer or a muti killer butchering children to make powerful medicine from their body parts. His partner Jacob Tshabalala is forced to reconsider his beliefs as both a tribesman and a cop, and becomes increasingly convinced that this time they are dealing with a genuine witch, perhaps one powerful enough to subvert the investigation itself. (South African)

**Jake LAMAR****Rendezvous Eighteenth****311pp Tp 29.95**

Ricky Jenks gave up life in the USA years ago and is content, if not happy, with his life as a piano player in a small café in the Montmartre neighbourhood of Paris. His American life comes crashing down on him, however, when his estranged cousin wants help finding his runaway wife. That same night Ricky finds a prostitute dead in his apartment building in Paris's Eighteenth Arrondissement, one of the most multicultural sections of Paris. That these two events could be connected is something he never imagines. This intricate, absorbing thriller is ultimately much more than a suspense novel. Lamar's detailed and vibrant portrait of life in Paris is as much the story of a black man's alienation and redemption (indeed, the story of an entire community searching for a home) as it is a taut thriller about revenge, obsession, and murder. Marks the emergence of an exciting new voice. (Afro-American)

**Eva-Marie LIFFNER****Imago****245pp Tp 36.95**

It is 1938. A corpse is found preserved in a peat bog on the border between Germany and Denmark. The body is that of a 19th century soldier. A Danish policeman, a young German Jewish refugee and a German professor venture into the quagmire to find clues. Soon afterwards, the professor disappears without a trace. It is 2000. Esme Olsen, a cleaner in the Institute for Historical Studies in Copenhagen, stumbles upon documents concerning the peat bog find while cleaning up after a student party. An amateur historian with a quirky personality, she cannot resist 'borrowing' the documents to read at home. Thus begins a many-layered journey into the past, both real and imagined. The various sub-plots are subtly interwoven to create a multivalent, atmospheric tale of mystery, memory and remembrance. (Danish)

Gay LONGWORTH**The Unquiet Dead****437pp Pb 18.95**

A *Jessie Driver investigation #2*. The decaying Marshall Street Baths in the heart of London's Soho are a den for drug-users and the perfect hang-out for a teenage runaway. But when DI Jessie Driver goes there in search of a missing girl, she finds something quite different: the mummified body of a man, buried in the rat-infested basement. Who was he? And how does this murder relate to the tragic drowning of a young boy years earlier? (British)

Merline LOVELACE**The First Mistake****375pp Pb 16.95**

10 years ago, former special agent Cleo North ignored her instincts and a young sergeant was murdered. Now she is in a position to find out what happened, certain the official murder-suicide verdict is wrong. Working with Major Jack Donovan and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, offering security to a celebrity as a front for a terrorism fact-finding mission, she at last has access to the one man she is sure is involved in the decade-old murder. (American)

Michael MARSHALL**Blood of Angels****422pp Tp 29.95**

Ward Hopkins' past come backs to haunt him with a vengeance when a n ex-CIA colleague tracks him down, desperate for help in solving a bizarre series of events. Meanwhile Ward's brother, the serial killer known as the Upright Man, has escaped from prison. And Hopkins' erstwhile ally, former homicide cop John Zandt, is still on the trail of the organisation which killed his daughter and Ward's parents. The further John investigates, the more extraordinary the secrets he uncovers. The shadows are gathering, and across America sinister forces are stirring. Only Ward, John and FBI agent Nina Baynam stand against this tide, and against the Upright Man - who now has a grudge against just about everyone in the world. (British)

P D MARTIN**Body Count****299pp Tp 30.00**

When a girl is found brutally murdered, Australian FBI profiler Sophie Anderson suspects that the killing spree has just begun. With her fellow agents she delves into the mind of the killer, trying to predict his next move. Then another victim turns up. Sophie knows that she has 'seen' the girl before, raped and murdered - in her dreams. Struggling to separate fact from fiction, reality from nightmare, Sophie becomes more and more ensnared in the killer's mind as the body count rises. (Australian)

Rosemary MARTIN**It's a Mod, Mod, Mod, Mod****Murder 260pp Pb 16.95**

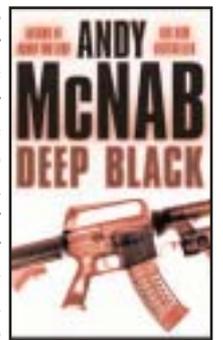
A *Murder-A-Go-Go mystery*. Bebe Bennett has split from Richmond, Virginia, for the whirlwind of Manhattan. Getting in on the British invasion, her boss at Rip City Records has signed up Philip Royal and the Beefeaters. But when Bebe and her roommate Darlene go to meet two members of the band for a night out, they find Philip dead, electrocuted with his own guitar. Even worse, the cops suspect Darlene. So, it is up to Bebe to venture into the smoky nightclubs of Greenwich Village, delving into the dark side of the swinging city to expose a killer. (American)

Adrian McKINTY**Hidden River 278pp Pb 24.95**

Alexander Lawson is an ex-detective for Northern Ireland's police force. After a disastrous six-month stint in the drug squad, he became addicted to heroin and resigned in disgrace. Now 24 years old, sickly, and on the dole, Alex learns that his high school love, Victoria Patawasti, has been murdered in America. Victoria's wealthy family sends Alex to Colorado to investigate the case, and he seizes the opportunity for a chance at redemption. But things don't go exactly as planned and Alex will have a fight on his hands just to stay alive, never mind solving the case. (Irish)

Andy McNAB**Deep Black****394pp Tp 32.95**

Nick Stone's future has never looked as bleak. The only person he ever loved is dead. The only people who might give him a reason not to join her have turned their backs. Until a chance encounter with a man he saved 10 years ago appears to throw him a lifeline... But on the bullet- and bomb-scarred streets of Baghdad, second chances are in short supply. A simple quest becomes a journey to the heart of a chilling conspiracy; too late, he realises that he is being used as bait - to lure into the open a man whom the darker forces of the West will stop at nothing to destroy... From its violent and shocking opening in the Muslim enclaves of Bosnia, through vivid, lightning-paced action in war-torn Iraq, this unforgettable story proves Andy McNab to be a writer at the very top of his game. (British)

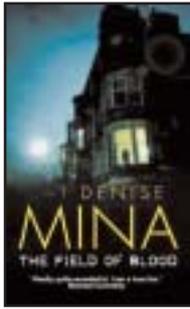
**Patricia MESITI****Scream No Evil 214pp Pb 24.95**

12-year-old Lizzy fights to survive a horror-filled existence, with a psychopathic elder brother called Jason. Every notion of self is shattered by the constant abuse and beatings she endures on a daily basis. Channelling her hatred and anger toward the image that stares at her, timid and alone, from the other side of the mirror, Lizzy reaches the only conclusion she can foresee. After her death, her sister Meagan fights to deal with the loss. The pain is almost too much to bear, when Meagan's grief is unexpectedly worsened by the horrifying attacks that are suddenly directed toward her. Frightened and alone in the room, which she had shared with Lizzy all her life, Meagan fights to defend herself against true evil. A timely new writing talent emerges from the writing schools of Melbourne. (Australian)

**Denise MINA**

★ **The Field of Blood** 367pp Tp 32.95

Set in Glasgow in 1981, a time of political betrayal that saw hunger strikes, riots and unemployment decimate the old industrial heartlands, this is the first in a stunning new crime series featuring Paddy Meehan. Infused with Mina's unique blend of dark humour, personal insights, true crime and the social injustices that pervade our society, this is a novel that will grip the reader while challenging our perceptions of childhood innocence, crime and punishment, right and wrong. (British)

**Gwen MOFFAT**

♥ **Dying for Love** 221pp Hb 49.95

Culchet is everyone's idea of the idyllic Lake District village, with geese on its tree-shaded green and friendly, well behaved residents going quietly about their business. Then, without warning that peace is shattered. Two deaths occur within a short space of time, both too sudden and unusual to be deemed accidents. And when five-year-old Kim Butler disappears, everyone knows what that means, there has to be a kidnapper, or worse, living a seemingly respectable life in the village, pulling the wool over all their eyes. Panic erupts, vigilante groups are formed, and quietly, insidiously, blackmailers come out of the woodwork. And all the time, unsuspected in this pretty, sleepy village where nothing ever happens, volcanic passions are waiting to erupt: driven by a lust for power, for possessions and for merciless and fatal love. (British)

Ryu MURAKAMI

★ **In the Miso Soup** 180pp Hb 29.95

It is just before New Year. Frank, an overweight American tourist has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo's nightlife on three successive evenings. But Frank's behaviour is so strange that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion: that his client may be the killer currently terrorising the city. This dark modern Japanese morality tale, reminiscent of Michel Houellebecq or Bret Easton Eliis, establishes Murakami as a unique and important contemporary voice. It is indeed a rollercoaster ride from the master of the psycho-thriller. (Japanese)

**Reggie NADELSON**

👁️ **Disturbed Earth**

389pp Pb 19.95

An Artie Cohen novel #1. A jogger finds a child's clothes drenched in blood and buried in the half-frozen earth near Brighton Beach on the Atlantic coast of Brooklyn. When another child goes missing, all the city's fears and insecurities are brought to the surface. Drawn into the case and reeled back in by Brooklyn's Russian community, Artie becomes personally involved. As powerful a presence as Edinburgh for Ian Rankin, here is New York as a city of islands, rivers, bridges and tunnels, as Artie travels into downtown Manhattan still traumatised by the loss of the Twin Towers. A gripping mystery and a love-song to a side of New York we rarely see, Reggie Nadelson and Artie Cohen are at their wise-cracking best. (British)

**SPECIAL DEAL**

If you buy **Red Hook** (Tp \$29.95), you can buy **Disturbed Earth** (Tp) at the special price of \$5.00.

That is, \$34.95 for both books - a saving of \$14.95.

Reggie NADELSON

👁️ **Red Hook**

330pp Tp 29.95

The new Artie Cohen novel #2. Jack Santiago is famous for his investigative stories, for his ability to get under the skin of the rich and famous and for his reporting on nuclear terrorism in New York. New York, he insists, is on the verge of an attack so sudden and secret that none of the preparations will make any difference. The only problem with Santiago is that he is dead. The other problem is that he made up the stories. It is the night of the August 2003 blackout when Santiago is killed. 14th August is also the night that Artie Cohen, still regretting the loss of Lily Hanes who has left him, gets married to Maxine Crabbe. He wants a life, kids, a home; with Maxie, he's convinced himself, he can find it. Santiago's death reveals a history of lies, deceit and falsified stories; in the course of uncovering who killed him, Artie also uncovers the ways in which information turned into propaganda... And then Lily returns... (American)

**Will NAPIER**

★ **Summer of the Cicada**

324pp Tp 32.95

Joseph and his parents have just moved to Massachusetts but the new start brings no change; the threat of violence in his father's house unrelenting. Joseph seeks refuge in the woods and forms an uneasy friendship with the awkward Dean Gillespie. Then a local boy is found tied to a tree, unconscious, and the victim of a brutal attack. This is the summer the cicadas are due to come out of their 17-year hibernation and Joseph is convinced their arrival will bring his salvation. Terrified by the noises coming from his father in the basement and with nowhere to run, he sleeps with a knife under his pillow. When another local boy disappears, the residents of the town are finally forced to face the secrets of the Pullman's house. Will Napier's book evokes a boyhood summer that is both beautiful and terrifying and a hero whose voice is impossible to forget. (American)

Tom NEALE

👁️ **Steel Rain**

307pp Tp 32.95

Special Agent Vincent Piper is an FBI Field Officer based in London. Any crime involving Americans is his business. He is estranged from his wife and he loves his only daughter Martha, but she is drifting away from him. A terrorist bomb goes off in Borders Bookshop in Charing Cross Road and as Vincent surveys the carnage, he starts to weep. He had arranged to meet Martha in the bookshop. She dies in his arms. Vincent vows revenge and relentlessly pursues all the leads he can find on active anti-capitalist groups. But what he discovers is even more shocking than his daughters' death... (British)

Seth NORMAN

★ **The Fly Fisher's Guide to Crimes of**

Passion

240pp Tp 29.95

More Sedition from the Master of Meander. The stories in this collection are set in the Myriad Isles and Malaysia, on high Sierra streams, urban streets, jungle rivers, golf-course ponds and a koi pool in Golden State Park. What fly fishing provides at each site is perspective for those who are passionate observers of the world and tireless explorers of the human spirit. Tilting at an endless procession of windmills, Seth Norman is the Don Quixote of fly fishing, and his unforgettable meanderings are filled with pathos, laughter, dreams and wisdom. The stories range from how to catch ikan klee - a savage fish of mythic proportions - to a tale suggesting that Icarus was the human equivalent of a poorly tied fly. One story recounts the epiphany of a girl who is raised and raped by a motorcycle gang, yet remains unbroken. The 25 stories in this unforgettable book will make you cry, laugh and think. (American)

**Douglas PRESTON****The Codex 404pp Pb 18.95**

A notorious treasure hunter and tomb robber, Maxwell Broadbent accumulated over a half a billion dollars' worth of priceless art, gems and artefacts before vanishing, along with his entire collection, from his mansion in New Mexico. As a final challenge to his three sons, Broadbent has buried himself and his treasure somewhere in the world, hidden away like an ancient Egyptian pharaoh. If the sons wish to claim their fabulous inheritance, they must find their father's carefully concealed tomb. With half a billion dollars at stake, as well as an ancient Mayan codex that may hold a cure for cancer, others soon join the hunt and some of them will stop at nothing to claim the grave goods. An unforgettable tale of greed, adventure and betrayal. (American)

Nora ROBERTS**Black Rose #2 355pp Pb 19.95**

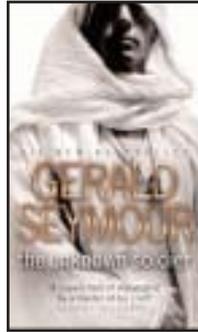
Roz Harper is a woman who has lived life on her own terms. She had dearly loved her first husband. After his death, she had thrown herself into raising their boys, and then into making a business out of her passion for gardening. Roz likes her life just as it is, and it would take a very special man to convince her to take that leap of faith into love again. A man like Dr Mitchell Carnegie, the genealogist she has hired to research the origins of the family ghost, known as the Harper Bride. Mitch and Roz are drawn together from the start. But the Harper Bride is enraged by the sight of love, and though she may have brought Mitch and Roz together, she will stop at nothing to tear them apart. (American)

Joel ROSS**Double Cross Blind 355pp Tp 32.95**

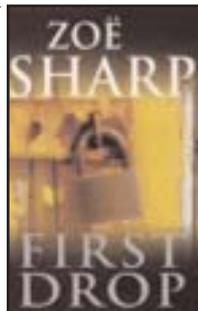
December, 1941. The Blitz is at its height in London. Across the Atlantic, Roosevelt seems determined to keep the US out of the war. Tom Wall, an American soldier wounded while fighting in Crete, wakes up in a London hospital. Physically weakened and suffering from combat fatigue, Tom has a burning need to find his brother, a diplomat also in London. But British Intelligence has other ideas. They want Wall to help secure a national asset: the Double Cross System, an intelligence operation now at risk from a German master spy. Amid the bombsites and blood-stained alleys of blacked-out London, Tom pursues a quest whose goals are constantly shifting, in pursuit of an enemy whose identity is ever changing. Meanwhile a Japanese war fleet is steaming towards Pearl Harbour... (American)

Gerald SEYMOUR**The Unknown Soldier 543pp Pb 21.95**

Hidden in the empty vastness of the world's greatest desert, the Empty Quarter of Saudi Arabia, a tiny caravan of fugitives and camels moves painfully slowly towards its goal. Deep in the sands, lost from sight, are the leadership of Al Qaeda, hunted, pursued and regrouping to strike again. Among the Bedouin and Arabs of the caravan, one man stands out. His strength, discipline and leadership mark him as an Outsider. His identity is masked; his past is blanked from his memory. To him, Al Qaeda is his only family, and his loyalty to the family is total. Searching for him in the limitless sands and dunes are American and British experts in counter-terrorism with a full range of sophisticated electronics at hand. If they fail to find and kill him, if he reaches his family and receives his orders, the Outsider will disappear again, before re-emerging in a teeming western city.... (British)

**Zoe SHARPE****First Drop 373pp Pb 19.95**

A Charlie Fox mystery #4. All Charlie has to do is to baby sit Trey Pelzner, the gawky 15-year-old son of a rich computer programmer in Fort Lauderdale. The last thing anyone expected was a determined attempt to snatch the boy, or that Trey's father and their entire close protection team would disappear off the face of the earth at the same time, including Charlie's ex-lover and boss, Sean Meyer. (American)

**Maura SHERIDAN****Edge of Death 358pp Pb 16.95**

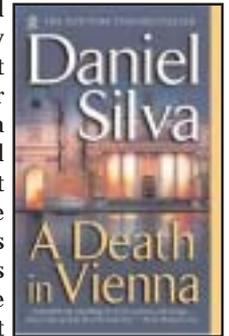
Meredith Brantley has had enough of the FBI. She used to be one of their best profilers, but she is through with having to enter the warped mind of a killer. Now she teaches criminology to college students, until she gets a desperate phone call... The FBI needs her again. Badly. The body of a beautiful young woman has been found near the West Side Highway, in pieces. This is no ordinary murder. Reluctantly, she agrees to take the case, determined to stop this maniac before he kills again. But what she discovers as she digs deeper will chill her blood and attract unwanted attention from the killer. (American)

Leslie SILBERT**The Intelligencer 336pp Tp 29.95**

Propelling us from the shadows of the 16th-century underworld to the glitter of Queen Elizabeth's court, from the dark corridors of a clandestine American op-centre to the cliffs of Capri, this is at once a murder mystery, a tale of poetic inspiration, and a richly detailed foray into parallel worlds of espionage and political intrigue separated by centuries. (American)

Daniel SILVA**A Death in Vienna 403pp Tp 29.95**

Art restorer and sometime spy Gabriel Atlon is sent to Vienna to discover the truth behind a bombing that killed an old friend, but while there he encounters something that turns his world upside down. It is a face that feels hauntingly familiar, a face that chills him to the bone and sends him on an urgent hunt for more: a name, a history, a connection. Each layer he strips away reveals more layers beneath. Finally, a picture begins to emerge, but one more terrible than he could have imagined, a portrait of evil stretching across 60 years and thousands of lives and into his own personal nightmares. Soon the quest for one monster becomes the quest for many. And the monsters are stirring. (American)

**Paul SOUTHERN****The Craze 281pp Pb 22.95**

C was for cars, which he'd nicked and crashed; R was for robbery, armed and fast; A was for arson, fire and theft; Z was for the cuts his switchblade left; E was for drugs, the Whizz and Horse, which just left murder, the hardest, of course... Jamie Farrell already knows the drugs and crime will tip over into murder. His father's in Strangeways and he will be joining him. But he can not give up the deadly game that is the Craze. Dru Round thought his big day had come: no more cheap drag acts and furtive sex in the backs of cars. A new dawn of TV fame beckoned. But he just needed that extra score to make things work for him... Three lives, one crime, the Craze. (British)

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Peter TEMPLE

An Iron Rose (1998)

269pp Pb 23.00

When Mac Faraday's best friend is found hanging, the assumption is suicide. But Mac is far from convinced, and he is a man who knows not to accept things at face value. A regular at the local pub, a mainstay of the footy team, Mac is living the quiet life of a country blacksmith. But Mac carries a burden of fear and vigilance from his old life. And as this past of secrets, corruption, abuse and murder begins to close in, he must turn to long-forgotten resources to hang on to everything he holds dear, including his own life. "The coolest and most elegant of Australian crime writers." — *The Age*. This is a classic thriller by the four-time *Ned Kelly Award* winner. (Australian)

Karl V

The Ultimate Game

417pp Tp 29.95

Hailed as "the heir to Robert Ludlum" by the UK's premier book reviewing show, *What's Hot Off the Presses*, Karl V investigates the dangerous world of espionage and international terrorism. With meticulous research and a gritty writing style, V paints a frightening scenario where the methods used to fight terrorism are sometimes shockingly brutal. This novel introduces CIA agent, Marco Burini and his boss, the enigmatic John Casey. In this high stakes scenario if Agent Burini fails, the Islamic radicals will finally have a weapon to kill millions. In this new and uncertain millennium, there are no boundaries any more. Money, men, weapons and information all move seamlessly across almost non-existent borders. There are no rules. Information is the key, it can save lives and Burini will do whatever it takes to get that information. An action-packed, lightning quick read about the hard men of the Intelligence Services and Special Forces versus the fanatics of the Islamic terror groups, it holds no punches; expect to grit your teeth. (Australian)

Andrew VACHSS

Down Here

290pp Tp 29.00

A Burke novel. For years Burke has harbored an outlaw's hard love for Wolfe, the beautiful, driven former sex-crimes prosecutor who was fired for refusing to 'go along to get along'. So when Wolfe is arrested for the attempted murder of John Anson Wyчек, a vicious rapist she once prosecuted, Burke deals himself in. The deeper he presses, the more gaping holes he finds in the prosecution's case, but shadowy law enforcement agencies seem determined to protect Wyчек at all costs, no matter who it sacrifices. Burke ups the ante by re-opening all the old 'cold case' rape investigations... (American)

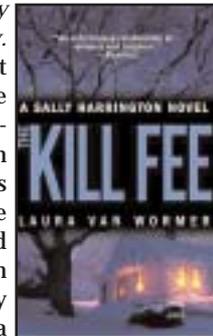


Laura VAN WORMER

The Kill Fee

345pp Pb 14.95

A Sally Harrington mystery. Thanks to her recent participation in the sensational mob-based trial out in California, Sally's name and face have been emblazoned upon the American consciousness. Sally has always been a highly valued producer for DBS News, and the network understands that they suddenly have a hot commodity on their hands. The suits upstairs would like Sally to temporarily host DBS's morning show, and they offer her a one-year million-dollar contract to do so. Written in Laura Van Wormer's signature style, with an insider's keen eye for the intriguing world of media communications, this is a witty, offbeat ride that is certain to win over critics, charm existing fans and appeal to new readers. (American)



Stuart WOODS

The Prince of Beverly Hills

360pp Pb 18.95

Rick Barron, a sharp, capable detective on the Beverly Hills force, finds himself demoted after a run-in with a superior officer, but he soon lands a job as security detail for Centurion Pictures, one of the hottest studios in the midst of Hollywood's golden age of the late 1930s. When two suspicious deaths begin to look like a double murder and an attempt is made on someone who has become an intimate friend, Barron knows he is up against wise guys whose stakes are nothing less than do-or-die. (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME



Emily BRIGHTWELL

Mrs Jeffries Learns the

Trade

454pp Tp 29.95

Victorian mystery series. This marvellous omnibus contains the first three Mrs Jeffries mysteries: **The Inspector and Mrs Jeffries** (1993), **Mrs Jeffries Dusts for Clues** (1993) and **The Ghost and Mrs Jeffries** (1993). *Rendezvous* magazine says the series is "Full of humour, suspense, adventure, and touches of romance ... delightful". (American)

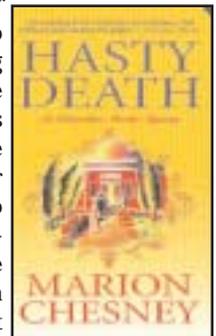
Marion CHESNEY

Hasty Death

243pp Pb 16.95

An Edwardian Murder

mystery #2. Eager to join the working classes, Lady Rose Summer has abandoned the comforts of her parents' home to become self-supporting. But life as a working woman is not quite what Rose had imagined. Poor, cold and tired, her drudgery comes to a merciful end when she learns of the untimely death of an acquaintance. Freddy Pomfret was almost certainly up to no good before he was shot dead in his London flat. When Rose discovers incriminating evidence pointing to the upper classes, she returns to London high society in order to investigate properly. (American)



Freddie Pomfret was almost certainly up to no good before he was shot dead in his London flat. When Rose discovers incriminating evidence pointing to the upper classes, she returns to London high society in order to investigate properly. (American)

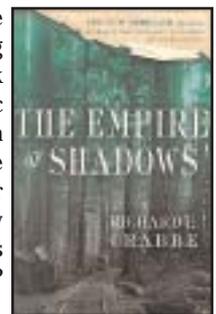
Freddie Pomfret was almost certainly up to no good before he was shot dead in his London flat. When Rose discovers incriminating evidence pointing to the upper classes, she returns to London high society in order to investigate properly. (American)

Richard CRABBE

The Empire of Shadows

356pp Tp 32.95

August 1889, New York City. Within sight of Madison Square Park, a man lays dead in a darkened construction site. Jim Tupper, a Mohawk of the Iroquois nation, stands over the body. With the police hounding him, Tupper makes his way back to the place he knows best: the vast, unsettled Adirondack wilderness. But he has left a trail of death behind, a trail leading dangerously close to a fantastic luxury hotel deep in the heart of the wilderness where Captain Tom Braddock and his family are vacationing. Worlds collide when Tom's son becomes the prime suspect in the murder of a young maid. Braddock launches an epic chase to catch Tupper. Will the great forest smother its secrets in shadow until its price has been paid in blood? (American)



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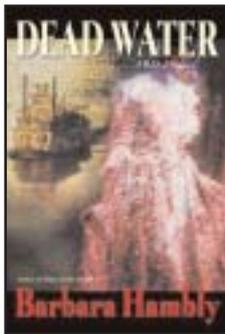
**Margaret DOODY****Poison in Athens 480pp Pb 21.95**

An Aristotle Detective mystery #5. 330 BCE, Athens. Ergokles' case against the wealthy Orthoboulos for malicious wounding seems to come out well for the dignified man, but shortly afterwards he is found dead of poison, evidently hemlock. His second wife is accused of the crime, and her trial sets Athens at odds, as sympathies divide. Meanwhile, the most beautiful woman in Athens, Phryne, is accused of impiety, a charge that can carry the death penalty. Misogyny, political wrath and lack of judgment bring affairs to a boiling point, stimulating Aristotle to intervene lest the trial of the stepmother break Athens into fragments. (American)

Barbara HAMBLY**Dead Water 373pp Pb 16.95**

A Benjamin January mystery. 19th-century, New Orleans.

Hired to follow Oliver Weems, a bank official who absconded with \$100,000 in gold and securities, January takes this investigation to heart. The missing money is vital to the survival of the school for freed slaves that he and his wife Rose have founded. Following the suspected embezzler onto the steamboat Silver Moon, January, Rose and their friend Hannibal Sefton are sworn to secrecy until Weems is found murdered. Suddenly the job of finding the pirated stash grows not only more difficult but more deadly. (American)

**Simon LEVACK****A Demon of the Air 429pp Pb 18.95**

An Aztec mystery #1. 1517, Mexico. Trusted slave Yaotl is escorting a sacrificial victim up the steps of the Great Pyramid to celebrate the Festival of the Raising of Banners. When the victim runs amok and dies before he can be sacrificed, how will Yaotl explain it to his master? When more bodies appear, the Emperor Montezuma starts asking questions about the sorcerers who have vanished from his impregnable prison. The secrets Yaotl uncovers will unlock nightmares from his own youth and threaten the future of everything he knows. (British)

Clyde LINSLEY**Die like a Hero 244pp Pb 16.95**

A Josiah Beede mystery #3. 1830s, New England. While investigating the suspicious death of President William Henry Harrison, Josiah Beede must return to New Hampshire when the husband of the woman he once hoped to marry disappears. (American)

Anna MACLEAN**Louisa and the Country Bachelor 282pp Pb 14.95**

A Louisa May Alcott mystery #2. 1855, New Hampshire. In desperate need of some wholesome air and sunshine, Louisa and her family visit their relatives in Walpole. But their peace is shattered by the death of a young Dutchman, who purportedly fell into a ravine while hiking. Louisa investigates the suspicious circumstances to bring a murderer to justice. A delightful, cosy series. (American)

Anthony O'NEILL**The Lamplighter 361pp Pb 22.95**

1866, Edinburgh. The brutal murder of a university professor, coming soon after the killing of a retired lighthouse keeper and quickly followed by a bizarre exhumation, has the entire city on edge. Carus Groves, a conceited and prejudiced police inspector, is assigned to the case. According to a *Sydney Morning Herald* reviewer this novel "captures a sense of real evil and period atmosphere". (British)

Rosemary ROWE**Enemies of the Empire 308pp Hb 59.95**

A Roman Britain Mystery #7. 188 CE.

When Marcus Septimus asks Libertus to join him on official business, he knows he cannot refuse his benevolent patron. En route to the garrison town of Isca, they stop at Venta: a simmering cauldron of social unrest where the Silures tribe, loyal to the memory of former chief Caractacus, seethes under Roman occupation. In the busy market square, Libertus is shocked by the glimpse of a familiar face. His pursuit of the figure leads him down a dangerous path and, before he knows it, into a murky world of racketeering, treason and murder... (British)

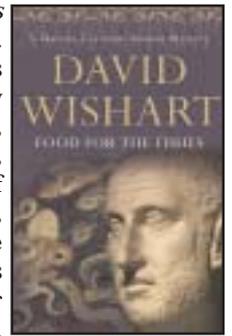
**Laura ROWLAND****The Perfumed Sleeve 370pp Pb 16.95**

1694, Japan. Sano Ichiro is faced with his most challenging case when he investigates the death of Senior Elder Makino, the shogun's most trusted adviser. There is only one puzzling clue - a torn, perfumed sleeve of a kimono. Sano must determine whether the death was indeed murder, and if so, whether it was motivated by politics, love or sex. When a second violent death occurs, Sano is faced with several suspects, each with a compelling motive. With the help of his wife Reiko, he must solve the murder as he discovers just how intertwined desire and danger really are... (American)

David WISHART**Food for the Fishes 292pp Hb 59.95**

A Marcus Corvinus Roman mystery #9.

When Licinius Murena, wealthy owner of a fish-farm, is found dead, drowned in one of his own eel tanks, not many tears are shed. Not by his wife, his daughter or his farm manager. With friends like these, who needs enemies? Marcus Corvinus is the man to find out. As we follow the Byzantine thought processes by which our hero solves the crime, we are entertained along the way with accounts of pisciculture and with a handy guide to 'Twelve Lines', the Roman precursor of backgammon. (British)



CRIME AUDIO

**Lee CHILD**
One Shot**4xCompact Disks 6hrs 44.95**

Abridged version read by Kerry Shale.

Agatha CHRISTIE**A Murder is Announced****2xCompact Disks 2hrs20mins 29.95**
4.50 from Paddington**2xCompact Disks 1hr 30mins 29.95**

Here are two BBC Radio 4 full-cast dramatisations starring June Whitfield as the deceptively mild spinster sleuth, Miss Marple.

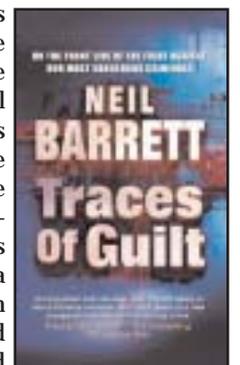
James PATTERSON**Honeymoon 4xCassettes 6hrs 42.95**

This abridged version read by William Hootkins and Lorelei King.

CRIME NON-FICTION

**Neil BARRETT****Traces of Guilt 383pp Pb 22.95**

Neil Barrett takes the reader into the world of the computer criminal and guides us through some of the high profile cases he has worked on - from Gary Glitter's conviction as a paedophile through cases of hacking and fraud to rape and murder. (British)



**Anne BIRD****Blood Brother 213pp Hb 39.95**

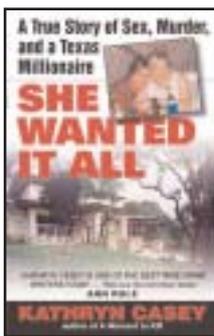
33 Reasons Why My Brother Scott Peterson Is Guilty. What happens if, after being given up for adoption in childhood, you re-establish contact with your biological family, only to discover that your newfound brother is a killer? Anne Bird, the sister of Scott Peterson, knows firsthand. Filled with news-making revelations and intimate glimpses of the Peterson family and the investigation that followed the murder of Scott's pregnant wife Laci, this book is a provocative account of how long-dormant family ties dragged one woman into one of the most notorious crimes of our time. (American)

Philip CARLO**The Night Stalker (1996)****559pp Pb 16.95**

The Life and Crimes of Richard Ramirez. Based on Death Row interviews with Ramirez, an account of his murderous crime spree follows his criminal odyssey from his first brush with the law, to his Los Angeles murders, to the investigation that brought him to justice. Reprint. (American)

Kathryn CASEY**She Wanted It All****448pp Pb 18.95**

A True Story of Sex, Murder, and a Texas Millionaire. Trophy wife Celeste Beard was not satisfied with a luxurious lifestyle and her rich Austin media-mogul husband's devotion, so she took his life!



The wife: She wanted everything, but her husband stood in the way. *The lesbian lover:* A love-struck, middle-aged woman with a history of mental illness, she would do anything to set Celeste free. *The beauty salon receptionist:* Celeste hired her to tie up the loose ends in a second conspiracy to commit murder. "Kathryn Casey is one of the best true crime writers today...This is a 'do not miss' book." - *Ann Rule.* (American)

James Alan FOX & Jack LEVIN**Extreme Killing 290pp Tp 56.95**

Understanding Serial and Mass Murder. Adopting a unified conceptual framework for understanding these divergent forms of extreme killing, this book illustrates the many violent expressions of power, revenge, terror, greed and loyalty using contemporary and classic case studies in multiple murder. The authors address the characteristics of both killers and their victims; and in their concluding chapter, discuss the special concerns of multiple murder victims and their survivors. (International)

Russell GIRARDIN & William HELMER Dillinger (1994) 376pp Tp 39.95

The Untold Story. "This is one of the most unusual books in the annals of modern true-crime writing, for the bulk of the text was written 60 years ago and never before published. In 1933, Girardin, a Chicago ad man, persuaded Louis Piquette, who had served as John Dillinger's lawyer, to collaborate on a series of newspaper articles, which were syndicated in the Hearst newspapers, and on a book-length biography of Dillinger, who was gunned down by the police in Chicago in 1934 at the age of 31. In 1989, Playboy contributing editor Helmer met Girardin and together they reworked the unpublished biography, until Girardin died in 1990. Helmer has been faithful to the florid style of the original, which retains much of the spirit of the Depression era, when many regarded bankers as evil and bank robbers were celebrated in the media. Piquette and Girardin contend that a number of Dillinger's robberies were prearranged with the banks." -- *Kirkus Review.* (American)

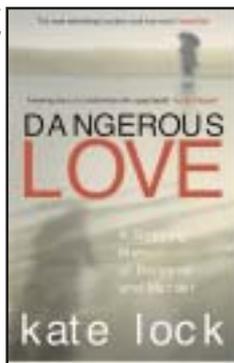
Robert JACKALL**Street Stories****429pp Hb 58.00**

The World of Police Detectives. Based on years of fieldwork with the NYCPD and the District Attorney, Jackall examines the moral ambiguities of the detectives' world as they shuttle between the streets and a bureaucratic behemoth. This book brims with the truth-is-stranger-than-fiction violence of the underworld and tells about a justice apparatus that splinters knowledge, reduces life-and-death issues to arcane hair-splitting and makes rationality a bedfellow of absurdity. (American)

Kate LOCK**Dangerous Love****341pp Pb 24.95**

A Gripping Memoir of Romance and Murder. When Kate Lock first met Tim Franklin she was a naive undergraduate, and he a

charismatic mature student. One night in the pub he casually revealed that he was a 'lifer'. A domestic dispute had taken a tragic turn, he said... It was the start of an explosive relationship which began in passionate union and ended in emotional cruelty. This is a stunning memoir of a true romance that became a living nightmare, and ended with the discovery of a Christie-style murder that rocked the North of England. Originally published as *Carrion Kisses* in 2004. (British)

**Clare LONGRIGG****No Questions Asked 292pp Pb 24.95**

The Secret Life of Women in the Mob. Carmella Soprano has set the gold standard for our image of the American mob woman: a loyal *materfamilias* devoted to her family and her church, not to mention her exquisite Italian cooking. But beyond the teased-out hair and frosted nails, she is smart, savvy and, at times, morally conflicted about her role in her husband's world. Clare Longrigg gets to the heart of this complex existence in this book, an investigation of the real women in today's American Mafia. (American)

Steven NAIFEH**The Mormon Murders 560pp Pb 16.95**

The appearance of an alleged historic document, which challenged the very bedrock of Mormon teaching, questioned the legitimacy of its founder, and threatened to disillusion millions of its faithful unless the Mormon hierarchy buried the evidence, was the motive for murder in Salt Lake City in the 1980s. Drawing on exclusive interviews, this book reconstructs a secret conspiracy of God, greed and murder that would expose one of the most ingenious con men in the annals of crime and shake the very foundation of a multibillion-dollar empire to its core. (American)

Dorris PORCH & Rebecca LEACH**Murder in Memphis (1997)****390pp Pb 18.95**

The true story of a family's quest for justice. Pretty and warm-hearted 24-year-old Debbie Groseclose, the mother of two small children, disappeared the day after she had reported to her mother being accosted and followed home from her job as a medical receptionist by a loutish, bearded stranger in biker garb. Five days later, Debbie's mutilated and decomposed body was found. Debbie's mother Aline, aunt Dorris, and sister Rebecca, suspected an even more diabolic scenario - that at the centre of the gruesome crime was Bill Groseclose, Debbie's seemingly charming naval recruiter husband. (American)

Jeremy PUDNEY**Snowtown****282pp Pb 27.95**

The Bodies in Barrels Murders: The Grisly Story of Australia's Worst Serial Killings. Not only does Pudney investigate the lives of the convicted killers but he digs deeper, telling the stories of their 12 victims and exploding the complicated social web that enabled them to not only prey on their victims, but to get away with their crimes for so long. It also contains exclusive information never before revealed to the public. Part police reporting, criminology text, biography and social history, this is a compellingly book without peer. See also Susan Mitchell's **All Things Bright and Beautiful** (Tp 30.00) for further research. Both books not-for-sale in South Australia. (Australian)

Thomas REPPETTO

American Mafia

318pp Tp 29.00

A History of Its Rise to Power. Structuring his narrative around a series of case histories featuring such infamous characters as Lucky Luciano and Al Capone, Reppetto draws on a lifetime of field experience and access to unseen documents to show us a locally grown Mafia. The Italian American crime families were shaped by conditions in big cities, but it was not until the 1920s, thanks to prohibition, that the Mafia assumed what we now consider its defining characteristics, especially its octopus-like tendency to infiltrate industry and government. (American)

Joy WELLMAN

Rattlesnake Romeo

305pp Pb 16.95

A trio of twisted teens brings murder home. Vicki Lyn Robinson was not the type of woman to go missing. The divorced mother of two teenage girls was a successful realtor and steady churchgoer. When her boyfriend reported her disappearance on 27 June 1998, friends and family feared the worst. Her 15-year-old daughter Valessa was also gone without a trace. A multi-state dragnet for the fugitive teen and her two male friends ended in their capture in Texas after a high-speed car chase. They confessed that they had been tripping on acid when Valessa suggested they kill her mom for trying to break up her romance with 'Rattlesnake' Davis. (American)

Tony WILLIAMS & Humphrey PRICE

Uncle Jack

227pp Tp 29.95

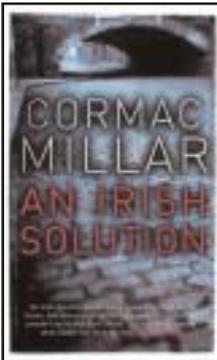
The True Identity of Jack the Ripper Revealed at Last. Tony Williams is the great-great-nephew of the alleged killer, a very eminent man in his field, and naming him may cause huge shockwaves in places where he is still venerated (especially in Wales). This book puts forward clear evidence connecting the killer to three of the five victims, and circumstantial evidence connecting him to the other two. The authors prove that their suspect was in Whitechapel at the same time as the crimes were committed, and had the knowledge and skills required. For the first time, the book presents a consistent and plausible explanation for every aspect of the case, meeting all the key criteria of method, motive and opportunity. It also explains why the murders stopped as suddenly as they started. The authors have even discovered what they believe to be the murder weapon. (British)

Staff Review

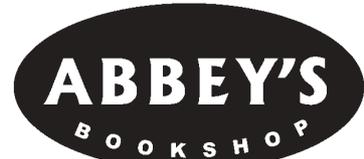
Cormac MILLAR

An Irish Solution (306pp Pb 19.95)

This debut political thriller is wryly amusing and coloured with the hopelessness of combating the drugs trade. Set in Dublin, the new Minister for Justice is out to impress European peers with his zero tolerance for drugs and his brilliant strategies for tackling the problem of distribution and supply. Seamus Joyce is the man to make the minister's fantasies a reality, but he is caught between an existential crisis of the soul and his wife's hospitalisation for an unidentified and likely fatal illness, so it's a bit difficult to keep his mind on the matter at hand. When an ex-teacher of questionable proclivities is busted with an ever-increasing quantity of heroin and some kiddie-porn in his bag after spending time in Amsterdam, it all seems straightforward and proof positive of excellent policing methods. The Garda look good and the Minister looks better, it's just a few pesky minor details really, nothing an enterprising policeman or three can't take care of with a bit of intimidation and perjury. Lacking existential purpose doesn't mean that Joyce is deaf or blind however, there's a wee nun who may double as one of God's watchdogs barking her head off about conspiracy and corruption. If he can discover who is paying money into his own bank account, tapping his phone and conducting some unsavoury business with his wife, there may be a chance for some kind of resolution but it will depend on who is on the take both politically and personally. There is more than one way to skin a cat but it always results in the death of said feline; it really doesn't pay to be too curious when you are the Acting Director of the Irish Drug Enforcement Agency! (Irish) - *Cara*



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



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