

CRIME CHRONICLE

ISSUE #245 JUNE 2006

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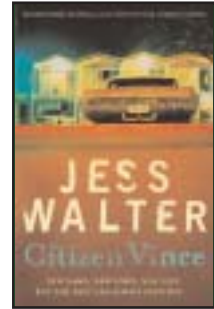
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Citizen Vince

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Girl in the Glass

by Jeffrey Ford (Pb 29.95)

BEST CRITICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL
Girl Sleuth: Nancy Drew and the

Women Who Created Her

by Melanie Rehak (Hb 54.00)*

BEST FACT CRIME

**Rescue Artist: A True Story of Art,
Thieves and the Hunt for a Missing
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by Edward Dolnick (Pb 29.95 due July)

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MODERN CRIME

Jeff ABBOTT

Panic 367pp Tp 29.95

Things are going well for young filmmaker Evan Casher, until he receives an urgent phone call from his mother summoning him home. He arrives to find her brutally murdered body on the kitchen floor and a hitman lying in wait for him. It is then that he realises his whole life has been a lie. His parents are not who he thought they were, his girlfriend is not who she thought she was, his entire existence an ingeniously constructed sham. And now that he knows it, he is in terrible danger... (American)



Peter ABRAHAMS

Oblivion 374pp Pb 18.95

Nick Petrov was a world-famous private investigator, until a brain trauma destroyed part of his memory and changed him forever. Now a killer is on the loose, looming up from a past that Nick can no longer remember. (American)

Susan Wittig ALBERT

Dead Man's Bones 291pp Pb 16.95

China Bayles Mystery #13 When her teenage son discovers some skeletal remains of the suspicious kind, lawyer-turned-herbalist China Bayles finds herself hunting a killer from the past, who is about to strike in the present... (American)

Anthony BIDULKA

Flight of the Aquavit 299pp Pb 24.95

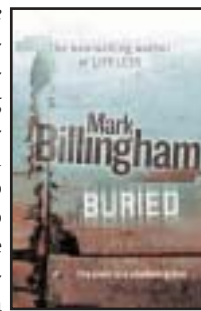
A Russell Quant Mystery. At the dead end of a desolate country road, a late-night meeting suddenly becomes an ambush. Gay private detective Russell Quant is faced with personal threats he can't ignore, a friend who may be a foe and a cagey client with a treacherous monkey on his back. As Quant trails a menacing blackmailer known only as 'Loveboy', he finds himself immersed in the midnight world of e-dating and parking lot romance. The fast pace continues when Quant returns to Saskatoon, where he grapples with decoys and deceit, realising that no one is as they appear. (Canadian)

Mark BILLINGHAM

Buried 403pp Tp 32.95

Tom Thorne

#6. Luke Mullen, 16-year-old son of a former high-ranking police officer, has disappeared, presumed kidnapped. While no one quite dares to voice the fear that he could also be presumed dead, DI Tom Thorne is brought in to beef up the squad dedicated to locating him. The first thing the team looks for is anyone with a grudge against Luke's father, a man who'd put a lot of tough villains away in his time. A list quickly emerges, but Thorne discovers that ex-DCI Tony Mullen has omitted the name of the most obvious suspect; a man who had once threatened him and his family, and who, after serving time for his original crime, is now the main suspect in a murder which has been unsolved for four years. (English)



Allison BRENNAN

The Hunt 391pp Pb 16.95

Touched by a killer, she feels the fire of revenge. 12 years ago, Miranda Moore miraculously survived the torture of a serial killer who was never caught. Since then, Miranda, a former FBI trainee and now a member of a local search-and-rescue squad, has witnessed with horror the recovery of the mutilated bodies of seven young women, all victims of her tormentor, known as 'The Butcher'. When another beautiful Montana college student goes missing, the Feds get involved, and an agent, a man Miranda once trusted with her heart, arrives to take over the investigation - forcing her toward a painful choice. Now, while Miranda battles her demons, while friends, lovers and traitors are caught up in a frantic race against time, a killer hides in plain sight, waiting to finish the one hunt he has left undone. (American)



Suzanne BROCKMAN

The Admiral's Bride 297pp Pb 16.95

When six canisters of a lethal nerve agent are stolen from a military testing lab, Admiral Jake Robinson must recover the chemicals by any means necessary. He defies convention and decides to infiltrate the compound where religious fanatics have stored the deadly toxin. Dr Zoe Lange is a biological warfare specialist and an expert in espionage. Zoe agrees to assist Jake on the case, and, posing as husband and wife, they manage to gain access to the compound. With each hour he's in Zoe's company, the stakes get higher, and the game more real. And the dangers within the compound escalate out of control. (American)

Suzanne BROCKMAN

Over the Edge 395pp Pb 12.95

Her passion is flying. As one of the best helicopter pilots in the naval reserves, Lieutenant Teri Howe is strong, dedicated and highly skilled, until a past mistake surfaces, jeopardizing everything she's worked for. Rock steady Senior Chief Stan Wolchonok has made a career of tackling difficult challenges. So it's no surprise when he comes to Teri's aid, knowing that his personal code of honour - and perhaps his heart - will be at risk. But when a jet carrying an American senator's daughter is hijacked, Stan's unflinching determination and Teri's steadfast courage are put to the ultimate test. (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



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**Jan BROGAN** **Confidential Source****354pp Pb 16.95**

Hallie Ahern was a big time investigative reporter in Boston until she compromised a story for the man she loved who turned out to be Mr Wrong. Now, she's trying to put her life back together in Rhode Island, working at a tiny satellite bureau of *The Providence Morning Chronicle*. Then, one late night on her way home from the supermarket, she witnesses a murder. The police think it was a robbery gone awry, but Hallie can't let it go. This could be her opportunity to re-enter the world of investigative journalism, something she wasn't aware she even wanted to do, and she begins digging into the victim's gambling past. But there's more to this crime than meets the eye, and Hallie soon finds both her job and her life on the line. (American)

Dale BROWN **Act of War****496pp Pb 19.95**

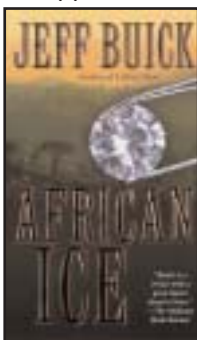
Brown goes beyond anything he's done before, taking readers deep into the new world of intelligence-focused warfare and introducing a cutting-edge new hero: 32-year-old Army Major Jason Richter, designer of an array of futuristic infantry weapons and devices designed to hunt down a new breed of enemy, with unmatched speed and lethality. With all the thrilling battle scenes and expert military maneuvers that have become Brown's hallmark, this is an intense, action-packed spectacle combining geopolitics, terrorism and warfare. (American)

Maggie BRUCE (ed) **Murder Most Crafty****392pp Pb 16.95**

There's a pattern to these crimes... A mystery collection, each featuring a crime and a craft. Features bestselling authors Earlene Fowler, Judith Kelman, Monica Ferris, Margaret Maron, and many more. (American)

Jeff BUICK **African Ice****372pp Pb 16.95**

A diamond worth untold millions, hidden deep in the jungles of Africa. Many have tried to find it. All have failed. Can Samantha Carlson do the impossible? The president of Gem-Star thinks so when he hires the geologist to lead a team into the Democratic Republic of Congo and return with the diamond's location. Gem-Star has sent other teams in to find the formation, but none have made it out alive. (American)

**Tori CARRINGTON** **Sofie Metropolis****288pp Pb 16.95**

On her wedding day, before the ceremony in the Greek Orthodox church, Sofie Metropolis discovered her groom and maid of honour in each other's arms. She took this as a sign and, since then, has been doing her best to confound her own - and her family's - expectations. First, she is no longer waiting tables at either her father's or her grandfather's duelling Greek restaurants in Astoria, Queens. She now has a new career, thanks to uncle Spyros's detective agency. Tailing a wayward wife, Sofie is caught in a shoot-out and is rescued by Australian man-of-mystery Jake Porter, who might be a bounty hunter and who definitely gets Sofie's engine started... (American)

Lee CHILD **One Shot****510pp Pb 19.95**

With six shots, five people were dead and one heartland city is thrown into terror. But within hours, the cops have it solved. It is a slam-dunk case, except for one thing - the accused man claims, "You got the wrong guy". After that, all he says is, "Get Reacher for me." Jack Reacher lives off the grid. He is a lone righter of wrongs and irresistible to women. What could connect the ex-military cop to this obvious psychopath? Those who know, call Reacher 'the thinking reader's action hero'. This book is sharp, exciting and addictive. (Anglo-American)

**Richard CLARKE** **Scorpion's Gate****305pp Tp 29.95**

For three decades, Clarke worked in the White House, State Department and Pentagon. As adviser to four presidents, he travelled throughout the Middle East, visiting palaces, military bases and intelligence centres, meeting rulers, soldiers and spies. Some of what he found appeared in *Against All Enemies* (Pb 24.95). Much more of it appears here. In an extraordinary geopolitical thriller filled with the kind of cutting-edge authenticity only someone on the inside could bring, Clarke takes readers just five years into the future, when forces in the Middle East and the US are at work to launch another war. But this time, it could be bigger. This time, it could be nuclear, and spread to Asia and beyond... (American)

Michael CONNELLY (ed) **Murder in Vegas 381pp Pb 16.95**

New Crime Tales of Gambling and Desperation. The International Association of Crime Writers and Michael Connelly have gathered 22 crime and mystery stories about the ultimate playground, Las Vegas, and what can happen behind the glitz and glamour. Come to the true city that never sleeps, where fortunes are made and lost every day, and where snake-eyes aren't found just on a pair of dice. Featuring stories by James Swain, S J Rozan, Wendy Hornsby, Michael Collins, T P Keating, J Madison Davis, Sue Pike, Joan Richter, Libby Hellmann, Tom Savage, Edward Wellen, Linda Kerslake, John Wessel, Lise McClendon, Ronnie Klaskin, Ruth Cavin, Gay Toltl Kinman, Micki Marz, Rick Mofina, Jeremiah Healy. (American)

Michael CORDY **The Lucifer Code 440pp Pb 21.95**

What happens to us when we die? Oblivion. Or so believes Dr Miles Fleming, a brilliant, young neuroscientist who has developed a device capable of reading human brainwaves. But when his own brother contacts him after being certified dead for six whole minutes, Fleming wonders if he's got it all wrong. His search for the truth uncovers a terrifying religious conspiracy to stage the most ambitious experiment the world has ever seen - to prove beyond doubt the existence of a heaven or a hell. As the world awaits the final judgment, Fleming must confront his own demons to save not only his own soul, but those of all humanity. (English)

Colin COTTERILL **The Coroner's Lunch****287pp Pb 22.95**

Laos, 1975. The Communist Pathet Lao has taken over this former French colony. Dr Siri Paiboun, a 72-year-old Paris-trained doctor, is appointed national coroner. Although he has no training for the job, there is no one else; the rest of the educated class has fled. He is expected to come up with the answers the party wants. But crafty and charming Dr Siri is immune to bureaucratic pressure. At his age, he reasons, what can they do to him? And he knows he cannot fail the dead who come into his care without risk of incurring their boundless displeasure. Eternity could be a long time to have the spirits mad at you. (American)

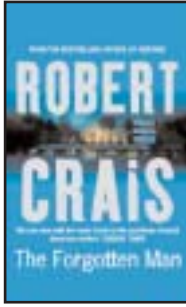
Philip & CRAIG & William TAPPLY **Second Sight 302pp Tp 29.00**

A Brady Coyne J W Jackson Mystery. Veteran mystery novelists and long-time fishing buddies Craig and Tapply are back with their second joint novel. Filled with charming vignettes of Martha's Vineyard, this is a page turning novel of suspense. (American)

**Robert CRAIS****The Forgotten Man**

386pp Pb 19.95

Six months after nearly losing everything to the men who kidnapped his girlfriend's 10-year-old son, Elvis Cole is slowly coming back to life when he receives an ominous phone call from the LAPD. An unidentified body has been found in a seedy Los Angeles alley. The only clue the cops have is a packet of newspaper articles about the past exploits of Elvis Cole - and the fact that before the man died, he said he was Elvis's father... Joe Pike is the only person who can help Elvis navigate the minefield of his past. As they investigate, Elvis is haunted by the fact that, at last, he might have found his father. But with each clue they uncover, a troubling picture emerges about the dead man. (American)

**Mary DAHIEM****The Alpine Quilt**

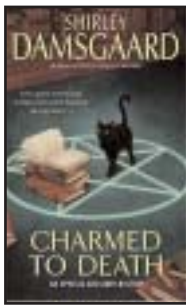
303pp Pb 16.95


An *Emma Lord Mystery*. Members of the Burl Creek Thimble Club, a quilting circle in small-town Alpine, Washington, are planning a fete to welcome back Genevieve Bayard, who left the group, and Alpine, decades ago. But Gen's homecoming is cut decidedly short when she dies at a dinner party. Emma Lord, owner and publisher of the local newspaper, *The Alpine Advocate*, immediately arrives on the scene to report the incident and sleuth her way to the truth. (American)

Shirley DAMSGAARD**Charmed to Death**


288pp Pb 16.95

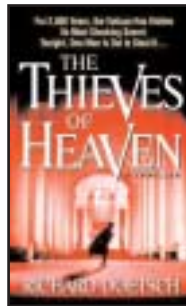
An *Ophelia & Abby Mystery*. Ophelia Jensen's good witch granny Abigail revels in her paranormal powers. But Ophelia never asked for her bothersome psychic abilities, especially since they proved worthless when the thirty-something librarian's best friend Brian was murdered by a still-unknown assailant. Now, five years later, another friend is gone, killed in almost identical fashion. Even dear old Abby isn't safe, distracted as she is by her fight to prevent a massive, mega-polluting pig-farming operation from invading their small Iowa town. And Ophelia can't count on her snarling, scoffing nemesis, police detective Henry Comacho, to get the job done, so she'll have to take matters into her own hands. (American)


**Jeffrey DEAVER****The Twelfth Card 394pp Pb 19.95**

 *Lincoln Rhyme #6*. Geneva Settle is a bright young high school student from Harlem writing a paper about one of her ancestors, a former slave called Charles Singleton. Geneva is also the target of a ruthless professional killer. Criminalist Lincoln Rhyme and his policewoman partner Amelia Sachs are called into the case, working frantically to anticipate where the hired gun will strike next and how to stop him, all the while trying to get to the truth about Singleton, and the reason that Geneva has been targeted. Singleton had a secret that may strike at the very heart of the US constitution, and have disastrous consequences for human rights today. And Sachs is going to have to search a crime scene that's 140 years old before she can stop the killer. (American)

Richard DOETSCH**Thieves of Heaven 448pp Pb 16.95**

 In a small, heavily fortified room just north of the Sistine Chapel, a master thief is about to strike. All he needs is an instant to steal the most important treasure in the Vatican museum - two antique keys, one gold, one silver - that protect the secret of salvation.... But a surprise awaits Michael St Pierre deep inside the Vatican, for the treasure he has uncovered - the gleaming prize buried within the most clandestine structure on earth - is about to bring him face-to-face with an enemy more shocking, frightening and insidious than anyone can guess.... (American)

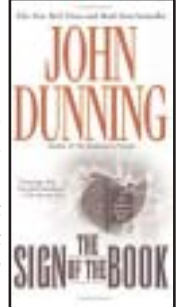
**Tim DORSEY****Torpedo Juice 368pp Pb 18.95**

 The drinks are on Sunshine State historian/spree killer Serge A Storms, who's decided it's high time he got married. So he's motoring down to the Florida Keys - the ultimate end of the line - in search of Ms Right... and along the way finding his doped-up basket case bud, Coleman. But for Serge, 'getting hitched' doesn't necessarily mean 'settling down'. Not when South Florida is crawling with slimeballs, swindlers, unrepentant jerks and annoying bystanders whose ranks need some serious thinning. (American)

**John DUNNING****The Sign of the Book**

511pp Pb 22.95

A *Cliff Janeway Mystery*. Denver bookman and ex-cop Cliff Janeway is enjoying the good life, buying and selling the books he adores as he ekes out a living in his store on seedy East Colfax. And it doesn't hurt that superstar lawyer Erin D'Angelo has joined him as a partner in both business and love. Erin is a special lady, so it's hard for Janeway to refuse when she asks a favour. Will he travel to the little mountain town of Paradise, Colorado, to check on one of Erin's girlhood friends who's in deep trouble? Laura Marshall sits in the county jail, accused of murdering her husband, Bobby. The situation is delicate because Bobby and Erin were a couple before he married Laura. Janeway, Erin, and local attorney Parley McNamara discover that the case against Laura Marshall is far more complicated than it seems. (American)

**G G FICKLING****A Kiss for a Killer**

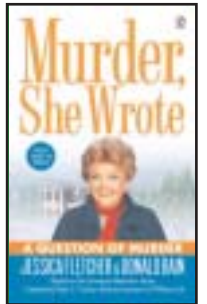
208pp Tp 29.95

Honey West Mystery. LA's nerviest, curviest PI is up to her navel in trouble again, and this time the murder rap has been framed on her. The victims: Honey's boy toy Rip Spensor, a Los Angeles Rams QB who got stacked by a steamroller ("ground right into the asphalt"), and Angela Scali, an Italian Hollywood bombshell that set out for an innocent weekend at a nudist colony run by some quirky evangelical Christians and ended up hanging dead in a romantic mountain glade. What connects the two? (American)

Jessica FLETCHER**Murder, She Wrote 24:****A Question of Murder**

271pp Pb 16.95

Jessica Fletcher is attending a writer's conference at an historic mansion in the Berkshires, where her friends are hosting a murder-mystery party. As both crime-solver and mystery author, Jessica is an old hand at this kind of thing. So she swears to the Savoy's that she won't reveal the secrets of their play and goes about enjoying the weekend with her colleagues. But when a young actor's murder scene appears all too real, no one can tell what's scripted and what isn't. (American)



**R Barri FLOWERS****State's Evidence****386pp Pb 16.95**

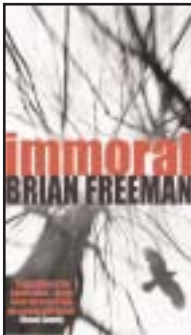
In Eagles Landing, California, Assistant DA Beverly Mendoza has been selected to prosecute a disturbing case: the brutal murder of a local judge and the rape of his wife. The defendant, Rafael Santiago, once vowed to get revenge against the judge for sending him to prison and the judge's wife picked him out of a line-up. It seems like an open-and-shut case. But appearances can be very deceiving. (American)

Kathryn FOX**Without Consent****300pp Tp 32.95**

Forensic Physician Dr Anya Crichton has taken a part-time job at the Sexual Assault Unit. A deranged rapist is attacking women and Anya does all she can to help the victims, some of whom are too distraught to report the attacks to the police. Suspicion immediately falls upon Geoffrey Willard, recently released from prison for the rape and murder of a teenage girl decades earlier. Unravelling the forensic evidence, Anya knows she faces an enormous ethical dilemma. If her findings are correct, she is about to blow the whistle and ruin a fellow pathologist's career, while also helping a rapist and murderer go free... (Australian)

Brian FREEMAN**Immoral****469pp Pb 19.95**

Lieutenant Jonathan Stride is suffering from an ugly case of déjà vu. For the second time in a year, a beautiful teenage girl has disappeared off the streets of Duluth, Minnesota. The two victims couldn't be more different - one bubbly and sweet, the other a strange, sexually-charged wild child. The search for the killer carries Lieutenant Stride from the icy stillness of the north woods to the erotic heat of Las Vegas, where he must decide which facts are real and which are illusions. (American)

**Nicci FRENCH****Losing You****292pp Tp 32.95**

Nina is supposed to be taking her two children on holiday today with her new boyfriend. But the road away from the isolated winter bleakness of Sandling Island seems to be littered with obstacles, frustrating her plans at every turn. Most pressingly of all, her 15-year-old daughter, Charlie, has yet to return from a night out... Minute by minute, as Nina's unease builds to worry and then panic; every mother's worst nightmare begins to unravel. (English)

Tess GERRITSEN**Never Say Die / Call After Midnight****415pp Tp 27.95**

In *Never Say Die*, Jane Maitland travels to Saigon to find out what happened to her father, reported missing in action 20 years ago. Instead, she finds intrigue and murder. In *Call After Midnight*, a ringing phone awakens newly-wed Sarah Fontaine. Instead of her husband calling from London, it's an unfamiliar voice - Nick O'Hara from the US State Department advising that Geoffrey Fontaine, her husband of two months, has died in a hotel fire in Berlin. (American)

James GRIPPANDO**Got the Look****390pp Tp 32.95**

FBI agent Andie Henning is tracking a ruthless kidnapper plaguing South Florida, one who's out to prove that all human life can be valued in dollars and cents. But he has slipped through her net at every turn. This time he's taken the wife of one of the state's richest horse breeders and is asking a ransom of one million dollars. The stakes go up when Andie finds the woman - dead. Enter Jack Swytek. He has a new girlfriend, and life is good - until Mia Salazar goes missing. Then Jack gets a one-two punch: he discovers that his lover is married, and her rich husband gets a ransom demand that pegs Mia as the kidnapper's latest victim. (American)

Lyn HAMILTON**The Moai Murders****261pp Pb 16.95**

Archaeological Mystery #9. Featuring Toronto antiques dealer Lara McClintoch, Lyn Hamilton's fascinating series immerses readers in the world's most exotic cultures. This time, the globetrotting Lara travels to Easter Island, where ancient mysteries spawn modern-day murder as the giant stone carvings known as the Moai draw a delegation of experts to the island, and a killer with vengeance on his mind. (American)

Joan HESS**The Goodbye Body****294pp Pb 16.95**

A Claire Malloy Mystery. Claire Malloy runs a bookstore in the normally quiet college town of Farberville, Arkansas. The business provides a verging-on-meagre living for her and her deeply sarcastic teenage daughter Caron. So when emergency work forces Claire and Caron to abandon their apartment for a few weeks, Claire is thrilled to accept a customer's offer to let them stay at her well-stocked, well-equipped palatial home while she is travelling. Of course, nothing is ever that easy... (American)

David HEWSON**The Lizard's Bite****385pp Tp 32.95**

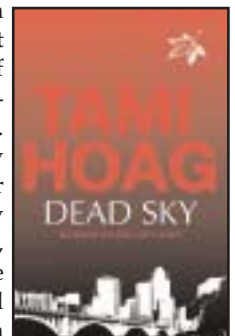
Things are looking up for Nic Costa and Gianni Peroni. Their humiliating exile in Venice is nearly at an end and their long-awaited holiday is about to begin. So when they are ordered to investigate an apparently open-and-shut case, a fire in a glass foundry that has claimed two lives, all they want is to wrap it up quickly. However, as they dig more deeply into the insular glass-making region of Murano and the strange Arcangeli family, things don't quite add up. (English)

David HEWSON**The Sacred Cut****522pp Pb 19.95**

For the first time in decades, The Eternal City is paralysed by a blizzard. And a gruesome discovery is made in the Pantheon - one of Rome's most ancient and revered architectural treasures. Covered by softly falling snow is the body of a young woman, her back horribly mutilated. But before Costa, Peroni and Rome's Questura can begin a formal investigation, the US Embassy has brought in its own people, FBI agents who want the case closed as quickly and discreetly as possible. But Costa is determined to find out why, and as the FBI grudgingly admit that the corpse is not the first, the mutilation of the body points to Leonardo Da Vinci's Vitruvian Man, and to a conspiracy so sinister and buried so deep, that only two people know its true, crazed meaning. (English)

Tami HOAG**Dead Sky****375pp Tp 29.95**

It was a crime so brutal it changed the lives of even the most hardened homicide cops. The Haas family murders left a scar on the community nothing can erase, but convicting the alleged killer - Karl Dahl - would be a start. Only Judge Carey Moore seems to stand in the way. Her ruling that Dahl's prior criminal record is inadmissible as evidence against him raises a public outcry - and puts the judge in grave danger. When an unknown assailant attacks Carey in a parking garage, two of the city's top cops are called in to investigate and keep the judge from further harm. Detective Sam Kovac is as hard-boiled as they come, and his wisecracking partner, Nikki Liska, isn't far behind. Neither detective wants to be on this case, but when Dahl escapes custody, everything changes, and a seemingly straightforward case cartwheels out of control. (American)

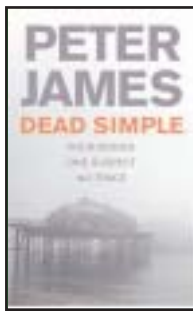




Peter JAMES

Dead Simple 457pp Pb 19.95

Roy Grace #1. It was meant to be a harmless stag night prank. A few hours later, four of his best friends are dead and Michael Harrison has disappeared. With only three days to the wedding, DSI Grace – a man haunted by the shadow of his own missing wife – is contacted by Michael’s beautiful, distraught fiancée, Ashley Harper. Grace discovers that one man who ought to know Harrison’s whereabouts is saying nothing. But then he has a lot to gain – more than anyone realises. (English)



Rita LAKIN

Getting Old is the Best Revenge #2 315pp Pb 16.95

“Never trust anyone under 75!” That’s the motto of the Gladly Gold Detective Agency. Don’t laugh: having solved a case of serial murder, Gladly and her eccentric neighbours are building their reputation between canasta games and pool exercises, hunting down everything from lost pocketbooks to missing octogenarians. And when a jealous woman sets them after her wayward husband, and a flasher strikes their retirement complex, two seemingly unrelated cases collide with a third: a series of dastardly murders targeting Florida’s wealthiest wives. (American)

Jose LATOUR

Comrades in Miami 344pp Tp 29.95

Without spy satellites or supercomputers, communist Cuba has relied on its intelligence operatives for the last 45 years. Colonel Victoria Valiente, one of the most respected officers in the General Directorate of Intelligence is the Havana-based spymaster of greater Miami. But now her husband has convinced her that Castro’s regime is corrupt and they must defect. Buoyed by \$2.7 million stolen electronically, the couple sail for Quay West. They have no idea that the FBI is on to them, having coerced a Cuban exile living in Miami to help. (Cuban)

David LAWRENCE

Cold Kill 453pp Pb 19.95

It was winter. The crime scene: a London park at dusk. DS Stella Mooney stares down at the brutalised body of a young woman. From the shelter of nearby trees, Martin Kimber is watching events - watching Stella. Next morning, he walks into a Notting Hill police station and confesses to the murder. It’s a fast clear-up - just what the AMIP 5 squad wants this close to Christmas. But Stella has her doubts about Kimber’s guilt. So, if Kimber didn’t commit the murder, who did? (English)

Donna LEON

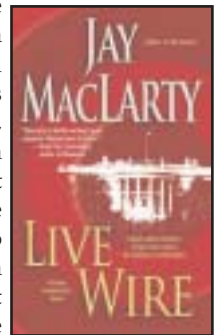
Blood from a Stone #14 355pp Pb 21.95

On a cold Venetian night shortly before Christmas, a man is killed in a scuffle in Campo San Stefano. The closest witnesses to the event are the tourists who had been browsing the man’s wares before his death - fake handbags of every designer label - but they have seen nothing that might be of much help to the police. When Commissario Brunetti arrives on the scene, he finds it hard to understand why anyone would murder an illegal immigrant. They have few social connections and little money; in-fighting is the obvious answer. But once Brunetti begins investigating this unfamiliar Venetian underworld, he discovers that matters of great value are at stake in the immigrant community... (American)

Jay MACLARTY

Live Wire 354pp Pb 18.95

Faced with the news that North Korea intends to sell its nuclear weapons on the black market, the American President must resort to the unthinkable: he secretly offers to support a North Korean faction intent on overthrowing the government of Kim Jong-il. To facilitate this deadly covert operation, professional courier Simon Leonidovich is recruited to deliver vital CIA documents to the North Korean dissidents. But when Simon finds himself trapped behind enemy lines with a briefcase full of incriminating evidence, he discovers the true nature of the threat: an elaborate conspiracy by someone within the administration - to take down the American President... (American)



Susan KANDEL

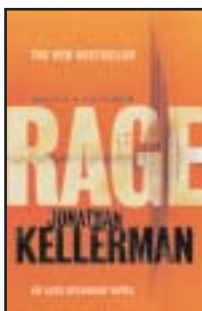
Not a Girl Detective 324pp Pb 16.95

Cece Caruso Mystery. Biographer and amateur sleuth Cece Caruso freely admits that she spent her youth idolising girl detective Nancy Drew, a fantasy that undoubtedly influenced her grown-up job writing biographies of dead mystery writers. Researching the life of Carolyn Keene, the pseudonymous author of the Nancy Drew mysteries, Cece meets a flamboyant collector of ‘Blue Nancys’, the original books with blue covers. When he finds out that she is taking a road trip to Palm Springs to snoop around at the annual Nancy Drew fan convention, he offers her the use of his swanky vacation house. But the last thing Cece expects to find lying around the swimming pool is one very dead body. (American)


Jonathan KELLERMAN

Rage 365pp Pb 19.95

Eight years ago, psychologist Alex Delaware evaluated two teenage boys charged with the shocking murder of young Kristal Malley. Now one of the killers is out of prison and wants to meet up with Alex. But by the time the pair come face to face, one of them is dead. Was Rand Duchay just another victim of an LA street crime? Or is something more sinister going on? Alex and Detective Milo Sturgis mean to find out. To do so, they follow a trail of blood that leads them to the depths of cruelty and straight to the heart of murderous betrayal. (American)



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

Henning MANKELL

The Man Who Smiled 438pp Pb 21.95

Kurt Wallender #4. After killing a man in the line of duty, Inspector Kurt Wallender finds himself spiralling into an alcohol-fuelled depression. He has just decided to leave the police when an old friend approaches him to help investigate his father’s death. Kurt doesn’t want to know. But then his friend is found shot dead. Against his better judgment, he returns to work to head what may now be a double murder. An enigmatic big-business tycoon seems to be the common denominator in the two deaths. But while Wallender is on the trail of the killer, somebody is on the trail of Wallender, and closing in fast. (Swedish)



**Rosemary MARTIN****Twist and Shout Murder****287pp Pb 16.95**

A Murder A-Go-Go Mystery. Bebe's new job at a modelling agency quickly sours when Bradley, her adored boss, takes a personal interest in the company's top model. Then the scheming beauty is strangled with a Pucci scarf - a gift from Bradley! Bebe's determined to find the real killer, before the man of her dreams winds up behind bars. And if that weren't enough to stop a swinging chick in her tracks, she also has to contend with a visit from her parents, a photo shoot in the Virgin Islands, and dates with the Burma Shave man... (American)

Chris MATTHEWS (ed)**Deadly Housewives****283pp Pb 29.95**

In the expert hands of 14 unsurpassed storytellers, being a housewife takes on a whole new meaning. Get ready for a lethal mix of meddling mothers-in-law, creepy neighbors, cheating husbands, fickle female friends, careers left behind, out-of-control kids, steamy sex, and more in this thrilling collection of never-before-published stories! Join Nevada Barr, Barbara Collins, Carole Nelson Douglas, Eileen Dreyer, Vicki Hendricks, Elizabeth Massie, Marcia Muller, Sara Paretsky, Nancy Pickard, S J Rozan, and more on a riotous ride through the dark but often hilarious corners of the housewife psyche. (American)

Colleen McCULLOUGH**On, Off****435pp Tp 32.95**

It is 1965 and in Hollman, Connecticut, someone is preying on the innocent. At the 'Hug', a prestigious research centre for the neurosciences, parts of a body are discovered. Soon Lieutenant Carmine Delmonico of the Holloman Police learns of a string of horrifying disappearances throughout the state. Then another body is found. With the Hug's hierarchies of power in turmoil, Delmonico delves into the lives and pasta of every Hugger. It is the case of his career, but how do you find a monster who leaves no clues and is always two steps ahead? (Australian)

Cammie McGOVERN**Eye Contact****288pp Tp 32.95**

As children wage mock battles in the playground of Woodside Elementary School, two pupils - a little girl and boy - seem to vanish. They are last seen heading across the soccer field towards the woods behind the school. Hours pass before one of them - Adam, a nine-year-old boy with autism - is found alive, the sole witness to an incomprehensible killing. Then another child goes missing and Adam's mother realises she must unlock her son's silence, not only for the sake of justice, but also for the sake of her child. (American)

G A McKEVETT**Murder a la Mode****299pp Pb 16.95**

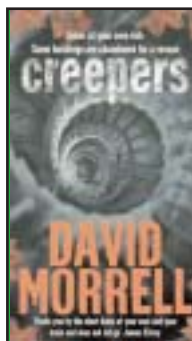
Savannah Reid Mystery #10. Voluptuous PI Savannah Reid's culinary cravings come second only to her appetite for adventure. Of course, every girl needs a little downtime, and Savannah adores curling up with a box of chocolates, a steaming Irish coffee and an even steamier romance novel - preferably one with sexy Lance Roman on the cover. But when she meets her dream hunk in person, things take a decidedly nightmarish turn... (American)

Deborah MORGAN**The Majolica Murders****227pp Pb 16.95**

Antique Lover's Mystery #5. When antiquer Jeff Talbot asks his friend Lanny to find some antique majolica for a gift for his wife, trouble begins - and gentle Lanny is accused of murdering a dishonest dealer. (American)

David MORRELL**Creepers****372pp Pb 19.95**

'Creepers'. That's what they call themselves. Urban explorers who illegally enter sealed buildings - hotels, offices, department stores - many of which have been abandoned for years. Exploring one is like going into a time capsule. Mystery and danger add to the adrenaline rush, as the building's secrets are unveiled. One night in New Jersey, a group of creepers enters the Paragon, a hotel designed and built during the glory days of Asbury Park by a reclusive millionaire. The magnificent structure, which foreshadowed the beauties of Art Deco architecture, is now a decrepit, boarded-up edifice marked for demolition. But the Paragon has a disturbing history, and soon after the group enters, it becomes clear this decaying seven-story building holds more secrets than they could have imagined in their worst nightmares. (American)

**Martin O'BRIEN****Jacquot and the Angel #2****534pp Pb 19.95**

During WWII, four Resistance fighters are executed by the Gestapo in France's Occupied Southern Zone. More than 50 years later, a wealthy German family, resident in Provence, is brutally murdered. When a local gardener is arrested and charged, Daniel Jacquot of the Cavaillon Regional Crime Squad is convinced they have the wrong man. 400 miles away, in Alsace, Marie-Ange Buhl knows it for certain. (English)

Jill PATON-WALSH**Debts of Dishonour****264pp Tp 32.95**

Imogen Quay #3. One of the most original creations in modern crime fiction - the deceptively down-to-earth college nurse at St Agatha's College, Cambridge - Imogen Quay is the heiress apparent to Harriet Vane and Miss Marple. Hoping to attract a generous endowment, St Agatha's invites the fabulously wealthy Sir Julius to dine. But when Farran dies, suddenly and shockingly, Imogen has to look into it. To save her college, she starts to cast her cool eye over the financier's heirs, employees and enemies. What is right about the death of Sir Julius? What is wrong about it? And why did it happen? (English)

James PATTERSON**Fourth of July 414pp Pb 19.95**

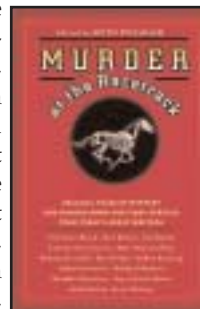
Women's Murder Club. After losing one of its own, Lindsay Boxer and the Women's Murder Club make a courageous return for their fourth and most chilling case ever - one that could easily be their last. A young girl is killed in crossfire after a routine arrest goes terribly wrong, and Lt Lindsay Boxer has to defend herself against a charge of police brutality. In a landmark trial that transfixed the nation, Lindsay fights to save her career and her sanity. (American)

Louise PENNY**Still Life****402pp Pb 19.95**

Chief Inspector Armand Gamache and his team of investigators are called in to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the US border, has been found dead in the woods. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods. He is certain Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bow hunter. (Canadian)

Otto PENZLER (ed)**Murder at the Racetrack****361pp Tp 29.95**

More than sex, horse racing may be the ultimate male fantasy, thanks to the green laws, old trees and beautiful animals that enjoy the lavish care that most men don't offer their wives. Yet, with more fixes than the local auto shop, the 'sport of kings' might be the most royally amoral game of all! Here are 14 thoroughbred stories of breakneck action and breathtaking intrigue. (American)





**Gary PHILLIPS
& Jevey TERVALON (ed)**

The Cocaine Chronicles

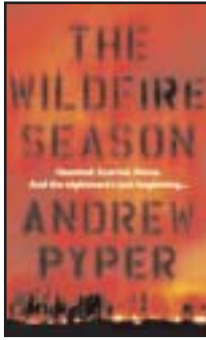
269pp Pb 24.95

Nothing to snort at... This is the best fiction anthology of narcotic-themed tales to blow through in years. Featuring 17 new stories by a cross section of today's most talented literary and crime fiction writers including Lee Child, Laura Lippman, Ken Bruen, Susan Straight, Jerry Stahl, Nina Revoyr, Bill Moody and the editors' own stories. (American)

Andrew PYPER

Wildfire Season **439pp Pb 19.95**

Of all the end-of-the-world places he could have run to after he was burned, Miles McEwan chose Ross River. Buried deep in the vast wilderness of the Yukon, it seemed the perfect place to escape the past. Best of all, he could carry on doing the job he loved - fighting fire. But five years on, Miles is still troubled by phantoms of his previous life: the young man whose agonising death preys on his conscience, and the woman he abandoned as a consequence. And in the dark forest around Ross River violence is brewing. (Canadian)



Patrick QUINLAN

Smoked **293pp Tp 29.95**

Smoke Dugan is on the run. A bomb-maker by profession, he dropped out of sight because of a misunderstanding with his employers about an airplane crash and \$2.5 million in cash. Unfortunately, they've tracked him down to a seaside city in Maine. And hitman Denny Cruz is on his way from New York to collect him. (American)

Patrick REDMOND

All She Ever Wanted

354pp Tp 29.95

Not everyone wants to fall in love. For Tina Ryan, it is simply a refuge for the weak, lonely and needy. Once she was like that herself, but not now. Following a turbulent, tormented childhood, she has reinvented herself to become Chrissie: strong, self-reliant and in control. She is everything she ever wanted to be and nothing, not even a man, will ever be allowed to threaten that. But she is also human. When love does enter her life, as unexpectedly as a mugging, it threatens this new personality she has worked so hard to create. Control must be maintained and love must be on her terms. No matter how dreadful those terms might be... (English)

Kathy REICHS & Max Allen COLLINS

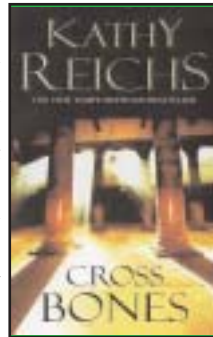
Bones **300pp Pb 19.95**

Tempe Brennan's work at the Jeffersonian Institute is put on hold when Special Agent Seeley Booth, stalled on a case deposing a Chicago mob family, calls her in to assist with a bizarre discovery: a plastic bag of skeletal remains - and a chilling note - left on the steps of a federal building. Tempe determines the bones are from different corpses, suggesting a serial killer's handiwork. A suspect is quickly taken into custody, but Tempe senses the case is far from closed. And as Booth's Mafia case heats up with violent twists and bloody discoveries, including ties to one of Chicago's most gruesome and notorious killers, Tempe must unravel the story of the bones, where the truth lies buried - in order to stay alive. (American)

Kathy REICHS

Cross Bones **495pp Pb 19.95**

#8. Tempe Brennan and Detective Andrew Ryan are on the trail of a modern murder and an ancient biblical mystery... When an Orthodox Jewish man is found shot to death in Montreal, Tempe is called in to examine



the body and to figure out the puzzling damage to the corpse. Unexpectedly, a stranger slips her a photograph of a skeleton and assures her it is the key to the victim's death. Before she knows it, Tempe is involved in an international mystery as old as Jesus, one that could lead to the rewriting of 2,000 years of religious history. (American)

Karen ROSE

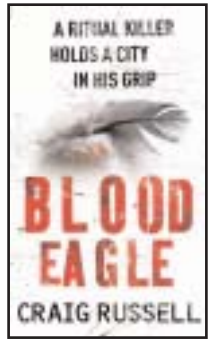
You Can't Hide **497pp Pb 16.95**

Terror has forever changed the life of psychiatrist Tess Ciccotelli. Someone is tormenting her patients, pushing them to commit suicide, and setting her up to take the blame. But Tess can't break her oath to protect her patients' privacy. Even when detective Aidan Reagan demands a list of everyone she's treating. Aidan doesn't like anyone who stalls his cases. Still, he can't help but admire Tess's fierce loyalty to her patients, especially when it becomes clear that a nameless, faceless enemy is set on destroying her career, her family, and finally, Tess herself. As Aidan's heart softens, the killer's will hardens, and one thing becomes clear - the noose is tightening around Tess's neck. (American)

Craig RUSSELL

Blood Eagle **481pp Pb 21.95**

The first victim had her lungs ripped out. When another woman is found murdered in the same horrific and ritualistic way, it is clear that a serial killer is terrorising the city. But there is no precise evidence to link the two cases, except for a taunting email that threatens more killings. Detective Jan Fabel is haunted by the murders and their possible connection to a subsequent series of rapes by masked attackers. His desperate attempts to stop the killer before more victims are discovered gradually uncovers layer upon layer of intrigue and violence. How can he track down a murderer who leaves no trail, whose victims seem purposefully random and whose motive reaches into the darkest recesses of the human soul? (English)



Lisa SCOTTOLINE

Devil's Corner **490pp Pb 19.95**

Prosecutor Vicki Allegritti goes to meet a confidential informant, is almost killed, and a cop is gunned down before her eyes. She saw the killers - now all she has to do is find them. The deeper Vicki probes, the more she becomes convinced that the murder wasn't random. When another murder takes place, Vicki is thrown together with an unlikely ally - 'The Girlfriend from Hell'. Will they find the killers before they kill each other? (American)

Lisa SCOTTOLINE

Dirty Blonde **358pp Tp 32.95**

Cate Fante is strong and smart, but when she becomes a federal judge, even she wonders if she can do justice to the job. At only 36, she worries inwardly that she only looks the part, in a designer suit

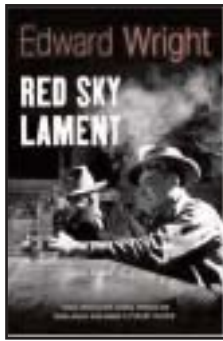


donned like overpriced armour. But she keeps her doubts a secret. And, as it happens, much else. For she leads a dark, double life that she hides from everyone, even her best friend. Then a high-profile case in her courtroom explodes into a shocking murder-suicide, blasting her cover wide open. Overnight the tabloids tell her secrets, her boyfriend dumps her, and her new career hangs in tatters. But her troubles are only just beginning... (American)

**Edward WRIGHT****Red Sky Lament**

278pp Tp 29.95

Los Angeles, late 1940s. As brush fires eat at the dry grass in the hills rimming the San Fernando Valley, a more ominous threat takes shape. All over Hollywood, the US government is ordering people to appear before the



House Un-American Activities Committee as part of the crusade to uncover Communist influence in the movies. John Ray Horn has little use for politics, but as a former B-grade movie star who fell into prison and disgrace, he knows a few things about outsiders. And when his ex-lover, Maggie O'Dare, asks him to come to the aid of an old friend who has been targeted by the committee, he can't refuse. His search leads him to powerful figures in Hollywood and his investigation takes a sudden deadly turn. (American)

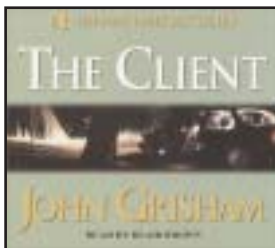
Chuck ZITO**A Habit for Death** 261pp Tp 32.95

Escaping the heat and heartbreak of New York City for a summer in rural Pennsylvania sounded like the perfect plan to Nicky D'Amico. Little did he know that what began as a heavenly idea would turn out to be a hell of a job! Each year the nuns of rural St. Gilbert's College hire a city slicker to help with their summer theater festival. As the stage manager, Nicky has a lot to handle - a truly awful musical script, bickering school staff, a huge crush on the cute guy in the chorus but things are about to get a whole lot worse. Convent of Fear, the school's play, features a serial nun killer. When several cast members are murdered, the mystery moves from the stage to real life. (American)

**CRIME
AUDIO****John GRISHAM****The Client**

5 CDs 55.00

A US State Senator is dead and Mark Sway is the only one who knows where the body is hidden. The



FBI want him to tell them where it is at whatever cost to Mark and his family. The killer wants him silenced forever... Narrated by Blair Brown. (American)

John GRISHAM**The Pelican Brief**

5 CDs 55.00

Two Supreme Court justices are dead. Their murders are connected only in one mind, and in one legal brief conceived by that mind. Brilliant, beautiful and ambitious, New Orleans legal student Darby Shaw little realises that her speculative brief will penetrate to the highest levels of power in Washington and cause shockwaves there. Shockwaves that will see her boyfriend atomised in a bomb blast, that will send hired killers chasing after her, that will propel her across the country to meet the one man, investigative reporter Gray Grantham, who is as near the truth as she is. Narrated by Anthony Heald. (American)

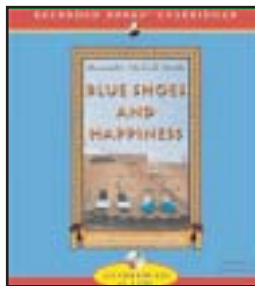
Alexander McCALL SMITH**Blue Shoes and Happiness**

5 CDs 39.95

Mma Ramotswe #7. Mma

Ramotswe contemplates the two sorts of problems that we all face in life: the major ones (such as drought), about

which very little can be done, and the other sort - which people make for themselves through human weakness and an inability to resist temptation. Like the inability to resist cake, for instance. That had led to several problems for Mr JLB Matekoni, especially when the cake was made by Mma Potokwane, matron of the Orphan Farm. But it is Mma Ramotswe's role in life to deal with the problems of others and provide some solution to their difficulties - a role she fulfils with her usual style in this latest bestseller. Read by Adjoa Andoh. (Scottish)

**Ian RANKIN****Black and Blue**

3 CDs 39.95

Inspector John Rebus must disinter all four cases to nail just one killer who might just lead back to the infamous

Bible John. And do it while facing the glare of an internal inquiry led by a man he has just accused of taking backhanders from Glasgow's Mr Big, and with TV cameras at his back investigating a miscarriage of justice. One mistake is likely to mean an unpleasant and not particularly speedy death or, worse still, losing his job. Narrated by James McPherson. (Scottish)

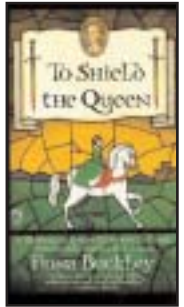
**HISTORICAL
CRIME****Fiona BUCKLEY****To Shield the Queen**

326pp Tp 29.00

Ursula Blanchard Elizabethan Mystery #9.

Rumour has linked Queen Elizabeth I to her master of horse, Robin Dudley. As gossip would have it, only his ailing wife, Amy, prevents marriage between Dudley and the Queen. To quell the idle tongues

at court, the Queen dispatches Ursula Blanchard to tend to the sick woman's needs. But not even Ursula can prevent the 'accident' that takes Amy's life. Did she fall or was she pushed? (English)

**Laurie KING****Locked Rooms**

485pp Pb 16.95

Mary Russell Holmes #8. Mary Russell and her husband Sherlock Holmes are back in King's highly acclaimed *New York Times* bestselling mystery series. And this time the first couple of detection pair up to unlock the buried memory of a shocking crime with the power to kill again - lost somewhere in Russell's own past. (American)

Gaston LEROUX**The Mystery of the Yellow Room**

175pp Pb 19.95

How could a crime take place in a locked room which shows no sign of being entered? Nearly a century after its initial publication, Leroux's landmark tale of foul play, deception, and unbridled ambition remains a blueprint for the detective novel genre. 1907 (French)

Simon LEVACK**Shadow of the Lords** 392pp Pb 18.95

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



Lou Jan TEMPLE

The Spice Box 312pp Pb 16.95

Bridget Heaney escaped from Ireland's Great Famine to New York City, where she spent her childhood as a pickpocket, supporting herself and her younger sister. But ever since she made her first pot of soup at the orphanage, she knew she wanted to be a cook. Now, in the home of wealthy and powerful department store owner Isaac Gold, her dream is about to come true. But on Bridget's first day of work, amidst gleaming copper pots and mighty woodstoves, she finds a body hidden inside the dough box. It is Gold's youngest son, whose whereabouts have been a mystery for several days. Bridget's courage and street sense take her from cook to crime-solver as she helps the heartbroken Gold family unravel the story of their son's fate. Justice will be served, along with a home-cooked meal. (American)

Peter TREMAYNE

Master of Souls 426pp Pb 19.95

Sister Fidelma #16. On a storm-driven night, wreckers drive a ship onto rocks off the coast of Ireland. An Abbess leading a pilgrimage is killed and the young religieuse with her are abducted. An ageing scholar is murdered in the Abbey of Ard Fhearta. Do these events have a connection? Sister Fidelma and Brother Eadulf go to Ard Fhearta to examine the mystery. But the abbey stands in the territory of the Ui Fidgente, enemies of Fidelma and her brother, the King of Cashel, and danger threatens Fidelma and Eadulf from the moment of their arrival. What is the link that connects the crimes? Who is the mysterious 'master of souls' spreading death and corruption across the land? (Irish)

**CRIME
NON-FICTION**



Keith ALBOW

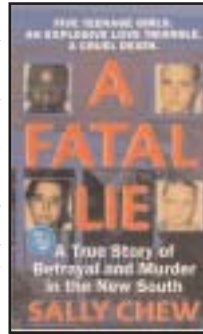
Inside the Mind of Scott Peterson 332pp Pb 14.95

The highly publicised Scott Peterson murder case captivated a public hungry for the answer to one question: Why would a man with no known history of violent crime or mental illness and with a pretty wife about to give birth brutally murder her and his unborn son? Forensic psychiatrist Keith Ablow's national media appearances, including a groundbreaking interview on *Oprah*, resulted in enormous public response, saying that his theories about the spawning of a killer inside Peterson were the first that made sense to them. (American)

Sally CHEW

A Fatal Lie: A True Story of Betrayal and Murder in the New South 273pp Pb 16.95

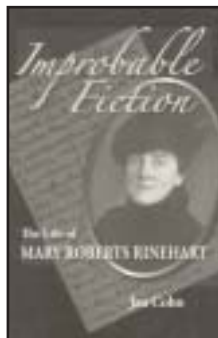
Richmond, Virginia, July 1997. A brick row-house in the city's gay Carytown district, home of 18-year-old Kelley 'Turtle' Tibbs, legendary ringleader of the teenage lesbian scene. Walk inside and you'd be likely to find Melissa Etheridge blasting on the stereo, lots of beer, a clutch of shaven-headed young women - and Turtle's tall, possessive girlfriend, Tracy Bitner. Enter 18-year-old Stacey Hanna, a new roommate who moved east from Lynchburg and, from the beginning, openly carried a torch for Turtle. Stacey's attempts to drive a wedge between Turtle and Tracy backfired badly. And one night, Turtle, Tracy and two friends literally dragged Stacey to a wooded area and kicked, slashed and stabbed her to death in a scene straight out of a horror movie. (American)



Jan COHN

Improbable Fiction: The Life of Mary Roberts Rinehart 291pp Tp 43.00

The mystery stories and other popular fiction of Mary Roberts Rinehart (1876-1958) brought her wealth and fame, but she was much more than a writer. She was a well-known American, respected and loved during a time when few women achieved national influence. Trained as a nurse, she met and married a physician, with whom she had three sons. She was living the stereotypical life of a young matron in Allegheny (now part of Pittsburgh), when her husband's investments evaporated during a stock market crash. She began writing as a means to supplement the family income. In addition to her mysteries, she wrote serious fiction, plays, poems, magazine articles, and editorials. Her regular contributions to the *Saturday Evening Post* were immensely popular and helped the magazine mould middle-class taste and manners. In this fascinating account of a woman ahead of her time, Cohn illuminates the tensions that pervaded Rinehart's life. (American)



Mars EGHIGIAN

After Capone: The Life and World of Chicago Mob Boss Frank 'the Enforcer' Nitti 528pp Hb 42.95

Meticulously combining previously scattered accounts with abundant fresh research, this book provides a comprehensive and arousing portrait of underworld boss Frank Nitti and his gang's far-reaching power emanating from Chicago in the 1930s. The last word on the life of the cunning mob boss, his life experiences, the people around him and organised crime in Chicago after Al Capone, this in-depth analysis, based on many years of research and supported by original sources from state and federal archives, is the definitive reference on Nitti's violent life and times. (American)



Karen KISSANE

Silent Death: The Killing of Julie Ramage 382pp Tp 32.95

Jamie and Julie Ramage were the classic middle-class, Australian couple. From the outside, they had the perfect life and the perfect marriage. Then one day, he killed her. Journalist Karen Kissane walks us through the front door of the Ramage family home and reveals what went horribly wrong on 21 July 2003. (Australian)

Don LASSETER

Cold Storage 401pp Pb 16.95

On 3 June 1991, an abandoned car was found on a busy stretch of highway near Newport Beach, California. Its owner, Denise Huber, had vanished. For three years, her disappearance remained a mystery, inspiring one of the most intensive missing-person searches in history. All to no avail, because the only man who knew what happened to Denise wasn't talking. He wasn't through with her yet... (American)

Steven LONG

Every Woman's Nightmare: The Fairytale Marriage and Brutal Murder of Lori Hacking 256pp Pb 16.95

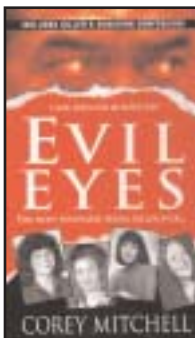
Well-liked and respected, Mark Hacking came from a highly successful Mormon family. His father was a pediatrician. One of his brothers was also a doctor, and his other brother was an electrical engineer. With acceptances into medical schools, Mark was on the road to continuing his family's legacy of achievement. And with a beautiful wife by his side, Mark seemed to have it all. But what he had was a tangled web of lies... (American)

Corey MITCHELL

Evil Eyes

426pp Pb 16.95

In Houston, Texas on the morning of 23 May 1982, Coral Eugene Watts, 28, trapped two young women in their apartment. Only hours before, he had killed another woman by drowning her in a bathtub. As he attempted to do the same to 20-year-old Lori Lister, her roommate made a daring escape, leading to Watts' arrest. He confessed to 13 murders, but with no direct evidence to link him to the crimes, he managed to plea bargain his sentence down to 60 years for burglary. Due to a legal flaw in the Texas criminal justice system, Watts was supposed to be released from prison in 2006. Through the ceaseless efforts of investigators and the mother of one of the victims, Watts was finally tried and convicted to life in prison for a murder he committed in Michigan in 1979. He remains the prime suspect in approximately 90 other slayings. (American)

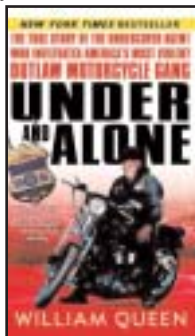


William QUEEN

Under and Alone: The True Story of the Undercover Agent Who Infiltrated America's Most Violent Outlaw Motorcycle Gang

260pp Pb 18.95

In 1998, veteran law enforcement officer and lifelong motorcycle lover William Queen penetrated the San Fernando chapter of the notorious Mongols and kick-started the most extensive undercover operation inside a criminal motorcycle gang in American history. Queen was at the mercy of criminal psychopaths who sought to have him prove his fealty by any means necessary, from selling and doing drugs to arms trafficking, driving getaway cars and, in one shocking instance, stitching up the face of a Mongol 'ol' lady' after a brutal beating at the hands of her boyfriend. Yet, despite the constant criminality of the gang, Queen also came to see the genuine camaraderie they shared. His lengthy undercover work totally isolated him from his friends and relatives, so the Mongols were the only family he had left. (American)



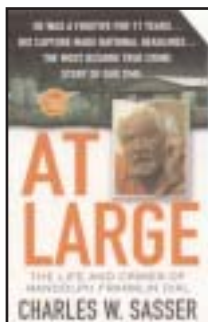
Charles SASSER

At Large:

The Life and Crimes of Randolph Franklin Dial

325pp Pb 16.95

For 11 years, Randolph Dial was one of the most sought-after fugitives in America. Brilliant, cunning and enigmatic, he had murdered a man so expertly that the case was only solved when he inexplicably turned himself in. He escaped from his Oklahoma prison after serving 10 years of a life sentence, taking with him the assistant warden's beautiful young wife, Bobbi Parker. But was she Dial's hostage for 10 years - or was the story more complicated? (American)

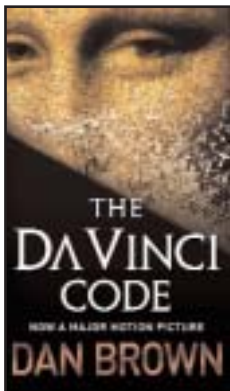


STAFF REVIEW

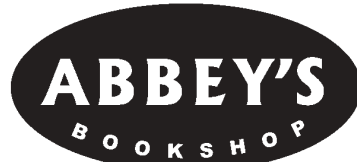
Dan BROWN

The Da Vinci Code (608pp Pb \$19.95)

This is a 'controversial' bestseller. Unlike many of our staff, I was immediately engrossed in this intriguing and compulsively page-turning story. Robert Langdon, a professor of symbology and a gifted French cryptologist, Sophie Neveu, are confronted with the naked and strangely arranged body of Sophie's grandfather, the curator of the Louvre. A pentagon has been drawn in his own blood around his navel, and his body is arranged in the fashion of Da Vinci's famous drawing of the Vitruvian man. Further clues and codes have been drawn around the body with a blacklight pen. Robert and Sophie must work against time (and the police) to crack a series of cryptic clues and codes. Along the way, all sorts of 'facts' about a secret society dating back to Leonardo Da Vinci, (the Priory of Sion), a catholic sect favouring self-inflicted wounds, (Opus Dei) and other fascinating subjects are sprinkled throughout. - Ann



Crime Chronicle is compiled and edited by Peter Milne and Ann Leahy



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