

Crime Chronicle

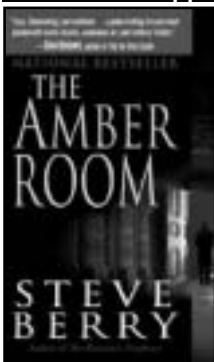
"where a good crime can be had by all"

Issue #236 september 2005

AUTHOR OF THE MONTH STEVE BERRY

Steve Berry has now written three thrillers, which are all well worth reading:

The Amber Room 416pp Pb \$12.95

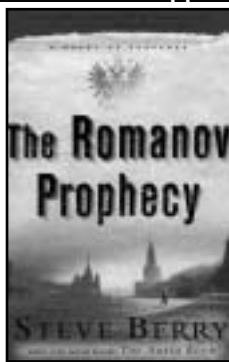


"Sexy, illuminating... my kind of thriller."
- Dan Brown

Forged of the exquisite gem, the Amber Room is one of the greatest treasures ever made by man – and the subject of one of history's most intriguing mysteries. German troops invading the Soviet Union seized the room in 1941. After the Allied bombing, the room was hidden and has never been seen since. Now the hunt for it has begun

once more. Atlanta judge Rachel Cutler loves her job and her kids, and remains civil to her ex-husband Paul. But everything changes when her father dies under mysterious circumstances, leaving behind clues to a secret something called the Amber Room. Desperate for the truth, she takes off for Germany, with Paul close behind, and before long, they are in over their heads. Locked into a treacherous game with professional killers, they find themselves on a collision course with the forces of greed, power and history itself. A globe-trotting treasure hunt packed with exotic locales, sumptuous art and ruthless villains.

The Romanov Prophecy 387pp Pb \$16.95

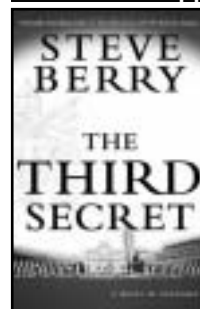


"Compelling... adventure-filled... a fast-moving, globe-hopping tale of long-lost treasure and shadowy bad guys."
- San Francisco Chronicle

Atlanta lawyer Miles Lord is thrilled to be in Moscow for such a momentous event: After the fall of Communism and a succession of weak governments, the Russian people have voted to bring back the tsar, who will be chosen from among the distant relatives of Nicholas II. Miles is assigned to perform a background check on one of the candidates, but research becomes the least of his concerns when he is nearly killed by gunmen on a city plaza. Suddenly he is racing across continents, his only guide a cryptic utterance made by Rasputin which implied the infamous 1918 massacre of the Romanov family was not the last chapter in their story. The prophecy's implications are earth-shattering, not only for the future of the tsar and mother Russia, but also for Miles. A splendid blend of fact and fiction in a suspenseful thriller.

- Peter

The Third Secret 396pp Pb \$19.95



"Controversial, shocking, explosive... rich in a wealth of Vatican insider knowledge and 2,000 years of Virgin Mary visitations."
- Katherine Neville

Here is a thriller that takes us from the echoing halls and papal politics of the Vatican to the wilds of Romania and a mysterious world of holy visitations and miracles. In the library of the Vatican, in its most secret vault, lies a box that may only be opened by the Pope. Within this box, there once lay a scrap of paper that could shake the foundations of the church and the faith itself, but in 1978, a junior cleric seized his chance and stole the paper. In 1917, the Virgin Mary appeared to three peasant children in Fatima, Portugal, telling them three secrets. Two were revealed immediately, while the third more than 80 years later, or so it would seem. Now the Pope suspects there was more to the third secret and assigns his trusted aide, Father Colin Michener, to find out, before it's too late. What follows is a hair-raising quest for the truth that will change Michener, the Church and the world forever. A fascinating and suspenseful thriller.

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP & PARTNERS IN CRIME QUEEN OF CRIME AWARDS 2005

(honouring Agatha Christie)

A Crime or Mystery Story (maximum 3,000 words)

1st Prize \$250, 2nd Prize \$150, 3rd Prize \$100

Closing Date: 31 October 2005

Any queries, please contact Meg Hayes,
Competition Secretary on (02) 9982 2066

Entry forms also available
from Peter Milne at Abbey's Bookshop

WRITING CRIME FICTION... YOU BE THE DETECTIVE

1-DAY WORKSHOP

Tutor: Pamela Mawbey

Place: Ku-ring-gai Art Centre, Bancroft Park
Recreation Ave, Roseville 2069

Date: Sunday 6 November, 10am-4.30pm

For more details or booking enquiries,
phone the Art Centre on (02) 9413 9771

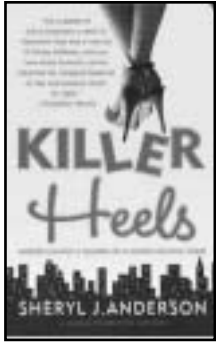


Modern Crime

Sheryl ANDERSON

Killer Heels

326pp Pb 16.95



A *Molly Forrester* mystery. All Molly wants is to find that one big story that can redirect her journalism career away from the sex/relationship advice column that she writes for

Zeitgeist magazine and back to serious news. But she did not expect to trip over it, especially when 'it' turned out to be the bloody body of one of her co-workers. And she certainly didn't expect to ruin her brand new Jimmy Choos over it. (American)



Russell ANDREWS

Midas

418pp Tp 29.95

Detective Justin Westwood is mourning the death of his boss, victim of a terrorist bombing in a local restaurant, when he is called to investigate an air accident: a small plane has crashed on take-off from Hampton Airport. Westwood is shocked when he realises this murderous act might have its origins on Capitol Hill. But what political or financial prize could be worth the slaughter of dozens of innocents? It seems as though Justin may have to sacrifice his own life before he learns the truth. (American)

Greg BAKER

Pressure Point 296pp Pb 22.95

In South Africa, apartheid is collapsing. In Australia, a guerrilla army training camp has been set up in secret. Late one night, Tony Martin receives a call from a friend with information that someone would kill for. Thirty minutes later, Tony finds his friend dead. As part of a deep undercover operation known only to the Prime Minister, Tony now finds himself running for his life armed with just a few unlikely clues that point towards a conspiracy covering two continents and a 20-year-old mystery. What he discovers could bring down the Australian government. (Australian)

Linda BARNES

Snapshot (1993)

386pp Pb 16.95

A *Carlotta Carlyle* mystery. "Boston's snappy, redheaded PI investigates the suspicious death of a woman's daughter after receiving a series of snapshots in the mail. Carlyle also attempts to locate the biological father of her own 'little sister', Paolina. Both cases ultimately involve drugs and conspiracy." - *Library Journal*. (American)

Richard BEASLEY

The Ambulance Chaser

356pp Pb 22.00

This is the brilliantly funny tale of what can happen when a corporation breaches capitalism's golden rule: Never employ an honest lawyer. Christopher Blake is what people call an ambulance chaser and the Bar Association has just struck him off. After 12 years in human rights, Chris is now bankrupt. In desperation, he takes a job with South Pacific Group Insurance, the world's fastest-growing insurance company and a place where injured plaintiffs should just stop moaning and die. Which, Chris notices, they happen to be doing at an alarming rate. Keep an eye out for **Hell Has Harbour Views** (Pb 22.00), Beasley's first book, which is now a telemovie starring Matt Day. (Australian)

Ted BELL

Assassin

558pp Pb 18.95

Alexander Hawke is a direct descendant of the legendary pirate Blackhawke and an expert on espionage and terror. A shadowy terrorist kingpin has orchestrated the systematic slaying of American diplomats and, as the death toll mounts, Hawke is called upon to avert a cataclysmic attack. From London to Indonesia, from Washington to the Florida Keys, this is a fast and furious adventure with a hero who has redefined today's action thriller. (American)

Carol BENJAMIN

Fall Guy

369pp Pb 16.95

A *Rachel Alexander* mystery. When NYPD detective Tim O'Fallon makes Rachel the executor of his will after a supposed suicide, she finds a 30-year-old tragedy hidden deep in the dead man's family. (American)

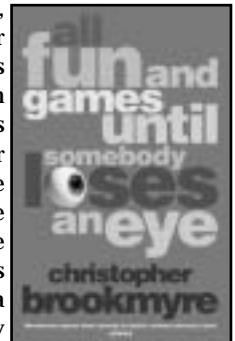
Christopher BROOKMYRE

All Fun and Games Until Someone

Loses an Eye

406pp Tp 29.95

Jane Bell's son Ross, a researcher working for an arms manufacturer in Switzerland, is forced to disappear before some characters persuade him to part with the secrets of his research. Then a team of security experts are hired by Ross's firm, headed by the enigmatic Bett, who believes the key to Ross's whereabouts is his mother. In one respect he is right, but even he is taken aback by the verve underlying her determination to secure her son's safety. The teenage dreams of fast cars, high-tech firepower and extreme action had always promised to be fun and games for Jane, but in real life it is likely someone is going to lose an eye... (British)



Dale BROWN

Act of War

384pp Tp 29.95

Dale Brown goes beyond anything he has 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 a whole array of futuristic infantry weapons and devices created to hunt down a new breed of enemy with unmatched speed and lethality. With all the thrilling battle scenes and expert military manoeuvres that have become the hallmark of this author, this is an intense, action-packed spectacle that combines geopolitics, terrorism and warfare. (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



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pol itical /legal



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pr ivate eye



romantic suspense



spor t



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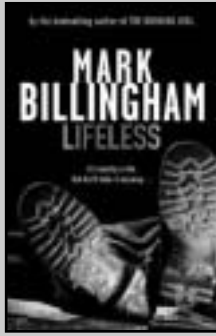
suspense/thriller




AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB


**STAFF REVIEW****Mark BILLINGHAM**
Lifeless 373pp Tp 29.95

I wasn't overly impressed with the first three in this series (**Sleepyhead**, **Scaredy Cat** and **Lazybones** all Pb 19.95), but I enjoyed the fourth (**Burning Girl** Pb 19.95), and with this fifth novel featuring Detective Inspector Tom Thorne, the author has really hit the ground running with a taut and suspenseful thriller. Thorne is barely hanging on to his career. The depression which claimed him following the death (or possible murder) of his father has found its outlet in simmering anger and burning resentment, which has offended most of his colleagues and not a few of his superiors. Forced into what is known as "gardening leave", the reality is that he's stuck in an office at Scotland Yard collating demographic information for an as yet unwritten report on recruitment statistics - a recipe for discontent and a possible leave of senses. Perhaps it is this dire situation, professional and emotional, that drives him to undercover work amongst London's homeless population. Three men have been kicked to death within a short space of time. Their only commonality is seemingly the fact that they were homeless and bereft of luck at the end. Thorne joins the ranks of those living and sleeping rough in an effort to gather information. This netherworld of the down-and-out has its own hierarchies and rituals, and he is lucky to be inducted by Spike, a junkie with the proverbial heart of gold and the habit to match. As Thorne is swallowed into the underground, it's as if he is punishing himself for past misdeeds. His characterisation as a broken-down alcoholic is so convincing that even his colleagues think he may have gone too far this time. However, Thorne is on a mission and, although the word on the streets is that the killer is a cop, it becomes slowly, increasingly clear that skulduggery, blackmail and an atrocity in the Middle East have something to do with the murders. All he has to do is stay alive and hope that his fellow officers keep him that way while he works out the details. Unluckily for him, someone knows where he is and they want him erased from the picture. - *Cara* (British)


**Paul CARSON**

Betrayal 374pp Tp 32.95
 Dr Frank Ryan is the medical officer at Harmon penitentiary in Ireland, which has the dubious reputation of being Europe's most dangerous prison. Here he can see a multitude of illnesses under one roof, furthering his research while satisfying his adventurous nature. Then, early one cold February morning, Ryan gets a phone call. Kissing his girlfriend Lisa goodbye, he leaves his high-security apartment and walks straight into an ambush. (British)


Glenn CHANDLER

Dead Sight 407pp Pb 19.95
 Deadly obsession, lost innocence and brutal murder combine in a taut crime novel from one of Britain's most respected screenwriters. As far as DI Steve Madden is concerned, the dead do not speak to anyone. But old childhood memories are stirred when jaded psychic Lavinia Roberts tells him that one of her clients is about to become a killer. A few days later, she is found brutally murdered. In front of her is a pack of tarot cards. Did she foresee her own horrific demise? Then the body of a child is found and everything points towards a ritual murder. Suddenly, Steve Madden's Brighton is immersed in a hunt for a killer who has no boundaries. (British)


Agatha CHRISTIE

Poirot 553pp Tp 39.95
 *The Complete Ariadne Oliver, Volume 1.* This contains the novels **Cards on the Tables**, **Mrs McGinty's Dead** and **Dead Man's Folly**, plus two short stories. (British)


James COGGINS

Mountaintop Drive 263pp Tp 27.00
 *A John Smyth mystery #3.* It is just like a second honeymoon when John and Ruby Smyth are invited to stay in a beautiful mountaintop house while attending a church convention in the Bible belt. Everything seems perfect, until the woman next door is murdered. As Smyth is drawn reluctantly into the investigation, he gains insight into the social divisions which frequently afflict the church and society. (Canadian)


Kate COLLINS

Dearly Depotted 298pp Pb 16.95
 *A Flower Shop mystery.* Abby has her hands full at her cousin Jillian's wedding as florist, bridesmaid and grandma-sitter, all while wearing a hideous dress. Then the groom's 90-year-old grandmother goes missing from the reception. On her search, Abby finds the corpse of guest Jack Snyder. Now she must find out who killed Jack in the pulpit. (American)


Max Allan COLLINS

The War of the Worlds Murder 246pp Pb 18.95
 October 1938. Orson Welles, known as radio's The Shadow, is accused of killing his mistress on the night of his War of the Worlds broadcast. Only Walter Gibson, The Shadow's creator, knows if Welles is truly guilty. (American)

Jennifer COLT

The Butcher of Beverly Hills 357pp Tp 27.00
 Who is killing the rich society widows of Beverly Hills? Meet Kerry and Terry McAfee: identical twin sisters, who have nothing in common, save their red hair and California-girl looks. Kerry's the good girl, a straight-A student who won a scholarship to UCLA. Terry's the bad girl, whose appetite for nose candy won her a spot in the slammer. When Terry gets out of jail, the twins decide to open their own business as private investigators and soon they are keeping LA safe with the help of their trusty sidekicks: a Pomeranian named Paquito and a Pug named Muffy. (American)

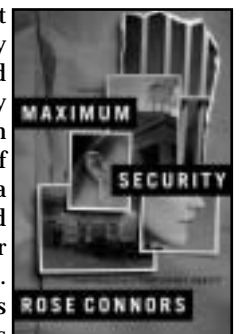
John CONNOLLY

Nocturnes 444pp Pb 19.95
 In this macabre collection, echoing masters of the genre from M R James to Stephen King, Connolly delves into our darkest fears - lost lovers, missing children, subterranean creatures and predatory demons. Framing the collection are two substantial novellas: *The Cancer Cowboy Rides* charts the fatal progress of a modern-day grim reaper, while *The Reflecting Eye* is a haunted house tale with a twist and marks the return of private detective Charlie Parker, the troubled hero of Connolly's crime novels. This is a masterly volume to be read with the lights on! (Irish)

Rose CONNORS

Maximum Security 307pp Pb 14.95


At the urgent request of Harry Madigan, Cape Cod attorney Marty Nickerson takes on the defence of Louisa Rawlings, a woman suspected of murdering her wealthy husband. Harry is Marty's law partner. He is also Marty's lover, but he used to be Louisa's. The author is a winner of the *Mary Higgins Clark* award. (American)

**ORDER ONLINE...**www.abeys.com.au

**Natasha COOPER****Keep Me Alive 342pp Pb 18.95**

Why did investigative journalist Jamie Maxden die? The coroner says it was suicide. The case is closed. Only one man fights to re-open it. Will Applewood is sure Jamie was about to expose a scandal that would shame the British food industry. No one listens to him. In despair, he turns to his barrister, Trish Maguire. Trying to save lives and sanity, the inexhaustible Trish is driven into a crusade, both personal and professional, that combines excitement, drama and agonising human tragedy. (British)

Philip CRAIG & William TAPPLY**First Light 335pp Pb 24.95**

The first ever Brady Coyne/J W Jackson mystery. When two acclaimed crime novelists and fishing buddies join their remarkable talents, it is the best of both worlds for readers. It is September on Martha's Vineyard and Boston lawyer Brady Coyne will be on the island to help the elderly Sarah Fairchild write her will. J W has reluctantly agreed to spend some of his valuable surf-casting time trying to find a missing woman named Katherine Bannerman, who was last seen on the island a year ago. By turns charming and suspenseful, contemporary and evocative, this novel is the result of the collective mind of two superb authors. (American)

Adrian D'HAGE**The Omega Scroll 467pp Tp 29.95**

The Pope's health is failing and the ruthless Lorenzo Petroni has the Keys to St Peters within his grasp. Three things threaten to destroy him: Cardinal Giovanni Donelli has started an investigation into the Vatican Bank; journalist Tom Schweiker is looking into Petroni's past; and, even more dangerously, Dr Allegra Bassetti, one of the world's foremost authorities on archaeological DNA, is piecing together fragments of the Omega Scroll in war-torn Jerusalem. The Vatican will stop at nothing in its quest to keep the prophecy of the scroll hidden. The countdown for civilisation has begun. (Australian)

David DAVIES**Forests of the Night****222pp Hb 45.00**

This engaging book debuts wartime PI, Johnny One Eye, a hero with a heart who operates in London during the Blitz. Invalided out of the army after losing an eye in a rifle accident, John Hawke is engaged to investigate the mysterious death of a young woman, who had led a double life. What is the connection between her brutal murder and the fading film star Gordon Moore, of the popular Tiger Blake B-movies fame? This engrossing mystery is told with wit and humour, whilst evoking an atmospheric picture of the home front during those dark days of WWII. (British)

John DEAN**Flicker in the Night****206pp Hb 45.00**

A Detective Chief Inspector John Blizzard novel. When an old man dies in an arson attack, it is left to Blizzard to investigate. But his inquiry becomes more complicated when several other old men perish in similar blazes. As Blizzard searches for answers, the shadow of a persistent arsonist who terrorised the city 20 years before hangs over him. The attacks have all the hallmarks of Reginald Marsh, now locked away in a mental hospital for his crimes. Are the police dealing with a copycat killer or is Marsh, in some inexplicable way, returning to the city? (British)

Stella DUFFY**Mouths of Babes 244pp Tp 27.95**

A Saz Martin mystery. Saz is settled into new motherhood with her partner Molly and their nine-month-old daughter Matilda. With Molly's return to full time work and Saz happily taking on the role of prime carer, both women feel they are finally adjusting to parenthood and the demands of their new life. And then a well-known stranger arrives. In a story of how the sins of our past always come back to haunt us, Stella Duffy reveals secrets no-one knew about Saz Martin, explores why Saz is who she is, and asks: Is it still possible to believe in our heroes and our lovers when their flaws are well and truly exposed? (New Zealand)

David DUN**The Black Silent 479pp Pb 16.95**

Dun brings back Sam Wintripp - the protagonist from **Overfall** (Pb 18.95) and **Unacceptable Risk** (Pb 15.95) - to face his most terrifying and deadly challenge yet. The black depths of the ocean yield a discovery with the potential to change the future of humankind and unleash mortal danger for those who know of its existence. Now Haley Walthers is on the run, her friend and mentor Ben Anderson is missing and the one man she hoped to never see again - former covert operative Sam Wintripp - is the only man who can help them. (American)

Sarah DUNANT**Transgressions 343pp Pb 22.95**

Terrifying, dark and bold, this thriller transcends genres and audiences, crossing all boundaries and encroaching on the darker side of sex and fantasy, male and female. Elizabeth Skorvecky has just come out of a long-term relationship with her boyfriend. Alone in her Victorian house, first it is just a missing CD, then music playing in an empty kitchen at midnight, then a table laid for breakfast for two. Poltergeist? Insanity? Then Elizabeth wakes at 4am to find a man sitting at the end of her bed... (British)

Ruth Dudley EDWARDS**Carnage on the Committee****246pp Pb 18.95**

Baroness Troutbeck takes the helm of the Knapper-Warburton Literary Prize after the Chairman dies in suspicious circumstances. The judges must resume the task of whittling away the shortlist, but the killer has resumed and is whittling away the judges one by one. (British)

Ake EDWARDSON**Sun and Shadow****438pp Tp 32.95**

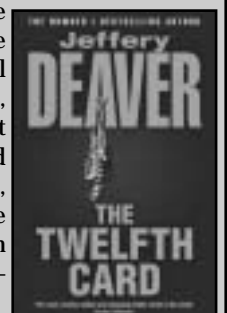
For more than a week, a Gothenburg newspaper boy has watched his deliveries piling up behind a front door. The loud music playing inside the flat seems an odd choice for 5 am and the boy becomes increasingly afraid. What greets DCI Erik Winter and his team when they arrive appears as a stage setting, grotesquely symbolic in its composition. While Winter trawls the classifieds in men's magazines in search of the missing third person from this sinister party, a trail from the clues left by the killer leads into the cult world of the gothic: a riddle of nightmares, of good versus evil, of sun and shadow. Three-time winner of the *Swedish Crime Writers' Award*. (Swedish)

Aaron ELKINS**The Dark Place (1983)****263pp Pb 16.95**

A Professor Gideon Oliver mystery #2. This finds our forensic anthropologist on a trail that stretches from prehistoric times to present danger. (American)

RECOMMENDED READING**JEFFREY DEAVER****The Twelfth Card 448pp Tp 32.95**

Lincoln Rhyme returns #6. From one of the world's most creative and intriguing writers comes the long-awaited next book in the Lincoln Rhyme series. Geneva Settle is a 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 of Charles Singleton, and the reason Geneva has been targeted. - *Peter* (American)



**Jimmie Ruth EVANS****Flamingo Fatale****306pp Pb 16.95**

A *Trailer Park mystery*. After a full day slinging hash at Kountry Kitchen and then surviving the graveyard shift at Budget Mart, the last thing Wanda Nell Culpepper needs is to find her no-account ex-husband, Bobby Ray, flashing cash and stirring up trouble. Things cannot get much worse until the next day when she finds her missing pink flamingo stuck in his very dead body. (American)

Nancy FAIRBANKS**Mozzarella Most Murderous #7****294pp Pb 16.95**

Awaiting a passionate rendezvous with her husband in romantic Italy, Carolyn spends the day with the beautiful Paolina who has been stood up by her lover. But Carolyn's siesta turns sour when she finds her lovely companion drowned in the hotel's pool. Is it suicide? (American)

Vince FLYNN**Memorial Day 538pp Pb 18.95**

Fearless counterterrorism operative Mitch Rapp is called upon to fight against the world's most deadly terrorists in this harrowing novel. Packed with heart-stopping action and political intrigue, here is a stylish thriller exalting America's past battles for freedom, as well as its continued 'fight' for 'peace.' (American)

Ken FOLLETT**Whiteout 472pp Pb 19.95**

Jealousies, distrust and hidden rivalries uncover dark secrets, then a dozen vials of a deadly virus go missing. As a blizzard whips out of the north on Christmas Eve, several people converge on a remote family house. Stanley Oxenford, director of a pharmaceutical research company, has everything riding on a drug he is developing to fight a lethal virus. Several others are interested in his success too. As the storm worsens and the group is laid under siege by the elements, the emotional sparks crackle and dark secrets are revealed that threaten to drive Stanley and his family apart for ever. Filled with startling twists, this is the ultimate knife-edge drama. (British)

Allan FOLSOM**The Exile 866pp Pb 19.95**

Raymond Thorne is wanted for murder. He has the elite 5-2 Squad of the LAPD on his tail, but still eludes them, until John Barron collars him. Then he escapes again, by dying. Determined to learn the truth, Barron sets off on a dangerous trail, which will lead him across Europe and into the clutches of regrouped Romanovs. (American)

Karin FOSSUM**Calling Out for You!****264pp Tp 32.95**

An *Inspector Sejer mystery*. Konrad Sejer returns on the trail of a violent killer in small-town Norway. Gunder Jomann, a quiet, middle-aged man from a peaceful Norwegian town, thinks that his life is made complete when he returns from a trip to India a married man. But on the day his Indian bride is due to join him, he is called to his sister's hospital bedside. The local taxi driver sent to meet the bride comes back without her. Then the town is shocked by the news of an Indian woman found bludgeoned to death in a nearby meadow. (Norwegian)

Frances FYFIELD**Looking Down 306pp Pb 19.95**

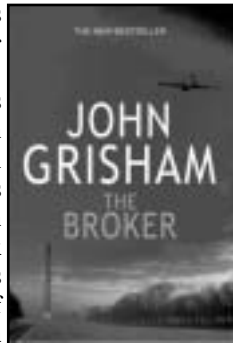
A *Sarah Fortune novel*. Richard Beaumont hoped to see the elusive cough on the Dover cliffs. Instead, he sees a young woman falling to her death. No one recognises her; no one has reported her missing. Richard's cool behaviour towards his new young wife on his return takes Lillian to the flat below and the worldly-wise company of Sarah Fortune. (British)

Lesley GLAISTER**As Far As You Can Go****327pp Pb 21.95**

When Cassie sees a job advertised for a couple to run a remote Australian farm, she thinks it will be the perfect escape for her and Graham. But trapped under the baking sun of the outback, paranoia sets in. There is no radio; they send letters, but never receive any. Their enigmatic and unusually forgiving boss, Larry, and his wife Mara have secrets, sedatives and some very odd habits. A result of their isolated lifestyle or something more sinister? And there is always the sensation, in the stark brush of the red desert, that eyes are watching them. (British)

John GRISHAM**The Broker****357pp Tp 32.95**

With 14 years left on a 20-year sentence, notorious Washington powerbroker Joel Blackman receives a surprise pardon from a lame duck president. He is smuggled out of the country on a



military cargo plane, given a new identity and tucked away in a small town in Italy. As the CIA watches him closely, the question is not whether he will be killed, but rather who will kill him first. (American)

Kim HARRISON**The Good, the Bad, and the****Undead****451pp Pb 16.95**

It is a tough life for witch Rachel Morgan: a sexy and independent bounty hunter, prowling the darkest shadows of downtown Cincinnati for criminal creatures of the night. She can handle the leather-clad vamps and even tangle with a cunning demon or two. But a serial killer who feeds on the most dangerous kind of black magic is definitely pressing the limits. Confronting an ancient, implacable evil is more than just child's play and will Rachel be lucky to escape with her very soul? (American)

Jack HIGGINS**Dark Justice 405pp Pb 18.95**

Sean Dillon is back in another heart-stopping, adrenalin-laced adventure when the president's right hand men foil an assassination plot. Sean Dillon is called upon to trace the would-be killer's history. It appears the assassin is British with Muslim connections, and suddenly Dillon is on a trail that leads him to England, Russia and Iraq, where he prepares for the deadliest challenge of his life. (British)

Jane HILL**Grievous Angel 272pp Tp 32.95**

When Justine Fraser found herself on a semester exchange programme in America, she had no idea that her lover Nick Bennett would, years later, turn out to be one of Hollywood's biggest heart-throbs. And when he goes missing, his enigmatic suicide note spins the media into frenzy. As Justine scans the newspaper headlines, she knows his suicide note is meant for her alone. Leaving her job in London, she flies to America to find him. Along the way, she discovers that the journey she has embarked on can only lead to betrayal, violence and revenge. (British)

**Susan HILL****The Pure in Heart #2****369pp Tp 32.95**

A *Simon Serailier crime novel*. A little boy is kidnapped as he stands with his satchel at the gate of his home, waiting for his lift to school. An ex-con finds it impossible to stay straight. A severely handicapped young woman dies in the night; has someone who loves her helped her out of this world? Once again, Susan Hill brilliantly creates a community with detail so sharp and convincing that readers feel that these people are their neighbours. (British)

**Susan HILL****The Various Haunts of Men #1**
549pp Pb 21.95

A woman vanishes in the fog up on The Hill, an area locally known for its tranquillity and peace. Initially, the police are not alarmed, but when a young girl, an old man and a dog disappear, no one can deny that something untoward is happening in this quiet cathedral town. Young policewoman Freya Graffham and the enigmatic DCI Simon Serrailier have the task of unravelling the mystery behind this gruesome sequence of events. From the passages revealing the killer's mind to the final heart-stopping twist, this is an astounding and masterly crime debut and is the first in what promises to be magnificent series featuring Simon Serrailier. (British)

Arnaldur INDRIDASON**Silence of the Grave**
280pp Tp 32.95

A Reykjavik murder mystery #2. Building work in an expanding Reykjavik uncovers a shallow grave. Years before, this part of the city was all open hills and Erlendur and his team hope this is a typical Icelandic missing person scenario; perhaps someone once lost in the snow, who has lain peacefully buried for decades. Things are never that simple. Whilst Erlendur struggles to hold together the crumbling fragments of his own family, his case unearths many other tales of family pain. Few people are still alive who can tell the story, but even secrets taken to the grave cannot remain hidden forever. (Icelandic)

Arnaldur INDRIDASON**Tainted Blood** **275pp Pb 23.95**

A Reykjavik murder mystery #1. A man is found murdered in his flat. There are no obvious clues apart from a cryptic note left on the body and a photograph of a young girl's grave. Erlendur is forced to use all the forensic resources available to find any leads at all. Delving into the dead man's life he discovers that 40 years ago he was accused of an appalling crime. Did his past come back to haunt him? Finally, Erlendur's search leads him to Iceland's Genetic Research Centre in order to find the disturbing answers to the mystery. This prize-winning international bestseller is the first in a new series of crime novels set in Iceland. (Icelandic)

Lisa JACKSON**Final Scream** **535pp Pb 18.95**

White-hot flames ignite the dark sky; a killer waits in the trees, watching the mill burn, listening for the screams, the only proof that justice, long delayed, has finally begun. For journalist Cassidy Buchanan, the blaze is a living nightmare, a reminder of the horrible, mysterious fire that destroyed her wealthy family 17 years ago. (American)

Paul JASKUNAS**Hidden** **240pp Tp 32.95**

Six years after her attack, Maggie Wilson receives a call from the prosecutor who put her husband in jail after Maggie identified him as the man who nearly killed her. Told that another inmate has confessed to the crime and that her ex-husband will be freed, Maggie plunges into memories of her stormy marriage to her college sweetheart Nate Duke. Secluded in the old farmhouse that was her marital home, Maggie pores through trial transcripts, old journals and photo albums, recreating their history of courtship and trying fruitlessly to remember the events of that fateful night. (American)

Iris JOHANSEN**Countdown** **403pp Tp 30.00**

An Eve Duncan thriller. "Don't kill her. She's no good to us dead." These words haunt Jane MacGuire after a shocking attack shatters her world in an instant. Who is after her and what do they want so badly they will kill anyone in their way? That is what Jane is determined to find out, without the help of her adoptive parents, forensic sculptor Eve Duncan and her husband Joe Quinn. Whoever is after her will not hesitate to hurt those she loves the most. Mark Trevor had his own mysterious reasons for wanting to keep Jane safe and out of the hands of a killer obsessed with a 2000-year-old mystery that could rock the modern-day world. (American)

Paul JOHNSTON**The Golden Silence**
342pp Pb 18.95

When Alex Mavros is asked to trace a missing teenager, an immigrant from the former Soviet Union, he does not see any link with the plague of violent killings afflicting Athens. (British)

Juris JURJEVICS**The Trudeau Vector**
400pp Tp 29.95

An American epidemiologist, Dr Jessica Hanley is summoned to investigate the medical riddle posed by three grisly deaths at the Trudeau Research Centre in the Arctic. At the same time, a decorated Russian admiral in Moscow is assigned a top-secret mission to locate and retrieve a Russian submarine that has inexplicably vanished. The die is cast. Their lives will cross in Jurjevics's engrossing debut thriller, brilliant and terrifying in its medical and historical accuracy. With its disquieting and revelatory authenticity, readers cannot help but fall under its spell. (American)

**Hitomi KANEHARA****Snakes & Earrings** **118pp Pb 21.95**

This tale of sex and darkness is narrated by Lui, an alienated young Japanese woman who becomes disastrously involved with two dangerous men. Lui first meets her boyfriend Ama in a bar after finding herself mesmerised by his forked tongue. She immediately follows him down the path to body modification by having her tongue pierced. Ama's friend Shiba creates an exquisite tattoo for her back; as he works on it, Lui begins an illicit and brutal sexual relationship with him. Then, after a violent encounter on the back streets of Tokyo, Ama goes missing and Lui must face up to her choices. Cult classic from young writer. (Japanese)

Marne KELLOGG**Priceless** **324pp Pb 16.95**

Kick Keswick has lived an extraordinary life. For 25 years, she was the power behind the throne at a London auction house and a master jewel thief. All that changed when she fell in love with Commander Thomas Curtis of Scotland Yard and retired to live respectably in Provence, cushioned in beautiful food and wine. But now someone is stealing irreplaceable jewels from Paris to Portofino and using Kick's signature techniques. And to make matters worse, Thomas has disappeared with her secret cache of precious stones... (American)

Lawrence KELTER**Don't Close Your Eyes**
322pp Pb 16.95

Stephanie Chalice is a cop's cop; a powerhouse working in NYPD's homicide unit. She has seen a lot in her years on the force, but she has never come across anything like this. A murdering psychopath is stalking Manhattan, on the prowl for a very special type of woman. Part of his twisted game is intentionally leaving clues for the police, clues designed not only to taunt, but to do something much worse. (American)

Jack KERLEY**The Death Collectors**
390pp Tp 29.95

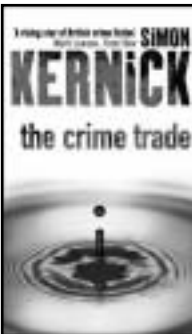
A Carson Ryder novel #2. 30 years after his death, Marsden Hexcamp's Art of the Final Moment remains as sought after as ever. His portfolio was completed with the aid of acolytes and half a dozen victims slowly tortured to death and distilled into art. When tiny scraps of Hexcamp's art begin appearing at murder scenes alongside gruesomely displayed corpses, Carson Ryder must find answers. Meanwhile, an auction has been announced and the death collectors are gathering, willing to pay millions for serial-killer memorabilia. This is the sequel to **The Hundredth Man** (Pb 18.95). (British)

**Simon KERNICK****A Good Day to Die****329pp Tp 32.95**

When Dennis Milne, now living under an assumed identity in the Philippines, hears that his old friend and colleague Malik has been gunned down in a restaurant, he decides to go back to London and bring the murderer to book. Hungry for revenge and determined to uphold his own very rough brand of justice, Milne's search for the person behind his friend's death leaves a trail of death and destruction that is more wide-reaching than even he could have expected. (British)

Simon KERNICK**The Crime Trade****463pp Pb 21.95**

When Operation Surgical Strike, a police sting designed to catch Colombian drug traffickers, goes tragically wrong, suspicion quickly falls on one of the undercover police officers involved: 'Stegs' Jenner. Stegs is no ordinary cop.



Something of a maverick, he has in the past played the role of a criminal just a little too well. Now suspended from duty, and with his close friend killed in the shootout, he determines to go it alone. (British)

Dean KOONTZ**Velocity****400pp Tp 29.95**

In this astonishing and fast-moving story, an innocent man is forced by a serial killer to choose who will be murdered next! On the windscreen of his SVU, Billy finds the first note. He thinks the note is a hoax but a schoolteacher is murdered. More communications from the killer deliver more hideous choices for Billy as the nightmare accelerates. Psychologically complex, this novel will be hard to put down. (American)

William KRUEGER**Blood Hollow 512pp Pb 18.95***A Cork O'Connor mystery.*

The corpse of a beautiful high school student is discovered on a hillside four months after her disappearance and all evidence points to her boyfriend, local bad boy Solemn Winter Moon. Despite Solemn's self-incriminating decision to go into hiding, O'Connor is not about to hang the crime on a kid he is convinced is innocent. When Solemn reappears, claiming to have seen a vision of Jesus Christ in Blood Hollow, the mystery becomes thornier than Cork could ever have anticipated. And that is when the miracles start happening. (American)

David LAWRENCE**Cold Kill****438pp Tp 29.95**

A Stella Mooney novel. Crime scene: a London park at dusk. DS Mooney stares down at the brutalised body of a young woman. From the shelter of nearby trees, Robert Kimber is watching. Next morning he walks into a Notting Hill police station and confesses to the murder. But Stella doubts Kimber's guilt. So if Kimber did not commit the murder, who did? (British)

Holly LISLE**Last Girl Dancing 311pp Pb 16.95**

Obsessed with discovering what happened to her missing sister, Atlanta detective Jess Brubaker is willing to disappear into a sordid night world to find the answer. But that means leading both herself and her lover into the most intimate and terrifying trap of all. (American)

Jeff LONG**The Reckoning 351pp Pb 14.95**

The killing fields of Cambodia hold nightmarish secrets of the past and the present. Molly Drake, an intrepid photojournalist is covering the US military's search for the remains of an American pilot shot down during the Vietnam War. A flight helmet buried among the Khmer Rouge victims is her first discovery and far from the most explosive. Led by a mysterious expatriate to the ruins of an ancient city, Molly embarks on a harrowing search for evidence of an entire GI patrol, lost 30 years ago. This is an unnerving novel of predation, betrayal and resurrection. (American)

Louisa LUNA**Serious as a Heart Attack****227pp Pb 19.95**

Queenie Sells is having what she thinks is a good day. After getting fired from her job at a calendar company for botching daylight saving time, she lands a job offer from a wealthy acquaintance who is trying to track down his girlfriend, a stripper named Trigger Happy. Sounds easy enough, until Queenie finds Trigger dead in her own apartment. (American)

Gail LYNDS**The Coil****501pp Pb 16.95**

Liz Sansborough thought she had left her past behind forever. A former CIA field agent as well as the daughter of perhaps the most notorious Cold War assassin, the man known to the world only as The Carnivore, Liz is now a university professor in Southern California specialising in the psychology of violence. But her dead father's legacy comes back to overtake Liz. (American)

**Patricia MacDONALD****The Girl Next Door****356pp Pb 16.95**

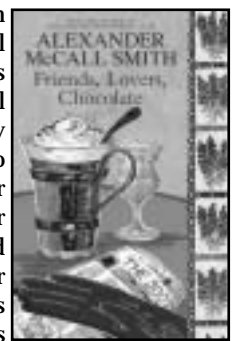
Patricia MacDonald has won a worldwide audience of readers with her page-turning novels of domestic suspense that twist and turn with surprises. Now she presents a riveting thriller about a young woman who finds her life threatened when she returns to her picture-perfect suburban hometown where a brutal crime shattered her family when she was a teenager. (American)

Amanda MATETSKY**How to Marry a Murderer****308pp Pb 16.95**

A Paige Turner mystery. Our mystery novelist and crime reporter is investigating the murder of a television star whose killer is looking to improve his ratings with further deaths. (American)

Alexander McCALL SMITH**Friends, Lovers, Chocolate #2****277pp Tp 29.95**

Edinburgh philosopher Isabel Dalhousie is challenged by real life, particularly when it comes to her feelings for Jamie, a younger man who should have married her niece Cat. Jamie's handsomeness



leaves Isabel feeling distinctly uneasy, and ethically disturbed. "I am a philosopher", she thinks, "but I am also a woman." And more disturbances are in store. When Cat takes a break in Italy, Isabel agrees to run her delicatessen. One of the customers has recently had a heart transplant and is now being plagued by memories which do not belong to him. Isabel is so intrigued she finds herself rushing headlong into a dangerous investigation. (British)

Cormac McCARTHY**No Country for Old Men****309pp Tp 30.00**

Llewelyn Moss, hunting antelope near the Rio Grande, instead finds men shot dead, a load of heroin and more than US\$2m cash. When two more men are murdered, a victim's burning car leads Sheriff Bell to the carnage. This is an enduring meditation on the ties of love, blood and duty that inform lives and shape destinies, and a novel of extraordinary resonance and power. "This is a monster of a book. Cormac McCarthy achieves monumental results by a kind of drip-by-drip process of ruthless simplicity. It will leave you panting and awestruck." - Sam Shepard (American)

**Val McDERMID****The Torment of Others****556pp Pb 18.95**

Criminal psychologist Dr Tony Hill returns. A dead girl lies on a blood-soaked mattress. The scene matches a series of murders which ended when irrefutable forensic evidence secured the conviction of Derek Tyler. Locked up in a mental institution for two years, Tyler has barely spoken a word except to say that The Voice told him to do it. Dr Tony Hill thinks this is not a copycat murder but something much stranger. While DCI Carol Jordan and her team mount a desperate undercover police operation, Hill heads towards a terrifying face-off with one of the most perverse killers he has ever encountered. (British)

Gregory McDONALD**Fletch's Moxie (1982)****281pp Tp 27.00**

It seems just about everyone in Hollywood had a reason to want Steve Peterman dead. But how someone managed to put a knife in his back on a live broadcast without being seen is anyone's guess. Unfortunately for Fletch, his girlfriend Moxie Mooney, a huge star at the box office, is also the number one suspect. (American)

Geoffrey McGEACHIN**D-E-D Dead****283pp Tp 29.95**

From the moment Alby drops his gun on a St Kilda tram, he knows he is in for a bad day. Then his partner Harry is gunned down in a Double Bay coffee shop. By lunchtime, Alby realises someone wants him dead. But why? Unfortunately for Alby, the answer lies over the razor wire and past the anti-personnel mines protecting Bitter Springs, a top-secret US military facility deep in the central Australian desert. (Australian)

Andy McNAB**Deep Black****506pp Pb 19.95**

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, Nick Stone realises 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 McNab to be a writer at the top of his game. (British)

Evan McNAMARA**Superior Position****370pp Pb 18.95**

When a reporter investigating mountain sprawl is shot dead, a small-town Colorado deputy and former Army sniper must catch a ruthless sharpshooter who is locked, loaded and ready to kill again. (American)

Linda MILLER**Never Look Back****362pp Pb 18.95**

Devoted defence lawyer Clare Westbrook, used to working for others, can now call the shots on her own terms. A multi-million-dollar inheritance from the father she never knew has allowed her to start her own practice. Turning a storefront in a tough Phoenix neighbourhood into the legal firm of her dreams, she offers her services to the troubled community. But just as she opens for business, explosive shots take out her street-level windows. All she knows is she must surrender to Tony Sonterra's protection if she wants to survive. (American)

Wade MILLER**Branded Woman (1952)****206pp Pb 16.95**

Hard Case Crime series. International jewellery smuggling may be a man's business, but beautiful Cay Morgan thought she could hold her own with the best until the day a shadowy rival known only as The Trader has her abducted and scarred for life as a warning to stay out of his way. Now Cay is on her way to Mazatlán, where one of The Trader's men has been spotted. There is a big deal going down but she is not there to make a score. Just to settle one. (American)

Mark MILLS**The Whaleboat House****357pp Pb 22.95**

When a first-generation Basque fisherman pulls in the body of a beautiful young woman, lives in his close-knit Long Island community are irrevocably changed. As sweeping and haunting as the landscape of sky and sea that is its backdrop, screenwriter Mark Mills skilfully weaves together a delicate love story, a brutal murder mystery, an unforgettable evocation of a place and time, and characters shaped by the epic forces of nature, class, war and memory. (American)

Rick MOFINA**The Dying Hour****347pp Pb 16.95**

A new suspense series introduces Jason Wade, a rookie crime reporter with The Seattle Mirror, a loner who grew up in the shadow of a brewery in one of the city's blue-collar neighbourhoods. Wade battles mounting odds and cut-throat competition to unearth the truth behind Karen Harding's disturbing disappearance. This is a bone-chilling, mesmerising page-turner that introduces readers to an all-too-human young hero who journeys into the darkest regions of the human heart to confront a nightmare. (American)

**Harker MOORE****A Mourning in Autumn****479pp Pb 17.95**

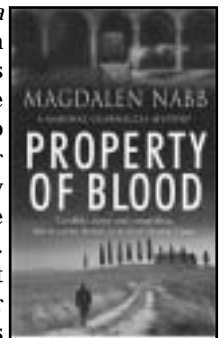
On the cold Manhattan streets, the first victims' bodies were found wrapped like gifts in plastic. On the scene, NYPD detective James Sakura saw how they had been grotesquely dismembered. Now the rampage escalates with Sakura's own life thrown into chaos. (American)

Warren MURPHY**Destroyer #140****348pp Pb 16.95**

Dark Ages. Never mind that today's English knights are inbred earls, rock stars, American mayors and French Grand Prix winners. Under English law, they still totally rock. This is why Sir James Wylings and his Knights Temporary are invading Africa, Jamaica and now New Jersey. The Brits are reclaiming their colonies, until Parliament is forced to declare their manoeuvres illegal at which point Wylings unleashes his weapons of mass destruction: lethal nanobots. (American)

Magdalen NABB**Property of Blood****291pp Pb 21.95**

A Marshal Guarnaccia mystery. When Olivia Brunamonti is kidnapped, the crime is reported to Guarnaccia by her daughter, who may have been the intended victim. Kidnapping is almost a second business for the Sardinians nominally engaged in raising sheep in the Tuscan hills. They inhabit a vast wilderness where a victim can be hidden away forever, and where those searching for her will be quickly spotted. The government's official policy prohibits the payment of ransom. Guarnaccia suspects another problem: Can it be that Olivia's children are unwilling to pay the ransom? (British)

**Magdalen NABB****The Innocent****233pp Tp 32.95**

A Marshal Guarnaccia mystery. It is spring in Florence and everyone around Guarnaccia seems to be in love, even his own son. The case he is working on, the murder of a young woman, seems to present no particular problems. No distressed parents, no political or influential connections, no pressure from the media. The locals trust him until he seems to be accusing one of them. Then everything changes. A second death follows and Guarnaccia is convinced that it is his fault. Burdened with guilt, he finds it impossible to trust his own instincts any more... (British)

**Mark NYKANEN**

The Bone Parade 374pp Pb 17.95
 Ashley Stassler is not your average artist. He has been wildly praised for a series of bronze sculptures that group families together, depicting them in moments of excruciating physical and emotional pain, but the art world has no clue as to how he creates such authentic, gruesome, seemingly tortured human representations. He assigns each family a number and now he's up to number nine. What is in store for family #9? (American)

Eliot PATTISON

Beautiful Ghosts
 501pp Pb 21.95
 Disgraced former Beijing Inspector Shan Tao Yun has been living in the remote mountains of Tibet for the past year. A murder in a ruined monastery has the very officials who exiled Shan after his help. In a baffling case involving the FBI, Chinese Ministers and British relief workers, Shan travels from Tibet to Beijing to the USA to find the links between murder, missing art, his former gulag and his own long-unseen son. (British)

Peter PAVIA

Dutch Uncle 255pp Pb 16.95
 Three days out of prison and trying to stay clean, Harry Healy does not really want to get involved with Manfred Pfiser's drug deals. But he needs the cash, so he agrees to make one simple delivery. Simple, that is, till Harry stumbles across the results of a robbery cooked up by an old cellmate of his, together with a former high school baseball star, a trigger-happy sociopath and a beach bunny who can't seem to keep her clothing on. Now they are all on the run. (American)

Ridley PEARSON

The Body of David Hayes
 341pp Pb 19.95
 Years ago, Lou Boldt's wife Liz had an affair with David Hayes, a young computer specialist at the bank where she is an executive. When Liz ended the relationship, Hayes took part in a daring embezzlement scheme. Now, years later, Hayes is trying to retrieve the money he hid for the Russian mob. Boldt, ripped apart by the discovery of his wife's possible blackmail, must skate a delicate line between determined detective and jealous husband, if he is to find the money while exposing Hayes. (American)

Robert PRICE

Dog Meat 224pp Hb 45.00
 Crime boss Gerald Plank is plucked from the bosom of his family at gunpoint in the dead of night. Kidnapped? Or a put-up job? Kenny Madigan does not care: he ditched his criminal past years ago. But life is never that simple, and he reluctantly joins in the search for Plank. Then Kenny's girlfriend, Aileen, is kidnapped to keep him in line when he uncovers plans for high-tech crime. (British)

Sarah RAYNE

A Dark Dividing 567pp Pb 18.95
 Two sets of twins, born 80 years apart, are united by a chilling secret. At first, journalist Harry Fizzglen is sceptical when his editor asks him to investigate the background of Simone Anderson, a new Bloomsbury artist. As Harry delves into a violent and terrible history in an attempt to uncover what happened to Simon and Sonia, and, a century before them, to Viola and Sorrel Quinton, he finds himself drawn into a number of interlocking mysteries, each one more sinister than the last. (British)

**Sarah RAYNE**

Roots of Evil 457pp Tp 29.95
 When schoolteacher Trixie Smith turns up asking questions about legendary film actress Lucretia von Wolff, Lucy Trent is not unduly alarmed. She rather enjoys the notoriety surrounding her glamorous but infamous grandmother, whose lovers were legion, whose scandals were numerous, whose life ended abruptly in a bizarre double murder and suicide at the Ashwood film studios in 1952. (British)

Matthew REILLY

Scarecrow 517pp Pb 19.95
 As Scarecrow Schofield watches his mission to take out a secret missile dump in Siberia turn into a bloodbath, he discovers he has been tricked. An international consortium of staggering power and wealth wants him dead. The race is on and the pace is frantic as Schofield fights for survival, in the process unveiling a vast international conspiracy and the terrible reason why he cannot, under any circumstances, be allowed to live. He led his men into hell in **Ice Station** (Pb 19.95). He protected the President against all odds in **Area 7** (Pb 19.95). This time it's different. This time *he* is the target. (Australian)

Nicholas RINALDI

Between Two Rivers
 506pp Pb 23.95
 Farro Fescu is the proud and observant concierge of Echo Terrace, a condominium in New York City. Passing through his lobby at all hours is an exotic cross-section of the world's population. Farro Fescu knows them all, knows all their secrets. Yet he does not know why, after a long, hard life, he is still alive and still alone. Nor does he know what he will be capable of in the face of sudden, overwhelming tragedy. (American)

**Peter ROBINSON**

Strange Affair 426pp Pb 18.95
 A new *Inspector Banks* novel. When Alan Banks receives a disturbing message from his brother Roy, he abandons the peaceful Yorkshire Dales for London. Roy seems to have vanished while a woman is found dead in her car with his details in her hand. Living in Roy's empty South Kensington house, Banks finds himself digging into the life of the brother he never really knew, nor even liked. And as he begins to uncover a few troubling surprises, the two cases become sinistinely entwined. (British)

Anders ROSLUND &

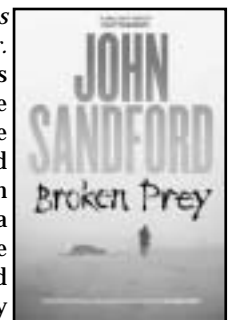
Borge HELSTROM
The Beast 346pp Hb 39.95
 Two children are found dead in a basement. Four years later, their murderer escapes from prison. When police fears come true and another child is murdered, the situation spirals out of control. In an atmosphere of hysteria whipped up by the media, the father of the murdered child decides he must take revenge. His actions will have devastating consequences. Detectives Ewert Grens and Sven Sunkist find themselves caught up in a situation of escalating violence. Shortlisted for *The Glass Key 2005* for Best Scandinavian Crime Novel of the Year. (Swedish)

Catherine SAMPSON

Falling Off Air 402pp Pb 19.95
 Robin Ballantyne's life is finally coming together and she is settling into life as a single mother. When a body falls past her window, she finds Paula Carmichael, a renowned activist, dead on the ground. Robin then learns that her ex-boyfriend had been making a documentary about Paula. But before she can ask him, he is killed by a hit-and-run driver in Robin's car. Now a suspect herself, Robin must figure out who wanted them dead before she loses her freedom, her children and her life. (British)


John SANDFORD

Broken Prey 390pp Tp 29.95
 A *Lucas Davenport* thriller.
 The first corpse is found on the riverbank; the second in an isolated farmhouse. For both victims there is a DNA match. Charlie Pope, a convicted sex offender recently released from mental hospital, has cut off his court-imposed leg bracelet and disappeared but something about this case does not smell right to Davenport. Can Davenport prove his instincts are right, and track down a killer as cunning as he is deranged? (American)







Lisa SCOTTOLINE

 **Devil's Corner 387pp Tp 30.00**
When prosecutor Vicki Allegretti arrives at a row house to meet a confidential informant, she finds herself in the wrong place at the wrong time. She barely escapes with her life, but cannot save the two others gunned down before her disbelieving eyes. Stunned and heartbroken, Vicki tries to figure out how a routine meeting on a minor case became a double homicide. When another murder thrusts Vicki together with an unlikely ally, she buckles up for a conspiracy as powerful as it is relentless. (American)


Gerald SEYMOUR

 **Rat Run 412pp Tp 32.95**
In the military family, there is no worse crime than cowardice. Malachy Kitchen, an Intelligence Officer posted to Iraq, appears guilty of it while on patrol with an infantry platoon ambushed by insurgents. When word spreads that he was 'yellow' under hostile fire, his life starts to disintegrate. Kicked out of the army, he becomes an isolated recluse in a drug-infested London estate. But the mugging of his neighbour, an elderly widow, lights the flame that draws him to regain his lost pride and take the fight to the narcotics network he sees around him. (British)

James SIEGEL

 **Detour 341pp Tp 29.95**
Central Park, New York. It was the small girl chasing a pink balloon that gave Paul and Joanna the idea to adopt. Columbia is a dangerous place, particularly for a foreigner with a wife and daughter to protect. Paul would do anything for Joanna, and now he is going to have to! He has 18 hours to get a deadly consignment to an address in New York. He dare not be late. He dare not dial 911. (American)

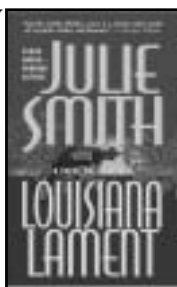
Daniel SILVA

 **Prince of Fire 366pp Tp 29.95**
A knife-edged thriller of astonishing intricacy and feeling filled with Silva's exhilarating prose and featuring art restorer and sometimes spy Gabriel Allan. (American)

Julie SMITH

 **Louisiana Lament 308pp Pb 16.95**

A Talba Wallis mystery #3. Janessa enlists her sister Talba's help when her best friend, rich girl Allyson Brown, is found floating in her own pool, shot to death. This is a journey through the not-so-genteel Southern literary scene where mint juleps are served with canapés of carnage. (American)




Mariah STEWART

 **Brown-Eyed Girl 342pp Pb 16.95**

A fashion magazine features editor, Leah McDevitt is haunted by the memory of her cherished younger sister Melissa, who vanished years ago. Missy, whose extraordinary eyes (one blue, one brown) may have lured her abductor to her. When Leah receives a letter from death row inmate Raymond Lambert, she eagerly agrees to pay him the long-standing reward for information about Melissa, even if it means coming face-to-face with a notorious serial killer. (American)

Terence STRONG

 **Wheels of Fire 451pp Tp 29.95**
1992: Ex-SAS

officer Jeff Hawkins is summoned to Bosnia, where his role is to keep the UN aid convoys running at all costs. The arrival of the winter snow brings another huge problem: it is vital that one massive convoy runs the gauntlet of the fighting along the icy mountain roads, breaking the siege of Sarajevo with vital provisions and medical supplies before Christmas. And that it makes the return trip, bringing orphans, the sick and elderly back to safety. Defying all odds, the twin-air horns of a hundred trucks blast defiantly as their giant wheels begin to roll on a journey to hell and back ... (British)



Carsten STROUD

 **Cobraville 517pp Pb 19.95**

When a surveillance monitor hidden deep in the depths of the jungle goes offline, fixing it should be a routine job for Cole Langan's top-secret CIA unit. But they have not counted on the brutal guerrilla war going on in the region or the fact that Al-Qaeda operatives may have set them a booby trap. (American)

Anne STUART

 **Black Ice 376pp Pb 14.95**


Living hand-to-mouth in Paris, American book translator Chloe Underwood would give anything for some excitement and passion. So when she is offered a lucrative weekend gig translating at a business conference in a remote chateau, she jumps at the chance to shake things up. Then by chance, she discovers her clients are illegal arms dealers, and one of them is ordered to kill her. But instead, Bastien Toussaint drags her away, and the next thing she knows she is on the run with the most terrifying and seductive man she has ever met. (American)

Denise SWANSON

 **Murder of a Smart Cookie 260pp Pb 16.95**


A Scumble River mystery. Yard sales can bring out the worst in people. So when Scumble River school psychologist Skye Denison organises a 100-mile yard sale, otherwise neighbourly folk get downright nasty: her own mother creams a woman and a battle of the sexes breaks out. But when her former boss is found murdered, nobody knows for sure how this cookie will crumble. (American)

Robert TANENBAUM

 **Hoax 613pp Pb 16.95**


The shooting death of a rap mogul is the first link in a sinister chain ensnaring DA Butch Karp. Descending into the hip-hop underworld to prosecute a killer, Karp comes head-to-head with Andrew Kane, a powerful would-be mayor whose corrupt web of influence leads Karp to unveil a shocking church sex-abuse scandal. In a world where secrets can be buried for an often-deadly price, Karp discovers there is no safe haven. (American)

Phoebe TAYLOR

 **Going, Going, Gone (1943) 217pp Tp 25.00**

An Asey Mayo classic. An auction that begins as a treasure hunt ends in murder, and an incredible discovery sends our unlikely detective off on a hunt for a killer. Were there secrets between rival art dealers, Miss Pitkin and Mr Harmsworth? And where does Quin Sharp, the auctioneer, fit in? (American)

Brad THOR

 **The State of the Union 532pp Pb 14.95**

From the author of *The Lions of Lucerne* (Pb 14.95) and *Path of the Assassin* (Pb 14.95) comes another electrifying international thriller featuring all-American hero Scot Harvath, as he plunges into the frigid heart of the Russian tundra to save the fragile state of the union. (American)

P J TRACY

 **Dead Run 326pp Tp 29.95**

Monkeewrench founders Grace MacBride and Annie Belinsky, along with Deputy Sharon Mueller, are driving from Minneapolis to Wisconsin, where they believe a new serial killer is just warming up, when their car breaks down deep in the northern woods, far away from civilization and cell towers. A walk through the forest leads them to crossroads town Four Corners, where they find ...absolutely nothing. The complete absence of life and severed phone lines in every building make it impossible to get help. And then they witness a double murder. (American)

**Ayelet WALDMAN****Murder Plays House****312pp Pb 18.95**

A Mommy-Track mystery. Sleuth Juliet Applebaum has a new arrival on the way and her most important job is to buy a bigger house. In a buyer-unfriendly real estate market, one practically has to kill to find an affordable home. No wonder Juliet is prepared to overlook a corpse on the grounds of her would-be dream house. Her investigation leads her into a world of washed-up actors and cancelled TV shows, a world more depraved than she could ever have imagined. (American)

Stephen WHITE**Missing Persons****370pp Tp 29.95**

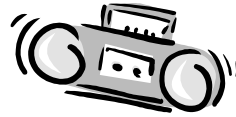
Hannah Grant had volunteered to cover Alan Gregory's practice over the Christmas period, but when he and another colleague called at her office they discovered her body, the cause of death not clear. Should Alan break the seal of patient/doctor confidentiality if the few strands of knowledge he has can throw light on this mystery? (American)

William WOOD**Rampage****373pp Pb 16.95**

DA Tony Fraser loves the law, and no one is better at his job. But now he is facing perhaps the most difficult case of his career. He has to prosecute a vicious, amoral killer accused of committing acts so bloodthirsty, so violent, that by their very nature they provide an iron-clad defence: not guilty by reason of insanity. It is up to Fraser to break that defence but key witnesses disappear and crucial evidence is lost. A psychiatrist with an agenda of his own is out to destroy Fraser's prosecution. (American)

RECOMMENDED READING**W R WIDERBERG****The Big End of Town 384pp Tp 29.95**

According to the promotional material, Bill Widerberg is going to be big news in late August when he attends the Oates' Trial in Perth as a witness for the Bond Corporation. He was the man responsible for saving an ailing Tooheys brewery with the jingle, "I feel like a Tooheys or two". Now he has written this novel about dirty money, corruption and murder in the Emerald City, using all his experience with big corporations to tell a great yarn. The lead character is David Preston, a consultant to Allibands Corp. As time passes, Preston realises his company is involved with shady dealings and plans a takeover with his old friend, Tran van Minh, President of the Vietnamese Bank in Australia. See what drives big business and how its privileged few will risk complete destruction, rather than relinquish any part of their material advantage. This book makes a great Father's Day gift. - Shelley (American)

CRIME AUDIO**Audio Books****Janet EVANOVICH****Ten Big Ones 2 cassettes 3 hrs 27.95**

A Stephanie Plum novel read by Lorelei King. (American)

Elizabeth GEORGE**With No One as Witness****6 CDs 6 hrs 54.95****4 cassettes 6 hrs 42.95**

An Inspector Lynley mystery read by Nathaniel Parker. (British)

Michael MARSHALL**The Straw Men 3 CDs 4 hrs 29.95**

A serial killer thriller read by Kerry Shale. (American)

James PATTERSON**4th of July 4 cassettes 6 hrs 42.95**

A Woman's Murder Club mystery read by Lorelei King. (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME**Louis BAYARD****Mr Timothy****384pp Pb 24.95**

Dickensian London. In this brilliantly imagined novel, Tiny Tim (of *Christmas Carol* fame) casts his crutches aside. Determined to cut his financial ties to his Uncle Ebenezer, he now spends his nights dredging the Thames for dead bodies and the treasure hidden in their pockets. One day, he comes across a girl's body that has been branded with a mysterious 'G'. Then he finds another girl with a similar brand, who is still alive. Determined to protect Philomena and get to the bottom of the mystery, Tim embarks on an astonishing adventure... With wonderful characters, a compelling plot and the vivid atmosphere of Victorian London, this page-turner is gripping from beginning to end. (British)

Lindsey DAVIS**Scandal Takes a Holiday****344pp Pb 21.95**

A Marcus Didius Falco novel #16. 75 CE, Ostia, Italy. Infamia, the pen name of the scribe who writes the gossip column for the *Daily Gazette*, has gone missing. His fellow scribes have employed Falco to find him and bring him back from his lazy, drunken truancy. Before long, Falco's enquiries lead him into the world of piracy and the discovery of criminal traditions long believed dead. Is this the right path toward finding Infamia? Why would pirates have taken him? And if they have, will he be found alive? (British)

**Anne PERRY****Long Spoon Lane #24****279pp Hb 59.95**

A Thomas Pitt novel. Victorian London. Early one morning, Pitt is summoned to Long Spoon Lane, where anarchists are plotting an attack. Bombs explode. After a chase, two of the culprits are captured and the leader is shot, but by whom? The police are running a lucrative protection racket and the clues suggest that Inspector Wetron of Bow Street is the mastermind. (British)

C J SANSOM**Dark Fire #2****580pp Pb 19.95**

1540, London. Lawyer Matthew Shardlake is pressed to help a friend's young niece who is charged with murder. Despite threats of torture and death by the rack, the girl is inexplicably silent. Shardlake is about to lose her case when he is suddenly granted a reprieve, one that will ensnare him in the dangerous schemes of Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII's feared vicar-general. In exchange for two more weeks to investigate the murder, Shardlake accepts Cromwell's dangerous assignment to find a lost cache of dark fire, a legendary weapon of mass destruction. (British)

Harold SCHECHTER**The Mask of Red Death****308pp Tp 29.95**

An Edgar Allan Poe mystery. 1845, Manhattan. Found days apart, two girls have been brutally murdered, viciously scalped and, most shocking of all, missing their livers. Edgar Allan Poe is just as shaken and revolted by these horrendous crimes as the panic-stricken public. Poe has deduced that the city is concealing a cannibal somewhere in its teeming masses. Schechter delivers both a wonderfully accurate portrait of a city in turmoil and an appealing depiction of his amateur sleuth. (American)

CRIME NON-FICTION**Bryan BURROUGH****Public Enemies****590pp Pb 26.95**

The True Story of America's Greatest Crime Wave. In the summer of 1933, an amazing group of chancers, misfits and psychopaths took to the American road. Fuelled by the Depression, fast cars and cheap guns, these freelance gangsters terrorised the Midwest. Bonnie and Clyde, Dillinger, Machine Gun Kelly, Baby Face Nelson, the Barker gang, Pretty Boy Floyd and others went on a crime spree that turned them into legends in their own (brief) lifetimes. The gangsters had no idea that in Washington their nemesis was forming: J Edgar Hoover's FBI. (American)

Marion COLLINS

While She Slept

244pp Pb 16.95

When Jill Cahill was leaving to return home after visiting her family for a week, she turned to her sister with a grin and said: "If Jeff kills me, you can have all my things." A few days later, she was in a coma in a Syracuse hospital, her skull shattered by a savage beating inflicted by her 37-year-old husband. Six months later, she was dead. (American)

Dan CROWLEY

Undercover Prop

247pp Tp 30.00

Dan Crowley has led a dangerous life. As if going toe-to-toe in the front row against the fiercest rugby players in the world was not enough, the feared Wallaby enforcer for years led a secret life as an undercover cop for the Queensland Police Force, specialising in smashing the drug rings of the glitzy Gold Coast. Incredibly, though he had some close calls, Crowley was never recognised by the numerous criminals and drug traffickers whom he brought to justice, even though his modus operandi - flying fists and feet, and a bad, bad attitude - would have been immediately familiar to rugby fans. Crowley is a man who redefines hard-core and he tells his life story - rugby star, cop, private investigator, family man, respected TV commentator - just as he has lived his extraordinary life: with no holds barred. (Australian)

Dave & Lynn DISTEL

Hunt to Kill

382pp Pb 16.95

The true story of Bruce Moilanen, a debt-dodger and twisted madman obsessed with a happily married woman. In 1992, he murdered his own wife and made it look like a hunting accident so he could collect on her substantial insurance policy that contained 'accidental death' clauses. (American)

Chris & Julie ELLIS

The Mammoth Book of Celebrity Murder

504pp Pb 24.95

This A-list selection looks in-depth at 25 headline murder cases involving those who live their lives in the full beam of the media spotlight, including film starlets, TV actors, music legends, comedians, fashion moguls, movie directors, playwrights and aristocrats from the start of the 20th century to the present day, from Gianni Versace and John Lennon to Marvin Gaye and Patrizia Gucci. The story of their untimely deaths is retold, exploring the degree to which fame and its trappings played a part in the final outcome. (American)

John EMSLEY

The Elements of Murder

421pp Hb 59.95

A History of Poison. Emsley gives detailed histories of five of the most toxic elements: arsenic, antimony, lead, mercury and thallium. He shows how the elements are behind many modern day environmental catastrophes, including the Minamata Bay Disaster in Japan. The array of fascinating stories shows how chemicals have impacted the lives of people ranging from the Greeks and Romans to Newton, Napoleon, Lucrezia Borgia, Mozart, Nelson Mandela and Saddam Hussein. This fascinating book by a multi-award winning author is a great find for the modern crime library. (British)

Wendy LEWIS

Dumbest Criminals

191pp Pb 19.95

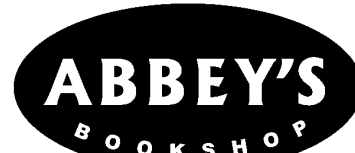
The aim of a crime is to get what you want and get away with it, isn't it? What about the car thieves who stole a manual car, when both of them could drive only automatics? The robbers who left their ID cards at the scene of the crime? The bank robber who tried to hold up a bank with a can of chicken soup? This book is full of real-life examples of hilarious escapades, antics gone wrong and stories that will make you shake your head in disbelief or laugh out loud. Criminals - how could they be so dumb? (Australian)

Kevin MORGAN

Gun Alley

326pp Tp 29.95

Murder, Lies and Failure of Justice. A tale of murder and miscarriage of justice, this recounts the infamous 1921 rape and murder of 12-year-old schoolgirl Alma Tirtschke. Colin Campbell Ross, a local saloonkeeper with a history of crime and violence, was found guilty and hanged in April 1922. This author believes he was innocent. A public sensation at the time, the case was histrionically played out in the press which, along with incredible pressure on police to secure a conviction, ultimately led to this failure of justice. (Australian)



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