

Crime

"where a good crime
can be had by all"



chronicle

Issue #213

October 2003

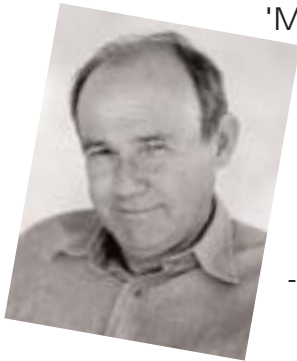
The Verge Practice (Brock and Kolla #8)

by Barry Maitland (313pp Tp 29.95)

This satisfying mystery cements Maitland's reputation as a writer of intriguing and thrilling crime. Following the murder of his young wife, Charles Verge, world famous architect and head of a very lucrative London practice, disappears without a trace. After four months of dead-end investigations, Chief Detective Inspector Brock and his team are called in to achieve the impossible: to find fresh leads and overlooked clues and to finally put an end to the much-discussed Verge mystery. Was this a crime of passion and has Verge escaped to Spain, or even Sydney, as the public sightings suggest? Or is Verge already dead, a victim of the murderer? From the suave world of international architecture to the backstreets of Barcelona, the only thing missing is Verge himself. In their own often unorthodox style, Detective Chief Inspector David Brock and Detective Sergeant Kathy Kolla manage to unlock the secret that has perplexed and intrigued both the police investigation and the public imagination.

Barry Maitland was born in Scotland and brought up in London. After studying architecture at Cambridge, he practised and taught in the UK before moving to Australia, where he was Professor of Architecture at the University of Newcastle. He has since retired from the university to pursue his writing. Maitland's first mystery **The Marx Sisters** (320pp Pb \$17.95) was a nominee for the *John Creasey Award for Best First Novel* and **The Malcontenta** (348pp Pb 17.95) won the *Ned Kelly Award for Best Crime Fiction*.

'More, please, Mr Maitland.' - *The Washington Times*

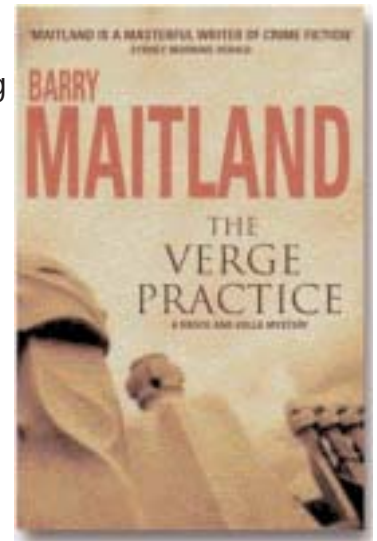


'Maitland does a masterly job keeping so many balls in the air while sustaining an atmosphere of genuine intrigue, suspense and, ultimately, dread. He is right up there with Ruth Rendell . . .'

- *Australian Book Review on The Chalon Heads*

'Maitland gets better and better, and Brock and Kolla are an impressive team who deserve to become household names.' - *Publishing News*

'Barry Maitland is a master of mysteries'
- *Los Angeles Times Book Review*



NED KELLY AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The 2003 award winners were announced by the Crime Writers' Association of Australia (CWAA) on 28 August in Melbourne:

Best Novel

White Dog by Peter Temple (208pp Tp 28.00)

BEST FIRST NOVEL

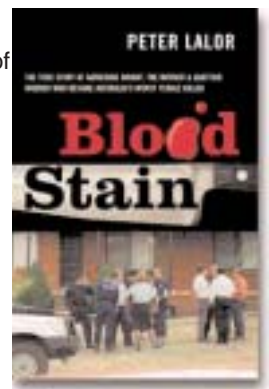
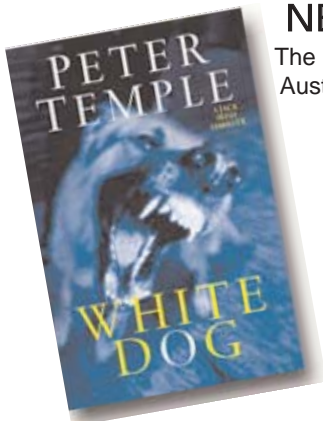
Blood Redemption by Alex Palmer (Pb 18.95)

BEST TRUE CRIME

Blood Stain by Peter Lalor (Pb 22.95)

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Kerry Greenwood



LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY MON 6 OCTOBER
WE ARE OPEN 10AM - 5PM



Modern Crime

Campbell ARMSTRONG

The Last Darkness

602pp Pb 18.95

Investigating a death-by-hanging case is Lou Perlman, a detective whose idea of a good suit is anything that fits. He feels this is no suicide and something about the corpse reminds him of his boyhood in the Gorbals. As one death follows another, the hunt for the killer takes him into a territory of deceit and greed, a world of old allegiances that are lethal to reawaken. (Scottish)



Bunty AVIESON

The Wrong Door 303pp Tp 30.00

The woman in red is Clare Dalton and she has stumbled into the wrong funeral service. Her brief appearance and signature in the condolence book are all it takes to set in motion a trail of deception, mystery and buried secrets that connect two strangers in ways they never thought imaginable. (Australian)

Linda BARNES

The Big Dig 341pp Pb 17.95

A Carlotta Carlyle mystery. Carlotta is bored with her assignment working undercover to seek out fraud on Boston's Big Dig project, so she moonlights. Taking on the case of the missing Veronica James, it is an investigation that goes nowhere until the mysterious death of a construction worker at the Big Dig. (American)

Lauren BERENSON

Hot Dog 300pp Pb 17.95

A Melanie Travis mystery. While a mysterious stalker terrorises her life, Melanie also deals with the amorous advances of both her ex-husband and ex-fiancé and sets out to find a missing Dachshund puppy, the victim of a divorced couple's tug-of-war. (American)

Mark BILLINGHAM

Lazy Bones 368pp Tp 29.95

The body is found in the grubbier of North London hotel rooms. Kneeling, naked on a bare mattress, his head is hooded and his hands tied tight with a brown leather belt. And then there is the oddest detail of all, the call from the florist to check arrangements about the wreath. It is only 10 days since convicted rapist Douglas Remfry had been released from prison. When a second sex offender is discovered dead, Thorne and the police believe they have a vicious, calculating vigilante on their hands. (English)

J BORTHWICK

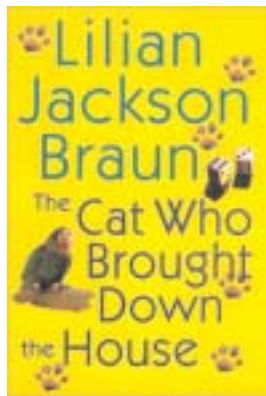
Murder in the Rough 338pp Pb 17.95

A Sarah Deane mystery. Even when the police find the body of an 18-year-old on Ocean Tide's golf course, Sarah vows not to let it sidetrack her from an agenda of rest and relaxation. But after a frightened boy causes her to discover another victim, her curiosity overpowers her better judgment. (American)

Lilian Jackson BRAUN

The Cat Who Brought Down the House 244pp Pb 18.95

A Jim Qwilleran Feline Whodunit #25. There is a lot going on in Pickax these days. A new film club has been founded, while Koko the Siamese cat is making his stage debut in a musical revue to benefit animal rescue. Meanwhile, five Amazon parrots have been abducted, to say nothing of a suspicious compulsive gambler lurking in the background. (American)



Dan BROWN

Angels and Demons 620pp Pb 21.95

Professor Robert Langdon is called upon to identify a mysterious symbol seared onto a dead man's chest. It belongs to the Illuminati, a secret brotherhood with a vendetta against the Catholic Church. Langdon and scientist Vittoria Vetra must find the Illuminati before the Vatican is attacked. (American)

W J BURLEY

Wycliffe and Death in Stanley Street (1974) 220pp Pb 17.95

Wycliffe and the Scapegoat (1978) 170pp Pb 17.95

Burley lived near Newquay in Cornwall, and was a schoolmaster until he retired to concentrate on writing. His Wycliffe novels are reprinted by popular demand. (English)

John CASE

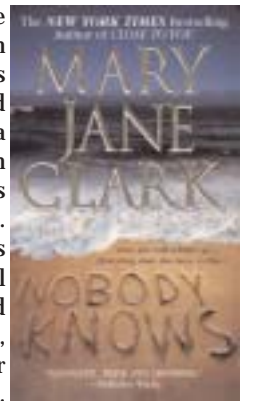
The Eighth Day 500pp Pb 19.95

"And on the Seventh Day, He rested." (Genesis, 2:2-3) Danny Cray is a struggling sculptor/video artist. To make ends meet, he does occasional freelance work as a researcher for a large firm of private detectives. When one of their most powerful clients approaches him with a job, the money is too good to resist. All he has to do is learn what a recently deceased university professor was working on when he died. But Danny stumbles on far more than he expected when he discovers that the professor was in touch with the Vatican about a remote tribe of Kurds who worship the Peacock Angel or, Satan. (American)

Mary Jane CLARK

Nobody Knows 340pp Pb 17.95

The repercussions of ambitious reporting have derailed the career of *KEY News* legal correspondent Cassie Sheridan. A Washington insider, she is forced to the Miami bureau to wait out the end of her contract. While covering a hurricane that is moving up the west coast of Florida, she meets 11-year-old Vincent, who has just made a grisly discovery on the beach. In one week, Cassie traces the connection between Vincent's newfound "treasure" and a secret operation in the dark shadows of sunny Sarasota. It is a story that has national significance and maybe, just maybe, will win back her reputation. (American)



KEY

academic



banking



canine detectives



clerical



cosy/malice domestic



culinary/food



fbi



feline detectives



forensic



horse racing mystery



medical



military



native american



police procedural



political/legal



psychological



private eye



romantic suspense



sport



spy




suspense/thriller




AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB


**Jon CLEARY**

 **The Easy Sin** 260pp Pb 18.95
A *Scobie Malone* mystery. Sydney police are on the trail of a gang of kidnappers whose run of bad luck began when they lifted the very man they were counting on to foot the ransom bill. Too bad no one told them the guy liked slipping into his girlfriend's clothes when no one was around. To make matters worse, the dotcom bubble has burst, leaving the erstwhile millionaire penniless. He is also in debt to the Yakuza and high on their hit list. The trail leads Scobie to renew the acquaintance of some old adversaries, but Japanese gangsters pale into insignificance compared to the victim's predatory ex-wife, ex-girlfriends, ex-mother-in-law, all with an eye on their share of the spoils. (Australian)


Robin COOK

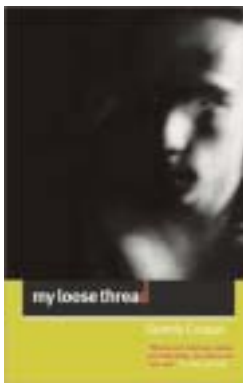
 **Seizure** 464pp Tp 30.00
Senator Ashley Butler is a quintessential Southern demagogue whose support of traditional American values includes a knee-jerk reaction against virtually all biotechnologies. When he is called to chair a subcommittee introducing legislation to ban new cloning technology, the senator views his political future in bold relief; and Dr Daniel Lowell, inventor of the technique that will take stem cell research to the next level, sees a roadblock positioned before his biotech start-up. (American)


Stephen COONTS

 **Deep Black** 374pp Tp 29.95
A spy plane gathering data on a new Russian weapon is blown out of the sky by a mysterious MiG. Is it an accident or the start of the next world war? Only one US agency has what it takes to find out, the National Security Agency and its covert operations team, Deep Black. (American)


Dennis COOPER

 **My Loose Thread** 121pp Pb 22.95
Larry is a teenager wrestling not only with his sexuality and the implications of a physical relationship with his younger brother, but with the very point of his existence. As the book opens, a senior pays Larry \$500 to kill a fellow pupil and retrieve the boy's notebook. This is an immensely powerful work that explores teenage depression, moral vacuity and the confusion of love, it is a claustrophobic and harrowing piece of fiction. (English)


**Michael CONNELLY**

 **Chasing the Dime** 336pp Pb 17.95
Harry Pierce has a whole new life including a new phone number. But he discovers that someone had the number before him. The messages on his line are for a woman named Lilly, and she is in some kind of serious trouble. Pierce is inexorably drawn into Lilly's world of escort services, websites, sex and secret identities. He abandons his orderly life in a frantic race to save the life of a woman he has never met. (American)


Rose CONNORS

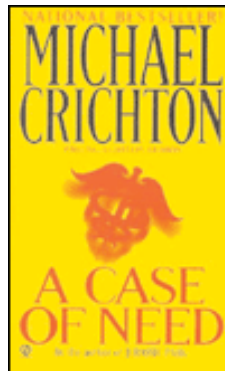
 **Absolute Certainty** 288pp Pb 14.95
This novel introduces a new voice in crime fiction. 'Marty' Nickerson is an assistant DA who truly loves her job. Her case against Manuel Rodriguez is so solid that even public defender Harry Madigan, the champion of the Cape's underdogs, expects a conviction. And, on Memorial Day, a year after the crime, the verdict comes in: guilty as charged. Then the body of another teenager is found in disturbingly similar circumstances and Marty begins to question her victory. (American)


Philip CRAIG

 **Vineyard Deceit (1992)** 250pp Pb 17.95
A *Martha's Vineyard* mystery. Ex-Boston cop Jeff Jackson would rather be fishing with his lady Zee, but the island's overtaxed police force needs his help to control the madness their visitor's arrival has stirred up, especially since the Middle Eastern potentate will not leave before ceremoniously reclaiming an emerald necklace stolen from his nation a century ago. But when both the jewels and Zee vanish, Jeff is quickly transformed from rent-a-cop to frantic investigator. (American)


Michael CRICHTON

 **A Case of Need (1968)** 416pp Pb 19.95
This is Crichton's award-winning debut novel, written under the nom de plume Jeffrey Hudson shortly after he completed his medical internship. Set against the ever-building pressure and pace of a large Boston medical centre, the tensions flare, and explode, when a surgical operation tragically ends in death. Was it accidental malpractice? A violation of the Hippocratic Oath? Or cold-blooded murder? (American)


**Clive CUSSLER**

 **White Death** 421pp Tp 29.95
A *Kurt Austin* adventure in a novel from the *Numa Files*. A confrontation between a radical environmentalist group and a Danish cruiser has forced Austin and colleague Joe Zavala to come to the rescue of a ship full of trapped men, but when the two of them investigate further, they discover that something far more sinister is at work. (American)


Emma DARCY

 **Who Killed Camilla?** 336pp Tp 30.00
Who Killed Angelique? (Pb 14.95) won the *Ned Kelly* award for best first crime novel in 2001. In this story, Hollywood star Camilla Page has chosen a Great Barrier Reef resort to host her upcoming wedding to an Australian cameraman. Romance novelist K C Gordon is among the guests to the lavish affair but soon realises the tropical paradise is also home to venomous snakes, one of them a human who will strike to deadly effect... (Australian)


Jonathan DAVIES

 **The Bird Table** 344pp Pb 19.95
A successful prosecuting counsel, Sally Doone is confident in upholding the law, although her personal life has fewer certainties. After a man she has cross-examined commits suicide, she is shaken, and events lead her to become a victim herself. Is her trust in the justice system misplaced? (English)

Mark DAWSON

 **Subpoena Colada** 446pp Pb 18.95
Show business lawyer Daniel Tate seems to have it all: a brilliant career, tons of money and a beautiful actress girlfriend. However, while striving to satisfy the relentless demands of his famous clients, his personal life begins to unravel. And then his most important client is suspected of murder. As Daniel finds himself descending deeper into paranoia and obsession, just how far will he go to return things to the way they were before? (American)

Rod DUNCAN

 **Backlash** 342pp Pb 18.95
The discovery of a butchered pig deliberately left in a local mosque is the catalyst, which ignites the simmering racial tension in innercity Leicester into open warfare. As the police come under fire for their inappropriate response, and the violence starts to escalate, mixed-race Inspector Marjorie (Mo) Akanbai finds herself made into a convenient scapegoat. (Welsh)



Kate ELLIS

**The Skeleton Room**

374pp Pb 18.95

A Wesley Peterson Murder Mystery. When workmen converting former girls' boarding school, Chadleigh Hall, into a luxury hotel discover a skeleton in a sealed room, DI Wesley Peterson and his boss, Gerry Heffernan are called in to investigate. But within minutes they have a second suspicious death on their hands: a team of marine archaeologists working on a nearby shipwreck have dragged a woman's body from the sea and it becomes clear that her death was no accident. The dead woman's husband may be linked with a brutal robbery of computer equipment, but Wesley soon discovers that the victim had secrets of her own. As he investigates Chadleigh Hall's past and the woman's violent death, both trails lead in surprising directions and matters are further complicated when a man wanted for a murder in London appears on the scene, a man who may know more about Wesley's cases than he admits... (English)

Rogier Jon ELLORY

**Candlemoth**

344pp Tp 29.95

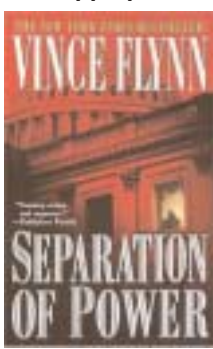
Daniel Ford has 30 days to live. Accused of the horrific murder of his best friend Nathan 12 years before, he has exhausted all appeals and now faces the long walk to the electric chair. All he can do is make peace with his God. Father John Rousseau is the man to whom the last month of Daniel's life has been entrusted. (English)

Vince FLYNN

**Executive Power**

373pp Tp 29.95

CIA super agent Mitch Rapp's cover has been blown. After leading a team of commandos deep into Iraq to prevent Saddam Hussein from joining the nuclear arms race, he was publicly hailed by the president as the



single most important person in the fight against terrorism. But after years of working covertly behind the scenes, Rapp now lives in the glare of the public spotlight, lauded by the nation and an easy target for virtually every terrorist from Jakarta to London. (American)

Vince FLYNN

Separation of Power

436pp Pb 18.95



Iraq has a nuclear weapon but the CIA has Mitch Rapp. Israel has given the USA only two weeks to take the nukes out. After that they will do whatever it takes to destroy the weapons themselves. (American)

Marcello FOIS

**The Advocate**

118pp Hb 32.95

This is a story of a backward Sardinian community living with a guilty conscience, a small-town lawyer with a passion for justice and a boy in love. Unlike most novels of crime and detection, this one is suffused with a beautiful delicacy of narrative texture that lifts it out of its provincial setting and makes it a classic tale for all ages. (Italian)

Ken FOLLETT

**Hornet Flight**

582pp Pb 19.95

It is June 1941, and Denmark is under German occupation. On the rocky coast of Denmark, two brothers, Harald and Arne Olufsen are straining against the rigid confines imposed by their elderly parents. Meanwhile, a network of MI6 spies is attempting to decipher an encrypted Luftwaffe radio signal, which mentions the new Freya-Gerat - a rudimentary form of German radar equipment. (English)

Frederick FORSYTH

**Avenger**

347pp Hb 45.00

Attorney Calvin Dexter hangs his shingle in a quiet New Jersey town. But Dexter is no ordinary lawyer. On Sundays, he reads the paper, trying to forget about a life he has lost forever. That is, until he reads something in the papers that sends him the necessary signal. For in a world that has forgotten right and wrong, few can settle a score like he can. But the game is changing, and this time CIA agent Kevin McBride must find a way to stop Dexter before his quest for vengeance throws the world into chaos. (American)

Karin FOSSUM

**Don't Look Back**

252pp Pb 19.95

An Inspector Sejer mystery #1. Beneath Kollen Mountain lies a small village where the children run in and out of one another's houses and play unafraid in the streets. But the sleepy village is like a pond through which not enough water runs, beneath the surface it is beginning to stagnate. When a naked body is found next to the lake at the top of the mountain, its seeming tranquillity is disturbed forever. (Norwegian)

Karin FOSSUM

**He Who Fears the Wolf**

241pp Tp 29.95

An Inspector Sejer mystery #2. A 12-year-old boy runs wildly into his local police station claiming to have seen Halldis Horn's brutally murdered corpse. Errki Johrma, an escaped psychiatric patient and known town misfit, was sighted at the scene, disappearing into the woods. The next morning the local bank is robbed at gunpoint. (Norwegian)

Yasmine GALENORN

**Ghost of a Chance**

262pp Pb 15.95

New series! A Chintz and China mystery #1. Emerald O'Brien is the owner of the Chintz and China Tea Room where guests are served the perfect blend of tea and tarot reading. She never set out to be a detective, but once word gets out that she can communicate with the dead, there is no turning back... When the ghost of Susan Mitchell asks for Emerald's help in convicting her own murderer, she cannot refuse. Along with her friends (an ex-supermodel and a cop) and her new love interest, she must search for clues to put the killer behind bars. (American)

Sue GRAFTON

**Q is for Quarry**

561pp Pb 18.95

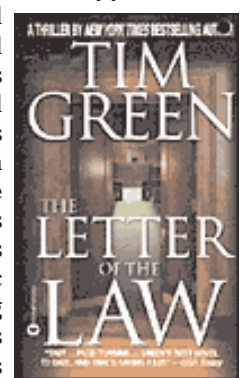
A Kinsey Millhone mystery. This novel is based on an unsolved homicide that occurred in 1969, and Grafton's interest in the case has generated renewed police efforts. During the past year, the body was exhumed and a nationally known forensic artist did the facial reconstruction that appears in the closing pages. The Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department are hoping the photograph will trigger memories that may lead to a positive identification. On the day Jane Doe was reburied, many officers were at the gravesite. "It's eerie," she writes, "to think about the power this woman still has. Here we are, 33 years later, and she still wants to go home." (American)

Tim GREEN

**The Letter of the Law**

341pp Pb 19.95

When Donald Sales' 22-year-old daughter is brutally murdered at law school, his life falls apart. In a fit of rage, he accuses his daughter's professor, Eric Lipton, of killing her. Lipton hires Casey Jordan as his attorney and maintains his innocence throughout the trial. Then, just as the jury announces its verdict of "not guilty" Lipton leans toward his lawyer and whispers a confession of his guilt, knowing he is protected by attorney-client privilege. (American)



Martha GRIMES

**The Grave Maurice**

373pp Pb

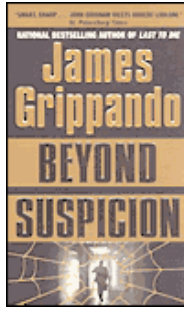
19.95

A Richard Jury novel #18. A strange and unsolved case of abduction is reopened by Melrose Plant, re-examined by Jury and revisited by a killer... (American)

**James GRIPPANDO****Beyond Suspicion**

401pp Pb 18.95

Jack Swytek returns in this powerful sequel to **The Pardon** (Pb 17.95). For the smart, tough Miami criminal lawyer, it was a golden opportunity to help out his beautiful ex-girlfriend Jessie Merrill, who sold her life insurance for a cash payment when she wrongly believed she was dying. Now, thanks to Jack's courtroom prowess, Jessie can keep the \$1.5 million she received. But it turns out that Swytek and the insurance company are both victims of a gorgeous scam artist. And when Jessie's lifeless corpse is discovered in his bathtub, the attorney is suddenly wanted for murder. (American)

**Steve HAMILTON** **Blood is the Sky** 307pp Tp 29.95

Reluctant investigator Alex McKnight finds himself drawn by friendship into a long drive north. The brother of Alex's long time Ojibwa friend Vinnie LeBlanc works as a hunting guide, serving the rich clients from downstate. It seems that the brother and his most recent group of hunters have vanished in northern Ontario and Vinnie is scared enough to ask Alex to help him find them. (American)

Dashiell HAMMETT**Red Harvest (1929)**

215pp Pb 19.95

Crime Masterworks series #30. When the last honest citizen of Poisonville was murdered, the Continental Op stayed on to punish the guilty, even if that meant taking on an entire town. This is the most vivid and realistic picture of gang war ever written and one of the most exciting of all suspense novels. (American)

Stuart HARRISON **Lost Summer**

392pp Pb 18.95

A remote lake, a unique forest, a close community! How could anything terrible happen in such a place? (English)

William HEFFERNAN **Beulah Hill**

280pp Pb 27.50

A novel of rare literary distinction, an erotic thriller combined with a true mystery, and a look back at a little-known part of the American societal patchwork, it is a brilliant and deeply original work of fiction. (American)

Joan HESS**Roll Over and Play Dead**

207pp Pb 15.95

Bookstore owner and amateur sleuth Claire Malloy has donned another hat (or is that a collar?) as a pet sitter extraordinaire. Her furry charges are Miss Emily Parchester's beloved basset hounds, Nick and Nora, and two very good dogs they are. Everything is just ducky, until they vanish. Other neighbours' pets have also disappeared, and no doubt a dognapper is on the prowl. (American)

Patricia HIGHSMITH **Ripley Under Water (1991)**

247pp Pb 21.95

The final part of the Ripley series. Tom Ripley's past would not bear too much close scrutiny, but he has carefully covered his tracks as far as murder and forgery are concerned. Or so he thinks. (English)

Lesley HORTON **On Dangerous Ground**

326pp Tp 29.95

A DI Handford investigation. There is no child prostitution crisis in Bradford; that is the official line. The truth, as Handford and Sgt Ali find, is very different. When a young boy and girl are cruelly murdered within a few days of each other, the duo are plunged into their most shocking investigation so far, uncovering not only the desperate plight of children trapped in Bradford's harsh criminal underworld, but murderous corruption and twisted minds in the most respected sections of the community. (English)

**Graham HURLEY****Angels Passing** 424pp Pb 17.95

A DI Joe Faraday novel #3. Why did a young girl fall to her death from a tower block? And is there a connection with a 10-year-old boy captured on the block's CCTV system? Faraday is on the case, but his investigation is hampered when resources are switched to a murder enquiry prompted by the discovery of the body of a small time crook on wasteland north of the city. (English)

Greg ILES **Dark Matter**

459pp Tp 32.95

For nearly 50 years, the Holy Grail of Artificial Intelligence has been to create a super computer that can think like the human brain. Has that time finally come? David Tenant knows everything there is to know about a project named *Trinity*. He knows of the advantages that it can bring to the world, but he has also seen the side effects. But there are some who will stop at nothing, including murder, to allow the project to continue. (American)

Jon JACKSON**La Donna Detroit**

278pp Pb 22.95

A Fang Mulheisen mystery. Mob boss Humphrey DiEbola has tracked femme fatale Helen Sedlacek to Montana, where she fled after killing his predecessor and running off with millions in Mafia cash. Unexpectedly, he offers her redemption. He sets about drastically downsizing, even turning over his illegal cigar factory to Helen to make some legitimate, Cuban-quality cigars. Is he grooming her to become La Donna Detroit? When a quiet poker party in Humphrey's basement leaves all hands dead, Mulheisen smells a rat... (American)

J A JANCE**Partner in Crime**

386pp Pb 19.95

*A Joanna Brady**mystery.* The death of Rochelle Baxter is

certainly

suspicious. The

mystery deepens

when it emerges

that Ms Baxter a

former Marine

Military Police

Officer, who has

come to Cochise

under the witness

protection programme. Outraged his star

witness has been eliminated, the

Washington State attorney general sends

in his own investigator, J P Beaumont.

Joanna is not happy to see Beau on her

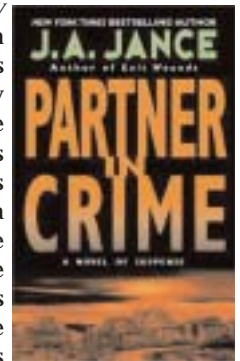
turf and he is not overjoyed at the

prospect either. But when the case begins

to take unexpected and frightening turns,

the two must solve one of the most

baffling cases of their careers. (American)

**Wayne GROGAN****Junkie Pilgrim** 253pp Pb 22.95

This is the story of an abusive junky, his girlfriend, her job as a customs officer, several criminals and Catholic salvation (or lack thereof), all set against the backdrop of Kings Cross, the waterfront and Sydney's northern beaches. This is the kind of novel that could be set as an HSC text to help young adults understand the carnal and violent damage heroin addiction can lead to. "You won't get grittier", writes Gerard Windsor, "This is low life, full-on and distasteful, done with real literary class." Unlike Helen Garner's 1977 smack novel **Monkey Grip** (Pb 22.95), this one demonstrates the repetitive crimes involved in feeding the rainbow dragon, the innocent victims laid to waste by its hunger and the harrowing news that our police forces are riddled with corrupt individuals. - Shelley (Australian)



**Quintin JARDINE****Poisoned Cherries****311pp Pb 18.95**

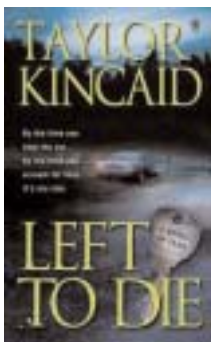
An Oz Blackstone mystery. When offered a major role in a cop movie shooting in Edinburgh, Oz cannot resist taking centre stage. His brief liaison with Susie Gantry, a beautiful and self-possessed businesswoman, has resulted in her pregnancy. Will Oz finally silence the call of the wild and settle down to a cosy family life? It all looks like a bowl of cherries until ex-lover Alison Goodchild turns up asking for a favour. When he finds Alison's business partner murdered in her flat, Oz suspects he has been set up. (Scottish)

Faye KELLERMAN**Street Dreams 423pp Tp 32.95**

While on routine patrol, LAPD Officer Cindy Decker rescues a newborn abandoned in an alley dumpster. But she can't call it a night until she sees the infant safe in a hospital. Now, the hunt is on for the mother, more than likely a desperate girl in need of medical attention. Armed with advice from her overworked detective father, Cindy searches through inner city Hollywood, following a treacherous trail filled with drug lords. But with each new lead, the twisted journey gets darker, battering Cindy's complex personal relationships and endangering her very life. When Decker and Decker join forces, can this edgy duo put personal issues aside to catch a vicious culprit before he strikes again? (American)

Taylor KINCAID**Left to Die****368pp Pb 17.95**

A novel of fear. Late one night, a car was pulled over onto the side of the road, in the middle of nowhere. One woman was forced at gunpoint to do the unthinkable. The other woman watched and waited for her chance to escape. She survived the most horrifying ordeal of her life. But still, she was haunted by the fate of the stranger who gave her a ride. With the help of investigators Capshaw and McSwain, she hoped to find out the truth once and for all. (American)



One woman was forced at gunpoint to do the unthinkable. The other woman watched and waited for her chance to escape. She survived the most horrifying ordeal of her life. But still, she was haunted by the fate of the stranger who gave her a ride. With the help of investigators Capshaw and McSwain, she hoped to find out the truth once and for all. (American)

Danny KING**The Hitman Diaries 282pp Pb 22.95**

Ian faces a moral conflict when given a contract to get rid of Janet, the love of his life, the only woman to really understand him. And moral conflicts are not something that Ian can cope with. This is a pitch-black comedy about love, murder and dating. (English)

Jonathon KING**The Blue Edge of Midnight****280pp Pb 17.95**

Winner of the 2001 Edgar Award for Best First Novel. An electrifying story of crime, punishment and one man's redemption, played out against a backdrop of wild natural beauty in conflict with the modern urban world. When a child goes missing in the Florida Everglades, all eyes turn to Max Freeman, an outsider and ex-cop. He is driven by his old habits and bad memories, knows that he has no choice but to hunt down the murderer himself. (American)

Stephen LEATHER**The Eyewitness****407pp Pb 18.95**

This new novel takes us into the dangerous heart of the prostitution business. Jack Solomon is a messenger of death. Working in the fractured remains of Yugoslavia, his task is to identify the victims of ethnic cleansing and to tell families that their loved ones are never coming home. When a truck containing 26 bodies is pulled from a lake, the desensitised Solomon is unable to walk away from the case. He sets out to track down the only survivor of the massacre, a young girl on the run from the killers. Solomon's hunt for the last witness leads from the brothels of Sarajevo to the high-stakes world of London's Internet prostitution where he will discover that the killers are closer to home than he thinks... (English)

Robert LEVINSON**Hot Paint****404pp Pb 17.95**

A Neil Gulliver and Stevie Marriner novel. The LA newspaper columnist and his ex-wife chase after priceless art masterpieces stolen more than 70 years ago and believed lost forever. They escape more than one brush with death as they decipher the secrets of a suite of Andy Warhol silkscreens that are the key to the mystery. (American)

Gay LONGWORTH**Dead Alone 470pp Pb 18.95**

A fresh, streetwise, frequently funny, frequently nasty, London-based crime series featuring sexy, no-nonsense female DI Jessie Driver, who is a fast-track motorbike-riding female cop with a colourful love-life, an attitude and more than a few resentful male colleagues. (English)

Heather LOWELL**When the Storm Breaks****400pp Tp 27.95**

Claire Lambert walked into a nightmare on a rainy night in Washington, DC. Stumbling upon a killer in the midst of his latest bloody crime, she ran for her life but not before a head injury caused her to lose her memory, along with her purse and ID. Now a monster knows who Claire is and where she lives. (American)

Robert LUDLUM**The Altman Code 410pp Tp 29.95**

A Covert One novel. On the dark waterside docks of Shanghai, a photographer records cargo being secretly loaded. He's brutally killed and his camera destroyed. Two weeks later on the dangerous high seas, the US Navy covertly tracks a Chinese ship rumoured to carry tons of chemicals for Saddam Hussein to create new biological weapons. The President cannot let the ship reach Iraq. (American)

Robert LUDLUM**The Janson Directive****625pp Pb 18.95**

Peter Novak, a billionaire who has committed his life and fortune to fostering democracy around the world, has been captured by the forces led by the near-mythical terrorist known as The Caliph. Holding Novak in a near impenetrable fortress, The Caliph has refused to negotiate for his release, planning instead to brutally execute Novak in a matter of days. Novak's people turn to a man with a long history of defeating impossible odds: Paul Janson. For decades, Janson was an operative and assassin whose skills and exploits made him a legend. No longer able to live with the brutality, bloodshed and personal loss that marked his career, Janson has retired from the field and nothing could lure him back. Nothing except Peter Novak, a man who once saved Janson's life when everyone else was powerless to help. (American)

Heather Dune MacADAM**The Weeping Buddha****360pp Pb 32.95**

New Year's Eve: Long Island detectives Devon Halsey and Lochwood Brennen, secret lovers, are thrust into mayhem by the grisly murder of Devon's best friend. What has haunted Devon for years begins to take shape and as she dissects the file, she learns that the carvings in the victims' bodies are actually Koans, unanswerable questions that must be meditated upon in order to reach enlightenment. (American)

Charlotte MacLEOD**The Bilbao Looking Glass****(1983) 180pp Pb 14.95**

A Sarah Kelling and Max Bittersohn mystery. Kelling and her art detective friend, arrive at her summer home to find a lovely old Bilbao looking glass. Sarah has never seen this precious antique before so, mindful of burglaries, Max calls the police. Appie Kelling arrives, bringing her own special brand of total chaos, her son, Lionel and her four grandsons. They make Genghis Kahn's horde look like a bunch of sissies, but are they really thieves, arsonists and killers? (American)

**Dan MAHONEY****The Protectors****406pp Pb 17.95**

In a dramatic and violent kidnapping, the Spanish ambassador to the UN is taken at gunpoint in front of his luxury New York City apartment by a group of professional terrorists. The ambassador's bodyguards are killed and his wife is threatened before the terrorists escape into the maze of the Big Apple... (American)

Barry MAITLAND**Babel****280pp Pb 17.95**

A Brock and Kolla mystery #6. The brutal murder of the University of East London's professor of philosophy is headline news and DCI Brock is brought in to investigate. When it becomes clear that the motive for murder may be political and the murderer a Muslim, the public is outraged. DC Kathy Kolla is on leave, so burned out that she is considering leaving the force for good. But you cannot keep a good detective down and soon she is on the phone to Brock asking to be put on the case. It is a complex, rich and intelligent novel and will surely bring Brock and Kolla to a wider, appreciative readership. (Australian)

Barry MAITLAND**The Verge Practice****313pp Tp 29.95**

A Brock and Kolla mystery #7. Following the murder of his young wife, Charles Verge, world famous architect and head of a lucrative London practice, disappears without a trace. After four months of dead-end investigations, DCI Brock and his team are called in to achieve the impossible: to find fresh leads and overlooked clues. Was this a crime of passion and has Verge escaped to Spain, or even Sydney, as the public sightings suggest? Or is he already dead? (Australian)

Steve MARTINI**The Arraignment****504pp Pb 19.95**

When a lawyer friend, Nick Rush, is killed along with a client in a hail of gunfire outside the federal courthouse, attorney Paul Madriani is determined to find out the truth behind the double murder. As he investigates, he rides the crest of a dangerous wave of international drug deals and people who murder for money. In a quest that takes him from California to Mexico, he discovers that, while the motive to kill may be driven by events taking place thousands of miles away; the killer lies much closer at hand... (American)

**Alexander McCALL SMITH****The No.1 Ladies' Detective****Agency 250pp Pb 22.95**

A Mma Ramotswe novel #1. This is a new edition of this bestselling novel, which was first published in 1998. Soon it will be turned into a TV series. The *Times Literary Supplement* called it, "One of the *International Books of the Year*." (Scottish)

Ken McCCLURE**Wildcard****305pp Pb 18.95**

When a killer virus appears, there are no obvious connections between the victims. Steven Dunbar of the Sci-Med Directorate investigates and discovers that this outbreak cannot be blamed on Ebola and that others, completely unrelated to the first victim, are falling ill and dying. Somewhere there is a link. Somehow the wild cards are related. Gradually, the truth becomes clearer... it is terrifying and unbelievable. (Scottish)

Pauline McLYNN**Right on Time 343pp Pb 19.95**

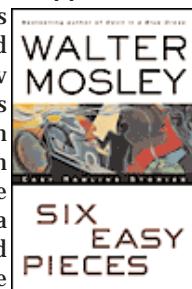
Every second counts for PI Leo Street on her latest case. She must find a missing teenager in the drug-fuelled streets of Dublin before it is too late. But with a watch that has stopped and a biological clock that has taken over, it is not going to be easy. Leo's irrepressible sidekick Ciara, her mischievous mutt and Ciara's gorgeous twin brother Ronan, lend a helping hand. But can they track down the missing girl and save the day, or will a case of bad timing put all their lives at risk? (Irish)

Kate MORGENROTH**Saved****368pp Pb 18.95**

Ellie Somers, a fearless Coast Guard helicopter pilot, finds herself in a horrible position when one of her more daring acts at sea results in the death of a colleague. Downgraded to a desk job, her life quickly spirals out of control when she crosses paths with Nicolas Andreakis, a rogue whose own recklessness pulls Ellie into unexplored realms of chance and deadly peril. (American)

Walter MOSLEY**Six Easy Pieces 278pp Pb 29.95**

An Easy Rawlins mystery. The beloved Ezekiel Rawlins now has a steady job as senior head custodian of Sojourner Truth High School, a nice house with a garden, a loving woman and children. He counts the blessings of leading a law-abiding life, but is "nowhere near happy." Easy mourns the loss of his best friend, Mouse. Though Easy tries to leave the street life behind, he still finds himself trading favours and investigating cases of arson, murder and missing people. (American)

**Margaret MURPHY****Weaving Shadows 466pp Pb 18.95**

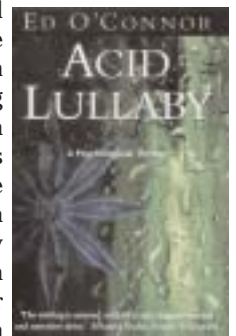
Barrister Clara Pascal thought she was taking on a simple child custody case. Traumatized by her own experiences as a kidnap victim, Clara works to keep the shadows of the past from affecting her friends, family and work. But the dreams don't get any easier and the past won't go away. Then Clara finds herself thrown back into a crime investigation she wants nothing to do with. Her client is a convicted killer, one who stalks and photographs young women - so why does Clara believe that he's innocent? Risking everything, Clara sets out to prove that the past has no hold on the future - while a killer comes ever closer to making her the next victim. (English)

Warren MURPHY**Destroyer #132 347pp Pb 17.95**

Wolf's Bane. A wild child of the bayous, Leon Grosvenor is a two-legged freak show of shaggy hair and talons with an insatiable hunger for raw flesh. This has earned him gainful employment as a contract killer for a Cajun mafia boss. (American)

Ed O'CONNOR**Acid Lullaby 307pp Hb 42.95**

A deranged predator on the rampage, a man with a terrible, drug fuelled obsession, a monster that thinks he is a god. The discovery of a decapitated body signals the start of a living nightmare for Inspector Alison Dexter. (English)

**Alex PALMER****Blood Redemption****481pp Pb 18.95**

Matthew Liu sees his parents gunned down in a lonely Sydney backstreet. A young woman, the killer, stares him in the face before fleeing the scene. When the police arrive, all they find is a discarded gun. This book won three awards in 2002: *Canberra Critic's Circle Award for Literature*, the *Davitt Award for Crime* and the *2003 Ned Kelly Award for Best First Novel*. (Australian)

James PATTERSON**Four Blind Mice 404pp Pb 19.95**

Now the Mastermind is in prison, Alex Cross is ready to leave the Washington Police Force. He has also has met a woman. Then, his best friend John Sampson arrives and begs him to take on one last case; John's friend has been accused of a horrific triple murder at the Army base. (American)

**Ann PERRY (editor)****Death by Horoscope** 324pp Tp 29.95

Lawrence Block, Sharyn McCrumb, Peter Lovesey, Marcia Muller, Robert Barnard, Faye Kellerman, Joan Hess and Nancy Pickard stand among the top-selling authors invited by Edgar-winner Anne Perry to contribute an original story to this new collection in which mystery weds astrology to startling effect. Included, too, is a never-before-published story, "The Blue Scorpion", by Anne Perry herself. (American)

Ian RANKIN**A Question of Blood** 360pp Tp 29.95

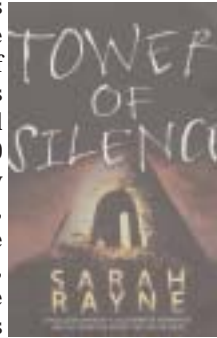
An Inspector Rebus novel #14. A shooting incident at a private school just north of Edinburgh. Two 17-year-olds killed by an ex-Army loner who has gone off the rails. As Detective Inspector John Rebus puts it, 'there's no mystery'... except the why. But this question takes Rebus into the heart of a shattered community. Ex-Army himself, Rebus becomes fascinated by the killer and finds he is not alone. Army investigators are on the scene and won't be shaken off. The killer had friends and enemies to spare, ranging from civic leaders to the local Goths, leaving behind a legacy of secrets and lies. Rebus has more than his share of personal problems, too. He's fresh out of hospital, hands heavily bandaged and he won't say how it happened. Could there be a connection with a house fire and the unfortunate death of a petty criminal who had been harrasing Rebus's colleague Siobhan Clarke? Rebus's bosses seem to think so... (Scottish)

Ian RANKIN**Beggars Banquet** 376pp Pb 17.95

Over the years, Rankin has amassed an incredible portfolio of short stories. Published in crime magazines, composed for events, broadcast on radio, they all share the best qualities of his phenomenally popular Rebus novels. Ranging from the macabre (*The Hanged Man*) to the unfortunate (*The Only True Comedian*) right back to the sinister (*Someone Got to Eddie*), they all bear the hallmark of great crime writing. Of even more interest to his many fans, Rankin includes seven Inspector Rebus stories in this new collection. (Scottish)

**Sarah RAYNE****Tower of Silence** 378pp Tp 29.95

Selina March has lived in the remote Scottish hamlet of Inchcape, with its mysterious Round Tower, for nearly 50 years. Brought up by elderly relatives, long since dead, she now lives alone, shunning the outside world as much as she can. But when she reluctantly accepts a paying guest, Selina's secluded life will change forever. Crime writer Joanna Savile has come to Inchcape to research her latest novel by interviewing inmates at Moy, the asylum for the criminally insane situated nearby. Her secret aim is to question former child murderer, Mary Maskelyne, Moy's most infamous patient. Joanna's prying will yield unexpected results. (Scottish)

**Danuta REAH****Bleak Water** 486pp Pb 18.95

When Death Imitates Art. An arts trust has established a small but innovative gallery in one of the old warehouses by the canal and Eliza Eliot, the curator, sees her career about to take off when she is given the opportunity to show the latest exhibition by well-known artist Daniel Flynn. The exhibition is a series of reworkings of Brueghel's painting, "The Triumph of Death". Then a young woman who lives in one of the flats above the gallery is found dead in the canal, while a teenage girl also goes missing in an apparently unrelated case. Events take a sinister turn at the gallery as the nightmare images from Flynn's paintings start to spill out into the real world. (English)

**J D ROBB****Imitation in Death** 342pp Pb 19.95

A Lt Eve Dallas novel. It is the summer of 2059. A man wearing a top hat approaches a prostitute on the streets of New York. Minutes later, she is dead. Left at the scene is a letter addressed to Eve Dallas, inviting her to play his game and unveil his identity. He signs it Jack. (American)

Nora ROBERTS**Chesapeake Blue** 374pp Pb 18.95

The first 10 years of Seth Quinn's life had been a prison of fear, abuse and neglect. Ray Quinn had rescued him from all that. And, after their father's death, Philip, Ethan and Cam Quinn had continued his good work, raising Seth as their own brother. Now an adult and a successful artist, Seth returns to Chesapeake Bay, to the only real family he has ever known. Drusilla Banks is a newcomer in town. And from the first time he meets her, Seth realises that she is way out of his league. Added to which, her own history has taught her not to give her heart lightly. Despite these odds, Seth is determined to try. But their fledging relationship faces another threat; for if Seth is ever to win a place in Dru's affections, he must finally face up to his tragic past and the mother who sold him... (American)

Peter ROBINSON**Caedmon's Song (1990)** 276pp Tp 30.00

A psychological thriller, which weaves together the stories of a brutal attempted murder and an author's macabre search for material for a new novel. (English)

Peter ROBINSON**The Summer That Never Was** 499pp Pb 18.95

An Inspector Banks novel #13. A skeleton has been unearthed. Soon the body is identified and the horrific discovery hits the headlines... 14-year-old Graham Marshall went missing during his paper round in 1965. The police found no trace of him. His disappearance left his family shattered and his best friend, Alan Banks, full of guilt... That friend has now become Chief Inspector Alan Banks and he is determined to bring justice for Graham. But he soon realises that in this case, the boundary between victim and perpetrator, between law-guardian and law-breaker, is becoming more and more blurred... (English)

Nancy ROSENBERG**Conflict of Interest** 314pp Pb 17.95

DA Joanne Kuhlman is struggling to put her own life together after the trauma of retrieving her children from her ex-husband who had kidnapped them. Now she must make a decision that could end her career. While trying three defendants for robbery, she discovers one of the defendants is ignorant of the true nature of the crime. His attorney and mother insist his crime partners cruelly exploited him. When the young man disappears, Joanne fears he may have been murdered. Her sympathies for this defendant lead her to entangle herself with his attractive attorney and compromise her career. (American)

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**John SHANNON****Streets of Fire 230pp Tp 29.95**

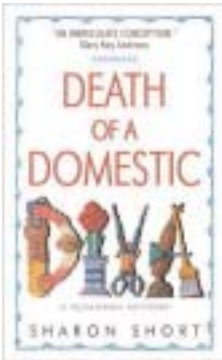
A Jack Liffey investigation #5. Once again, Liffey searches the volatile and dangerous ethnic communities buried in the urban sprawl of Los Angeles for another of the city's mysteriously lost. This time out, he is looking for a prominent 1960s civil rights campaigner's adopted son, who has gone suspiciously missing in the wake of an unsettling run-in with a motorcycle gang at a local jazz club. In the course of his investigation, Liffey runs afoul of skinheads, white supremacists and black separatists. (American)

Shari SHATTUCK**Loaded 346pp Pb 17.95**

This is the first in a sexy new suspense series starring wealthy socialite Cally Wilde and sexy LAPD detective Evan Paley. Cally's father left everything to her in his will, leaving out her mother, his smarmy lawyer and a conveniently long-lost sister. She is convinced that someone among her dearly beloved is out to kill her and no one is going to stop her from finding out who, not even the handsome detective, though he is certainly welcome to try. (American)

Sharon SHORT**Death of a Domestic Diva 261pp Pb 16.95**

A *Toadfern* mystery. There is no stain on earth that laundromat owner Josie Toadfern cannot conquer and she is offered to share her expertise on world famous domestic doyenne Tyra Grimes's TV show. No one is more shocked than Josie herself when the Great Grimes shows up to tape a segment in Josie's teeny-weeny hometown. But rapidly spreading rumours of the insufferable icon's immoral behaviour have sparked Josie's curiosity and her uninvited sorting through Grimes's dirty laundry is exposing all manner of dastardly doings. (American)

**Sheldon SIEGEL****Criminal Intent 420pp Pb 19.95**

Lawyers Mike Daley and Rosie Fernandez have put aside their differences as former husband and wife to become San Francisco's top criminal defence team. But a new case could bring it all crashing down, both professionally and personally because Rosie's niece is accused of murder. (American)

**Jenny SILER****Shot 249pp Pb 17.95**

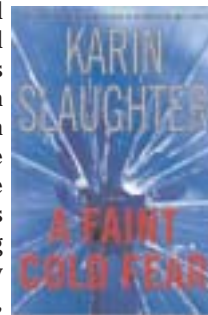
When journalist Kevin Burns gets a call from former schoolmate Carl Greene, he is surprised. They were not that close at school and the temperature really cooled when Carl married Kevin's girl, Lucy. Carl, a scientist, sounds anxious, afraid. They arrange to meet at the baseball game in Denver but Carl never makes it. Someone kills him first. Soon after, Lucy surprises a masked figure prowling Carl's study. Whatever her husband was working on, a lot of people want to get their hands on it. (American)

Georges SIMENON**Lock 14 122pp Pb 19.95**

A *Maigret* novel. One rainy night, a canal worker stumbles across the strangled body of Mary Lampson in a stable near Lock 14. The dead woman's husband seems unmoved by her death and is curt and unhelpful when Maigret interviews him aboard his yacht. But gradually Maigret is able to piece together their story - a sordid tale of whisky-fuelled orgies and nomadic life on the canals. (French)

Karin SLAUGHTER**A Faint Cold Fear 420pp Tp 29.95**

Sara Linton, medical examiner in the small town of Heartsdale, is called out to an apparent suicide on the local college campus. Two more suspicious suicides follow and a young woman is brutally attacked. For Sara, the violence strikes far too close to home. And as police chief Jeffrey Tolliver pursues the sadistic killer, he discovers that ex-police detective Lena Adams, now a security guard on campus may be in possession of crucial information. But, bruised and angered by her expulsion from the force, Lena seems to be barely capable of protecting herself, let alone saving the next victim. (American)

**Karin SLAUGHTER****Kisscut 470pp Pb 19.95**

Saturday night dates at the skating rink have been a tradition in the small southern town of Heartsdale for as long as anyone can remember. But when a teenage quarrel explodes into a deadly shoot-out, Sara Linton (the town's paediatrician and medical examiner) finds herself entangled in a horrific tragedy. (American)

**Julie SMITH****Louisiana Bigshot 309pp Pb 17.95**

A *Talba Wallis* novel. By night the glamorous Baroness de Pontalba, by day New Orleans' hippest PI, Talba Wallis is dumbfounded when she cannot do a simple background check on an old friend, Babalu Maya just does not seem to exist on paper. Four days later, she does not exist at all. As Talba threads her way backward through Babalu's short, difficult life, she finds an intricate pattern of violence and fear and a shadowy Mr Big with homicidal intent. (American)

Wendy STAUB**Dearly Beloved (1996) 365pp Pb 17.95**

Three very different women - Sandy Cavelli, Liza Danning and Jennie Towne - with different motives and goals, journey to a windswept island resort, unaware that a chillingly familiar man, consumed by his thirst for revenge, is waiting for them. (American)

Antoinette STOCKENBERG**A Month at the Shore 340pp Pb 17.95**

This author consistently engages readers with her breathtaking stories of small-town romance tinged with danger. Now she returns with a tale of one woman's struggle to put the past to rest, even as it haunts her every waking moment... (American)

Matthew STOKOE**High Life 326pp Pb 34.95**

Hollywood, the City of Dreams. Jack had come here with one ambition: to become famous, a star - in exactly what way, he did not care. In his second novel, the author proves himself a worthy heir to the great tradition of California noir. Brutal and unflinching in its depiction of violence and sex, his book is like an unholy hybrid of Raymond Chandler's best work and Brett Ellis's *American Psycho* (Pb 23.00). (English)

Robert K TANENBAUM**Absolute Rage 462pp Pb 18.95**

Prosecutor Butch Karp takes on the deadliest case of his career in the author's most complex and suspenseful thriller to date. The focus of this book is the moral and ethical code that drives our hero, Butch Karp, to provide for and protect his family above all else. His code of honour is devoted unconditional commitment and love. A dynamic, blue collar presidential aspirant and his wife and child are murdered in West Virginia. His two surviving children demand that Karp prosecute the case, not the Feds or anyone else. Karp is reluctant to accept the case because of the political whirlwind that surrounds it, but Karp is assured complete autonomy to search for the truth wherever it may lead. (American)

**Josephine TEY****The Franchise Affair (1949)**
278pp Pb 19.95

Marion Sharpe and her mother seem an unlikely duo to be found on the wrong side of the law. Quiet and ordinary, they have led a peaceful and unremarkable life at their country home, The Franchise. Unremarkable that is, until the police turn up with a demure young woman on their doorstep. Not only does Betty Kane accuse them of kidnap and abuse. But there is something about Betty Kane's story that does not quite add up. Inspector Alan Grant of Scotland Yard is stumped. (English)

Charles TODD**A Fearsome Doubt**
356pp Pb 17.95

An Inspector Ian Rutledge mystery #6. The widow of a convicted killer, who went to the gallows for preying on the infirm elderly, confronts him with a missing jewellery piece found in a neighbour's possession, suggesting that Rutledge helped execute an innocent man. Reopening the inquiry requires caution not only because of the soul-searching it provokes, which threatens to shatter the inspector's tenuous grasp on sanity, but also because the case contributed to his superior's promotion. This old mystery becomes only one of the puzzles Rutledge must resolve when he is ordered to investigate the poisoning deaths of three disabled soldiers. (American)

P J TRACY**Want to Play?** **409pp Tp 29.95**

Harlan Coben has called this, "the thriller debut of the year" and "outrageously suspenseful". The slaying of an old couple in a small-town American catholic church looks like a one-off act of brutal retribution. But at the same time, in Minneapolis, teams of detectives scramble to stop a serial killer striking again. When the two separate investigations converge, it seems an old killer has resurfaced whose identity still remains dangerously out of reach. (American)

Scott TUROW**Reversible Errors** **553pp Pb 19.95**

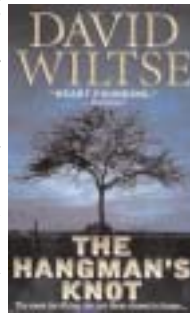
Rommy "Squirrel" Gandolph is an inmate on death row for a 1991 triple murder. His slow progress toward execution is nearing completion when Arthur Raven, a corporate lawyer and Rommy's reluctant representative, receives word of new evidence that will exonerate Gandolph. Meanwhile, the judge who originally found him guilty is just out of prison herself. This compelling book with its multi-dimensional characters takes the reader into Kindle County's parallel yet intersecting worlds of weary police, small-time crooks and ambitious lawyers. (American)

Robin WALLACE-CRABBE**The Forger** **305pp Pb 20.00**

When he inherited a fortune, moved to the south of France and settled down, Essington Holt promised his wife there would be no more art forgery. But being rich is boring and could not help selling property developer Stan Kriticos's a small collection of modernist paintings. But Kriticos is a killer who has just learnt his art collection is a fake... (Australian)

David WILTSE**The Hangman's Knot**
331pp Pb 17.95

It all begins for acting deputy Billy Tree when sinister miniature nooses arrive in his mail and escalates when deadly shots ring out in the night. Hot on the trail of a relentless killer, Billy discovers a viper's nest of secrets and lies that turn everything he believed about his family and lover into terrifying doubt... (American)

**James ZAGEL****Money to Burn** **372pp Pb 17.95**

The ultimate bank heist thriller. Two judges play a role in this heist story: the one who conceives and directs the caper and the narrator, both Federal District Court judges in Chicago. (American)

HISTORICAL CRIME

**Paul DOHERTY****The Gates of Hell** **292pp Hb 49.95**

An Alexander the Great novel #3. 334 BC, Halicarnassus. A series of brutal killings begins proving that the Persians have infiltrated Alexander's court. With his lord facing the fight of his life, Alexander's old friend Telamon must go through "the Gates of Hell" to find the traitors. (English)

Martin GREENBERG (editor)**Murder in Baker Street**
277pp Pb 24.95

New Tales of Sherlock Holmes. Victorian times. Ingeniously contrived and shrewdly executed by some of the finest talents at work in crime fiction today (Anne Perry, Loren Estleman, Gillian Linscott, Edward Hoch, Peter Tremayne, Stuart Kaminsky, Jon Breen, Bill Crider, Howard Engel, Carolyn Wheat and L B Greenwood), the 11 stories in this premier volume celebrate the keen mind and singular manners of the Great Detective. (American)

Michael JECKS**The Templar's Penance**
364pp Hb 59.95

A Baldwin Furnshill and Balliff Simon Puttock novel #15. 1323, Europe. They have been granted leave to go on pilgrimage. Together they travel to Portugal, but danger seems to follow them even this far a field, as they are among the first on the scene when a beautiful young girl is found brutally raped and murdered on the hillside of Santiago de Compostela. (English)

Owen PARRY**Honor's Kingdom** **431pp Pb 19.95**

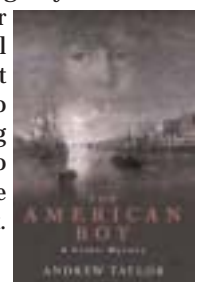
1860s, London and Glasgow. In a time when casualty lists grimly mount in America's Civil War, federal officer Major Abel Jones returns to Britain on a mission essential to the Union cause. Yet, it is the strange death of a lowly man of the cloth and a subsequent series of equally grotesque murders that intrude upon Jones's determined efforts to block the delivery of British warships to the Confederacy. (American)

Stephen SAYLOR**A Mist of Prophecies** **275pp Pb 21.95**

A Mystery of Ancient Rome. In this treacherous environment, a beautiful young seeress- and a confidante of the rich and powerful- is found murdered. Obsessed with her image, Gordianus the Finder starts to investigate the murder of this woman about whom no one seems to know very much at all. As the novel unfolds and Gordianus begins to peel away the veils of secrecy that surround the victim, he finds hidden truths behind her life and death. (English)

Andrew TAYLOR**The American Boy** **485pp Tp 29.95**

1819, England. Edgar Allan Poe is the American boy, a child standing on the edge of mysteries. Two Americans arrive in London and soon afterwards a bank collapses. A man is found dead and horribly mutilated on a building site. An heiress flirts with her inferiors. A poor schoolmaster struggles to understand what is happening before it destroys him and those he loves. But the truth, like the youthful Poe himself, has its origins in the new world as well as the old. This book is a 21st century novel with a 19th century voice. It is both a multi-layered literary murder mystery and a love story, its setting ranging from the coal-scented urban jungle of late Regency London to the stark winter landscapes of rural Gloucestershire. And at its centre is the boy who does not really belong anywhere, an actor who never learns the significance of his part. (English)



**Daniel WOODRELL****Ride with the Devil (1987)****215pp Pb 16.95**

1860s, America. While the great battles of the Civil War rage in the East, Jayhawkers and bushwhackers wage their own vicious heartland war, savaging all in their wake without conscience or pity. Where the First Kansas Irregulars ride, no one is safe. Woodrell's shattering coming-of-age novel brilliantly captures the lawless universe of war as seen through the eyes of a young secessionist. Film tie-in edition, originally published as *Woe to Live On*. (American)



CRIME NON-FICTION

**Robert KEPPEL & William BIRNES****The Psychology of Serial Killer Investigations****232pp Hb 85.95***The Grisly Business*

Unit. This book covers: The nature of the psychology of a serial killer; How crime assessment profiling reveals that psychology; Why psychological profiles fail; How serial killer task forces defeat themselves; How the media can, and usually do, undermine the task force operation; The big secret of all serial killer investigations: police already have the killer's name; and the best practices for catching a serial killer. Readers, both professionals and students, will benefit from the comprehensive and critical case reviews, the analysis of what went wrong, what went right and the after-action recommendations of evaluators in the US, UK and Canada. (American)

**John KRAKAUER****Under the Banner of Heaven****372pp Tp 33.00**

On July 24, 1984, two brothers, who believed they were ordered to kill by God, murdered a woman and her infant daughter. The roots of their crime lie deep in the history of an American religion practised by millions. The author examines the underbelly of Mormonism and finds a distinctly American brand of religious extremism. (American)

Graeme McLAGAN**Bent Coppers****265pp Hb 49.95**

The inside story of Scotland Yard's battle against police corruption. Its members had to operate in conditions of unprecedented secrecy. They became known as the "Ghost Squad". Corrupt officers had access to the whole police computer system and anyone working undercover against them had to have a "cover" that withstood scrutiny. Bent coppers really did believe they were untouchable: they stole cash and property, fitted-up innocent people and sold secret information to cripple court cases. Many of the bent coppers are now in jail, or awaiting trial, but the battle against corruption is not over. This gripping account reveals the ugly underside of London's police force and why teams from America and Australia have now come to Britain to find out how the Met is winning the battle against bent coppers. (English)

**Deborah LOCKE****Watching the Detectives****212pp Tp 29.95**

The author of this book had always wanted to be a police officer and the day she graduated from the NSW Police Academy was one of the happiest of her life. But when she started questioning some of the corrupt practices she saw around her, she discovered the dark side of policing, including the consequences of breaking Rule #1: Never dob your mates in. This is her story. (Australian)

Chris LOOS**Murder in Paradise 374pp Pb 19.95**

A vivacious, 23-year-old visitor to the Big Island in Hawaii, Dana Ireland's life ended prematurely thanks to a terrible, senseless assault and the failure of rescue workers to reach the crime scene on time. Then the local police seemed unable to catch her killers. But one man refused to let the bloody outrage go unpunished. From his Virginia home, John Ireland, her father, launched his own investigation. (American)

Jack OLSEN**"1"****367pp Pb 17.95**

The Creation of a Serial Killer. Prize-winning journalist Olsen, armed with unprecedented access to one of the most infamous serial killers in American history, provides a fascinating glimpse into the mind of a murderer in the killer's own words. (American)

**Maurice POSSLEY****The Brown's Chicken Massacre****257pp Pb 17.95**

This is the true story of the brutal slaying of seven people at an Illinois restaurant and the breakthrough DNA evidence that helped solve the case. (American)

Samuel ROEN**Evidence of Murder 320pp Pb 17.95**

This is the story of the hunt for Carla Ann Larson's murderer, after the crime was publicised on the TV show, *America's Most Wanted*. (American)

Harold SCHECHTER**Fatal****305pp Pb 16.95**

The poisonous life of a female serial killer. In an era that produced some of the most vicious female sociopaths in American history, Jane Toppin would become the most notorious of them all. In 1891, the seemingly proper New England matron embarked on a profession as a private-duty nurse. Selfless and good-natured, she beguiled Boston's most prominent families. They had no idea what they were welcoming into their homes. (American)

Gordon THOMAS & Martin DILLON**The Assassination of Robert Maxwell****448pp Pb 24.95**

Israel's Superspy. In this account, the authors reveal the secret plot to assassinate one of the world's most powerful businessmen. This is the story of Maxwell's execution; the motivation, the planning and the events of that cold night at sea when he met his fate. (American)

Christine WICKER**The Spirits of Lily Dale: Adventures in the Town that Talks to the Dead****282pp Pb 32.95**

Lily Dale is a 122-year-old town populated solely by people who believe the dead live among them. It is the oldest and largest community of spiritualists in the world. Twenty thousand visitors a year travel to this Victorian village in upstate New York to consult mediums in order to communicate with dead relatives and peer into their own futures. Christine Wicker arrives in the baffling, wacky but caring community to try and discover the truth about spiritualism and mediums. She takes us into the mediums' lives and retells the stories of those whose relatives have saved them, from beyond the grave. (American)

Eric WILSON**The Echo of Silent Screams****246pp Tp 24.95**

The Gold Coast Hitchhiker Murders. The author of this book is the brother of one of the murdered girls. It is much more than a murder mystery. It opens up the very soul of one of the families involved in this terrible case, which still remains unsolved 28 years later. The \$100,000 reward is still current. (Australian)

CHILDREN'S CRIME

- with Emma Groves

Mysteries are puzzles. I love solving puzzles. Too many people think that children, sorry, trainee detectives and probably admirers of Artemis Fowl as well, get the creeps when they hear a spooky crime story, but older children like me, who are 10 years old, do not get the creeps when they hear a spooky story. Well, not always. So here are two adventure mysteries suitable for us younger readers. Even those who do not like reading will want to be involved in these.

Susannah LEIGH

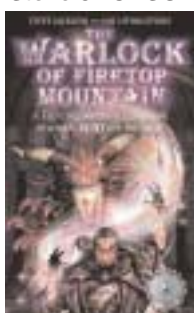


Steve JACKSON

The Haunted Tower

48pp Pb 8.95

The reader has to search for buried pirate's treasure; is there any other kind? However, to find the treasure, you have to uncover and work out clues how to get to the treasure, put maps together, work out some maths and science puzzles, and decipher codes in messages. Then not only do you have to find the criminals, but you have escape from bad men and then help the police put them in gaol. And if you need help, the answers are in the back. (English)



The Warlock of Firetop Mountain

192pp Pb 14.95

If you have cut your teeth on the above book and want a more challenging puzzle, this is for you. It could frighten younger children who would be more at home with *The Chronicles of Narnia* (Pb 35.00), but those who enjoy *The Lord of the Rings* (Pb 39.95), together with the darker parts of Hogwarts or Fowl Manor, would like this. First published in 1982, it has been revisited in a Limited Special Edition. On your way to find the Warlock's huge pile of treasure, there is a lot of interaction with "bad guys" and you have to make some very tough decisions.

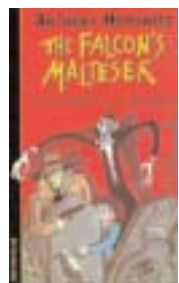
To make it more interesting, you will need some dice to roll to find out how lucky you are. (English)

FURTHER READING...

Anthony HOROWITZ

The Falcon's Malteser (A Diamond Brothers mystery)

214pp Pb 14.95



An award-winning detective spoof. When a dwarf comes into the office and leaves a package, Tim Diamond, the world's worst private dick, is faced with his toughest case yet. And when the office is ransacked, Tim and his too-smart younger brother Nick open the package to discover a box of Maltesers. Nick's quick-thinking saves the Maltesers from Tim's stomach, but can he solve the mystery? Who was the dwarf and why was he murdered only days after his visit? Why is the Fat Man after the Diamonds? And how can a box of Maltesers really be the key to a three-and-a-half million pound fortune? (English)

Sandy RANDSFORD

The Secret Agents Handbook

112pp Pb 14.95

This book is aimed at all budding James Bonds! It shows how to write and crack secret codes and how to evade suspicion when carrying out top secret work. Includes quizzes and disguises! (English)

Louis SACHAR

Holes

240pp Pb 15.95

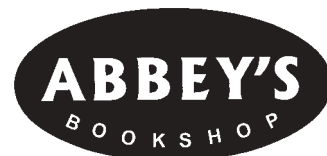
Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he isn't surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to a juvenile detention centre. At Camp Green Lake, the boys must dig a hole a day. The Warden claims the labour is character building, but it is a lie. Stanley must dig up the truth. *Newberry Award winner, Edgar Award nominee.* (American)

Justin SOMPER

The Pyramid Plot Puzzle Adventure

48pp Pb 8.95

These stories of adventure and mystery are interwoven with puzzles to solve, extra clues and answers are at the back. (English)



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