

Crime Chronicle

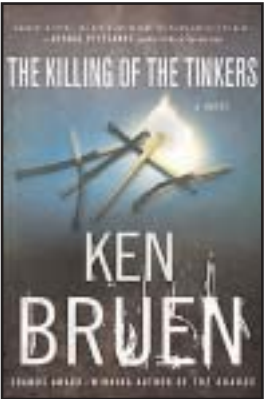
Issue #237 october 2005

"where a good crime can be had by all"

A slew of awards were presented recently at Bouchercon 2005, the world mystery convention. It is held annually and named for author/critic Anthony Boucher. This year's featured guest was Dennis Lehane.

MACAVITY AWARD WINNERS

This award is named for the 'mystery cat' of T S Eliot (**Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats**) and is voted on by the members of Mystery Readers International.



BEST NOVEL

The Killing of the Tinkers by Ken Bruen (Tp 29.95)

BEST FIRST NOVEL

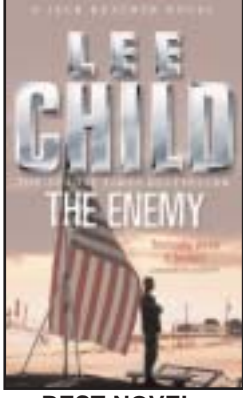
Dating Dead Men by Harley Jane Kozak (Tp 29.00)

BEST NON-FICTION

Forensics for Dummies
by D P Lyle, MD (Tp 39.95)

BARRY AWARD

Awarded by the editorial staff of *Deadly Pleasures* magazine for best crime fiction of the year.



BEST NOVEL

The Enemy by Lee Child (Pb 19.95)

BEST FIRST NOVEL

The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon (Tp 29.95)

BEST BRITISH CRIME NOVEL

Flesh and Blood by John Harvey (Pb 21.95)

BEST PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

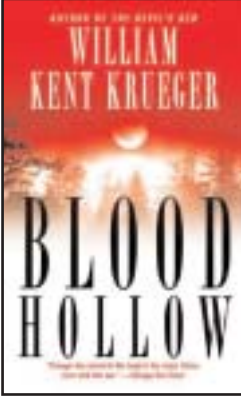
Tagged for Murder by Elaine Flinn (Pb 16.95)

BEST THRILLER

Rain Storm by Barry Eisler (Pb 19.95)

ANTHONY AWARD

These awards are given each year at every Bouchercon and are voted on by registered convention attendees.



BEST NOVEL

Blood Hollow by William Kent Krueger (Pb 18.95)

BEST NON-FICTION

Men's Adventure Magazines in Postwar America
by Max Allan Collins et al (Lp 85.00)

BEST PAPERBACK ORIGINAL

Twisted City by Jason Starr (Pb 19.95)

SHAMUS AWARD WINNERS

This award is presented by the *Private Eye Writers of America* to honour excellent work in the private eye genre.



BEST NOVEL

While I Disappear by Ed Wright (Pb 18.95)

BEST PAPERBACK

Fade to Blonde by Max Phillips (Pb 16.95)

BEST FIRST

The Dead by Ingrid Black (Pb 18.95)

THE HAMMET PRIZE

Awarded by the North American Branch of the International Association of Crime Writers for a work of literary excellence (fiction or non-fiction) in the field of crime writing, by a US or Canadian author.

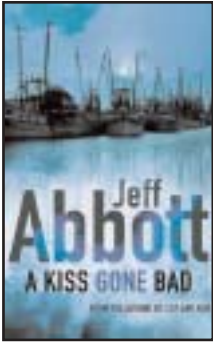
Prince of Thieves by Chuck Hogan (Pb \$22.95)



Modern Crime

Jeff ABBOTT

A Kiss Gone Bad
361pp Pb 18.95



A death rocks the Gulf coast town of Port Leo, Texas. Beach-bum-turned-judge Whit Mosley is summoned to a yacht where the black-sheep son of a senator lies dead. Was it suicide,

fuelled by a family tragedy? When Whit defies political pressure and conducts an inquest, he and Detective Claudia Salazar expose a nest of drug lords, con artists and power-hungry sharks. (American)



Lori AVOCATO

The Stiff and the Dead
335pp Pb 16.95

A Pauline Sokol mystery. Pauline has a drug problem... Once a nurse, now a medical insurance fraud investigator, she is going undercover in a local seniors' centre where prescriptions are still being filled for an extremely *dead* patient. A little behind-the-scenes snooping reveals the hard facts: the recently deceased oldster was up to his jowls in an illegal Viagra ring. (American)

David BALDACCI
 Hour Game 721pp Pb 19.95

Following their collaboration in **Split Second** (Pb 19.95), ex-Secret Service agents Sean King and Michelle Maxwell have gone into partnership and are investigating the robbery of some secret documents at the residence of the incredibly wealthy Battle family. (American)

Carol Lea BENJAMIN
 The Wrong Dog (2000)
284pp Pb 16.95

A Rachel Alexander mystery. Sophie Gordon's bull terrier, Blanche, is much more than a pet; she is a service dog who can sense when her epileptic mistress is on the verge of a seizure. So when offered the promise of an identical replacement when Blanche grows too old, Sophie agreed, never realising she was signing onto a shocking conspiracy of deception, twisted science ... and murder. (American)

Meredith BLEVINS
 The Vanished Priestess
314pp Pb 16.95

An Annie Szabo mystery #2. The death of Margo Spanger hits Annie pretty hard. Her neighbour Margo was a cultural icon with money and fame. Maybe too much. She used one of her projects, a New Age circus, to fund a women's shelter. When Margo's partner Lily goes missing the day of Margo's death, the circus and shelter fall into disarray. It turns Annie's world upside down, too. Her daughter is a resident of the women's shelter and could become the next victim. (American)

Jay BONANSINGA
 Frozen 347pp Pb 16.95

Deep in the Alaskan wilderness, a mummified body is discovered in the ice, the victim of a bizarre ritualistic killing that happened nearly 6,000 years ago. For journalist Maura County, this story is her ticket to the big time if she can get the help of the FBI's top criminal profiler. Special Agent Ulysses Grove is a born man hunter. In a remote lab, he is now about to make a shocking discovery. Everything about the prehistoric murderer (signature, M.O.) matches up to the serial killer who has eluded Grove for months. As past and present collide, County and Grove try to stop a cycle of evil as eternal and powerful as time itself... (American)

Kate BORDEN
 Death of a Turkey
211pp Pb 16.95

A Peggy Jean Turner Mystery #3. It is Thanksgiving at Cobb's Landing and it is not just the turkey that is in danger. Peggy Jean has to set aside tradition when her antagonistic neighbour is found dead on the village green. (American)

Kirsty BROOKS
 The Millionaire Float
309pp Tp 32.95

A Cassidy Blair adventure #3. Sam Tasker, Cassidy's boyfriend, is gorgeous, great at the sex, and unfortunately always on the right side of the law. So when Cassidy lands a job infiltrating one of the city's most dangerous nightclubs (while wearing the skimpiest of outfits), the odds are Sam is not going to be too thrilled. So buckle up for another hilarious, racy adventure. (Australian)

Dale BROWN
 Satan's Tail 505pp Pb 18.95

Dreamland series #7. When a small flotilla of high speed boats begins harassing civilian vessels in the Gulf of Aden below the Red Sea, a special group of experimental warships is tasked to investigate and stop the pirates. The operation is lead by Captain Harold 'Storm' Gale, but the danger is considerably greater than they first envisioned and lives are lost. Enter a cutting-edge weapons research facility called Dreamland, with Colonel Tecumseh 'Dog' Bastian at the helm. (American)

Frederick BUSCH
 North 301pp Hb 38.95

Combining the pace of a detective story with the bold prose of a master storyteller, this novel is both an adventure and a pilgrimage. A New York lawyer hires Jack to find her missing nephew, last seen in the area of Jack's northern hometown. His search gradually uncovers a dark underside of rural life and a cast of dangerous characters. Jack is besieged by memories as he uncovers a brutal crime and finds himself in a turbulent relationship with a treacherous woman. Jack discovers the truth of William Faulkner's observation that "the past is not really past; it's not even over." (American)

Ellen BYERRUM
 Hostile Makeover
277pp Pb 16.95

A Crime of Fashion mystery #3. As makeover madness sweeps the nation's capital, reporter Lacey Smithsonian interviews TV show makeover success story Amanda Manville. But with Amanda's beauty comes a beast in the form of a stalker with vicious intention and Lacey may be the only one who can stop him. (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

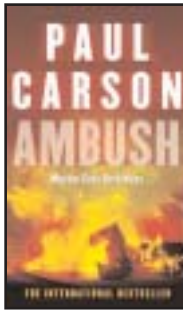
AUTHOR'S NATIONALITY AT END OF BLURB

**Philip CARLO** **Predators and Prayers** 370pp Pb 16.95

Someone is brutally murdering priests in New York City. The killer seems to be everywhere at once, striking almost at will. With pressure mounting, the mayor, the governor and the police commissioner all want this madman stopped before one more body is found. But they are not the only ones; the Church and the Vatican need to have the killer silenced, for he is their worst nightmare come true, the living embodiment of a terrible, dark secret. (American)

Paul CARSON **Ambush** 488pp Pb 21.95

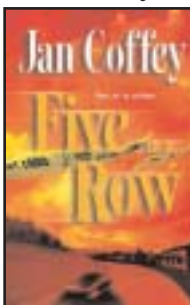
Scott Nolan's life is shattered one wintry Dublin morning when his young wife Laura is brutally murdered on her way to work. An Irish-American doctor recently moved to Ireland, Scott is devastated, the more so since he soon realises that the round of bullets had been aimed at him, as pay-back for his involvement in the government's anti-drug campaign. (British)

**Laura CHILDS** **Jasmine Moon Murder** 257pp Pb 16.95

A Tea Shop mystery #5. Indigo shopkeeper Theodosia Browning and her staff are catering an unusual Charleston society benefit. It is a Ghost Crawl through the spooky grounds of the historic Jasmine Cemetery. Sadly, the doctor who thought up the event does not live to enjoy his own work. Theodosia starts stirring things up with her own investigation to find the culprit. (American)

Jan COFFEY **Five in a Row** 393pp Pb 16.95

A Porsche, an SUV, a Mercedes. Then two more wrecks. Witnesses report the vehicles had "a mind of their own" before each accident. Five in a row cannot be a coincidence. Computer guru Emily Doyle recognises the technology used to gain control of the vehicles and in some way, she is connected to each of the victims. Investigator Ben Colter is called in by the automakers to find the link. As the casualties mount, Emily and Ben must unravel the puzzle of the seemingly random attacks, as a twisted mind moves from virtual reality to international terrorism. (American)

**David COLE** **Falling Down** 305pp Pb 16.95

Half-Hopi computer hacker and PI Laura Winslow used to work against the law. But when Mexican drug cartels and hired assassins put Southern Arizona in a strangling grip, Laura sets aside her plans to take time off and begins to work for the police. Soon, a nightmare of desperation, broken trust and grisly murder stretches her across the borders separating serenity and chaos, love and abandonment, and plunges her into a world of violence and evil far worse than anything she has ever known. (American)

Martina COLE **The Graft** 679pp Pb 18.95

This is the story of Nick Leary - devoted father, loyal friend and shrewd businessman - and what happens when a masked intruder breaks into his home... In her unique style, Martina Cole holds up a mirror to our society, writing about tough and often harrowing subjects in a brutally honest and compassionate way. Her characters are injected with sympathy and warmth and there is an honesty in her books that speaks to millions of people. (British)

Stephen COONTS **Wages of Sin** 360pp Pb 19.95

Tommy Carmellini was the best burglar in the business. He was so good that most of his victims took weeks to find out they had been robbed. But even the best get caught. He is given a choice: Go to prison or work for the CIA. No choice at all for Carmellini. When he arrives at his first assignment, a ruthless team of commandos are slaughtering everyone in sight... (American)

Donn CORTEZ **The Man Burns Tonight** 353pp Pb 16.95

A Black Rock City mystery. A tall figure stands alone, waiting to be engulfed in flames. It is the Burning Man, the giant wooden centrepiece of Nevada's famous weeklong arts festival. Every year, thousands flock to the middle of the desert to push the limits of creativity and outrageousness. When a masked visitor enters the 4WD where computer programmer Dex and his boss are camped out, Dex's tiny oasis in the middle of the weird and unnerving festival scene is shattered in a moment of blinding violence. (American)

Cleo COYLE **Latte Trouble** 243pp Pb 16.95

A Coffeehouse mystery #3. When one of her baristas unwittingly serves a poisonous latte to a prominent figure on the fashion scene, Clare Cosi must uncover some jolting secrets to save her shop. (American)

Clive CUSSLER **Black Wind** 527pp Tp 29.95


A Dirk Pitt novel. In the waning days of WW2, the Japanese tried a last desperate measure - a kind of kamikaze mission, this one carried out by two submarines bound for the USA with a cargo of biological virus. Neither sub made it to the target, but that does not mean they were lost... (American)

Clive CUSSLER **Polar Shift** 433pp Tp 29.95

A Kurt Austin adventure. 60 years ago, an eccentric Hungarian genius discovered how to artificially create a polar shift, but then his work disappeared. Now the charismatic leader of an anti-globalisation group plans to use it to give the world a jolt. Only thing is, it cannot be reversed. Enter NUMA. (American)

Mary DAHEIM **This Old Souse** 358pp Pb 16.95

A Bed and Breakfast mystery. A nostalgic trip back to Renie's old neighbourhood revs up the snooping engine of B&B hostess Judith McMonigle Flynn. The rarely heard occupants of the supposedly abandoned house, Dick and Jane Bland, pay their dairy bills by putting cash in the milk box - a curious thing to be sure, but certainly nothing sinister. At least, not until Judith goes from being suspicious to being a suspect, when she opens the trunk of her car and discovers a dead body which, when alive, was tightly wrapped up in this Bland business. (American)

**Nelson DEMILLE** **Night Fall** 581pp Pb 19.95

A John Corey thriller. Five years after the crash of TWA Flight 800, the government has declared it a result of mechanical failure. But John Corey, an ex-NYPD detective who is now a contract agent with the Federal Anti-Terrorist Task Force, is persuaded by Kate Mayfield, his wife and task force partner, that the case deserves a second look. The hunt will lead to a conspiracy at the highest levels and a race toward an elusive and lethal truth that could be even more horrifying than the original crash, one with unimaginable consequences for America. (American)

Janet EVANOVICH **Metro Girl** 393pp Pb 18.95

A thrilling, high-octane misadventure with high stakes, hot nights, cold-blooded murder, sunken treasure, a woman with a chassis built for speed and one very good, very sexy NASCAR driver who is along for the ride. (American)

**Geraldine EVANS** **Love Lies Bleeding** 218pp Hb 49.95

When the blood-spattered Felicity Raine stumbles into the police station reception and confesses that she has just murdered her husband Raymond, DI Joe Rafferty thinks he has never seen a more unlikely murderer. And when, after her collapse, he is finally able to question her, this feeling increases. (British)

Liz EVANS **Sick as a Parrot** 327pp Pb 19.95

Adopted at birth, Hannah Conti is determined to trace her family, but she didn't bargain for a mother convicted of murder. Hannah is convinced that her mother is innocent and hires Grace Smith to prove it. As Grace investigates, she is obstructed by a lot of people who would rather she stopped digging. As if this wasn't enough, she has been conned into bird-sitting a psychotic parrot... (British)

R Barri FLOWERS **Justice Served** 325pp Pb 16.95


There is a killer terrorising the streets of Portland, brutally beating men to death. Each victim was recently on trial for domestic abuse, but each was released. With the press having a field day, it is up to DS Ray Barkley and his partner Nina Preston to stop the killer. Among the suspects is Criminal Court Judge Carole Cranston, who presided over the trials of each victim. Ray sees signs pointing toward Carole as the killer but he also begins to realise he might no longer be objective where she is concerned. But neither is Nina. (American)

Karin FOSSUM **When the Devil Holds the Candle** 360pp Pb 21.95

An Inspector Sejer mystery. Teenage troublemakers, Zipp and Andreas, unwittingly commit murder when they accidentally kill a baby in the course of a petty crime. Unaware, the pair move on to their next crime. Having followed an elderly lady home, Andreas enters her house armed, as always, with his trusty knife. Zipp waits outside, but his friend never reappears. He will never see him alive again. Fossom toys with the roles of victim and killer, and pens the inner monologue of her characters to chilling effect. It is the mental processes behind the sinister act that form the real pieces to this puzzle, and they fall gradually into place. We are forced to question the familiar stereotype - that it is always bad people who do bad things. While the reader may be party to the truth of this crime, the police remain flummoxed. There is no reason for Inspector Sejer to see a connection between the infant's death and the disappearance of a town troublemaker. The police must wait for the evidence to present itself before they can begin to comprehend the unsettling nature of the case on their hands. (Norwegian)

Brian FREEMAN **Immoral** 340pp Tp 32.95


In a riveting debut thriller that has drawn comparisons to masters of the genre like Dennis Lehane and Michael Connelly, Brian Freeman weaves obsession, sex and revenge into a story that grips the reader with vivid characters and shocking plot twists from the first page to the last. (American)

Giuseppe GENNA **In the Name of Ishmael** 443pp Pb 22.95

The Guardian called this "a masterpiece of unease". A stunning literary thriller of international political intrigue, it features two interlocking stories that weave a gripping conspiracy plot with a serial killer narrative. Set in a Milan shadowed by rain, cold and menace, as well as in Paris, Frankfurt and Brussels, and spanning not just generations but a Europe and an America in profound conflict, this novel is both an extraordinarily original thriller and a bold exploration of the hidden uses of power. (Italian)

Lee GOLDBERG **Diagnosis Murder #5** 236pp Pb 16.95

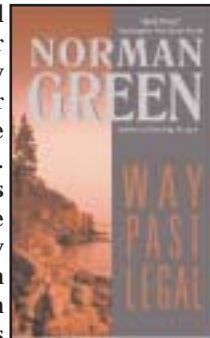
The Past Tense. Dr Mark Sloan is troubled to discover a dead woman dressed as a mermaid washed up on the beach outside his home. It turns out she has digital memory card slotted in her tummy, with information relating to Sloan on it. (American)

Thomas GREANIAS **Raising Atlantis** 337pp Pb 18.95

In Antarctica, a glacial earthquake swallows up a team of scientists and exposes a mysterious monument older than the Earth itself. These are the end times, when the legends of a lost civilisation and the prophecies of the world's great religions lead a man and a woman to a shattering discovery that will change the fate of humankind. (American)

Norman GREEN **Way Past Legal** 337pp Pb 16.95

Father, bird watcher, career criminal, Manny Williams never thought one score would change his life. But when he and his violently unstable partner Rosey inadvertently take on a couple of Russian gangsters, Manny is left with more money than he ever dreamed of. His only option is to take the cash, snatch his 5-year-old son out of foster care and run as far away from New York as they can go. (American)

**J M GREGSON** **Too Much of Water** 216pp Hb 49.95

A Lambert and Hook mystery. In the midst of a heatwave in Gloucestershire, a body is dumped in the river. It is some days before the corpse is discovered. The police identify the victim as Clare Mills and then try to build up a picture of her puzzling lifestyle. Lambert and Hook face the strangest mother of a murder victim they have ever encountered, whilst the girl's stepfather refuses for a long time to offer them full cooperation. Then, more violence intervenes. (British)

Cynthia HARROD-EAGLES **The Second Bill Slider** Omnibus 756pp Pb 26.95

This includes *Dead End* (1994), *Blood Lines* (1996) and *Killing Time* (1997). (British)

Chris HASLAM **Alligator Strip** 339pp Tp 28.00

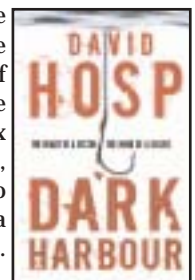
At the end of *Twelve Step Fandango* (Pb 22.95), Martin Brock, the book's hilarious anti-hero, escaped by jumping on a ship bound for Africa. Now in Morocco, we join him as he runs at full pelt through the streets of Marrakech being pursued by an angry restaurateur. Saved by a rather camp ex-military American who thinks he can put Martin's talents for canny deception and extravagant bullshitting to good use, Martin accepts a job in Florida. (British)

Veronica HELEY **Murder by Committee** 252pp Hb 54.95

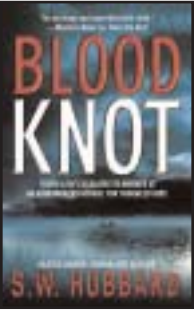
An Ellie Quicke mystery #6. Feuding financiers are bad news not only for the City where jobs are at stake, but also for Ellie, who cannot fill in a tax return without help. The feisty widow already has more than enough to cope with. Aunt Drusilla's health is failing, her bullying daughter Diana is in financial crisis, and her architect cousin Roy mixed up in one of the tycoon's shadier deals, which happens to threaten the future of the parish. Ellie discovers the tycoon has made more enemies than the Government, though not all of them are as helpless as they seem. Standing up for herself and other victims of the financier, Ellie waltzes straight into the firing line. (British)

David HOSP **Dark Harbour** 418pp Tp 29.95


August 2006. The body of a young woman is fished out of Boston harbour. The distinctive mutilations to the corpse bear all the hallmarks of the killer they call Little Jack. But unlike the six previous victims, Natalie Caldwell was no prostitute, but a highflying lawyer. (American)



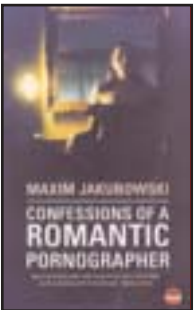
**S W HUBBARD****Blood Knot** 318pp Pb 16.95

North Country Academy is where desperate parents send their troubled teenagers when all else has failed. To Police Chief Frank Bennett, the Academy, with its curiously compelling headmaster, MacArthur Payne, means an open invitation to trouble. When a teacher leading a survivalist wilderness expedition is mauled by a bear, evidence points to sabotage. As Frank's investigation leads him behind the gated walls of Payne's institution, he finds a place that is more prison than school. (American)


Graham ISON**Hardcastle's Conspiracy** 220pp Hb 52.95

The WWI detective series featuring DI Hardcastle. A body is found in the lake in St James's Park. What at first appears to be a robbery becomes more complex when it is discovered that the victim is a servant at one of London's prestigious gentlemen's clubs. But Hardcastle's enquiries reveal that the club's members are not all they purport to be. Discovering thieves, adulterers and a blackmailer along the way, and in the face of lack of cooperation, the persistent Hardcastle eventually makes an arrest. (British)


Maxim JAKUBOWSKI**Confessions of a Romantic Pornographer** 249pp Pb 19.95

Following the death of a minor writer, a mysterious woman is called in to investigate his life and to discover the lost manuscript of his memoirs, lest they incriminate people in high places. Her journey becomes a dazzling and confusing exploration of the nature of autobiography and the awfully grey zones between truth and fiction. (British)


J A JANCE**Day of the Dead** 406pp Pb 18.95

Brandon Walker, once the sheriff of Pima County, no longer feels he has purpose. A reluctant retiree living in the long shadow of his wife Diana Ladd, a successful author of true-crime books, he is bored with golf, and more so with life. Salvation, though, comes with an invitation to join the ranks of The Last Chance, an exclusive nationwide fraternity of former cops and forensic experts who look into unsolved murders. (American)


Quintin JARDINE**Stay of Execution** 468pp Pb 19.95

A Bob Skinner mystery #14. A small-time crook stumbles upon a body hanging from a tree; a veteran from a Belgian marching band is killed in a hit and run incident and another dies of an apparent heart attack. Excitement on the streets of Edinburgh is feverish as the city prepares for a huge rally to celebrate the return of Pope John XXV to his home town. With the whole world watching, the security has to be bullet proof. But is there a chink in the armour and does Bob Skinner have the inner strength to find the answer to the biggest question of all? (British)


Linda JOHNSTON**Nothing to Fear but Ferrets** 265pp Pb 16.95

A Pet Sitter mystery #2. Attorney-turned-freelance-pet-sitter Kendra Ballantyne has found a corpse in a client's apartment, and it is up to her to prove the innocence of the obvious suspects: her client's furry ferrets. (American)


Gregg KEIZER**The Longest Night** 422pp Pb 18.95

A thrilling debut that puts an unforgettable new spin on the WWII suspense novel: What if the Resistance had approached the notorious Jewish gangster Meyer Lansky for help? The US State Department and the British Foreign Service are about to meet in Bermuda to discuss what is happening to Europe's Jews, and if this rescue can be pulled off while the conference is under way, it could finally galvanize the Allies to take action. (American)


Jonathan KELLERMAN**Rage** 365pp Tp 32.95

The new Alex Delaware novel. "On a slow chilly Sunday in January, shortly after the Lakers overcame a sixteen point halftime deficit and beat New Jersey, I got a call from a murderer." As Alex and Detective Milo Sturgis dig deeper into the case, they reveal an even more shocking catalogue of death. (American)


Jim KELLY**The Fire Baby** 340pp Pb 19.95

A Philip Dryden mystery. A plane crashes on a farm in the Cambridgeshire fens in 1976. Out of the flames walks young Maggie Beck, clutching a baby in her arms. 27 years later, investigative journalist Philip Dryden - visiting his wife in hospital - is witness to Maggie's deathbed confession. But some secrets are best kept, and what started out as a small and curious story about the only survivor of a plane crash soon escalates into a full-blown murder investigation. And while Dryden is wondering what other secrets Maggie carried, his semi-conscious wife is trying to tell him something that might just save his life. (British)


Jim KELLY'**The Moon Tunnel** 320pp Tp 29.95

A Philip Dryden mystery. In The Past: A man crawls desperately through a claustrophobic escape tunnel beneath a POW camp on the Cambridgeshire Fens. Ahead only death awaits him. In The Present: Philip Dryden is reporting on an archaeological dig at the old POW camp when a body is uncovered. The man was shot in the head and his position indicates he was trying to get into the camp, not escape it! (British)


Jonathon KING**Killing Night** 289pp Tp 29.95

Max Freeman has been working more or less officially as a PI in South Florida when he gets a call from Detective Sherry Richards, who was once his lover. Three female bartenders have gone missing and Sherry thinks that there may be a serial killer out there working the bars, targeting potential victims. (American)

Jonathon KING**Shadow Men** 270pp Pb 19.95

80 years ago, a father and his two sons vanished without a trace while working as labourers on a dangerous project to build the first road through the Florida Everglades. Now, a series of letters are unexpectedly discovered by a descendent of these men and he enlists the help of former Philadelphia police officer, Max Freeman, to find out what happened to them. But there are powerful interests that want to make sure that the shadows of the past remain undisturbed... (American)

Joyce KRIEG**Slip Cue** 322pp Pb 16.95

A Talk Radio mystery #2. Four months after the events of **Murder Off Mike** (Pb 15.95), Sacramento talk radio host Shauna Bogart investigates the goal break of Jasmine, the celebrity bad girl *du jour*, known only by her first name. Jasmine had been in prison awaiting trial for the murder of disk jockey Johnny Venture. (American)

Mary KRUGER**Died in the Wool** 305pp Tp 27.00

A Knitting mystery #1. When knitting shop owner Ariadne Evans stumbles upon the body of Edith Perry, a temperamental customer, in her store, she is plunged into the investigation, especially when her close friend Diane becomes a prime suspect and Detective Joshua Hayes, baffled by the knitting aspects of the case, enlists her assistance. (American)

**Harry LEDOWSKY****Lethal Metal** 264pp Tp 29.95

After a radiation poisoning death of child in the Murmansk Forest, outraged American doctor John Ross joins forces with a Typhoon class submarine captain and an undercover operative from the Russian Nuclear Radiation Authority, to hunt down those responsible. Russian Mafia and Al Qaeda converge in this action thriller. (Australian)

Elmore LEONARD**Mr Paradise** 289pp Pb 22.95

Mr P pays Chloe and Kelly to play cheerleaders and dance while he watches reruns of Michigan's finest football games. When Cop Frank Delsa arrives at the crime scene only one cheerleader is alive and she doesn't know whether she is Chloe or Kelly. Elmore Leonard at his seedy best. (American)

Glenville LOVELL**Love and Death in Brooklyn** 325pp Pb 18.95

With its introduction of ex-cop Blades Overstreet, Glenville Lovell's first mystery, **Too Beautiful to Die** (Pb 15.95), was called "stylish entertainment" (*Booklist*). Now Lovell is back with a timely novel of a brilliant young African-American politician gunned down as his career is about to take off. (American)

Robert LUDLUM**Moscow Vector** 407pp Tp 32.95

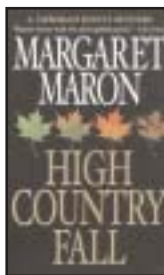
A *Covert One* novel. The Russians are planning a blitzkrieg campaign designed to overrun the Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and other Central Asian republics before the West can intervene. Only Lt Colonel Jon Smith can stop them. (American)

Vaerio Massimo MANFREDI**The Oracle** 339pp Pb 19.95

An ancient prophecy. Brutal murders. A deadly game. Within seven hours of unearthing an important vase at a dig, Professor Harvatis is dead. On the same night in Athens, a beautiful Greek woman is reaped and murdered. Who is behind the deaths and what is the significance of the age-old prophecy of the Odyssey? (Greek)

Margaret MARON**High Country Fall** 301pp Pb 16.95

A *Deborah Knott* mystery. No one is more surprised than Judge Deborah Knott by her engagement to her childhood friend Dwight Bryant. Stressed out by the impending marriage, Deborah agrees to fill in for a vacationing judge in the hills of Cedar Gap. It is the perfect place to clear her head, until a local doctor is brutally murdered. (American)

**Steve MARTINI****Double Tap** 404pp Tp 32.95

Retired professional soldier Emiliano Ruiz has been charged with the murder of Madelyn Chapman, with whom he had been conducting a love affair. When DA Paul Madriani learns that Chapman had been involved in developing the biggest and most comprehensive spying software program ever commissioned by the US government, it looks to him as though the murder was about more than just a lover rebuffed. Determined to clear his client, Madriani exposes himself to the potentially deadly attention of greedy, corrupt and ambitious men with everything to lose. (American)

**Sujata MASSEY****The Pearl Diver** 335pp Pb 22.95

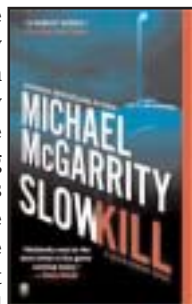
A dazzling engagement ring and the promise of a fresh start in a new country bring antiques dealer and sometime-sleuth Rei Shimura to Washington, D.C. But while she tries to play catch-up with her beautiful, politically connected cousin, Kendall, and is commissioned to furnish a chic Japanese-fusion restaurant, things start to go haywire. Sujata Massey delivers a multilayered, suspenseful story complete with the intrigue, romance and rich Asian cultural background that her fans have come to relish. (American)

Ed McBAIN**Hark!** 352pp Pb 18.95

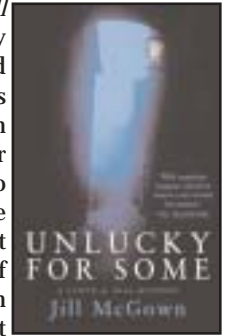
An *87th Precinct* novel. Ed McBain brings his most intelligent and devious criminal back with a richly plotted and literary crime. A thief the cops' call the Deaf Man is harassing Detective Steve Carella with puzzling messages. The 87th is forced to hit the books and brush up on their Shakespeare because each new clue contains a line from one of his works. (American)

**Michael McGARRITY****Slowkill** 343pp Pb 18.95

Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney travels to a California ranch looking to buy some prime quarterhorse breeding stock. Instead, he finds himself the prime suspect in a possible homicide when a guest at the ranch, Clifford Spalding, is found dead. (American)

**Jill McGOWN****Unlucky for Some** 469pp Pb 22.00

A *Lloyd and Hill* mystery. February 13th: what seemed like Wilma Fenton's lucky night, when she scooped her biggest-ever bingo win, turned out to be the night she died at the hands of someone lurking in the dimly-lit alleyway leading to her flat. The man who saw the murder is Tony Baker, a well-known journalist and TV personality who, almost 20 years ago, single-handedly tracked down a serial killer who had eluded the police. Does he want to beat the police to the punch again? (British)

**David McKEOWEN****Grip** 422pp Tp 32.95

James Carroll only meant to do one deal to get to film school. But it went wrong. Now he owes \$30,000 to drug-dealer Roger Oates. Just a year of quiet business away from retiring with his beloved family to his dream home in Honolulu, Roger knows this is no time to let anyone get away with anything. So if James cannot pay, his parents must. But Francis Carroll simply cannot afford to bail out his son. Written with terrific verve and a sharp eye for the details of human behaviour, this debut is a roller-coaster ride of suspense and surprises. (British)

Ian McLAREN**The Hunt for M V Moroccan** 295pp Pb 24.95

A cargo ship vanishes off the New South Wales coast, baffling authorities ashore. The ship's captain, Michael Sinclair had committed an act of petty smuggling. Now entangled with ruthless pirates led by the brutal Max Humboldt, he is forced to watch while his crew is held at gunpoint and military aircraft hunt for his ship. A top class sea yarn, told with conviction and authority. (Australian)

Kasey MICHAELS**Maggie without a Clue** 318pp Pb 16.95

Novelist Maggie Kelly becomes embroiled in another zany murder mystery in the latest instalment of this crafty series. Bernice Toland-James is Maggie's publisher, editor and good friend. So Maggie is justifiably concerned when Bernie calls her, claiming she woke up next to the bloody corpse of her estranged husband, Buddy, who has been missing since a boating accident seven years ago. (American)

**Marlys MILLHISER****Voices in the Wardrobe****249pp Hb 49.95**

Charlie Green is a hotshot Hollywood literary agent, and a single mother. When she agrees, reluctantly, to accompany her old friend Maggie Stutzman to a San Diego spa for a gruelling regime of mud baths and colonic rinses, she has no inkling of what is in store. TV medic Dr Judy is found dead in the spa pool. In her confused state, Maggie appears to have admitted to murder. Charlie is in deep, battling to clear her friend's name and find out what is really going on at the Marina Del Sol. For fans of Janet Evanovich. (American)

Walter MOSLEY**Little Scarlet 306pp Pb 19.95**

An Easy Rawlins novel. "Mosley introduced Easy Rawlins in 1990's *Devil in a Blue Dress*, and the unofficial PI has only become angrier, more intense, and definitely more complex since then. Here, he is embroiled in LA's racial politics, investigating a murder while asking himself some tough questions. Critics agree that *Little Scarlet* is the best in the series. Mosley not only offers a dense portrait of bloody black-white relations, but also raises important questions about the "gray" areas that Easy must face." - *Bookmarks Magazine*. (American)

Tara MOSS**Covet 436pp Pb 18.95**

Makedde Vanderwall is back and trouble is not far behind... 18 months after her ordeal at the hands of the sadistic Stiletto Murderer, fashion model and forensic psychology student Makedde Vanderwall must confront her demons when she returns to Sydney for the trial. But just as the verdict is handed down, the unthinkable happens - the killer makes a daring escape, aided and abetted by a twisted accomplice whom no-one suspected. Sharper than a Manolo six-inch heel, sexier than a Versace fashion show and riskier than all seven deadly sins, this novel promises to set your pulse racing. (Australian)

Barbara NADEL**Last Rights 278pp Tp 32.95**

Francis H is an undertaker in the London Borough of West Ham in the 1940s. WW2 is in full swing and the Borough is being pounded on a nightly basis by the German Luftwaffe. Francis H is a WWI veteran, so he also has to deal with the continuing fears and delusions that still haunt him from the trenches of Flanders. One night, in the middle of a raid, Francis meets what appears to be a madman running across the rubble screaming about being stabbed. So begins a frightening sequence of events that has Francis H pitted against violent thugs, an almost impenetrable network of secrets and his own fragile sanity. (British)

James NICHOL**Midnight Cab 467pp Pb 19.95**

A three-year-old boy is abandoned at the side of a country road. His mother whispers to him to hold on to a wire fence. She never returns, but the boy is eventually found, holding-on so tightly the wire is cutting his hands. Well-dressed, but without identification, the only clue to his background is a chatty letter from a teenager found in his pocket. 16 years later, Walker Devereux moves to Toronto where he uncovers his family's dark secrets and comes within the deadly grasp of a man whose own early abandonment helped transform a lonely boy into a murderous psychopath. (Canadian)

Kevin O'BRIEN**The Next to Die (2001)****429pp Pb 11.95**

Everyone has something to hide: the virile, all-American husband, the brainy golden girl and the happily wed bi-coastal couple. Watching them is someone who has uncovered their darkest secrets and is hell bent on making them pay for their sins. (American)

Martin O'BRIEN**Jacquot and the Waterman #1****534pp Pb 19.95**

Set in the South of France, it follows Chief Inspector Daniel Jacquot's investigation into a series of disturbing killings, where the female victims are always left submerged in water. A wonderful book for the Francophile, it is highly atmospheric and full of warmth and wit. (British)

Sister Carol Anne O'MARIE**The Missing Madonna (1998)****258pp Pb 16.95**

A Sister Mary Helen mystery. A fellow OWL (Older Woman's League) member has disappeared. The police believe Erma Duran simply flew the coop, but Sister feels a Higher Authority pushing her to investigate. A gold medal entangled in Erma's bedsprings and a cryptic clue to a Byzantine Madonna deepens the mystery. (American)

Jefferson PARKER**California Girl 515pp Pb 18.95**

California in the 1960s and the winds of change are raging. For the Becker brothers, however, the past is always present and it comes crashing back full force when the body of the lovely Janelle Vonn is discovered in an abandoned plant. The Beckers and the Vonns have a history, beginning years ago in high school with a rumble between the brothers of each clan. But boys grow up. All three Becker boys are about to collide with the changing world of 1968 as each brother tries to find Janelle's killer. *Edgar Award winner.* (American)

James PATTERSON**London Bridges 417pp Pb 19.95**

Alex Cross is on vacation when he gets the call. A city in Nevada has been annihilated and the Russian super-criminal known as the Wolf is claiming responsibility. Arriving in London to join forces with Scotland Yard and Interpol, Alex fights his way through a torrent of false before he gets close to the heart of the crimes. Then, in the most unforgettable finale James Patterson has ever written, Alex Cross confronts the truth of the Wolf's identity, a revelation that even Cross may be unable to survive. (American)

James PATTERSON & Andrew GROSS**Lifeguard 311pp Tp 32.95**

The danger is not in the water. As a lifeguard in a Florida resort, Ned Kelly meets the woman of his dreams. It feels perfect except that she prefers caviar and Manolo Blahniks, and he is used to burgers and flip-flops. So when Ned's cousin offers him a rich deal, Ned cannot turn him down. It is just a fast break and enter. The risk is high, but the reward is even greater: US\$5 million. (American)

Iain PEARS**The Portrait 211pp Pb 22.95**

The windswept isle of Houat, off the coast of Brittany, is no picturesque artists' colony. At the turn of the 20th century, life is harsh and rustic. So why did Henry MacAlpine forsake London? The truth begins to emerge when, four years into his exile, MacAlpine receives his first visitor. Influential art critic William Nasmyth has come to the island to sit for a portrait. As the painter struggles to capture Nasmyth's true character on canvas, a story unfolds: one of betrayal, hypocrisy, forbidden love, suicide and ultimately murder. This is a darkly atmospheric, psychologically complex, macabre and chilling novel from a master storyteller. (British)

Henry PORTER**Brandenburg 437pp Tp 29.95**

Dr Rudi Rosenharte, once a double agent, now an art historian living quietly in Dresden, is summoned to Trieste for a rendezvous with former lover and colleague, Annalise Schering. Yet Rosenharte knows she is dead, so who is this woman, this ghost? To ensure that Rosenharte plays their game, the Stasi have imprisoned his family and will only release them when Rudi has got the information they so desperately seek. Soon he is encircled by no fewer than four intelligence agencies, including MI6, and he must face a stark choice: to leave those he loves to the mercy of the Stasi; or to return to East Germany to carry out a dangerous assignment under the Stasi's all-seeing eye. (British)

**Benjamin PRADO****Snow is Silent** 167pp Tp 29.95

The story concerns three friends, one of whom is an unassuming insurance clerk who becomes enthralled with a glamorous young woman who entices him to kill her abusive husband. Once the murder has occurred, she disappears. The clerk finds himself falling into an abyss of betrayal masterminded by one of his friends - who is also the narrator of the story and whose identity is revealed in the closing pages of the novel. Atmospheric, it is written with a strong sense of irony and an engaging sense of humour. (Spanish)

**Ann PURSER****Fear on Friday** 250pp Hb 54.95
The latest Lois Meade mystery.

Cleaner and part-time sleuth, Lois opens an office in the neighbouring town of Tresham and is intrigued to find a number of surprising guests visiting a small shop of dubious reputation opposite. New business comes her way when she is asked to clean the house of Tresham's pompous and secretive mayor. Gradually Lois and her team uncover a web of deceit, adultery and sex-for-sale amid the tranquillity of rural life. (British)

Ian RANKIN**The Complete Short Stories** 529pp Hb 55.00

Ian Rankin has amassed an incredible portfolio of short stories, which all share the best qualities of his phenomenally popular novels. Now his two critically acclaimed short story collections, **A Good Hanging** and **Beggars Banquet**, come together in one volume, along with **Atonement** - a new Rebus story, written especially for this collection. (British)

Ian RANKIN**Fleshmarket Close** 482pp Pb 19.95

An illegal immigrant is found murdered in an Edinburgh housing scheme: a racist attack or something else entirely? Rebus is drawn into the case, but has other problems: his old police station has closed for business and his masters would rather he retire than stick around. Siobhan meanwhile has problems of her own. Then there is the small matter of the two skeletons - a woman and an infant - found buried beneath a concrete cellar floor in Fleshmarket Close. (British)

Ian RANKIN**The Flood (1986)** 205pp Tp 25.00

Ian Rankin's first ever novel - unavailable for nearly 20 years and now reissued with a new introduction. (British)

Christopher REICH**The Patriot's Club** 342pp Tp 32.95

Furiously paced, filled with brilliantly drawn characters from politicians to patriots, from Wall Street players to battle-hardened cops, this novel is vintage Reich: brilliant, breathtaking and impossible to put down until the final unforgettable page is turned. (American)

John RICKARDS**The Touch of Ghosts** 535pp Pb 19.95

An Alex Rourke investigation #2. Alex is heading to Vermont to visit his girlfriend, and to check on his latest missing person Adam Webb, who made the same journey and never came back. Hikers have gone missing, a prostitute has been murdered and something sinister is happening in the ghost-town of North Bleakwater. Alex will have to make decisions with his heart as well as his head because a single bullet is about to blow his world to pieces. (American)

Michael RIDPATH**On the Edge** 406pp Pb 29.95

From his past as an RAF fighter pilot to his job as a bond trader in the City, Alex Calder is a man known for taking big risks and winning. His colleague Jennifer Tan decides to pursue a sexual harassment case against her boss. It is then Calder witnesses the ugly and tragic side of his world, for Jen commits suicide and Calder quits in disgust. (British)

Karen ROBARDS**Bait** 371pp Pb 19.95

From one of the most popular voices in women's fiction comes a gripping novel of suspense about the mind games between an innocent woman and the unstoppable killer she is forced to outrun. (American)

J D ROBB**Origin in Death #21** 339pp Tp 32.95

2059. A pioneer of modern reconstructive and cosmetic surgery, Dr Wilfred is found murdered in a chillingly efficient manner: one swift stab to the heart. Struck by the immaculate condition of the crime scene, Dallas suspects a professional killing. Security disks show a stunningly beautiful woman calmly entering and leaving the building. (American)

Nora ROBERTS**Northern Lights** 535pp Pb 19.95

Nate's first weeks on the job are relatively quiet but as he wonders whether this was all a big mistake, an unexpected kiss from feisty bush pilot Meg Galloway under the brilliant Northern Lights of the Alaska sky convinces him to stay just a little longer... When two climbers find a corpse on the mountain, Nate discovers that Lunacy is not quite the sleepy little backwater he imagined... Set in the beautiful Alaskan wilderness and full of wonderfully real characters, this exciting page-turner is Nora Roberts at her best. (American)

Karen ROSE**Nothing to fear** 515pp Pb 16.95

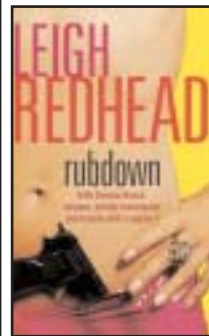
As director of an inner-city women's shelter, Dana Dupinsky safeguards many secrets. Some are new identities; some are new addresses; and some are even hidden truths about her. Passionately dedicated to Hanover House and the women she protects, Dana has always been reluctant to look for love. But now, just as a case puts her and a child in mortal danger, it seems that love has come looking for her. (American)

Joann ROSS**Blaze** 386pp Pb 18.95

Fire cop Tess Gannon is hot on the trail of a pyromaniac when ATF Special Agent Gage O'Halloran arrives on her fire scene. Coming out of a self-imposed exile, Gage suspects that Tess's Flamemaster is connected to a serial killer he apprehended three years ago. Forced into an uneasy alliance, Tess and Gage race to stop the killer from striking another match. (American)

Greg RUCKA**A Gentleman's Game** 481pp Pb 16.95


A Queen and Country mystery. Tara Chace may be the most dangerous woman alive. She can seduce you into believing she is the woman of your dreams or kill you with the icy efficiency of an executioner. As the new head of Special Operations for British Intelligence, the world of international espionage is about to learn the hard way that spying is no longer merely a gentleman's game. (American)

STAFF REVIEW**Leigh REDHEAD**
Rubdown 299pp Tp 29.95


With Simone Kirsch, stripper, private investigator and trouble with a capital T. This is really quite fun reading: Redhead has an easy style and humour that keeps you going, even though the shenanigans in the story seem ridiculous. Brothels, SNAG cops, drug dealers and a demand to appear before the PI board sees Simone hopping mad to keep herself alive and well. I hope the author keeps pumping these stories out because, eventually, Simone is going to round out, mature and maybe even make a difference. (Australian) - Shelley




Lawrence SANDERS & Vincent LARDO

 **McNally's Bluff 307pp Pb 18.95**
An Archy McNally novel. A former human cannonball, a dead woman in a hedge maze, a huge crowd of questionable characters: When the social event of the season turns into a three-ring circus, Archy McNally must jump through hoops to catch a killer. (American)


Sheldon SIEGEL

 **The Confession 420pp Pb 18.95**
Mike Daley does not go to confession much since he left the priesthood 20 years ago and became a lawyer, but that does not stop his old friend, Father Ramon Aguirre, from trying to get him there. "It wouldn't kill you to go to church once in a while," he tells Mike. But it does kill someone. Even worse, the evidence points to Father Aguirre. Mike and his partner Rosie, jump in to take the priest's case. Soon, their wits are the only things keeping the priest from a life sentence or worse, and wits simply may not be enough, unless they can conjure up a miracle of their own. (American)


Daniel SILVA

 **The English Assassin 381pp Pb 19.95**
When art restorer and occasional Israeli agent Gabriel Allon is sent to Switzerland to restore the painting of a reclusive millionaire banker, he arrives to find his would-be employer murdered at the foot of the Raphael. Gabriel is put back in the high-stakes spy game, battling wits with the rogue assassin he helped to train. (American)


Karin SLAUGHTER

 **Indelible 445pp Pb 19.95**
When medical examiner Sara Linton and police Chief Jeffrey Tolliver take a trip away from the small town of Heartsdale, they detour via Jeffrey's hometown and things go violently wrong. Jeffrey's best friend Robert shoots dead an intruder who breaks into his house. 12 years later, Sara and Jeffrey are caught up in a shockingly brutal attack which threatens to destroy both their lives. But they are not random victims. They have been targeted. (British)


Jonathan SMITH

 **Night Windows 372pp Pb 22.95**
Someone has stolen Patrick Balfour's identity. A successful headmaster of a London school, a regular broadcaster and a writer of historical novels, as well as having a fairly spicy private life, Balfour is the object of some unsurprising envy. Yet who would be so malicious as to commit identity fraud and frame Patrick as a thief and a paedophile, using his national insurance number and impersonating his handwriting? (British)


Jose Carlos SOMOZA

 **The Art of Murder 470pp Pb 24.95**
In 2006, the art world has moved far beyond sheep in formaldehyde and the most avant-garde movement is to use living people as artwork. After being exhibited, the 'canvases' can be bought and taken to the purchaser's home, where they are rented for weeks or months. But there is a darker side to this art movement when it is found that the models are sometimes used in interactive works - snuff movies. (Cuban)


Steve J SPEARS

 **Innocent Murder 203pp Pb 22.95**
The Pentangeli Papers #3. When are Australian publishers going to learn about customer friendly book design? Printing the synopsis in red-on-black does not help sell the book (and the publisher's website is a waste of time). Graeme Blundell says this book is "a furious onslaught of brooding malevolence and cool prose." (Australian) - Shelley

Jessica SPEART

 **Restless Waters 292pp Pb 16.95**
A Rachel Porter mystery. For most people, Hawaii is Heaven-on-Earth but on the trail of illegal traffickers in exotic animals, Rachel stumbles upon something far more insidious and frightening. Suddenly everyone wants her off a case that is too hot to handle. But she will not be warned, coaxed or threatened away, even as the blood that darkens the tropical waters marks Rachel Porter as the most endangered creature in Paradise. (American)

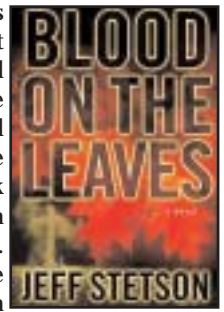
Lyndon STACEY

 **Deadfall 520pp Pb 21.95**
Lincoln Tremayne, heir to a viscountcy, has one burning ambition: to be selected to ride in the British Olympic three-day eventing team. But his dream is about to be put on hold. A vicious attack on the stable owner's daughter marks the start of a chain of increasingly violent events. It soon becomes chillingly clear that someone is trying to kill him. (British)


Jeff STETSON

 **Blood on the Leaves 467pp Pb 16.95**


Attorney James Reynolds has dealt with personal demons his entire life but has still managed to become the only black prosecutor in Jackson, Mississippi. However, the unsteady peace in his life is broken when white men start turning up dead. The victims are the same men who, in the 1960s, were caught killing blacks, yet shockingly, were subsequently acquitted by all-white juries. 30 years later, the unpunished whites are being murdered in the same manner as their victims. Now Reynolds has been assigned the toughest case of his life. (American)




Marcia TALLEY (editor)

 **I'd kill for that 332pp Pb 16.95**
Multiple-author mystery. On the banks of the Truxton River lies Gryphon's Gate, a gated community built by Henry Drysdale where the privileged live, work and play. Tempers flare when Henry's ex-decides to develop the adjoining land and environmentalists, developers, residents and the media clash. Then the violence turns ugly—a dead body is found on the golf course and Detective Diane Robards is called in to investigate. (American)

Peter TURNBULL

 **Chill Factor 188pp Hb 49.95**
A Hennessy and Yellich investigation. A corpse is discovered in the middle of the city of York. A professional hit, by the look of it. Gary 'Hammer' Sledge turns out to be part of a large family well-known to the police, and most with previous form. And out for revenge at the killing of one of their own. (British)

John TWELVE HAWKS

 **The Traveller 456pp Tp 32.95**
In the shadows of our modern society, an ancient conflict between good and evil is being fought. A life-and-death battle we will never see, between those who wish to control history and those who will risk their lives for freedom and enlightenment... Trained to fight since she was a young girl, Maya is the last in a long line whose duty is to protect the gifted among us. When Maya flies to California to find Gabriel and Michael Corrigan, an extraordinary chase begins the final running battle in the war which will reveal the secret history of our time... (American)



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

**Lea WAIT****Shadows on the Ivy** 247pp Pb 27.00

An *Antique Print mystery*. Maggie Summer has three loves: her antique print business, Shadows; her career as a community college professor in Somerset County, New Jersey; and the new man in her life, Will Brewer. There is a killer on campus. Is it an outsider or someone Maggie knows and trusts? Does someone want to destroy Whitcomb House or the college? And is Maggie in as much danger as her students? (American)

Sue WALKER

The Reunion 358pp Pb 19.95
Innes Haldane, who as a teen was deemed out of control both physically and sexually, has made every attempt to put that stage of her life behind her. Then a voice from the past leaves a message on her answering machine and an obituary with a familiar name interrupts her quiet life. In 1977, Innes was one of seven dysfunctional teenagers incarcerated in the Unit, an avant-garde psychiatric hospital on the outskirts of Edinburgh. But a murderer is stalking the former patients and the only way to save themselves is by reuniting, no matter what the emotional cost. (American)

Guy WALTERS

The Occupation 406pp Pb 19.95
February 1945. In his bunker in Berlin, Hitler decides to deploy the V3 - a weapon so secret that even the slave labourers constructing it deep beneath the island of Alderney do not know its exact purpose. June 1990. Workmen digging the foundations for a new hotel start to fall sick. Their illness is similar to that suffered by many islanders over the past half-century. (British)

John WEISMAN

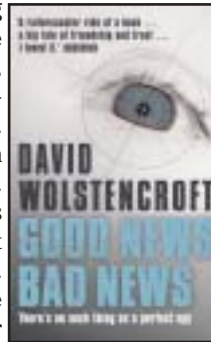
Jack in the Box 430pp Pb 16.95
A *Shadow War thriller*. This is a story of betrayal and secrets that could implode America's war on terrorism, written by an author with an intimate knowledge of CIA tradecraft. It is a nightmarish conspiracy theory, formerly rooted in the highest levels of US government. (American)

Robert WILSON

The Silent and the Damned 500pp Pb 18.95
A *Javier Falcon thriller*. The Blind Man of Seville Mario Vega is seven years old and his life is about to change forever. Across the street in an exclusive suburb of Seville his father lies dead on the kitchen floor and his mother has been suffocated under her own pillow. It appears to be a suicide pact, but Inspector Falcon has his doubts when he finds an enigmatic note crushed in the dead man's hand. (British)

David WOLSTENCROFT**Good News, Bad News** 436pp Pb 19.95

This is the stunning debut novel from the creator of Spooks, the BAFTA award-winning spy drama. Meet Charlie, an everyday bloke. Good news is, he has a job. Bad news is, it is in a photo kiosk. He whiles away the hours with his rather eccentric colleague George. But appearances can be deceptive. Truth is Charlie and George have not been very honest with each other. Truth is this is not their number one career choice. Their real jobs are a hell of a lot more dangerous. It is time to come clean. But the truth could very well kill them... (British)



HISTORICAL CRIME

**Dennis BURGESS**

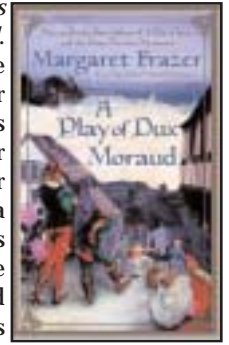
Graves Gate 423pp Tp 35.00
A *Novel of Possession featuring Arthur Conan Doyle. Post-WW I, London*. This chilling novel traverses the strange and often frightening intersection between spiritualism and early psychiatry, featuring a murderous psychiatrist named Dr Bernard Gussmann, whose occult experiments include a dark practice he dubs 'subgnostic possession'. Spiritualists of the day included the famous author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who, in this novel, has an opportunity to legitimise his unusual beliefs when he receives what seems to be a letter from the supposedly long-dead doctor. (American)

Martin DAVIES

Mrs Hudson and the Malabar Rose 326pp Tp 29.95
A *Mrs Hudson and Sherlock Holmes mystery*. Londoners are turning out for the unveiling of the Malabar Rose (a rare ruby) and the British debut of the Great Salamanazar. A magician and illusionist extraordinaire, Salamanazar is the talk of Europe since whenever he appears abroad, daring thefts of famous jewellery coincide with his performances. But after a special representative of the Home Secretary begs Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson to help guard the Malabar Rose, it vanishes under the most baffling of circumstances. Suspecting that the Great Salamanazar has used smoke-and-mirrors to fool Scotland Yard, the formidable Mrs Hudson is called upon to give a lesson in criminal deduction to that most logical of minds. (British)

Margaret FRAZER**A Play of Dux Moraud** 274pp Pb 16.95

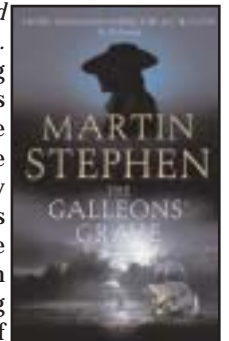
The Joliffe mysteries #1. 1434, England. Performing at the wedding of Sir Edmund Deneby's daughter, the player Joliffe has another task to perform... as a spy. As he uncovers the secrets of the Denebys' sordid history, it becomes clear that this wedding celebration is destined to end in tragedy. (American)

**Susanna GREGORY**

The Hand of Justice 533pp Pb 19.95
A *Matthew Bartholomew chronicle. 1355, Cambridge*. The colleges of the fledgling university are as much at odds with each other as they are with the ordinary townfolk. This tension has recently been heightened by the return of two well-born murderers after receiving the King's pardon, showing no remorse, but ready to confront those who helped convict them. In the midst of this, Bartholomew the physician is called to the local mill to examine two corpses. It is almost a relief to be able to turn his back on the fractious town, but as always in Cambridge, nothing is disconnected. (British)

Martin STEPHEN

The Galleons' Grave 339pp Pb 22.95
Henry Gresham and the Spanish Armada. 1588, Europe. King Philip of Spain has assembled the greatest fleet and the most powerful army in the world. It is envisaged that the Armada will crush the English and bring an end to the reign of Queen Elizabeth. One man who has inside knowledge of this event is the young Henry Gresham. Caught up in the intrigues of court as its inhabitants jostle for power and favour, he begins to realise there are many who resent his youth, wealth and good looks. His position as a spy for Walsingham further endangers his life and, when he finds himself sailing on the Armada during his mission to spy on Sir Francis Drake, he is not entirely certain where the real threat lies... (British)

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CRIME NON-FICTION

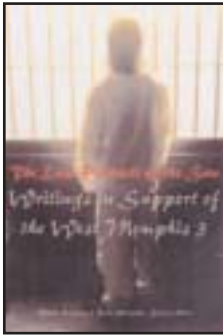


M W ANDERSON & B A SAVORY
(editors)

Last Pentacle of the Sun

202pp Tp 24.95

Writings in Support of the West Memphis Three. In 1993, three 8-year-old boys were brutally murdered in Arkansas. Detectives finally made three arrests: Damien Echols, Jason Baldwin and Jessie Misskelley – three teenagers who just did not fit in. Surely a jury could not convict these three boys without the necessary proof, without a shred of physical evidence. Not in America. But in fact they were convicted. The stories here are donated by their authors, with sales proceeds going to raise funds for the legal costs to ensure they can finally find justice. (American)



Phil CLEARY

Getting Away with Murder

249pp Pb 22.95

The Murder of Julie Ramage. James Ramage was a prosperous man. Then one day his lovely wife left him forever. Six weeks later, in a fit of rage, he choked her to death on the floor of the kitchen where she had spent years looking after their family. He put her body in the boot of his car and buried her in a shallow bush grave. Several hours later, he visited a lawyer friend, got his story straight and turned himself in to be charged with her murder. At his trial, he said that, on the day he killed her, Julie had told him she found the thought of sex with him "repulsive". A Victorian court later found that Julie had contributed to her own death by provoking her husband to murder! This case is arguably the one that forced the law of provocation to be reviewed. (Australian)

Chris COOPER

Behind the Private Eye

543pp Tp 59.95

Surveillance Tales and Techniques. This book is part true-crime novel, part textbook. It was written specifically about surveillance as conducted by private investigators. Virtually an industry bible, it contains an incredible volume of highly detailed 'how to' surveillance techniques. (American)



Tim LATHAM

Norfolk

227pp Tp 29.95

This is an insightful look at the horrific murder of Janelle Patton on Norfolk Island, the investigation and the unique island community that created one of the most intriguing mysteries of recent times. In the tradition of true-crime reportage, it scratches the facade of this secretive and protective community, probing murder, myth, history, politics and gossip. Despite being an Australian territory, Norfolk Island is wonderfully and strangely different. Deception, tension and age-old animosities lie just beneath the surface of life in paradise. (Australian)

Peter LIMBURG

Deep Sea Detectives 277pp Tp 34.95

Maritime Mysteries and Forensic Science. A Russian nuclear-powered submarine sinks in the icy waters of the Bering Sea; an American trawler goes under without warning southwest of Alaska; the *Edmund Fitzgerald* disappears on Lake Superior. These case studies and many more are unearthed in this investigation of underwater forensics. The resources of technology, science, maritime legend and history are incorporated to uncover the origins of unexplained sea disappearances and shipwrecks, finding causes as straightforward as human error or as complicated as outright criminality. Also described are the eye-opening conclusions deduced from information retrieved from 20,000 feet below sea level with new technology. (Canadian)

Duncan McNAB

The Usual Suspect 288pp Tp 33.00

The Life of Abe Saffron. For the first time, Saffron gives his side of the story. In this colourful, compelling and thoroughly researched biography, McNab explores the life and times of one of Australia's most famous - or infamous - names. In doing so, he comes to a very different conclusion about the man popularly known as 'Mr Sin'. (Australian)

Lynne MILNE

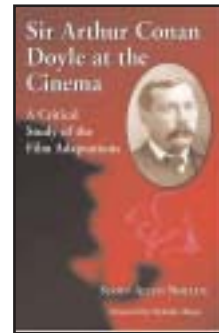
A Grain of Truth 175pp Hb 27.95

How Pollen Evidence Brought a Murderer to Justice. In 1996, Samantha Hall, a young mother of two, was brutally murdered and her body dumped in parkland near Noosa in Queensland. Despite suspicions, evidence was thin until the police called in a forensic palynologist, or a pollen expert. This book tells the story of how an analysis of a few grains of pollen provided the evidence police needed to arrest their main suspect. Milne opens the door on a new forensic tool that is increasingly being used to solve crimes. In fact, Gabrielle Lord's new book, **Dirty Weekend** (Tp 32.95 due November), has a palynologist helping Jack McCain solve his latest investigation. (Australian)

Scott Allen NOLLEN

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle at the Cinema

317pp Tp 56.95



A Critical Study of the Film Adaptations. In February 1903, the 30-second film, *Sherlock Holmes Baffled*, was released by the American Biograph Company. It was the first known adaptation of Conan Doyle's work. Over the

years, hundreds of adaptations and parodies have been released. Although most closely associated with Sherlock Holmes, some of Conan Doyle's other works have also found their way to the silver screen, including the science fiction classic *The Lost World* (1925). The major adaptations are fully covered here. (American)

Katherine RAMSLAND

The Science of Cold Case Files

265pp Tp 29.95

This reveals the absorbing true stories behind the pioneering A&E television series in the US, *Cold Case Files*, and the intrepid detectives whose investigations resulted in the resolution of the most baffling of crimes, sometimes decades after they were committed. From handwriting analysis, facial reconstruction, fingerprints, K-9 detectives, state-of-the-art DNA technology and old-fashioned perseverance and police work, here is a detailed look at the methods used in forensic detection. (American)

Caitlin ROTHER

Poisoned Love

469pp Pb 16.95

At the time of her husband's death, Kristen Rossum was engaged in an illicit affair with her married boss. Investigators found that the Medical Examiner's Office was missing supplies of meth and fentanyl, the narcotic that had killed her husband. With each clue discovered, another piece of Rossum's 'good girl' facade fell away. What the world would eventually see was the true face of a murderer. (American)

Andrew RULE & John SILVESTER

Gotcha

351pp Pb 19.95

How Australia's baddest crooks copped their right whack. Bandali Debs was a floor tiler who became a cop killer. He did not have much in common with the bored housewife who poisoned her husband, the international hit man who kidnapped a rich woman's son for ransom, or the gay clerk who killed his boss... except for one thing: they all shared a delusion that they would never be caught. Right up until the day the police turned up and said, "Gotcha". (Australian)

Carlton SMITH

Vanished

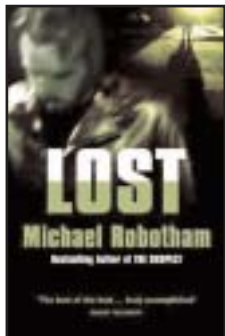
343pp Pb 16.95

A story of betrayal, murder and a father's dying wish. Jana Carpenter Koklich and Bruce Koklich seemed like the ideal couple. She was an attractive 41-year-old blonde, the doted-on only-child of a once-powerful California state senator. He was the dedicated and loving husband. Together they owned a lucrative real estate business and a computer business, owned a pair of luxurious houses, and drove high-end cars. Then in August 2001, Jana went to an Eric Clapton concert with friends. She was never heard from again. (American)

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BEST NOVEL



Lost

by Michael Robotham (Tp 29.95). Vincent Ruiz is lucky to be alive. A bullet in the leg, another through the hand, he is discovered clinging to a buoy in the River Thames, losing blood and consciousness fast. It takes six days for him to come out of his coma, and when he does, his nightmare is only just beginning - because Vincent has no recollection of what happened, and nobody believes him.

BEST FIRST NOVEL

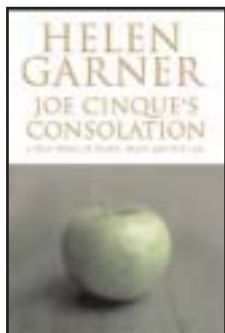


A Private Man

by Malcolm Knox (Pb 22.95) Filtered through two arenas of masculinity - cricket and pornography - this is at once a poignant story of a family's grief, an artfully constructed thriller and a provocative dissection of Australian men and their private passions.

BEST CRIME NON-FICTION

Joint Winners



Joe Cinque's Consolation

by Helen Garner (Tp 30.00). Compassionate but unflinching, this is a book about how and why Joe Cinque died. It probes the gap between ethics and the law; examines the helplessness of the courts in the face of what we think of as 'evil'; and explores conscience, culpability, and the battered ideal of duty of care.



Mr Big

by Tony Reeves (Pb 24.95) The true and never before told story of Lennie McPherson - the Mr Big of Sydney crime - reveals a world of violence, police corruption, drugs, prostitution, murder and greed.

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