

PENZLER PUBLISHERS RIGHTS GUIDE 2024



Otto Penzler, President: otto@penzlerpublishers.com
Charles Perry, Publisher: charles@penzlerpublishers.com
Linda Biagi, Rights Director: linda@biagirights.com



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

May 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

BLOOD RUBIES

by Mailan Doquang

A heist gone wrong sends a jewel thief on a race for survival the leads from the slums of Bangkok to the auction galleries of NYC.

Seven days are all it takes for Rune Sarasin's life to completely derail. It starts with a routine heist: lifting a pouch of rubies from the Bangkok hotel room of wealthy smuggler Charles Lemaire. Rune nearly gets caught when Lemaire's goons give chase, but she manages to escape with her boyfriend Kit. Then Kit delivers some terrifying news: his teenage sister Madee has gone missing. They track her cell phone to the dangerous Khlong Toei slum, but the trail ends there. The night gets even worse when Rune realizes she lost the pouch of gems somewhere in the slum while searching for Madee.

Charles Lemaire is the wrong man to mess with. He is a perfectionist when it comes to both his attire and his crimes, and he isn't afraid to kill to get what he wants. When he catches up to Rune and Kit, he gives Rune an ultimatum: return his rubies or she will never see her boyfriend again. Now Rune must race against time to either recover the lost gems or find something even more valuable with which to ransom Kit back from Lemaire. But she also still needs to find out what happened to Madee. As Rune investigates deeper into the shadows of the Khlong Toei slum, she uncovers a web of crime with consequences far more insidious than just one missing girl and a handful of stolen rubies.

Hurling from the back alleys of Bangkok to the glamorous auction houses of New York City, Mailan Doquang's heart-pounding debut will leave readers questioning just how far they would go for the ones they love.

A captivating debut novel with global appeal.

Praise for *Blood Rubies*

"Jewel thief turned reluctant investigator Rune Sarasin makes a winning protagonist in this captivating, page-turning debut. Mailan Doquang is a writer to watch."—**Alafair Burke, *New York Times* Bestselling Author**

"Smart, edgy, and rocket-paced, *Blood Rubies* is a thrill ride, packed with international intrigue, lushly drawn settings, and thrilling action. . . I couldn't turn the pages fast enough."—**Lisa Unger, *New York Times* Bestselling Author**

"A young woman's incredibly fast and frantic struggle to use her special skills—the good ones and the bad ones—in a global race to save the people she loves. Highly recommended."—**Thomas Perry, *New York Times* Bestselling Author**

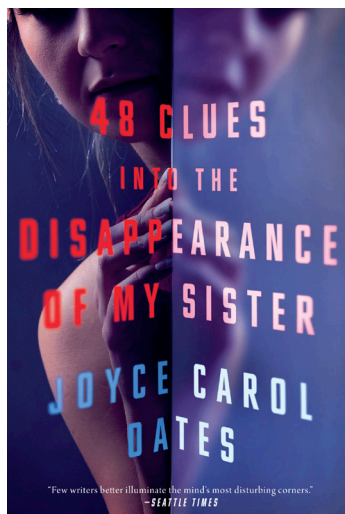
MAILAN DOQUANG has published extensively on the art and architecture of medieval France. She is an avid traveler, photographer, and runner. She is a Canadian transplant and longtime resident of New York City.

Key Sales Handles

- **ATMOSPHERIC BANGKOK SETTING**
- **STRONG AND UNIQUE FEMALE PROTAGONIST:** a young Thai-American jewel thief caught between two worlds.
- **FAST-PACED HEIST NOVEL WITH SOCIAL ISSUES AT ITS CORE** for fans of international thrillers, *Portrait of a Thief*, or the *Millenium* series.
- **HOT DEBUT** with series potential.
- **AUTHENTIC INSIGHTS** into the art world informed by author's expertise as an art historian.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

April 2023

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World x FR, SE

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), RU (Eksmo), SP (RBA), IT (La Nave di Teseo), KR (Wisdom House)

48 CLUES INTO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MY SISTER

by Joyce Carol Oates

In the newest literary thriller from celebrated author Joyce Carol Oates, a woman mysteriously vanishes, leaving her sister behind to tally up the clues and discover her fate.

What has become of Marguerite Fulmer? On an otherwise average day in Upstate New York, the young woman left her family home, never to return. No note was left, no explanation; just a messy bedroom and her sister Gigi, driven to dig through the meager clues and discover the truth behind her disappearance.

As the investigation unfolds, every subtle bit of evidence becomes a potential clue. The silk Dior slip dress, left in a heap on the floor; the impression of Ferragamo boots outside in the dirt, a trail of footsteps that abruptly ends before it leaves the yard. And as Gigi trails the detectives, she finds previously unknown troubles in the life of her perfect, gorgeous, much-loved sister—troubles that at times seem to reflect her own.

Bit by bit, like ripping the petals off a flower blossom, a dark truth is revealed. And subtly, but with the unbearable suspense at which Joyce Carol Oates excels, clues mount and bring to light the fate of the missing beauty.

Amazon Editor's Pick / Publishers Weekly Starred Review / Booklist Starred Review

Praise for 48 Clues

"[An] exquisite novel of suspense ... This elegant, captivating tale is un-put-downable."—**Publishers Weekly (Starred)**

"Another masterpiece of storytelling from a writer who jumps between genres and styles with amazing aplomb."—**Booklist (Starred)**

"A literary thriller that's written as a memoir—perfect for all the *Daisy Jones & the Six* fans out there."—**Katie Couric Media**

"A kaleidoscopic portrait of an unforgettable woman whose memory everyone honors only by distorting it."—**Kirkus**

Key Sales Handles

- **SUSPENSEFUL, INTRIGUING MYSTERY:** A short, approachable, but still stylistically bold story from "America's preeminent fiction writer" (*New Yorker*)
- **STRONG-VOICED YOUNG FEMALE PROTAGONIST**
- **ATMOSPHERIC RURAL SETTING**
- **PROLIFIC AUTHOR**, embraced by longtime fans and constantly being rediscovered by readers worldwide

JOYCE CAROL OATES is the author of more than 70 books, including novels, short story collections, poetry volumes, plays, essays, and criticism, including the national bestsellers *We Were the Mulvaneys* and *Blonde*. Among her many honors are the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in Short Fiction and the National Book Award. Oates is the Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of the Humanities at Princeton University, and has been a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters since 1978.



LEAD TITLE

COVER
NOT YET
FINAL

US Publication Date:

November 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World x FR, SE

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

FLINT KILL CREEK

by Joyce Carol Oates

A new collection of short mysteries from a master of the form.

These new, recent, and reformulated stories by Joyce Carol Oates, collected here for the first time, showcase a wide range of crime fiction and psychological suspense. A young, insecure woman finds her relationship changing as she grows more and more dependent on a man who likes to take her on long walks beside a dangerously roaring creek. Another woman, nervous around men, not quite knowing how to act when paid a compliment, becomes flustered when a doctor suggests they go out for coffee, or possibly a drink. She finally decides that she will join him when he suggests they meet at his home. A man is so forgetful that his wife panics and yells into his phone, asking where their daughter has gone. A young man is curious to see why sirens have filled the night and the police arrest him, beginning an unimaginable nightmare. A woman resents that a colleague has achieved greater success and thinks she ought to do something about it.

It is impossible to know where a story by the creative genius of Joyce Carol Oates will end and what frightening paths will lead to that end.

Praise for Joyce Carol Oates

“Joyce Carol Oates is an American institution.”—*BookReporter*

“Unsettling, mysterious, deft, sinister, eerily plausible.”

—*Margaret Atwood*

“Oates’ spookiness is visceral, psychologically involving, and socially astute.”—*Booklist*

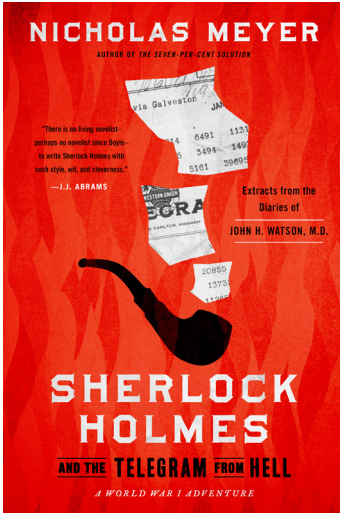
“Does any writer around do literary creepy like Joyce Carol Oates? . . . The stories always have an undercurrent of menace poised to break through at any moment.”—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

Key Sales Handles

- **NEW COLLECTION OF SHORT MYSTERY STORIES.** These new and recent stories have never before been collected, several have been reworked from their original published form.
- **A MASTER OF THE SHORT STORY.** For decades, Oates has been one of the most prolific authors of short crime fiction, with stories consistently nominated for awards and finding placement in annual “best of” anthologies.
- **TWO OTHER SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS AVAILABLE:** *Night, Neon* (2021) and *Extenuating Circumstances* (2022) were also published by Mysterious Press



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

August 2024

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE TELEGRAM FROM HELL

by Nicholas Meyer

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson cross the Atlantic at the height of World War I in pursuit of a mysterious coded telegram in this new mystery from the author of *The Seven-Per-Cent Solution*.

June, 1916. With a world war raging on the continent, exhausted John H. Watson, M.D. is operating on the wounded full-time when his labors are interrupted by a knock on his door, revealing Sherlock Holmes, with a black eye, a missing tooth and a cracked rib. The story he has to tell will set in motion a series of world-changing events in the most consequential case of the detective's career.

Amid rebellion in Ireland and revolution in Russia, Germany has a secret plan to win the war and Sir William Melville of the British Secret Service dispatches the two aging friends to learn what the scheme is before it can be put into effect. In pursuit of a mysterious coded telegram sent from Berlin to an unknown recipient in Mexico, Holmes and Watson must cross the Atlantic, dodge German U-boats and assassination attempts, and evade the intrigues of young J. Edgar Hoover, while enlisting the help of a beautiful, eccentric Washington socialite as they seek to foil the schemes of Holmes's nemesis, the escaped German spymaster Von Bork.

Sherlock Holmes and the Telegram from Hell plunges Holmes into a world that eerily resembles our own, where entangling alliances, treaties, and human frailty threaten to create another cataclysm.

The first new novel in years from the author who invented the modern Sherlock Holmes pastiche

Praise for *Sherlock Holmes and the Telegram from Hell*

"Nicholas Meyer has managed the impossible, which is to sound exactly like Arthur Conan Doyle, as he plunges Holmes and Watson into a time in our history when the survival of Britain and the British was under threat. . . . Irresistible."—**Julian Fellowes, creator of *Down-ton Abbey* & *The Gilded Age***

"For decades, Nicholas Meyer has held sway as the preeminent author of Sherlockian tales, and *Sherlock Holmes and the Telegram from Hell* demonstrates his strengths in profusion: crisp plotting, rich cultural-political background, many flashes of wit, and an abiding zest for the game."—**Alex Ross, bestselling author of *The Rest Is Noise***

"There is no living novelist—perhaps no novelist since Doyle—to write Sherlock Holmes with such style, wit, and cleverness."—**J.J. Abrams**

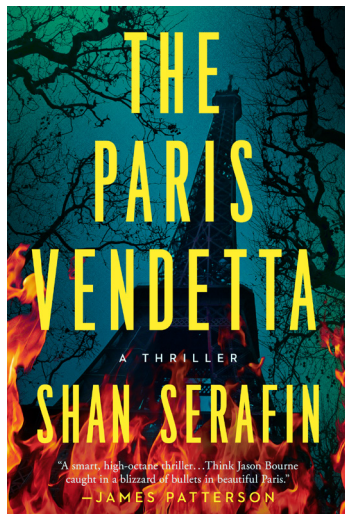
NICHOLAS MEYER is the "editor" of several Watson manuscripts, including *The Seven-Per-Cent Solution*, which spent forty weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. His screenplay of the film received an Oscar nomination. His film credits include writing and directing *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*, and *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country*. He wrote and directed *Time After Time*, co-created *Medici: Masters of Florence*, and directed *The Day After*, about nuclear war that attracted the largest audience ever for a television movie. A native of New York City, he lives in Santa Monica, California.

Key Sales Handles

- **AUTHOR OF THE ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL SHERLOCK HOLMES PASTICHES OF ALL TIME**, *Sherlock Holmes and the Seven Per-Cent Solution*, which remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 40 weeks.
- **WILL APPEAL TO FANS OF WWI HISTORICAL FICTION** Meyer's extensively-researched plot is full of real life historical figures and places, illustrated with photos from the era.
- **MEYER WELL-KNOWN AMONG HOLMES FANS AND STAR TREK AFICIONADOS** Among Meyer's screenwriting and directing credits are several *Star Trek* films, including *The Wrath of Khan*.



LEAD TITLE



US Publication Date:

June 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

THE PARIS VENDETTA

by Shan Serafin

The glittering world of high finance conceals a dark underbelly of corruption and abuse. And the powerful men at its heart will do just about anything to keep their secrets from being exposed.

The Paris conference was supposed to be the biggest moment of investment banker Adam Macias's career, a chance to impress his CEO and rub shoulders with their firm's top investors. Instead, Adam arrives at a glamorous rooftop party in time to see his CEO—and his career—go up in flames when a dangerous conflagration interrupts the event.

Now Adam is a suspect in the investigation into the life-threatening arson. After all, he'd used his ID to let a suspicious woman past a security checkpoint and up to the roof just moments before the fire broke out. With the French police circling, Adam finds himself suddenly jobless and the one woman who could provide him with an alibi, his best friend and coworker Jenn, isn't returning his calls.

Adam knows that only the mysterious woman from the party can save him but, once he finally finds her, he discovers a whole new world of trouble. There's a deadly and powerful syndicate operating in the shadows of the City of Lights, and now that organization has a target on Adam's back. Lucky for him, his new companion has the instincts of a killer...

The exhilarating first novel from filmmaker and James Patterson collaborator Shan Serafin, *The Paris Vendetta* is a pulse-pounding thrill ride through central Europe's most beautiful cities—Paris and Amsterdam—that exposes the rot beneath their gorgeous facades.

A fast-paced debut thriller with commercial appeal set in Paris and Amsterdam

Praise for *The Paris Vendetta*

"A smart, high-octane thriller that delivers from the first page to the last. . . . Think Jason Bourne caught in a blizzard of bullets in beautiful Paris."—**James Patterson**

"A stunning debut novel, with twists, turns, and crisp dialogue that propels the reader to get to the next page. Highly recommended."

—**Brendan Dubois**

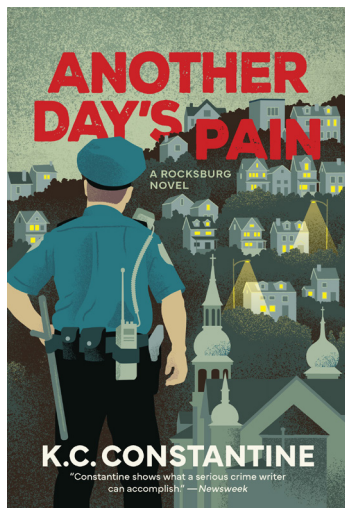
Key Sales Handles

- **DEBUT CRIME NOVEL FROM A BESTSELLING JAMES PATTERSON CO-AUTHOR**
- **FAST-PACED, JASON BOURNE-STYLE PLOT** featuring an everyday Latino American living in Paris
- **MOVES BETWEEN PARIS AND AMSTERDAM**, exposing a dark side beneath the beautiful settings

SHAN SERAFIN is a *New York Times* bestselling author of thrillers and science fiction novels. The son of two school teachers in Southern California, he transitioned from a career in education to corporate finance before starting to write full time. His early artistic endeavors had their inception in theater and film, writing and directing *An Essential Bond*, *The Forest*, and *The Believer* among other works, while simultaneously penning articles for the weekly Buddhist publications *Living Buddhism* and *The World Tribune*. In 2015 he began collaborating with renowned storyteller James Patterson, co-authoring several books together, including *The 13-Minute Murder*, *Come and Get Us*, and *Three Women Disappear*. Serafin now resides in Paris, France.



LEAD TITLE



US Publication Date:

April 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

ANOTHER DAY'S PAIN

by K.C. Constantine

A master of rural noir returns with the long-awaited final chapter of his saga of the Rocksburg Police Department.

The police force of Rocksburg, Pennsylvania, doesn't see a ton of action. With jobs and industry moving away from the small city outside Pittsburgh, Detective Ruggiero "Rugs" Carlucci's greatest adversaries are his negligent vacation-prone fellow officers and an older divorcee who has a habit of dancing naked on her back porch when she stops taking her medication. Retirement is on the horizon for Rugs, and the Vietnam vet is counting the days until he can move on from the job.

But Rocksburg isn't going to let Rugs drift off to retirement without a fight. Before he can neatly wrap up his career, Rugs will face a mad shooter, a vengeful city councilman, and, most perilously, his own mother.

With a supporting cast of characters painted through uproarious profanity and heart-wrenching confessions, *Another Day's Pain* is a bold and darkly funny novel about crime and the damaged souls it leaves behind.

***Publishers Weekly* Starred Review**

Praise for *Another Day's Pain*

"We all have favorites, and K.C. Constantine was one of my mine."

—Daniel Woodrell

"Constantine's final book begins as a cop procedural and ends somewhere else entirely—as a book that locates the pain in its protagonist and then increases the pressure. A surprising and worthy capstone to the Rocksburg canon." **—John Darnielle**

"Deeply moving . . . Constantine ends the long-running series on a high note, striking an elegiac tone that never tilts into triteness. Here's hoping this graceful final act will spark new interest in an unsung master of crime fiction." **—*Publishers Weekly* (Starred)**

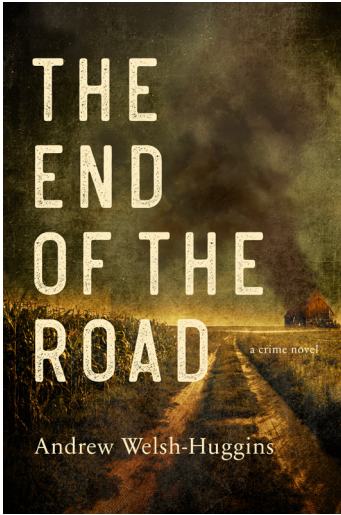
Key Sales Handles

- **THE FINAL NOVEL FROM A PIONEER OF RURAL NOIR:** Constantine is heralded as one of the strongest voices in crime fiction in the American Midwest.
- **POIGNANT AND HEARTFELT WRITING WITH STRONG SENSE OF PLACE** will appeal to readers of Richard Russo and Daniel Woodrell.
- **K.C. CONSTANTINE "IS TO THE POLICE PROCEDURAL WHAT BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN IS TO POPULAR MUSIC" (ORLANDO SENTINEL)** . . . "a caring and articulate spokesman for the working-class."

K.C. CONSTANTINE (1934–2023) is the pen name of Carl Constantine Kosack, the Edgar Award-nominated author of the celebrated Mario Balzac series as well as other novels set in the fictitious town of Rocksburg, Pennsylvania. Loosely modeled on the author's hometown of Greensburg, PA, Constantine's Rocksburg novels were hailed for their gritty authenticity and their stark depictions of working class life in Rust Belt towns toward the end of the 20th century. The long-awaited conclusion to the series, *Another Day's Pain* was completed just before the author's death at the beginning of 2023.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

April 2023

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

THE END OF THE ROAD

by Andrew Welsh-Huggins

In this rural noir, a bank robber tries to leave behind his life of crime after serving his time. But getting out isn't so easy.

Myles's courtroom testimony should have put Pryor, their one-eyed ringleader, behind bars after the bank robbery gone wrong, yet somehow Pryor got off scot-free while Myles served time. Now, upon his release, Myles decides he is done with his life of wrongdoing—a change that will only be possible if he can kill Pryor and turn over a new leaf. Pryor has other ideas, and the collision between these two deadly forces soon leaves the ex-con in critical condition, clinging to life in a hospital bed.

With Myles in recovery, it's up to his girlfriend Penny to avenge her lover and salvage their chance at normalcy. As Pryor and his cronies prepare for their biggest score yet—targeting a vulnerable small-town Ohio bank on a day when Amish farmers arrive with hefty cash deposits—Penny is hot on their heels. But is she prepared for the carnage Pryor will gleefully wreak on the path to his prize?

With characters as sharply drawn as those in a Dennis Lehane novel and a rich Midwestern setting, *The End of the Road* is a fast-paced rural noir that announces Andrew Welsh-Huggins as one of the most powerful voices in the mystery world.

Praise for *The End of the Road*

“An elegant crime story ... packed with quirky, entertaining characters and told in flowing prose that has a life of its own. ... Recommend this to action fans and to anyone who can respond to golden—if blood-soaked—prose.” —*Booklist*

“A crackerjack crime yarn chockablock with miscreants and a super-sonic pace” —*Kirkus*

“Noirish until near the very end, *The End of the Road* has an especially heart-thumping climax. Andrew Welsh-Huggins has some serious writing skills on full display.” —*Deadly Pleasures*

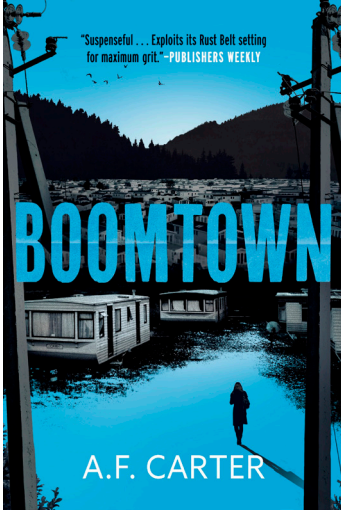
Key Sales Handles

- **FIRST MAJOR CRIME NOVEL FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER AND EDITOR OF *COLUMBUS NOIR*.**
- **AUTHENTIC, WELL-INFORMED LOOK AT CRIME IN THE MIDWEST.**
- **FAST-PACED RURAL NOIR** will appeal to fans of Daniel Woodrell, S.A. Cosby, and Ace Atkins.
- **EXQUISITE PROSE, LITERARY MERITS:** With a plot structured around *The Odyssey* and vivid, atmospheric writing, this is an exciting, fresh novel with a bone-cutting depth.

ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS, an editor and reporter for the Associated Press in Columbus, is the author of nonfiction books on the death penalty and terrorism, and six novels about private eye Andy Hayes, an ex-Ohio State and Cleveland Browns quarterback turned investigator. Welsh-Huggins's short story “The Murderous Type” won the 2017 Al Blanchard Award for best New England short crime fiction.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

September 2023
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

BOOMTOWN

by A.F. Carter

A lesbian cop fights to reign in a lawless boomtown just outside the edges of her struggling Rust Belt community—and her jurisdiction

Police captain Delia Mariola is still struggling to drive the predatory drug dealers from the Rust Belt town of Baxter, before the new Nissan plant owners lose faith in this forgotten corner of America. It doesn't help that a boomtown has sprung up outside the city limits, drawing in criminal gangs from nearby cities to sell drugs and women to the transitory laborers here to construct the factory. With no police actively enforcing the rule of law in the unregulated province, the criminals have turned on each other as they try to claim control.

In the midst of this drug war, a young prostitute's body turns up on the streets of Baxter, well within Delia's jurisdiction to investigate. Hoping this might be the case that allows her to finally be able to crack down on the illegal activities plaguing her streets, Delia is relentless in her pursuit of the killer, but she isn't the only person on the hunt. Two strangers have arrived in town, claiming to be the family of the deceased and seeking vigilante justice, a fact that complicates everything for Delia. Soon, she becomes the target of criticism not only for the criminals running amuck in Boomtown, but also as the sole woman and the only lesbian on her small-town police force.

Once again, A.F. Carter brings a host of unforgettable characters to life in this gritty crime novel, the most memorable being the town of Baxter itself.

Edgar Award Nominee / Amazon Editor's Pick

Praise for *Boomtown*

"Striking ... A rich and reeking swamp full of exploitation, despair, violence, and summary justice."—*Kirkus*

"Suspenseful ... Carter drives the narrative toward a ripping climax and adds vivid new shades to Baxter and its neighboring communities."—*Publishers Weekly*

"Riveting and real."—*CrimeReads*

"Smart, urgent, and sneakily deep."
—*CJ Box on The Hostage*

Key Sales Handles

- **STRONG WOMAN PROTAGONIST AND GRITTY RUST BELT SETTING:** For fans of *Mare of Easttown* or readers of *Long Bright River*.
- **THIRD NOVEL IN CRITICALLY-ACCLAIMED SERIES** that can be read as a standalone.
- **LGBTQ INTEREST:** Examines the experience of queer characters in small town America.

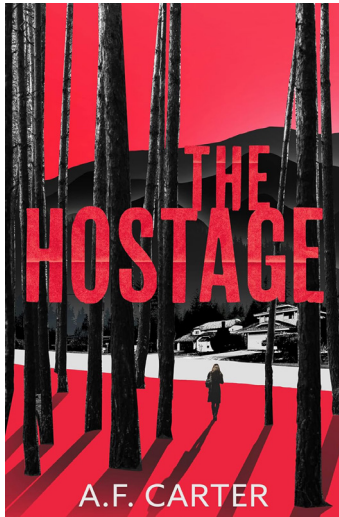
A. F. CARTER lives and works in New York City and is the author of *All of Us* and the Delia Mariola series.



PRIORITY TITLE - SERIES

The Delia Mariola Series by A.F. Carter

In this gritty, Edgar Award-nominated series, a lesbian police captain struggles to keep her depressed Rust Belt town safe in the early days of a promised economic resurgence



THE HOSTAGE

Police captain Delia Mariola tracks the kidnapped teenage daughter of a wealthy developer in a transitioning Rust Belt town

A new Nissan plant is coming to Baxter, and Captain Delia Mariola has been busy cleaning up the crime-addled city ever since the deal was announced. But when the 15-year-old daughter of the lead bidder on the construction project suddenly disappears and it becomes clear that a professional kidnapping ring may be responsible, Delia realizes that the factory's influx of cash could bring with it an entirely new sort of danger, never before considered in this working class milieu.

From the trunk of the car where she is held, Elizabeth soon devises a clever trick to send cryptic notes to those back home—perhaps too cryptic. . . . If Delia has any hope of bringing the girl home unharmed, she'll have to crack the code and reveal the message. And unless she does it fast, there may be nobody left to save.

US Publication Date:

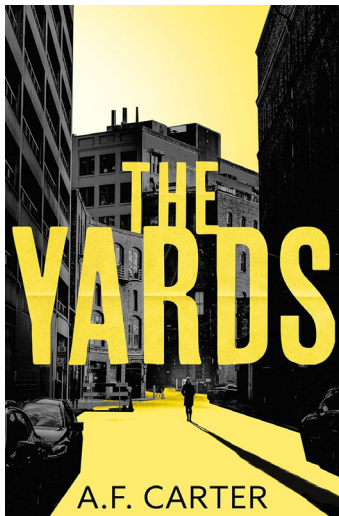
September 2022
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)



THE YARDS

In this gritty, twisty crime novel, a hotel hook up gone wrong finds a single mother suspected of murder

Git O'Rourke is from the wrong side of the tracks. A single mother, she works hard to support her daughter Charlie but still finds time to cut loose every once in a while, to go to a local bar, drink martinis and find a companion for the night. Which is exactly how she ends up in a hotel room with a strange man who overdosed, and how she comes to possess the bag of money and guns that he left open as he got his fix.

When the body is discovered at the Skyview Motor Court, a bullet through its forehead, officer Delia Mariola is one of the first on the scene. She knows he's connected to the local mob, but the crime scene doesn't exactly resemble their typical hit. Instead, all signs point to a pick-up gone wrong. Which means that all signs point to Git. . . .

US Publication Date:

October 2021
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), DE (Polar)

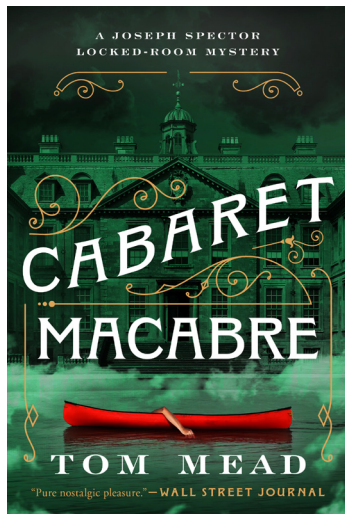
Praise for the Delia Mariola series

"A breathless suspenser that's also a painfully acute evocation of the wrong side of the tracks."—*Kirkus*

"Guaranteed to satisfy."—*Booklist*



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

July 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), CN
(Shanghai Culture)

CABARET MACABRE

by Tom Mead

This latest puzzle mystery from the author of *Death and the Conjuror* and *The Murder Wheel* takes stage magician-sleuth Joseph Spector to a grand estate in the English countryside.

Victor Silvius has spent nine years as an inmate at The Grange, a private sanatorium, for the crime of attacking judge Sir Giles Drury. Now, the judge's wife, Lady Elspeth Drury, believes that Silvius is the one responsible for a series of threatening letters her husband has recently received. Eager to avoid the scandal that involving the local police would entail, Lady Elspeth seeks out retired stage magician Joseph Spector, whose discreet involvement in a case Sir Giles recently presided over greatly impressed her. Meanwhile, Miss Caroline Silvius is disturbed after a recent visit to her brother Victor, convinced that he isn't safe at The Grange. Someone is trying to kill him and she suspects the judge, who has already made Silvius' life a living hell, may be behind it. Caroline hires Inspector George Flint of Scotland Yard to investigate.

The two cases collide at Marchbanks, the Drury family seat of over four hundred years, where a series of unnerving events interrupt the peace and quiet of the snowy countryside. A body is discovered in the middle of a frozen pond without any means of getting there and a rifle is fired through a closed window, killing a man but not breaking the glass. Only Spector and his mastery of the art of misdirection can uncover the logical explanations for these impossible crimes.

An atmospheric and puzzling traditional mystery that pays homage to the greatest writers of the genre's Golden Age, *Cabaret Macabre* is the third book in Tom Mead's Joseph Spector series, hailed by the *Wall Street Journal* as "a recipe for pure nostalgic pleasure." The books can be enjoyed in any order.

The third novel in a Capital Crime Award-nominated series

Praise for *Cabaret Macabre* and Tom Mead

"Tom Mead is already a master of the art of misdirection."

—**Peter Lovesey**

"A real treat for mystery fans."—**Ragnar Jonasson**

"One of my must-read authors, writing some of the most ingenious and entertaining locked-room mysteries being published today."

—**Gigi Pandian**

"The current master of the locked-room mystery."—**Aaron Elkins**

"Pure nostalgic pleasure."—**Wall Street Journal**

"A delight to read."—**Daily Mail**

Key Sales Handles

- **FOR FANS OF GOLDEN AGE MYSTERIES**, *Cabaret Macabre* is full of throwback fun such as detailed maps and a clue finder.
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED SERIES**, with previous entries earning a various nominations and named "Best Mysteries of the Year" by *Publishers Weekly* and *The Guardian*
- **MAGICIAN DETECTIVE, IMPOSSIBLE CRIMES:** Recurring character Joseph Spector, a retired stage magician, has quickly amassed a large fanbase in three books (and counting).
- **PERIOD DETAIL, MODERN PERSPECTIVE:** Mead gives a fresh treatment to his setting of late-1930s England.

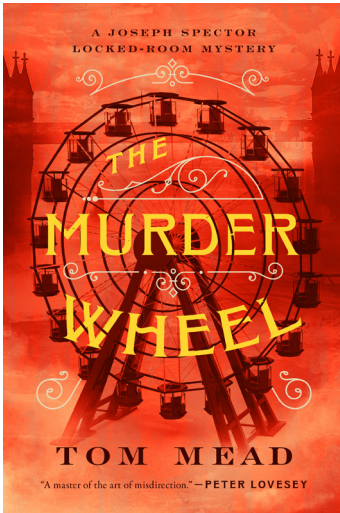
TOM MEAD is a Derbyshire mystery writer and aficionado of Golden Age Crime Fiction. His debut novel, *Death and the Conjuror*, was an international bestseller, nominated for several awards, and named one of the best mysteries of the year by *The Guardian* and *Publishers Weekly*. Its sequel, *The Murder Wheel*, was described as "pure nostalgic pleasure" by the *Wall Street Journal* and "a delight" by the *Daily Mail*. It was also named one of the Best Traditional Mysteries of 2023 by *Crimereads*.



PRIORITY TITLE - SERIES

The Joseph Spector Series *by* Tom Mead

A retired stage magician-turned-sleuth assists Scotland Yard in solving impossible crimes in 1930s London in these smart, entertaining homages to the great Golden Age puzzle mysteries



THE MURDER WHEEL

Beginning with a murder on a Ferris wheel, a series of seemingly-impossible crimes plague a London theatre community

A man has been shot dead at the top of a Ferris wheel, and his wife—the only other person in their carriage—insists on her innocence. But who else could have fired the deadly bullet and escaped unseen? As he digs into the case, the lawyer for the defense unwittingly enters a web of conspiracy and murder, soon finding himself implicated in not one but two other impossible crimes. First, a corpse appears out of thin air during a performance by a famed illusionist, then a second victim is mortally wounded in a locked dressing room backstage.

Edmund is in the wrong place at the wrong time, attracting the suspicion of the authorities; luckily, magician Joseph Spector is also at hand, capable of piercing the veil of deceit. But will his deductive powers be strong enough to explain this utterly confounding series of crimes?

US Publication Date:

July 2023
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), RU (AST), SK (Slovensky spisovatel), CN (Shanghai Culture)



DEATH AND THE CONJUROR

The Joseph Spector series debut was named a best mystery of the year by *The Guardian* and *Publishers Weekly*

In 1930s London, celebrity psychiatrist Anselm Rees is discovered dead in his locked study, and there seems to be no way that a killer could have escaped unseen. There are no clues, no witnesses, and no evidence of the murder weapon. Stumped by the confounding scene, the Scotland Yard detective on the case calls on retired stage magician-turned-part-time sleuth Joseph Spector. For who better to make sense of the impossible than one who traffics in illusions?

A tribute to the classic golden-age whodunnit, when crime fiction was a battle of wits between writer and reader, *Death and the Conjuror* joins its macabre atmosphere, period detail, and vividly-drawn characters with a meticulously-constructed fair play puzzle.

US Publication Date:

July 2022
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), RU (AST), JP (Hayakawa), SK (Slovensky spisovatel)

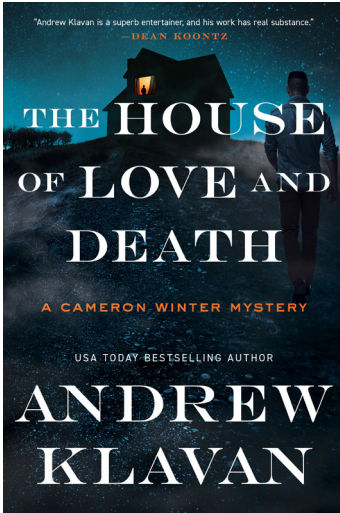
Praise for the Joseph Spector Series

“A loving tribute to the locked-room master John Dickson Carr and a sharply drawn period piece.”—*New York Times*

“Lovers of John Dickson Carr’s puzzle mysteries will hope Mead has many more Spector tales up his sleeve.”—*Publishers Weekly*



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

October 2023

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

THE HOUSE OF LOVE AND DEATH

by Andrew Klavan

In the newest entry in the bestselling Cameron Winter series, the ex-spy-turned-English professor defies accepted narratives and corrupt authorities to investigate the murder of a wealthy Chicago family.

Cameron Winter is known for having a sense about crime. His background as a spy trained his mind—and his body—for action, and his current role as an English professor gives him a sharp understanding of human nature. But beyond that, he was born with a “strange habit of mind”—the ability to recreate detailed crime scenes in his imagination and dissect the motives and encounters that produced them. And after reading a puzzling news story about a wealthy family killed in a small town in the Chicago suburbs, he can’t resist the chance to apply this deductive power in the pursuit of justice for the victims.

Three members of the family, along with their live-in nanny, were pulled from their burning mansion, already dead from gunshot wounds. The police seem happy to settle on a simple explanation, but Winter knows that obvious solutions are seldom the correct ones, and all too often hide a darker truth.

While Winter’s investigation is welcomed by many, the lead detective makes it clear he not only wants Winters to stop looking for answers, but to stay out of his town altogether. Winter begins to understand why as he slowly uncovers crimes and a deep rot beneath the town’s sanitized façade. And as the inquiry brings all-too-familiar sins to the surface, he’ll have to confront his own inner demons once and for all.

Insightful and atmospheric, *The House of Love and Death* is a penetrating mystery with a plot that cuts straight to the dark heart of some of modern America’s most pressing issues.

***USA Today* Bestseller / Amazon Editor’s Pick / Publishers Weekly Starred Review**

Praise for *The House of Love and Death*

“Klavan successfully deepens Winter’s character as the professor digs into his own past, Tony Soprano style, and the central murder mystery remains gripping throughout. Fans of complex investigators like Thomas Harris’s Will Graham will be enthralled.”

—Publishers Weekly (Starred)

“A compelling demonstration of why a self-tormenting killer makes the perfect detective.” **—Kirkus**

“Andrew Klavan is the most original American novelist of crime and suspense since Cornell Woolrich.” **—Stephen King**

“Andrew Klavan is a superb entertainer.” **—Dean Koontz**

Key Sales Handles

- **THIRD ENTRY IN A USA TODAY-BESTSELLING SERIES**
- **TWO TIME EDGAR AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR**, nominated five times, Klavan has also had multiple books adapted for major motion pictures, including *True Crime*, directed by Clint Eastwood.
- **ATMOSPHERIC, INTELLIGENT, AND FAST-PACED THRILLER** will appeal to fans of Daniel Silva, Stephen Hunter, and Joseph Finder.

ANDREW KLAVAN is the author of such internationally bestselling crime novels as *True Crime*, filmed by Clint Eastwood, *Don’t Say A Word*, filmed starring Michael Douglas, *Empire of Lies* and *Werewolf Cop*. He has been nominated for the Mystery Writers of America’s Edgar Award five times and has won twice. He wrote the screenplays to “A Shock to The System,” which starred Michael Caine, “One Missed Call,” which starred Edward Burns, and “Gosnell: The Trial of America’s Biggest Serial Killer,” starring Dean Cain. His weekly podcast, *The Andrew Klavan Show*, has millions of listeners and is hosted by *The Daily Wire*.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

October 2021

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), RU (Corpus), IT (Leone), JP (Hayakawa)

WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES

by Andrew Klavan

The bestselling first novel in the Cameron Winter series is a haunting holiday mystery set in an idyllic Christmas card town.

A sleuthing English teacher will need a Christmas miracle to prove a condemned man innocent in this “terrific holiday-themed novel” (*Publishers Weekly* Starred Review) from Edgar Award-winner Andrew Klavan.

Colorful Christmas lights dapple the family homes in the idyllic lakeside town of Sweet Haven when young librarian Jennifer Dean is brutally murdered. There are witnesses and her boyfriend Travis Blake confesses to the crime... but something doesn't add up. Blake is a third generation Army Ranger, awarded the Silver Star for heroism—how could a beloved son of this tight-knit burgh commit such a grisly deed?

As a community of military families a few miles down the road from an Army base, no one in Sweet Haven wants to investigate a war hero like Blake, not even the top brass at the police department. In steps Cameron Winter, a rugged and lonesome English professor haunted by the ghosts of his own Christmas past, whose former lover asks him to prove Blake innocent. The Sweet Haven murder reverberates in his mind, echoing a horrific yuletide memory from his youth, and Winter knows there are darker powers at play here than a simple domestic dispute. If he can solve this small-town mystery, just maybe he can find peace from his inner demons as well.

The thirty-sixth novel by two-time Edgar Award winner Andrew Klavan, *When Christmas Comes* is a seasonal tale of family and murder, full of chilling twists and unforgettable action.

***USA Today* Bestseller / *Publishers Weekly* Starred Review / Over 30,000 copies sold**

Praise for *When Christmas Comes*

“Klavan serves up yet another fabulous thriller! A gripping read that’s also the perfect holiday gift.” —**Brad Thor**

“A masterclass in mysteries of the melancholic kind.”

—***Criminal Element***

“An ideal mystery novel for the winter season and one you will not soon forget.” —***BookReporter***

“Just the thing for one of those lengthening nights between Halloween and Christmas.” —***Kirkus***

Key Sales Handles

- **SERIES STARTER THAT READS AS A STAND-ALONE MYSTERY**
- **CHRISTMAS SETTING** gives the book a charming, cozy tone, though the plot is deeper and darker than that might suggest.
- **LARGE STORY, SHORT FORM:** the story is constructed as a novella, well-suited for a small, giftable package.
- **FRESH REIMAGINING OF LITERARY TRADITIONS:** the book plays with the form of the Christmas mystery and the Christmas ghost story as well.

There are two more titles currently available in this outstanding series, which follows a former spy who now works as an English professor and occasionally moonlights as a detective, with a total of TEN planned installments.

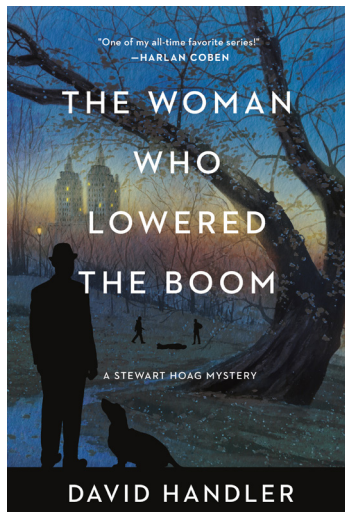
Other titles include:

A Strange Habit of Mind (2022)

A Woman Underground (2024)



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

February 2024

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

THE WOMAN WHO LOWERED THE BOOM

by David Handler

Ghostwriter-sleuth Stewart Hoag is finally on the precipice of reclaiming his previous literary fame—until threats against his editor appear to put both his career and her life in jeopardy.

Stewart “Hoagy” Hoag is walking on cloud nine after a meeting with his editor, Norma Fives, where she predicts his new book is sure to establish him as the next great American author. It has been years since he has even dreamed of such success after a crippling case of writer’s block limited his literary aspirations to ghostwriting celebrity memoirs. But his happiness is short-lived when at his next meeting with Norma she asks for his help in discovering who is behind a series of increasingly threatening letters sent to her attention.

Norma herself is not overly concerned about the letters but her boyfriend, Detective Lieutenant Romaine Very of the NYPD, thinks the threat of violence against Norma should not be so easily dismissed. Very feels the combination of Hoagy’s detective skills and knowledge of the underbelly of the publishing world make him the perfect person to investigate the matter. Plus, Hoagy is a friend he can trust to take care of the love of his life. Hoagy agrees if for nothing else than to ease the minds of two people he cares about very much. After all, this is likely to be nothing more than a dramatic gesture from a frustrated writer.

But as Hoagy and his trusty basset hound Lulu investigate, the threats move beyond the written word, making it clear that someone out there is determined to write a vicious ending to Norma’s life. Could it be the wealthy aging children’s author? The unethical snake of a literary agent? Or the handsy historian? This is not the return to the literary world that Hoagy dreamed of, but he is determined to unravel the mystery before the author of these crimes gets the last word.

Long-running Edgar Award-winning series

Praise for David Handler

“If not for David Handler, I wouldn’t be a writer. He’s one of my very favorites . . . Love stylish, deftly plotted whodunits? Read David Handler. Love warm, witty, snort-out-loud comedy? Read David Handler.”—**A.J. Finn**

“One of my all-time favorite series! . . . David Handler is so good at writing one smart, funny page-turner after another that he makes it look easy.”—**Harlan Coben**

“Witty . . . Hoagy’s narration is as sharp as ever. Fans will be glad to see that Hoagy and company haven’t lost a step.”—**Publishers Weekly**

Key Sales Handles

- **WITTY, NOT-QUITE-COZY MYSTERY** will appeal to fans of Richard Osman or Janet Evanovich, or of recent whodunit television series such as *Only Murders in the Building*.
- **AN INSIDE LOOK AT THE WORLD OF PUBLISHING IN NEW YORK CITY**
- **16TH INSTALLMENT IN A BELOVED MYSTERY SERIES** that continues to find new fans

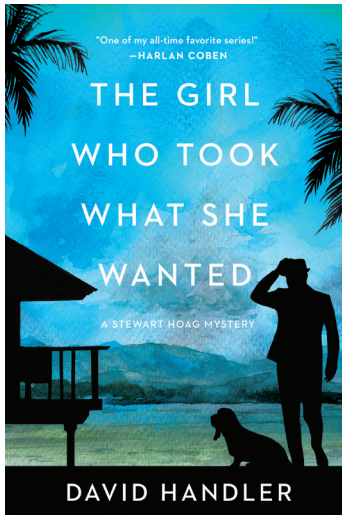
DAVID HANDLER is the Edgar Award-winning, critically acclaimed author of several bestselling mystery series. He began his career as a New York City reporter, and wrote his first two novels—*Kiddo* (1987) and *Boss* (1988)—about his Los Angeles childhood. In 1988 he published *The Man Who Died Laughing*, the first of his long-running series of mysteries starring ghostwriter Stewart Hoag and his faithful basset hound Lulu.



PRIORITY TITLE - SERIES

The Stewart Hoag Series by David Handler

A washed up novelist-turned-celebrity ghostwriter solves crimes with the help of his trusty Basset Hound Lulu
(long-running series; many more titles available)



THE GIRL WHO TOOK WHAT SHE WANTED

Stewart Hoag's newest ghostwriting project could have him diving back into the world of fiction in a way he never imagined.

Nikki Dymtryk is Hollywood's hottest reality TV star, known for her wild party lifestyle. Now, she's reinventing herself as a bestselling author. Nikki's team hires Hoagy to ghostwrite a steamy romance novel, and it may just be the key to getting Hoagy's creative juices flowing again—and staying in L.A. might also give him a chance at getting back together with his actress ex-wife, Merilee.

But spending time with Nikki isn't all parties and poolside lounging. As Hoagy gets closer to the young woman, he begins to uncover the Dymtryk family's dark secrets. Secrets that are worth killing for...

US Publication Date:

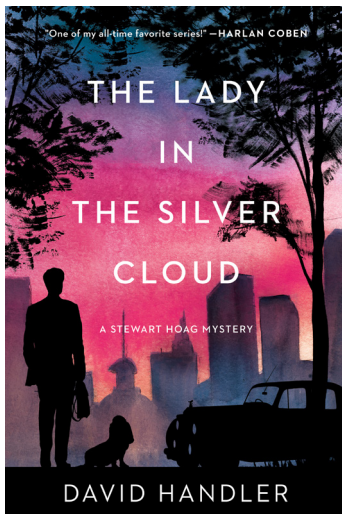
February 2023
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)



THE LADY IN THE SILVER CLOUD

"This is confection in the guise of a mystery novel; it goes down easy as a milkshake."—*New York Times Book Review*

A 1955 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud is a fantastically expensive car, especially in the pristine condition of the one owned by Muriel Cantrell. Living in a luxury apartment building on Central Park West, the delicate, sweet 75-year-old woman is a neighbor of Merilee Nash, the beautiful movie star, and Stuart Hoag, whose first book was a sensation but whose career crashed when he became involved with drugs and alcohol.

Apparently universally beloved in her building, residents are shocked when Muriel is murdered after a Halloween party. No one takes it harder than her long-time chauffeur, Bullets Durmond, whose previous job was as an enforcer for the mob. Who in the world would want to harm the silver-haired lady whose major vices were buying shoes and Chanel suits (always in cash), and watching day-time soap operas?

US Publication Date:

February 2022
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

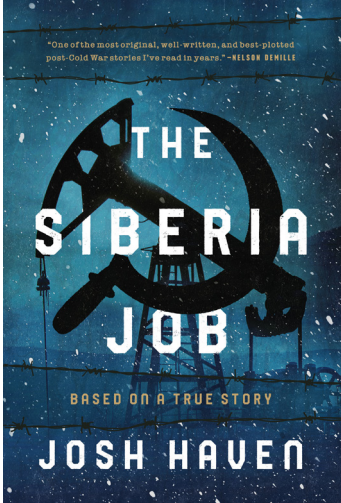
Praise for Series

"This is confection in the guise of a mystery novel; it goes down easy as a milkshake."—*New York Times*

"Each subsequent series installment has been delightfully entertaining."—*Booklist*



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

June 2023
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus), CZ
(Bourdon), FR (Bouchet-
Chastel), JP (Hayakawa)

THE SIBERIA JOB

by Josh Haven

A Texas businessman travels to the furthest reaches of post-Soviet Russia in search of the country's new wealth—and finds new dangers as well. Based on true events.

After the demise of the Soviet Union, the newly-established Russian government privatized its industry by issuing vouchers to all of its citizens, allowing them the chance to be shareholders in the country's burgeoning businesses. The slips are distributed among the population and auctions are arranged where they can be exchanged for actual shares. For the country's rural populations living in abject poverty, the vouchers appear to be little more than pieces of paper, totally separated from the far-off concept of potential future fortunes.

But for Texas businessman John Mills and his Czech companion, Petr Kovac, the seemingly-valueless chits suggest a lucrative potential, worth much more than what the current owners are willing to sell them for. They travel to the furthest, coldest reaches of the country to acquire vouchers for the country's national oil company, Gazneft, roving from town to town with suitcases full of cash. But they quickly learn that the plan has complications—for example, the fact that the auctions at which these vouchers are traded for actual shares have been planned at the most remote, inaccessible locations possible to deter outsiders from buying in. And when the Russian mafia and the oligarchs in charge of Gazneft catch wind of their successes, the stakes become suddenly more deadly.

A thrilling adventure inspired by true events, *The Siberia Job* charts a course through one of the most impactful periods in recent Russian history, whose reverberations continue to be felt in the present day.

An exciting look at a pivotal moment in Russian history, one which continues to impact current events of today.

Praise for *The Siberia Job*

"Thrilling and suspenseful . . . storytelling intrigue at its very finest."

—**Bill Browder**

"A breathless, globetrotting thriller that's also a mesmerizing look at Russia's transformation from Soviet socialism to modern-day kleptocracy. Vivid, ingenious, and suspenseful to the last page."

—**Joseph Funder**

"A terrific post-Soviet thriller." —**Martin Cruz Smith**

"One of the most original, well-written, and best-plotted post-Cold War stories I've read in years. . . . A ground-breaking novel."

—**Nelson DeMille**

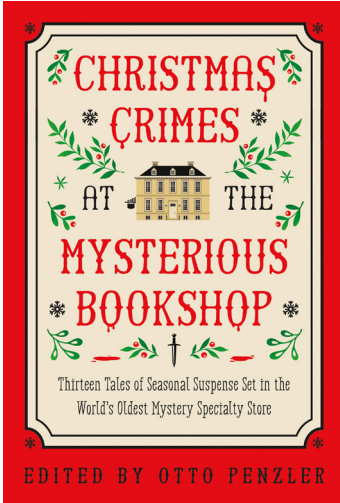
Key Sales Handles

- **BASED ON AN UNBELIEVABLE TRUE STORY**
- **THE RISE OF THE OLIGARCHS:** A thriller that depicts a historical moment with lasting effects in the present, namely, when Russian oligarchs took over the Soviet Union's industry.
- **FINANCIAL THRILLER WITH WIDE APPEAL** for readers of Cold War espionage novels as well as those interested in recent Russian history and 20th century politics.

JOSH HAVEN was an art critic for magazines & newspapers in the US & Europe and an astrogeophysicist before turning to writing novels. Aside from writing crime fiction, he publishes historical seafaring adventure novels under the name J.H. Gelernter.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

October 2024

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

CHRISTMAS CRIMES AT THE MYSTERIOUS BOOKSHOP

edited by Otto Penzler

A collection of thirteen seasonal mysteries set in the world's oldest mystery fiction specialty store, The Mysterious Bookshop, with authors including Laura Lippman, Jeffery Deaver, Ragnar Jónasson, Thomas Perry, and more.

The oldest mystery specialty bookstore in the world, The Mysterious Bookshop, has for most of its forty-five-year history commissioned an original short story as a holiday gift to its customers. Written exclusively for the store and never published elsewhere, the stories were given as a holiday gift to its customers as a thank you for their business, handed out or mailed between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

The prompt for the story requires three elements: that it be set at Christmastime, that it involve a crime of some kind, or the suspicion of one, and that it be set at least partially in the bookstore. And from these loose structural guidelines, diverse tales took flight. The thirteen tales included in this volume are among the finest to be produced in this annual tradition, sure to charm any reader looking for a holiday-themed escape.

Included herein are the ingenious "Snowflake Time" by Laura Lippman; Lyndsay Faye's tale of vengeance "A Midnight Clear"; the challenging brainteaser, "A Christmas Puzzle," by Ragnar Jónasson; "Hester's Gift," an impossible crime story by Tom Mead; the suspenseful "The Christmas Party" by Jeffery Deaver; Thomas Perry's hilarious comedy of errors, "Here We Come A-Wassailing;" and other tales appropriate for the season, collected and introduced by Otto Penzler. The result is, objectively speaking, the finest "stocking stuffer" that a mystery fan could hope to find.

Praise for *Christmas Crimes*

Key Sales Handles

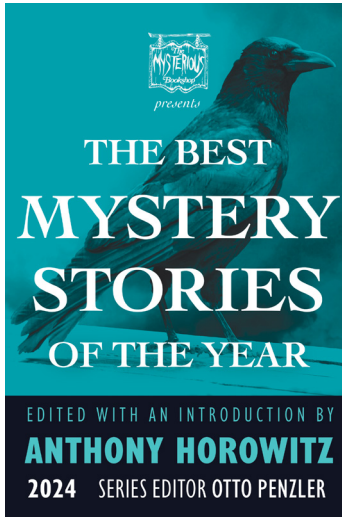
- **CHRISTMAS STORIES FROM BESTSELLING CRIME WRITERS.** Authors include Laura Lippman, Jeffery Deaver, Ragnar Jónasson, Ace Atkins, and more!
- **INDIE BOOKSTORE APPEAL.** With stories set in New York City's Mysterious Bookshop, this anthology will appeal to bibliophiles and indie bookselling fans
- **GIFTABLE FORMAT.** Small, attractive hardcover package makes this an excellent "stocking stuffer."

OTTO PENZLER, the creator of American Mystery Classics, is also the founder of The Mysterious Press (1975); MysteriousPress.com (2011), an electronic-book publishing company; and New York City's Mysterious Bookshop (1979). He has won a Raven, the Ellery Queen Award, two Edgars (for the *Encyclopedia of Mystery and Detection*, 1977, and *The Lineup*, 2010), and lifetime achievement awards from NoirCon and *The Strand Magazine*. He has edited more than 70 anthologies and written extensively about mystery fiction.



PRIORITY TITLE - SERIES

The Mysterious Bookshop Presents The Best Mystery Stories of the Year



2024

Edited by Anthony Horowitz

Includes stories by Leonardo Padura, Jeffery Deaver, Ace Atkins, and more!

From a pool of over 3,000 considered stories published last year, these are the twenty best, selected by series editor Otto Penzler and guest editor Anthony Horowitz.

The tales included cover a range of styles, highlighting the diversity of subjects and forms comprising the genre we call mystery fiction. Featuring a mixture of household names, masters of the short form, and newcomers to the field, the collection offers a variety that promises something for every reader. And it's all capped off by a vintage story from the first half of the previous century, sourced directly from the rare book room at the Mysterious Bookshop, the oldest mystery fiction specialty store in the world.

US Publication Date:

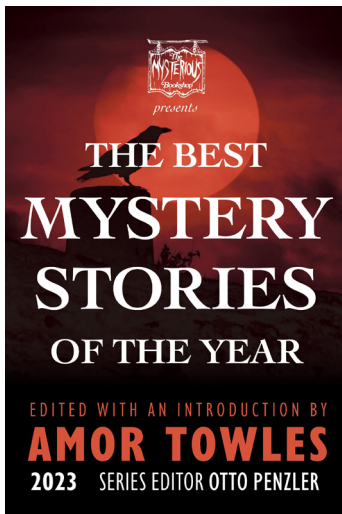
September 2024
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)



2023

Edited by Amor Towles

Short mysteries from T.C. Boyle, Andrew Child, Jeffery Deaver, and more, selected by international bestseller Amor Towles.

In his introduction to this volume, guest editor Amor Towles pays tribute to the forgotten person of the mystery story—the cadaver. “Male or female, old or young, rich or poor,” he writes, “for over a hundred years the cadaver has been accommodating, gracious, and generally on time. There is no other figure in crime who has proven to be more reliable.”

Like the cadaver, this anthology series, now in its third year of publication, is also proving reliable, bringing to readers the finest mystery/crime/suspense stories of the year from a variety of sources including mystery and general interest magazines, anthologies, online publications, and literary periodicals.

US Publication Date:

September 2023
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)

Praise for This Series

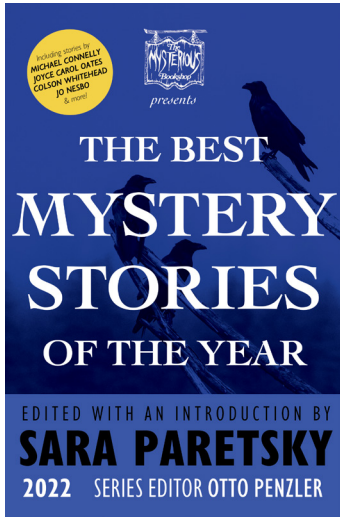
“Across a dizzying number of subgenres, this collection delights by prizing quality over name recognition.

There’s something here for every mystery fan.” —*Publishers Weekly* (Starred Review), 2023



PRIORITY TITLE - SERIES

A yearly anthology of the best short mysteries
edited by some of the biggest names in the genre
and overseen by Otto Penzler



2022

Edited by Sara Paretsky

Includes stories by Colson Whitehead, Jo Nesbo, Michael Connelly, Joyce Carol Oates, and more.

Under the auspices of New York City's legendary mystery fiction specialty bookstore, The Mysterious Bookshop, and aided by Edgar Award-winning anthologist Otto Penzler, international bestseller and MWA Grandmaster Sara Paretsky has selected the twenty most puzzling, most thrilling, and most mysterious short stories from the past year, collected now in one entertaining volume.

"Brings together short fiction weighted toward character-driven tales awash in psychological thrills. Mobsters, assassins, and executioners blend with conflicted and embattled everypersons, leaving no doubt that mayhem can slip into our tightest corners."—*Booklist* (Starred Review)

US Publication Date:

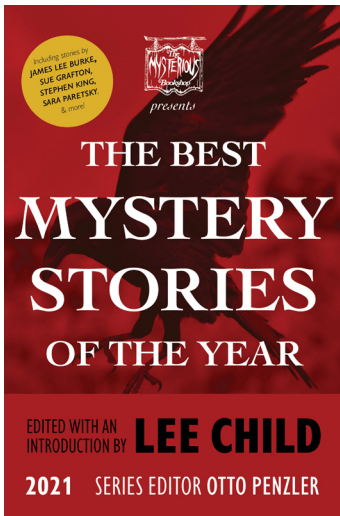
September 2022
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus)



2021

Edited by Lee Child

With stories by Stephen King, Joyce Carol Oates, James Lee Burke, Alison Gaylin, Sue Grafton, and more, these really are the best

"There is such a wide variety here, in terms of literary style and subject matter, that it's hard to imagine a genre fan who would not find something to treasure. The book belongs on the shelf next to such essential anthologies as the Best American Mystery Stories series and Akashic Books' voluminous Noir series."—*Booklist*

"The 20 entries in this superior anthology exhibit the storytelling gifts of authors both familiar and not [...] This volume is a must for mystery aficionados."—*Publishers Weekly* (Starred Review)

US Publication Date:

September 2021
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

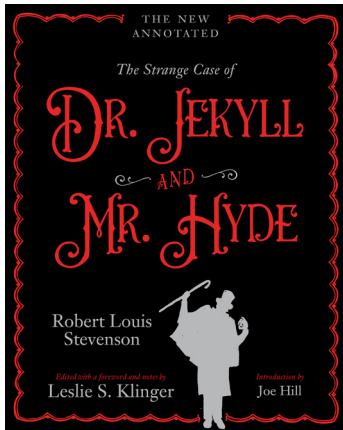
UK (Head of Zeus)

Praise for This Series

"Yet another outstanding annual compilation of mystery stories.
This one deserves a place in every mystery collection"—*Booklist* (Starred Review), 2023



LEAD TITLE



US Publication Date:

October 2022

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

-UK (Head of Zeus) SP
(Ediciones Akal), TR
(Alfa Basim Yayim Dağı-
tim San)

THE NEW ANNOTATED DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE by Leslie S. Klinger; introduction by Joe Hill

The definitive edition of Robert Louis Stevenson's immortal tale of depraved murder and unrelenting horror, introduced by Joe Hill, annotated by Edgar-winner Leslie S. Klinger, & illustrated with over 100 color images.

There's no question that *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is one of the most influential texts of all time. The now-iconic tale, which has confounded and thrilled readers for more than a century, was described by one scholar as the only detective-crime story in which the solution is more terrifying than the problem. And even as its plot gets continually reinterpreted and reimagined in literature, film, and theater, the main themes persist, as do the titular characters, now so familiar as to have become a part of the English language.

This new edition gives the classic tale of depraved murder and unrelenting horror its most complete and illuminating presentation yet. Heavily illustrated with over a hundred and fifty full color images from the history of this cultural touchstone—including reproductions of rare books, film stills, theatrical posters, and the true-life people associated with the adventure—and extensively annotated by Edgar Award winning editor and noted Victorian literature expert Leslie S. Klinger, this thorough and authoritative approach is both an invaluable resource for scholars and a sumptuous treat for fans of the text.

Introduced by a compelling and erudite essay from bestselling novelist and short story writer Joe Hill, this complete illustrated and annotated edition of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* is the ultimate tribute to an enduring classic, combining revelatory and surprising information and in-depth historical context with beautiful illustrations and photographs.

Praise for *The New Annotated Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

"This gorgeous new annotated version provides a captivating reason to go back to the 1886 novel. Filled with 150 color images, and illuminating asides from the veteran editor Leslie S. Klinger ... It's a profoundly disturbing reading experience, one that shocks and entertains as powerfully now as it did 136 years ago."—*New York Times*

"Klinger makes reading, or rereading, this masterpiece an immersive experience. Richly illustrated with scenes from Victorian London, playbills, and film images, this will instantly become the definitive edition of this complex and influential piece of literature."

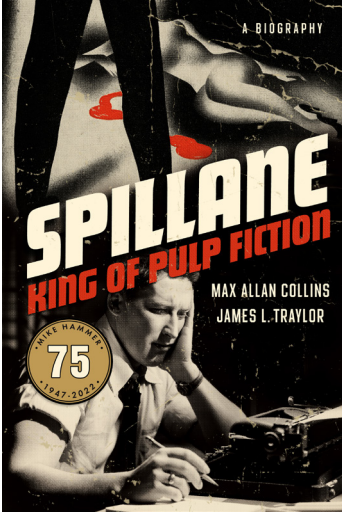
—*Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*



LESLIE S. KLINGER is considered to be one of the world's foremost authorities on those icons of the Victorian era, Sherlock Holmes, Dracula, and Frankenstein. He has published numerous annotated classics including *The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes*, winner of the Edgar Award. Klinger is a member of the Baker Street Irregulars, the Horror Writers Association, and the Mystery Writers of America. He served for three years as the chapter president of the SoCal Chapter of MWA and on its National Board of Directors, and he is the Treasurer of the Horror Writers Association.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

Feb 2023
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All territories available

SPILLANE: KING OF PULP FICTION

by Max Allan Collins & James L. Traylor

The first-ever biography of the most popular and most influential pulp writer of all time, written by the collaborator who knew him best

There has never been a full-length biography of Mickey Spillane, the most popular and influential mystery writer of his era—until now.

Beginning in 1947 with *I, the Jury*, and continuing with his next six novels, Spillane quickly amassed a readership in the tens of millions, becoming the bestselling novelist in the history of American publishing. Surrounded by controversy for the overt violence and suggestive sexual content of his iconic Mike Hammer private eye novels, Spillane was loathed by critics but beloved by his readers.

There is, however, more to Spillane's life than the books. He also starred as Hammer in a movie, was a circus performer, worked with the FBI in capturing a notorious criminal, and starred in Miller Light beer commercials that were so popular they ran for a quarter of a century.

Max Allan Collins became Spillane's friend and collaborator, continuing the Mike Hammer series for years after the author's death, building upon unfinished manuscripts the writer left behind. Now, with co-author James Traylor, Collins has produced the first comprehensive and authoritative profile of the Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. It is a must-read for any fan of the author—or of the generations of crime writers that were influenced by his work.

Edgar Award Nominee / Publishers Weekly Starred Review / Booklist Starred Review

Praise for Spillane

"No one will produce a more thorough and entertaining biography."
—*Times Literary Supplement*

"An engaging, capacious and largely celebratory account, presenting the writer, his works and their multimedia adaptations as worthy of serious consideration." —*Wall Street Journal*

"A knockout biography ... A thoroughly engrossing life story and an indispensable account of the rise of paperback publishing."
—*Booklist (Starred Review)*

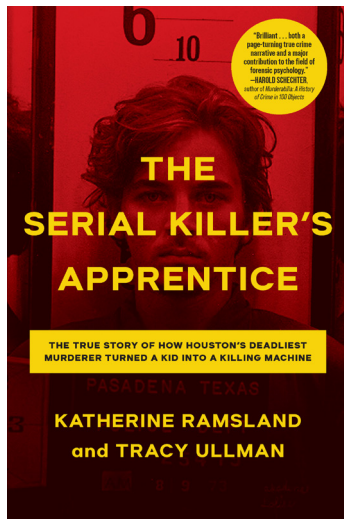
"Illuminating ... This definitive work is indispensable for any fan of the revolutionary Spillane and his two-fisted novels."
—*Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*

Key Sales Handles

- **FIRST EVER BIOGRAPHY OF MICKEY SPILLANE**, one of the most popular and influential crime writers of the 20th century.
- **FOR FANS OF HARD-BOILED FICTION AND FILM NOIR**, Spillane's Mike Hammer character is an icon (*Kiss Me Deadly*; *I, the Jury*; and *My Gun Is Quick* are just a few of the memorable films starring the character).
- **INTIMATE INSIGHTS**: Max Allan Collins, Spillane's collaborator and confidant, brings authoritative insight into the author's life, closely familiar with Spillane and his work.

MAX ALLAN COLLINS, an MWA Grand Master, is the author of the Shamus-winning Nathan Heller historical thrillers and the graphic novel *Road to Perdition*, basis of the Academy Award-winning film. He has completed thirteen posthumous Mickey Spillane novels and is the co-author (with his wife Barbara Collins) of the *Trash 'n' Treasures* mystery series.

JAMES L. TRAYLOR was nominated for the MWA Edgar Award in 1985 for *One Lonely Knight: Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer* (written with Max Allan Collins). With Collins, he co-authored *Mickey Spillane on Screen* (2012). His *Dime Detective Companion* (2011) is recognized as a significant contribution to pulp fiction research.

**US Publication Date:**

April 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

PL (SQN), RU (EKS-
MO)

THE SERIAL KILLER'S APPRENTICE

by Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman

The true story of how Houston's deadliest murderer turned a kid into a killing machine

Elmer Wayne Henley, Jr. was only fourteen when he first became entangled with serial rapist and murderer Dean Corll in 1971. Fellow Houston, Texas, teenager David Brooks had already been ensnared by the charming older man, bribed with cash to help lure boys to Corll's home. When Henley unwittingly entered the trap, Corll evidently sensed he'd be of more use as a second accomplice than another victim. He baited Henley with the same deal he'd given Brooks: \$200 for each boy they could bring him.

Henley didn't understand the full extent of what he had signed up for at first. But once he started, Corll convinced him that he had crossed the line of no return and had to not only procure boys but help kill them and dispose of the bodies, as well. By the time he was seventeen, he'd helped with multiple murders and believed he'd be killed, too. But on August 8, 1973, he picked up a gun and shot Corll dead. Twenty-eight bodies were recovered from mass graves that Henley pointed out to authorities, making this the worst case of serial murder in America at the time. It's possible that even more bodies went undiscovered.

The Serial Killer's Apprentice tells the story of Corll and his accomplices in its fullest form to date. It also explores current neuroscience concerning adolescent brain vulnerabilities, the role of compartmentalization, the dynamic of a murder apprenticeship, and how tales like Henley's can aid with early intervention. Despite his youth and cooperation, Henley went to trial and received six life sentences. He's now sixty-five and has a sense of perspective about how adult predators can turn formerly good kids into criminals. This book is his warning, and the story of the unspeakable horrors that befell 1970s Houston.

Kirkus Starred Review

Praise for *The Serial Killer's Apprentice*

"An intimate investigative account of a notorious serial killer . . . fast paced [and] illuminating."—**Kirkus (Starred)**

"Katherine Ramsland and Tracy Ullman's consistently gripping book is not only the definitive account of the infamous 'Candy Man' case—offering eye-opening information never before revealed—but a brilliant study of the minds and motivations of pedophilic predators: both a page-turning true crime narrative and a major contribution to the field of forensic psychology."—**Harold Schechter, author of *Murderabilia***

"[Changes] what we knew as a case narrative for over 50 years and resets the errors made during the investigation and at trial."—**Michael Baden, M.D., Former Chief Medical Examiner, NYC**

Key Sales Handles

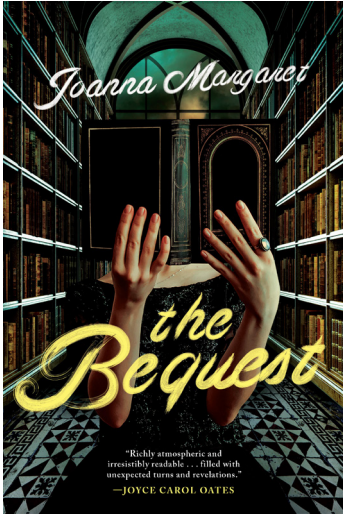
- **THE DEFINITIVE ACCOUNT OF TEXAS'S DEADLIEST SERIAL KILLER:** Dean Corll's case has been covered in popular podcasts, but there is no authoritative book on the subject.
- **FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF THE MAKING OF A KILLER:** One of Dean's teenage accomplices, Elmer Wayne Henley Jr., is still alive (and imprisoned) and cooperated with the authors extensively.
- **WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT:** Katherine Ramsland has appeared on countless true crime podcasts and documentaries, and authored numerous books.

DR. KATHERINE RAMSLAND teaches forensic psychology and criminology at DeSales University in Pennsylvania. The author of 70 books, she has appeared as an expert on more than 250 crime documentaries, podcasts, and news shows. She was an executive producer of *Murder House Flip* and *Confession of a Serial Killer* and consulted for *CSI*, *Bones*, and *The Alienist*.

TRACY ULLMAN is a documentary producer, director, and writer living in Chicago. She has produced dozens of non-fiction television programs for Discovery Networks, Oxygen, AETN Networks, and PBS. Her most recent production is a six-part limited documentary series about serial murderer John Wayne Gacy and the new discoveries made in his case for NBC's Peacock streaming service.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

October 2023

Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Head of Zeus),
RU (AST)

THE BEQUEST

by Joanna Margaret

After her professor's suspicious death, a PhD student uncovers dark machinations among her academic associates in this "richly atmospheric and irresistibly readable" (Joyce Carol Oates) Gothic mystery set between Scotland, Italy, and France.

Fleeing a disastrous affair with a colleague in Boston, Isabel Henley moves to Scotland to begin a PhD with a renowned feminist professor—only to learn, upon arrival, that her advisor has suffered a deadly fall. Soon after, Isabel is informed that another scholar at the university is about to publish a book on her dissertation topic, leaving her disconcerted and in search of a new subject, all while struggling to acclimate to her new home abroad.

Isabel needs a good friend during such a rocky start and finds one when she reconnects with Rose Brewster, her charismatic classmate from undergrad. But when Rose confides to Isabel that she is in trouble, and then goes missing, Isabel's already-unsteady life is sent into a tailspin. A suicide note surfaces, followed by a coded message: Rose is alive but, unless Isabel can complete the research begun before her friend's disappearance, both women will be killed by her captors.

As Isabel follows the Rose's paper trail from Genoa to Florence and, finally, to Paris, she uncovers family secrets, the legend of an enormous cursed emerald, and a chain of betrayal and treason which parallels her own perilous present. If she can put the pieces together soon, she could solve a 400-year-old mystery—and save her and her friend's lives in the process.

Amazon Editor's Pick

Praise for *The Bequest*

"Interlocking mysteries lie at the heart of Joanna Margaret's richly atmospheric and irresistibly readable debut novel, the harrowing saga of a young American woman historian who finds herself embroiled in a Machiavellian plot reaching back to 16th century Italy. Whether evoking present-day Scotland in a windswept region overlooking the North Sea, or Renaissance Genoa in a time of vertiginous political plotting, *The Bequest* is filled with unexpected turns and revelations for the reader as well as the historian-heroine." —**Joyce Carol Oates**

"Intricately plotted, exquisitely written, and brimming with atmosphere, *The Bequest* is a brilliant debut, as smart as it is compelling." —**Tasha Alexander**

"Intriguing plot and well drawn characters." —**Martin Cruz Smith**

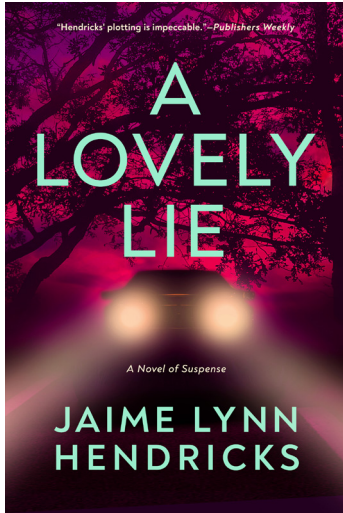
Key Sales Handles

- **DARK ACADEMIA THRILLER:** Stylish tale of murder in the university will appeal to readers of Donna Tartt's *The Secret History* or Alex Michaelides' *The Maidens*.
- **CROSS-CONTINENTAL INTRIGUE:** Plot leads from Scotland to the archives of Italy.
- **AUTHORIAL EXPERTISE:** Joanna Margaret is a scholar of the Medici court and makes use of that background to craft the historical intrigue of her plot.

JOANNA MARGARET is an art historian whose previous writing and scholarly work has focused on Florentine aristocrats in sixteenth-century France. She holds a PhD from the University of St. Andrews and an MFA from NYU, where Joyce Carol Oates served as her thesis advisor. *The Bequest* is her first novel.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

May 2024
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All rights available

A LOVELY LIE

by Jaime Lynn Hendricks

This twisty new thriller from the author of *Finding Tessa* asks a chilling question: Is it better to believe a lovely lie or to know the horrible truth?

1999: The night of their senior picnic, Scarlett Russo and her best friend Pepper were involved in a car accident that left two of their classmates dead. Afterward, they lied to the police, protecting each other from the consequences. Then Pepper left town and Scarlett never heard from her again...

Now: Twenty-two years later, Scarlett has buried that deadly incident deep in her mind and built a comfortable life for herself, working in a hotel on the west coast of Florida and raising her teenage son with her husband Vince. Her peace is disrupted, however, when Pepper's daughter shows up with news of Pepper's death. Zoey is twenty-one and studying to be an investigative journalist. She has a cryptic letter from Pepper addressed to Scarlett that alludes to the events of that fateful night and Pepper's initial intentions to get an abortion. Now Zoey wants answers about her mother's past. Who is Zoey's father? And what really happened after the senior picnic? As Zoey continues to dig into the past, all of Scarlett's buried secrets threaten to rise to the surface.

Jaime Lynn Hendricks, "the queen of the page-turner" (Ashley Winstead), will have you questioning who you can trust in this intricately plotted thriller.

A SheReads Most Anticipated Thriller / A Crime by the Book Book Club Selection

Praise for Jaime Lynn Hendricks

"Hendricks excels at sharp twists and dangerous turns that domestic suspense readers will devour."—**Vanessa Lillie**

"A must read for those who crave a fun, wicked, twisty tale."
—**Mary Kubica**

"Hendricks delivers an addictive and wickedly fun story packed with intense drama and shocking secrets."—**Jeneva Rose**

"One clever twist after another."—**Danielle Girard**

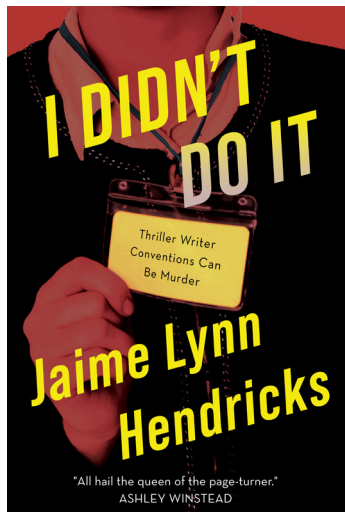
Key Sales Handles

- **NEWEST THRILLER FROM A CELEBRATED AUTHOR OF SUSPENSE:** Hendricks' debut was named a best suspense novel of the year, and her profile has been rising since then, with fawning reviews in *People* and the *New York Times*.
- **TWISTY, LAYERED STORYLINE MOVES BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT**
- **FOR FANS OF HARLAN COBEN, JENEVA ROSE, AND MARY KUBICA** Hendricks' entertaining and domestic plot reveals the intrigue of everyday life.

JAIME LYNN HENDRICKS is the author of *A Lovely Lie*, *It Could Be Anyone*, and *I Didn't Do It*. Her first novel, *Finding Tessa*, was selected as one of the best debuts of the year by *Suspense Magazine*. Before writing thrillers, she spent two decades in print media and marketing. She lives with her husband in Florida.



LEAD TITLE

**US Publication Date:**

May 2023
Hardcover

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All rights available

I DIDN'T DO IT

by Jaime Lynn Hendricks

A murder at a thriller writer convention makes everyone a suspect—especially the victim's literary rivals.

Murderpalooza, the premier thriller writers conference, is meant to be an exciting celebration of the genre and its preeminent writers. But when bestselling author and industry favorite Kristin Bailey is found dead in her hotel room, four rival authors—a midlister, an egomaniac, a has-been, and a newbie—also get targeted by an anonymous social media account and wonder if they're next.

First, they find themselves bonding to try to find out who's behind it. As the account taunts them, it slowly reveals secrets that each of them have connected to Kristin—secrets that make them a suspect in each other's eyes. Soon, they are turning on each other and silently accusing each as a killer. With time running out until the awards ceremony where the social media account has promised a big reveal, the only thing they know for sure is that no one is better at both creating and solving a mystery than the people who write them for a living.

Jaime Lynn Hendricks gives the reader a thrilling peek into the thriller writing world and those that inhabit it in this gripping suspense novel.

Amazon Editor's Pick / Kirkus Starred Review / People Magazine "Best New Books"

Praise for Title

"Brisk, snarky, and delicious."—**People**

"A furious, riotous, meta-romp ... A dishy balm for every aspiring author who's envied those established figures at mystery conventions."
—**Kirkus (Starred Review)**

"An electrifying roller coaster ride into a behind the scenes world of thriller writers and deadly rivalries. I loved it!"—**Liv Constantine**

"One of the most fun and wickedly hilarious books I've ever read ... A meta mystery, a suspense, and a divine comedy all rolled into one brilliantly constructed novel, this unputdownable read is the very best escape you could ask for."—**Samantha M. Bailey**

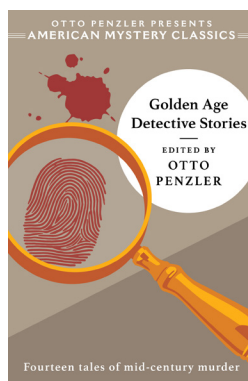
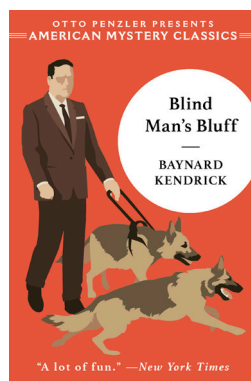
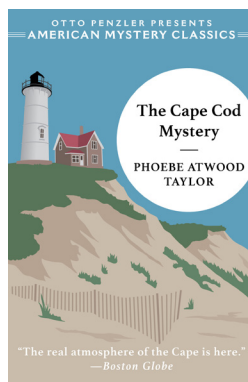
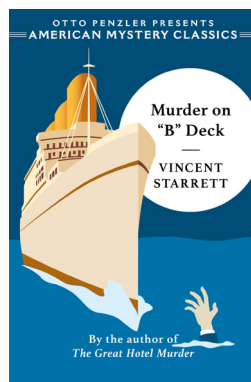
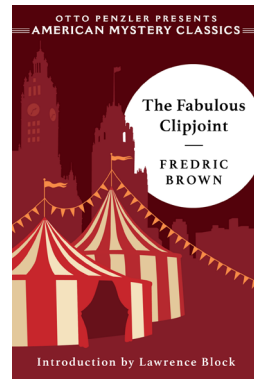
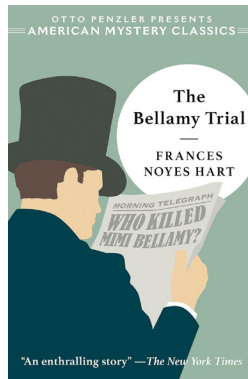
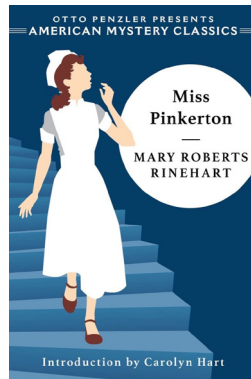
Key Sales Handles

- **THRILLING PEEK INTO THE MYSTERY WRITING WORLD AND THOSE THAT INHABIT IT**
- **AUTHOR HAS A LARGE FANBASE AMONG "BOOKSTAGRAM"/SOCIAL MEDIA INFLUENCERS**
- **WELL-CONSTRUCTED WHODUNIT WITH AN INTRIGUING SETTING:** anyone who has attended a mystery convention, as either a fan or an author, will immediately recognize the fictional gathering Hendricks depicts.

Two more titles available from Jaime Lynn Hendricks:

**FINDING TESSA
IT COULD BE ANYONE**

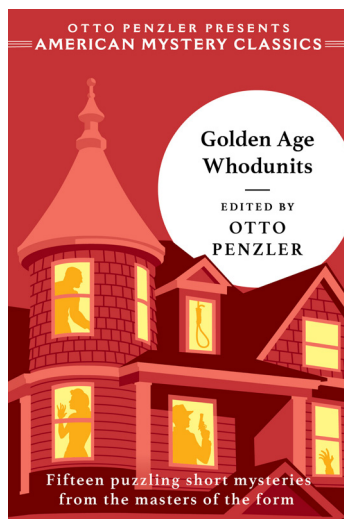
AMERICAN MYSTERY CLASSICS



From the offices of the world's oldest mystery bookstore, crime fiction expert Otto Penzler is reissuing the very best American mysteries from the 1920s, 30s, and 40s—the so-called Golden Age of the genre—with new introductions from the biggest writers and mystery scholars of today.

Golden Age Anthologies by Otto Penzler

This anthology series edited by Penzler highlights outstanding short mysteries from the period in various styles and subgenres. The books feature writers such as Ellery Queen, Mary Roberts Rinehart, John Dickson Carr, Cornell Woolrich, and many more.



GOLDEN AGE WHODUNITS

Depending on who you ask, the term “whodunit” was first coined sometime around 1930, but the literary form predates that name by several decades. Still, it was in the years between the two world wars—the so-called “Golden Age” of mystery fiction—that the style flourished. Short mysteries were published far and wide by a variety of authors, not just those primarily associated with the genre. They appeared in *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Cosmopolitan*, *The New Yorker*, and other high-end periodicals that still exist today. These tales were, in short, among the most popular diversions in literature and were of the highest caliber.

In this volume, Edgar Award-winning anthologist Otto Penzler collects some of the finest American whodunits of the era, including household names and welcome rediscoveries. F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ellery Queen, and Mary Roberts Rinehart are all included, as are Ring Lardner, Melville Davisson Post, and Helen Reilly. The result is a cross section of the whodunit tale in the years that made it a staple in mystery fiction.

US Publication Date:

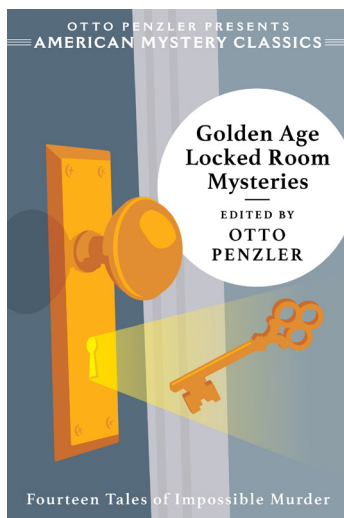
July 2024
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All rights available



GOLDEN AGE LOCKED ROOM MYSTERIES

For devotees of the Golden Age mystery, the impossible crime story represents the period’s purest form: it depicts a baffling scenario (a corpse discovered in a locked room, perhaps), lays out a set of increasingly confounding clues, and swiftly delivers an ingenious and satisfying solution. During the years between the two world wars, the best writers in the genre strove to outdo one another with unfathomable crime scenes and brilliant explanations, and the puzzling and clever tales they produced in those brief decades remain unmatched to this day.

This volume collects some of the greatest examples of such tales from authors including Ellery Queen, John Dickson Carr, and Cornell Woolrich, among others, selected and introduced by award-winning anthologist and scholar Otto Penzler.

US Publication Date:

July 2022
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All rights available

MORE VOLUMES AVAILABLE — DETECTIVE STORIES & BIBLIOMYSTERIES

“This sampler is an easy gateway to other volumes in this high-quality series.”—*Publishers Weekly*

“The book belongs on the shelf of any true mystery fan, and in the collection of every library’s mystery section.”—*Booklist*

Mary Roberts Rinehart, “The American Agatha Christie”

At one time the biggest bestseller of American popular fiction, Rinehart’s whodunits are set largely on elegant estates and often cut straight through the social strata of early twentieth century culture.



THE ALBUM

Even in the early 1930s, Crescent Place is a neighborhood out of the past. The five Victorian mansions and the patch of pasture placed between them have the air of the 1890s, even as the city—once miles away from this idyllic retreat—encroaches on the enclave. But while the residences may appear calm on the outside, their isolated interiors contain dark secrets, prolonged feuds, and generations of high-toned trouble.

In these houses are a husband and wife who fight constantly, and another couple who haven’t spoken to each other in two decades. There is a widow in permanent mourning and a daughter whom the newspapers call psychotic. And there is a bedridden old woman who is about to be killed with an ax. . . .

Tense and suspenseful, *The Album* is mystery enriched by sly social satire and set against the backdrop of the Great Depression.

US Publication Date:

1933 (2022)

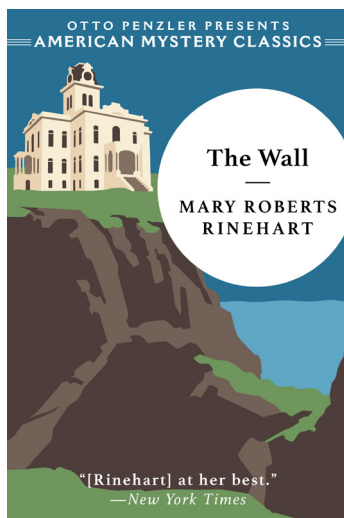
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

All rights available



THE WALL

Marcia Lloyd and her brother Arthur have spent every summer of their lives exploring the grand halls and seaside grounds of their family’s idyllic vacation home, a gorgeous old mansion called Sunset House built by their grandfather. But when Arthur’s ex-wife Juliette arrives at Sunset to demand alimony from him, things take a dark turn and Juliette disappears—her body found a week later. What sordid secrets lie within the creaky old manor?

From “the American Agatha Christie” Mary Roberts Rinehart comes a Golden Age murder mystery inspired by her own hauntingly beautiful coastal northeastern home in Bar Harbor, Maine; *The Wall* is both a love letter to quiet waterfront towns as well as a subtle indictment of a wealthy Old New York family attempting to preserve a bourgeois veneer in the shadow of the Great Depression. But beneath all that lies a timeless tale of a family whose conflicts and passions, long masked by efforts toward respectability, finally rise to the surface with violent results.

US Publication Date:

1938 (2021)

Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

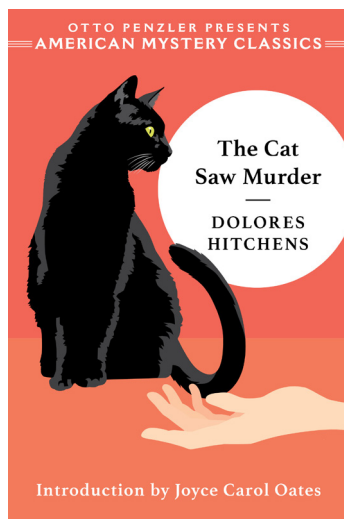
All rights available

MANY MORE TITLES AVAILABLE — PLEASE INQUIRE

MARY ROBERTS RINEHART (1876-1958) was the most beloved and best-selling mystery writer in America in the first half of the twentieth century.

Dolores Hitchens, The Rachel Murdock Series

A prototype for the cat cozies of today, this mid-century series from domestic suspense master Dolores Hitchens is full of memorable characters, brilliantly atmospheric prose, and plenty of amateur sleuthing.



THE CAT SAW MURDER

When Rachel Murdock and her sister Jennifer receive a call for help from their favorite niece, Lilly, in Breakers Beach, CA, they quickly hop a train from Los Angeles to see her—but not before collecting their prized cat Samantha in a picnic basket and bringing her along for the ride. And soon after the trio gets to town, Lilly is murdered in her apartment.

By the time the police arrive, the clues are already falling into place. The source of Lilly's trouble is revealed to be a gambling debt and the suspects in her slaying quickly pile up. But then another corpse is discovered, buried in the nearby sand, and it becomes clear that the killing spree concerns more than just the young lady's personal money trouble. With the authorities distracted by lurid details, it's up to Rachel and her furry friend to uncover the subtleties containing the solution to the puzzle.

US Publication Date:

1939 (2021)

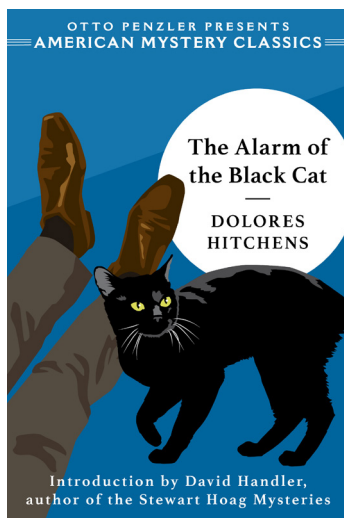
Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

UK (Orion), BR (Harper-Collins), IT (Sellerio), KR (Wisdom House)



THE ALARM OF THE BLACK CAT

A strange encounter with a little girl named Claudia and a dead toad sparks elderly detective fiction fan Rachel Murdock's obsessive curiosity, and she winds up renting the house next door just to see how things play out. But soon after she and her cat Samantha move in, Rachel realizes they've landed right in the middle of a deadly love triangle that's created animosity among the three families who now surround her.

When Rachel finds Claudia's great-grandmother dead in her basement, she reaches out to a friend in the LAPD to solve the crime. They soon learn the three households have been torn apart by one husband's infidelity and a complicated will that could lead to a fortune. In a house plagued by forbidden love, regret, and greed, Rachel will have to trust her intuition, as well as Samantha's instincts, to survive—and keep Claudia out of the hands of a killer whose work has just begun....

US Publication Date:

1942 (2022)

Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

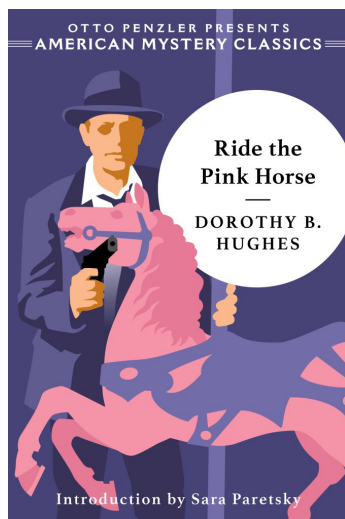
IT (Sellerio)

MANY MORE TITLES AVAILABLE — PLEASE INQUIRE

DOLORES HITCHENS (1907–1973) was a highly prolific mystery author who wrote under multiple pseudonyms including D.B. Olsen. She is perhaps best remembered today for her later novel, *Fool's Gold*, published under her own name, adapted as *Bande à part* by Jean-Luc Godard.

Dorothy B. Hughes, Female Master of Noir

Best known for her classics *In a Lonely Place* and *Ride the Pink Horse*, Dorothy B. Hughes excelled at a psychologically-deep hybrid of suspense and hardboiled noir, with several of her books adapted into enduring crime films still celebrated today.



RIDE THE PINK HORSE

Sailor used to be Senator Willis Douglass' protege. When he met the lawmaker, he was just a poor kid living on the Chicago streets. Douglass took him in and groomed him to work as a confidential secretary. And as the senator's dealings became increasingly corrupt, he knew he could count on Sailor to clean up his messes. But Willis Douglass isn't a senator anymore; he left Chicago, Sailor, and a murder rap behind and set out for the sunny streets of Santa Fe. Now, unwilling to take the fall for another man's crime, Sailor has set out for New Mexico as well, with blackmail and revenge on his mind. But there's another man on his trail as well—a cop who wants the ex-senator for more than a payoff. In the midst of a city gone mad, bursting with wild crowds for a yearly carnival, the three men will violently converge...

The suspenseful tale that inspired one of the most beloved films noir of all time, *Ride the Pink Horse* is a tour-de-force that confirms Dorothy B. Hughes' status as a master of the mid-century crime novel.

US Publication Date:

1946 (2021)

Paperback

Rights Available:

World

Territories Sold:

BR (HarperCollins)



THE FALLEN SPARROW

For more than a year, Kit McKittrick languished in a Fascist prison in Spain where he was tortured by a limping jailor known only as Wobblefoot. He escaped with the help of a childhood friend from America who came overseas with him to fight for the Republican cause. When the two return to the United States, Kit goes West to heal, both physically and psychologically, while Louie remains in New York for the high society life of cocktails and cafes that he had enjoyed before his dangerous adventure.

But Kit's convalescence is cut short when he learns that Louie has taken a long dive out of a high window. He's certain that his friend wouldn't have made the fatal fall without being pushed and, on a quest for vengeance, sets out for New York to get even with the killer. When he arrives, Kit discovers a host of suspicious characters that Louie left behind but he'll have to conquer his own past demons before he can achieve his gruesome goal...

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1942 (2024)

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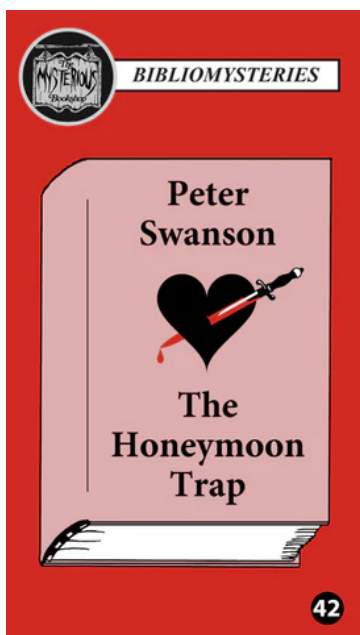
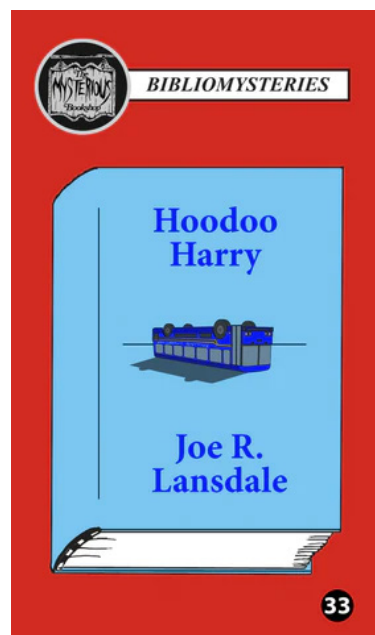
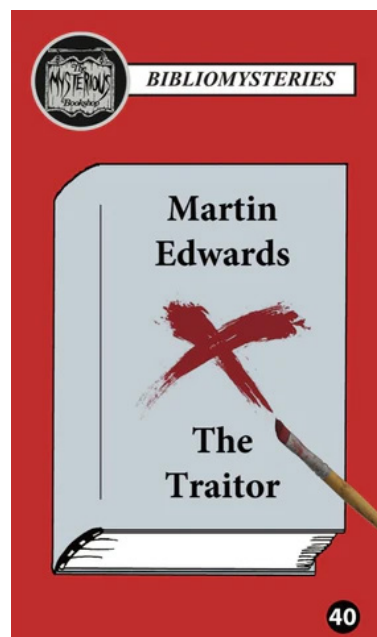
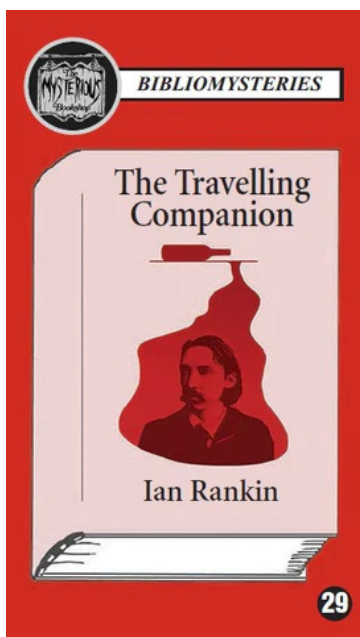
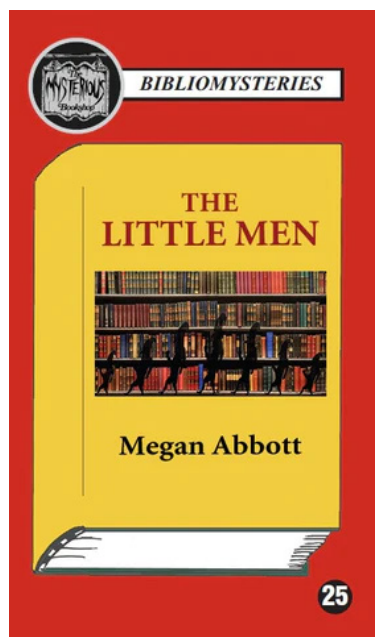
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