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Crime Fiction

SPRING OFFENSIVE

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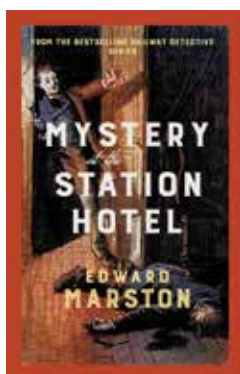
EDWARD MARSTON

‘Edward Marston is a master of his craft’

Daily Mail

London, March 1918. British newspapers carry the dire news that the German Spring Offensive has begun, with thousands of British lives lost. Against this sombre backdrop, a fire provides the diversion needed for an audacious bank robbery which leaves a police officer dead in its wake.

For Detective Inspector Harvey Marmion, the investigation has a personal connection. However, the task of bringing the culprits to justice will be an uphill battle without Detective Sergeant Keedy at his side. And nothing in this case is quite what it seems ...



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Crime Fiction

MYSTERY AT THE STATION HOTEL

RAILWAY DETECTIVE 23

EDWARD MARSTON

Shrewsbury, 1866. At the Station Hotel, staff are horrified to discover the bloodied corpse of Mr Julian Lockyer still holding a knife in his hand.

Inspector Robert Colbeck, the Railway Detective, doubts that this is really a case of suicide. For why would a man approaching the pinnacle of his career as Chairman of the Great Western Railway take his own life? And what secrets was he hiding from his family? Colbeck must probe deeply into Lockyer's life and lies to find the answers and to catch the killer.



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THE COMFORT OF GHOSTS

MAISIE DOBBS 18

JACQUELINE WINSPEAR

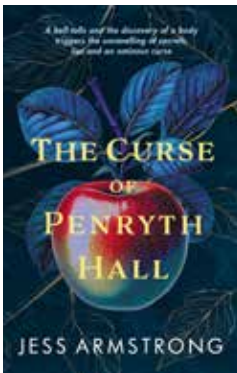
'A series that gets better with every entry'

Wall Street Journal

1922. Ruby Vaughn has made a new life for herself running a bookshop alongside octogenarian Mr Owen. Then she finds herself at Penryth Hall deep in the Cornish countryside, home to her old friend Tamsyn, now married to the sinister Sir Edward Chenoweth. Just when she had hoped to leave, Penryth's bells ring out: Edward has been murdered in the orchard and some fear that a dormant curse has been awoken.

JACQUELINE WINSPEAR is the author of the bestselling Maisie Dobbs series. Originally from the United Kingdom, Winspear now divides her time between California and the Pacific Northwest.

jacquelinewinspear.com



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Crime Fiction

THE CURSE OF PENRYTH HALL

RUBY VAUGHN 1

JESS ARMSTRONG

'A delightful debut'

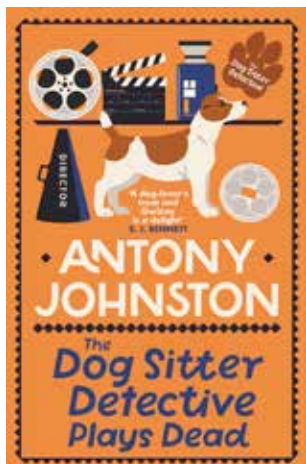
People

1922. Ruby Vaughn has made a new life for herself running a bookshop alongside octogenarian Mr Owen. Then she finds herself at Penryth Hall deep in the Cornish countryside, home to her old friend Tamsyn, now married to the sinister Sir Edward Chenoweth. Just when she had hoped to leave, Penryth's bells ring out: Edward has been murdered in the orchard and some fear that a dormant curse has been awoken.

JESS ARMSTRONG's debut *The Curse of Penryth Hall* won the Mystery Writers of America/Minotaur First Crime Novel Competition. Armstrong lives in New Orleans.

writingjess.com

JANUARY



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Crime Fiction

THE DOG SITTER DETECTIVE PLAYS DEAD

DOG SITTER DETECTIVE 3

ANTHONY JOHNSTON

'Funny, endearing and a juicy mystery to solve, it's the very best of modern cosy crime magic'

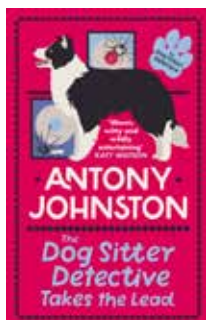
Jonathan Whitelaw

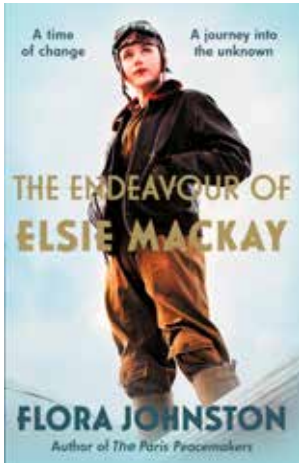
Gwinny Tuffel is on location in Yorkshire filming a part in *Draculania*, a gender-swapped remake of Bram Stoker's classic tale, when life imitates art a little too closely. One of the cast members is found dead inside a locked trailer, with a stake through their heart. Gwinny must navigate a prima donna star, a mischievous Jack Russell terrier, and a local vampire legend to uncover the killer before the production or any further victims are cut.

ANTHONY JOHNSTON's career has spanned books, award-winning video games and graphic novels. He is the creator of *Atomic Blonde* which grossed over \$100 million at the box office. The first book featuring Gwinny Tuffel, *The Dog Sitter Detective*, won the Barker Fiction Award. Johnston can often be found writing at home in Lancashire with a snoozing hound for company.

dogsitterdetective.com

[@antonyjohnston](https://twitter.com/antonyjohnston)





THE ENDEAVOUR OF ELSIE MACKAY

FLORA JOHNSTON

‘Fascinating ... time-travelling the reader through the eyes of immensely relatable characters and leaving you wanting to know more’

Liz Trenow

1927. Daring flyers are all anyone can talk about and now the Honourable Miss Elsie Mackay, former film star and regular name in gossip columns, has the ambition to be the first woman to fly the Atlantic. Elsie's friend Stella Campbell once felt at the heart of world events, but now post-war hopes are frayed and marriage and motherhood have worn away her sense of self. Stella's sister Corran appears determinedly single but when carefully guarded secrets start to emerge, will she choose to follow her heart?

The Endeavour of Elsie Mackay takes the moving story of a pioneering Scottish aviatrix and weaves in the threads of other women straining to reach for their dreams on the cusp of an uncertain future.

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Historical Fiction

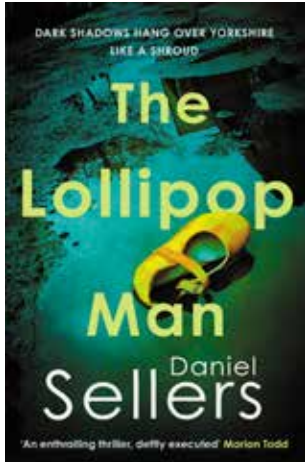
FLORA JOHNSTON worked for over twenty years in museums and heritage interpretation, including at the National Museums of Scotland, which has greatly influenced the historical fiction she now writes. Flora lives in Edinburgh.

florajohnston.com

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FEBRUARY



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Crime Fiction

THE LOLLIPOP MAN

DANIEL SELLERS

'Swift paced and cleverly plotted, with characters we root for, *The Lollipop Man* tells a sinister story in a vivid 1990s West Yorkshire setting and is both shocking and moving'

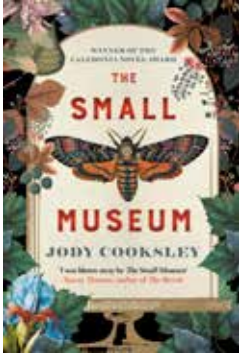
Cath Staincliffe

1994. Eighteen-year-old Adrian Brown spends his days working at the local newspaper, and his evenings in his local pub. But under this ordinary surface lies a haunting story. Aged ten, Adrian was kidnapped by a figure known as the Lollipop Man, who had abducted three children before. Adrian was the only one to escape.

When another child goes missing, there is a media frenzy that the Lollipop Man has returned. Journalist Sheila Hargreaves, troubled by her past reporting on the original case, is determined to dig deeper, atone for what she did and bring a killer to justice.

DANIEL SELLERS is the author of the Kindle-bestselling *Lola Harris Mysteries* and is an obsessive fan of Agatha Christie. His crime thrillers are pacy and dark, with as much interest in whydunnit as who. He grew up in Yorkshire, and has lived and worked in Liverpool, Glasgow, Ireland and Finland. Sellers now lives in Argyll, Scotland.

danielsellers.co.uk
[@danielsellersauthor](https://twitter.com/danielsellersauthor)



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Historical Fiction

THE SMALL MUSEUM

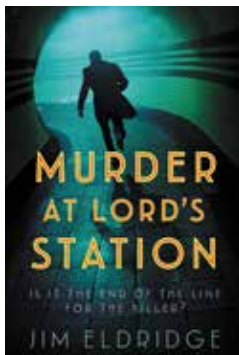
JODY COOKSLEY

'I was blown away'

Stacey Thomas

London, 1873. Madeleine Brewster's marriage to Dr Lucius Everley should have been the answer to her family's prayers. Lucius is a well-respected collector of natural curiosities – his 'Small Museum' is his life's work, although firmly kept under lock and key. His sister Grace's philanthropic work with fallen women also adds to the Everleys' polished reputation.

However, Maddie begins to suspect that unimaginable horrors lie behind their respectable façade. Then she is framed for a shocking crime that would take her to the gallows. Her only hope is her friend Caroline who must prove Maddie's innocence before the trial reaches its fatal conclusion.



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Crime Fiction

MURDER AT LORD'S STATION

LONDON UNDERGROUND STATION MYSTERIES 3

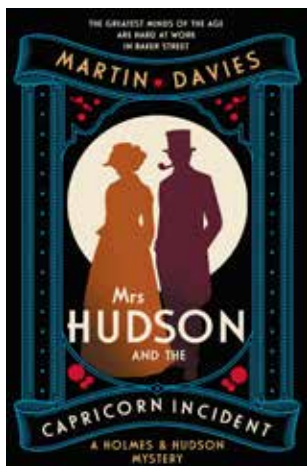
JIM ELDRIDGE

'An engaging and enjoyable series'

Historical Novel Society

London 1941. The Blitz continues to cast a shadow over the city and DCI Coburg and Sergeant Lampson are called to the disused Lord's Underground station where the body of a man has been discovered. Is he linked to the British Empire XI who are playing at the world-famous cricket ground? Coburg and Lampson are certainly put in a spin by this complex case.

FEBRUARY



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Crime Fiction

MRS HUDSON AND THE CAPRICORN INCIDENT

HOLMES & HUDSON MYSTERIES

MARTIN DAVIES

'Part thriller, part love story, part quest, this is a hugely readable book'

The Spectator

It is spring in Baker Street, and London is preparing for the wedding of the year. The young Count Rudolph Absberg will take the hand of the beautiful Princess Sophia Kubinova and, it is hoped, ensure the security and independence of their homeland.

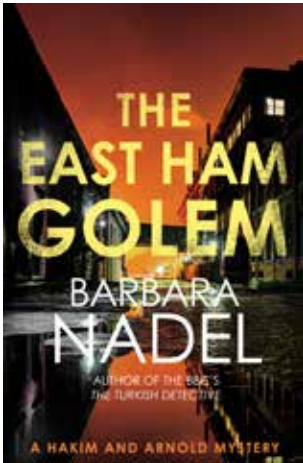
With the disappearance of the princess, it is not long before Mr Sherlock Holmes is called upon. He, in turn, needs housekeeper Mrs Hudson and her able assistant, housemaid Flotsam, to solve this puzzling case on which rests the fate of nations.

This is a treat for fans of the great detective's original cases with its inspired take on the famous 221B Baker Street household.

MARTIN DAVIES is the author of nine novels, including international bestseller *The Conjuror's Bird* which was a Richard and Judy Book Club selection and *Havana Sleeping* which was shortlisted for a Historical Dagger award by the Crime Writers' Association.

martindaviesauthor.com

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THE EAST HAM GOLEM

HAKIM & ARNOLD 9

BARBARA NADEL

'Compelling'
Sunday Telegraph

Private investigators Lee Arnold and Mumtaz Hakim are well-versed in the community tensions in East London. The latest example of which is the desecration of graves at Plashet Jewish cemetery in East Ham. The vandalism leads to a disturbing discovery: one of the damaged coffins contains not human remains but a clay sculpture of a man. This 'golem', a term from Jewish myth given to a figure brought to life by supernatural means, proves intriguing, particularly when it is stolen from police storage in an armed raid. The case leads the pair deep into London's connections to wartime Prague and onto the trail of a jewel worth killing for.

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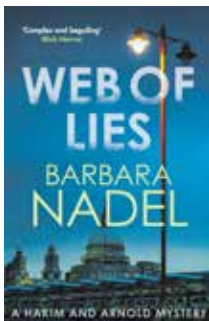
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Rights: World English

Crime Fiction

BARBARA NADEL was born and brought up in the East End of London and now lives in Essex. Prior to becoming a full-time author, she worked in psychiatric institutions and in the community with people experiencing mental health problems. Nadel is also the author of the award-winning Inspector Ikmen series now adapted by the BBC as *The Turkish Detective*.

[@BarbaraNadel](#)



MARCH



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original

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Crime Fiction

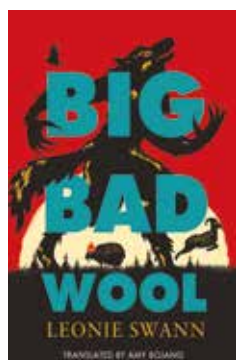
THREE BAGS FULL

A SHEEP DETECTIVE NOVEL 1

LEONIE SWANN

Joyously original, *Three Bags Full* introduces a band of detectives who are a breed apart.

On a hillside near the quaint Irish village of Glennkill, the members of the flock gather around their shepherd, George, whose dead body lies pinned to the ground with a spade. George cared deeply for the sheep, reading to them daily, and as a result they are far smarter than your average sheep. Led by Miss Maple, they set out to find George's killer. With an assortment of woolly investigators on the case, there are furtive missions into the village and a collection of two-legged suspects to chew over.



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Crime Fiction

Publication: May

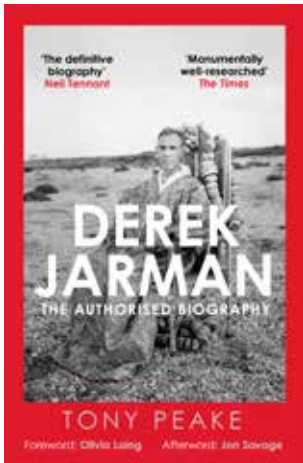
BIG BAD WOOL

A SHEEP DETECTIVE NOVEL 2

LEONIE SWANN

'Refreshingly, joyously different'
Sunday Telegraph

A most unusual group of detectives are on a trip to France from their Irish homeland, accompanied by their new shepherdess Rebecca, and the flock, led by Miss Maple, face a new threat. Several sheep have disappeared, and other local creatures have fallen prey to a shadowy figure. Could the theory of a werewolf be more than a wild fairy tale? With the help of their goat neighbours, they follow the werewolf's trail in a desperate attempt to save both themselves and Rebecca with sheep logic, courage, and concentrated food.



£30.00

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Biography

DEREK JARMAN: THE AUTHORISED BIOGRAPHY

TONY PEAKE

‘Monumentally well researched’

The Times

Tony Peake enjoyed unprecedented access to the visionary artist’s archives in order to bring the extraordinary life of Derek Jarman to the page.

This unique biography covers Jarman’s story from his RAF childhood, to student life at The Slade and his work as a designer, painter and filmmaker, including collaborations with the likes of Sir John Gielgud and Tilda Swinton.

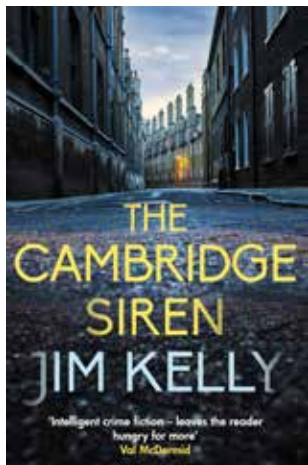
Alongside his art and a significant body of writing, Jarman created a singular garden in the shingle surrounding Prospect Cottage at Dungeness in Kent, which has become a site of memorial, celebration and pilgrimage. He became known as an impassioned and provocative spokesperson not only for gay men, but for anyone oppressed by bigotry.

Derek Jarman died of AIDS-related causes in February 1994 and Peake describes his inimitable courage and grace in the face of painful death, and the legacies Jarman left behind.

With new contributions from Olivia Laing and Jon Savage.

TONY PEAKE is a novelist, short story writer, biographer and also worked for many years as a literary agent. He became friends with Derek Jarman during the last seven years of Jarman’s life. He currently spends most of his time, when not travelling, in London and Essex, where he lives with his civil partner and enjoys being grandfather to his five grandchildren. He is a patron of the Jarman Award, which supports and champions the most innovative UK-based artists working with moving image.

MARCH



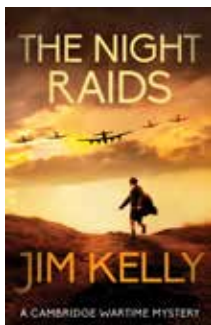
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Crime Fiction



THE CAMBRIDGE SIREN

NIGHTHAWK 4

JIM KELLY

‘Superbly twisty, and Brooke clearly has the makings of a compelling series lead’

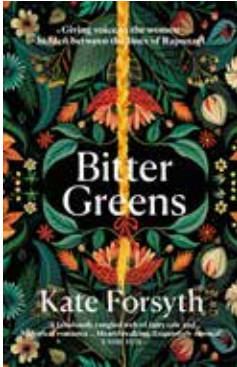
Booklist

Autumn, 1941. The body of a young man is found in a shadowy corner of one of Cambridge’s air raid shelters, and everything points to suicide. However, Detective Inspector Eden Brooke has doubts, particularly as the detective’s office telephone number was scrawled on the back of the victim’s hand. Did he know his life was in danger? Brooke’s caseload doubles when he must also track down a saboteur at a factory making submarine periscopes. Then two more young men are found dead in the city’s shelters. The trail leads Brooke to a laboratory that hides a brutal secret.

JIM KELLY was born in 1957 and is the son of a Scotland Yard detective. He went to university in Sheffield, later training as a journalist and worked on the *Bedfordshire Times*, *Yorkshire Evening Press* and the *Financial Times*. His first book, *The Water Clock*, was shortlisted for the John Creasey Award and he has since won a CWA Dagger in the Library and the New Angle Prize for Literature. He lives in Ely, Cambridgeshire.

jgkelly.co.uk

[@thewaterclock](https://twitter.com/thewaterclock)



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Historical Fiction

BITTER GREENS

KATE FORSYTH

'Forsyth's masterful gift for recasting classic fairy tales in fiction is unmatched'

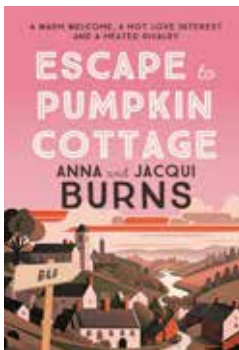
Kate Quinn

A welcome re-launch for this classic Allison & Busby novel. *Bitter Greens* is a dark, beautifully written retelling of Rapunzel, interwoven with the story of one of the tale's first tellers.

KATE FORSYTH is an award-winning author of over twenty books, ranging from picture books to poetry to novels for both children and adults. Forsyth has a doctorate of Creative Arts in fairy tale studies and is an accredited master storyteller with the Australian Guild of Storytellers.

kateforsyth.com.au

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Romance Fiction

ESCAPE TO PUMPKIN COTTAGE

ANNA AND JACQUI BURNS

'A gloriously summery and transporting read'

The Bookseller

Riverdean is nestled in the picturesque Wye Valley, and Pippa Mason has big plans to renovate run-down Pumpkin Cottage into the bed and breakfast business of her dreams. But when a spat between Pippa and local Jenny Foster escalates they will have to see if Riverdean is big enough for the both of them.

ANNA BURNS is a psychiatrist and one half of a writing team with her mother **JACQUI BURNS**. They write their novels while living over two hundred miles apart.

annaandjacquiburns.com

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APRIL



THE MAGICAL CAMBRIDGE SERIES

MENNA VAN PRAAG

This collection of Cambridge novels are love letters to the cobbled streets and quirky shops of the city. They are healing love stories of very human characters that blend everyday whimsy with a joyful dash of magic.

MENNA VAN PRAAG was born in Cambridge and studied Modern History at Oxford University. She lives in Cambridge and sets her novels among the colleges, cafes and bookshops of the city.

THE HOUSE AT THE END OF HOPE STREET

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THE PATRON SAINT OF LOST SOULS

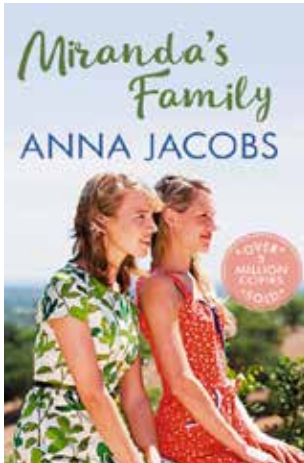
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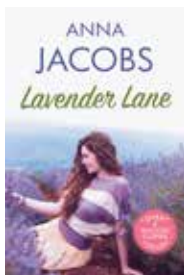
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Fiction



MIRANDA'S FAMILY

MIRANDA'S FAMILY 1

ANNA JACOBS

'Jacobs is especially big on resourceful, admirable women. Great stuff'

Daily Mail

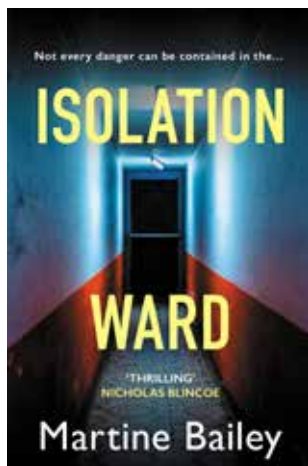
When Miranda Westerby's estranged great-aunt suddenly passes away, it appears that she left a legacy behind in the form of a home in the idyllic village of Fairford Parva, Wiltshire. However, there are strings attached to the inheritance.

The move prompts more discoveries about her family history than Miranda bargained for which leave her confused and hurt. But while she might not have any blood relatives around her, Miranda does have the chance to shape a new circle of people dear to her. And perhaps find love along the way.

ANNA JACOBS was born in Lancashire at the beginning of the Second World War. She has lived in different parts of England as well as Australia and has enjoyed setting her modern and historical novels in both countries. She is addicted to telling stories and recently celebrated the publication of her one hundredth novel, as well as sixty years of marriage. Anna has sold over five million copies of her books to date.

annajacobs.com

APRIL



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Crime Fiction

ISOLATION WARD

LORRAINE QUICK 2

MARTINE BAILEY

'Isolation Ward is easily one of the best new thrillers I've read this year'

Tom Mead

Secrets, lies, patients or staff. Who should you fear more?

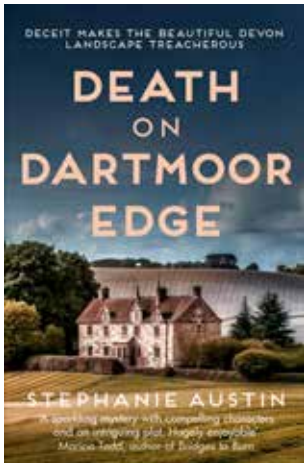
Yorkshire, 1983. Thatcher is at Number 10, Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' is on the radio and Lorraine Quick must put plans to tour with her band on hold due to work. With her expertise in psychometric testing, she is tasked with building a PR-friendly team out of the ragtag staff of the infamous Windwell Asylum as it transitions into a modern, top-security unit for dangerous criminals. And then Lorraine stumbles on a brutal murder inside the heavily-secured facility. With the asylum's violent past, eerie underground tunnels, and the return of almost-old flame DS Diaz to investigate, Lorraine finds herself caught in a web of secrets and danger as events spiral out of control.

MARTINE BAILEY studied English Literature while playing in bands on the Manchester music scene. She qualified in psychometric testing and over her career, assessed staff for a top-security psychiatric hospital and dealt with cases of sexual abuse and violence. Having written historical crime fiction, Bailey's writing has jumped to a modern setting. She lives in Chester.

martinebailey.com

[@MartineBailey](https://twitter.com/MartineBailey)





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Crime Fiction

DEATH ON DARTMOOR EDGE

DEVON MYSTERIES 8

STEPHANIE AUSTIN

'Absolutely perfect for fans of M. C. Beaton'
Kate Rhodes

Juno Browne, self-proclaimed Domestic Goddess who can turn her hand to cleaning, dog walking or home help jobs, is feeling overworked and underpaid. She is not the only one with problems though. Among her Ashburton friends, Elizabeth is being blackmailed, and Ricky's errant nephew is on the run from criminals in London.

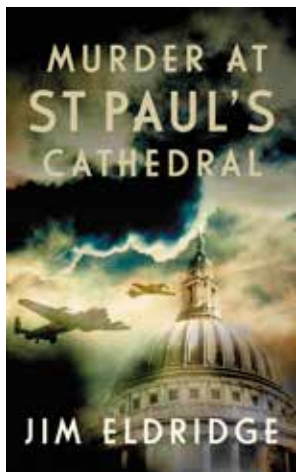
In an attempt to get to the bottom of these disturbing developments, Juno finds herself drawn from an isolated manor house on Dartmoor to London's glamorous but shady Theatreland. Can she avoid being fatally entangled in threads of deception and murder?

STEPHANIE AUSTIN has enjoyed a varied career, working as an artist and an antiques trader, and also for the Devon Schools Library Service. When not writing she is actively involved in amateur theatre as a director and actor, and attempts to be a competent gardener and cook. She lives in Devon.

stephanieaustin.co.uk



MAY



£22.00

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ISBN: 9780749031787

Rights: World English

Crime Fiction

MURDER AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

CATHEDRAL MYSTERIES 1

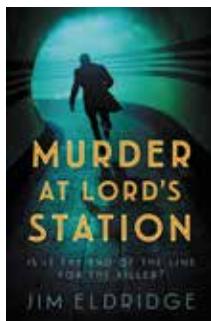
JIM ELDRIDGE

'The pace is fast and furious with old-fashioned detection winning out against the forces of villainy'

Daily Mail

May, 1941. One of the senior choristers at St Paul's, Edwin Roberts, is found beaten to death in the cathedral's crypt and Detective Chief Inspector Coburg is called in to investigate. The dead man was far from popular. That, coupled with the long list of staff and volunteers, including the Night Watch striving to protect the cathedral from the worst of the Blitz, means that there is no shortage of suspects. Coburg's investigation is complicated further by links to the top-secret work being carried out at Bletchley Park. When the killer strikes again, Coburg is under pressure to close this fiendishly complex case.

JIM ELDRIDGE was born towards the end of World War II, and survived attacks by V2 rockets on the King's Cross area where he lived. In 1971 he sold his first sitcom to the BBC and had his first book commissioned, and has now sold over three million copies. He lives in Kent with his wife.





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Historical Fiction

ONE GOOD THING

GEORGIA HUNTER

'One Good Thing surpasses all expectations ... Thrilling, romantic, and deeply meaningful, it is a tribute to hope and love and to all the things that matter most'

Ariel Lawhon

Italy, 1941. Lili Passigli is studying at the University of Ferrara when Mussolini's Racial Laws deem her of 'inferior' Jewish descent. As Hitler's strength grows, Lili's world begins to shrink around her, with the papers awash in Fascist propaganda and the city walls desecrated with anti-semitic slurs. When Germany invades northern Italy, however, Lili and her best friend Esti find themselves alone in Nazi-occupied territory. With the help of the resistance, they flee with Esti's two-year-old son Theo in tow, traveling south toward the Allies and freedom. On this journey through war-torn Italy, they will face untold challenges and devastating decisions.

GEORGIA HUNTER comes from a family of Holocaust survivors. *We Were the Lucky Ones* was born of her quest to uncover her family's staggering history. It has since been published in twenty languages and adapted into a critically acclaimed TV series. *One Good Thing* is her second novel. She lives in Connecticut, USA.

georgiahunterauthor.com

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'Beautifully written - dark, macabre, claustrophobic and strange in all the best ways for lovers of the Gothic'

Kate Griffin

London, 1881. The brutal murder of Rose Parmiter seems, at first glance, to be a random and senseless act. Rose was the beloved cook at Evergreen House, a place of refuge for women and children, a place from which they can start their lives afresh. Proprietor Rebecca Harris, is profoundly shocked by the death of her dear friend and alarmed at the mysterious events which begin to unfold shortly afterwards. Could the past be casting a shadow on the present? The malign legacy of the Everley family who called Evergreen home, cannot be ignored.

After two further deaths it becomes clear there is an evil presence infecting their sanctuary, and Rebecca must draw out the poison of the past so the Evergreen residents can finally make peace with the darkness in their lives.

JODY COOKSLEY's debut novel *The Glass House* is a fictional account of the life of Julia Margaret Cameron. *The Small Museum* won the Caledonia Novel Award. Jody now lives in Cranleigh.

jrcbooks.co.uk

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Romance

A MATCH TO REMEMBER

HELEN HAWKINS

'Sweet second-chance romance, full of angst and longing, perfect for the summer'

Emma Jackson

Lizzie Morris is ready to put her tragic past behind her and make her late parents proud. She's starting as a trainee teacher and hoping to make the squad for her team's football tournament final. Coming face to face with Noah Hatton, however, was not part of the plan and seeing him drags up painful memories. Horrifyingly, they are tasked with organising the school's Sports Day and thrown together, their chemistry and competitive relationship reignites. Will Lizzie survive this blast from the past?

HELEN HAWKINS is a writer, editor and English teacher. Her first novel *A Concert for Christmas* was shortlisted for Penguin's Christmas Love Story Competition and highly commended in the I Am In Print Romance Competition in 2022. When she is not writing, Helen can be found editing, singing and dancing with her local operatic society in Oxfordshire.

helenhawkins-author.com



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Crime Fiction

THE SOHO MURDER

BLITZ DETECTIVE 9

MIKE HOLLOW

‘Thoughtful, tense, tight - and totally recommended’

Lee Child

December, 1940. London suffers a devastating air raid and the heart of British book publishing burns to the ground. Detective Inspector John Jago must break bad news to a woman sitting in the ruins of her business: her husband has been found dead at their home in Soho. An antiquarian bookseller, he'd just acquired a mysterious, and missing volume.

Unscrupulous dealers haunt Jago's descent into Soho's underworld, where criminals are branching out in the shadows of the blackout.



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DEADFALL

DI KELSO STRANG 6

ALINE TEMPLETON

‘The crime czar of the Scottish small town’

Val McDermid

Drumdalloch Woods near Inverness is a sinister place with a tangle of business opportunists, biological scientists and conflicted family members all competing for a say in its future. Then a body is found, and everything starts to look suspicious. DCI Kelso Strang's investigation unearths layers of hatred, greed and revenge that cast doubt even on the local police force.

ALINE TEMPLETON grew up in the fishing village of Anstruther, in the East Neuk of Fife. She has worked in education and broadcasting and was a Justice of the Peace for ten years. She has been a Chair of the Society of Authors in Scotland and a director of the Crime Writers' Association. She now lives in Kent.

SECRETS IN ST IVES

ST IVES MYSTERIES 2

DEBORAH FOWLER

'A delightful series'

Mystery People



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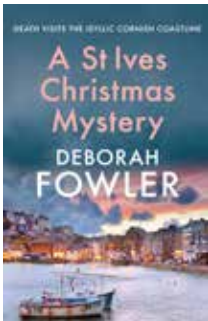
Crime Fiction

The past is buried but never dead in Cornwall.

As St Ives moves into early summer, Chief Inspector Louis Peppiatt is handed the coldest of cold cases – a local farmer's disappearance many years ago. Merrin McKenzie, who crossed Peppiatt's path in a case the winter before, is related to the troubled family and among his first ports of call. The question is, who has something to hide decades later?

While searching for the thread that will reveal the mystery of the missing man, what Peppiatt and Merrin encounter still has the power to shock. And in unearthing family secrets and emotional betrayals, the inner workings of the seemingly peaceful Cornish town are shockingly exposed.

DEBORAH FOWLER's first short story was published when she was seventeen. Since then, she has published over six hundred short stories, novels, a crime series and several works of non-fiction. Deborah lives in a small hamlet just outside St Ives. *A St Ives Christmas Mystery* is the first in a new series set against the beautiful backdrop of the West Cornish coastline.



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Crime Fiction

MURDER IN OXFORD

BLIND DETECTIVE 9

CHRISTINA KONING

'With vivid characterisation and a keen ear for dialogue, Koning has all the qualities of a first-class mystery writer'

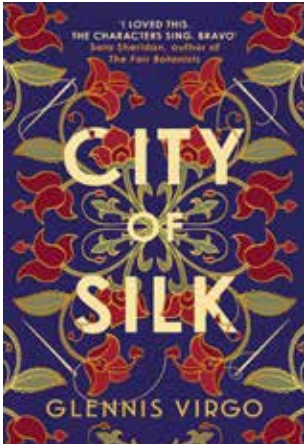
Daily Mail

Oxford, 1942. Frederick Rowlands receives an urgent summons from his old friend and fellow blinded war veteran Major Ian Fraser and visits the university city now swarming with soldiers. Rowlands swiftly becomes embroiled in dealings with MI5, enemy agents and a possible traitor. Then, matters take a deadly turn with a vicious murder. The race is on to find the murderer before he, or she, can kill again, and to prevent vital plans for a British mission being compromised. For Rowlands, the stakes could not be higher in this deadly game of cat-and-mouse...

CHRISTINA KONING has worked as a journalist, reviewing fiction for *The Times*, and has taught Creative Writing at the University of Oxford and Birkbeck, University of London. From 2013 to 2015, she was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Newnham College, Cambridge. She won the Encore Prize in 1999 and was long-listed for the Orange Prize in the same year. Koning lives in Cambridge.

[@christina.koning](https://twitter.com/christina.koning)
christinakoning.com





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Historical Fiction

CITY OF SILK

GLENNIS VIRGO

'An enjoyable and immersive debut'

***The Times* Historical Book of The Month**

Bologna, 1575.

A talented seamstress

A powerful merchant

A fierce battle of wills

Elena Morandi has gained a fragile foothold in a master tailor's workshop, despite the profession being officially barred to women. But then a powerful man from her past threatens everything. Antonio della Fontana has the city in his pocket and, as Elena knows all too well, abused his position of power at the Baraccano orphanage. Driven to fight for justice, Elena hatches a plan to get retribution for herself, a lost friend and those still prey to Fontana's abuses. *City of Silk* is a breathtaking historical fiction debut which brings Renaissance Italy to vivid life.

GLENNIS VIRGO started her career in education teaching classics before she became a primary school headteacher. Since her retirement, Virgo has spent her time improving her Italian, visiting Italy and writing. *City of Silk* is her first novel and it won the inaugural Debut Writers Over 50 Award. She lives in Essex.

[@glennisvirgo](https://twitter.com/glennisvirgo)

JUNE



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Historical Fiction

THE SILENT RESISTANCE

ANNA NORMANN

'I loved it. It broke me! Beautiful, heartbreaking and hopeful'

Liz Fenwick

Occupied Norway, 1944. Anni endures the war alone, aiding the resistance while longing for news of her missing sailor husband. Her daughter, Ingrid, is her greatest joy, and she's determined to keep her safe. But when a German official is billeted in their home, Anni faces an impossible choice.

London, 1952: Now living with her father, Ingrid is haunted by her mother's disappearance just as peace was declared. Clinging to Anni's promise to return, she embarks on a determined quest to uncover the truth about her past.

ANNA NORMANN is the pseudonym of authors Anan Singh and Natalie Normann who have been writing together in Norwegian for many years. Anan was born in northern India and had his first short story published in an Indian newspaper at fourteen. Natalie grew up on the west coast of Norway and has always been fascinated with the country's period of occupation. She is a prolific historical romance writer and has recently published two contemporary Norwegian-set romances in English. *The Silent Resistance* is their first collaboration in English.

natalienormannauthor.com

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THE BEST OF PETER LOVESEY STORIES

PETER LOVESEY

'One of the choicest crime-shelf entertainments of the year'
The Guardian

To crown a writing career spanning over fifty years, this collection showcases the very best of Peter Lovesey's short stories, featuring many of his most famous and much-loved characters such as Sergeant Cribb and Bertie. Unexpected discoveries hidden among the branches of the family tree. A parrot and an astonishing cache of uncut diamonds. The story of a marriage revealed between the lines of a Victorian advice column. With his trademark wit, these inventive, intricate and entertaining stories have something for new and old fans.



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Crime Fiction

THE DACRE DILEMMA

LAKE DISTRICT MYSTERIES 15

REBECCA TOPE

'Rich in psychological insight'
Deadly Pleasures

Simmy Henderson is four months pregnant and juggling work between her Windermere florist shop and home when her husband Christopher asks her to deliver flowers to Eleanor Padgett. Meeting near Dacre church, their visit takes a dark turn when they discover a young man's body in the graveyard. As D.I. Moxon leads the investigation, Simmy is drawn into a complex mystery that threatens to upend her quiet life.

REBECCA TOPE is the author of three bestselling crime series, set in the Cotswolds, Lake District and West Country. She lives on a smallholding in rural Herefordshire, where she enjoys the silence and plants a lot of trees.

JUNE



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Crime Fiction



KNAVE OF DIAMONDS

MARY RUSSELL & SHERLOCK HOLMES 19

LAURIE R. KING

'Mary Russell is never less than fascinating company'

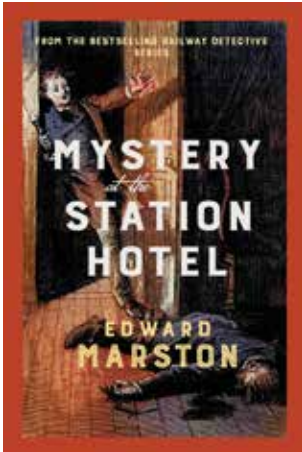
Los Angeles Times

As a child, Mary Russell adored her Uncle Jake, the black sheep of the family. But she hasn't heard from him in years, until he presents himself with an abundance of problems for his clever niece to deal with. Not the least of which is the reason the family rejected him in the first place: his involvement in the infamous disappearance of the Irish Crown Jewels from Dublin Castle. Juggling conflicting loyalties and international secrets, Russell is entangled in the web of a case that not even her husband, the great Sherlock Holmes could solve.

LAURIE R. KING has won many awards for her work including the prestigious John Creasey Dagger, the Edgar, the Nero and Macavity. In 2022 she was named Grand Master by Mystery Writers of America. King is the author of highly praised stand-alone suspense novels and a contemporary mystery series, as well as the Mary Russell & Sherlock Holmes series. She lives in Northern California.

LaurieRKing.com

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Crime Fiction

MYSTERY AT THE STATION HOTEL

RAILWAY DETECTIVE 23

EDWARD MARSTON

'Edward Marston is a master of his craft'

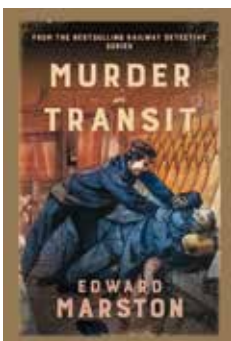
Daily Mail

Shrewsbury, 1866. At the Station Hotel, staff are horrified to discover the bloodied corpse of Mr Julian Lockyer still holding a knife in his hand.

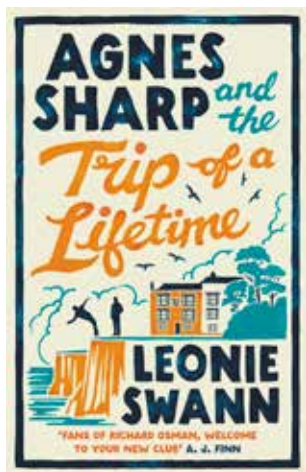
Inspector Robert Colbeck, the Railway Detective, doubts that this is really a case of suicide. For why would a man approaching the pinnacle of his career as Chairman of the Great Western Railway take his own life? And what secrets was he hiding from his family? Colbeck must probe deeply into Lockyer's life and lies to find the answers and to catch the killer.

EDWARD MARSTON is best known for his hugely successful Railway Detective series and he also writes the Bow Street Rivals series featuring twin detectives set during the Regency; the Home Front Detective novels set during the First World War; and the Ocean Liner mysteries.

edwardmarston.com



JULY



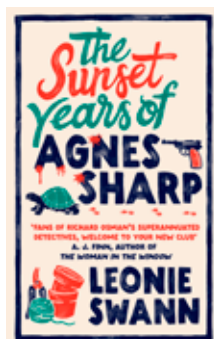
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Crime Fiction



AGNES SHARP AND THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

MISS SHARP INVESTIGATES 2

LEONIE SWANN

'Fans of Richard Osman's "Thursday Murder Club" will find much to like here'

New York Times

As winter sets in at Sunset Hall, Agnes Sharp and her elderly housemates are thrilled when one of them wins a luxury getaway to the secluded Eden Hotel in Cornwall. But their dream holiday quickly turns sinister when Agnes witnesses a disturbing incident on the cliffs – possibly a murder. As a storm traps them inside and the body count rises, it's clear a killer is among them. Now, the senior sleuths must unravel the mystery before it's too late because unlike them, the day is still young and there is a lot to do.

LEONIE SWANN's debut novel, *Three Bags Full*, was an instant hit, topping the bestseller charts in her native Germany for months and being translated into 26 languages. She has since continued her ovine detectives' investigations in *Big Bad Wool* and introduced a motley crew of senior sleuths in *The Sunset Years of Agnes Sharp*. Swann lives in Cambridgeshire.

@_LEONIESWANN



MURDER AT THE COLOSSEUM

MUSEUM MYSTERIES 11

JIM ELDRIDGE

'An engaging and enjoyable series'
Historical Novel Society

In 1885 Abigail Wilson joined an archaeological dig at the Colosseum in Rome. Now, fifteen years later, she is famed as a renowned 'digger' and one half of the Museum Detectives alongside her husband Daniel. Abigail has been invited to be a speaker at a Conference on Ancient Roman Civilization, held in Rome. Daniel and Abigail decide to use this conference and extend it to a holiday in the Eternal City, but when a fellow archaeologist and his wife are found shot dead in the Colosseum, the Wilsons find themselves at the heart of the murder investigation.

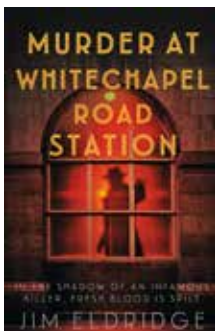
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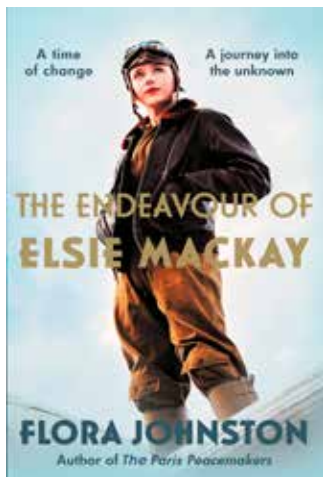
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Crime Fiction



AUGUST



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Historical Fiction

THE ENDEAVOUR OF ELSIE MACKAY

FLORA JOHNSTON

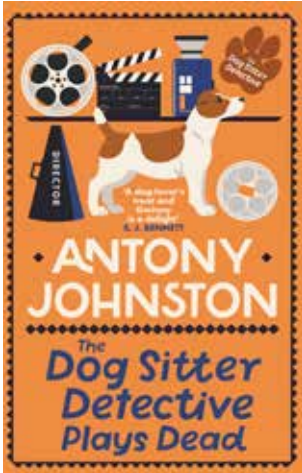
‘Fascinating . . . time-travelling the reader through the eyes of immensely relatable characters and leaving you wanting to know more’

Liz Trenow

1927. Daring flyers are all anyone can talk about and now the Honourable Miss Elsie Mackay, former film star and regular name in gossip columns, has the ambition to be the first woman to fly the Atlantic. Elsie’s friend Stella Campbell once felt at the heart of world events, but now post-war hopes are frayed and marriage and motherhood have worn away her sense of self. Stella’s sister Corran appears determinedly single but when carefully guarded secrets start to emerge, will she choose to follow her heart?

The Endeavour of Elsie Mackay takes the moving story of a pioneering Scottish aviatrix and weaves in the threads of other women straining to reach for their dreams on the cusp of an uncertain future.





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Crime Fiction

THE DOG SITTER DETECTIVE PLAYS DEAD

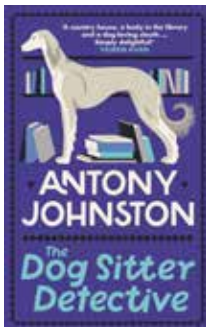
DOG SITTER DETECTIVE 3

ANTHONY JOHNSTON

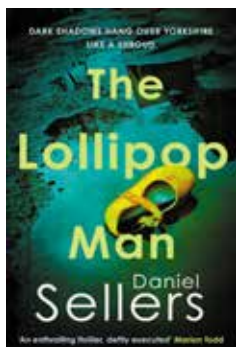
‘Cosy crime at its very best’

Tom Mead

Gwinny Tuffel is on location in Yorkshire filming a part in *Draculania*, a gender-swapped remake of Bram Stoker's classic tale, when life imitates art a little too closely. One of the cast members is found dead inside a locked trailer, with a stake through their heart. Gwinny must navigate a prima donna star, a mischievous Jack Russell terrier, and a local vampire legend to uncover the killer before the production or any further victims are cut.



AUGUST



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Crime Fiction

THE LOLLIPOP MAN

DANIEL SELLERS

'Compelling and dark'

Michael Wood

1994. Eighteen-year-old Adrian Brown spends his days working at the local newspaper, and his evenings in his local pub. But under this ordinary surface lies a haunting story. Aged ten, Adrian was kidnapped by a figure known as the Lollipop Man, who had abducted three children before. Adrian was the only one to escape.

When another child goes missing, there is a media frenzy that the Lollipop Man has returned. Journalist Sheila Hargreaves, troubled by her past reporting on the original case, is determined to dig deeper, atone for what she did and bring a killer to justice.



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Crime Fiction

THE DEVIL'S SMILE

DANIEL SELLERS

'An enthralling thriller, deftly executed'

Marion Todd

Autumn, 1995. Adrian Brown's second year at Leeds University is a blur of throbbing bass lines and neon-lit nights out – until a chilling encounter with a pale, older man shakes him. Meanwhile, journalist Sheila Hargreaves, busy with her book on the Lollipop Man murders and hosting *Yorkshire Crimetime*, struggles with her erratic co-host, Tony Tranter. But when Tony is found stabbed under a railway arch, his death is linked to a string of violent attacks on men. As Sheila and Adrian dig deeper, they find themselves on the path of another killer.



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Crime Fiction

THE MARIGOLD COTTAGES MURDER COLLECTIVE

JO NICHOLS

'The most charming, heartfelt, and funniest mystery I've ever read'

Katy Hays

At Marigold Cottages, Mrs B only rents to tenants she cares about: anxious Sophie, agoraphobic Hamilton, sculptor Ocean, perfectionist Lily-Ann, and secretive Nicholas. Their lives are upended when ex-con Anthony moves in, and a dead body is found. Anthony is arrested, but Mrs B, convinced of his innocence, confesses to the crime. The tenants are determined to clear her name until a second body turns up.

JO NICHOLS is the pseudonym of Joel Ross and Lee Nichols, a husband-and-wife duo who authored over thirty books across five genres and wrote a Netflix animated series before penning *The Marigold Cottages Murder Collective*.



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Crime Fiction

BEATTIE CAVENDISH AND THE WHITE PEARL CLUB

MARY-JANE RILEY

In 1948, the war's shadow still lingers over Britain. Beattie Cavendish, formerly of the SOE, refuses to settle into a conventional life. When offered an undercover role GCHQ, she eagerly accepts. Tasked with monitoring the Bowen family, her mission takes a deadly turn when their housekeeper, Sofia, is murdered. Teaming up with war-weary detective Patrick Corrigan, Beattie uncovers a dangerous web of spies and secrets. As powerful forces try to bury the truth, she must rely on her skills to survive a ruthless game of deception and the dawn of the Cold War.

MARY-JANE RILEY was a BBC journalist, presenting programmes on the radio and major crime stories of the past twenty years. She has also published four thrillers. Riley is married, has three children and a golden retriever. She lives in Suffolk.

SEPTEMBER



MURDER ON THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY

RAILWAY DETECTIVE 24

EDWARD MARSTON

'Marston is a master of his craft'

Daily Mail

April, 1867. A train departs King's Cross station bound for Lincoln. Among the passengers is a man attired in the garb of one in high ecclesiastical office. He is accompanied by a brawny man carefully carrying a large leather bag, who ensures that they are not joined by any other travellers in their first-class compartment.

The train will become the scene of a brutal murder and robbery with one man dead and a valuable silver model of Lincoln Cathedral stolen. Detective Inspector Colbeck and Sergeant Leeming investigate, and they are convinced that the killer and thief is still close at hand. But with the city bursting at the seams for the annual Horse Fair, the timing is far from ideal and further complicates a challenging case for the Railway Detective.

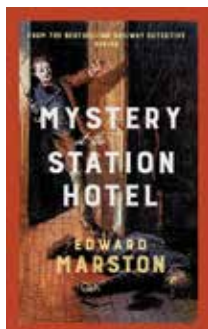
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Crime Fiction





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Crime Fiction

FEAST FOR THE RAVENS

BRADECOTE & CATCHPOLL 13

SARAH HAWKSWOOD

'A new Bradecote and Catchpoll (and Wakelin) medieval mystery is always a true delight'

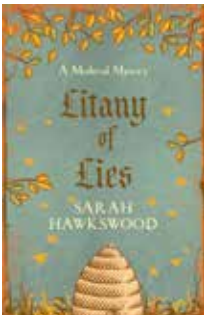
M. J. Porter

September, 1145. A Templar knight's body is found in Worcestershire's Forest of Wyre with a bloodstained document revealing a traitor's identity. Undersheriff Hugh Bradecote, Sergeant Catchpoll and Underserjeant Walkelin must uncover the truth behind the death, navigating local legends of the shape-changing Raven Woman. As they investigate, they discover the victim's dark past and more questions arise. Does the tale of the Raven Woman contain a kernel of truth? Is the suspected traitor really guilty, and if not, who gains most by his fall from grace? Ultimately, can Bradecote, Catchpoll and Walkelin see the wood from the trees and bring a killer to justice?

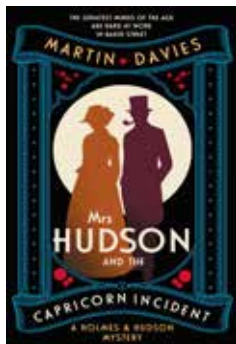
SARAH HAWKSWOOD describes herself as a 'wordsmith' who is only really happy when writing. She read Modern History at Oxford and first published a non-fiction book on the Royal Marines in the First World War before moving on to medieval mysteries set in Worcestershire.

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SEPTEMBER



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Crime Fiction

MRS HUDSON AND THE CAPRICORN INCIDENT

HOLMES & HUDSON MYSTERIES

MARTIN DAVIES

'A pacy confection of history, mystery and romance . . . a most engaging and unusual novel'

The Times

It is spring in Baker Street, and London is preparing for the wedding of the year. The young Count Rudolph Absberg will take the hand of the beautiful Princess Sophia Kubinova and, it is hoped, ensure the security and independence of their homeland.

With the disappearance of the princess, it is not long before Mr Sherlock Holmes is called upon. He, in turn, needs housekeeper Mrs Hudson and her able assistant, housemaid Flotsam, to solve this puzzling case on which rests the fate of nations.

This is a treat for fans of the great detective's original cases with its inspired take on the famous 221B Baker Street household.



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Fiction

LAVENDER LANE

LARCH TREE LANE 4

ANNA JACOBS

'Jacobs is especially big on resourceful, admirable women. Great stuff'

Daily Mail

Nina Thomas has relocated to England from Australia to begin a new life, and in Wiltshire, she meets handsome Sean Reynolds and takes on the project of reopening Lavender Lane, a former convalescent home for officers from the armed forces. As Nina puts down roots, Lavender Lane has a number of surprises awaiting her, but will this corner of the Wiltshire countryside become the home she craves?



HOW TO GET MURDERED IN DEVON

DEVON MYSTERIES 9

STEPHANIE AUSTIN

'An evocative Devon mystery to be enjoyed by all fans of rural crime'

Kate Ellis

Juno Browne's purchase of a car for her lover, Daniel Thorncroft, takes a dark turn when a dead body is found in the boot. Inspector Ford investigates, but Juno's curiosity and concern for the missing seller, Amber Horrell, lead her to sleuth on her own. It turns out that the Horrells, Amber's family, are notorious in this corner of Devon, with an ancient murder and vanishing red diamond in their past and a shady antiques business very much in their present. As a second murder occurs, Juno's involvement deepens, and the line between reality and fiction blurs, revealing a truth far more complex than she ever imagined.

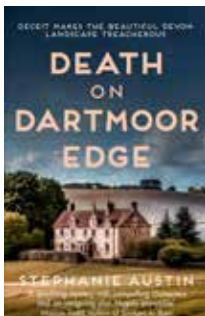
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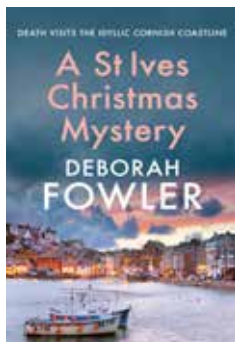
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Crime Fiction



OCTOBER



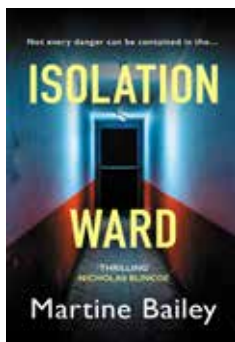
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Crime Fiction

A ST IVES CHRISTMAS MYSTERY

ST IVES MYSTERIES 1

DEBORAH FOWLER

'A delightful series'

Mystery People

Merrin McKenzie returns to St Ives after a tragedy, seeking comfort in her hometown and taking a break from her solicitor career to clean holiday cottages. She expects dirty laundry and sandy floors, not a dead body tucked up in a guest bed. The police are baffled by the young man's identity and mysterious death.

As coincidences pile up, Merrin suspects something darker beneath the festive surface. Despite Inspector Louis Peppiatt's scepticism, she uncovers a sinister side to the Cornish coast as the case unfolds.

ISOLATION WARD

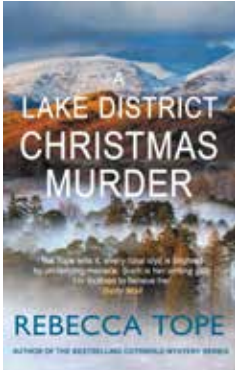
LORRAINE QUICK 2

MARTINE BAILEY

'*Isolation Ward* is utterly unputdownable'

Kerry Hadley-Pryce

Yorkshire, 1983. Thatcher is at Number 10, Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' is on the radio and Lorraine Quick must put plans to tour with her band on hold due to work. With her expertise in psychometric testing, she is tasked with building a PR-friendly team out of the ragtag staff of the infamous Windwell Asylum as it transitions into a modern, top-security unit for dangerous criminals. And then Lorraine stumbles on a brutal murder inside the heavily-secured facility. With the asylum's violent past, eerie underground tunnels, and the return of almost-old flame DS Diaz to investigate, Lorraine finds herself caught in a web of secrets and danger as events spiral out of control.



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A LAKE DISTRICT CHRISTMAS

LAKE DISTRICT MYSTERIES 14

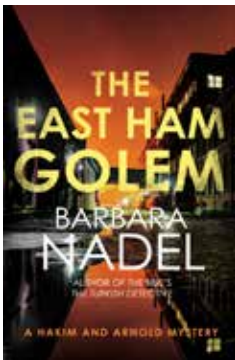
REBECCA TOPE

'Tope has considerable skill in creating a large cast of fully rounded characters, who are not only believable but also memorable'

Mystery People

As Christmas draws nearer, Simmy Henderson is invited to a party in Glenridding at the heart of the Lake District. However, the festivities are overshadowed by two alarming discoveries: a man's body in the beck above the village and a vulnerable newborn baby, apparently abandoned by its mother.

Caught in the crosscurrents and tensions of the inhabitants of Glenridding, Simmy is drawn into the investigation. The season of goodwill has been eclipsed by far darker emotions and a murderer must be found.



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THE EAST HAM GOLEM

HAKIM & ARNOLD 9

BARBARA NADEL

'This series has brilliantly established itself'

Crimesquad

Private investigators Lee Arnold and Mumtaz Hakim are well-versed in the community tensions in East London. The latest example of which is the desecration of graves at Plashet Jewish cemetery in East Ham. The vandalism leads to a disturbing discovery: one of the damaged coffins contains not human remains but a clay sculpture of a man. This 'golem', a term from Jewish myth given to a figure brought to life by supernatural means, proves intriguing, particularly when it is stolen from police storage in an armed raid. The case leads the pair deep into London's connections to wartime Prague and onto the trail of a jewel worth killing for.

OCTOBER



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Crime Fiction

THE BLOOMSBURY MURDER

BLITZ DETECTIVE 10

MIKE HOLLOW

'This is A-grade crime fiction set during British history's most dramatic era . . . thoughtful, tense, tight - and totally recommended'

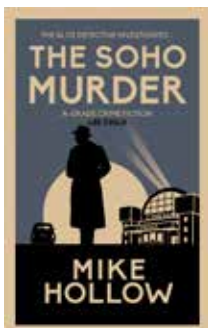
Lee Child

January 1941. Detective Inspector John Jago is called to a house in London's Bloomsbury where he finds a woman who has been left to die, her only crime seemingly being her kindness to strangers. She gave victims of the Blitz and those scattered from war-torn Europe a haven in her home. As Jago tries to find the killer, he uncovers a tangle of damaged hearts and minds. But who would want to strike down an angel of mercy in her own home, and what is the deadly secret that has followed her halfway across the world?

MIKE HOLLOW was born in West Ham and grew up in Romford, Essex. He studied Russian and French at the University of Cambridge and then worked for the BBC. In 2002 he went freelance as a copywriter, journalist and editor. Mike also works as a poet and translator.

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Crime Fiction

THE SECRET OF THE THREE FATES

RUBY VAUGHN 2

JESS ARMSTRONG

'Curious and enthralling'

Lydia Kang

October, 1922. Ruby Vaughn and her elderly employer, Mr Owen, are headed to the Scottish Borders to appraise items for their bookshop, but hidden secrets soon surface. Mr Owen, still grieving his son's death in the Great War, seeks to contact him through a trio of mediums called The Three Fates. However, as the candle smoke from the séance clears, Ruby finds a body and she and Mr Owen become the prime suspects. To clear their names, they must uncover the truth behind the murder, but someone is determined to stop them at all costs.



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Crime Fiction

THE DEVIL IN OXFORD

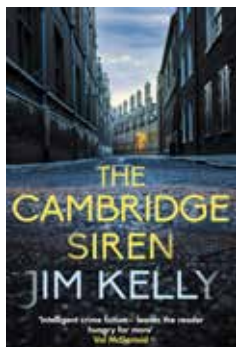
RUBY VAUGHN 3

JESS ARMSTRONG

December, 1923. Ruby Vaughn is looking forward to a quiet, relaxing trip to Oxford in the week before Christmas with her housemate and colleague Mr Owen. Far away from the arcane, unusual — and occasionally illegal — books that seem to always get her into trouble.

But when the body of disgraced scholar Julius Harker is amongst his exhibition of Egyptian antiquities looted by Napoleon, panic spreads throughout the cobbled streets of Oxford. The last thing Ruby wants is another investigation, but then an old friend comes begging for her help. It seems there is much more going on in Oxford than meets the eye.

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Historical Fiction

THE CAMBRIDGE SIREN

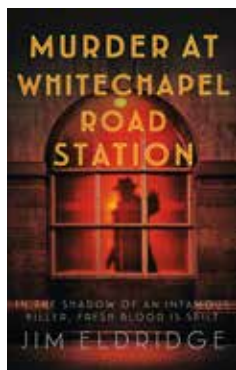
NIGHTHAWK 4

JIM KELLY

'Sinister, mysterious and refreshingly different'

Andrew Taylor

Autumn, 1941. The body of a young man is found in a shadowy corner of one of Cambridge's air raid shelters, and everything points to suicide. However, Detective Inspector Eden Brooke has doubts, particularly as the detective's office telephone number was scrawled on the back of the victim's hand. Did he know his life was in danger? Brooke's caseload doubles when he must also track down a saboteur at a factory making submarine periscopes. Then two more young men are found dead in the city's shelters. The trail leads Brooke to a laboratory that hides a brutal secret.



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Crime Fiction

MURDER AT WHITECHAPEL ROAD STATION

LONDON UNDERGROUND STATION MYSTERIES 4

JIM ELDRIDGE

'An engaging and enjoyable series'

Historical Novel Reviews

April, 1941. At the former Whitechapel Road Underground station, repurposed as an air raid shelter since the start of the Blitz, the body of a woman has been discovered, stabbed and eviscerated. With the spectre of Jack the Ripper looming large over their investigation, Coburg and Lampson are under pressure to swiftly conclude this very difficult case as more victims come to light. But that proves to be a challenge when King George and the Prime Minister Winston Churchill seek their help with a puzzling inquiry that also has links to Whitechapel.



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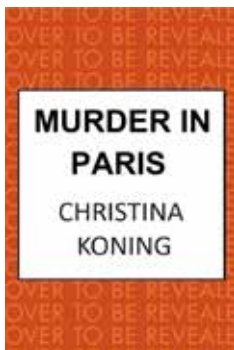
 Publication: December

MURDER IN OXFORD

BLIND DETECTIVE 9

CHRISTINA KONING

Oxford, 1942. Frederick Rowlands receives an urgent summons from his old friend and fellow blinded war veteran Major Ian Fraser and visits the university city now swarming with soldiers. Rowlands swiftly becomes embroiled in dealings with MI5, enemy agents and a possible traitor. Then, matters take a deadly turn with a vicious murder. The race is on to find the murderer before he, or she, can kill again, and to prevent vital plans for a British mission being compromised. For Rowlands, the stakes could not be higher in this deadly game of cat-and-mouse.



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 Crime Fiction

MURDER IN PARIS

BLIND DETECTIVE 10

CHRISTINA KONING

'Beautifully written, the period feel is utterly convincing . . . one of the most fascinating detectives'
Amanda Craig

Paris, 1945. Frederick Rowlands is sent by MI5 agent Iris Barnes to confirm the identity of Clara Metzner, recently freed from Ravensbrück concentration camp. The task is far from easy, not only because of Rowlands' blindness but because Clara's experiences have changed her almost out of recognition in the past decade. The pressure is on though, as Clara's testimony could help Iris expose collaborators in the upper echelons of French society. But when Clara – or the woman claiming to be her – is found murdered, Rowlands is thrust into a race to stop more deaths, including his own.

DECEMBER



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Crime Fiction

THE BEST OF PETER LOVESEY STORIES

PETER LOVESEY

'Masterly, atmospheric . . . On the 50th anniversary of the publication of his first novel, Lovesey is still going strong'

Publishers Weekly

To crown a writing career spanning over fifty years, this collection showcases the very best of Peter Lovesey's short stories, featuring many of his most famous and much-loved characters such as Sergeant Cribb and Bertie. Unexpected discoveries hidden among the branches of the family tree. A parrot and an astonishing cache of uncut diamonds. The story of a marriage revealed between the lines of a Victorian advice column. With his trademark wit, these inventive, intricate and entertaining stories have something for new and old fans.

PETER LOVESEY has written both historical and contemporary crime novels in a career spanning over fifty years. He received both the Diamond Dagger and the accolade of Grand Master by the Mystery Writers of America. He has also been awarded the French Grand Prix de Littérature Policière.

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