



SEVERN HOUSE

THE HOME OF GREAT GENRE FICTION



CATALOGUE

APRIL-JUNE
2025

“The media had declared him dead a week ago, yet there he was, battered, bruised, tattered-clothed, and shoeless, plodding bear-like along a rugged Mediterranean shoreline, head down and oblivious to the pain inflicted upon his naked feet by the sharp rocks. The breezy late-summer afternoon turned slightly chilly once the sun had completed its ritual deep-orange setting, but the crisp, sea-scented air and starlight-filled sky drove him on.

Until he found the body.

He stood stiff-backed and stared.

Then lay down beside her

And cried.”

Not Dead Yet
Jeffrey Siger

THE HOME OF GREAT GENRE FICTION SINCE 1974 – FROM COZY CRIME TO GRIPPING THRILLERS, HISTORICAL MYSTERIES, HORROR, SCI-FI AND BEYOND

Severn House is an imprint of independent publisher Canongate Books dedicated to publishing the very best in genre fiction.

We're proud to publish incredible veteran writers such as Simon Brett, Ellen Byron, Barbara Hambly and Davis Bunn, as well as exciting up-and-coming voices such as Erica Wright, Wendy Church and M.B. Henry.

We believe genre fiction readers deserve the very best – that's why we're committed to continuing to produce high-quality print editions in hardback and paperback, as well as digital editions. Whether you're looking for a great cozy crime read or a spine-chilling thriller, there's always something on our list to grab you!

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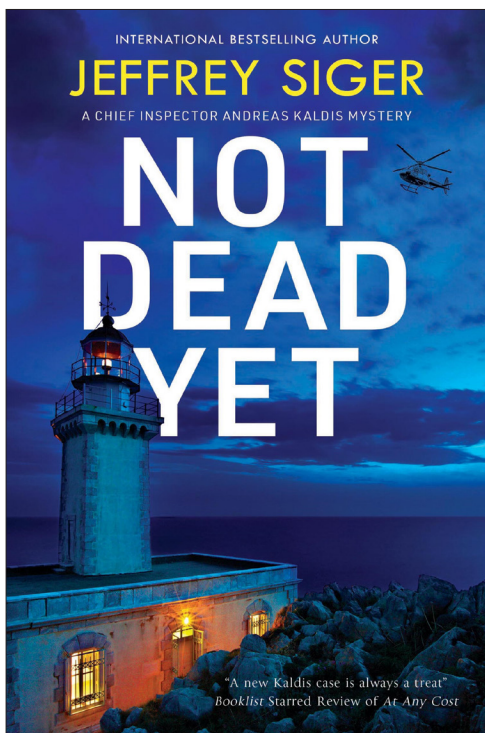
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NEW

IN

HARDBACK



Jeffrey Siger is an American living on the Aegean Greek island of Mykonos. A former Wall Street lawyer, he gave up his career as a name partner in his own New York City law firm to write the international best-selling, award-recognized Chief Inspector Andreas Kaldis series.

The *New York Times* has named him as Greece's thriller novelist of record, and the Greek government selected him as the only American author writing novels that serve as a guide to Greece.

NOT DEAD YET

A CHIEF INSPECTOR ANDREAS KALDIS MYSTERY #14

JEFFREY SIGER

A corrupt millionaire. A suspicious plane crash. A sole survivor. Chief Inspector Kaldis is on the case in the latest installment of the internationally bestselling, critically acclaimed mystery series set in Greece.

Wealthy Greek businessman Dimitris Onofrio is known to be corrupt to the core, but the police have never been able to make his crimes stick. Powerful, influential and extremely dangerous, Onofrio is not a man to cross, and every witness prepared to come forward against him has died before they could testify.

So when Onofrio's private jet crashes, seemingly with no survivors, the police breathe a sigh of relief – quickly replaced by horror when Onofrio is found alive but catatonic on a remote Ionian beach, beside the body of his beloved wife.

Was the crash an accident . . . or sabotage? Chief Inspector Andreas Kaldis, head of Athens' Special Crimes Unit, knows that unless he can discover the truth before Onofrio recovers, the tycoon will be out for bloody revenge on all involved. Including Kaldis' own beloved wife, who is more mixed up in the accident than anyone would ever have suspected . . .

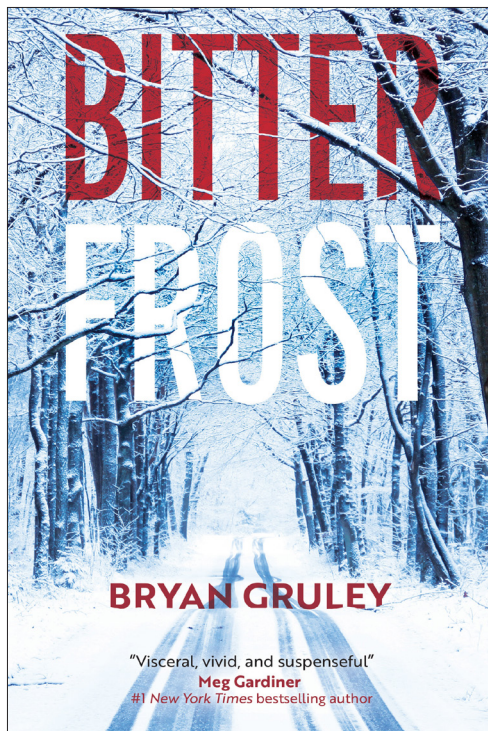
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Bryan Gruley is the Edgar-nominated author of six novels and one award-winning work of nonfiction. A lifelong journalist, he shared in *The Wall Street Journal's* Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the September 11 terrorist attacks. He lives in northern lower Michigan with his wife, Pamela.

BITTERFROST

A BITTERFROST THRILLER #1

BRYAN GRULEY

The first in a brand-new crime thriller series from Edgar nominee and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Bryan Gruley. Feisty defence attorney Devyn Payne faces off against veteran detective Garth Klimmek as they work to solve a vicious double homicide in their small, icy town of Bitterfrost.

Thirteen years ago, former ice hockey star Jimmy Baker quit the game after almost killing an opponent. Now, as the Zamboni driver for the amateur team in his hometown of Bitterfrost, Michigan, he's living his penance. Until the morning he awakens to the smell of blood . . .

Jimmy soon finds himself arrested for a brutal double murder. The kicker? He has no memory of the night in question. And as the evidence racks up against him, Jimmy's case is skating on thin ice. Could he have committed such a gruesome crime?

As his defense attorney Devyn Payne and prosecuting detective Garth Klimmek race to uncover the truth, time is running out for Jimmy. Because all he can really be sure of is that he is capable of taking a life. The question is, in his blacked-out state, did he take two?

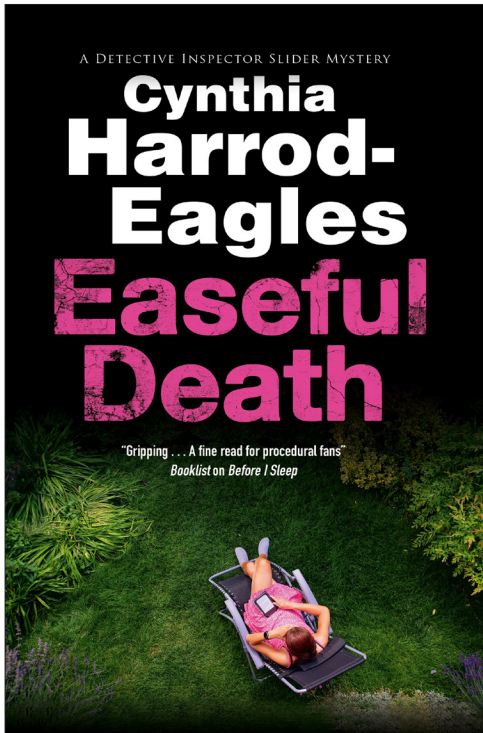
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Cynthia Harrod-Eagles was born and educated in London and had a variety of jobs in the commercial world before becoming a full-time writer. She is the author of the internationally acclaimed Bill Slider mysteries and the historical Morland Dynasty series. She lives in London, is married with three children and enjoys music, wine, gardening, horses and the English countryside.

EASEFUL DEATH

A DETECTIVE INSPECTOR SLIDER MYSTERY #25

CYNTHIA HARROD-EAGLES

A young woman is murdered at the height of summer in this gritty, page-turning mystery set in London and featuring DCI Bill Slider – "one of Britain's most engaging coppers" (*Booklist*).

Most homicides are young male on young male, and that's bad enough. But as a father of two daughters, DCI Bill Slider can't help but take it harder when the victim is a young woman.

Rhianne Morgan, just eighteen, waiting for her A-level results, lies dead in her comfortable middle-class home in a nice, respectable area. Neighbours remember rows with her stepfather. Schoolmates talk of a boyfriend humiliatingly dumped. Her bestie mentions an unnamed new boyfriend, who possibly provided her with drugs. But the back gate was open, and anyone could have walked in. Did she even know her assailant?

Secrets and lies flourished around this troubled teenager, a thicket of thorns Slider and his team must cut through to find the truth. Who killed Rhianne?

As Slider's boss says, it's always the first person you suspect. Except when it isn't.

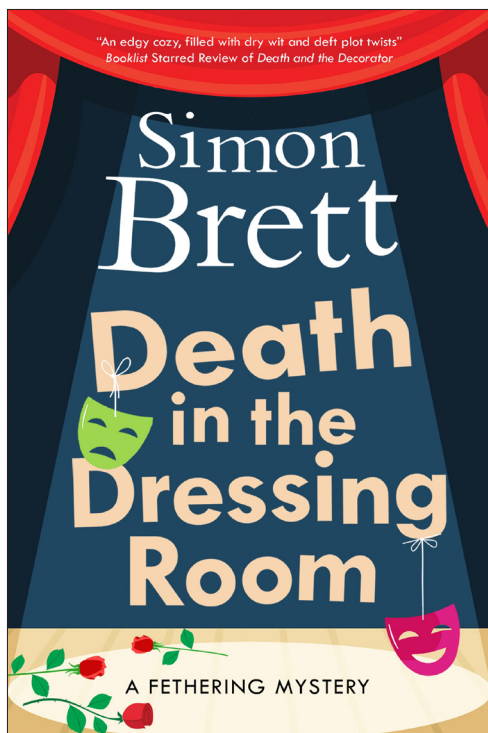
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Simon Brett worked as a producer in radio and television before taking up writing full-time. The author of more than 100 books, he was awarded an OBE in the 2016 New Year's Honours for services to literature and also was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. In 2014 he won the CWA's prestigious Diamond Dagger for an outstanding body of work. He lives in a picturesque Sussex village.

DEATH IN THE DRESSING ROOM

A FETHERING MYSTERY #22

SIMON BRETT

Neighbours Carole and Jude investigate murder most horrid in the theatre in the latest Fethering village mystery from the original king of British cozy crime, internationally best-selling, award-winning author Simon Brett, OBE.

Carole Seddon, a very respectable retired woman living in the English seaside village of Fethering, doesn't care for the theatre. But her neighbour Jude counts the job of actress among her many and varied past careers. So when Jude attends the closing night of a new play based on a classic TV sitcom, Carole is interested – but only because she suspects the leading man, Drake Purslow, is one of her scandalous friend's ex-lovers.

The night turns out to be more dramatic than either Carole or Jude could have ever predicted. After the performance, Jude makes her way to Drake's dressing room, only to find him dead – in what, to Jude's experienced sleuthing eye, seem very suspicious circumstances.

Did one of the play's cast – made up almost entirely of the original sitcom's actors – have a long-held grudge against the show's star? Or are more recent hatreds to blame? Jude is determined to find out – and Carole, who despite protestations is almost pathologically nosy, is right there to investigate alongside her.

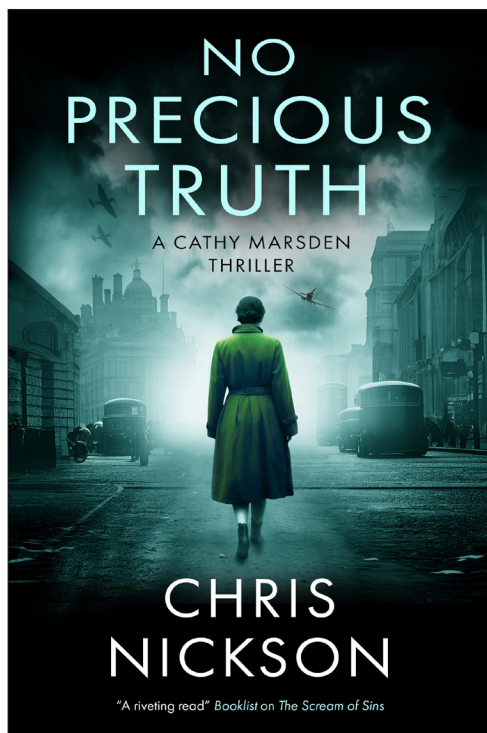
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NO PRECIOUS TRUTH

A CATHY MARSDEN THRILLER #1

CHRIS NICKSON

The first in a brand-new WWII historical thriller series introduces Sergeant Cathy Marsden – a female police officer working for the Special Investigation Branch – who risks her life to protect the city of Leeds from an escaped German spy!

Leeds, 1941. As the war rages across Europe, Police Sergeant Cathy Marsden's life since she was seconded to the Special Investigation Branch has remained focused on deserters and home-front crimes. Until now.

Things take a chilling turn when Cathy's civil servant brother, Dan, arrives from London with a dark secret: he is working for the XX Committee – a special MI5 unit set up to turn German spies into double agents. But one of these agents has escaped and is heading for Leeds, sent to destroy targets key to the war effort. Suddenly Cathy and the squad are plunged into an unfamiliar world of espionage and subterfuge.

With the fate of the country and the war in the balance, failure is not an option, and Cathy must risk everything, including her own life, to stop a spy.

Chris Nickson is the author of eleven Tom Harper mysteries, seven highly acclaimed novels in the Richard Nottingham series and seven Simon Westow books. *No Precious Truth* is the first novel in the brand-new Cathy Marsden thriller series set during World War II. Born and raised in Leeds, he moved back there more than a decade ago.

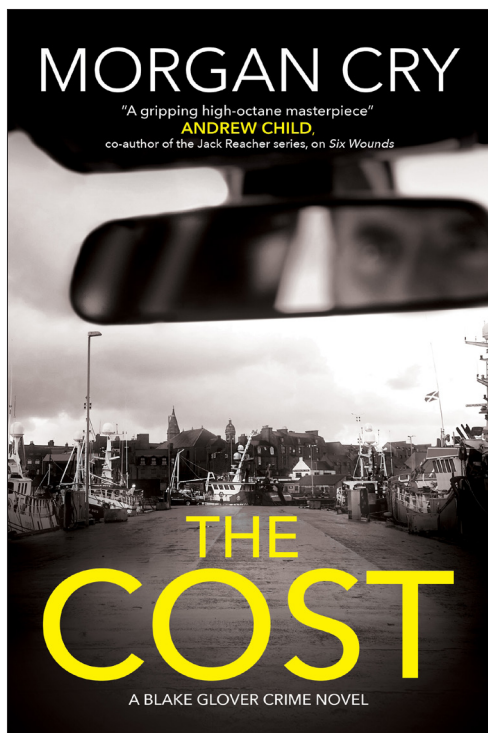
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Morgan Cry is the pseudonym of crime writer Gordon Brown. Gordon has had eleven crime and thriller books published to date, along with a novella and a number of short stories. He is a founding director of Bloody Scotland, Scotland's International Crime Writing Festival, and also runs a strategic planning consultancy. He splits his time between Scotland and, when he can, Spain, and is married with two children.

THE COST

A BLAKE GLOVER CRIME NOVEL #1

MORGAN CRY

One man's race against time to track down a deadly narcotic before it hits the streets of the seaside hometown he thought he'd never return to. The first in a new mystery series by Bloody Scotland founding director Gordon Brown writing as Morgan Cry.

Disgraced, demoralized and recently retired Glasgow police constable Blake Glover returns to his childhood home of Fraserburgh on the north-east shoulder of Scotland. While driving a taxi to occupy himself and contemplate his future, he is asked to discreetly investigate the disappearance of a young woman.

Blake reluctantly agrees to help and stumbles upon a mysterious stately home which appears to be involved in smuggling people from around the world for a highly addictive and deadly narcotic.

The more Blake investigates, the more he uncovers a massive plot involving money, blackmail, drugs and murder. With the fear that the narcotic will make it onto the streets of his hometown, Blake must track down the drugs before time runs out or watch people he cares about meet a gruesome end.

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WATERS OF DESTRUCTION

AN ORCHID ISLE MYSTERY #2

LESLIE KARST

Retired caterer Valerie Corbin investigates a suspicious drowning in this Orchid Isle cozy culinary mystery, featuring a feisty queer couple who swap surfing lessons for sleuthing sessions in tropical Hilo, Hawai'i.

After a vacation of a lifetime in Hilo, Hawai'i, retired caterer Valerie Corbin and her wife Kristen have decided to move permanently to the beautiful – if storm-prone – Big Island. The couple are having fun furnishing their new house, exploring their new neighborhood and playing with their new little dog, Pua. But while they've made good friends with local restaurant manager Sachiko and her partner Isaac, they can't help but feel a little lonely.

So when Sachiko begs Val to fill in for a member of her bar team who's gone AWOL, Val dusts off her cocktail shaker and happily agrees. It's a great chance to meet more people – and learn the local gossip.

Such as about Hank, the missing bartender, who vanished after a team-building retreat at a local beauty spot a week ago, and hasn't been seen since. Until, that is, his body turns up at the bottom of the waterfall, and the police seem very interested in where Sachiko was at the time of his death.

Sachiko couldn't have killed him . . . could she? Val dives into the murky waters of the case, determined to find out.

The daughter of a law professor and a potter, **Leslie Karst** is the author of the Lefty Award-nominated Sally Solari culinary mysteries, as well as the memoir, *Justice is Served: A Tale of Scallops, the Law, and Cooking for RBG*.

During her career as a research and appellate attorney in Santa Cruz, California, Leslie rediscovered her youthful passion for food and cooking, at which point she returned to school – this time to earn a degree in culinary arts. Now retired, she and her wife and their Jack Russell mix split their time between Hilo, Hawai'i and Santa Cruz, California.

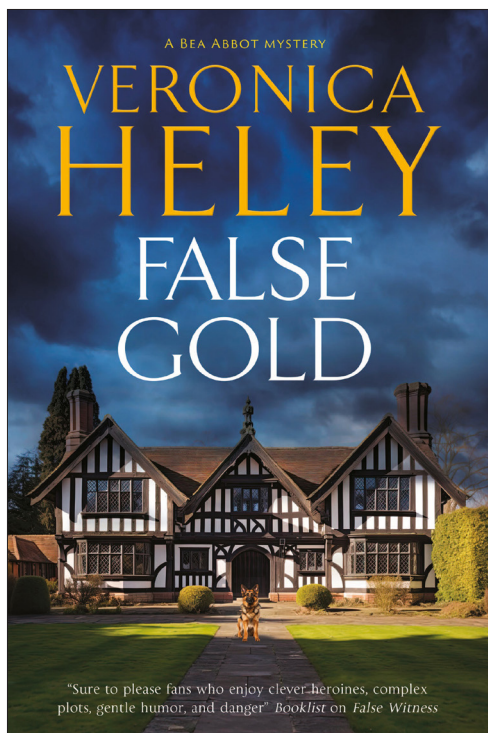
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Veronica Heley is actively involved in her local church and community affairs. She lives in Ealing, West London. Veronica is the creator of the ever-popular Ellie Quicke mysteries, as well as the Abbot Agency series.

FALSE GOLD

AN ABBOT AGENCY MYSTERY #18

VERONICA HELEY

When the hunt for buried treasure at Marston Hall leads to murder, it falls on Bea Abbot to dig up the truth in this entertaining mystery.

Bea Abbot is visiting her old friend Sir Julian at Marston Hall, but her trip starts badly when she arrives to a scene of chaos. It seems that a group of youths armed with metal detectors broke into the derelict amusement park in the grounds of the Hall and fled when disturbed . . . leaving the body of a middle-aged man behind. The police and Sir Julian's estate manager assume this is a missing security guard, Pete, but Sir Julian has doubts. Is the dead man really Pete, and if not, then where are he and his border collie, Beauty?

With rumours of buried treasure and family curses circulating in the village, and with Sir Julian and Bruno the Alsatian at her side, Bea sets out to find the truth – and catch the killer.

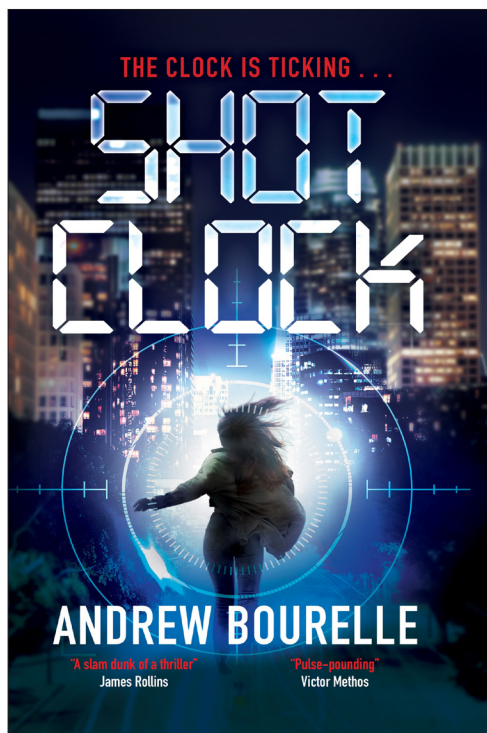
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Andrew Bourelle is the author of the novels *Shot Clock*, *48 Hours to Kill* and *Heavy Metal*, as well as co-author with James Patterson of *Texas Ranger*, *Texas Outlaw* and *The Texas Murders*. He teaches creative writing at the University of New Mexico.

SHOT CLOCK

ANDREW BOURELLE

Basketball star Garrett's brother has been kidnapped – and if he doesn't fix the NBA championship, Jake will be dead before the final buzzer in this edge-of-the-seat thriller set in the dark, criminal underbelly of Sin City.

Caitlin Glass had aspirations of becoming a professional basketball player until an injury ended her college career. Now a small-town police officer with a husband and young son, she's watched with envy as her ex-boyfriend, Garrett Streeter, became a star. But as Garrett leads his team to the NBA Finals, he suddenly shows up at her door, asking for help.

Garrett's brother has been kidnapped. If Garrett wants Jake to survive, he has to do the unthinkable: cheat, and fix the championship series.

If they don't track Jake down before the final buzzer, he'll be dead. Putting aside her deep misgivings, Caitlin dives into the dark, criminal underbelly of glitzy Las Vegas while the clock is ticking, and the seconds Jake has to live are running out . . .

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A COLD WHISPER

CASEY DUNN

Catch your breath. It might be your last . . . A bone-chilling, terrifying story about two sisters and secrets hiding beneath the snow.

A raging blizzard isn't enough to keep fourteen-year-old Rose and seven-year-old Lily in their abusive home for another night. But their escape plan goes wrong when Rose disappears and Lily wakes up in the snow-covered woods, terrified and alone. She never sees her sister again.

Twenty-five years later, Lily is a social worker with a skill for finding missing children – and a deep fear of the cold. When a foster child she works with is found frozen to death in the snow, Lily is forced to confront her past trauma. What happened to Rose, and why did she abandon her sister in the snow? As terrible secrets are finally dug up, the truth takes a bone-chillingly dark turn.

Casey Dunn was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She is the author of *Silence on Cold River*, a standalone thriller, and *The Hightower Trilogy*, published under pen name *Jadie Jones*. The first book in the series won the Best Equine Fiction award at the 2018 Equus Film Festival in NYC, and was a finalist for the 2015 Frank Yerby Fiction award. She now lives on a farm in Southern Oregon with her husband and three children.

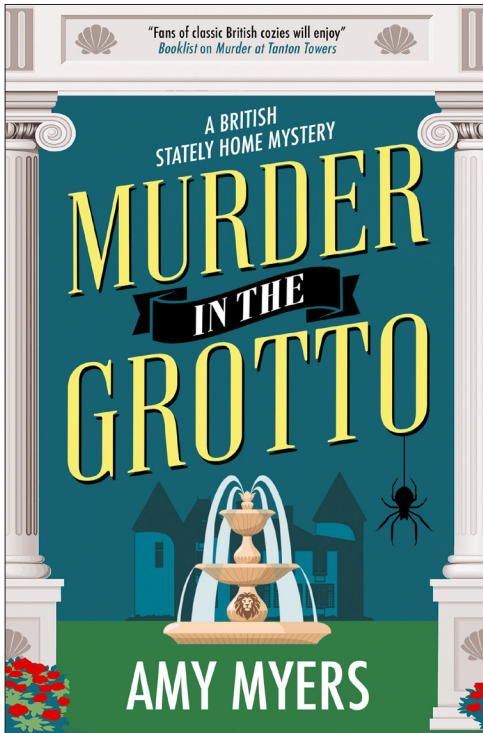
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MURDER IN THE GROTTTO

A BRITISH STately HOME MYSTERY #2

AMY MYERS

Café-owner and divorcee Cara Shelley gets caught up in a deadly ghost hunt in this warm and engaging cozy mystery set in a quirky British stately home.

Forty-something single mother Cara Shelley is very content running the Happy Huffkin café in the grounds of a quirky stately home. But her daily routine is shaken up by the arrival of a guest at Tanton Towers: the flamboyant Lady Izzy, who has plans for an extremely peculiar celebration . . . and wants Cara to cater for it.

Ten years ago, Lady Izzy's nephew, the former chair of the local ghost society, died after a ghost hunt in the Towers' spooky subterranean grotto. Now, she plans to commemorate his life – and death – with a fresh hunt in the very same place.

But the morning after the event, Cara makes a horrifying discovery in the network of caves. Unless spirits can kill, there's a murderer in their midst! Soon, the Towers is full of police, including the handsome but annoying DCI Andrew Mitchem. Can the irrepressible Cara keep her feelings in check and catch a cunning killer before she becomes the grotto's next ghost?

Amy Myers has written a wide range of novels, from crime to historical sagas to contemporary romance. She is also well known for her mystery short stories that have been published in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and many anthologies. Her traditional and cozy mystery series include the Jack Colby, car detective mysteries, co-written with her husband, American-born car buff James Myers; the Auguste Didier series; the Tom Wasp, Victorian chimney sweep novels; the Marsh and Daughter mysteries; the Nell Drury mysteries; and the new British Stately Home mysteries.

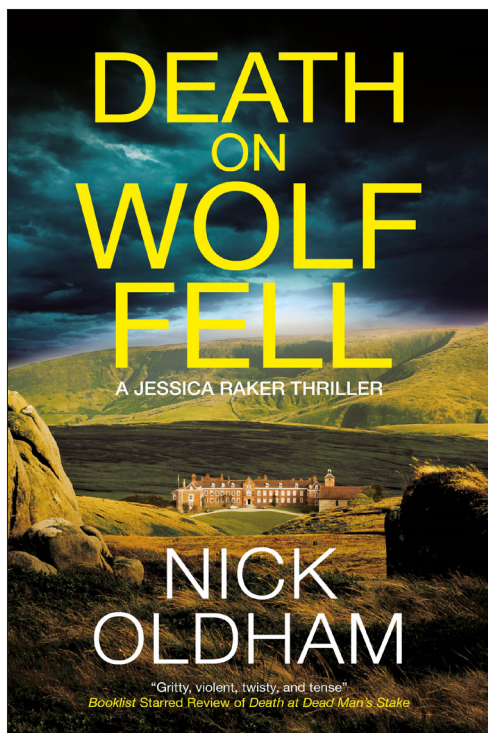
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Nick Oldham is the author of the acclaimed Henry Christie series and the Steve Flynn thrillers. He is a retired police inspector, who served in the force from the age of nineteen. *Death on Wolf Fell* is the second book in the Jessica Raker series.

DEATH ON WOLF FELL

A JESSICA RAKER THRILLER #2

NICK OLDHAM

A tense and utterly addictive police procedural set on the Lancashire moors featuring Sergeant Jessica Raker.

Former Metropolitan Police firearms officer Sergeant Jessica Raker is on a mission to bring down a brutal organized crime group operating in the idyllic Ribble Valley.

The OCG's leader, Mags Horsefield, is determined to make one of the members pay for getting caught by the police, using her contacts to make sure he's released from prison early . . . into her waiting clutches.

Jess knows Mags from their school days, but their lives now couldn't be more different. A fire at a local mill puts Jess on the tail of Mags' OCG; is this her opportunity to catch the Ribble Valley's most wanted criminal? The battle lines have been drawn, but when Jess is called to an incident at Wolf Fell Hall, a series of terrifying events follow . . .

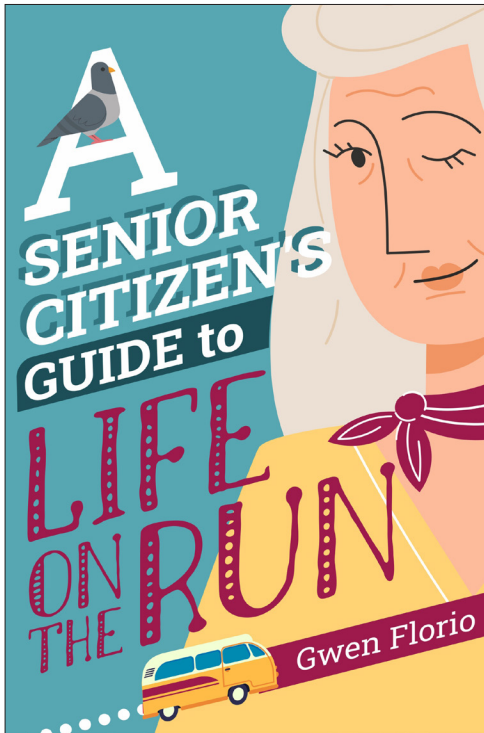
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Gwen Florio grew up in a farmhouse filled with books and a ban on television. After studying English at the University of Delaware, she began a decades-long career in journalism that has taken her around the country and to more than a dozen other countries, including several conflict zones.

Her first novel in the Lola Wicks mystery series, *Montana*, won the Pinckley Prize for Crime Fiction and the High Plains Book Award, and was a finalist for the Shamus Award, an International Thriller Award and a Silver Falchion Award.

A SENIOR CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO LIFE ON THE RUN

GWEN FLORIO

Senior citizen Alice Sanders can finally settle into her well-deserved retirement home in New Jersey . . . until her past catches up with her in this enthralling and quirky cozy mystery.

When retired septuagenarian Alice settled into her home within the planned community of Timeless Pastures in New Jersey, she expected a quiet life full of book clubs, mellow gatherings and affable friends. What she didn't expect was her retirement paradise to be disturbed by pigeons!

Alice confronts her next-door neighbour, Babs, for feeding a flock of them each day, thus causing her backyard to look like a Jackson Pollock painting, but not knowing how devious Babs can be, and unconsciously unleashing events that could be dangerous or even worse – deadly!

When Babs is found dead days after their dispute, everyone is quick to believe it was Alice who killed her. Panicked, Alice decides to leave, but not without her loyal senior friends and neighbours – Mia, Sasha and George – who will not only go on the run and dodge the police with her, but also try to protect her from her mysterious past . . .

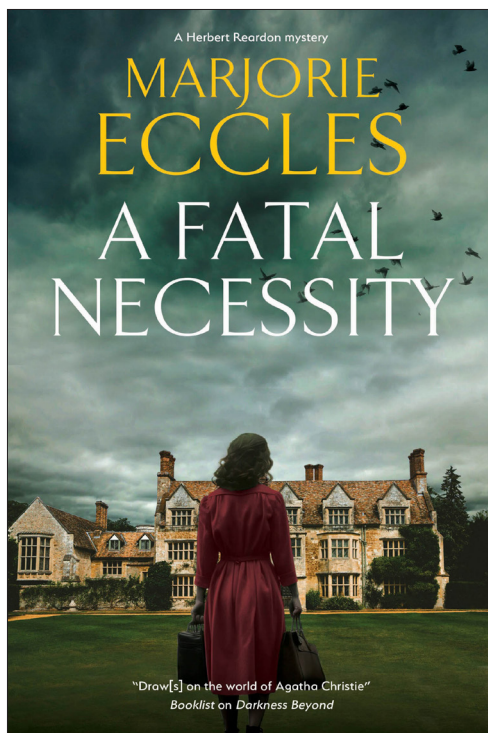
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A FATAL NECESSITY

A HERBERT REARDON MYSTERY #6

MARJORIE ECCLES

DI Herbert Reardon investigates the murder of an enigmatic woman who was about to leave her comfortable life behind and mysteriously disappear in this page-turning 1930s historical mystery with gasp-worthy revelations.

1935, Templewood, Worcestershire. Judge Waring's glamorous wife Emilie is mysteriously missing and no one knows where she is – until she's found the morning after a party at neighbouring Falquonroy Park, in a clearing in Templewood's grounds, strangled yet neatly laid out next to two pieces of matching luggage.

What could possibly have brought Emilie to the site where the family's new home, The Spinney, was about to be built, equipped for travelling? Was she planning to leave with someone she knew? Who was determined that she should meet such a terrible end? As Detective Chief Inspector Herbert 'Bert' Reardon and Sergeant Jago discover more about the enigmatic Emilie, they unravel terrible lies and devastating secrets stretching back years . . .

Marjorie Eccles was born in Yorkshire and spent much of her childhood there and on the Northumbrian coast. She is the author of many crime novels, including the Gil Mayo police procedurals, which were adapted for television by the BBC; several Edwardian mysteries; and the DI Herbert Reardon historical mystery series. She has one grown-up son and now lives in Buckinghamshire.

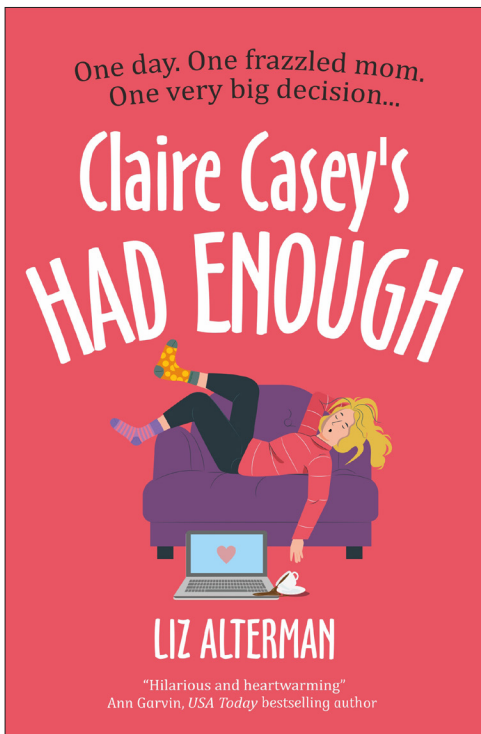
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Liz Alterman is the author of *The House on Cold Creek Lane*, *The Perfect Neighborhood*, *He'll Be Waiting*, and *Sad Sacked*. Her work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *McSweeney's*, and other outlets. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and three sons where she spends most days microwaving the same cup of coffee and looking up synonyms. When Liz isn't writing, she's reading.

CLAIRE CASEY'S HAD ENOUGH

LIZ ALTERMAN

Back in the day, Claire had dreams. She was going to be somebody! Now a forty-something mom of three (four if you count her husband!), drowning in laundry and PTA chores, with a job she can't stand, she's finally had enough . . . A hilarious, heartwarming mom-com, perfect for fans of Sophie Kinsella and Fiona Gibson.

Claire Casey has reached her breaking point. For years, she's juggled it all: kids, husband, career, and a never-ending list of responsibilities. But when the man who's supposed to be her partner – who promised he wouldn't let his phone die and would pick her up from the airport – completely forgets about her, Claire snaps.

It's the final straw. Claire is done. And so are they.

Sort of . . . maybe. (*It's not easy saying goodbye to sixteen years of marriage, ok!*)

Still, Claire's determined to reclaim her life. She's tired of being the overworked, worn-out mom in her forties. She wants to be hopeful, vivacious Claire again.

Attending her college reunion reconnects her with former flame, Alex. And while flirting with him over email is innocent, his invitation to meet for drinks at a swanky hotel is not!

As Claire begins to rediscover the woman she was, she's forced to confront the harsh reality that recapturing her sense of self could blow up her marriage . . . Now Claire must decide: risk the unknown or rebuild the life she has, flaws and all?

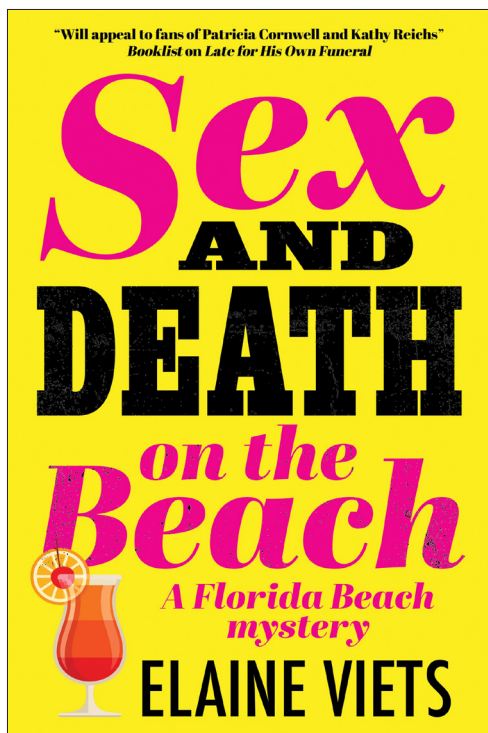
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SEX AND DEATH ON THE BEACH

A FLORIDA BEACH MYSTERY #1

ELAINE VIETS

Beneath the sun and sea of South Florida, dark crimes and bone-chilling secrets are lurking. Introducing a brand-new twisty mystery series from award-winning author Elaine Viets.

When the body of adult film star Sammie Lant is found buried next to the courtyard pool of the Florodora, Norah McCarthy's apartment complex, she quickly becomes the police's prime suspect.

Norah was witnessed having an argument with Sammie six months ago, the last day Sammie was seen alive – the day she gained notoriety for a shocking public stunt with a college football player.

But events take an even darker turn when more remains are unearthed – ones with an apparent connection to Norah's tragic past. Is it pure coincidence that more than one person was buried by Norah's pool? And is the killer closer to home than she thinks?

Elaine Viets is the author of the Angela Richman, Death Investigator series as well as the novella *Ice Blonde*. She has over thirty-five bestselling mysteries in four series. A St. Louis native, Elaine took the Medicolegal Death Investigator Training Course for forensic professionals at St. Louis University, and has won the Agatha, Anthony and Lefty Awards. Elaine received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Malice Domestic mystery convention. *Sex and Death on the Beach* is the first title in the Florida Beach mystery series. Elaine lives in Fort Lauderdale with her husband, writer Don Crinklaw.

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SWITCHEROO

A FRAN AND KEN STEIN MYSTERY #3

E.J. COPPERMAN

A new adoption case sets private investigators Fran and Ken Stein on a tangled and corrupted path in this new instalment of the lighthearted and fun cozy mystery series with an intriguing paranormal twist.

New York private investigators – and super-sized, ever-so-slightly-paranormal siblings – Fran and Ken Stein are back in business. Thirty-two-year-old Austin Cobb is trying to find his birth parents to get an answer to a deeply rooted question: Was he put up for adoption because he's on the autism spectrum?

Fran and Ken personally know about abandonment due to their parents leaving to keep them safe, hence the reason they founded K&F Stein Investigations. So naturally they want to help Austin and bring him good news.

The more the PI duo investigate, the more they find themselves entangled in a plot involving abduction, fraud and murder. But having their past catch up with them and posing a threat to their existence and their parents puts them into even more peril than they bargained for . . .

E.J. Copperman is the nom de plume for Jeff Cohen, writer of intentionally funny murder mysteries. As E.J., he is the author of the Haunted Guest house series, the Agent to the Paws series and the Jersey Girl Legal mysteries, as well as the Fran and Ken Stein mysteries. As Jeff, he is the author of the Double Feature and Aaron Tucker series, and he collaborates with himself on the Samuel Hoenig Asperger's mysteries.

A New Jersey native, E.J. worked as a newspaper reporter, teacher, magazine editor and screenwriter, before his first book was published to critical acclaim in 2002.

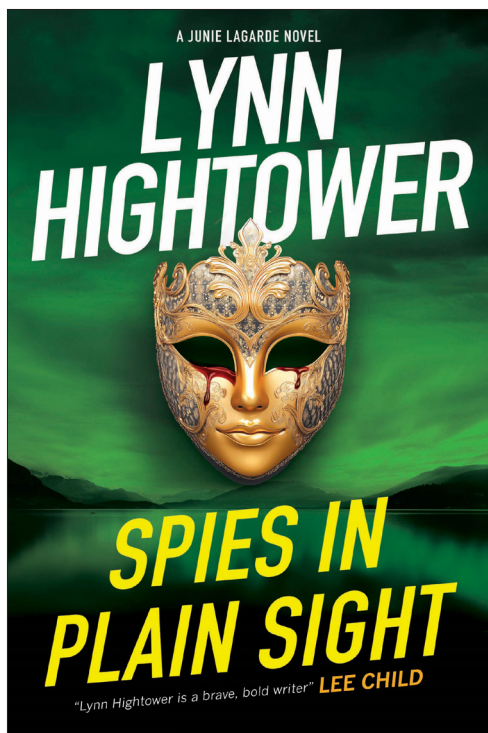
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Lynn Hightower is the bestselling author of numerous thriller and horror novels, including the Sonora Blair and Lena Padgett detective series, the Enlightenment Project supernatural suspense series and the Junie Lagarde novels. She has won the Shamus Award for Best First Private Eye novel and a WHSmith Fresh Talent Award. Lynn lives in Kentucky, in a small Victorian cottage with a writing parlor.

SPIES IN PLAIN SIGHT

A JUNIE LAGARDE NOVEL #2

LYNN HIGHTOWER

Welcome to VIE. A spy organization of the people, by the people, and for the people. We are spies in plain sight. We make billionaires afraid. A gripping, tense thriller with a hearing-impaired main character from bestselling author Lynn Hightower.

Junie Lagarde is a woman on a mission. With the help of her young team of citizen journalists, she's determined to hold billionaires accountable for the environmental atrocities they commit. Their current target: Kentuckian billionaire "Daddy" Sullivan Carr, whose plans to open a bitcoin mine in Annecy, France threaten to destroy the place Junie and her beloved hearing dog Leo now call home.

But locking horns with Daddy Carr plunges Junie into a waking nightmare. For the twisted billionaire has drawn the attention of a dark and lethal French secret society known as the Emerald Vipers – and for this he blames her.

Escaping only narrowly with her life from an assassination attempt, Junie's determination to unmask Daddy Carr as a villain only grows stronger. But as her quest for justice leads her from the masked revels of Annecy's Venetian carnival to the glittering excesses of the Kentucky Derby, it will take all her strength to find not just the justice she burns for – but to face the shocking truth. That's if she manages to stay alive . . .

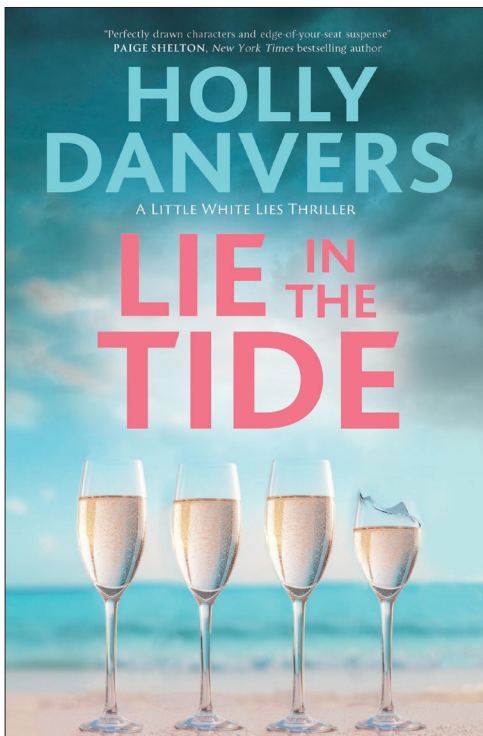
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Holly Danvers grew up devouring every mystery novel on the shelf of her local library. Previously, she has penned multiple cozy mystery series under numerous pseudonyms. *Lie in the Tide* is her first thriller.

LIE IN THE TIDE

A LITTLE WHITE LIES THRILLER #1

HOLLY DANVERS

Theirs is a reunion . . . to die for! Four friends are meeting at a beautiful Cape Cod beach house for a long overdue reunion. But before the trip is over, one of them will wind up dead . . . Perfect for fans of Liane Moriarty and Lucy Foley.

It's been twenty years since Mori, Avery, Remi and Calista last saw each other. As they reconnect on Cape Cod to celebrate Calista's 40th birthday, each one hides a painful and devastating secret.

Former introvert Mori is now a bestselling erotica author. She's more successful than she ever dreamed, and yet shamefully on the cusp of divorce #3.

Remi's a yoga instructor, blissfully married to her high school sweetheart. On this trip, she's concealing her pregnancy – *and* the baby's paternity.

Quiet Avery is a farm wife living in Iowa. Her life doesn't have the scandals of her friends'. But she does have a house full of kids she fears she'll never see again . . .

And Calista, the quintessential suburban mom and high school English teacher, is harboring the biggest secret of all.

These four women are about to learn that one little white lie could kill more than just their friendship . . .

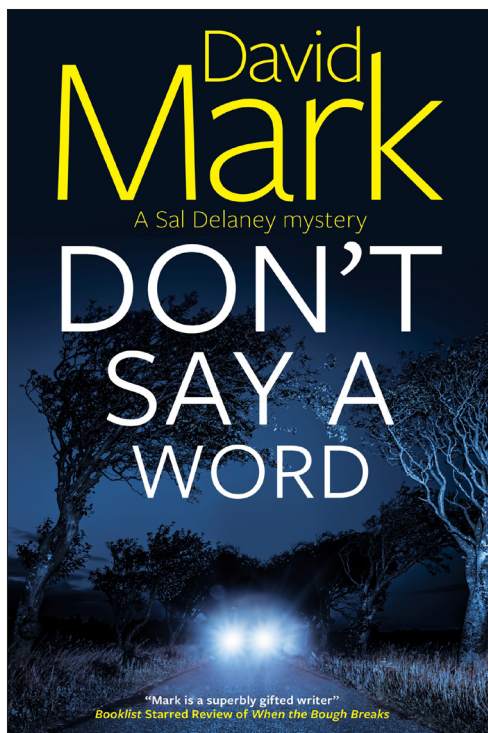
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David Mark spent seven years as a crime reporter for the *Yorkshire Post* and now writes full-time. A former Richard & Judy pick, and a *Sunday Times* bestseller, he is the author of the DS Aector McAvoy series, a number of standalone thrillers and the new Sal Delaney mysteries. He lives in Northumberland with his family.

DON'T SAY A WORD

A SAL DELANEY MYSTERY #2

DAVID MARK

Traffic cop Sal Delaney has to solve another twisted and dark case in this pulse-pounding and gritty police procedural set in the north of England, with a complex, intriguing female protagonist.

While Salome Delaney is trying to juggle daily life, she struggles to keep it all together. Looking after her ex-boyfriend's daughters, trying to do her job as a Collision Investigation Officer and dealing with the aftermath of the shocking discoveries around her most trusted mentor isn't an easy task.

A new case which involves more than just a car accident doesn't help her mental health. Things get even worse when she is assigned to Detective Chief Inspector Magda Quinn who seems to have a vendetta against her and tries to make her life even more miserable.

Without realizing it, Sal is sucked into a twisted and dark case involving medieval torture chambers which contain buried secrets that come to light and make Sal almost lose her mind for good – and if she isn't careful, she might even lose her life . . .

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**NOW
IN
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THE PIEROGI PERIL

A KIELBASA QUEEN MYSTERY #2

GERI KROTOW

Lydia Wienewski has opened her Polish-American café and bakery on the shore of Lake Erie, but her idyllic new venture is shattered when the low tide leads to a terrible discovery.

June, 1982. Lydia Wienewski's dream has finally come true: Lydia's Lakeside Café and Bakery, selling delicious Polish-American fare on the shore of Lake Erie, is now open and her fortunes are looking up. Even her old nemesis and tutor, the irascible Madame Delphine, has made time to sample Lydia's delectable pierogi, with some of her students in tow.

But when Lydia finds Madame Delphine dead in the water, her lakeside dream turns into a nightmare. Was it a bizarre suicide, or brutal murder? As Lydia and Grandma Mary investigate, they discover that there was more to Madame Delphine than meets the eye, and quickly find themselves drawn into an increasingly perilous situation! Can they uncover the truth about Madame Delphine's untimely death?

Geri Krotow is an award-winning author of over thirty novels, including the Whidbey Island contemporary romance series and the Silver Valley PD romantic suspense series. A US Naval Academy graduate and former Naval Intelligence Officer, Geri left her Navy career after nine years to follow her heart and focus on her dream of becoming an author. When not writing or reading, Geri loves to knit and go on long walks with her beloved dogs. A native of Buffalo, New York, she relishes frequent return visits.

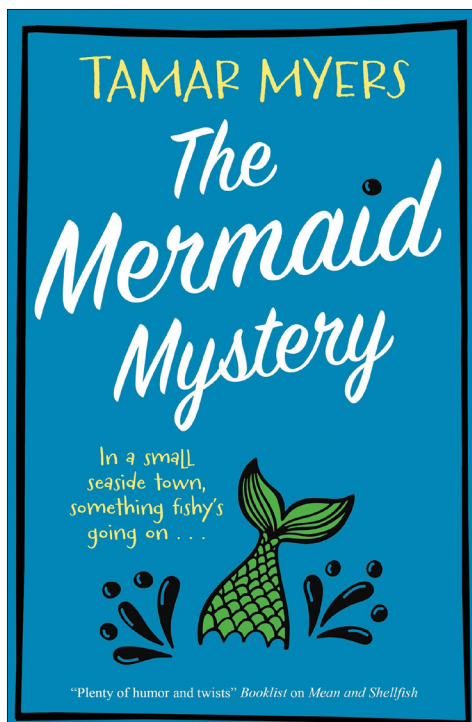
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THE MERMAID MYSTERY

TAMAR MYERS

In a small seaside town, something fishy's going on . . .

Tidal Shores, a small seaside town in South Carolina, has seen its fortunes nose-dive. But not for much longer! The 'Big Ten' on the town council have come up with a range of ingenious ideas to get tourists flocking back, from buried pirate treasure to beauty pageants, but it's handsome taxidermist Gunner Jones' plan to dupe the public into believing that his creation 'Miss Lucy' – combining the top half of an albino ape with a large goliath tigerfish – is a real mermaid that wins the day.

As Gunner's bizarre creature takes center stage, inquisitive reporter Zoe Porter isn't fooled by its supposed credibility, but with mermaid mania sweeping the country, will anyone believe her exposé? And when events take a sinister turn, Zoe is suddenly drawn into a much darker story . . .

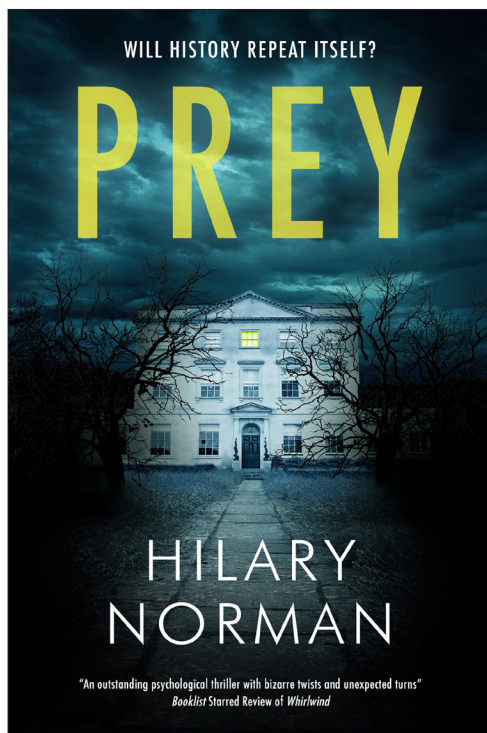
Tamar Myers was born in what was then the Belgian Congo in 1948, where her parents were American-Mennonite missionaries to a tribe of headhunters. She moved to the USA at the age of fifteen. On her mother's side, Tamar is descended from one of the first Amish families to settle in America in 1738. She is the author of more than forty mysteries and many short stories.

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Hilary Norman's first novel, *In Love and Friendship*, was a *New York Times* bestseller, and her work has been published in many languages. She has travelled extensively throughout Europe and lived for a time in the US. She now lives in London. *Prey* is her twenty-sixth novel.

PREY

HILARY NORMAN

Moving from a London deep in the terror of the Blitz to the seemingly safer London of 2019, two women have to fight for their lives to survive a ruthless killer in this dual timeline psychological thriller that will make your hair stand on end!

London, 1941. Amongst the air-raid sirens and horrors of bombings, artist Harriet Yorke manages Calla House: a small community of people from different backgrounds – but good friends who pull together in times of crisis.

Like most Londoners contending with the Blitz, Harriet has grown used to withstanding danger, but when she goes on a late-evening stroll with her Cairn Terrier, George, and finds herself face-to-face with a killer, she unleashes a series of events that will put more than just her own life on the line . . .

London, 2019. Libby lives amongst her grandmother's paintings in Calla House – works of art into which Harriet poured all the horror of her wartime experiences, culminating in that one terrifying night.

Libby's Calla House is a comfortable safe haven for her and its other residents – until, that is, a crumbling chimney pot sparks an alert. Libby calls in builders, but as her troubles magnify, she begins to wonder if the ghosts of Harriet's past aren't going to bring more than the house down around her ears . . .

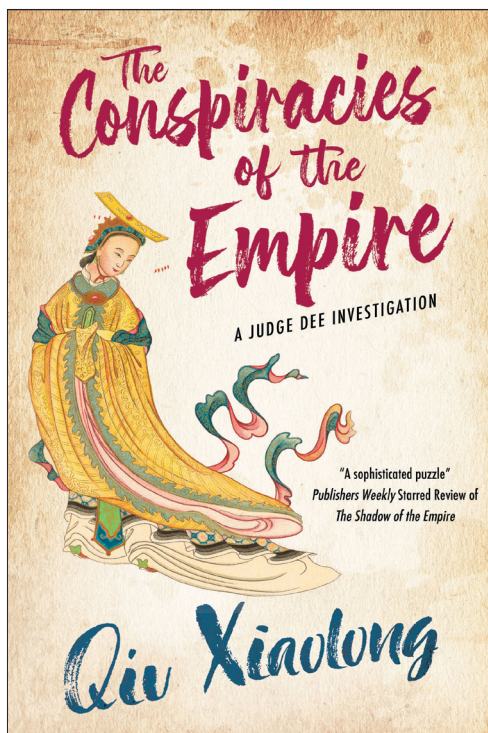
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Anthony Award-winning author **Qiu Xiaolong** was born in Shanghai and moved to Washington University in St. Louis, US, to complete a PhD degree in comparative literature. After the Tiananmen tragedy in 1989 he stayed on in St. Louis where he still lives with his wife. Qiu has sold over two million copies of his Inspector Chen mysteries worldwide and been published in twenty languages. He is also a prize-winning poet.

THE CONSPIRACIES OF THE EMPIRE

A JUDGE DEE INVESTIGATION #2

QIU XIAOLONG

The legendary Judge Dee Renjie returns, in this lyrical combination of mystery, history and ancient Chinese politics from the author of the renowned Inspector Chen mysteries.

In Tang dynasty China, Empress Wu – seductive, ambitious and vindictive – rules with an iron fist. Her premier minister, Judge Dee Renjie, is honored to be trusted by her. But when she orders him to carry out an urgent investigation into the disappearance of disgraced poet Luo Binwang, he can't see why the matter is of such vital importance.

Luo Binwang joined a doomed uprising against Her Majesty, and vanished after the final, bloody battle. Is he missing – or dead? Either way, now that the rebellion has been mercilessly quashed, what harm could a poor, elderly poet do?

Traveling out of the great capital of Chang'an, accompanied by his loyal manservant Yang, Judge Dee launches a painstaking investigation in the hopes of achieving what the empress' secret police could not. But the journey is marred by ill omens, and with death and disaster following his every step, Judge Dee soon begins to wonder if the empress trusts him as much as he thought . . .

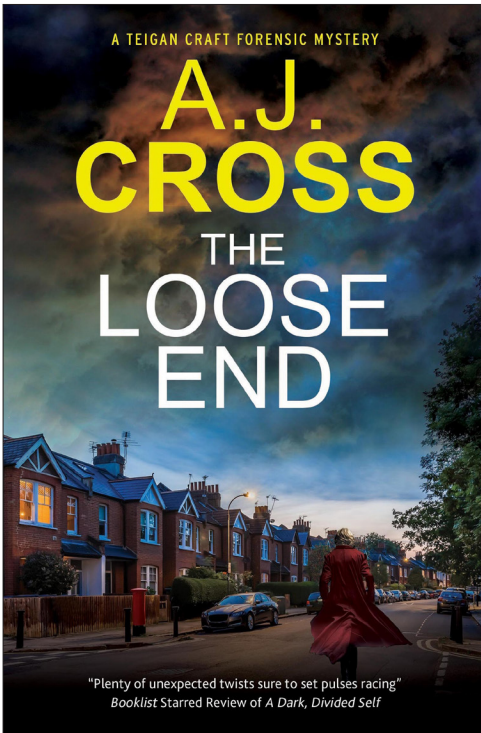
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A.J. Cross is both a court-appointed expert witness and a forensic psychologist with a Master's degree and PhD from the University of Birmingham and over twenty years' experience in the field. She lives in Birmingham with her jazz-musician husband and is the author of five Kate Hanson Cold Case mysteries and four Will Traynor mysteries. *The Loose End* is the first title in the Teigan Craft forensic mystery series.

THE LOOSE END

A TEIGAN CRAFT FORENSIC MYSTERY #1

A.J. CROSS

Introducing Professor Teigan Craft, a neurodiverse forensic psychologist getting into the minds of Birmingham's most twisted killers.

No one has seen reclusive Emma Matheson for years. But when her mummified remains are found in the cellar of a property in Birmingham during a renovation, the chilling discovery raises more questions than answers.

Forensic psychologist Professor Teigan 'Tig' Craft from Central University is called in to assist DCI Steve Thompson's team with the investigation, and her shrewd observations on her first police case quickly profile a ruthlessly efficient killer. So ruthless they have struck more than once?

As Teigan uncovers a number of cold murder cases involving young women linked by geography and time to Emma's terrible fate, Thompson is unconvinced by her theories and unconventional style. Can they learn to work together to catch a serial killer before another tragedy strikes?

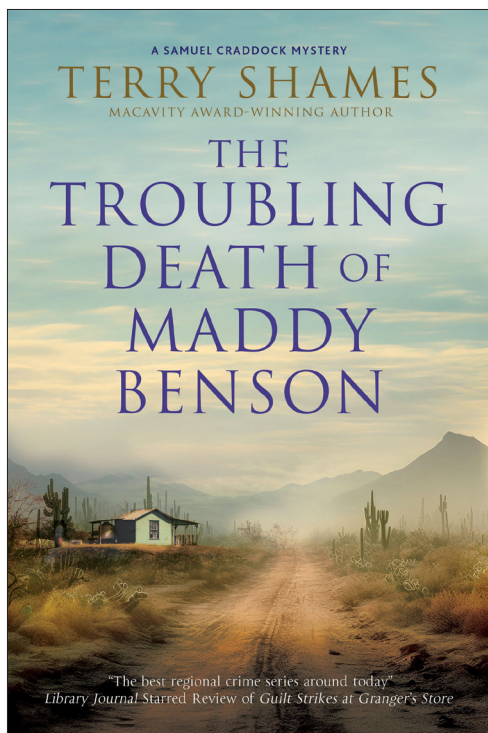
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Terry Shames is the award-winning author of ten previous Samuel Craddock mysteries. As well as winning the Macavity Award for Best First Novel, *A Killing at Cotton Hill* was also shortlisted for The Strand Critics Award. *The Necessary Murder of Nonie Blake* won the RT Critics Award for Best Mystery. Her books have also been shortlisted for Left Coast Crime Awards for Best Mystery. She is a member of Sisters in Crime and is on the board of Mystery Writers of America.

THE TROUBLING DEATH OF MADDY BENSON

A SAMUEL CRADDOCK MYSTERY #11

TERRY SHAMES

Was Maddy Benson asking for trouble?

Everyone knows everyone in a small town like Jarrett Creek. So Chief of Police Samuel Craddock is perplexed when he receives a call from a woman asking the police to rescue her sister. Who is Maddy Benson?

Maddy said she had to get away, but she didn't get far. When Craddock finds her just off the highway, she's already dead, shot in the head. And as he learns more about the mysterious Maddy and the real reason behind her recent move to Jarrett Creek, his career is plunged into jeopardy. Can he unravel a terrible knot of lies, threats, dangerous politics and shocking secrets to reveal the truth behind the troubling death of Maddy Benson?

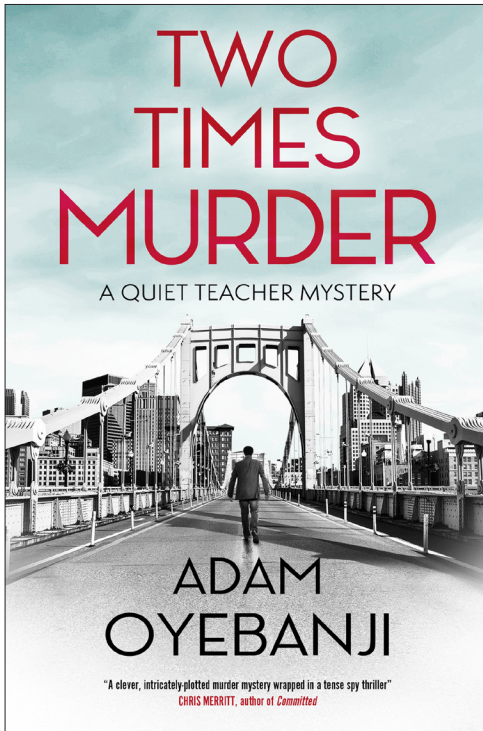
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TWO TIMES MURDER

A QUIET TEACHER MYSTERY #2

ADAM OYEBANJI

Meet Black British expat Greg Abimbola – a seemingly mild-mannered Russian language teacher with terrifying secrets – in this stunning mystery set in Pittsburgh, the City of Bridges: Agatha Christie meets John le Carré.

Greg Abimbola is many things. He's Black, British and fluent in Russian. He's a snappy dresser, a reasonable teacher, and an unenthusiastic sports fan. But most of all, he's exceptional at keeping secrets. Like, who he really is, and the things he's done.

Determined to keep his head down after helping solve a murder in the school basement, Greg fears a trap when Sergeant Rachel Lev of the Pittsburgh police corners him in his apartment. Because his refusal to take credit isn't modesty, it's a survival tactic.

But Rachel is here on another matter entirely. She needs his help. She's lead detective on the homicide of an unidentified man fished from the Allegheny River. With clues scant, and surrounded by colleagues who'd love to see her side-lined, Greg is her final roll of the dice.

Greg has no choice. He knows more than he's saying about Rachel's mysterious corpse. To add to his troubles, a school trustee plunges to his demise after a heated board meeting. Both deaths come with potentially lethal consequences. If he doesn't find answers, and soon, Greg Abimbola might be the third man on the autopsy table.

Adam Oyebanji was born in Coatbridge, North Lanarkshire. He recently took the big step of moving east to Edinburgh by way of Birmingham, London, Lagos, Chicago, Pittsburgh and New York: a necessary detour, because the traffic otherwise is really, really bad. Adam works in the field of counter-terrorist financing, helping banks choke off the money supply to rogue states, narcotics empires, and human trafficking networks.

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ANTIQUES SLAY BELLES

A TRASH 'N' TREASURES MYSTERY #18

BARBARA ALLAN

Former sheriff, talented thespian and delightfully eccentric true-crime author Vivian Borne hunts down a Christmas killer in the new Trash 'n' Treasures cozy mystery – "one of the funniest cozy series going" (*Ellery Queen Magazine*).

It's five days before Christmas, and Vivian Borne – septuagenarian antiques dealer, true-crime writer and enthusiastic amateur sleuth – and her long-suffering daughter Brandy are preparing a presentation of holiday antiques at the local country club's annual Christmas luncheon.

Distracted by their secret Santa gifts, the ladies of the club, to Vivian's dismay, are *not* giving her and her antique sleigh bells the attention they deserve. But when Norma Crumley, socialite and world-class gossip, falls face first into her plum pudding, it seems Santa has also delivered the sleuthing mother and daughter a present: a cracker of a case!

Christmas in small-town Serenity is (usually) a magical time. Can Vivian and Brandy – not forgetting Shih Tzu sidekick Sushi – make a killing from their holiday antiques, catch a devious murderer, and wrap up the case in time to eat their festive microwave turkey dinners?

Barbara Allan is the joint pseudonym of husband-and-wife mystery writers, Barbara and Max Allan Collins. Barbara is an acclaimed short-story writer, and Max is a multi-award-winning *New York Times* bestselling novelist and Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. Their previous collaborations have included one son, several short story collections, and twenty novels. They live in Muscatine, Iowa – their Serenity-esque hometown – in a house filled with trash and treasures.

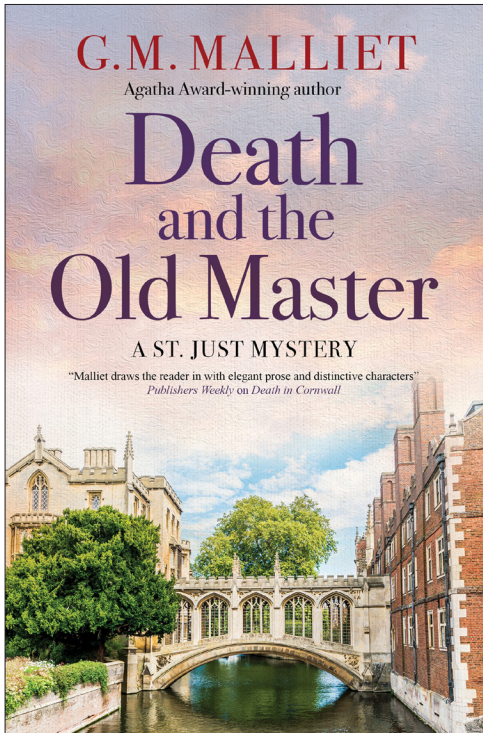
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Agatha Award-winning **G.M. Malliet** is the acclaimed author of three traditional mystery series and a standalone novel set in England. The first entry in the DCI St. Just series, *Death of a Cozy Writer*, won the Agatha Award for Best First Novel and was nominated for Macavity and Anthony Awards. The Rev. Max Tudor series has been nominated for many awards as have several of her short stories appearing in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and *The Strand*. She was a graduate student at the universities of Cambridge and Oxford and now lives in the US with her husband.

DEATH AND THE OLD MASTER

A ST. JUST MYSTERY #6

G.M. MALLIET

Cambridge University master Sir Flyte Rascallian has little interest in the innocent-looking set of old paintings he inherits from his aunt Beatrice, until he takes a closer look . . . and ends up dead in this page-turning cozy.

Something is bothering Sir Flyte Rascallian, renowned art expert and Master of Hardwick College at the University of Cambridge. Are the grimy paintings he recently inherited from his aunt as worthless as he claims?

Curator Ambrose Nussknacker believes one of the paintings could be a genuine Rembrandt. Why is Sir Flyte so reluctant to get it authenticated, and so determined to avoid the tributes due to the discovery of one of the world's great lost treasures?

When Sir Flyte is found murdered in the Master's Lodge, Detective Chief Inspector Arthur St. Just must unravel his unusual actions to solve the death of the old master. College fellows, staff, and students all agree something was amiss. But as St. Just investigates, he quickly becomes entangled in a web of deception following the trail of priceless artwork people would kill to possess.

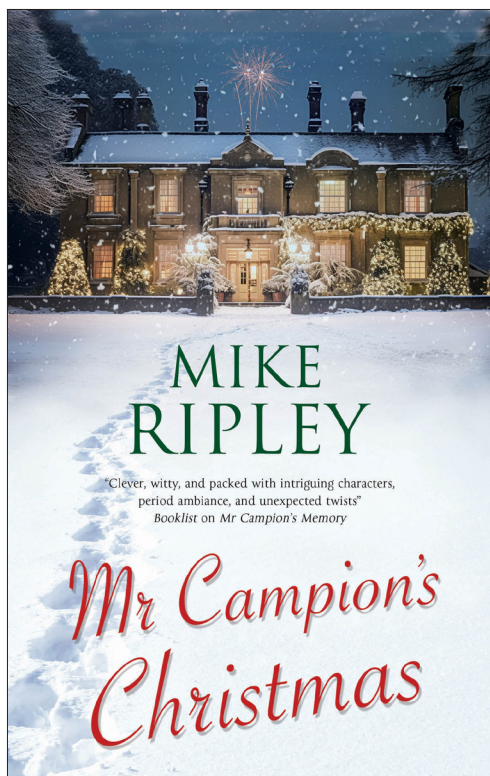
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Mike Ripley is the author of more than thirty books, has written for radio and television and has reviewed almost 3,000 crime novels over the last three decades. His 'reader's history' of the heyday of British action and spy thrillers 1953-75, *Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang*, won the H.R.F. Keating Award for non-fiction in 2017.

MR CAMPION'S CHRISTMAS

AN ALBERT CAMPION MYSTERY #12

MIKE RIPLEY

The Campions are snowed in at Christmas, but just when they think it can't get any colder, their holidays take an even chillier turn.

Norfolk, 1962. Boxing Day looks set to be a quiet affair for the Campions when they are snowed in at their remote farmhouse, Carterers – until a charabanc full of 'pilgrims' travelling from London to the Shrine of Our Lady in nearby Walsingham crashes into their imposing granite gateposts and the family unexpectedly find themselves playing host to the eccentric passengers.

But any lingering festive cheer is in short supply when a shocking discovery is made the following day, while a terrifying twist reveals that some of the guests are not who they seem. Which – if any – can they trust? Suddenly hostage to events, the Campions are drawn into a fiendish web of espionage as the Cold War comes chillingly close to home.

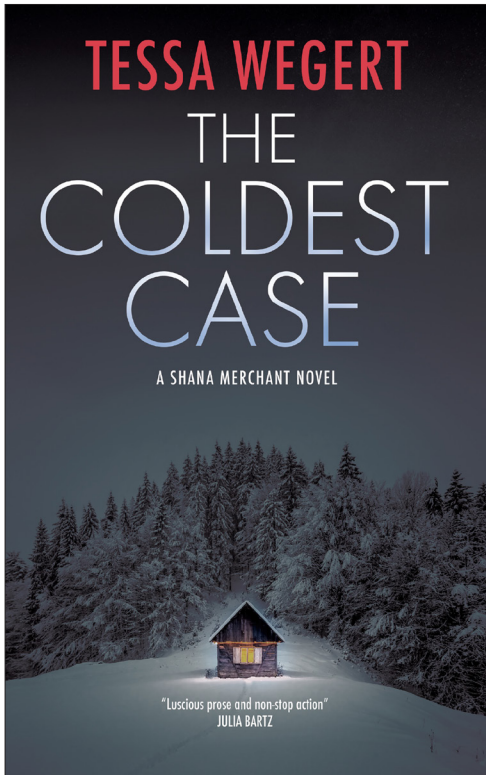
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Tessa Wegert is the author of the Shana Merchant series of mysteries. A former freelance journalist, Tessa has contributed to such publications as *Forbes*, *The Huffington Post*, *Adweek*, *The Economist* and *The Globe and Mail*. Tessa grew up in Québec and now lives with her husband and children in Connecticut, where she studies martial arts.

THE COLDEST CASE

A SHANA MERCHANT NOVEL #6

TESSA WEGERT

News of a missing Instagram celebrity brings Senior Investigator Shana Merchant to a frozen island community of just eight people. When the visit turns deadly, her hunt for a killer collides with a cold case she'll never forget . . .

It's February in the Thousand Islands and, cut off from civilization by endless ice, eight people are overwintering on tiny, remote Running Pine. Six year-rounders, used to the hard work, isolation and freezing temperatures . . . and two newcomers: social media stars Cary and Sylvie, whose account documenting their year on the island is garnering thousands of followers, and thousands of dollars' worth of luxury gifts.

The long-term islanders will tell you Running Pine can be perilous – especially for city slickers who'll do anything to get the perfect shot. So when Cary doesn't return from ice fishing one morning, his neighbors fear the worst.

With the clock ticking to find the missing influencer, a police team is dispatched to take the dangerous journey to the island . . . but Sylvie, his frantic partner, will only talk to one person: newlywed Senior Investigator Shana Merchant.

Where is Cary – and what is it that Sylvie's not sharing? With aspects of the case reminding Shana of an unsolved homicide from her past that haunts her still, she risks her own safety to help. But little does she know that a storm is coming – and if she doesn't solve both crimes soon, she may become the island's next victim . . .

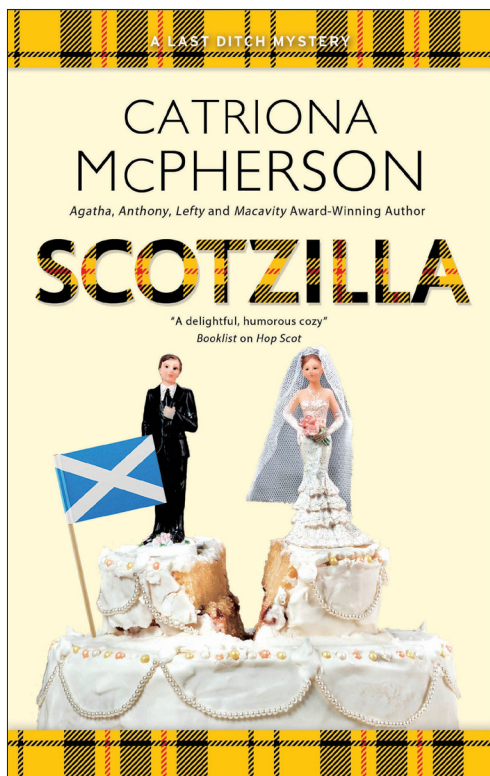
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Born and raised in West Lothian, **Catriona McPherson** left Edinburgh University with a PhD in Linguistics and worked in academia, as well as banking and public libraries, before taking up full-time writing in 2001. For the last ten years she has lived in Northern California with frequent visits home. Among numerous prizes, she has won two of Left Coast Crime's coveted Humorous Lefty Awards for the Last Ditch comedies.

SCOTZILLA

A LAST DITCH MYSTERY #7

CATRIONA MCPHERSON

Lexy's wedding becomes a crime scene when a murderer dares to strike on her big day in this superbly plotted and wickedly funny cozy.

Lexy Campbell is getting married! But in the six months of planning it took to arrive at the big day, she has become . . . a challenge. Friendships are strained to breaking point, Lexy's parents are tiptoeing around her, and even Taylor, her intended, must be having second thoughts. Turns out it's moot. Before the happy couple can exchange vows, Sister Sunshine, the wedding celebrant, is discovered dead behind the cake, strangled with the fairy lights.

Lexy's dream wedding is now not just a nightmare: it's a crime scene. She vows not to get drawn into the case, but the rest of the Last Ditch crew are investigating a bizarre series of goings-on in Cuento's cemetery, and every clue about the graveyard pranks seems to link them back to Lexy's wedding day. Will the Ditchers solve the case? Will Sister Sunshine's killer be found? Will Lexy ever get her happy ever after? Not even Bridezilla deserves this . . .

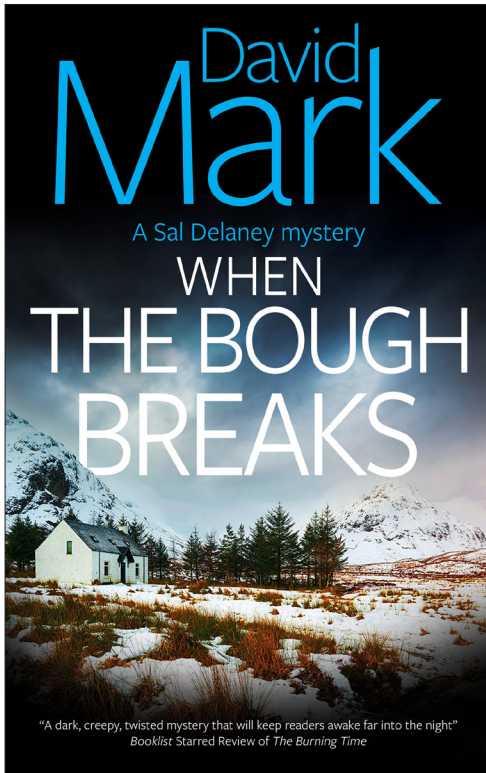
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David Mark spent seven years as crime reporter for the *Yorkshire Post* and now writes full-time. A former Richard & Judy pick, and a *Sunday Times* bestseller, he is the author of the DS Aector McAvoy series, a number of standalone thrillers and the new Sal Delaney mysteries. He lives in Northumberland with his family.

WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS

A SAL DELANEY MYSTERY #1

DAVID MARK

Sunday Times bestselling author David Mark delivers a pulse-pounding new dark and gritty police procedural series set in the north of England, with a complex, intriguing female protagonist.

Salome 'Sal' Delaney didn't have a great start in life. But her abusive childhood came to a tragic conclusion with the killing of her tyrant mother, Trina, by a jealous ex-boyfriend. At least, that's what the police say. Sal has never believed kind Wulf, who tried to protect her from her mother's dark side, could have committed such a crime, but the evidence was irrefutable . . . and who else could have done it?

Now an adult, with a good job as a Collision Investigation Officer, Sal's done her best to put the past behind her. But one snowy morning she's called to an accident scene, and she recognizes the body – Barry Ford, the man her mother left Wulf for, all those years ago.

It soon becomes clear this wasn't just an accident – it was murder. And Wulf, now out of prison, lives very close by . . .

The question of who really killed her mother has haunted Sal her whole life, but as she launches a complex investigation, which gets darker by the hour, she starts to wonder if she really wants to know the answer after all.

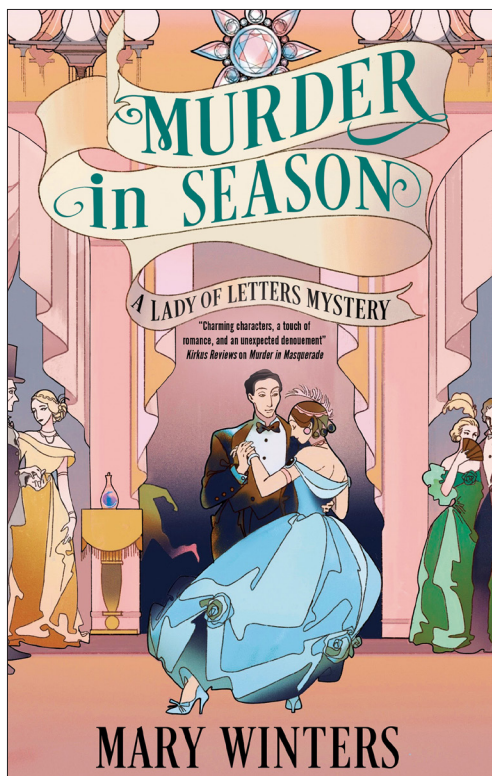
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Mary Winters is the Edgar Award-nominated author of the Lady of Letters historical mystery series as well as two cozy mystery series, and several short stories written as Mary Angela. A long-time reader of historical fiction, Mary set her latest work in Victorian England after being inspired by a trip to London. Since then, she's been busily planning her next mystery – and another trip!

MURDER IN SEASON

A LADY OF LETTERS MYSTERY #3

MARY WINTERS

Join Countess turned advice columnist Amelia Amesbury as she tries to juggle a new Season and a new murder in this charmingly deadly historical mystery.

Countess by day, secret advice columnist by night, Amelia Amesbury has life happily balanced on a quill's edge . . . until her sister Margaret shows up in London under a blanket of scandal and Amelia is catapulted out of mourning and into the ton's unforgiving Season.

However Madge's Season debut is marred by a rather inconvenient death at the dining table as the infamous Mr Radcliffe takes ill and is later confirmed dead by poisoning. With Madge being the last person to have cross words with the soon-to-be baron, the ton's gossip mill – and the police – are looking to pin the murder on her.

Adding to the ton's troubles is a jewellery thief targeting the most lavish of Society's houses. Are the murderer and the thief one and the same? It falls to Amelia once again to uncover the secrets buried deep within the pages before her sister goes down for the crimes.

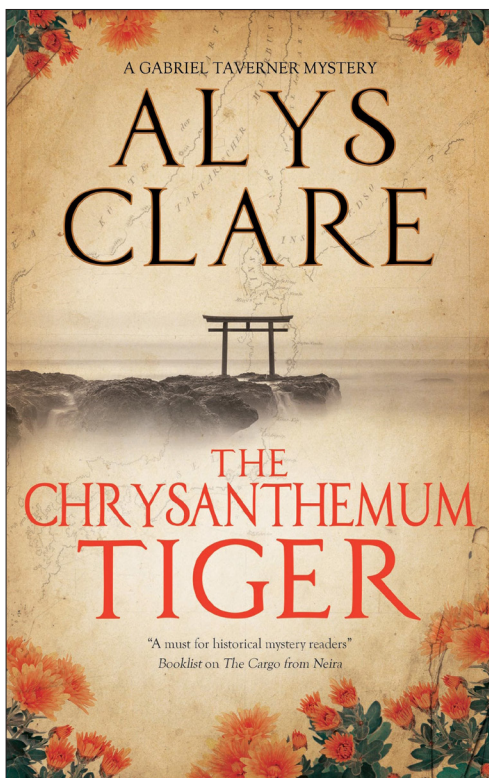
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Alys Clare lives in the English countryside where her novels are set. She went to school in Tonbridge and later studied English and psychology at the University of Keele and archaeology at the University of Kent. She is the author of the Aelf Fen, Hawkenlye, World's End Bureau and Gabriel Taverner historical mystery series.

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM TIGER

A GABRIEL TAVERNER MYSTERY #6

ALYS CLARE

Physician-sleuth Dr Gabriel Taverner has to face his greatest challenge yet – a serious danger from the East threatens not just his life, but everyone he loves! All aboard this adventurous historical mystery set in the early seventeenth century.

March, 1605. Country doctor and former ship's surgeon Gabriel Taverner has embarked on his next adventure. After discovering that the debilitating injury he sustained years ago has lost its power to induce chronic seasickness, he became impatient to leave Devon once more. He finds himself in the service of Walter Haverleigh, a wealthy and successful merchant, who engaged Gabriel to tend the crew of the *Luipaard* on her voyage to the Eastern seas.

As the months and years of Gabriel's absence continue, his family and friends struggle with the replacement physician he engaged before his hasty departure. Doctor Maudsley Cheverell has turned out to be incompetent, arrogant and self-serving. When one morning his dead body is found in a ditch, it seems that nobody will mourn him or regret his untimely death.

However, when the body is examined, it is apparent that Cheverell was tortured by the application of a specific method from the East . . . Is there a connection to Gabriel and his time in Asia? And where is Gabriel? Why has the quiet peace of England's Tavy Valley been disrupted by a sinister plot and, most crucially, will everyone come out of it alive?

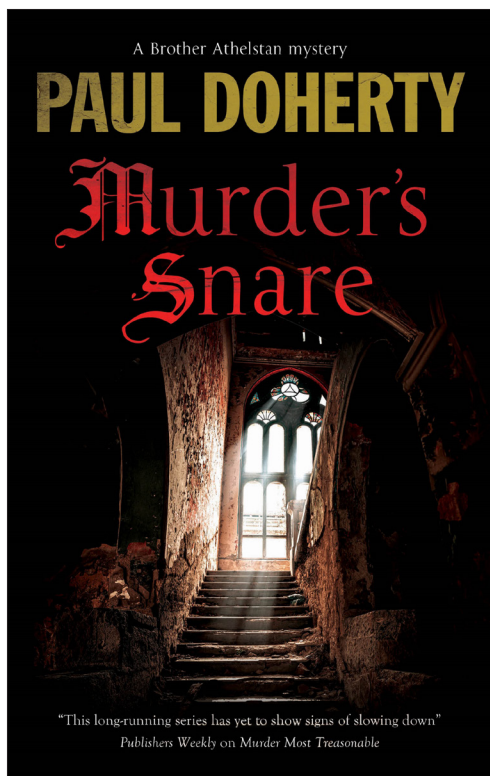
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The author of more than eighty highly acclaimed historical mysteries, **Paul Doherty** studied History at Liverpool and Oxford Universities, and is now headmaster of a school in Essex. He lives with his family in north-east London.

MURDER'S SNARE

A BROTHER ATHELSTAN MYSTERY #23

PAUL DOHERTY

Friar-sleuth Brother Athelstan is caught in a politically charged race against time! He must uncover the truth behind numerous gruesome murders in this tense historical mystery set in medieval London.

Normandy, 1358: The Free Company of the 'Via Crucis – the Way of the Cross' sweeps into the peaceful village of Avranches, like the riders from the Apocalypse, leaving nothing but death and hellish destruction in their wake.

London, 1382: Brother Athelstan is summoned to unpick the ugly truth behind a number of killings afflicting the great city. Some were carried out like clean, efficient assassinations, bearing the message 'Justitia Fiat – let there be justice', others inflicted torture and humiliation upon the bodies. But the victims all have one thing in common – they were all once members of Via Crucis.

With every new gruesome discovery, Brother Athelstan, with the help of Coroner Cranston, uncovers more clues which make up a most complicated riddle – but can he put together the last piece before the fate of the whole country is decided?

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