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KEY=LAVENDER - HARRINGTON CLARE

The Heiress of Linn Hagh

Thomas & Mercer **Northumberland, 1809: A beautiful young heiress disappears from her locked bedchamber at Linn Hagh. The local constables are baffled and the townsfolk cry witchcraft . The heiress s uncle summons help from Detective Lavender and his assistant, Constable Woods, who face one of their most challenging cases: The servants and local gypsies aren t talking; Helen s siblings are uncooperative; and the sullen local farmers are about to take the law into their own hands. Lavender and Woods find themselves trapped in the middle of a simmering feud as they uncover a world of family secrets, intrigue and deception in their search for the missing heiress. Taut, wry and delightful, "The Heiress of Linn Hagh" is a rollicking tale featuring Lavender and Woods a double act worthy of Holmes and Watson."**

The Missing Heiress

Northumberland, November 1809. A menacing figure stalks women through Hareshaw Woods and when Helen Carnaby, a beautiful young heiress, disappears from her locked bedchamber everyone fears the worst. The townsfolk cry 'witchcraft' and the local constabulary are baffled. Helen Carnaby's worried uncle sends for help from Bow Street magistrates' court in London. Detective Stephen Lavender and Constable Woods now face their toughest and most dangerous assignment. Convinced at first that this is just a simple case of a young woman eloping with a lover, Lavender and Woods are alarmed to discover a sinister, murderous world of madness, violence and secrets lurking behind the heavy oak door of the ancient pele tower at Linn Hagh. Why did Helen Carnaby flee on that wintry October night? How did she get out of her locked bed chamber? And where is she now? Hindered by Helen's uncooperative siblings, distracted by gypsies, rebellious farmers, highwaymen and an attractive and feisty Spanish senora, Helen Carnaby's disappearance is to prove one of the most perplexing mysteries of Lavender's career. Set in the beautiful market town of Bellingham, 'The Missing Heiress' is the first in a planned series of Regency whodunits featuring Detective Lavender and Constable Woods.

The Sans Pareil Mystery

Thomas & Mercer **On a cold February night in Regency London, a dark curtain falls on the Sans Pareil Theatre following the death of April Clare, a promising young actress, whose body is found in mysterious circumstances. Detective Stephen Lavender and his dependable deputy, Constable Woods, quickly discover that nothing is quite as it seems. As successive mysteries unfold, they soon realise that it is not only the actors from the Sans Pareil who are playing a part. With the Napoleonic War looming dangerously across the Channel, this is a time of suspicion and treachery. Following the clues from the seedy back streets of Covent Garden up through the echelons of society, Lavender and Woods begin to fear that the case is much bigger than they'd dared imagine--and worse, that they are at risk of becoming mere players in a master criminal's shadowy drama. It will take all of Lavender's skill and wit, and help from the beautiful Magdalena, to bring the mystery of the Sans Pareil Theatre to a dramatic conclusion in the final act.**

A Key to the Suite

Hachette UK **Corporate hatchetman Hubbard is on his way to an industry convention to carry out a termination - a fancy way of saying he's about to toss a man and his family out in the street. But the convention is a modern Sodom of cheating husbands and ambitious wives, ready to put out as much as necessary to ensure their husbands' jobs - and a plan is afoot to smear Hubbard ...**

Edinburgh Dusk

Thomas & Mercer **The prize-winning author of Edinburgh Twilight returns to the darkening shadows of nineteenth-century Scotland to track a killer on a profane mission of revenge. A wicked Scottish winter has just begun when pioneering female physician Sophia Jex-Blake calls on Detective Inspector Ian Hamilton to investigate the suspicious death of one of her patients--a railroad lineman who she believes succumbed to the horrific effects of arsenic poisoning. The most provocative aspect of the case doesn't escape Hamilton: the married victim's numerous sexual transgressions. Now, for the first time since the unexplained fire that killed his parents, Hamilton enters the Royal Infirmary to gain the insights of brilliant medical student Arthur Conan Doyle. Then a second poisoning occurs--this time, a prominent banker who died in the bed of a prostitute. It appears that someone is making Edinburgh's more promiscuous citizens pay for their sins. As the body count rises and public panic takes hold, Hamilton and Doyle delve into the seedy underbelly of the city, where nothing is as it seems, no one is immune to murder, and even trusted friends can be enemies in disguise.**

The Vicarage Murder

Monica Noble is throwing a party to welcome the village's new residents. The guests include Margaret and her cheating husband Sean. Also on the list are a celebrity chef, an Oxford university professor, a 40-something divorcee, and the owner of a chain of gyms. Then as the drinks are flowing, a shotgun blast rings out. One of the guests is found dead. DCI Dury and Sergeant Jim Greer are soon on the scene and discover that the victim had many enemies. Almost all the guests harbour secrets and motives for murder. Even Monica's daughter comes under suspicion. When another villager is strangled to death nearly a week later, the stakes are raised. Can Monica help the local detectives save her daughter and solve the murders before anyone else pays the ultimate price?

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency

Hachette UK **THE FIRST BOOK IN THE BELOVED NO. 1 LADIES' DETECTIVE AGENCY SERIES** Fans around the world adore the best-selling No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series and its proprietor, Precious Ramotswe, Botswana's premier lady detective. In the first book of the bestselling series, Mma Ramotswe - with help from her loyal associate, Grace Makutsi - navigates her cases and her personal life with wisdom, good humour and the occasional cup of tea. Wayward daughters. Missing Husbands. Philandering partners. Curious comen. If you've got a problem, and no one else can help you, then pay a visit to Precious Ramotswe, Botswana's only - and finest - female private detective. Her methods may not be conventional, and her manner not exactly Miss Marple, but she's got warmth, wit and canny intuition on her side, not to mention Mr J. L. B. Matekoni, the charming proprietor of Tlokweng Road Speedy Motors. And Precious is going to need them all as she sets out on the trail of a missing child, a case that tumbles our heroine into a hotbed of strange situations

and more than a little danger . . . The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency is the 1st book in the series, but you may enjoy reading the series in any order

Oxford Blood

A Jemima Shore Mystery

Hachette UK An atmospheric and gripping mystery set in Oxford - perfect for fans of MORSE and ENDEAVOUR Lord Saffron, one of the young bloods at Oxford University, is heir to a considerable fortune. But while making a documentary about the exotic lifestyles of the university's over-privileged set, Jemima Shore discovers that this handsome young man, with his lavish dances and sumptuous weekend parties, is not quite what he seems. And when a student is murdered and a series of attempts are made on Saffron's life, Jemima realises that she has started a terrible chain of events...

Dominance

A Puzzle Thriller

Simon and Schuster Attending a controversial literary mystery night class taught by a professor who has been convicted of murder, prize student Alex Shipley unravels an elaborate literary hoax that acquits the teacher only to be targeted along with her fellow students 15 years later by a determined killer. By the best-selling author of Obedience.

AN INVITATION TO MURDER an Absolutely Gripping Murder Mystery Full of Twists

Joffe Books "What a twisty plot! Kind of like if Agatha Christie was alive and writing mysteries in the present." Karen "Blackmail, crime, murder, revenge, obsession, deception, lies and secrets . . . this book has it all!" Linda S. "One to read slowly, and savour like a fine wine." MyShelf Originally published as Tongued with Fire. _____ Delivering twist after brilliant twist, this clever whodunnit is sure to keep you guessing until the final page. Welcome to Oldminster, a quaint little town where there's always a mystery to be solved. Frank Renfield, Baron of Renfield Hall, will stop at nothing to save himself from ruin. Even if that means marrying his daughter off to a rich American. Unfortunately for him, she is already in love with a penniless nobody named Alan Lavender - to the glee of Alan's greedy uncle Guy. He's been nosing into the Renfields' murky past, and he says he's uncovered a secret. Something so shocking it casts a shadow over Frank's entire legacy. Tensions run high at the hall, until Guy Lavender turns up dead. A convenient coincidence for Frank? Detectives French and Edwards are on the case. But in a town full of secrets, the truth can be hard to find. And Guy's won't be the only body to fall before their work is done . . . Who will be next to die under the Renfields' roof? _____ Perfect for fans of Midsomer Murders, Agatha Christie, Frances Lloyd, Catherine Moloney, Anthony Horowitz, or Ann Cleeves. What everyone is saying: "Crime, murder, debt, revenge, family, image, obsession, past impacting the present . . . so many emotions and motivations in this book!" Cathy "With a plot containing blackmail, several murders, secondary characters who are more rounded than in many other novels, good pacing, and good style, this is a novel that I relished to the end." Michael "This is a quality modern-day murder mystery but with an old-fashioned feel. Well written and entertaining with excellent characterization throughout, plenty of plot twists and turns . . . certainly more than enough for this reader at any rate. Authentic and engaging from first to last page. Highly recommended." John "A fantastic mystery that is well written and has great characters. I loved this book and want to read more from this author." Cristie THE SETTING Oldminster is a city with a past and an ancient cathedral at its heart. Visit the twisty maze-like streets of the old quarter, and prepare to fall in love. But cross over the river - to the seamy side of town - and you'll discover a secret side to this picture-perfect little place. Oldminster might seem like a place for summer rain and golden sunsets, but like Miss Marple's village, it's cram-full of wickedness. THE DETECTIVES DS Glyn Edwards Thirty-something DS Edwards lives with his wife Sandra, but his home life is anything but blissful. Is his career about to cost him his marriage? Or can he find a way to reconcile the two? Either way, Glyn is a very hands-on detective who never gives up on a case. He works hand-in-glove with his superior officer . . . DI French Redoubtable Detective French has always been a stickler for order, detail and procedure - until the arrival of his baby daughter late in his marriage to Moira turned his orderly world upside down. Still, he doesn't suffer fools gladly, and is more than a match for certain prickly, well-to-do residents of Oldminster. ALSO BY NORMAN RUSSELL THE OLDMINSTER MYSTERIES Book 1: AN INVITATION TO MURDER

The Frost Fair

Allison & Busby The Frozen River Thames gives up its secrets Christmas, 1669. In the grip of the coldest winter for years, the Thames is frozen from bank to bank and London celebrates with the traditional Frost Fair held on its broad back. Among the throng are Christopher Redmayne, an ambitious young architect, and his good friend, Constable Jonathan Bale. But the pair make a chilling discovery: the frozen corpse of a naked man embedded in the ice. Christopher is further drawn into the mystery when his own brother is accused of the murder. With his brother facing execution, the architect must risk all he holds dear, both professionally and personally, to uncover the truth.

The Life and Crimes of Harry Lavender

Allen & Unwin A massmarket edition of Marele Day's wryly humorous, witty and fast-paced Claudia Valentine mystery.

The Sculthorpe Murder

Thomas & Mercer Northamptonshire, 1810: As a new canal network snakes across the landscape, a vicious mob stakes its claim to the county. Every local constable is out on the hunt for the ruthless Panther Gang. When an elderly man is robbed and murdered in sleepy Middleton, the beleaguered magistrates send for help from London's Bow Street Police Office. Detective Stephen Lavender and Constable Ned Woods soon discover there's more to William Sculthorpe's demise than meets the eye. Mystery surrounds the old man and his family, and the stench of revenge hangs heavy in the air. Are the Panther Gang really responsible or is something more sinister afoot? As Lavender delves further into long-hidden secrets, Woods has demons of his own to contend with: ghosts from his past that stalk him through the investigation. Uncovering decades of simmering hatred and deceit, Lavender and Woods must use all their wit and cunning to solve this evil crime.

Lavender House

A Novel

Forge Books A delicious story from a new voice in suspense, Lev AC Rosen's Lavender House is Knives Out with a queer historical twist. Lavender House, 1952: the family seat of recently deceased matriarch Irene Lamontaine, head of the famous Lamontaine soap empire. Irene's recipes for her signature scents are a well guarded secret—but it's not the only one behind these gates. This estate offers a unique freedom, where none of the residents or staff hide who they are. But to keep their secret, they've needed to keep others out. And

now they're worried they're keeping a murderer in. Irene's widow hires Evander Mills to uncover the truth behind her mysterious death. Andy, recently fired from the San Francisco police after being caught in a raid on a gay bar, is happy to accept—his calendar is wide open. And his secret is the kind of secret the Lamontaines understand. Andy had never imagined a world like Lavender House. He's seduced by the safety and freedom found behind its gates, where a queer family lives honestly and openly. But that honesty doesn't extend to everything, and he quickly finds himself a pawn in a family game of old money, subterfuge, and jealousy—and Irene's death is only the beginning. When your existence is a crime, everything you do is criminal, and the gates of Lavender House can't lock out the real world forever. Running a soap empire can be a dirty business. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher or The Murder at Road Hill House

A&C Black _____ A beautiful new limited edition paperback of The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher, published as part of the Bloomsbury Modern Classics list _____ **WINNER OF THE SAMUEL JOHNSON PRIZE FOR NON-FICTION THE NUMBER ONE BESTSELLER A RICHARD AND JUDY BOOK CLUB PICK** _____ 'A remarkable achievement' - Sunday Times 'A classic, to my mind, of the finest documentary writing' - John le Carré 'Absolutely riveting' - Sarah Waters, Guardian _____ On a summer's morning in 1860, the Kent family awakes in their elegant Wiltshire home to a terrible discovery; their youngest son has been brutally murdered. When celebrated detective Jack Whicher is summoned from Scotland Yard he faces the unenviable task of identifying the killer - when the grieving family are the suspects. The original Victorian whodunnit, the murder and its investigation provoked national hysteria at the thought of what might be festering behind the locked doors of respectable homes - scheming servants, rebellious children, insanity, jealousy, loneliness and loathing. _____ 'Nothing less than a masterpiece' - Craig Brown, Mail on Sunday 'Terrific' - Ian Rankin 'A triumph' - Observer 'Gripping, unputdownable' - Sunday Telegraph 'A terrific read in the Wilkie Collins tradition' - Susan Hill 'The best whodunnit of the year - and it's all true ... Agatha Christie, eat your heart out' - Sebastian Shakespeare, Tatler

Wish You Were Here

A Mrs. Murphy Mystery

Bantam Curiosity just might be the death of Mrs. Murphy--and her human companion, Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen. Small towns are like families: Everyone lives very close together. . .and everyone keeps secrets. Crozet, Virginia, is a typical small town-until its secrets explode into murder. Crozet's thirty-something post-mistress, Mary Minor "Harry" Haristeen, has a tiger cat (Mrs. Murphy) and a Welsh Corgi (Tucker), a pending divorce, and a bad habit of reading postcards not addressed to her. When Crozet's citizens start turning up murdered, Harry remembers that each received a card with a tombstone on the front and the message "Wish you were here" on the back. Intent on protecting their human friend, Mrs. Murphy and Tucker begin to scent out clues. Meanwhile, Harry is conducting her own investigation, unaware her pets are one step ahead of her. If only Mrs. Murphy could alert her somehow, Harry could uncover the culprit before the murder occurs--and before Harry finds herself on the killer's mailing list.

Arrowood (An Arrowood Mystery, Book 1)

HarperCollins UK 'Crackles with energy and wit' - The Times

Lavender Morning

Simon and Schuster Jocelyn Minton is a woman torn between two worlds. Her mother grew up in a world of private schools and afternoon tea, but she married the local handyman. After her mother died when Joce was only five, her father remarried into his own class, and Joce was an outsider -- until she met Edilean Harcourt, sixty years her senior, but a kindred soul. When Miss Edi dies, she leaves Jocelyn all her worldly possessions, which include clues to a mystery that began in 1941, set in a small town in Virginia that Joce has never heard of. But, because of her benefactor's notorious past, the townspeople know who Joce is, and they've plotted out her entire future, including who she is meant to marry. But Jocelyn has her own ideas about men -- and secrets that no one wants revealed.

Edinburgh Twilight

Thomas & Mercer As a new century approaches, Edinburgh is a city divided. The wealthy residents of New Town live in comfort, while Old Town's cobblestone streets are clotted with criminals, prostitution, and poverty. Detective Inspector Ian Hamilton is no stranger to Edinburgh's darkest crimes. Scarred by the mysterious fire that killed his parents, he faces his toughest case yet when a young man is found strangled in Holyrood Park. With little evidence aside from a strange playing card found on the body, Hamilton engages the help of his aunt, a gifted photographer, and George Pearson, a librarian with a shared interest in the criminal mind. But the body count is rising. As newspapers spin tales of the "Holyrood Strangler," panic sets in across the city. And with each victim, the murderer is getting closer to Hamilton, the one man who dares to stop him.

A Fatal Secret (Ryder and Loveday, Book 4)

HarperCollins UK 'Great characters, great plot and a totally dazzling finish... Wonderful.' NetGalley reviewer, 5 stars

Framed in Fire

Lane Winslow Mystery A shallow grave, a missing person, and near-fatal arson keep Lane, Darling, and the Nelson police on high alert in the latest mystery in this Globe and Mail bestselling series. It's early spring 1948 and Lane arrives in New Denver to find that her friend, Peter Barisoff, is not at home. Instead, in a nearby meadow, she encounters Tom, an Indigenous man in search of his ancestral lands. Lane is intrigued. Unfortunately, once Peter returns home, the day takes a gloomy turn when the trio uncovers human remains next to Peter's garden, and Lane must tell her husband, Inspector Darling, that she's inadvertently stumbled into his professional domain--again. Back in Nelson, the Vitalis, Lane and Darling's favourite restaurateurs, are victims of arson. Constable Terrell's investigation suggests prejudice as a motive, and the case quickly escalates, as the Vitalis receive increasingly threatening notes of warning. Meanwhile, Sergeant Ames works a robbery while alienating Tina Van Eyck in his personal time, and a swirling rumour sets the entire station on edge and prompts an RCMP investigation into Darling's integrity. Amid the local bustle series readers have come to love, Framed in Fire is bound up in difficult questions of community and belonging, and the knowledge that trusted neighbours can sometimes be as sinister as a stranger in the dark.

A Study in Lavender Queering Sherlock Holmes

What other characters from English literature have captivated hearts and minds as thoroughly as Sherlock Holmes and his loyal companion John Watson? Many fans imagine the relationship between these men is deep and more than platonic. Edited by noted mystery author Joseph R. G. DeMarco, *A Study in Lavender* queers the Holmes universe; the authors have devised stories in which Holmes and Watson are lovers, or investigate mysteries of inverts hidden from the laws and cultures of the Victorian era; even the indomitable Lestrade has his turn at love; and famous actors who helped put Holmes on the silver screen face trysts they never dared to film.

THE MANOR HOUSE MURDER an Addictive Crime Mystery Full of Twists

Monica Noble Detective Discover a new series of murder mysteries set in an idyllic English village. From million-selling author Faith Martin. Meet Monica Noble: the vicar's wife with a taste for solving crimes. Please note this book was first published as "AN UNHOLY SHAME" under Faith Martin's pen name JOYCE CATO. THE WEEKEND TURN MURDEROUS Monica Noble and her husband Graham, the local vicar, are invited to participate in a high-flying church conference being held at a swanky manor house hotel in their village. At the Saturday night dinner, the ambitious female cleric Celia Gordon tragically dies, seemingly of a peanut allergy. But when Chief Superintendent Jason Dury arrives on the scene he quickly discovers that it's a case of murder. And Monica's husband is the prime suspect. Other suspects include an eminent bishop, an archdeacon viciously opposed to female clergy, and his wife, the curator of a local museum, who is definitely up to something. But if Monica is to find out who killed Celia, and free her husband from suspicion, she must grapple with a very ruthless - and increasingly desperate - killer, putting herself and those around her in mortal danger. This is the third of a series of enjoyable murder mysteries with great characters and baffling crimes which will keep you gripped till the final page. Perfect for fans of classic whodunits by authors like Agatha Christie, LJ Ross, TE Kinsey, and J.R. Ellis. MONICA NOBLE was widowed young, leaving her to raise her feisty daughter on her own. That is, until she met and fell in love with Graham Noble, a country vicar (pastor), who enticed her to leave her high-flying job in advertising in the city and move to the Cotswold countryside. There she found bucolic life very pleasant indeed - until murder started to rear its ugly head. And she discovered, to everyone's surprise, that she had a flair for solving the most unholy of crimes. FAITH MARTIN is the million-selling author of the DETECTIVE HILLARY GREENE and JENNY STARLING mysteries, which have topped the global best-seller charts. More FAITH MARTIN mysteries coming soon. Join the Joffe Books mailing list to be the first to hear about the next in the series. MONICA NOBLE MYSTERIES Book 1: THE VICARAGE MURDER Book 2: THE FLOWER SHOW MURDER Book 3: THE MANOR HOUSE MURDER JENNY STARLING MYSTERIES Book 1: THE BIRTHDAY MYSTERY Book 2: THE WINTER MYSTERY Book 3: THE RIVERBOAT MYSTERY Book 4: THE CASTLE MYSTERY Book 5: THE OXFORD MYSTERY Book 6: THE TEATIME MYSTERY Book 7: THE COUNTRY INN MYSTERY

Desert Getaway

Brash Books "A wild romp through Palm Springs' glittery underbelly. Fast, funny, and thoroughly enjoyable. An instant classic." Tod Goldberg, New York Times bestselling author of *The Low Desert* Dante O'Donnell is white, gay and getting older every day. He has wasted his better years on starstruck dreams and the wrong men, so now he's working as a concierge for a vacation-rental outfit in Palm Springs, where the guests have far more baggage than what's packed in their suitcases. But when he finds a dead body floating in the swimming pool at one of his rentals, his own troubled past comes back to haunt him. So he turns for help to Jazz Friendly, a Black woman who, when she was a Palm Springs cop, nearly arrested him for murdering his husband, which he didn't do...not that he knows who did. Now Jazz is a struggling PI, her career derailed by racism. And with her marriage broken by booze, she's desperate to get custody of her kid. Dante and Jazz need each other to solve this murder...and to save themselves from personal and professional disaster. "Michael Craft is bound to nab accolades for his new novel...one that weds the shadowy mystique of noir and the sunny beauty of the desert to winning ends." The Desert Sun "Michael Craft delivers an irresistible high camp twist to the classic detective mystery. A fast-paced and captivating opening to a promising new series." J.D. Horn, Wall Street Journal bestselling author of *The Line* "A quick-witted, entertaining mystery loaded with Palm Springs atmosphere. Smart, sophisticated, and ingeniously plotted. I loved it." Ellen Byron, USA Today bestselling author of the *Cajun Country Mysteries* "One can practically see John Waters in the background clapping with glee." Los Angeles Times "The author injects a lot of humour, campy wit and nuance into the proceedings, and keeps the plot stirring at a brisk pace." Thrilling Detective

Lavender Blue Murder

Penguin Tea-Maven Theodosia Browning brews up trouble in the latest *Tea Shop Mystery* from New York Times bestselling author Laura Childs. Tea maven Theodosia Browning and her tea sommelier Drayton Conneley are guests at a bird hunt styled in the precise manner of an English shooting party. Which means elevenses (sloe gin fizzes), gun loaders, the drawing of pegs, fine looking bird dogs, and shooting costumes of tweed, herringbone, and suede. But as gunshots explode like a riff of Black Cat firecrackers, another shot sounds too close for comfort to Theodosia and Drayton. Intrigued but worried, Theodosia wanders into the neighbor's lavender field where she discovers their host, Reginald Doyle, bleeding to death. His wife, Meredith, is beside herself with grief and begs Theodosia and Drayton to stay the night. But Theodosia awakens at 2:00A.M. to find smoke in her room and the house on fire. As the fire department screams in and the investigating sheriff returns, Meredith again pleads with Theodosia for help. As Theodosia investigates, fingers are pointed, secrets are uncovered, Reginald's daughter-in-law goes missing presumed drowned, and Meredith is determined to find answers via a séance. All the while Theodosia worries if she's made a mistake in inviting a prime suspect to her upscale Lavender Lady Tea. INCLUDES DELICIOUS RECIPES AND TEA TIME TIPS!

Murder at Queen's Landing

A Captivating Historical Regency Mystery

Kensington Books The many strands of a dark mystery entangle Lady Charlotte Sloane and the Earl of Wrexford in a dangerous web of secrets and lies that will call into question how much they really know about the people they hold dear—and about each other . . . When Lady Cordelia, a brilliant mathematician, and her brother, Lord Woodbridge, disappear from London, rumors swirl concerning fraudulent bank loans and a secret consortium engaged in an illicit—and highly profitable—trading scheme that threatens the entire British economy. The incriminating evidence mounts, but for Charlotte and Wrexford, it's a question of loyalty and friendship. And so they begin a new investigation to clear the siblings' names, uncover their whereabouts, and unravel the truth behind the whispers. Charlotte and Wrexford also struggle to navigate their increasingly complex feelings for each other. But the clock is ticking—a cunning mastermind has emerged . . . along with some unexpected allies—and Charlotte and Wrexford must race to prevent myriad disasters as they are forced into a dangerous game of wits in an attempt to beat the enemy at his own game. Praise for the *Wrexford & Sloane Historical Mysteries* "Penrose deftly combines a Regency romance with a tricky mystery that delves into social unrest and the darker side of this storied period." —Kirkus Reviews "Its complex story line and authentic historical details bring the early days of the Industrial Revolution vividly to life. Bound to fascinate readers of C.S. Harris and even fans of Victorian mysteries." —Library Journal, Starred Review

Mysteries of Police and Crime

Library of Alexandria It may be said that society itself creates the crimes that most beset it. If the good things of life were more evenly distributed, if everyone had his rights, if there were no injustice, no oppression, there would be no attempts to readjust an unequal balance by violent or flagitious means. There is some force in this, but it is very far from covering the whole ground, and it cannot excuse many forms of crime. Crime, indeed, is the birthmark of humanity, a fatal inheritance known to the theologians as original sin.

Crime, then, must be constantly present in the community, and every son of Adam may, under certain conditions, be drawn into it. To paraphrase a great saying, some achieve crime, some have it thrust upon them; but most of us (we may make the statement without subscribing to all the doctrines of the criminal anthropologists) are born to crime. The assertion is as old as the hills; it was echoed in the fervent cry of pious John Bradford when he pointed to the man led out to execution, "There goes John Bradford but for the grace of God!" Criminals are manufactured both by social cross-purposes and by the domestic neglect which fosters the first fatal predisposition. "Assuredly external factors and circumstances count for much in the causation of crime," says Maudsley. The preventive agencies are all the more necessary where heredity emphasises the universal natural tendency. The taint of crime is all the more potent in those whose parentage is evil. The germ is far more likely to flourish into baleful vitality if planted by congenital depravity. This is constantly seen with the offspring of criminals. But it is equally certain that the poison may be eradicated, the evil stamped out, if better influences supervene betimes. Even the most ardent supporters of the theory of the "born criminal" admit that this, as some think, imaginary monster, although possessing all the fatal characteristics, does not necessarily commit crime. The bias may be checked; it may lie latent through life unless called into activity by certain unexpected conditions of time and chance. An ingenious refinement of the old adage, "Opportunity makes the thief," has been invented by an Italian scientist, Baron Garofalo, who declares that "Opportunity only reveals the thief"; it does not create the predisposition, the latent thievish spirit.

The Russian Wife

Allen & Unwin **Fraud, forgery and murder, set in the high-stakes world of fine art. 'Barry Maitland is one of Australia's finest crime writers.'** - Sunday Tasmanian 'Maitland stacks his characters in interesting piles, and lets his mystery burn busily and bright.' - Courier-Mail **When the Russian wife of the owner of one of the most valuable private collections of modern art in the UK is found dead, Detective Chief Inspector David Brock is drawn into a high-stakes world very different to his own. From the dealers and galleries in London's West End, his investigations take him to Hanover, Miami and New York on the trail of international forgery and fraud. At the same time, his old colleague Detective Chief Inspector Kathy Kolla, who now leads one of the Metropolitan Police Murder Investigation teams, finds herself at the wrong end of a corruption charge. With her whole career in the balance, she will do almost anything to clear her name. 'No one drops so many wonderful threads to a story or ties them so satisfyingly together at the end.'** - The Australian 'Maitland is right up there with Ruth Rendell in my book.' - Australian Book Review

The Hidden Child (Patrik Hedstrom and Erica Falck, Book 5)

HarperCollins UK **In this official TV Summer Book Club pick, worldwide bestseller Camilla Lackberg weaves together another brilliant contemporary psychological thriller with the chilling struggle of a young woman facing the darkest chapter of Europe's past...**

Journey to Zentobia

When the Miller family moves to the small town of Hailsville, 10-year-old Maggie and her 13-year-old brother Peter discover their neighbor comes from a magical world, Zentobia. After the amateur detectives try to help him get home, they're swept through a rainbow portal and end up in his world on their own. In Zentobia, Maggie and Peter embark on an action-packed fantasy adventure and encounter orange rain, cascade down floating waterfalls, and chat with talking animals. Before long, they learn danger lurks in Zentobia, where all magic has been banished. Maggie is captured by an evil leader who wants to bring back dark magic. Help is on the way from Peter and their dad who team up with Zentobia's good leader. But once they reach Maggie, more trouble emerges. Join Maggie and Peter as they navigate magical underground tunnels, use flying shoes to travel across the world, and race to save Zentobia from the return of dark magic. Will they make it in time to stop the world's last gold star from turning black, or will trouble find them first?

On the Straight and Narrow

"When a pretty student is found dead in her room at a private Oxford college, everyone assumes it is an accidental drug overdose." -- Book Jacket.

Anonymous Rex

A Detective Story

Villard "What would the world be like if the dinosaurs hadn't gone extinct? As this very funny book shows, for one thing, L.A. would be even weirder than it is now." --Dave Barry Vincent Rubio, a Los Angeles private investigator, is down on his luck: He's out of work. His car's been repossessed. His partner has died under mysterious circumstances. And his tail just won't stay put. Vincent is a dinosaur--a Velociraptor, to be precise. It seems the dinosaurs faked their extinction 65 million years ago and still roam the earth, disguised in convincing latex costumes that help them blend perfectly into human society. A heightened sense of smell allows the dinos to detect one another--Vincent's got an odor like a tasty Cuban cigar. When Vincent is called to investigate a two-bit case of arson at a hip dino nightclub, he discovers something much more sinister, which lures him back to New York City--the scene of his partner's death and a dangerous nexus of dinosaur and human intermingling. Will Vincent solve the mystery of his partner's death? Will a gorgeous blond chanteuse discover his true identity, jeopardizing both their lives? Will Vincent be able to conquer his dangerous addiction to basil, or will he wind up in Herba-holics Anonymous? Will he find true love, or resort to crumpled issues of Stegolicious? Somewhere between Jurassic Park and L.A. Confidential lies Eric Garcia's Anonymous Rex, one of the smartest, wittiest, and most entertaining debuts this side of the Ice Age.

Murder at Melrose Court

A 1920s Country House Christmas Murder

'Downton Abbey meets Agatha Christie with a touch of Wodehouse and a dog of distinction.'

The Little Paris Bookshop

Hachette UK **The international bestseller, translated from the German by Simon Pare. On a beautifully restored barge on the Seine, Jean Perdu runs a bookshop; or rather a 'literary apothecary', for this bookseller possesses a rare gift for sensing which books will soothe the troubled souls of his customers. The only person he is unable to cure, it seems, is himself. He has nursed a broken heart ever since the night, twenty-one years ago, when the love of his life fled Paris, leaving behind a handwritten letter that he has never dared read. His memories and his love have been gathering dust - until now. The arrival of an enigmatic new neighbour in his eccentric apartment building on Rue Montagnard inspires Jean to unlock his heart, unmoor the floating bookshop and set off for Provence, in search of the past and his beloved.**

They'll Never Catch Us

Penguin ****A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**** From rising star Jessica Goodman, author of *They Wish They Were Us*, comes a new fast-paced thriller about two sisters vying for the top spot on their cross-country team—until a teammate’s disappearance throws their lives off course. "An utter page-turner. Goodman's voice is razor-sharp and keenly precise. Perfect for fans of Gillian Flynn!" —Tiffany D. Jackson NYT Bestselling Author of *White Smoke* and *Grown Stella* and Ellie Steckler are only a year apart, but their different personalities make their relationship complicated. Stella is single-minded, driven, and she keeps to herself. Cross-country running is her life and she won't let anything get in the way of being the best. Her sister Ellie is a talented runner too, but she also lets herself have fun. She has friends. She goes to parties. She has a life off the course. The sisters do have one thing in common, though: the new girl, Mila Keene. Both Stecklers' lives are upended when Mila comes to town. At first, Ellie and Stella view the new star athlete as a threat. But soon Ellie can't help but be drawn to her warm, charming personality. After her best friend moved away and her first boyfriend betrayed her, Ellie's been looking for a friend to share her secrets. Stella finds herself noticing the ways she and Mila are similar. Mila is smart and strong--she's someone Stella can finally connect with. As the two get closer, Stella becomes something she vowed she'd never be: distracted. With regionals approaching and college scouts taking notice, the pressure is on. Each girl has their future on the line and they won't let friendships get in their way. But then, suddenly, Mila goes out on a training run and never returns. No one knows what happened, but all eyes are on the Steckler sisters.

The Inspector Graham Mysteries: Books 1-4

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform Have you met Inspector David Graham? Graham is a Detective Inspector with London's Metropolitan police force. He's a career police officer, an educated, reserved, thoughtful, some might say, complex man. He has suffered tragedy in his life that serves to exaggerate his more introspective characteristics and, like many of us, has to look his demons in the eye from time to time and make tough choices. This box set contains the first four mysteries in this bestselling series: **The Case of the Screaming Beauty: Detective Inspector Graham is still reeling from a tragedy of his own when he is called into investigate a murder at the prestigious Lavender Bed and Breakfast. It has a rich, Tudor atmosphere, an enviously manicured lawn... And a deadly problem.** **The Case of the Hidden Flame: Inspector David Graham is hoping for peace and quiet when he leaves city life behind for a quaint island village - but a suspicious death soon derails his plans. Will eccentric characters, roiling sea undercurrents, and deceptive coincidences unravel to reveal the secrets of his latest mystery?** **The Case of the Fallen Hero: As he walks around the imposing Orgueil castle, Graham's peaceful life comes to a shuddering halt when he finds a woman kneeling beside the body of a stricken man. Does the castle hold clues to the puzzle? The Case of the Broken Doll: A missing girl. A broken doll. Dark, deviant secrets. What Inspector finds as he investigates will rock the town, stirring memories long buried and forgotten. There are painful truths to face. Can he uncover what happened? Could the missing schoolgirl still be alive? What Amazon readers are saying: "Character development was superb." "I literally could not put this book down." "Inspector Graham is right up there with some of the icons of British mysteries." "The scenery description, characterization, and fabulous portrayal of the hotel on the hill are all layered into a great English trifle." "These books certainly have the potential to become a PBS series with the likeable character of Inspector Graham and his fellow officers." "DI Graham is wonderful and his old school way of doing things, charming." "I know I have a winner of a book when I toss and turn at night worrying about how the characters are doing." "I really enjoyed the surprise twists at the end." "Just finished it early this morning! What a great story!" "Sweet, emotionally honest, with a lot of backbone in the characters and the writing." "Please never end the series." Start *The Inspector Graham Mysteries*, a series you won't want to put down!**

Minute Mysteries

Murder in Park Lane

Thomas & Mercer London, 1812. At a fashionable address in leafy Mayfair, a far cry from Detective Stephen Lavender's usual haunts, a man is found dead in his room. He has been brutally stabbed, but the door is locked from the inside and the weapon is missing. The deceased is David MacAdam, an Essex businessman with expensive tastes. As Lavender and Constable Ned Woods travel between London and Chelmsford seeking to understand MacAdam's final hours and unearth the grisly truth, they uncover a tangled web of deceit behind his stylish facade. The unusual circumstances of MacAdam's death are nothing compared to the shady nature of his life and it seems the house on Park Lane is at the heart of a dark conspiracy. But when a second body turns up, everything they think they've learned is thrown into doubt. Can Lavender and Woods find out who's behind these shocking murders before more lives are ruined?

Peril at the Exposition

A Mystery

Minotaur Books Captain Jim Agnihotri and his new bride, Diana Framji, return in Nev March's *Peril at the Exposition*, the follow up to March's award-winning, Edgar finalist debut, *Murder in Old Bombay*. 1893: Newlyweds Captain Jim Agnihotri and Diana Framji are settling into their new home in Boston, Massachusetts, having fled the strict social rules of British Bombay. It's a different life than what they left behind, but theirs is no ordinary marriage: Jim, now a detective at the Dupree Agency, is teaching Diana the art of deduction he's learned from his idol, Sherlock Holmes. Everyone is talking about the preparations for the World's Fair in Chicago: the grandeur, the speculation, the trickery. Captain Jim will experience it first-hand: he's being sent to Chicago to investigate the murder of a man named Thomas Grewe. As Jim probes the underbelly of Chicago's docks, warehouses, and taverns, he discovers deep social unrest and some deadly ambitions. When Jim goes missing, young Diana must venture to Chicago's treacherous streets to learn what happened. But who can she trust, when a single misstep could mean disaster? Award-winning author Nev March mesmerized readers with her Edgar finalist debut, *Murder in Old Bombay*. Now, in *Peril at the Exposition*, she wields her craft against the glittering landscape of the Gilded Age with spectacular results.

Sleep Tight: A DC Rose Gifford Thriller (Rose Gifford series, Book 1)

HarperCollins A brand new detective series with a supernatural twist! 'Eerie, original and compelling' C.L. Taylor 'Tense and twisted' Susi Holliday 'A brilliant, clever murder mystery' Jane Casey Even in your dreams you're not safe...