



# SEVERN HOUSE

THE HOME OF GREAT GENRE FICTION



## CATALOGUE

JANUARY-MARCH  
2025

*“The stories that do the most damage, the ones that keep us up staring at the ceiling in the dark, wishing we could go back to a moment and change it, aren’t from yesterday. They’re from long ago, sometimes before we were born. Some of the stories that make me who I am involve my mother’s obsession that we were descended from that Einstein. A private investigator distracted by her troubled marriage. Also a story in which, with questionable intentions, I did something bad.”*

*Her Prodigal Husband*  
Becky Masterman

# **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 in beautiful hardback and paperback editions.

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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# NOW IN PAPERBACK

**MURDER AND THE MISSING DOG**

**SAME DIFFERENCE**

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**MORTAL RADIANCE**

**HOLLOW BONES**

**DEATH PACT**

**THE SEVENTH SPELL**

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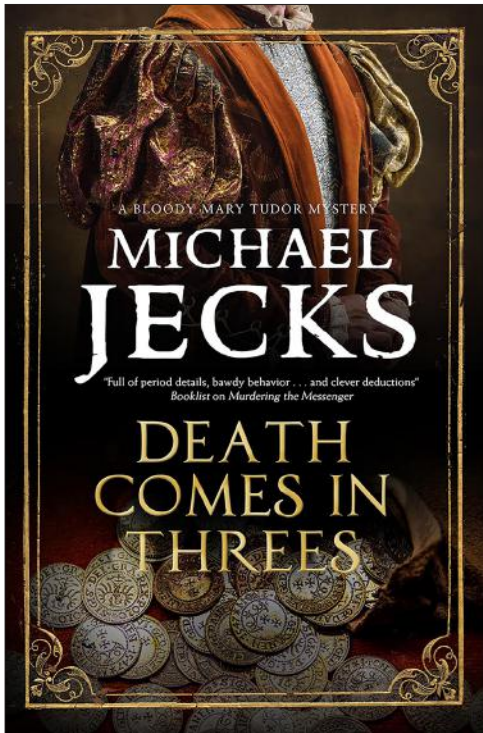
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**NEW**

**IN**

**HARDBACK**





**Michael Jecks** is the author of fifty novels, including the acclaimed Last Templar medieval mystery series, modern spy thriller *Act of Vengeance*, and eight previous Bloody Mary mysteries. A former Chairman of the Crime Writers' Association, and founder of Medieval Murderers, he lives in northern Dartmoor.

## DEATH COMES IN THREES

A BLOODY MARY TUDOR MYSTERY #9

MICHAEL JECKS

Princess Elizabeth's unlikely assassin finds himself on the hook for two murders in this light-hearted Tudor mystery.

*August, 1558.* As London is bustling with growing trade from foreign lands, and Queen Mary's health is once again a hot topic, Jack Blackjack has much to keep him busy. And that's before his new tenant – a Dutch merchant – disappears under a cloud of suspicion, quickly presumed murdered, and Jack's latest female companion's body is found mere streets from her dwelling place.

People around Jack keep inconveniently getting murdered, and he seems to be the most likely culprit! With both the authorities and the unsavoury echelons of London on his tail, nowhere is safe for Jack to hide. He must go about proving his innocence – and uncovering the mirky truth – while ensuring he doesn't find himself dancing the Tyburn jig!

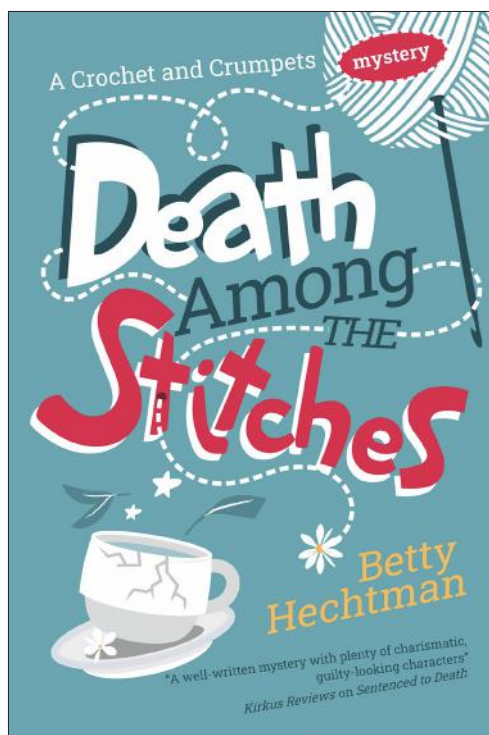
The question is – can he rely on friends in high – and very low – places to get him out of this ever-increasing mess?

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Despite completing a Fine Arts degree, all **Betty Hechtman** ever wanted to be was a writer. She wrote a weekly column in her college newspaper and later wrote magazine and newspaper pieces, along with short stories and a prize-winning screenplay. Betty had her first novel published in 2006. Since then she has had over thirty books published across three cozy mystery series all of which have yarn craft. She lives with her family in Southern California.

# DEATH AMONG THE STITCHES

## A CROCHET AND CRUMPETS MYSTERY #1

BETTY HECHTMAN

A brand new series from the queen of culinary cosies. Full to the brim with crochet, crumpets and crime!

Annie Hart, daughter of Bryan Hart – talent agent to the stars – spends her life getting roped into whatever new task her father needs her to do for his VIP clients. So when she inherits a yarn shop in the small Indiana town of Franklin, she is curious to see what it feels like to have something that is solely *hers*!

But when her arrival is greeted by the local law enforcement, Annie senses things are not quite as they seem in this idyllic town . . . everyone knows everybody in Franklin yet when it comes to the death of the shop's previous owner, nobody seems sure of anything!

Annie soon discovers that Eleanor Danton was in fact murdered, strangled with her own yarn . . . invigorated by her need to find out the truth, and feeling somehow at home with the friendly bunch of local yarn artists who frequent the shop, she sets out to finding the killer. Much can be achieved over a cuppa and a yarn . . .

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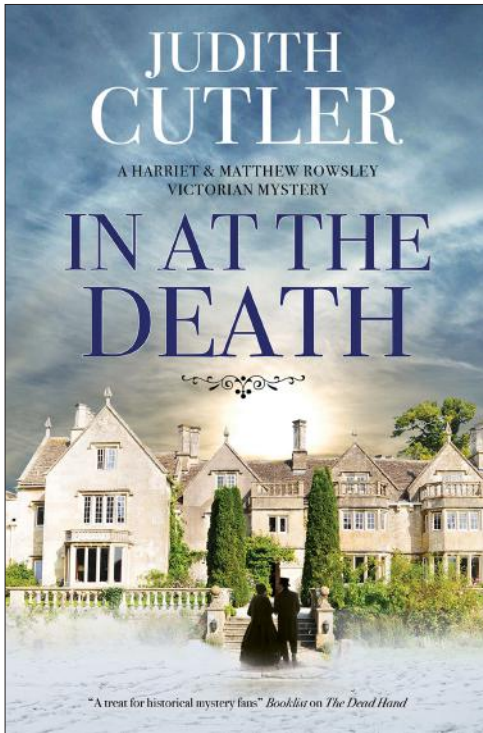
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**Judith Cutler**, Birmingham's Queen of Crime, is the author of fifty novels, most of them crime series featuring strong women protagonists. Her prize-winning short stories have appeared regularly in anthologies and leading crime fiction magazines. She is married to fellow crime-writer Edward Marston.

## IN AT THE DEATH

A HARRIET & MATTHEW ROWSLEY VICTORIAN MYSTERY #6

JUDITH CUTLER

The future of Thorncroft House and its occupants is in the balance while a mysterious murder brings up a past best forgotten! An authentic Victorian murder mystery depicting upstairs-downstairs life in nineteenth century England.

*October 1861, England.* Harriet and Matthew Rowsley, the housekeeper and estate manager of Thorncroft House in Shropshire, have to cut short their successful trip to Oxford when they receive a telegraph: a decapitated and mutilated body has been found on the estate.

While trying to help the strangely slow police investigation, the couple face an unsettling threat to their livelihood: after years of searching, a legitimate heir of Thorncroft estate has been found! They find themselves hosting an American gentleman whose charm doesn't quite conceal his alarming plans for the future of the estate and all its inhabitants.

Falsely imprisoned and forced to be silent about the identity of the murdered man, Harriet not only has to confront her past but also share a secret of her own that could change her and her loved ones' lives forever . . .

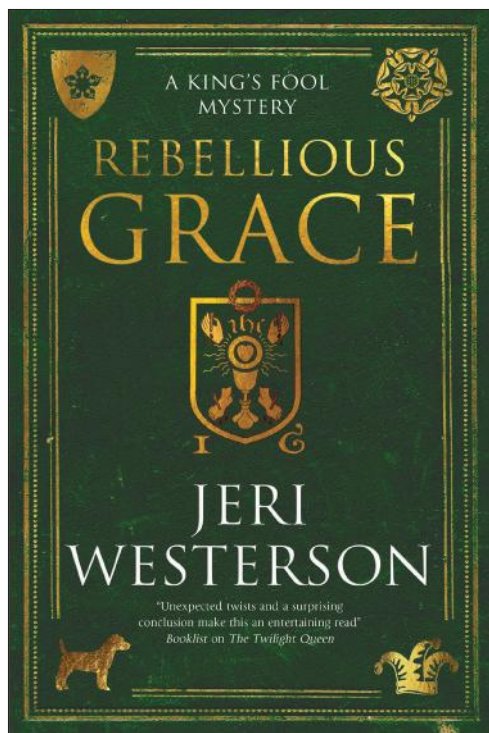
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**Jeri Westerson** was born and raised in Los Angeles. As well as fifteen Crispin Guest medieval mysteries, she is the author of three paranormal series and several historical novels. Her books have been nominated for the Shamus, the Macavity and the Agatha awards.

# REBELLIOUS GRACE

A KING'S FOOL MYSTERY #3

JERI WESTERSON

Henry VIII's court jester Will Somers turns reluctant inquisitor once again when a grotesque murder within the palace walls is linked to the Pilgrimage of Grace rebellion in this gripping Tudor mystery.

*1536, London.* The gruesome murder of a servant in the king's palace, his throat savagely cut, has brought fear to the court of Henry VIII. When the man's body is then dug up from the churchyard and disembowelled two weeks later, Will Somers, the king's jester, is horrified. What terrible mischief is now afoot under the king's roof?

With Henry VIII distracted by The Pilgrimage of Grace, the religious revolt led by Robert Aske in protest at the king turning his back on the Catholic faith, Will becomes reluctant inquisitor once again. As he attempts to unmask a murderous knave, Will uncovers a chilling link between one of Queen Jane Seymour's precious jewels, the rebellion and the dead man. Is a shocking act of treachery behind a grotesque killing?

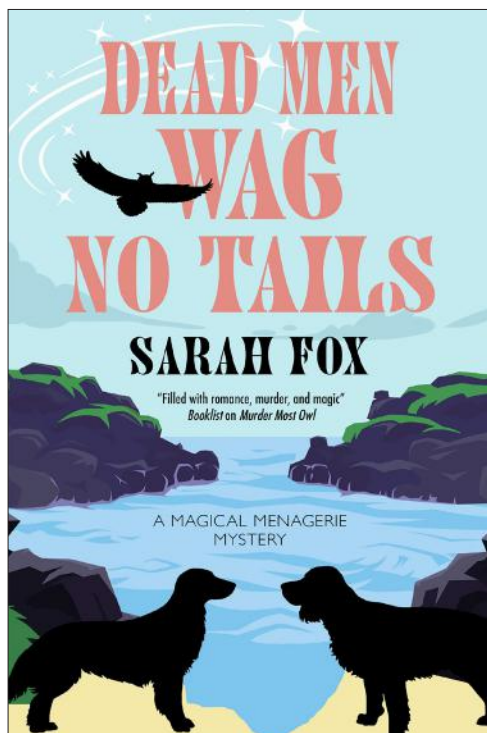
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**Sarah Fox** was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia, where she developed a love for mysteries at a young age. When not writing novels, she is often reading her way through a stack of books or spending time outdoors with her English springer spaniel.

# DEAD MEN WAG NO TAILS

A MAGICAL MENAGERIE MYSTERY #2

SARAH FOX

Romance, treasure and danger collide in the charming coastal town of Twilight Cove. Don't miss the newest instalment in *USA Today* bestselling author Sarah Fox's enchanting Magical Menagerie mystery series.

Georgie Johansen's return to the coastal haven of Twilight Cove has been a dream come true: she gets to work with Auntie O at the animal sanctuary, has adopted two very adorable dogs who have very special abilities and even has a blossoming romance with the gorgeous farmhand Callum.

It's August and the town is buzzing with anticipation for the annual Dead Eye Days pirate festival. The excitement reaches a fever pitch when long-term resident Jasper, a pirate fanatic, declares he is in possession of a treasure map!

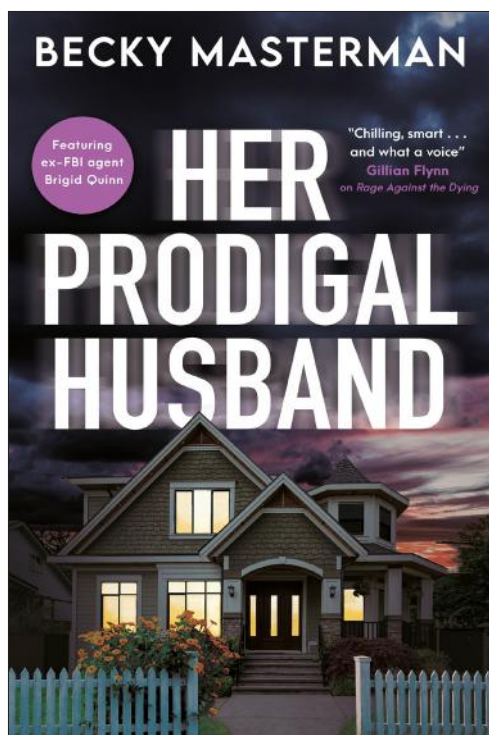
However, the hunt for treasure soon becomes a hunt for a murderer when Jasper is found dead, and Georgie is once again compelled to put on her sleuthing hat. With her extraordinary dogs Flossie and Fancy beside her, and Euclid, the mysterious great-horned owl, keeping a watchful eye on them, can she uncover the killer and protect Twilight Cove? Or will her curiosity put a bounty on her own head?

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**Becky Masterman** has worked as an actor, playwright, and an editor for a forensic science and law enforcement press. Her debut thriller was a finalist for the Edgar and the Anthony Awards for Best First Novel and for the CWA Gold Dagger, and her books have been translated into twenty languages. As well as a series of novels featuring retired FBI agent Brigid Quinn, including spin-off *Her Prodigal Husband*, she is the author of standalone thriller *Maternal Instinct*. She lives in Tucson, Arizona, with her husband.

## HER PRODIGAL HUSBAND

BECKY MASTERMAN

From the award-winning author of the internationally-bestselling Brigid Quinn thrillers, which have been translated into twenty languages, comes this gripping series spin-off: an upmarket novel of domestic suspense about a pair of sisters nicknamed Malice and Lethal, and a husband who vanishes into thin air, only to reappear and throw a bomb into both their lives

Alice Einstein – known as "Malice" to her former schoolfriends – likes to tell herself stories. There's a good one she's workshopping about how, despite once being a critically acclaimed literary novelist, she's ended up blocked and uninspired, living in her timid, conflict-averse sister Liesl's spare room.

But then Liesl sends her an SOS worthy of a thriller novel. *The horror! The horror! Sam is back.*

Sam, Liesl's wealthy ex-husband, vanished ten years ago, leaving her a chunk of money but no explanation. Sam is handsome, charming, manipulative . . . and now he claims he's sick. But Alice, with her experience of spinning tales, knows a liar when she sees one.

Haunted by a childhood tragedy that gave birth to the cruel nickname "Lethal", Liesl now specialises in saving things: dogs, children, sisters. Telling herself it's time she returned the favor, Alice engages the services of Brigid Quinn, a hardboiled local private investigator with a shady past, to help her get rid of Sam for good.

But as the plot thickens, Alice begins to wonder if she knows anyone involved – most of all herself – quite as well as she thinks . . .

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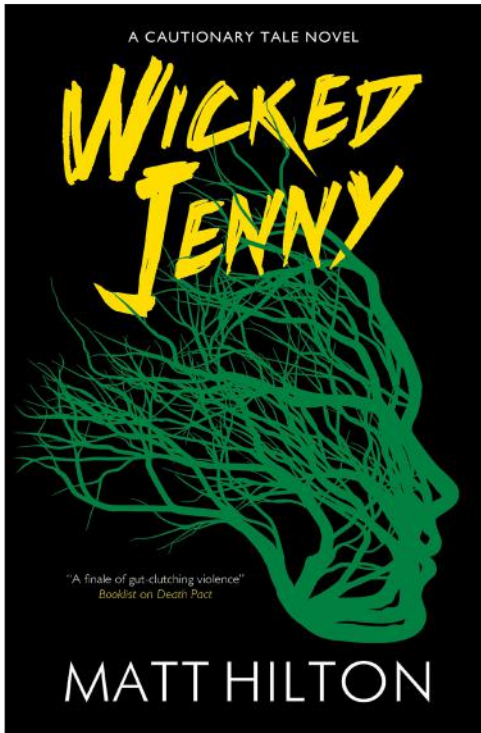
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**Matt Hilton** worked for twenty-three years in private security and the police force in Cumbria. He is a 4th Dan blackbelt and coach in Ju-Jitsu. He is the author of thirteen novels in the Joe Hunter series, and ten Grey & Villere thrillers.

# WICKED JENNY

A CAUTIONARY TALE NOVEL #1

MATT HILTON

This eerie tale sees a group of men haunted by one traumatic event from their childhood. They thought they'd moved on . . . but someone – or something – won't let them!

*1988:* Thirteen-year-old Andy Miller and his friends – Carl, Brian, Johnny and Gavin – become witnesses to the vicious attack of their classmate, Poppy, and the brutal murder of her sister at a flooded railway line they call the frog ponds. They lead the police to a suspect, a vulnerable older boy whose differences single him out. But when he commits suicide, his guilt is never proven. And the crime goes unpunished, until . . .

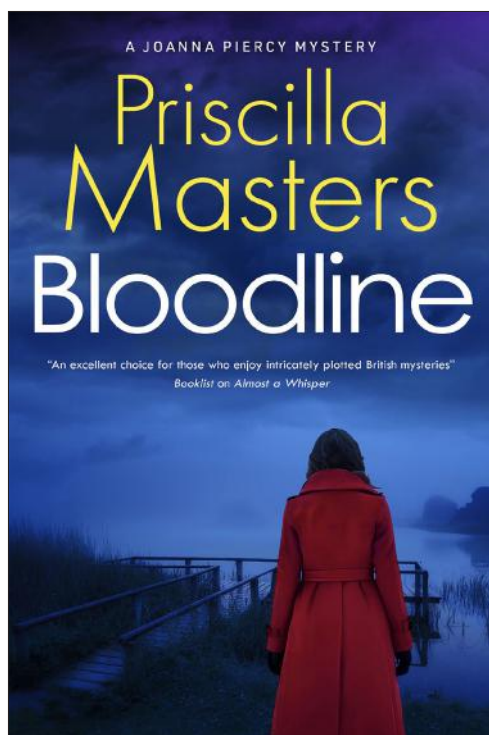
*Now:* Carl's body is found beside the same body of water – and the lives of the four remaining friends start to unravel. Is the hag-like woman terrorizing their every waking moment really a grown-up Poppy hellbent on revenge? Or something else . . . something steeped in childhood nightmares? Something determined to reveal the truth and punish the wicked.

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## BLOODLINE

A JOANNA PIERCY MYSTERY #16

PRISCILLA MASTERS

Joanna Piercy must rescue an elderly man from a hostage situation that has chilling roots in the past in this enthralling mystery.

Detective Inspector Joanna Piercy's joy at her close colleague Detective Sergeant Mike Korpanski's return to work is short-lived. Elderly Joseph Holden has been taken hostage in his secluded mansion overlooking Rudyard Lake by an armed intruder. And the hostage taker insists he will only speak to *her*.

With just a four-day hostage negotiation course under her belt, Joanna is feeling the heat. How does the hostage taker know her name? What does he want? As the questions multiply and Rudyard Lake is sealed off by an armed response unit, Joanna is about to discover that the roots of this shocking event lie deeply buried in a terrible crime – a crime that happened far away and many years ago . . .

**Priscilla Masters** is the author of the popular DI Joanna Piercy series, as well as the successful Martha Gunn novels, a series of forensic psychiatrist mysteries featuring Dr Claire Roget and the Florence Shaw mysteries. She lives near the Shropshire/Staffordshire border. A retired respiratory nurse, Priscilla has two grown-up sons and two grandsons.

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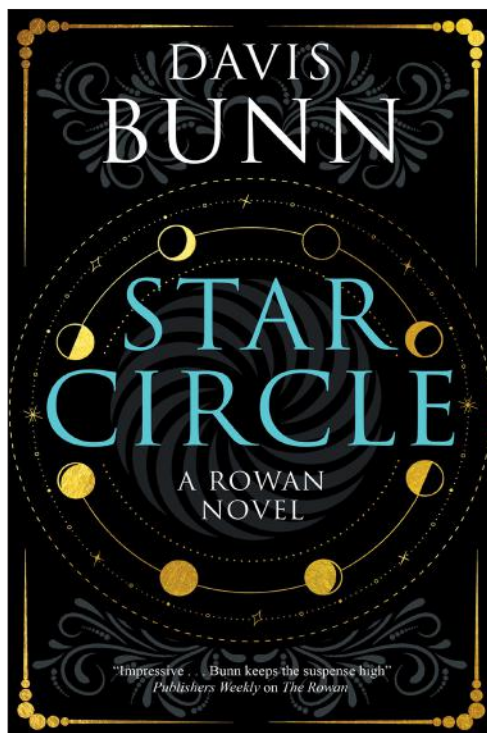
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# STAR CIRCLE

A ROWAN NOVEL #3

DAVIS BUNN

The Rowan community is in hiding, but another seismic event is about to restore their powers – and unlock the mystery behind the rowan tree's supernatural forces in this enthralling sci-fi novel.

The CIA's devastating attack on the rowan tree and its growing global community has left its members in survival mode. The loss of their unique abilities was a huge blow, and they have been in hiding for the past eleven months.

Sensing another huge, transformational event involving the rowan's supernatural forces is about to happen, journalist Valentina Garnier travels to England where a stunning event occurs at an ancient circle of stones close to Stonehenge – one which will finally reveal the truth behind the rowan tree's mysterious power. Is it really an existential threat to humanity, or a cry for help from an alien life force?

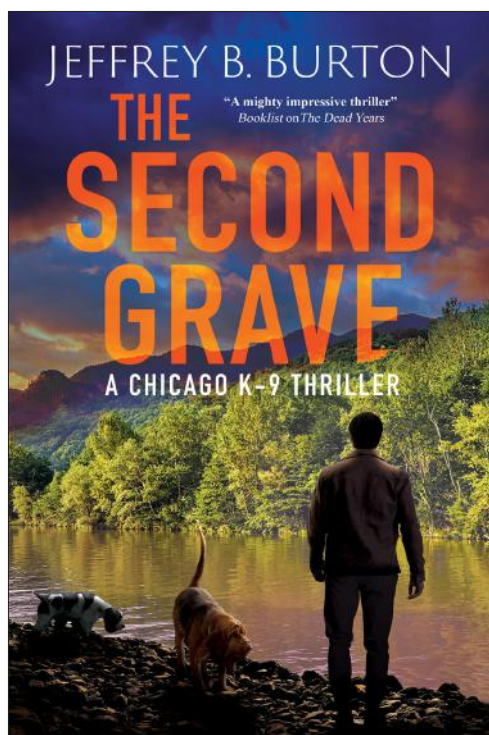
**Davis Bunn's** novels have sold in excess of eight million copies in twenty-six languages. He has appeared on numerous national bestseller lists, and his novels have been Main or Featured Selections with every major US bookclub. Currently Davis serves as Writer-In-Residence at Regent's Park College, Oxford University. He speaks around the world on aspects of creative writing. Davis also publishes under the pseudonym of Thomas Locke.

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# THE SECOND GRAVE

A CHICAGO K-9 THRILLER #2

JEFFREY B. BURTON

The discovery of two graves digs up past crimes and a dangerous killer trying to erase their tracks in this fast-paced K-9 thriller series set in Chicago.

Another day another find for dog trainer Cory Pratt's cadaver dogs Alice and Rex. This time a mass grave with three bodies and a second single grave over three decades old. A cold case that Cory's sibling and Chicago Police detective Crystal has to solve fast as the killer of the four men is still out there.

While the identities of the men are determined one by one, the bodies are linked to an infamous crime which remains unsolved to this day. And with the killer trying to cover their tracks, other dangerous and lethal individuals start getting involved . . .

Figuring out what happened all those years ago while trying to minimise the current body count, Cory, Crystal and the dogs are hot on the heels of the killer. But their involvement puts them right on their list and in more danger than they bargained for.

Novels in **Jeffrey B. Burton's** critically-acclaimed Mace Reid K-9 mystery series include *The Finders*, *The Keepers*, and *The Lost*. His Agent Drew Cady thrillers include *The Chessman*, *The Lynchpin*, and *The Eulogist*. *The Second Grave* is the second instalment in his new Chicago K-9 thriller series preceded by *The Dead Years*. Jeff lives in St. Paul, Minnesota, with his wife, Cindy, an irate Pomeranian named Lucy, and a happy galoot of a Beagle named Milo.

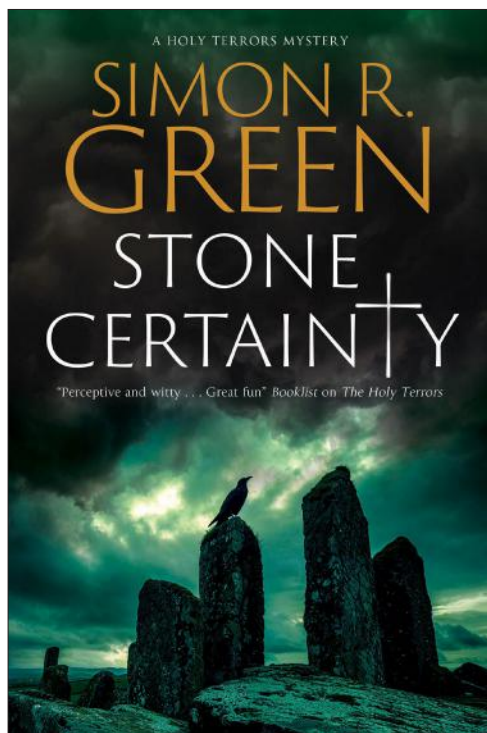
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**Simon R. Green** was born in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, where he still lives. He is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than seventy science fiction and fantasy novels which have sold over four million copies worldwide, including the *Nightside*, *Secret Histories* and *Ghost Finders* series, the *Ishmael Jones* mysteries, the *Gideon Sable* series and his brand-new *Holy Terrors* mystery series.

## STONE CERTAINTY

A HOLY TERRORS MYSTERY #2

SIMON R. GREEN

Dare you enter the stone circle . . . ? The world's most unlikely ghost-busting duo – actress Diana and handsome young bishop Alistair – are back in this spine-tingling paranormal mystery from *New York Times* bestselling British fantasy author.

There are stories about the dilapidated stone circle at Chipping Amesbury, going back centuries. Of people going missing, never to be seen again. Of people found dead inside the circle. Of monsters, and of demons. The villagers may tell the tales with relish to visiting tourists, but a careful observer will notice that there is no transport to the stones, no tours on offer, and the locals stay well away.

Alistair Kincaid, the youngest ever bishop of All Souls Hollow, is an expert in Britain's ancient stone circles. That's why, when landowner Sir Neville Chumley announces his plans to restore the circle to its ancient glory, he agrees to take part in a documentary about the project.

Well – that, plus talented actress Diana Hunt is on board. Ever since their last encounter, when the pair of them hunted ghosts and solved a murder, the tabloids have dubbed them the Holy Terrors, and Alistair can't wait see her again.

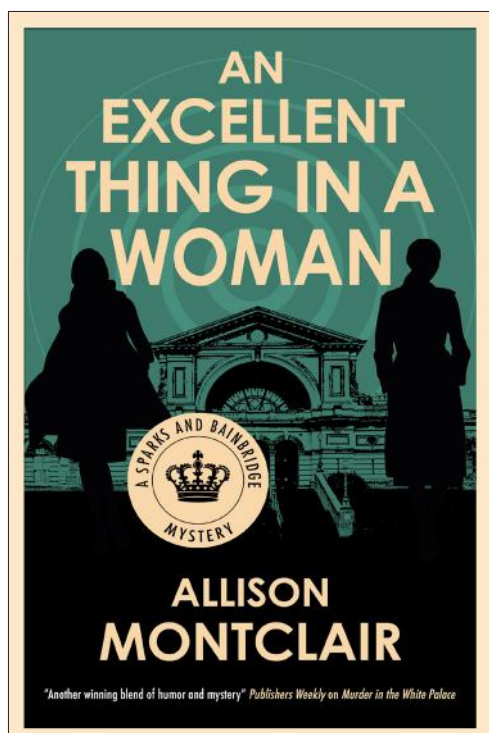
But soon after filming begins, Alistair and Diana are plunged into a terrifying mystery. For the repositioning of the final stone unleashes a series of blood-chilling events that threaten to make them both believe in demons – if, that is, they make it out of the stone circle alive.

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**Allison Montclair** is the author of the Sparks and Bainbridge mysteries, beginning with *The Right Sort of Man*, the American Library Association Reading List Council's Best Mystery of 2019. Under her real name, she has written more mystery novels and a damn good werewolf book, as well as short stories in many genres in magazines and anthologies. She is also an award-winning librettist and lyricist with several musicals to her credit that have been performed or workshopped across the USA. She currently lives in New York City where she also practiced as a criminal defense attorney.

# AN EXCELLENT THING IN A WOMAN

A SPARKS AND BAINBRIDGE MYSTERY #7

ALLISON MONTCLAIR

The owners of The Right Sort Marriage Bureau are back, and more determined than ever to bring love matches to the residents of Post-WWII London . . . so something as trivial as a murder investigation isn't going to stop them!

*London, 1947.* Spirited Miss Iris Sparks and ever-practical Mrs Gwendolyn Bainbridge are called to action when Gwen's beau Salvatore 'Sally' Danielli is accused of murder!

Sally has taken a job at the BBC studios at Alexandra Palace, but when the beautiful Miss JeanneMarie Duplessis – one of the Parisian performers over for a new variety show – is found dead in the old theatre, a number of inconvenient coincidences make him Suspect No:1.

Just days earlier, Miss Duplessis had arrived at The Right Sort, desperately looking for a husband – any husband – to avoid having to return to Paris. As the plot thickens, Iris is pulled back into the clandestine circles she moved in during the war and it soon becomes apparent that to clear Sally's name, she and Gwen would need to go on the hunt for a killer once more!

**4 FEBRUARY 2025**

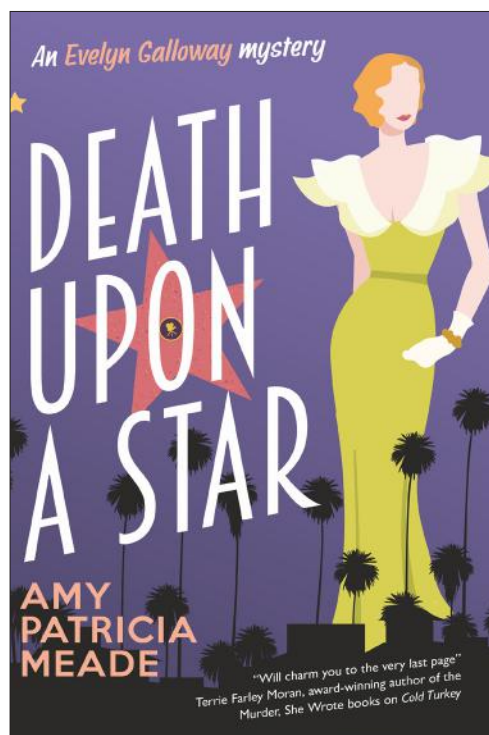
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**Amy Patricia Meade** is a native of Long Island, NY. Now residing in upstate New York, Amy spends her time writing mysteries with a humorous or historical bent, and is a member of Sisters in Crime and The Crime Writers' Association.

# DEATH UPON A STAR

AN EVELYN GALLOWAY MYSTERY #1

AMY PATRICIA MEADE

Be careful what you wish for . . . Introducing Hollywood script supervisor Evelyn Galloway, who's drawn into a murder investigation after landing her dream job on the set of Hitchcock's *Rebecca*.

1939, Los Angeles. Evelyn Galloway can't believe her luck! On her first day in LA, she lands her dream job of script supervisor, and on the hottest film in town – Hitchcock's adaptation of *Rebecca*. But her good fortune quickly changes when a legendary actor cancels their lunch the following day and is found murdered at home.

Evelyn realizes she could be a witness to the crime, having passed the bungalow's grounds on her way home the night before. Who was the man looking upset in a gazebo? And why was movie starlet Madeleine Nabors running wildly away from the scene?

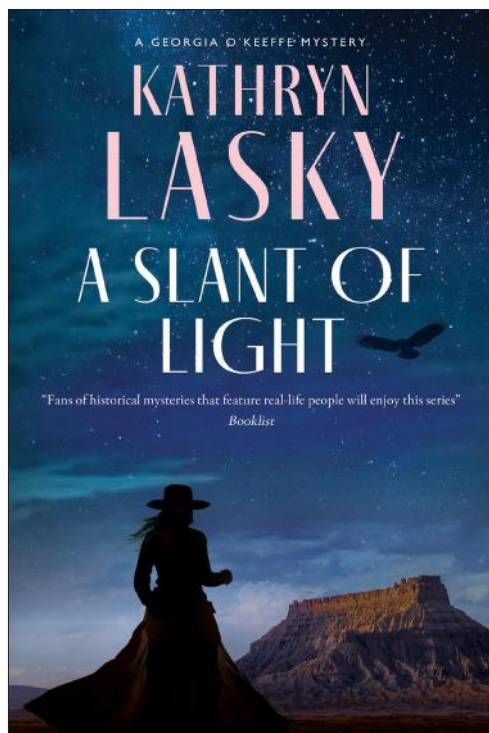
When the tabloid reports contradict what Evelyn saw with her own eyes, she soon finds herself pitted against powerful studio bosses and unscrupulous journalists as she races to uncover the truth.

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**Kathryn Lasky** is the author of over one hundred books for children and young adults, including the Guardians of Ga'Hooole series, which has more than eight million copies in print, and was turned into a major motion picture. Her books have received numerous awards. She has twice won the National Jewish Book award. Her work has been translated into nineteen languages worldwide. Her newest series is an adult historical mystery series featuring real-life painter Georgia O'Keeffe, who is considered one of the most significant artists of the twentieth century. Kathryn lives with her husband in Cambridge, MA.

## A SLANT OF LIGHT

A GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MYSTERY #3

KATHRYN LASKY

When students of St Ignatius go missing, painter and amateur sleuth Georgia O'Keeffe must infiltrate the school to figure out what's going on in this thrilling historical mystery set in 1930s New Mexico from multi award-winning author Kathryn Lasky.

*New Mexico, 1936.* Settling in for a harsh winter alone at her house at the Ghost Ranch, painter and occasional amateur sleuth Georgia O'Keeffe makes the most of the weather before a storm rolls in. But when she finds the ideal spot to capture a particularly nice sunset, Georgia discovers a boy – cold, exhausted and desperate . . .

Joseph Reyes is a student at St Ignatius School, and he claims that sinister Sister Angelica and Father Raphael have raped and killed his sister. And she is not the only one who suddenly went missing!

Georgia is determined to find out what's happening at this seemingly peculiar school, but as she investigates she uncovers even more disturbing machinations that link the school to the newly founded Opus Dei institution and its cult-like practices as well as Nazis and hidden spies – not knowing how much she puts *herself* in danger.

**4 FEBRUARY 2025**

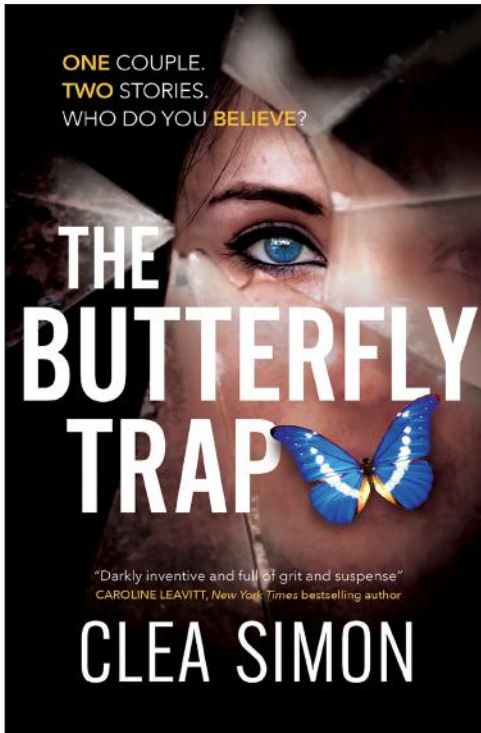
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# THE BUTTERFLY TRAP

CLEA SIMON

Anya and Greg seem to be the golden couple, until dark secrets come to light and unleash inevitable devastation in this slow-burn he said/she said psychological suspense novel.

Greg has his life all planned out: become a doctor, buy a house, and have a wife and children – and when he meets Anya during his post-doc studies in Boston, all of his dreams seem to come true. It's love at first sight, and Greg doesn't shy away from changing his life to provide Anya, his beautiful butterfly, with everything she wants and needs.

Anya is a struggling artist, determined to make it as a painter in Boston's art scene – but getting involved with shy and sweet Greg could thwart her lifelong ambition. Their relationship unfolds like a classic love story . . . except that Anya seems to be hiding something that unsuspecting Greg soon must face.

Are Greg and Anya truly the perfect couple, or will jealousy, uncertainty, and dangerous machinations break them apart in the most dreadful way imaginable?

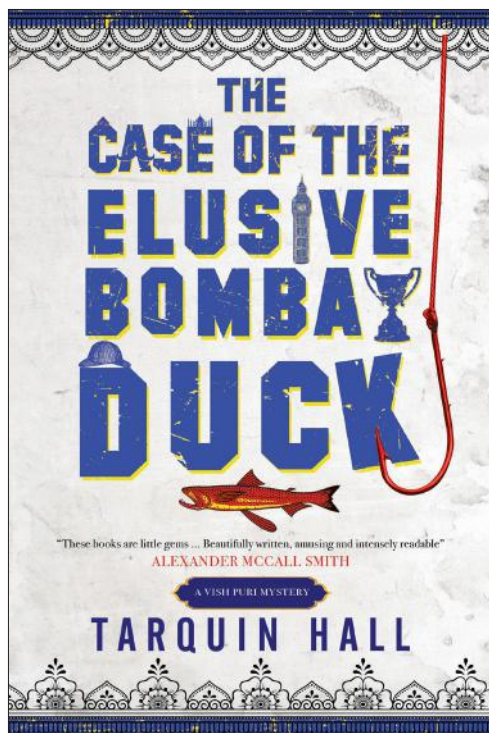
**Clea Simon** grew up in New York before moving to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to attend Harvard. She fell in love with the area and lives in nearby Somerville with her husband and their cat, Thisbe. She is the author most recently of the "newspaper noir" amateur sleuth *Bad Boy Beat* and the Dulcie Schwartz, Theda Krakow, Pru Marlowe, Blackie and Care, and Witch Cats of Cambridge mystery series as well as a number of grittier standalone novels of psychological suspense.

**4 MARCH 2025**

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**Tarquin Hall** is a British author and journalist who has previously lived in the USA, Pakistan, India, Kenya and Turkey, including over six years in New Delhi, where the star of his cozy mystery series, Vish Puri, India's Most Private Investigator, is based. He now divides his time between the UK and India, and is married to BBC reporter and presenter Anu Anand.

# THE CASE OF THE ELUSIVE BOMBAY DUCK

A VISH PURI MYSTERY #6

TARQUIN HALL

Portly, perceptive and spectacularly moustachioed, India's finest private detective, Vish Puri, tackles his most difficult case to date in the long-awaited return of Tarquin Hall's delightful humorous whodunit series set in New Delhi.

For Vish Puri, India's Most Private Detective, the news that he has won the long-coveted International Detective of the Year award, to be presented in a glitzy ceremony in London, makes this the best day of his life.

But to his deep dismay, a senior bureaucrat from the Ministry of Finance gives him a secret mission he can't refuse: to track down India's most-wanted fugitive. Dr Bhatt's medicines caused the deaths of hundreds, and the billionaire fraudster – code named the Bombay Duck – fled for the UK before he could be arrested.

Puri's only spending a week in London. He's never set foot in the UK before. And most important of all, he's already promised his wife he won't do any work while they're away.

There's only one solution: lie, lie, lie. Puri dives headfirst into the case, in between visiting all the tourist sites, aided and abetted by his formidable, meddling Mummy-ji, who Puri definitely didn't invite to join them. But can Puri hook the Bombay Duck and bring him to justice before the fugitive's many enemies get to him first?

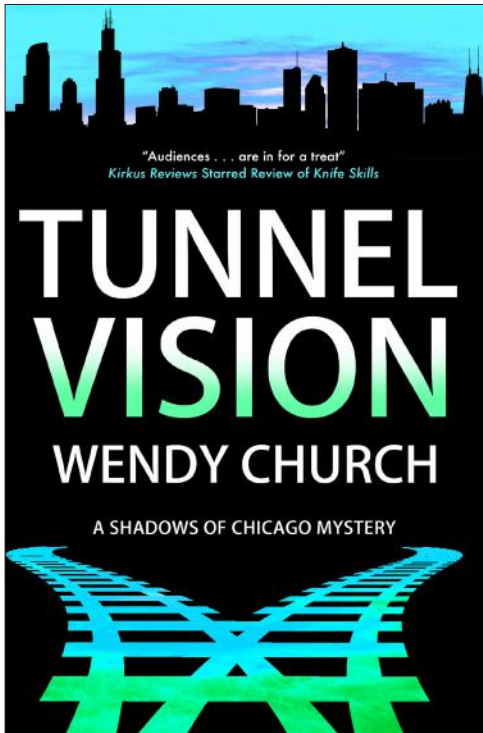
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**Wendy Church**, PhD, has authored a variety of nonfiction works, including a PhD dissertation in bioresource engineering, a few textbooks and book chapters on global issues, and a number of inappropriately long Facebook posts about navigating gluten free pizza, and the relationship between yoga and *Lord of the Rings*.

She is the author of the Jesse O'Hara mysteries, the first of which, *Murder on the Spanish Seas*, was named by *Booklist* as a Top 10 Debut Mystery & Thriller of 2023. She lives in Seattle, Washington with her partner and several animals.

## TUNNEL VISION

### A SHADOWS OF CHICAGO MYSTERY #2

WENDY CHURCH

A Chicago PD analyst finds herself drawn into the dangerous underground world in the search for her missing brother in this clever thriller.

Gang-related murders cast a dark shadow over the city as a new player emerges in the deadly fentanyl trade. Maude Kaminski, technical analyst for the Chicago PD, takes her place on the task force created to end the bloody territory wars.

But Maude's world is upended when a child's backpack is discovered among the possessions of a dead homeless woman. The backpack belonged to Maude's 2-year-old brother, Michael, and is the first trace of him since he was taken – since Maude let someone take him – over twenty years ago.

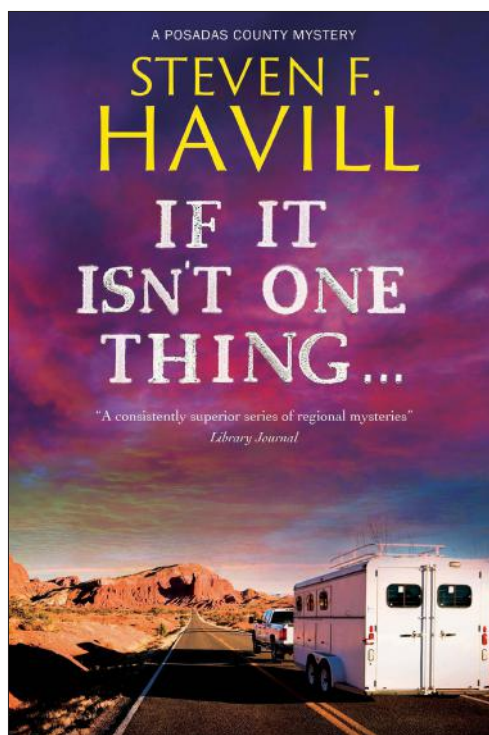
As Maude desperately searches for other signs of Michael she turns for help to her best friend, chef Sags Pfister, who harbors a dark past of her own. Long-buried secrets begin to surface, forcing Maude from behind her computer into undercover work and underneath the dark streets of Chicago, where she has to confront her deepest fears. How far *would* she go to protect her family?

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**Steven F. Havill** lives with his wife of more than half a century, Kathleen, in Datil, New Mexico. A former high school teacher of biology and English, Havill is the author of more than thirty novels, including the Dr Thomas Parks historical mystery series, the long-running Posadas County police procedurals featuring retired Sheriff Bill Gastner and Undersheriff Estelle Reyes-Guzman, and several standalones.

## IF IT ISN'T ONE THING . . .

A POSADAS COUNTY MYSTERY #27

STEVEN F. HAVILL

A fatal road crash – a domestic incident turned deadly – if it isn't one thing, it's another for Undersheriff Estelle Reyes-Guzman in this intricately plotted, warm-hearted Posadas County mystery, set in small-town New Mexico.

When a pickup truck pulling a horse trailer collides with a loaded semi, it seems like a straightforward accident. Undersheriff Estelle Reyes-Guzman presumes the most complicated part of the clean-up will be getting thirty tons of unsplit firewood off of Posadas County's state highway.

But the plot thickens when the mangled vehicles are wrenched apart and the pickup's deceased driver is not who Estelle was expecting. Who *is* the dead man – and where was he heading with his cargo, a prized stallion whose owner is frantic to get him back?

And if it isn't one thing, it's another. Just as Estelle gets her teeth in the case, she's called to a domestic incident between a local volatile couple, which has led not just to death – but to the injury of a fellow cop.

Understaffed and overworked, Estelle finds herself plunged into two tricky investigations, which will take her across the border into Mexico to find the answers – and the justice – that she seeks.

**4 MARCH 2025**

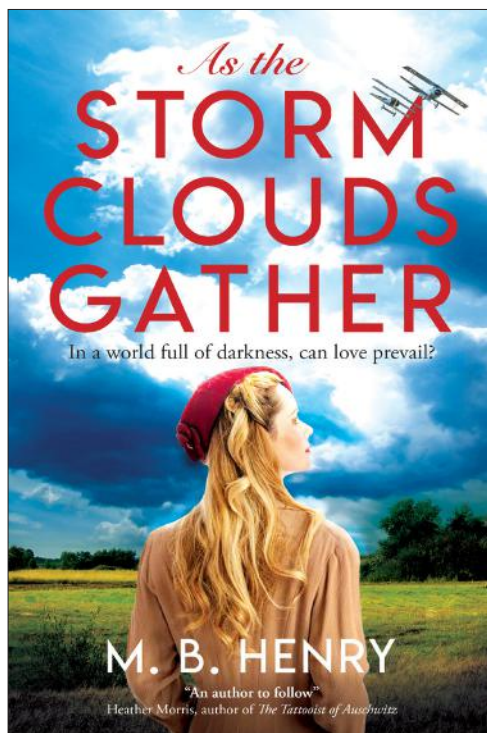
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# AS THE STORM CLOUDS GATHER

M.B. HENRY

In a world full of darkness, can love prevail? An emotionally gripping and heartbreaking WWI novel.

May, 1915. Nineteen-year-old Isle Marie Stahl experiences tragedy travelling on board the *RMS Lusitania* with her parents from New York to a new life in England, when the ship is sunk by a German U-boat. Isle survives, but is all alone. She distracts herself from the pain by becoming a nurse tending to the casualties of war on the front line at Ypres.

Meanwhile, young Roland Hawkins is nursing his own grief when his father is caught up in the Black Tom explosion in New York Harbour. Full of anger, he quietly sets off for England and straight to a recruiting station. Soon, he is on the front line himself, determined to get his revenge.

The Belgian battlefields of the Great War will bring Isle and Roland together, though there is no love lost between a wounded soldier and his nurse of German descent. But as the storm clouds grow ever darker, can they find love and comfort in one another?

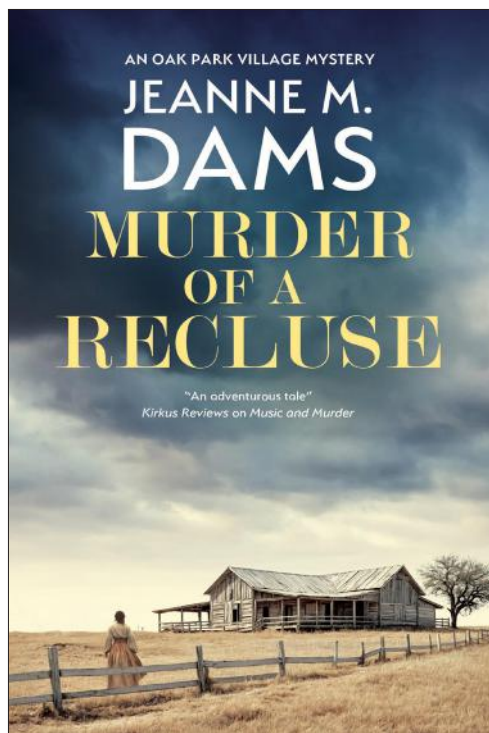
**M.B. Henry** is a lifelong student of history, especially military history, having visited battlefields and historical sites all over the world. She has a degree in Cinema and Comparative Literature, and has served as a historical consultant and researcher on films and television in Los Angeles. She lives with her husband and two cats in Indiana.

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The author of more than thirty mysteries, including the long-running, much-loved Dorothy Martin mystery series, **Jeanne M. Dams** lives in South Bend, Indiana, with a varying population of cats.

# MURDER OF A RECLUSE

AN OAK PARK VILLAGE MYSTERY #3

JEANNE M. DAMS

Who killed the reclusive Agatha Dobbs? Newly married Elizabeth Wilkins is determined to prove Agatha's niece's innocence in this compelling 1920s mystery.

*October, 1926.* Newly married Elizabeth Wilkins is ready for whatever life throws at her and her lawyer husband, Fred. So when Fred comes home anxious about his client, Caroline Dobbs, Elizabeth can't help getting involved. Caroline is suspected of murdering her elderly Aunt Agatha at Agatha's farm on the outskirts of Oak Park, and was seen arguing with her on the day she died by neighbour and local gossip-monger, Mrs Edwards, yet Fred seems convinced of Caroline's innocence.

Elizabeth joins the influential local Nineteenth Century Woman's Club as she attempts to find out more about the reclusive Agatha Dobbs, and soon uncovers astonishing secrets. Can she unravel the mystery in time to save Caroline from a terrible fate?

**4 MARCH 2025**

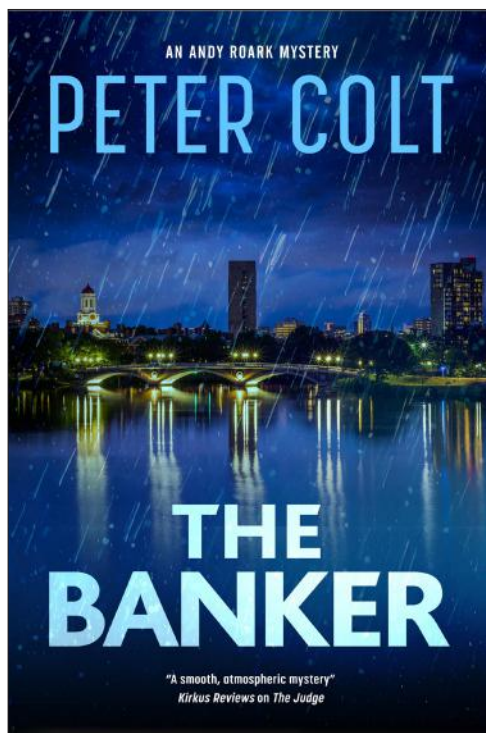
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**Peter Colt** is a 1996 graduate of the University of Rhode Island with a BA in Political Science and a 24-year veteran of the Army Reserve with deployments to Kosovo and Iraq as an Army Civil Affairs officer. He is currently a police officer in Rhode Island. He is married with two sons and two perpetually feuding cats. He is the author of the Andy Roark mysteries: *The Off-Islander*, *Back Bay Blues*, *Death at Fort Devens*, *The Ambassador* and *The Judge*.

## THE BANKER

AN ANDY ROARK MYSTERY #6

PETER COLT

Embezzlement, murder, and beautiful women . . . Andy Roark, Vietnam veteran turned private investigator is on the case in this thrilling hardboiled mystery that's perfect for fans of Robert B. Parker and Jeremiah Healy.

*Boston, 1986.* Spring in Boston is always a miserable affair, and Andy Roark's latest case offers nothing to raise his spirits. The ex-military operative turned private investigator has been hired by a bank president to investigate three of his staff. One of them has embezzled over two million dollars – and Brock wants Roark to find out who's living above their means.

Sounds exciting enough, but after two weeks' tedious surveillance uncovers a grand total of nothing, Roark gives it up as a bad job. Brock needs a forensic accountant on the case, not a PI.

But several weeks later, the bank is held up, and one of Brock's suspects is murdered by the robber. Is there a connection? Roark can't see how, but he's never been a fan of coincidence.

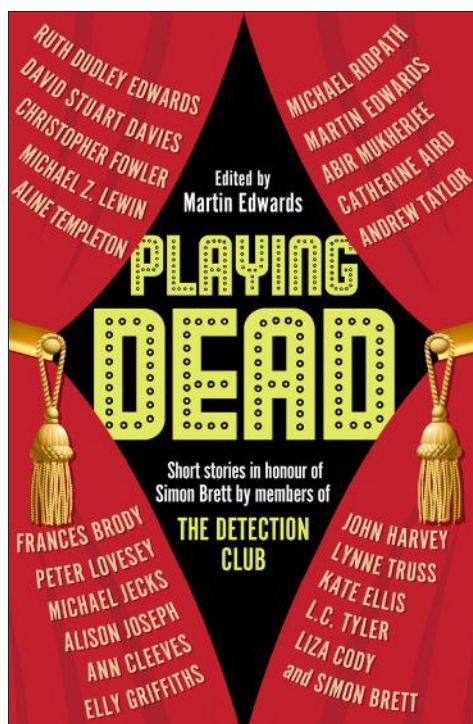
With the case niggling at him, he relaunches an investigation on his own dime. Soon he's rubbing shoulders with some very shady characters – and trying his best not just to solve the case, but also to come out of it alive.

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**The Detection Club** is the oldest and most prestigious society of crime writers in the world. Founded in 1930, its presidents include world-renowned authors including Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers, G.K. Chesterton, Simon Brett, whom this collection honours, and Martin Edwards, its editor.

All the authors contributing to this short story collection are current members of the society, and have topped bestseller lists, won awards including MBEs, OBEs, Daggers, Anthonys and Edgars, and have seen their detectives appear on radios and TV screens around the world.

## PLAYING DEAD

SHORT STORIES BY MEMBERS OF THE DETECTION CLUB  
EDITED BY MARTIN EDWARDS

Members of the Detection Club, the most prestigious group of crime writers in the world, celebrate the eightieth birthday of their former president.

A long-married crime-writing couple plot murder most horrid, with a jaw-dropping twist . . . A group of school friends dig up a long-buried dark secret . . . A widower joins a local amdran society, with surprisingly dramatic results . . . A deranged fan stalks a celebrated TV personality . . . An online romance turns sour . . . and much, much more.

From police procedurals to the sharpest satire, from historical mystery to dark and twisted chillers, these twenty-two original tales, written by some of Britain's most remarkable bestselling authors, are essential reading for crime and mystery fans.

With stories by **Abir Mukherjee, Aline Templeton, Alison Joseph, Andrew Taylor, Ann Cleeves, Catherine Aird, Christopher Fowler, David Stuart Davies, Elly Griffiths, Frances Brody, John Harvey, Kate Ellis, L.C. Tyler, Liza Cody, Lynne Truss, Martin Edwards, Michael Jecks, Michael Ridpath, Michael Z. Lewin, Peter Lovesey, Ruth Dudley Edwards** – and last, but very much not least, **Simon Brett**, who's brought back his much-loved amateur sleuth, washed-up actor Charles Paris, to tread the boards once again.

**4 MARCH 2025**

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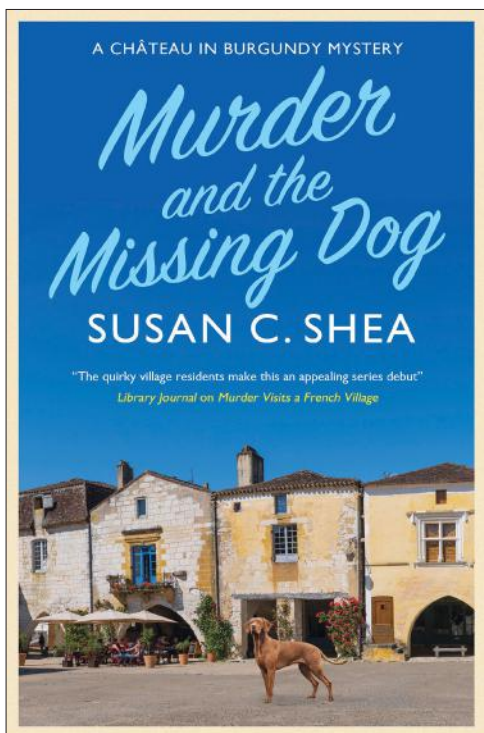
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**Susan C. Shea** spent more than two decades as a non-profit executive before beginning her first critically praised mystery series in 2010, featuring a professional fundraiser for an art museum. In 2017, she debuted a new mystery series set in France, for St. Martin's Minotaur Books. She's a regular on 7 Criminal Minds blog and is a past secretary of the national Sisters in Crime board and is a past board member of the Northern California chapters of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America.

She lives in Marin County, California, where two cats pretty much rule the house!

# MURDER AND THE MISSING DOG

A CHÂTEAU IN BURGUNDY MYSTERY #2

SUSAN C. SHEA

Return to the beautiful village of Noyers-sur-Serein in this delightful cozy mystery series with an idyllic French setting.

Ariel Shepard has spent the last year renovating her beautiful French château, while also ingratiating herself into the lives and hearts of the quirky locals of Noyers-sur-Serein. The shocking business of the murder of the local historian is behind her and she is finally feeling at home.

However, it's not long before murder and mystery once again seek Ariel out, when she and her friend Katherine find the body of the elderly Madame Toussaint in the doorway of Katherine's flea market shop.

Who would want to harm this lonely soul? Where is the bag the woman never leaves home without? And more importantly, where is her loyal, loving dog who never leaves her side? Could Raoul, Ariel's stoic gardener, really have something to do with it? And could Madame Toussaint have been mixed up with the robberies increasing around the idyllic villages of France?

Despite warnings from the rather handsome Brigadier Allard, Ariel, with help from Katherine and Pippa, once again dons her sleuthing hat . . .

**30 JANUARY 2025 (UK)**  
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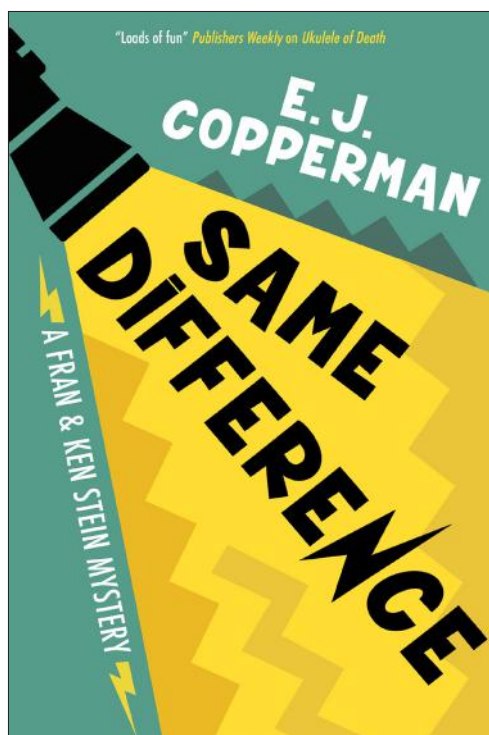
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**E.J. Copperman** is the nom-de-plume for Jeff Cohen, writer of intentionally funny murder mysteries including the Jersey Girl Legal mysteries and the Fran & Ken Stein mysteries.

## SAME DIFFERENCE

A FRAN AND KEN STEIN MYSTERY #2

E.J. COPPERMAN

Nineteen-year-old trans woman Eliza is missing . . . and her worried father sets private investigators Fran and Ken Stein on her trail in this second instalment of the light-hearted and fun cozy mystery series with a paranormal twist.

Taking a break from their usual business of helping adoptees find their birth parents, New York private investigators – and super-sized, ever-so-slightly-paranormal siblings – Fran and Ken Stein accept a job to find a missing young woman.

Nineteen-year-old college student Eliza Hennessey is trans – and she has a rocky relationship with her father, their new client. Brian's convinced his daughter's vanished, rather than run away, but Fran and Ken aren't so sure she wants to be found.

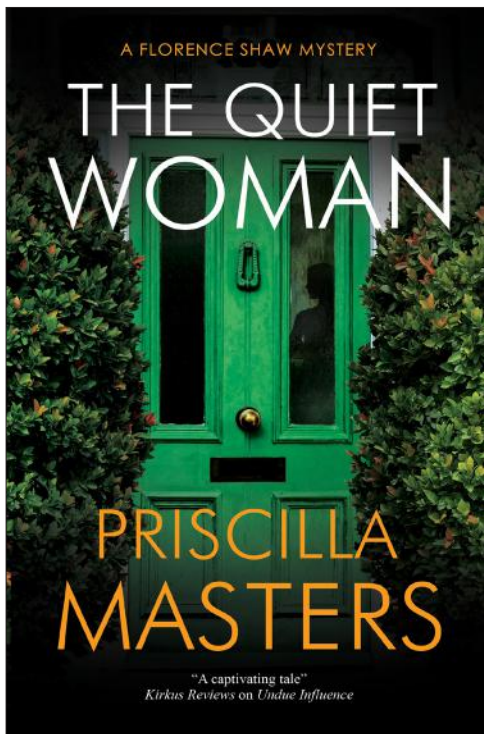
The PI duo investigate, and soon Fran is butting heads with her irritating sort-of-ex-boyfriend Mank at the NYPD, who has what seems to be a similar case on his desk. But not even Fran could guess how tangled their investigations are going to get, and how deep they'll need to dive into murder and mayhem to solve the case!

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**Priscilla Masters** is the author of the popular DI Joanna Piercy series, as well as the successful Martha Gunn novels, a series of forensic psychiatrist mysteries featuring Dr Claire Roget and the Nurse Florence Shaw mysteries. She lives near the Shropshire/Staffordshire border. A retired respiratory nurse, Priscilla has two grown-up sons and two grandsons.

# THE QUIET WOMAN

A FLORENCE SHAW MYSTERY #2

PRISCILLA MASTERS

Nurse Florence Shaw is baffled when a quiet patient dies in an apparent suicide pact with her husband. Can she uncover the truth behind this mysterious woman?

Richard and Christine Clay have been married for decades. Their relationship has stood the test of time despite Christine appearing passive while her husband is unmistakably dominant – at times bullying and controlling.

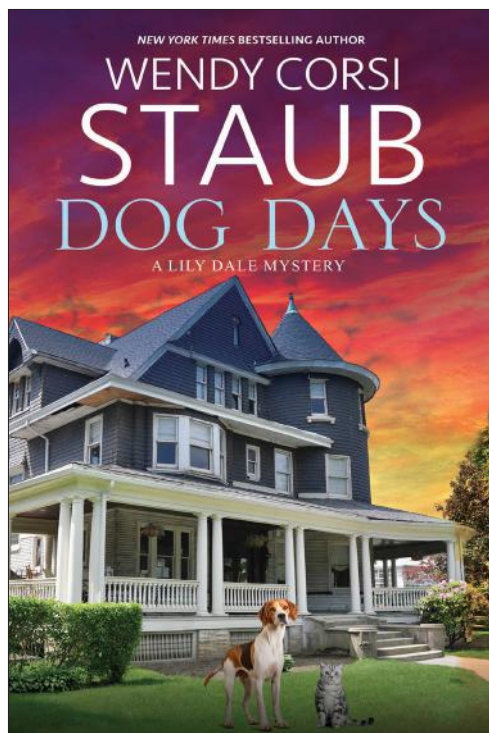
Nurse Florence Shaw has seen Christine at the surgery a number of times with minor complaints over the past year, none of which has led to a serious diagnosis. But when Florence hears that the couple appear to have entered into a suicide pact, she is shocked, though not surprised that Richard has survived. Was Christine's death really a suicide, or was there more to this quiet woman than meets the eye?

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*New York Times* and *USA Today* bestseller **Wendy Corsi Staub** is the award-winning author of more than ninety novels. She lives in the New York City suburbs with her husband, their sons, and a trio (give or take) of rescue kitties.

## DOG DAYS

A LILY DALE MYSTERY #6

WENDY CORSI STAUB

Do you believe in spirits? A series of strange happenings force Valley View guesthouse manager – and sceptic – Bella Jordan to question her beliefs in this heart-warming cozy mystery set in Lily Dale, New York's Spiritualist home.

After attending a family wedding in Chicago, young widow Bella Jordan is returning to the guesthouse she runs in Lily Dale – the quirky lakeside village famous for its spiritual mediums – when she catches a glimpse of the impossible at the airport: her late husband Sam.

A former science teacher, Bella is grounded in facts and logic. She doesn't believe in ghosts. But even when she's back home with the competing distractions of her quirky guests, small son Max, resident pet cats and a very unexpected litter of puppies, Bella can't find a good explanation for what she's seen.

The situation gets even stranger when her psychic friend Odelia tells her that she made contact with Sam's spirit and he shared a significant name: Kevin . . . Bacon!

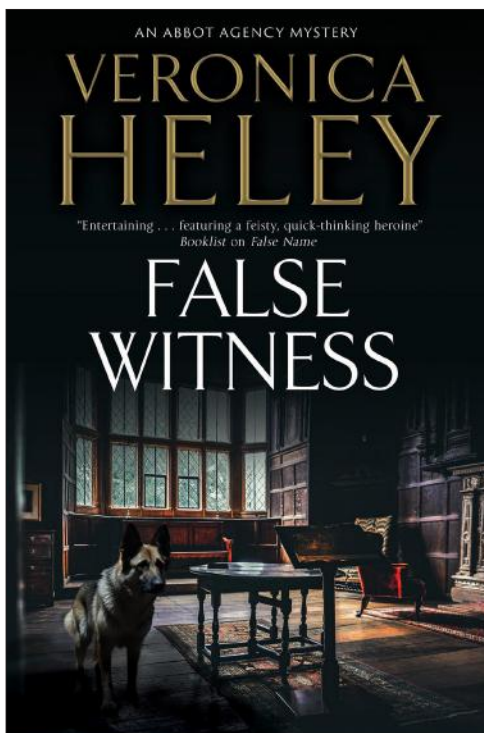
Bella doesn't know what to think, but when she glimpses Sam again and things start to vanish around her, she knows she has to get to the bottom of the strange happenings – even if that means letting go for good . . .

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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 Witness* is the seventeenth Abbot Agency novel.

## FALSE WITNESS

AN ABBOT AGENCY MYSTERY #17

VERONICA HELEY

The restoration of a stately home takes a deadly turn in the gripping new Bea Abbot mystery.

No one had been more surprised than Julian to find he was the heir to Marston Hall, a stately home in the Home Counties. His hitherto unknown relatives had done their best to ensure he didn't live to inherit, but with his ill-wishers in jail, Julian and his wife Polly celebrated the birth of their son and heir and set about the uphill task of restoring the neglected Tudor mansion to its former glory.

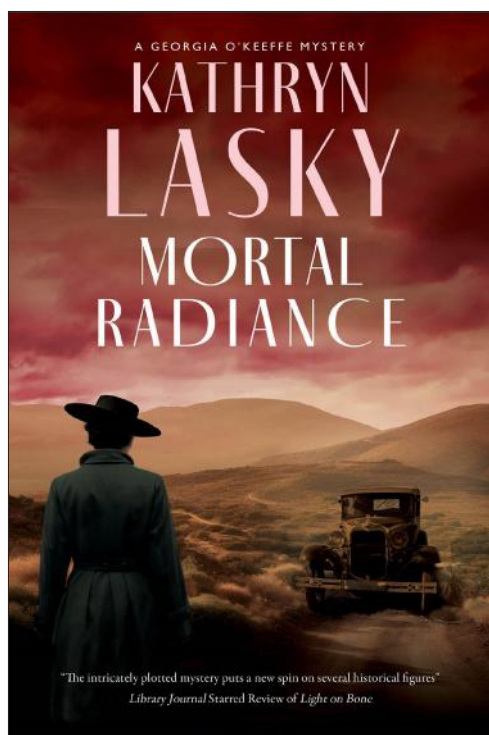
Bea Abbot is called in when yet another attempt is made on Julian's life and the corpse of a woman is found in the stables at the Hall. Could the relatives who targeted Julian before be behind this murder, and what is the link between the dead woman and the Marston-Lang family? Something wicked is afoot at Marston Hall, and Bea is determined to get to the bottom of it.

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**Kathryn Lasky** is the author of over one hundred books for children and young adults, including the Guardians of Ga'Hoole series, which has more than eight million copies in print, and was turned into a major motion picture, *Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole*.

# MORTAL RADIANCE

A GEORGIA O'KEEFFE MYSTERY #2

KATHRYN LASKY

Painter and amateur sleuth Georgia O'Keeffe investigates a tragic death when she returns to Taos in the second instalment of this twisty historical mystery set in the 1930s.

*New Mexico, 1935.* Painter Georgia O'Keeffe is at her friend Mabel Dodge Luhan's home, Los Gallos, a house inhabited by a colorful range of artists, authors and society figures, to attend the memorial service of the renowned writer D.H. Lawrence. Georgia has been commissioned to design the stained-glass windows for the small memorial chapel in Lawrence's honor. But when she checks to see how the light comes through the glass, another much more horrible sight awaits her: beloved Navajo potter Flora Namingha is dead, her face smashed in with a stone . . .

With Flora's fiancé locked up as the obvious suspect and the local police negligent in its investigation, it seems like no one other than Georgia is capable of solving the murder and making sure justice is done.

When Georgia's lover Sheriff Ryan McCaffrey comes to town unannounced, things get more complicated, and Georgia suddenly finds herself in a complex tangle of revenge, international espionage, Nazis and thugs that will require all her artistic sensibilities and amateur sleuthing skills to unravel!

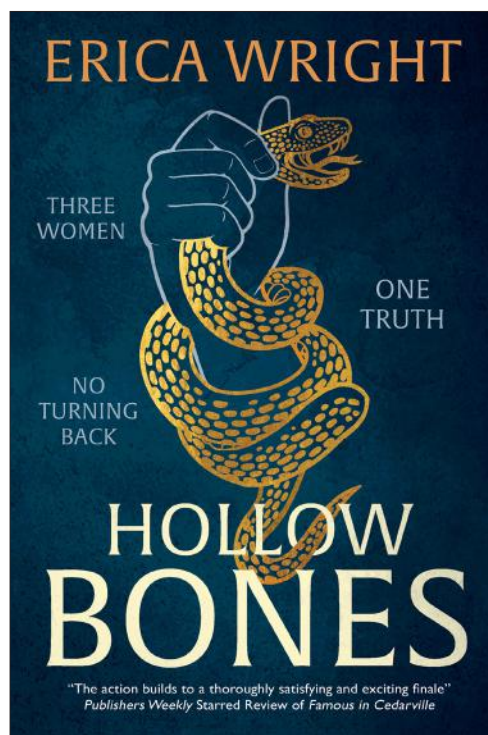
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**Erica Wright** is the author of seven books, including the essay collection *Snake* and the crime novel *Famous in Cedarville*. She is a former editorial board member of Alice James Books and was the Poetry Editor at *Guernica Magazine* for more than a decade. She currently lives in Knoxville, Tennessee with her family.

# HOLLOW BONES

ERICA WRIGHT

An eerie Appalachian town. A fatal fire. Three women whose fates intertwine . . .

Essa Montgomery and her brother Clyde were brought up in New Hope, a serpent-handling church in Vintera, West Virginia, until the shocking deaths of both their parents closed the church down. Now twenty, reclusive Essa lives alone in her childhood home in the shadow of New Hope, which to her horror has been taken over by a new charismatic, unsettling pastor who continues the dangerous practice. So when the church burns down, she's glad – until she learns that two people died in the blaze, and her brother's the prime suspect . . .

Life has made Juliet Usher, who scratches a living as a psychic medium, both assertive and ruthless. With a baby on the way, it's the worst possible time for her partner Clyde to be arrested. She'll do anything to survive and keep him out of prison – no matter what it takes!

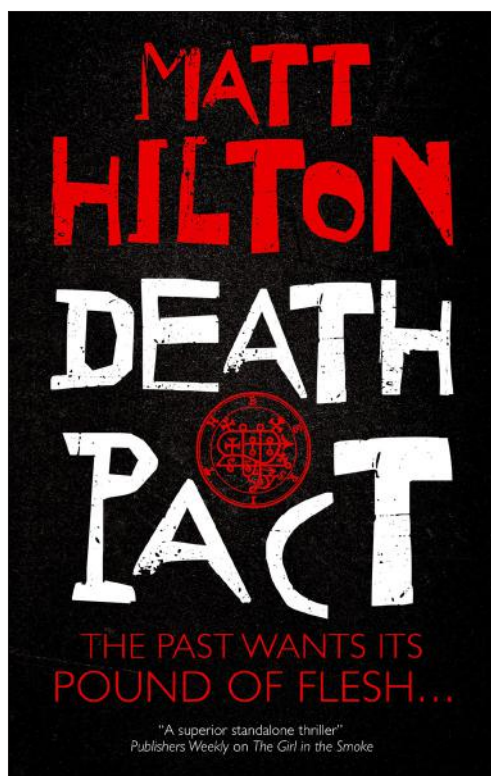
Merrit Callahan has always been ambitious. A striving news reporter, she's willing to go the extra mile and break the rules to get the big scoop. And in small-town Vintera, she thinks she might have found the story that will be the making of her career.

**27 FEBRUARY 2025 (UK)**  
**29 APRIL 2025 (US/CAN)**

Trade Paperback Fiction 208pp

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**Matt Hilton** worked for twenty-three years in private security and the police force in Cumbria. He is a 4th Dan blackbelt and coach in Ju-Jitsu. He is the author of thirteen novels in the Joe Hunter series, and ten Grey & Villere thrillers.

## DEATH PACT

MATT HILTON

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This action-packed standalone sees two brothers saved from a cult as children, now grown up, and drawn into the complicated web of a serial killer. . .

Former detective Nate Freeman just wants to be left alone as he recovers from the case that ended his career two years ago. As a child, he and his brother Will were saved from a religious fanatic compound in the US and brought to the UK. Now, as an adult, Nate has no idea where Will, or any of the other surviving 'Children of Hamor' are, until they suddenly start turning up dead – minus some skin . . .

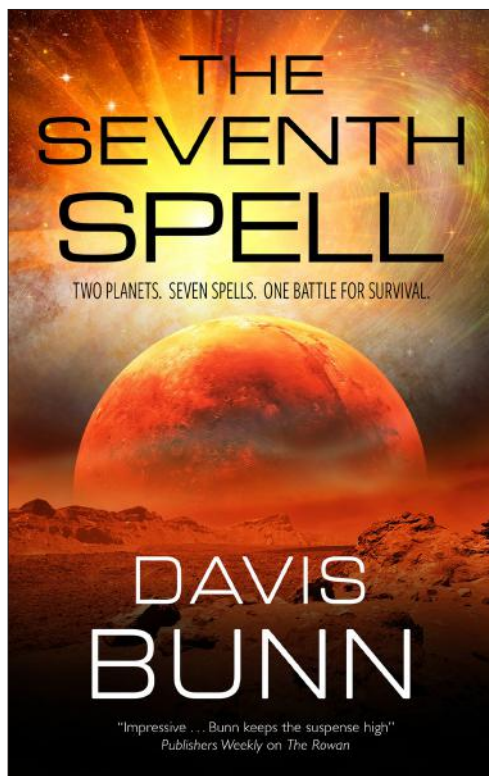
When his old boss DCI Openshaw asks him to assist in finding the serial killer who is hell bent on collecting the symbols so brutally branded onto the children's backs in the name of Berith – the Fallen Angel – Nate finds himself conflicted. As one of 'the promised' Nate is in mortal danger, and as the case builds momentum Will becomes the prime suspect. It's an intense race against time for Nate to uncover the identity of the 'angelic' serial killer and save his own skin in the process!

**27 FEBRUARY 2025 (UK)**  
**29 APRIL 2025 (US/CAN)**

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**Davis Bunn's** novels have sold in excess of eight million copies in twenty-six languages. He has appeared on numerous national bestseller lists, and his novels have been Main or Featured Selections with every major US bookclub. Recent titles have been named Best Book of the Year by both *Library Journal* and *Suspense Magazine*, as well as earning Top Pick and Starred Reviews from *Publishers Weekly*, *RT Reviews*, *Kirkus Reviews* and *Booklist*. Currently Davis serves as Writer-In-Residence at Regent's Park College, Oxford University. Davis also publishes under the pseudonym of Thomas Locke.

# THE SEVENTH SPELL

DAVIS BUNN

Two planets. Seven spells. One battle for survival.

Adrian Capstan's dream of going to Mars and becoming a wizard is about to be realized when he travels to the red planet armed with seven ancient spells. By connecting to magical forces on Mars, he hopes he'll finally be able to bring the mysterious spells alive.

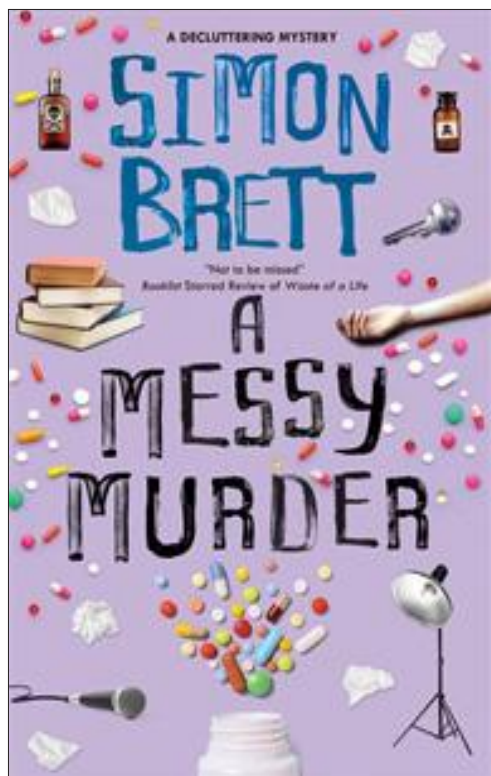
But when Adrian lands at the Mars spaceport, he discovers a scene of destruction. Revolt against Earth has led to a dangerous regime ruling the planet, and the wizards are under attack. As Adrian begins to unlock the spells, he is drawn into an epic fight for survival. And when he unleashes the seventh spell's true power, the stakes for the two planets couldn't be higher . . .

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**Simon Brett** worked as a producer in radio and television before taking up writing full-time. He is the author of more than 100 books, including the much-loved Fethering mysteries, the Mrs Pargeter novels and the Charles Paris detective series, as well as the Decluttering mysteries. In 2014, he was awarded the Crime Writers' Association's prestigious Diamond Dagger for sustained excellence and contribution to crime writing, and in the 2016 New Year's Honours he was awarded an OBE 'for services to literature'. Married with three grown-up children, six grandchildren and a ginger cat called Douglas, he lives in a village on the South Downs.

## A MESSY MURDER

### THE DECLUTTERING MYSTERIES #4

SIMON BRETT

Ellen Curtis – professional declutterer, amateur sleuth and woman of a certain age – investigates the puzzling death of a TV personality who's past his prime

Professional declutterer Ellen Curtis doesn't need to like her clients to help them sort their homes out. Aging TV personality and curmudgeon Humphrey Carter might have a chip on his shoulder the size of England about the decline of his career, but a job's a job.

But when Ellen arrives the morning after Humph's eightieth birthday party, primed and ready to tackle his study – no matter his protests – she gets the shock of her life. Humph's dead . . . and all signs point to him having taken his own life.

Did the egotistical chat show host really die by suicide? His wife is adamant he's been murdered, and the more Ellen looks, the more dirt on Humph she digs up . . . and the more suspects she uncovers.

Can she track down a killer – if there even is one? And, just as importantly, can she keep herself from killing not only her own infuriating mother, but also her two grown-up children, who all seem determined to destroy her peace of mind?

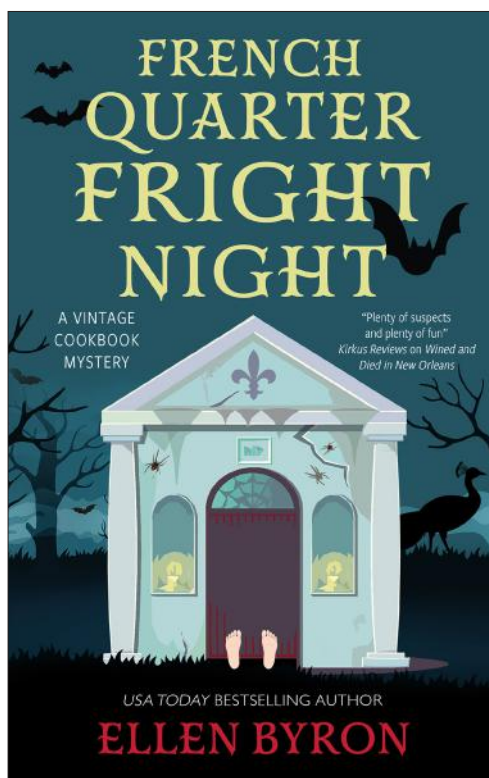
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**Ellen Bryon** is an Anthony Award nominee, bestselling author and recipient of multiple Agatha and Lefty awards for her Cajun Country mysteries, Vintage Cookbook mysteries, and Catering Hall mysteries (as Maria DiRico). She is also an award-winning playwright and non-award-winning writer of TV hits like *Wings*, *Just Shoot Me*, and *Fairly OddParents*. A native New Yorker, Ellen is a graduate of Tulane University and lives in the Los Angeles area with her husband, daughter, and a rotating crew of rescue pups.

# FRENCH QUARTER FRIGHT NIGHT

A VINTAGE COOKBOOK MYSTERY #3

ELLEN BYRON

The third in the fabulous cozy mystery series with a vintage flair from *USA Today* bestselling and Agatha Award-winning author Ellen Byron.

It's Halloween in New Orleans, and the staff of Bon Vee Culinary House Museum is setting up a fantastic haunted house tour for their visitors. But when flashy movie star Blaine Taggart and his entourage move into the mansion next door, gift shop proprietor Ricki James-Diaz gets a fright of her own.

While Ricki is excited about the potential business the tours will bring to her vintage cookbook shop, she's less thrilled by former friend Blaine's arrival in town. Then Bon Vee's prop tomb becomes a real tomb for Blaine's nasty assistant, and suddenly everyone at Bon Vee is a murder suspect. There isn't a ghost of a chance one of them committed the crime, but with NOPD busy tackling the mischief and mayhem generated by the spooky holiday, it falls on Ricki and her friends to catch the killer.

As the Big Easy gears up for the Big Scary, it seems everyone has skeletons in their closets. Can Ricki reveal the shadowy killer before someone else becomes part of the Halloween horror show?

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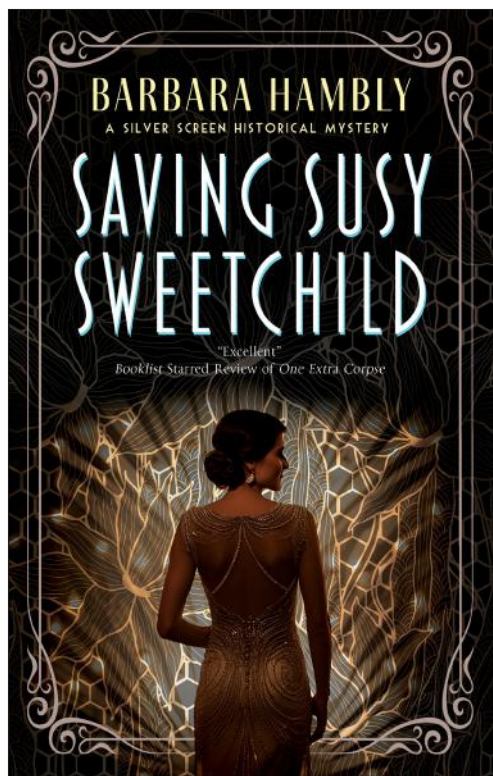
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**Barbara Hambly** though a native of Southern California, lived in New Orleans for a number of years while married to the late science fiction writer George Alec Effinger. Hambly holds a degree in medieval history from the University of California and has written novels in numerous genres.

# SAVING SUSY SWEETCHILD

A SILVER SCREEN HISTORICAL MYSTERY #3

BARBARA HAMBLY

*New York Times* bestselling author Barbara Hambly once again brings the glamour and intrigue of Hollywood to life! An unputdownable mystery for fans of female-fronted historical mysteries set in the roaring twenties.

July, 1924. After nine months of living in Hollywood and working as a companion to her beautiful silent-movie star sister-in-law, young British widow Emma Blackstone is settling into her new role: doctoring film scenarios whenever the regular scenarist is overwhelmed with work, which seems to be most of the time.

Shoots for the Western movie *Our Tiny Miracle* are in full swing, with little seven-year-old Susy Sweetchild playing the lead and acting most professionally. Maybe too professionally, Emma thinks, shocked to the core when the child star is nearly killed in a stunt scene and her mother – former screen siren Selina Sutton – seems only to care that Susy gets the job done.

But Emma's concerns only worsen when news reaches her that Susy and her mother have been kidnapped. The ransom note says to keep the cops out of it, so it's up to Emma and Kitty to find them before the unthinkable happens and Emma is forced to rewrite *Our Tiny Miracle* with a far more tragic ending . . .

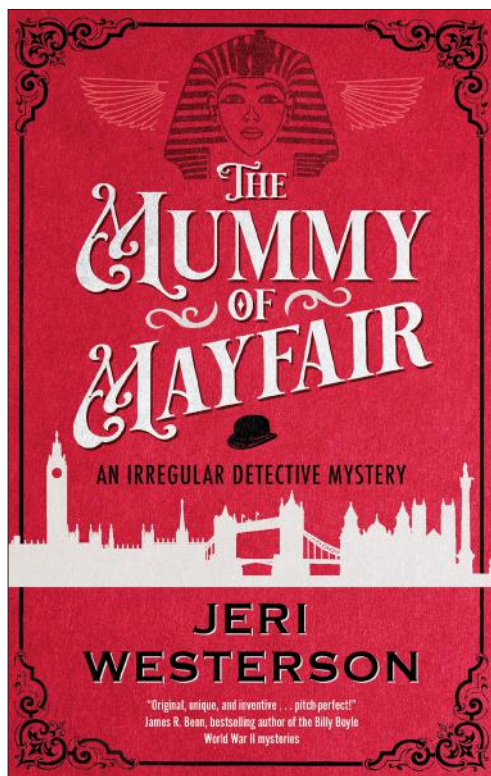
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**Jeri Westerson** was born and raised in Los Angeles. She is the author of the Crispin Guest medieval noir mysteries, the King's Fool Tudor mysteries featuring Will Somers, three paranormal series and several historical novels. Her books have been nominated for the Shamus, the Macavity and the Agatha awards.

# THE MUMMY OF MAYFAIR

AN IRREGULAR DETECTIVE MYSTERY #2

JERI WESTERSON

Private investigators Timothy Badger and Benjamin Watson take on another unusual and baffling case in Victorian London when a mummy unwrapping party takes a chilling turn.

*London, 1895.* Although their last high-profile case was a huge success, private detectives Tim Badger and Benjamin Watson know they can't afford to turn down any work, despite financial assistance from their mentor, Sherlock Holmes.

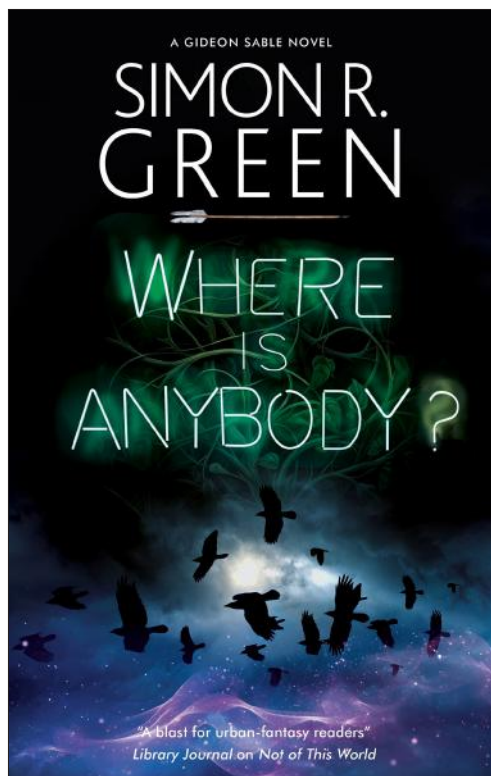
So when the eminent Doctor Enoch Sawyer of St Bart's Hospital asks Badger if the duo will provide security for a mummy unwrapping party he is hosting, Badger doesn't hesitate to take the job. After all, how hard can guarding the doctor's bizarre Egyptian artifacts be? But with Doctor Sawyer running late for his own party, the 'genuine' ancient sarcophagus of Runihura Saa is unravelled to reveal the remains of . . . Doctor Sawyer! Suddenly, the pair are drawn into a case that's stranger and twistier than they could ever have imagined.

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**Simon R. Green** was born in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, where he still lives. He is the *New York Times* bestselling author of more than seventy science fiction and fantasy novels, including the *Nightside*, *Secret Histories* and *Ghost Finders* series, the *Ishmael Jones* mysteries, the *Gideon Sable* novels and the *Holy Terrors* mysteries.

## WHERE IS ANYBODY?

A GIDEON SABLE NOVEL #5

SIMON R. GREEN

Legendary master thief and conman Gideon Sable must pull off an impossible heist to save his partner's life in this fast-paced supernatural thriller from *New York Times* bestselling British fantasy author Simon R. Green

Gideon Sable specializes in stealing the kind of things that can't usually be stolen. But these days the legendary master thief is officially retired from the caper game. Now, instead of pulling off elaborate heists with his crew of supernatural specialists, he runs a magical shop in the heart of London with his partner Annie Anybody. Still, he can't resist occasionally going out in the night to steal things when Annie's not looking. For old times' sake – and for the joy of the con.

But after one of his late-night illicit jaunts, Gideon returns to the shop to find that while he's been stealing, someone else has been hard at work . . . stealing from him. *I have taken Annie Anybody*, reads the note on the countertop. If you ever want to see her again, you must find and steal Time's Arrow. You have forty-eight hours.

Stealing the legendary Arrow isn't a challenge; it's certain death. But Gideon will stop at nothing to save Annie from their unknown enemy – with or without the help of his talented, terrifying former crew . . .

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