

# SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

## CASE FILE # 11

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### AUTHOR SIGNINGS

KELLEY ARMSTRONG,  
EDO VAN BELKOM, and  
GEMMA FILES.

This is the big event of the year. On Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> we welcome 3 of Canada's best horror writers. **Kelley Armstrong**, who signed in July, wrote the novels "Bitten", "Stolen" and "The Haunted" - just to name a few.

**Edo Van Belkom**, who used to host *Scream* (The Horror Channel) has written several novels and will be releasing "Lone Wolf" this month. He also has a young adult series "Be Afraid" and "Be Very Afraid." He has won the Bram Stoker and Aurora Awards for his work.

**Gemma Files** has written two novels, "Kissing Carrion" and "The Worm in Every Heart." Gemma's short story "The Emperor's Old Bones" won the 1999 International Horror Guild award for best short fiction and is featured in "The Worm in Every Heart." **WARNING:** Definitely not bedtime reading.

### STORE HOURS

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Closed

Wed, Thurs, Fri - 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday - 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday - 1 pm to 5 pm

\* **Closed Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving**

**COME VISIT US AT  
THE ST. LAWRENCE MARKET  
BOOK SHOW ON SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup>. FROM 10 am  
TO 4:30pm. LOCATED AT 92  
FRONT ST. EAST ON THE  
CORNER OF FRONT AND  
JARVIS IN TORONTO.**

## **NEW EVIDENCE:**

### **MICHAEL BADEN & LINDA KENNEY – “REMAINS SILENT”**

Don't laugh but I first ordered this for my "True Crime Addicts" but when I received it and started reading the inside flap I realized that it's a work of fiction by this husband and wife team. He's a forensic pathologist and has examined the remains of Tsar Nicholas II and has served on trials including Claus Von Bulow and OJ Simpson. She's a lawyer that has appeared on Court TV, CNN and MSNBC. Fans of Patricia Cornwell and Kathy Reichs this may be the start of a new series to include on your list of favorites.

First edition hardcover published by Knopf. \$32.95

### **JEAN RAE BAXTER – “A TWIST OF MALICE”**

Jean is the first return author we've had. We've been looking forward to the release of her first novel. It is a collection of short stories based in a reality where nothing is as it seems or as it should be. Very dark.

First edition trade paper published by Seraphim Editions. \$19.95

### **ALICE BLANCHARD – “LIFE SENTENCES”**

This is the fourth novel by Blanchard. Her last book was entitled "The Breathmaker" and was the Today Show's Book Club selection. Boston Research Scientist Daisy Hubbard is close to finding a cure for the disease that killed her brother. But when her sister in LA goes missing, Daisy leaves the comfort of the lab to go to LA where she meets LAPD detective Jack Makowski. Together they search for Daisy's sister. It's not long until Daisy figures out there is more to this than meets the eye. Daisy's biggest question is "How does the kidnapper know so much about her scientific research?"

First edition hardcover published by Warner Books. \$33.95

### **CAROLA DUNN – “FALL OF A PHILANDERER”**

This is the fourteenth novel in the Daisy Dalrymple mystery series. Fans of Agatha Christie, Rhys Bowen and Martha Grimes will enjoy this series. Daisy Dalrymple is three months pregnant and looking forward to a holiday in a small coastal town called Westcombe. But before she even has time to put her feet up, the local philanderer is found dead at the foot of a sea cliff. Daisy, along with her husband Chief Inspector Alec Flecher of Scotland Yard, have to put an end to their vacation in order to find the killer.

First edition hardcover published by St. Martin's Press. \$31.95

### **KARIN FOSSUM – “CALLING OUT FOR YOU”**

This is the fourth novel in the Inspector Sejer mystery. Fans of Ian Rankin will love this series. Gunder Jomann returns from India to his quite little Norwegian town a newly married man. On the day his new bride is supposed to arrive Gunder's sister is rushed to the hospital. Gunder sends a taxi to meet his bride at the airport. The taxi comes home empty. It isn't long after that an Indian woman is found bludgeoned to death in a nearby meadow. Now Sejer and his colleague Skarre must head a murder inquiry into what

seems like an unpremeditated, motiveless act of violence. Everyone is guilty until proven innocent.

First edition trade paper published by Harvill of London. \$24.95

**TESS GERRITSEN – “VANISH”**

Boston Medical Examiner Maura Isles opens the body bag and receives the scare of her life when the corpse before her opens its eyes. The undead woman quickly kills a security officer and takes several hostages....one of them is pregnant, Jane Rizzoli. Now Maura must team up with Jane's husband FBI agent Gabriel Dean to find this mysterious killer's identity. Only Jane, trapped with the armed madwoman, holds the key to the mystery...if she survives.

Third edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books. \$32.95

**SUSAN HILL – “THE PURE IN HEART”**

Susan Hill is a longtime writer. Her first novel came out in 1961 and she has written some thirty odd titles since. “The Pure in Heart” is the second novel in the Detective Chief Inspector Simon Serrailer series. A little boy is snatched as he stands at the front gate of his home waiting for his ride to school. A severely handicapped young woman hovers between life and death. An ex-con finds it impossible to go straight.

First edition hardcover published by Chatto & Windus of London. \$35.00

**ANNE PERRY – “ANGELS IN THE GLOOM”**

This is the third novel in the World War I series. Once again we're following the Reavleys through the front lines of the Battle of Ypres to the secret world of the British intelligence. Anne Perry has shown us once again just how diverse of a writer she is. Whether she writes about the Victorian era, the French Revolution or World War I, her writing and research are the best.

First edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books New York. \$36.00

**CATHERINE SAMPSON – “OUT OF MIND”**

Robin Ballantyne has just returned to work after an extended maternity leave. She decides she is going to do a documentary on missing persons especially after the disappearance of war correspondent Melanie Jacobs in England. Only as Robin delves into the investigation does she encounter a wall of silence even the last man to see Melanie leaves to clear mines in Cambodia rather than talk to police. The final blow comes when Robin's boss orders her to drop the story. With that Robin plunges herself into the case full force.

First edition hardcover published by Mysterious Press New York. \$34.00

**JOHN SAUL – “PERFECT NIGHTMARE”**

You put your house up for sale and the realtor schedules an open house. Who's to say who comes in? Who did you just let into your home? To see your private things, like the photos you keep on your dresser. Who has just entered your child's bedroom? What if he or she is more than just a prospector buyer? Kara Marshall's daughter has gone missing

and the police think it's just another moody teenager run away from home. But Kara, with the aid of a friend, starts to make a connection between open houses and missing persons.

First edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books New York. \$34.00

### **ZOE SHARP – “FIRST DROP”**

Even as I write about this novel, I have only one copy left. At the Bouchercon Awards, the fans were making a big deal of this novel. Let me introduce you to Charlie Fox, who has just started her new career as a bodyguard. All Charlie has to do is guard the gawky fifteen-year-old son of a rich computer programmer in Fort Lauderdale. Sounds easy? But it is suspected that there will be an attempt to kidnap the kid. Worst yet Charlie's ex-lover and the rest of the bodyguard company have disappeared from the face of the earth. Now someone wants the kid and he is willing to kill anyone that gets in the way.

First American edition hardcover published by Thomas Dunne Books New York. \$32.00

### **KARIN SLAUGHTER – “FAITHLESS”**

This is Karin's sixth novel featuring Dr. Sara Linton, a pediatrician and coroner for Grant County Georgia. The victim was buried alive in the Georgia Woods then killed in a horrifying fashion. This novel bring together the strands of interlocking lives, family secrets and hidden passions with one astounding truth: the identity of a killer who is more evil and dangerous than anyone could have guessed.

First edition hardcover published by Delacorte Press New York. \$32.00

### **FRED VARGAS – “SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR”**

Now before you ask “Who's this guy?” Fred is a woman. She was born in Paris and is a historian and archaeologist by profession. Commissaire Adamsberg is an extremely intelligent man who has a fragile memory. In the French Alps, a cow is found with its throat torn open and later one of the villagers is found dead. People begin to suspect a werewolf and turn to a beardless villager called Massart (legend has it that werewolves have no body hair). Adamsberg is sent for and finds himself fighting against the deep-rooted mysteries of one village's history and a very present problem: wolves.

First edition trade paper published by Harvill of London. \$30.00

### **NEW PAPERBACK'S:**

LINDSAY DAVIS – “The Accuser's” \$10.00

LINDSAY DAVIS – “A Body in the Bath House” \$10.00

MARGARET DOODY – “The Secrets of Life”. 3<sup>rd</sup> novel in the Aristotle series. \$10.00

BERRY EISLER – “Rain Fall”. Author's 1<sup>st</sup> novel in the John Rain series. \$10.00

KARIN FOSSUM – “Don't Look Back”. First novel. \$10.00

KARIN FOSSUM – “He Who Fears the Wolf”. Second Novel. \$10.00

DAVID HEWSON – “A Season for the Dead”. 2<sup>nd</sup> novel in the Costa series. \$10.00

CARL HIAASEN – “Lucky You”. \$10.00

MICHAEL JECKS – “The Last Templar”. Author's 5<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00

MICHAEL JECKS – “Belladonna at Belstone”. Author's 8<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00

MICHAEL JECKS – “The Sticklepath Stranger”. Author’s 12<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
MICHAEL JECKS – “The Outlaws of Ennor”. Author’s 16<sup>th</sup> novel SIGNED. \$10.00  
MICHAEL JECKS – “The Tolls of Death”. Author’s 17<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
HENNING MANKELL – “The White Lioness”. Author’s 3<sup>rd</sup> novel. \$10.00  
HENNING MANKELL – “Sidetracked”. Author’s 5<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
HENNING MANKELL – “The Fifth Woman”. Author’s 6<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
PETER ROBINSON – “Gallows View”. 1<sup>st</sup> novel. \$10.00  
PETER ROBINSON – “Aftermath”. 12<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
PETER ROBINSON – “The Summer That Never Was”. 13<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
MINETTE WALTERS – “The Sculptress”. Author’s 2<sup>nd</sup> novel. \$10.00  
MINETTE WALTERS – “The Echo”. Author’s 5<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
MINETTE WALTERS – “The Shape of Snakes”. Author’s 7<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00  
MINETTE WALTERS – “Fox Evil”. Author’s 9<sup>th</sup> novel. \$10.00

And many more new titles...

## DON’S PICKS:

If you remember the last newsletter I was taking off to Chicago for the Bouchercon Awards. Right off the bat let’s get the award winners out of the way:

**William Kent Krueger** won best novel for the novel “**Blood Hollow**”.

**Harley Jane Kozak** won best first novel for the novel “**Dating Dead Men**”.

**Jason Starr** won best paperback original for the novel “**Twisted City**”.

Those are just the three big awards. I do have copies of Blood Hollow and Twisted City in paperback and I’m trying to get copies of Dating Dead Men in first edition hardcover. But no promises.

Anyways we loved Chicago. It’s such a beautiful city. Check out our website to see some photos of us and the ‘Canadian Contingent’ at the show and out on the street. We enjoyed an architectural boat tour of the city and jumped on a bus for “The Untouchables Tour” that took us to the places where all the big mob events took place (from the Dillenger shooting to the St. Valentines Massacre wall). It was amazing to see the Biograph Theater still untouched. Unfortunately the rest of the tour was “See that parking spot. That’s where the guy died. And that empty lot is where Al Capone’s office was.” Sad really. Anyways, I got to see Max Allan Collins, John Connolly and Dennis Lehane -- that alone is worth the trip.

As far as my picks, I completely sold out of Elizabeth Becka’s “Trace Evidence”. This book is HOT! I don’t know how collectable it will be because I’m sure they’ve published a boatload because the whole CSI concept is so popular. But I was able to get a few more copies in first edition. I recommend this one for the Patricia Cornwell, Kathy Reichs fan. Right now I’m reading Karin Fossum’s “He Who Fears The Wolf” and I’m really enjoying it. I really think this is a new author for the fans of the Ian Rankin fan club.

## **BOOK CLUB**

Come join us on **Thursday October 13th at 7 p.m.** to review Agatha Christie's "**Lord Edgware Dies**" previously published as "Thirteen for Dinner" and on **Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.** to review "**Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**" by Mark Haddon.

**The following review is by JANET COSTELLO, head of our book club:**

**The African Quest** is a traditional mystery set in modern times. Antiques dealer Lara McClintoch is leading several of her customers on a tour of Tunisia. Not long into the trip, one of her party is found dead in the pool. Cause of death is assumed to be an accident. But soon there are other mishaps. Fearing this disastrous trip will bring down her business, Lara begins digging for answers.

An excellently depicted locale and a tough, slightly offbeat lead character make this a fun read. The solution is fair with enough clues to solve it before the solution is revealed. Ms. Hamilton was kind enough to join the book club for our discussion of the book. In addition to regaling us with new tales of historical relics and her travels, she impressed us most when she shared that what rewards her in being a published author. She is most delighted by a reader changing their outlook with regard to historical artifacts.

While her mysteries may be fiction, when it comes to a love of mystery and antiques, Lyn Hamilton delivers the real thing. Enjoy.

## **THE GAME IS AFOOT:**

Match the Canadian author to his / her character.

Engel	Banks
Jennings	Walker
Barclay	Murdoch
Robinson	Reed
Mofina	Cooperman
Aubert	Minogue
Brady	Portal
Hamilton	Kohler
Gordon	Lacey
Janes	Henry
Bowers	McClintoch

## **Fan Reviews**

This review is from Jeff Schofield, a regular customer at Scene of the Crime.

### **THIS DAME FOR HIRE – Sandra Scoppettone**

In “This Dame For Hire” the author introduces us to her newest character Faye Quick, a reluctant private eye in New York City in the 1940’s. Her boss and just about every other young man is over seas fight in the war, so he leaves her in charge of the agency while he’s gone.

It starts off quickly as Faye literally trips over the dead body of a girl (Claudette West) while walking home. Four months later the girl’s parents hire Faye to look into the murder because the police have not been able to solve it.

As she starts working the case, she finds out that Claudette has more than one boyfriend and the family has a few skeletons rattling around in the closet.

The author has provided her with quite a few off beat pals who help her, including a policeman and a psychic. I’m usually skeptical of psychics and the author has not changed my opinion of their usefulness. Still she manages to make you feel you are in the 40’s most of the time and she names all her characters by mixing up movie stars names of the 30’s and 40’s.

I found the plot adequate although the solution was somewhat predictable. This is a light read with minimal violence and a likable, if somewhat venerable heroine.

Scene of the Crime wants to thank Jeff for his review of this novel. We encourage you the reader and fan to do the same. If you’ve bought a book from us and feel strongly about it (good or bad) then send in your review to let others know.

## **SCENE OF THE CRIME’S MOST WANTED:**

This is a new section that will introduce you to new authors and who knows maybe we’ll strike a cord and you’ll think “Hey this guy/woman doesn’t sound bad.”

This month I picked an author we had in the store back in June. **Chris Thompson** “Burlington’s Man of Mystery”. Let’s give you a little back ground. Chris Thompson was born in London, England. He studied engineering in both London and Toronto and worked in engineering and executive capacities right across Europe, Asia and North America.

While reading his way through Alistair MacLean epic adventures, he turned to his wife and said I could write better than this. Her response was “do it.”

And he did.

“For some, revenge is a revered vision, a sublime dream worth any cost wherein the perpetrator’s pleasure is in direct proportion to the victim’s anguish.” (directly taken from Chris’ novel “What Goes Around.”)

But as usual Chris did not meet success right off the bat. Being jostled from one direction to the next by the turbulent waters of the publishing industry and being a man of action himself Chris decided enough is enough. He started his own publishing company called Books Are Contagious and in 2002 BAC (as they are known) released its first novel “**What Goes Around**”.

Now fast forward to the year 2005, Chris' novel has met with good success and because of the success of the first novel, it was a small task selling the second novel "**A Corrupt Means**" to Publish America (a publishing house that specializes in new and upcoming authors).

There is no release date for the novel "**A Corrupt Means**" but Chris has been given the end of October as a rough time frame. I'm looking forward to this very intelligent, never ending action thriller.

So come out and meet the "**Mystery Man of Burlington**" at the launch of "**A Corrupt Means**" on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2006. More details to come.

## COLLECTORS CORNER

Here is just a few collectable books that have arrived at the store:

**THOMAS HARRIS** – "*RED DRAGON*". First edition of the first brief appearance of Hannibal Lector. **SIGNED** by Harris on the title page. Published in 1981 by Putnam of New York. Even though the book Red Dragon is not a hard find, a Thomas Harris signature is. Canadian \$1400.00

**THOMAS HARRIS** – "*SILENCE OF THE LAMBS*". First edition of the second Hannibal Lector novel. **SIGNED** by Harris on the title page. Published in 1988 by St. Martin's Press New York. Canadian \$2350.00

**WEIRD TALES** – "*SEPTEMBER 1946*". Features an original **Robert Bloch** short story titled "**Enoch**" and the republication of the poem "**The Port**" by **H.P. Lovecraft**. Has a trace of spine fading, in near fine condition. Canadian \$70.00

**WEIRD TALES** – "*MARCH 1952*". Features the novelette **The Horror at Red Hook** by **H.P. Lovecraft** originally published in 1927 by Popular Fiction and the short story **The Place of Desolation** by **August Derleth**. In very good condition. Canadian \$40.00

## AFTER HOURS:

Well as you can see we've made some slight changes to the newsletter. I hope you enjoy it. As well I'm interested in your thoughts let me know what you think of the newsletter. Let me know what changes you think should be made. If you read a book that you really think is a great read and you would like to share it with others send me a review. But the greatest thing you can do for me is pass the newsletter on to someone else. Bring a friend to the shop.

And wait until November. I'm trying to organize the first Bronte Children Choirs contest with all the local secondary schools. Nothing is set in concrete, not even the above mentioned name. But it's within its first steps.

I'm looking forward to Halloween – it is Brody's favorite holiday (not having anything to do with dressing up as the greatest villains of all time). But with everything we have planned and the fact that the business has survived it's first year. It's all very exciting.

On a final note I hope you've been able to catch an episode of "**Bones**" on Tuesday night at 8:00 pm on FOX. It's produced by Kathy Reichs and is supposedly based on her life. I don't know if that is exactly true but it's a decent show. A little watered down to fit the mainstream viewer ship but still I'm enjoying it. (Both Jen and I think the whole holographic thing they do is too much) but just the same we both like it.

Secondly there's a new show called **The Alibi**. You can find it on Saturday's at 8pm on Access Television, Tuesday's on Book TV at 12:30 pm, 8:30 pm or Wednesday at 4:00 am. or Friday at 9 pm on the CLT channel. Finally if you miss all the above, you still catch on the Court TV Canada at 7:00 am, 6 pm and 11 pm. But the Court TV Canada episode is a week behind. Thank God for satellite, eh. A thousand channels all the same show but different times. Anyways, Alibi sounds like a good show -- it showcases different mystery novels and authors. Not just Canadian. Future episodes are showcasing "Out" by Natsuo Kirino, Dark Places by Jon Evans, The Closers by Michael Connelly, Black Fly Season by Giles Blunt. Tonight as we're putting the final touches on the newsletter they're showcasing Peter Robinson's Strange Affair.

**Thank you for you support and happy haunting,**

Don