

SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

CASE FILE # 16

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"UPCOMING EVENTS"

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER: I'm happy to say that this event is sold out. **On Saturday March 4th** anyone who purchased tickets is encouraged to arrive as close to **7:00 pm** as possible and thank you for your support. For those of you who missed this event yet wanted to buy tickets -- we will be holding this event again in the future.

DA VINCI CODE: I've already had to order extra copies of the paperback. If you want a copy, **pre-order** so you don't miss out. **Wednesday March 29th** is the date the books will be going on the shelf.

LINWOOD BARCLAY: Winner of Scene of the Crime's first "**Bloody Butcher Award**", Linwood Barclay has announced that he will launch the paperback edition of "**BAD GUYS**" at our store. This will be a chance for everyone to show up and let Linwood know just how much we enjoyed the book. **Everyone is invited.** The store will close at 6:00 pm and then **re-open at 6:30 p.m. for the party.** Food and beverages will be served. Copies of "**Bad Guys**" will be available for signing. **Thursday April 27th.**

LYN HAMILTON: One of Scene of the Crime's favorite authors will at the store **SIGNING** her latest novel in the Lara McClintoch series, "**THE ORKNEY SCROLL**". Lyn is one of our bestsellers, the book club read the "African Quest" back in September and everyone loved it. In fact, our group has asked to read a second Lyn Hamilton novel. For more details see our book club section. Lyn will join us on **SATURDAY MAY 6TH from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.**

MAUREEN JENNINGS: This event will happen – it has just stalled out. There are so many people involved; it takes days just playing telephone tag. Watch for more details to come.

PETER ROBINSON: It has been confirmed that Peter will be making a stop at Scene of the Crime but no date has been announced. More details to come.

BLOODY WORDS: **Bloody Words VII: Laugh! I thought I'd Die!** will be held **June 9- 11th** at the Toronto Marriot Eaton Centre. **Guests of Honor: Mary Jane Maffini and Stuart Kaminsky.** **Admission: \$175per person. Check their website.**

TORONTO BOOK FAIR: Come visit our booth at the **33rd semi-annual Toronto Book Fair** at **St. Lawrence Market**, 92 Front Street (at Jarvis St). The show will be held on **Sunday April 30th from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** This is a wonderful show for collectors and readers alike. **Admission is \$5.00**

NEW EVIDENCE:

M.C. BEATON – “*DEATH OF A DREAMER*”

Hamish Macbeth is back in his **21st mystery**. The winter storms are blown out to sea. An artist has moved into Lochdudh and makes it through the winter. Even though spring is blooming, death visits the quiet village. Macbeth’s superiors are quick to close the case. But as ex-friends return to haunt Macbeth, so does this case and a killer.

First edition hardcover published by Mysterious Press. \$33.00

JOANNE FLUKE – “*CHERRY CHEESECAKE MURDER*”

Hannah Swensen is back with another amazing recipe - this time for cheesecake! For those of you who do not know this series: Hannah owns a bakery called the Cookie Jar. When Hollywood comes to town everyone is excited. Cameras are aimed and the film is rolling. But one of the actors using a prop gun for a suicide scene is accidentally killed. Did I say accidentally?

First edition hardcover published by Kensington Press. \$31.00

STEVE HOCHENSMITH – “*HOLMES ON THE RANGE*”

I spoke to Steve at the Chicago Bouchercon in September and he told me about his book. I instantly fell in love with the concept. Two cowboys with a love for Sherlock Holmes mysteries are in Montana during the 1890’s when they discover a body. Together the two of them set to work using Sherlock Holmes’ techniques to solve the murder - a totally original idea!

First edition hardcover published by St. Martin’s Press. \$30.00

HENNING MANKELL – “*BEFORE THE FROST*”

First time in paperback, this is considered to be the first novel in the Linda Wallander series. She’s made appearances before in the Kurt Wallander novel but this time it’s Kurt making the guest appearance.

Trade paper - part of the “World of Crime” series by Vintage Canada. An awesome little series. \$20.00

JAMES PATTERSON – “*5TH HORSEMAN*”

Co-written with Maxine Paetro, who also helped Patterson with **4th of July**. Given a clean bill of health, a patient is just about to leave the hospital when suddenly she collapses and dies. Doctors are baffled by the sudden death. But it’s not the only one. Yuki and Boxer start to investigate the deaths and soon someone close to the Women’s Murder Club falls ill with the same symptoms. Could it be the club has uncovered something? Something that the hospital doesn’t want anyone to know? First edition hardcover published by Little Brown. \$38.00

PHIL RICKMAN – “THE SMILE OF A GHOST”

The nephew of DS Andy Mumford fell from the ruins of Ludlow and died. But something about the case is wrong. When Mumford’s ailing mother becomes convinced she is seeing her dead grandson, Mumford enlists the aid of Merrily Watkins - a parish priest, single mom & deliverance consultant to the Diocese of Hereford.

First edition hardcover published by Macmillan. \$37.00

C.J. SANSOM – “WINTER IN MADRID”

Here is the big novel of this winter. Mr. Sansom won an Ellis Peter Dagger in England for his historical novel “**Dark Fires**” featuring hunchbacked lawyer Matthew Shardlake. But he does an about face and this novel settles into Spain 1940 for a spy thriller.

First edition hardcover published by Macmillan. \$35.00

FRED VARGAS – “THE THREE EVANGELISTS”

Sophia Simeonidis wakes up one morning to find a tree has appeared over night in the garden of her Paris home. She gets her neighbors – Vandoosler (an ex-cop fired for helping a murderer escape) and three historians Mathias, Marc and Lucien (also known as the three evangelists)- to help her dig up the tree. When Sophia’s body is found burned to ashes in a car, Vandoosler and the three evangelists set out to find her killer.

Trade paper, another novel in the “World of Crime” series. This one has sky rocketed to the top of my reading list. \$20.00

PAPERBACKS

DONALD HAMILTON – “NIGHT WALKER” Hard Case Crime #016. \$9.00

LYN HAMILTON – The complete series. “The Xibalba Murders” \$10.00
“The Maltese Goddess” \$10.00
“The Moche Warrior” \$10.00
“The Celtic Riddle” \$10.00
“The African Quest” \$10.00
“The Etruscan Chimera” \$10.00
“The Thai Amulet” \$10.00
“The Magyar Venus” \$10.00

DENNIS LEHANE – The complete series. “A Drink Before the War” \$10.00
“Darkness, Take My Hand” \$10.00
“Sacred” \$10.00
“Gone, Baby Gone” \$10.00
“Prayers for Rain” \$10.00

WILLIAM POWELL – “SAY IT WITH BULLETS” Hard Case Crime #18 \$9.00

RICHARD STARK – “THE MAN WITH THE GETAWAY FACE” 2nd Parker. \$19.00

CHARLES WILLIAMS – “A TOUCH OF DEATH” Hard Case Crime #19 \$9.00

DON'S PICKS:

I enjoyed the latest book club pick “**Don't Look Back**” by **Karin Fossum** - but we'll get back to that a little later on in the newsletter. I finished **David Hewson's “The Lizard's Bite”** When I started reading it, I found the book a bit stilted at the beginning. But once the novel got on its way, I found it to be written in the style that I have become accustomed to for a Hewson novel. I spoke to him just before finishing it and I mentioned I was reading it. He told me that he had “tried something different.” Not what you want to hear from one of your favorite authors. Anyways it worked. (Thank God.) This book shocked me out of my tree. Something happens during this novel and I almost found myself screaming at the book. It's great when a book stirs up feelings in you -- and it can't be easy.

David Hewson's “The Lizard's Bite” comes out the **first week in March**. I ordered ten copies and already have most of them sold.

SCENE OF THE CRIME'S MOST WANTED:

This month, I thought we would examine the works of a very popular **American author, Dennis Lehane**. Who you ask? I know because I get this quite a bit in the store. Nobody knows who Dennis is. But you do. Mr. Lehane is popular in the main stream because of a little movie called “**Mystic River.**” A movie made from the book of the same name. Now to be honest with you I didn't care for Mystic River at all. I read through half the book and only watched the movie because it was Dennis Lehane. But let's back up for a minute. I said he was popular because of “Mystic River” -- of course with **the picture winning 2 Oscars and the book winning 40 out of 50 awards** it was nominated for speaks volumes. Maybe there's something wrong with me?

But it is his two characters:” **Patrick Kenzie**” and “**Angela Gennaro**” that make Dennis so popular. They are featured in five novels before “Mystic River” ever came on the scene. It is probably one of the strongest detective series every to hit the market. In each novel, he takes his characters to the brink of destruction and then they step over the edge. When I cornered him at the Toronto Bouchercon in 2004, I told him that after I read the first novel in the series, “A Drink Before The War”, I never thought there'd be a second one. He smiled and agreed saying that after his fourth novel,” **Gone, Baby Gone**”; he didn't know if the two characters could ever recover.

Mr. Lehane won a **Shamus Award for Best first novel for “A Drink Before the War”**.

He remains one of the easiest authors to sell in our store. I recommend his books and days later the same customer is back asking for the rest of the series. So if you like your mysteries rough and tough. Give Lehane a try. You won't regret it. **BUBBA**

ROGOWSKI LIVES!

We have the complete Angela and Patrick series in the store.

“A Drink Before the War” \$10.00

“Darkness, Take My Hand” \$10.00

“Sacred” \$10.00

“Gone, Baby Gone” \$10.00

“Prayers for Rain” \$10.00

"COLLECTOR'S CORNER"

ROBERT BLOCH "THE MAN WHO COLLECTED POE" First appearance of this short story about a man who collects the works of Edgar Allan Poe and yet is also haunted by Poe himself. In very good condition. \$35.00

JOHN D. MACDONALD "PICKUP" First appearance of this short story in any form. Cosmopolitan February 1948. In near fine condition. \$30.00

CHARLES WILLIAMS "AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA" First edition of this paperback original. An author of such classics as "Dead Calm" (which later became the Billy Zane movie of the same name) and "Hell Hath No Fury" (which became "Hot Spot" with Don Johnson). In February, Hard Case Crime republished his novel "A Touch of Death". In fine condition. \$60.00

BOOK CLUB

Our club met at the beginning of the month to discuss the novel "**Don't Look Back**" by Swedish author **Karin Fossom**. This is **Karin's first novel and winner of the Glass Key Award for best first Swedish novel**. Before writing crime novels, she wrote poetry. Fifteen members showed up to the meeting: twelve members enjoyed the novel and three thought it was so-so. No one said they didn't like it. One of our best picks yet as far as the group agreeing on the book.

Inspector Sejer is called to Kollen Mountain to investigate a missing child case. Nothing in this quiet village is what it appears to be. That's a bad synopsis of the novel -- but anything I say will give away parts of the plot and that's not fair. Henning Mankell and Ian Rankin fans -- this book is right up your alley.

WHAT THE CLUB IS READING AND REVIEWING IN UPCOMING MONTHS:

March: Thursday March 9th. **P.D. James** "Cover Her Face."

April: Thursday April 13th. **Richard Stark** "The Mourner."

May: Thursday May 11th. **Lyn Hamilton** "The Xiabala Murders" **Lyn Hamilton will be our guest author.**

June: Thursday June 15th. **Linwood Barclay** "Bad Guys." **Linwood Barclay will be our guest author.**

July: Thursday July 13th. **Rex Stout** "Fer-De-Lance".

August: Thursday August 10th. **Erin Hart** "Haunted Ground."

September: Thursday September 14th. **John D. MacDonald** "The Green Ripper."

***Please note dates and books may change.** May and June have been changed to fit the needs of the group or guest author. The book club meets at **7 p.m.** at the store. Coffee, tea and snacks are served. All are welcome.

"THE GAME IS AFOOTE"

Special thanks to Christina Connor who won last month's contest (this is two months in a row). We might have a new Jeopardy champion. Where's Patricia - off on vacation? Here's the answers for last month's contest: 1. Louise Kincaid - P.J. Parrish, 2. Zack Walker - Linwood Barclay, 3. John Cardinal - Giles Blunt, 4. Sister Frevisse - Margaret Frazer, 5. Nathan Heller - Max Allan Collins, 6. Porfiry Rostnikov - Stuart Kaminsky, 7. Jacqueline Daniels - J.A. Konrath, 8. Nick Morrelli - Alex Kava, 9. Jack Reacher - Lee Child, 10. Myron Bolitar - Harlan Coben.

This month test your knowledge on Sherlock Holmes:

1. From what story did the "Boot Makers of Toronto" get their name?
2. In what story did Sherlock Holmes say "Elementary, my dear Watson?"
3. In the movies, who played from Sherlock Holmes in 1939 to 1946?
4. Who played Sherlock Holmes from 1980 to 1990 on television?
5. What was the name of Holmes' arch enemy?
6. What was Sherlock Holmes brother's name?
7. Who writes the series featuring Irene Adler and Sherlock Holmes?
8. Who does Sherlock Holmes and Mary Russell team up with in San Francisco in the novel "Locked Rooms"?
9. Who wrote "Sherlock Holmes vs. Dracula"?
10. What was the title of the first Sherlock Holmes story ever to be published?

Good luck to everyone!

"AFTER HOURS"

I just wanted to mention that I'm getting really excited about the upcoming murder mystery dinner. I've got my Mounties outfit and I'm getting PUMPED! Tickets are sold out, the response has been excellent. I've been going over Vicki Delany's play and I am sad to say that the seven of us (actors) will in no way ever do it justice. It's exactly what you expect to get from Vicki - an awesome job.

Don't forget Bloody Words. It's in June 9th to 11th. Some great names are already signed up - check out their website. It's well worth the money. What else? Not much. Just stop by.

See you then,

Don