

# SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

## CASE FILE # 17

2464 Lakeshore Rd. West Oakville L6L 1H8

Phone # 905 469 6731 Fax # 905 562 7960

Email: [murdermysterybooks@yahoo.ca](mailto:murdermysterybooks@yahoo.ca)

Website: [www.murdermysteriesandmore.com](http://www.murdermysteriesandmore.com)

**EASTER HOURS:** Please note: The store will be closed Easter weekend – Friday April 14<sup>th</sup>, Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday April 16<sup>th</sup> -- reopening regular hours on Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Easter Bunny likes baskets and so do we – don't forget our **Crime and Tea Baskets** make great gifts for that crime buff in the family. **5 books + tea + wrapped and ready in a beautiful basket = \$60.00.** Better than chocolate bunnies.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**LINWOOD BARCLAY PAPERBACK LAUNCH:** Make sure you join us Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for what will be a great party. Linwood will be signing copies of his latest paperback release, "Bad Guys." Linwood won last year's "Bloody Butcher Award" for "Bad Move" as chosen by book club members as their favorite read of 2005. This is your chance to meet Linwood and tell him just how much you enjoy the Zack Walker series. So come out. There will be finger foods, drinks and of course Linwood. WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT?

**TORONTO BOOKFAIR:** If you have time, come and see Scene of the Crime at our booth at the 33<sup>rd</sup> semi-annual Toronto Book Fair located at the St. Lawrence Market, 92 Front Street. This is one of our favorite events because more than 30 booksellers crowd into one room. It makes for some interesting times and great book buying. (Jenn usually comes home mad because I have spent more than I made.) The show is **Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** The best bargains are found in the morning or there are the last-minute deals late in the day. Always fun.

**LYN HAMILTON:** Due to personal reasons, Lyn will be coming to Scene of the Crime at a later date for a signing of her newest book "The Orkney Scroll". Lyn is one of Scene of the Crime's favorite authors so look for more details in our next newsletter.

**MAUREEN JENNINGS:** *Scene of the Crime*, in conjunction with the **Bronte Historical Society**, welcomes **Maureen Jennings** for a talk and signing at our store on **Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup>**. The topic of Maureen's speech will be "**Are There No Prisons? Are There No Workhouses? Poverty in Victorian Toronto.**" She will also be bringing samples of her famous "**Pauper Soup**" for attendees to try. For every sale of her newest book, "**Vices of my Blood**", \$2.00 dollars will be donated to the Bronte Historical Society.

**PETER ROBINSON:** Still waiting for a date – but it will be sometime in May.

**BRIAN FREEMAN:** Brian is the author of "**Immoral**" - a new thriller that is nominated for an **Edgar Award for best first mystery**. The Edgar's will be awarded on **Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup>** and Mr. Freeman has agreed to visit the store on **Thursday June 8 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Not only will this be *Scene of the Crime's* **first international author** but if I were a betting man, he'll be a newly-crowned Edgar winner. **BIG STUFF!** Watch for more details.

**BLOODY WORDS VII:** Where do hard core mystery fans go to be surrounded by fellow book lovers and authors? The answer is easy -- **Bloody Words**. Check out their site [www.bloodywords.com](http://www.bloodywords.com) for a listing of who is attending. So far the list includes Peter Robinson, Rick Mofina and Mary Jane Maffini. This is the ultimate weekend for any crime buff. See you at the **Toronto Eaton Centre Marriot June 9 -11th**.

**HARD CASE CRIME NOIR BOOK CLUB:** A new book club. Starting **Thursday May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**, *Scene of the Crime* is going to host a second book club. The books will be published by **Hard Case Crime**. All members will be supplied with the upcoming novel for **\$9.00 a month or \$90.00 a year. (That's 12 novels for \$7.50 a month saving you \$18.00)**. The first book the club will read is **Seymour Shubin's "Witness to Myself."** Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. If you are interested, call the store for more details.

## **NEW EVIDENCE**

**GAIL BOWEN:** "**The Further Investigations of Joanne Kilbourn.**"

This is a **trade paper collection of three earlier Joanne Kilbourn novels**. Don't let the title fool you, they aren't new stories just collected. Titles include "**A Colder Kind of Death**" (the fourth novel in the series), "**A Killing Spring**" (the fifth novel in the series) and "**Verdict in Blood**" the sixth novel. First edition of this collection in trade paper format. \$25.00

**ROBERT CRAIS: "The Two Minute Rule."**

The day before Max Holman is finally released from jail, his police officer son and three other out-of-uniform cops are gun down in cold blood. The murders are exposed as a revenge killing and the question of police corruption is raised. Now the only thing on this ex -con's mind is to clear his son's name and catch a killer.

Second edition hardcover published by Simon and Schuster. \$34.50

**LYN HAMILTON: "The Orkney Scroll."**

Lara McClintoch finds her reputation tarnished when one of her wealthiest clients buys a rare Mackintosh writing cabinet on her word, only to learn that it is a fake. The next day Lara finds the dealer who sold it to him dead - with an axe lodged in his head.

First edition hardcover published by Berkley. \$32.00

**JOANNA HINES: "The Murder Bird."**

Fans of Barbara Vine will enjoy this one.

Kirsten Waller, a famous poet, is found dead in her bath in a lonely Cornish cottage. The verdict is suicide.

Only Sam (Kirsten's daughter) has several questions and no answers. One question: where is her mother's journal which held the poem she was working on entitled "The Murder Bird?"

First edition trade paper published by Simon & Schuster London. **SIGNED.**  
\$25.00

**JONATHAN KELLERMAN: "GONE."**

Two young actors vanish on the way home from a rehearsal. Three days later, they are found in the remote mountains of Malibu. But even as the details about this nightmarish event arise, doubts are being raised about the couple's story. Before long the pair is charged as criminals themselves and the court orders a psychological evaluation for both of them. Michaela (one of the two actors) is examined by Alex Delaware and even though he finds her claims of depression and stress are valid, he finds no explanation for the lies. The case is closed, only to be reopened when Michaela is savagely murdered.

First edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books. \$36.00

**JAMES McGEE: "RATCATCHER."**

Hunting down highwaymen is unusual for a Bow Street Runner. The most resourceful of this elite band of investigators, Matthew Hawkwood was surprised to be assigned the case - even if it did involve the murder and mutilation of a naval courier.

First edition hardcover published by Harper Collins London. \$35.00

**ANNE PERRY: "DARK ASSASSIN."**

William Monk is aboard a police patrol boat near the Waterloo Bridge when he witnesses a couple having an intense discussion. Moments later, they plunge into the icy depths of the river. Was it accident or suicide? Monk investigates the life of the couple and learns the woman's father recently committed suicide. Now Monk has three deaths on his hands but after a little digging Monk (and his wife Hester) turn up something terrible that concerns the whole city and plunges the two of them into the darkness of the world beneath the city.

First edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books. \$36.00

**THOMAS PERRY: "NIGHTLIFE."**

A man is shot to death and Portland Homicide Detective Catherine Hobbes has only a couple of blonde hairs to go by. Was there a second victim? Los Angeles underworld figure Hugo Poole has hired Private Detective Joe Pitt to investigate the death of his cousin. Now as the body count continues to rise, Hobbes and Pitt have to work together because maybe their second victim isn't a victim at all - and with each murder she becomes more efficient and more elusive.

First edition hardcover published by Random House. \$35.00

**HAROLD SCHECHTER: "THE TELL-TALE CORPSE."**

Edgar Allan Poe visits his old friend P.T. Barnum. Barnum convinces Poe to travel to Boston for a medical cure that Poe's wife needs and to acquire some particularly garish crime scene evidence for Barnum's American Museum. But once Poe sees the evidence, he makes an immediate deduction. The murder is only one in a string of inexplicable killings. Several deaths later, Poe finds himself leading an investigation with the assistance of an unusual girl named Louisa May Alcott. Soon Poe realizes he has come up against a fellow genius - a genius not of words but of death.

First edition hardcover published by Ballantine Books. \$35.00

**PAPERBACKS**

**COLIN BATEMAN "DRIVING BIG DAVE" \$10.00**

**MEL BRADSHAW "DEATH IN THE AGE OF STEAM" \$24.00**

**"QUARREL WITH THE FOE" SIGNED. \$19.00**

**DAN BROWN "DA VINCI CODE." \$10.00**

**LESLIE GLASS "A KILLING GIFT" \$10.00**

**ANN GRANGER "MIXING WITH MURDER" A Fran Varady mystery. \$10.00**

**GEORGIE HALE "HEAR NO EVIL." \$10.00**

**LYN HAMILTON "THE MOAI MURDERS" \$10.00**

LARRY MILLETT "SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ICE PALACE MURDERS" \$9.00

QUINTIN JARDINE "SKINNER'S MISSION." \$10.00

KATE KINSBURY "NO CLUE AT THE INN." \$10.00

MARTIN O'BRIEN "JACQUOT AND THE WATERMAN" Big noise was made when this novel came out in hardcover. \$10.00

JOHN SANFORD "MORTAL PREY." \$10.00

SEYMOUR SHUBIN "WITNESS TO MYSELF." Number #19 in Hard Case Crime series. \$9.00

KARIN SLAUGHTER "BLINDSIGHTED." \$10.00

"KISSCUT." \$10.00

"INDELIBLE." \$10.00

LAURA WILSON "DYING VOICES." \$10.00

## DON'S PICKS

I read three good books this month. First of all I read **Steve Hockensmith's "HOLMES ON THE RANGE."** I thought I died and went to heaven. This book was awesome. It's about two cowboys: Big Red and Old Red. While out range, they discover Sherlock Holmes tales in a magazine publication. Every night Big Red reads the tales to Old Red (who can't read). The fun begins when they find a trampled body and Old Red starts investigating the death as Sherlock Holmes would. What fun. Several times the conversations between the two cowboys nearly knocked me off the couch. I truly enjoyed this one.

The second book I read was a step aside for me. It was **Dee Lloyd's "Ties That Blind"**. Dee is a local author and a regular attendee at our book club. The book was fast paced and full of action. Fans of the more romantic suspense would really enjoy this novel. The characters work well together and your heart won't stop until the final page of the novel.

Finally, the novel I finished right before starting this newsletter was **J.A. Konrath's "Whiskey Sour"**. I have met Konrath and have recommended his novel several times – hearing nothing but rave reviews about it. So I decided it was time to treat myself. WOW. I really enjoyed it. I enjoyed the character Jacqueline (Jack) Daniels. She is one of the toughest female characters out there. I like how Konrath flips back and forth between Jack's view and the serial killer's view. Violent to the max - hardcore.

## SCENE OF THE CRIME'S MOST WANTED:

**Ian James Rankin.** Yes, I said "Ian Rankin". One of the biggest -- if not the biggest -- names in all of mystery fiction right now.

**Born April 28, 1960 in the Scottish village of Cardenden, he is a graduate of Edinburgh University.** At the age of 12 he created his own pop group (in his head) and started writing lyrics to their songs. His songs later became poems and in University he won several awards for his poetry. Before, after and during university he had several jobs working in a chicken factory, as an alcohol researcher, as a swineherd, as a grape-picker and as a tax collector.

While in university he joined a short-lived punk rock band called "**The Dancing Pigs (Fife's Second Greatest Punk Ensemble).**" (I have looked to see if I could find anything by them on the internet or in used record stores but I heard the band only lasted six months.)

While working as a reporter and then editor for the monthly national magazine "**Hi-Fi Review**", he wrote several experimental novels under the name **Jack Harvey** (his wife's name is Anna Miranda Harvey). One of which was a stand alone featuring the character "**Rebus**". It was a couple of novels later that someone asked Ian "What ever happened to Rebus?" Ian decided to resurrect the character for a second novel, then a third and so on....

He has won several awards for his writing. He has been elected as a Hawthournden Fellow and won the Chandler-Fulbright Award. He has also won two Crime Writer's Association (CWA) Daggers for his short story. In 1997, he won a Macallan Gold Dagger for "**Black and Blue**". In 2004, he won an Edgar Award for his novel "**Resurrection Men**" and in 2005 he was awarded the CWA's Diamond Dagger for life time achievement. He has two honorary doctorates: one from the University of Abertay Dundee and one from the University of St. Andrews. Never mind that he was awarded "**The Order of the British Empire**" in the Golden Jubilee Queen's Birthday Honours List for services in literature in June 2002. ENOUGH! He has more honors than General Patton!

I have met and spoken with Ian Rankin several times: at Bouchercon in Las Vegas and also here in Toronto. When he came to Vegas, he was literally mobbed. I just looked at Jen, gave her about 20 books and said "jump in." Two hours later she looked like she had gone toe to toe with Mike Tyson (only she still had both ears) and all the books signed.

The next day Ian Rankin walked up to our booth and asked: "Do you have anything for me to sign?" He stayed at our booth for an hour joking and laughing -- just being a normal down to earth guy. **Happy Birthday Ian.**

If you would like to read this author's work we have:

**Inspector Rebus paperback novels:**

"Tooth and Nail" Rebus #3 \$7.00

"A Good Hanging" 12 collected Rebus short stories. \$10.00

"Let It Bleed" Rebus #7 \$10.00

"Black and Blue" #8 \$10.00

"Resurrection Men" #13 \$10.00

"A Question of Blood" #14 \$10.00

"Fleshmarket Close" #15 \$10.00

**Rebus Hardcover and Trade papers**

Dead Souls #10 SIGNED Trade paper \$30.00

Set in Darkness # 11 SIGNED Trade paper \$30.00

The Falls # 12 Trade paper \$25.00

Resurrection Men # 13 SIGNED Trade paper \$30.00

A Question of Blood #14 Trade paper \$25.00 and more...

## **COLLECTOR'S CORNER**

**JENNIE MELVILLE: "A NEW KIND OF KILLER AN OLD KIND OF DEATH."**

First edition of the seventh novel in the Charmain Daniels series. Jennie Melville also writes under the name Gwendoline Butler. Published in 1970 by Hodder and Stoughton of London. In fine / fine condition. \$120.00

**C.J.SANSOM: "DISSOLUTION."**

If you remember a couple of months back I had this novel listed at \$90.00. Now copies are going for \$350.00 on the internet because things are really taking off for this author. He now has "**WINTER IN MADRID**" out and we still have a few copies going for \$35.00. For collectors it might be a good investment. Our copy of Dissolution is now going for \$350. In fine/fine first edition state with very rare wrap around ban declaring "A remarkable debut." by P.D. James.

**JASON STARR: "NOTHING PERSONAL."**

First edition of Jason's second novel. Published by Four Walls Eight Windows of New York in 2000. In fine unread condition. \$25.00

**H.G. WELLS: "THE CROQUET PLAYER."**

First American edition of this ghost story by the author of "War of the Worlds." Published in 1937 by Viking of New York. Earlier owner's inscription on first page. In fine/fine condition \$95.00

## BOOKCLUB:

In March the book club met to discuss P.D. James' "**Cover Her Face**". It is James' first book and features the debut appearance of **Adam Dalgliesh**. When the group voted on the book, it was a **fifty - fifty split** whether we enjoyed it or not.

Everyone agreed that they would like to read something more recent to see how much the writer and her style has changed. I was not finished the novel by the time the book club met but found some of the comments regarding the book intriguing. Without giving away the ending, one member said that there was no way the reader could solve this mystery. But once the answer was revealed to me, I started watching for clues.

I thought the story was difficult and she did a good job confusing you -- in the end the reader could have guessed the right suspect but not how the crime was committed.

I found "**Cover her Face**" to be a little stuffy. At first I wanted to put this one down, but once I got into the book I really couldn't help finishing it. Will I pick another PD James novel? Yes, most likely.

### UPCOMING BOOK CLUB PICKS:

Please note this is subject to change:

**THURSDAY APRIL 13: IAN RANKIN'S "FLESHMARKET CLOSE".**

**THURSDAY MAY 11: LYN HAMILTON'S "XIABALA MURDERS."**

**THURSDAY JUNE 15: LINWOOD BARCLAY'S "BAD GUYS." Special Guest appearance by Linwood Barclay.**

**THURSDAY JULY 13: REX STOUT'S "FER-DE-LANCE."**

**THURSDAY AUGUST 10: ERIN HART'S "HAUNTED GROUND."**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14: JOHN D. MACDONALD'S "GREEN RIPPER."**

## THE GAME IS AFOOTE:

Thanks to everyone who participated - the contest in March has been one of our most popular yet. Special thanks to Michael Buck who won this round via email but no one won via mail.

**Answers.** #1 Hound of Baskerville #2 trick question answer is "Never" #3 Basil Rathbone #4 Jeremy Brett was the answer I was looking for but Frank Langella and Paul Guers were also correct #5 Professor Moriarty #6 Mycroft Holmes #7 Caroline Nelson Douglas #8 Laurie R. King #9 Loren D. Estleman and #10 A Study in Scarlet.

**This month focuses on FEMALE INVESTIGATORS AND THEIR  
AUTHORS:**

1. Who is the author of the Kate Martinelli series?
2. Who writes the Faye Quick series?
3. Who writes the Lydia Chin series?
4. Who writes the Mrs. Jefferies series?
5. Who writes the Naomi Blake series?
6. Who writes the Maggie O'Dell series?
7. Who writes the Temperance Brennan series?
8. Who writes the Merrily Watkins series?
9. Who writes the Precious Ramotswe series?
10. Who writes the Linda Wallander series?

**Good luck to everyone!**

## **AFTER HOURS:**

This has been an awesome month. If you've watched the **Maureen Jennings** movies "**Murdoch Mysteries**" you'll be happy to know that the series has been picked up and is going to be made into a television series. The production company has signed on to do one season (13 episodes I think). This is awesome news; I only hope they continue the same quality work that was used for the movies.

Second, a special thanks to **the Boot Makers of Toronto** who visited the store about a week and a half ago. It was very exciting to have them stop by and check out the store.

I recent received an advance reading copy of **Vicki Delany's** upcoming novel "**Burden of Memory.**" Speaking of Vicki Delany, the **Murder Mystery Dinner was a huge success.** It was sold out and I've heard nothing but rave reviews from the people who attended. Right now, we are thinking about holding another event in the upcoming months. If you are interested please let me know and I'll start a list of people who want to be notified when the dates have been established.

Last but not least check out our website. Soren has done an excellent job posting pictures and keeping on top of what's going on. **Thank you, Soren.**

**Happy Easter - and remember read only good books!**  
**DON.**

