

SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

CASE FILE #19

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STORE HOURS:

Mon & Tuesday – Closed

Wed to Friday – 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday 1 pm to 5 pm

Please note: The store will be closed Sunday June 11th (Brody's Piano Recital) and Sunday June 18th (Father's Day).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thank you to everyone who came out to the **Peter Robinson and Maureen Jennings** events. Thank you for your support -- these events are difficult to plan and we need to show our support for the authors as they are taking time out of their busy schedule to join us.

BRIAN FREEMAN: Brian's book "Immoral" did not win an Edgar for "best first novel" – and that's too bad. But just being nominated is an excellent beginning to a long and prosperous writing career. He will be appearing at **Scene of the Crime Books on Thursday June 8th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Most recently, Mr. Freeman's novel has been nominated for England's "Dagger" Award for best first novel. Congrats Brian!

BLOODY WORDS: This is it the biggest crime weekend in Canada - **June 9th, 10th and 11th.** Organizers of the show will be presenting the Arthur Ellis Award as well as the Hammett Award. Some of the biggest names who signed up for Bloody Words are Stuart Kaminsky, Michael Slade, Giles Blunt, Rose Mary Aubert and more. Check them out on the official web site www.bloodywords.com .

VICKI DELANY: Join us for the book launch of Oakville's best crime writer Vicki Delany. Her latest novel is entitled "**BURDEN OF MEMORY.**" Her last author signing was Scene of the Crime's biggest event of the year. If you were here, you will remember it was standing room only. Over 150 people went through our store in a 2-hour time period. Vicki's quickly becoming one of Canada's great mystery writers. Join us on **Saturday July 8th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm.**

NEW EVIDENCE:

LOU ALLIN: "MURDER, EH?"

Northern Realtor Belle Palmer discovers the body of a lady strangled in her bathtub while showing a house to possible buyers. The woman's only child is taken in by Belle as the police start to investigate the crime that could be part of a serial killing. Only after an argument, the child disappears. Now Belle joins the hunt to find the killer and the boy. A Bloody Words author.

First edition oversized paperback by Rendezvous Crime. \$15.00

DAN BROWN: "THE DA VINCI CODE - THE SCREENPLAY."

I don't think a publishing company can put into words how much it loves an author -- until they put together a hardcover version of the movie screenplay! Now you can sit there (after watching the movie) and say "Oh my Lord. Remember when Tom Hanks did that..." There are huge glossy photos of everything. Honestly, this is a first-class book.

First edition, hardcover published by Doubleday. \$47.00

LEE CHILD: "THE HARD WAY."

Jack Reacher is in New York. Alone - just the way he likes it. He's watching a man climb into a Mercedes containing one million dollars. Ransom money -- ransom for Edward Lane's family. Jack job is simple. Follow this man, learn everything he can about the job and then terminate with extreme prodigious. The more Jack works with his employer (Ed), the more he learns about him. Soon Jack figures out that Ed has something big to hide and he is in too deep to stop it.

First edition, this time the American first precedes the UK by two months. Hardcover. \$33.00

ANN CLEEVES: "RAVEN BLACK."

Ann Cleeves is the author of the Inspector Ramsay series. This is a stand alone novel. After a death in their small town, residents soon single out a loner who lives among them. But the startling and vicious way in which the victim died casts a shadow on everyone who knew her.

Second edition, hardcover published by Macmillan. \$20.00

JANE K. CLELAND: "CONSIGNED TO DEATH."

I met Jane at the Chicago Bouchercon last year. She told me she was coming out with her first novel "**Consigned to Death.**" An antiques murder mystery novel. I love the Lyn Hamilton series, so I couldn't wait to see what kind of a spin this one would have.

Josie Prescott has lost her mind...or so her friends think. She has left her high-paying New York auction house job and her boy friend to live on the New Hampshire coast.

Soon, she sets up her own antiques house and is becoming somewhat successful -- when murder wanders into her life. The local police chief thinks Josie is the prime suspect. If Josie wants to salvage her new life, she has to come up with an answer to this puzzle and fast.

First edition, Jane will be appearing at Bloody Words. Hardcover. \$32.00

JOHN DUNNING: “THE BOOKWOMAN’S LAST FLING.”

I am a huge fan of Cliff Janeway. “**Booked to Die**” and “**Bookman’s Wake**” are among my top ten favorite books of all time. In the “**Last Fling**”, Cliff goes to the home of Candice Geiger, a collector of first edition children’s novels. Cliff has been called to settle the estate (Candice’s husband has recently died -- 20 years after the death of Candace herself.) But when Cliff arrives, he notices something is off -- expensive first editions have been replaced with cheap copies. Cliff starts investigating deeper into Candice’s life only to learn that Candice’s daughter, Sharon, may be in trouble now. First edition hardcover. \$34.50

LINDA HALL: “DARK WATER.”

This is the first novel featuring private investigator Jake Rikker. In his spare time, Jack is a Kayak adventurer and whale watching tour guide. An up-and-coming jewelry designer has hired Jake to find a menacing ex-con who has traced her to the small town of Frog Point.

Linda Hall has been nominated of a Bloody Dagger award and is a 2-time finalist for the Christy Award. She lives in New Brunswick.

First edition, Linda will be appearing at Bloody Words. Hardcover. \$21.00

ARA LARSSON: “SUN STORM.”

This is the first English translated novel by this author. She won Sweden’s Best First Crime Novel Award. Was it for this novel - who knows? I can’t find much information on her, but I do know this novel was a huge success in Sweden.

On the floor of a church in northern Sweden, the body of a man lies mutilated and defiled – and in the night sky, the aurora borealis dances as the snow begins to fall. Karin Fossum and Henning Mankell fans will enjoy this one for sure!

First edition, hardcover. \$30.00

CORNELIA READ: “A FIELD OF DARKNESS.”

This is the author’s first novel. Already the noise that is being made about this book is great. Madeline Dare has lost all hope of leaving Syracuse. Until one day, a set of dog tags are found at an unsolved double murder site. On the tags is the name of her favorite cousin and she soon dives head first into proving her cousin’s innocence. She quickly finds a minefield of family secrets and her investigation has triggered a whole new series of murders.

First edition, hardcover published by Mysterious Press. \$30.00

ALEXANDER MCCALL SMITH: “BLUE SHOES AND HAPPINESS”

Precious Ramotswe and Mma Makutsi are having problems. First, they find a cobra in the office. Second, their blood pressure instruments are taking wrong readings and Botswana has a new advice columnist whose advice is rather curt. Are Ramotswe and Makutsi up to the challenge? When Phuti Radiphuti misses his customary dinner date with Mma Makutsi, Makutsi begins to wonder if Phuti is having second thoughts about their

engagement. There is something about blues shoes, tea and life...I almost expect Josh Taylor (as Roman Brady from Days of Our Lives) to come walking in....
First Canadian edition, hardcover. \$30.00

SYLVIA MAULTASH WARSH: “SEASON OF IRON.” Saving the best for last. It’s not often a Canadian author walks into the US and wins an Edgar award. But when they do it puts them into such company as Peter Robinson or Timothy Findley.....What you say? In 1989 Timothy Findley won an Edgar for best paperback original for the novel The Telling of Lies. In 2004 Miss. Warsh bought the award home to Canada for the novel Find Me Again. Come check out the newest novel in the Dr. Rebecca Temple series.
First edition paperback \$12.00

PAPERBACK’S:

KATHY REICHS: “CROSS BONES.” Temperance Brennan. \$13.00

ERLE STANLEY GARDNER: “TOP OF THE HEAP.” Hard Case Crime Restock.
\$9.00

JOHN SANDFORD: “RULES OF PREY.” #1 in the Lucas Davenport series. \$10.00

JOHN SANDFORD: “SHADOW PREY.” #2 In the Davenport series. \$10.00

DONALD WESTLAKE: “361.” Hard Case Crime Restock. \$9.00

DON’S PICKS:

If you remember last month, I hadn’t finished reading anything. At the end of winter /spring season my brain goes into a slump. (Jen would tell you it doesn’t matter what season it is.) I read **J.A. Konrath’s “Bloody Mary.”** I read his first novel **“Whiskey Sour”** not to long ago and I really enjoyed it. A customer told me that his second novel was “the worst novel he has ever read.” I felt bad -- and put it on my list of “must reads” in order to find out. I loved it. It is predictable to a point. But it was fun. It’s not that his character “Jack Daniels” is great, she’s alright. It is the dark humor. The view he describes through the serial killer’s eyes is awesome -- and sometimes gross. If you like Agatha Christie or M.C. Beaton, **DON’T READ THIS BOOK. IT WILL KILL YOU.**

SCENE OF THE CRIME’S MOST WANTED:

Lawrence Block. Born in Buffalo, New York in 1938, Mr. Block attended Antioch College in Ohio. He started his writing career by writing porn and lesbian paperbacks under various pen names such as Andrew Shaw, Sheldon Lord and Jill Emerson. In 1957, he published his first crime story called **“You Can’t Lose”** which later appeared in the February 1958 issue of “Manhunt Magazine”.

He is considered to be one of crime’s top writers and this is why they continue to republish all his books. His series have included such characters as **Chip Harrison, Evan Tanner, Bernie Rhodenbarr, Matt Scudder and Keller.**

They have even turned a few of his novels into movies. But this is a sore spot with Block. He is always grumbling about how Bernie Rhodenbarr, a white male burglar from New York could be played by Whoopie Goldberg. Ouch!

Another (better) movie is “**Eight Million Ways to Die**” with Jeff Bridges as Matt Scudder. And don’t forget “**Nightmare Honeymoon**” (1973) starring Dack Rambo and Rebecca Diana Smith. Block says “**I can’t imagine why anyone would voluntarily watch it all the way through.**” With reviews like that, how can it not be a blockbuster?

If you receive his newsletter you will know that someone is always talking to him about turning another book into a movie -- so keep your eyes peeled.

Block’s republished Hard Case Crime Novels:

“Grifter’s Game” a.k.a. “Mona” paperback \$8.99

“The Girl with the Long Green Heart” paperback \$8.99

In February 2007, “Lucky at Cards”

We have too many of Block’s first editions to mention – so if you are interested come in and have a look. Here is just a sampling:

COLLECTORS CORNER:

LAWRENCE BLOCK: “THE THIEF WHO COULDN’T SLEEP.”

First edition paperback original of the fourth novel published by Block, under his own name. The first novel in the Evan Tanner series. Published in 1966 by Fawcett Gold Medal (d1722). In fine condition. \$70.00

LAWRENCE BLOCK: “THE CANCELED CZECH.”

First edition paperback original of the second Evan Tanner novel. Published in 1966 by Fawcett Gold Medal (d1747). In fine condition. \$65.00

LAWRENCE BLOCK / CHIP HARRISON: “NO SCORE.”

First edition of the first novel featuring sex-crazed Chip Harrison written by Block under the Chip Harrison pen name. Published in 1970 by Fawcett Gold Medal (t2285). In fine condition. \$50.00

LAWRENCE BLOCK / CHIP HARRISON: “CHIP HARRISON SCORES AGAIN.”

First edition of the second Chip Harrison novel. Published in 1971 by Fawcett Gold Medal (t2421). In fine condition. \$40.00

THE GAME IS AFOOTE:

Thank you to Michael Buck, who won last month’s contest.

The answers to last month’s contest are: Robert Wilson – Portugal, Robert J. Janes – Niagara on the Lake, Sara Woods Niagara on the Lake, Quintin Jardine – Scotland, Caroline Roe – Toronto, Candace Robb – Seattle, Arturo Perez-Reverte – Columbia, Jose Latour – Toronto, Karin Fossum – Norway, Fred Vargas – France.

I decided to do a contest on pen names. I'll give you the author's real name; you give me the pen name. Easy as pie!

1. Rebecca Clarke and Jay Clarke. _____
2. Jill Staynes and Margaret Storey _____
3. Susan Wittig & Bill Albert _____
4. Charles Ardai _____
5. Ne Salvatore Lombino _____
6. Dennis Lynds _____
7. Donald Westlake _____
8. Medora Sale _____
9. Alistar MacLean _____
10. Bruce Cook _____

Good luck. Some of these writers have more than one pen name, but one will do. Please note: the pair of authors must have the correct pen name. First internet wins a reading copy and so does the first snail mail customer.

BOOK CLUB:

Join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. for our monthly book club.

Upcoming reads are:

THURSDAY JUNE 15: LINWOOD BARCLAY'S "BAD GUYS." Special guest appearance by Linwood Barclay. Date of June 15th was chosen to accommodate Mr. Barclay's schedule. Please join us.

THURSDAY JULY 13: ERIN HART'S "HAUNTED GROUND."

THURSDAY AUGUST 10: JOHN D. MACDONALD'S "GREEN RIPPER."

Last month, our club read **Lyn Hamilton's "Xibalba Murders"**. Lyn has become a regular author attendee at our past clubs and unfortunately had to miss last month's meeting. Everyone enjoyed the book – her description of Mexico is awesome (sights, sounds, tastes and smells all come to life). There is no doubt Lyn knows what she is talking about and conducts extensive research into the locales of each book. Most club members agreed they enjoyed "**The African Quest**" more (past book club pick) due to the fact that there was more storyline and less character development (the main character is Toronto antiques dealer, Lara McClintoch) All and all, a great read and club members agreed they would definitely read more books in this archeological mystery series.

AFTER HOURS:

This month has been absolutely wonderful. Yes, it has rained. Yes, my allergies are still kicking me around like I'm the ball at the World Cup. But **The Canadian Club Dinner, the Maureen Jennings speech on poverty and my own speech at the latest Sister's In Crime meeting were all fantastic.**

First, the **Peter Robinson dinner**: what a first-class event. Peter's speech was one

of the best I have ever heard. He investigated his life as if it were a private-eye short story. The food was great and the company even better. A special thank you to Mr. Wylie.

Second, **Maureen Jennings**. Maureen Jennings has always supported Scene of the Crime. She came to our grand opening and when I called her for a signing the only question she asks is “When”? Her speech was awesome. Seeing the old photo’s of downtown Toronto in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s was the best. It led into hours of discussion later between Jen, Brody and me. If you’ve never met Maureen Jennings, do so. She is a super person.

Lastly, **Sister’s In Crime**. The last time I tried to visit them there was a horrible snow storm. After 2 ½ hours of driving, I considered myself lost and went home. This time the weather held up and I found them. All the members were very polite and sat listening to me for about 2 hours. I was as nervous -- me giving a speech in a University Faculty club? What topped it all off is that they considered me an expert in the field. There are so many wrongs to that, it isn’t funny. I got to catch up with a few friends like author Sylvia Maultash Warsh and Joan (an old friend from when Jen and I were helping organize the bookroom at Bouchercon Toronto.) It was like a group of good friends getting together to share our thoughts on books and stories on events we had attended recently. Very warm and friendly.

If you’re looking for a group to join, the two I have mentioned above excellent choices. If you are interested in the Canadian Club, contact: rjtpreston@cogeco.ca . If Sisters In Crime is more your cup of tea, contact: 416-424-7998 or <http://sistersincrime.toronto.on.ca/>.

ADVANCED READING COPY SALE:

This is your chance to try out a new author for a very reasonable price (\$10 each):

John Evans “Invisible Armies”	Jefferson Bass “Carved in Bone”
William Lasher “Marked Man”	Elizabeth Lowell “The Wrong Hostage”
Michael Gruber “Night of the Jaguar”	Grant McCrea “Dead Money”
Lori Andres “Sequence”	James Patterson “Maximum Ride”
Marcia Muller “Vanishing Point”	Joanne Fluke “Cherry Cheesecake Murders”
Peri O’Shaughnessy “Case of Lies”	Tim Green “Exact Revenge”
Marwan Hassan “The Lost Patent”	GA McKeveatt “Corpse Suzette”
Matt Bonduarant “The Third Translation”	Elizabeth Bloom “See Isabelle Run”
Cassandra Chan “The Young Widow”	Kate White “Over Her Dead Body”
Louise Ure “Forcing Amaryllis”	Russell Andrews “Midas”
Annie Solomon “Blind Curve”	Joseph A Annascoll “A Meal to Die For”
Chris Elliot “The Shroud of the Thwacker”	Brian Haig “The President’s Assassin”
James Seigel “Detour”	Lisa Miscione “Twice”
Ian Smith “The Blackbird Papers”	Cecelia Tishy “Now You See Her”
Marcia Muller “Cape Peridido”	Liam Dwyer “Murder in Muskoka”
John Hart “The King of Lies”	James Patterson “Honeymoon”
Jess Lourey “May Day”	Alan Furst “The Foreign Correspondent”
Michael Robotham “Suspect”	
Michael Badden and Linda Kenney “Remains Silent”	

Marcie Walsh and Michael Malone “The Killing Club”
Bill Bonanno and Joe Pistone “The Good Guys”

As the weather improves and now the construction is finally finished in Bronte, I look forward to seeing you all very soon,

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