

# PENZLER PUBLISHERS

FALL 2023



AMERICAN  
MYSTERY  
CLASSICS





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A.F. Carter

## Boomtown

A Delia Mariola Mystery

# BOOMTOWN

COVER NOT FINALIZED

## A.F. CARTER

PAPERBACK

MYSTERY                      SEPTEMBER

5.5 X 8.25                      312 PP

ISBN                      9781613164532

20 CQ                      TERRITORY A

\$17.95                      FP: 6,000

MYSTERIOUS PRESS

### MARKETING INFO

- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Library marketing

“Smart, urgent, and sneakily deep”  
—**C.J. Box** on *The Hostage*

*A Rust Belt cop strives to bring order and justice to a lawless boomtown.*

Police captain Delia Mariola is still struggling to drive the predatory drug dealers from the rustbelt town of Baxter, before the new Nissan plant owners lose faith in this forgotten corner of America. It doesn't help that a boomtown has grown up just outside of city limits—a wild west designed to feed every unsavory desire of the workers building the plant. With no police actively enforcing the rule of law in the unregulated town, crime syndicates from nearby cities have moved in, grappling for control.

When a young prostitute's body turns up on the streets of Baxter, well within Delia's jurisdiction to investigate, she hopes she has finally found a case that might allow her to crack down on Boomtown. But Delia isn't the only person looking for the murderer: Two strangers claiming to be the family of the deceased arrive in town seeking justice in the form of back hills vigilantism. One of few woman and the only lesbian on her small-town police force, Delia is no stranger to complicated situations—but this one might have deadlier implications than those she's faced before...

A. F. CARTER lives and works in New York City and is the author of *All of Us* as well as the critically acclaimed Delia Mariola series, of which *Boomtown* is the third installment.

## The Mysterious Bookshop Presents The Best Mystery Stories of the Year: 2023

“Diverse voices, settings, and premises make this a treat for fans of literate and inventive mystery fiction.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

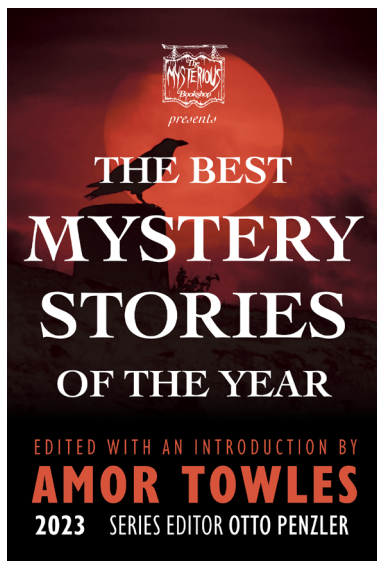
*Amor Towles selects the twenty-one best mystery short stories of the year, including tales by T.C. Boyle, Andrew Child, Jeffrey Deaver, and more!*

Under the auspices of New York City’s legendary mystery fiction specialty bookstore, The Mysterious Bookshop, and aided by Edgar Award-winning anthologist Otto Penzler, *New York Times* bestseller Amor Towles has selected the twenty-one most puzzling, most thrilling, and most mysterious short stories from the past year, collected now in one entertaining volume.

Includes stories by:

Doug Allyn, Derrick Bellinger, T.C. Boyle, Joslyn Chase, Andrew Child, Aaron Philip Clark, Jeffrey Deaver, Brendan DuBois, Kerry Hammond, Victor Kreuter, David Krugler, Tom Larson, Avram Lavinsky, Jesse Lewis, Ashley Lister, Sean McCluskey, Michael Mallory, Lou Manfredo, Annie Reed, Anna Round, Joseph S. Walker

Plus a “bonus story” selected from the bookshop’s rare book room, featuring a look into the history of this illustrious genre.



PAPERBACK

ANTHOLOGY      SEPTEMBER

5.5 X 8.25      500 PP

PB ISBN 9781613164495 \$17.95

HC ISBN 9781613164488 \$27.95

20 CQ      TERRITORY A

MYSTERIOUS PRESS

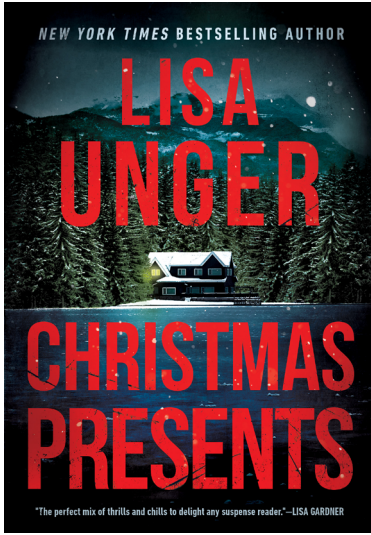
### MARKETING INFO

- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Library marketing

AMOR TOWLES is the author of *Rules of Civility*, *A Gentleman in Moscow*, and *The Lincoln Highway*, as well as numerous short stories, which have appeared in the *Paris Review*, *Granta*, *British Vogue*, and *Audible Originals*.



## Christmas Presents



“The perfect mix of thrills and chills to delight any suspense reader.”

—Lisa Gardner

*Instead of presents this Christmas, a true crime podcaster is opening up a cold case...*

Madeline Martin’s quiet life as the owner of a thriving business, The Next Chapter Bookshop, is interrupted when Harley Granger, a failed novelist turned true crime podcaster, drifts into her shop in the days before Christmas intent on digging up events that Madeline would much rather forget.

Madeline was the only surviving victim of Evan Handy, the man who was convicted of murdering her best friend Steph and is suspected in the disappearance of two others. Since Handy went to jail, three more young women have gone missing, most recently a young college dropout named Lolly. Was Evan Handy innocent after all? Or was there some else there that night? Someone who is still satisfying his dark appetites? As Christmas approaches and a blizzard bears down, Madeline and her childhood friend Badger return to a past they both hoped was dead.

Coupling a picturesque, cozy setting with a deeply unsettling suspenseful plot, *Christmas Presents* is a chilling seasonal novella that can be enjoyed all year long.

HARDCOVER

MYSTERY

OCTOBER

5.25 X 7.5

224 PP

ISBN

9781613164518

20 CQ

TERRITORY A

\$23.95

FP: 20,000

MYSTERIOUS PRESS

### MARKETING INFO

- Signed copies available
- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Gift guide inclusion

LISA UNGER is a *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author. With books published in 33 languages and millions of copies sold worldwide, she is widely regarded as a master of suspense.

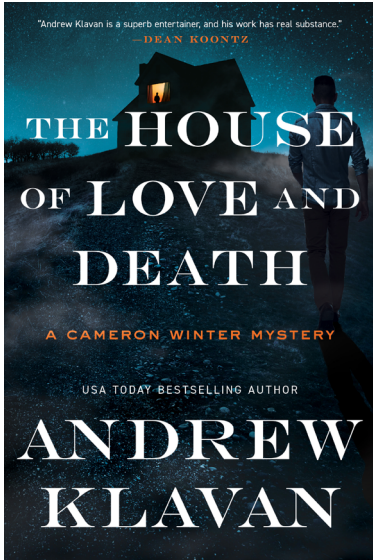


Mysterious Press

Andrew Klavan

## The House of Love and Death

A Cameron Winter Mystery



HARDCOVER

MYSTERY OCTOBER

6 X 9 312 PP

ISBN 9781613164464

20 CQ TERRITORY A

\$26.95 FP: 30,000

MYSTERIOUS PRESS

### MARKETING INFO

- Signed copies available
- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Major preorder campaign
- Teaser chapter in *A Strange Habit of Mind* paperback

“The most original American novelist of crime and suspense since Cornell Woolrich.”

—Stephen King

*Ex-spy-turned-English professor defies accepted narratives and corrupt authorities to investigate the murder of a wealthy family in the Chicago suburbs*

After reading a puzzling news story about a wealthy family killed in a small town in the Chicago suburbs, Cameron Winter can't resist the chance to apply his “strange habit of mind”—the ability to recreate detailed crime scenes in his imagination and deduce motives—in the pursuit of justice for the victims.

Three members of the family, along with their live-in nanny, were pulled from their burning mansion, already dead from gunshot wounds. The only survivor is a young boy whose memory of the event raises more questions than answers. The police seem happy to settle on a simple explanation and arrest the most obvious suspect—but Winter knows that obvious solutions are seldom the correct ones, and all too often hide a darker truth. As Winter's inquiry brings all-too-familiar sins to the surface, he'll have to confront his own inner demons once and for all.

Insightful and atmospheric, *The House of Love and Death* is a penetrating mystery with a plot that cuts straight to the dark heart of some of modern America's most pressing issues.

**ANDREW KLAVAN** is the author of such internationally bestselling crime novels as *True Crime*, filmed by Clint Eastwood, *Don't Say A Word*, filmed starring Michael Douglas, *When Christmas Comes*, and *A Strange Habit of Mind*. He has been nominated for the Edgar Award five times and has won twice. He hosts a popular podcast at the *Daily Wire*.



Charles Cumming

## Kennedy 35

A BOX 88 Thriller

“A spy novel that reads like a high-octane thriller”

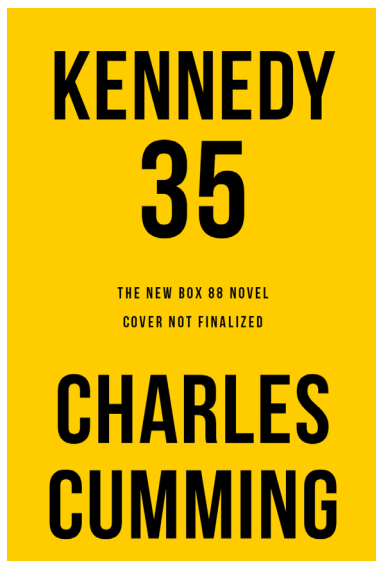
—**BookReporter**

*Veteran agent Lachlan Kite—“a spy for the 21st century” (Daily Mail)—reckons with the fallout from a mission in Senegal carried out early in his career.*

1995: In the wake of the Rwandan genocide, 24-year-old spy Lachlan Kite and his girlfriend, Martha Raine, are sent to Senegal on the trail of a hunted war criminal. The mission threatens to spiral out of control, forcing Kite to make choices which will have devastating consequences not only for his career at top-secret intelligence agency BOX 88, but also for his relationship with Martha.

2023: Eric Appiah, an old friend from Kite’s days at school and an off-the-record BOX 88 asset, makes contact with explosive information about what happened all those years ago in West Africa. When tragedy strikes, Kite must use all the resources at his disposal to protect Martha from a criminal network with links to international terror.

Charles Cumming once again straddles two timelines to create a high-tension thriller in this latest Lachlan Kite novel.



HARDCOVER

MYSTERY                      NOVEMBER

6 X 9                                      500 PP

ISBN                                      9781613164556

20 CQ                                      TERRITORY A

\$27.95                                      FP: 12,000

MYSTERIOUS PRESS

### MARKETING INFO

- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Library marketing

**CHARLES CUMMING** is a British writer of spy fiction. He was educated at Eton College (1985-1989) and the University of Edinburgh (1990-1994), where he graduated with 1st Class Honors in English Literature. He’s been described as “the best of the new generation of British spy writers who are taking over where John le Carré and Len Deighton left off.”



## It Takes Monsters

“A tale guaranteed to keep genre fans up till dawn”

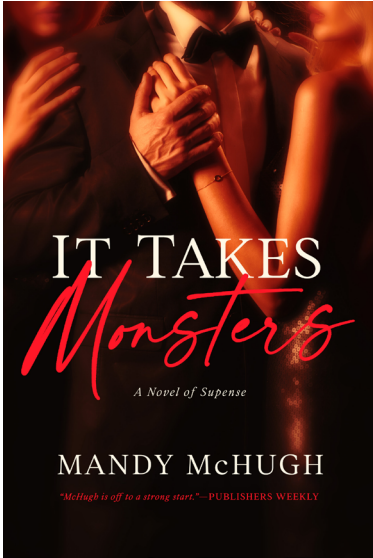
—*Kirkus on **Chloe Cates is Missing***

*She had decided to kill her husband. But then somebody else got there first....*

Victoria Tate has had enough of her controlling, incompetent husband Warren. But planning the perfect murder is more difficult than it looks. When the social event of the year, an over-the-top costume ball, is rescheduled for the date she has selected for her crime, Victoria has to scramble to make sure she will still be able to follow through. But even hours of listening to crime podcasts cannot prepare her for the next wrench that is thrown into her plans: Warren turns up dead by someone else’s hand.

Now Victoria finds herself at the center of a murder investigation in which she is actually innocent. The real killer taunts her, making it clear that they knew what she was planning all along. With the police closing in and her neighbors turning on her, Victoria is going to lose everything she had hoped to gain from Warren’s death, unless she can figure out who wanted her husband dead and why.

In this twisty thriller from the author of *Chloe Cates Is Missing*, danger comes from both the monsters among us and the monsters that lurk inside us.



PAPERBACK

SUSPENSE                      OCTOBER

5.5 X 8.25                      312 PP

ISBN                      9781613164440

20 CQ                      TERRITORY W

\$17.95                      FP: 7,000

SCARLET

### MARKETING INFO

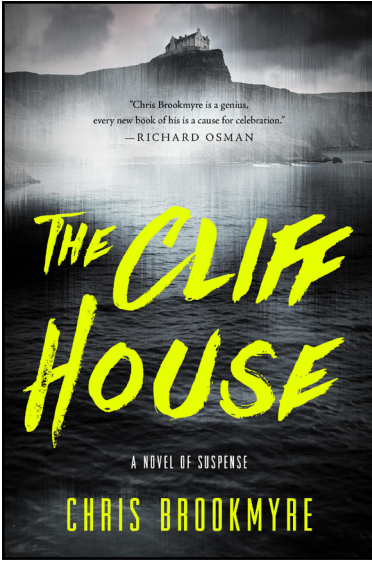
- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Library marketing

**MANDY MCHUGH** holds an MA in English from the College of Saint Rose and a BA in English Education from Le Moyne College. Her works have appeared in various literary magazines and podcasts, and she lives in upstate New York with her husband, two kids, and dog.





## The Cliff House



“Tightly plotted and a lot of fun, this is perfect poolside reading.”

—**The Guardian**

*Seven women. Seven sins. One night of judgment.*

Jennifer is forty-two and getting married for the second time, but that doesn't mean she can't go all out for her bachelorette weekend. She's taking her closest friends to the kind of place that has a years-long waiting list for a booking: three days of super-exclusive luxury accommodation on a remote Scottish island. So excited by the complicated means of transport required to get to the island, no one gives much thought to the implications for getting off again, especially if the weather should turn. But why would they? They're in for a time they will never forget. Just not for the reasons they imagine.

When one of the party mysteriously goes missing on the first night, Jennifer realizes she has made a terrible mistake: she has assembled this disparate bunch of women and the only thing they have in common is her...

Get ready for a closed circle mystery like no other. One that asks: how well do you really know anybody, even your oldest acquaintance? And what if your best friend is really your worst enemy?

PAPERBACK

SUSPENSE NOVEMBER

5.5 X 8.25 312 PP

ISBN 9781613164426

20 CQ TERRITORY Y

\$17.95 FP: 7,000

SCARLET

### MARKETING INFO

- Prepublication reading copies
- Major review coverage
- Goodreads giveaways
- Book influencer buzz campaign
- Mystery and thriller advertising
- Library marketing

**CHRIS BROOKMYRE** was a journalist before publishing his award-winning debut, *Quite Ugly One Morning*. He is the author of the Jack Parlabane thriller series, which has sold over one million copies in the UK alone, and the acclaimed Jasmine Sharp and Catherine McLeod novels.



## The Adventures of Ellery Queen

“Ellery Queen *is* the American detective story” —**Anthony Boucher**

### Also Available:

- *The Spanish Cape Mystery*
- *The American Gun Mystery*
- *The Chinese Orange Mystery*
- *The Dutch Shoe Mystery*

*Eleven confounding problems in deduction for Golden Age super-sleuth Ellery Queen.*

For Ellery Queen, there is no puzzle that reason cannot solve. In his time, he has faced down killers, thugs, and thieves, protected only by the might of his brain—and the odd bit of timely intervention by his father, a burly New York police inspector. But when a university professor asks Queen to teach a class, the detective finds there are people whom reason cannot touch: college students.

Queen’s adventure on campus is only the first of this incomparable collection of short mysteries. In the tales that follow, he tangles with a violent book thief, an assassin of acrobats, and New York’s only cleanly shaven bearded lady. And the only thing more dazzling than the mysterious murders he confronts are his brilliant solutions at the end.

Ellery Queen was a master of the short mystery, so closely associated with the form that the longest-running magazine for such tales bears his name; the stories in this volume show why he continues to be considered one of the greatest American practitioners of the Golden Age whodunit.



PAPERBACK

MYSTERY SEPTEMBER

5.25 X 8 336 PP

ISBN 9781613164587

24 CQ TERRITORY W

\$15.95

AMERICAN MYSTERY CLASSICS

*Introduction By*  
**OTTO PENZLER**

Also Available in Hardcover  
\$25.95; ISBN 9781613164570

ELLERY QUEEN was a pen name created and shared by two cousins, Fred-eric Dannay (1905–1982) and Manfred B. Lee (1905–1971), as well as the name of their most famous detective. Born in Brooklyn, they spent 42 years writing the greatest puzzle-mysteries of their time, gaining the duo a reputation as the foremost American authors of the Golden Age “fair play” mystery.



## Rim of the Pit



“A marvel of ingenuity”  
—John Dickson Carr

*A creepy and unusual mystery celebrated to this day as one of the greatest “impossible crime” novels of all time.*

When a family’s promise to protect the beloved pine grove of their dead father creates a financial strain, a seance is suggested to summon the ghost of the late logger. A mixed group of skeptics and believers convene at a snow-bound lodge including a gambler, a businessman, a clairvoyant, a professor, and a refugee, among others. With so many diverse interests at the table, the tensions run high—but when one of the participants ends up dead, there is reason to suspect that a nefarious spirit is to blame.

The body is discovered in a locked room, impenetrable from the outside. There is also the trail of footprints in the snow, beginning and ending amid a field of untouched powder; another on the roof, with the tracks leading a short distance before vanishing into nothingness; and, there are fingerprints on a gun suspended at an unreachable height...

Supernatural undertones and eerie atmosphere clear away in the third act to present a logical conclusion to the case, teasing out the clues and murder methods that unwary readers may have missed. With its off-beat exposition, puzzling plot and exceptional prose, *Rim of the Pit* is a cult classic of the Golden Age era deserving of a wide audience today.

PAPERBACK

MYSTERY                      OCTOBER

5.25 X 8                              240 PP

ISBN                              9781613164655

24 CQ                              TERRITORY W

\$15.95

AMERICAN MYSTERY CLASSICS

*Introduction by*  
RUPERT HOLMES

Also Available in Hardcover  
\$25.95; ISBN 978161316 4648

HAKE TALBOT is a pen name of the American writer Henning Nelms (1900–1986). Nelms reserved his real name for writing non-fiction about showmanship (his chief occupation was as a stage magician), but wrote several mysteries and stories under the Talbot moniker. He is best remembered today for his impossible crime novel, *Rim of the Pit*.



Erle Stanley Gardner

## The Case of the Rolling Bones

A Perry Mason Mystery

“Tantalizing on every page and brilliant”  
—**Scott Turow**

### Also Available:

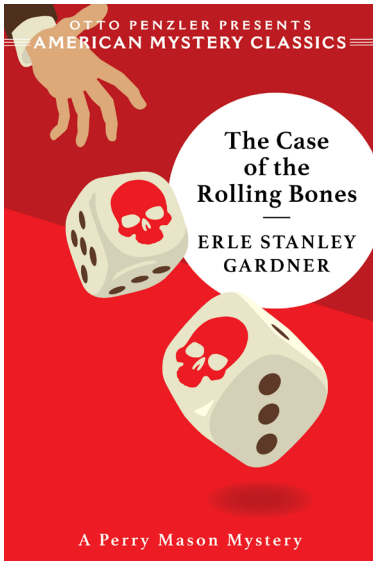
- *The Case of the Shoplifter's Shoe*
- *The Case of the Baited Hook*
- *The Case of the Careless Kitten*
- *The Case of the Borrowed Brunette*

*Perry Mason investigates a case of blackmail with a side of loaded dice*

Years ago, Alden Leeds struck it rich when he discovered a vein of gold. Now, aging and single, he finds himself surrounded by family waiting patiently to inherit his fortune. When his engagement to a much younger woman threatens their future gain, his family have him admitted into a sanitarium, claiming incompetence. That's when lawyering super-sleuth Perry Mason gets involved, but the case is about to get much more complicated...

Before all is said and done, Mason will tangle with a cheating gambler, a blackmailer, multiple aliases, multiple corpses, and enough red herrings to lead even the most astute reader astray. It will push the attorney's deductive powers to their very limits before all is revealed, finally, in his masterful courtroom cross-examination.

A fast-paced yarn with a delightfully convoluted plot, *The Case of the Rolling Bones* exemplifies the masterful page-turning action for which its prolific author is remembered today.



PAPERBACK

MYSTERY NOVEMBER

5.25 X 8 264 PP

ISBN 9781613164624

24 CQ TERRITORY A

\$15.95

AMERICAN MYSTERY CLASSICS

*Introduction By*  
**OTTO PENZLER**

Also Available in Hardcover  
\$25.95; ISBN 9781613164617

**ERLE STANLEY GARDNER** (1889–1970) was the best-selling American author of the 20th century, mainly due to the enormous success of his Perry Mason series, which numbered more than 80 novels and inspired a half-dozen motion pictures, radio programs, and a long-running television series that starred Raymond Burr.



## The Great Mistake

“Mrs. Rinehart’s mastery of plot construction and development, of characterization and of mystification has never been better demonstrated than in this book.”

—*New York Times*

### Also Available:

- *The Album*
- *The Wall*
- *The Haunted Lady*
- *Miss Pinkerton*

*Murder leads to scandal at a wealthy woman’s mansion*

In an elaborate house known as the Cloisters, Maud Wainwright rules supreme. The queen of society in the small town of Beverly, she has a table long enough to seat one hundred, and she keeps an iron grip on the guest list. Her right-hand woman is Pat Abbott, a local girl who is beautiful, innocent, and kind. Pat has no idea how cutthroat high society can be, but she’s about to get a deadly first lesson.

Pat has fallen head over heels in love with Maud’s son, Tony, a clever young rake with a single flaw: his vicious, gold-digging wife. At the same time that she is dangerously infatuated with a married man, Pat’s world is turned upside down by a series of attacks on the estate—and a truly shocking murder. To save Tony and Maud, Pat must find the killer. But the list of suspects is as long as one of Maud’s guest lists...

Atmospheric writing, period detail, and characters caught in an intriguing murder plot make this Golden Age mystery one of Rinehart’s best, exemplifying why she’s known to her fans as “the American Agatha Christie.”



PAPERBACK

MYSTERY                      DECEMBER

5.25 X 8                              450 PP

ISBN                              9781613164600

24 CQ                              TERRITORY W

\$15.95

AMERICAN MYSTERY CLASSICS

*Introduction by*  
OTTO PENZLER

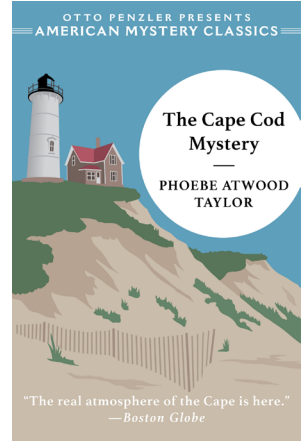
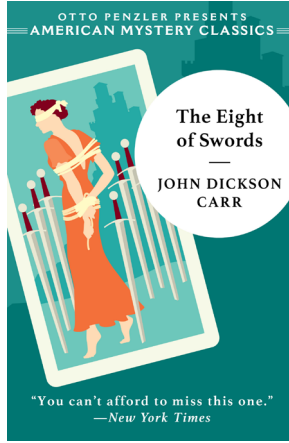
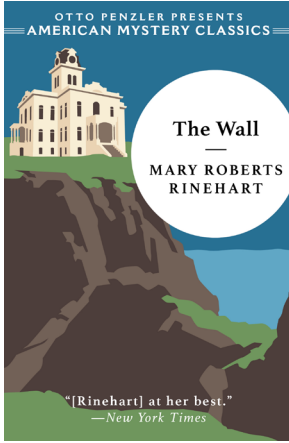
Also Available in Hardcover  
\$25.95; ISBN 9781613164594

MARY ROBERTS RINEHART (1876–1958) was the most beloved and best-selling mystery writer in America in the first half of the 20th century. Today, Rinehart is often called an American Agatha Christie, even though she was much more popular than Christie during her heyday.



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## American Mystery Classics



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*All Titles Introduced by Otto Penzler  
Unless Otherwise Noted*

Charlotte Armstrong, *The Chocolate Cobweb*  
*Introduced by A. J. Finn*  
Charlotte Armstrong, *The Unsuspected*

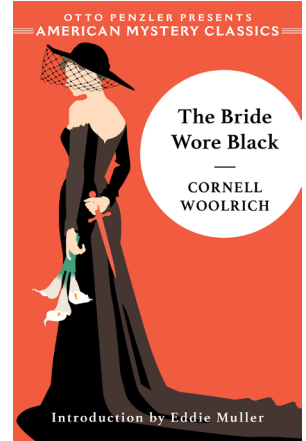
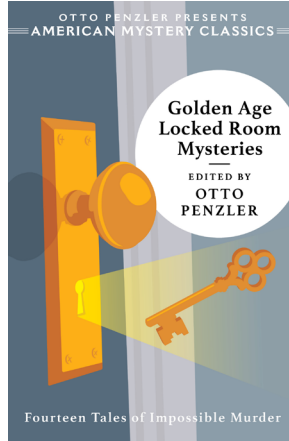
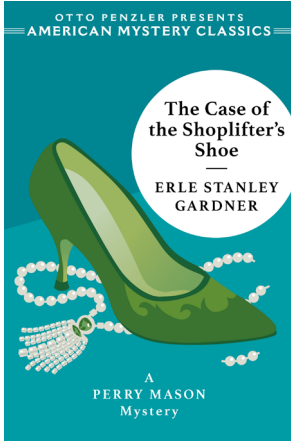
Anthony Boucher, *The Case of the Baker Street Irregulars*  
Anthony Boucher, *Rocket to the Morgue*  
*Introduced by F. Paul Wilson*

Fredric Brown, *The Fabulous Clipjoint*  
*Introduced by Lawrence Block*

John Dickson Carr, *The Crooked Hinge*  
*Introduced by Charles Todd*  
John Dickson Carr, *The Mad Hatter Mystery*  
John Dickson Carr, *The Plague Court Murders*  
*Introduced by Michael Dirda*  
John Dickson Carr, *The Plague Court Murders*  
*Introduced by Tom Mead*

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## American Mystery Classics



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*All Titles Introduced by Otto Penzler  
Unless Otherwise Noted*

Frances Crane, *The Turquoise Shop*  
*Introduced by Anne Hillerman*

Todd Downing, *Vultures in the Sky*  
*Introduced by James Sallis*

Mignon G. Eberhart, *Murder by an Aristocrat*  
*Introduced by Nancy Pickard*

Erle Stanley Gardner, *The Bigger They Come*  
Erle Stanley Gardner, *The Case of the Baited Hook*  
Erle Stanley Gardner, *The Case of the Careless Kitten*  
Erle Stanley Gardner, *The Case of the Borrowed Brunette*  
Erle Stanley Gardner, *The Case of the Shoplifter's Shoe*

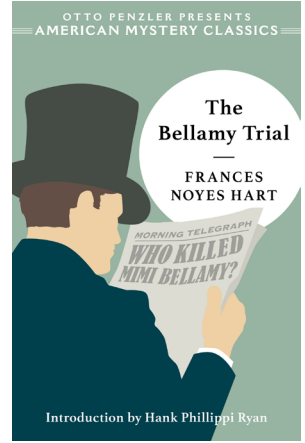
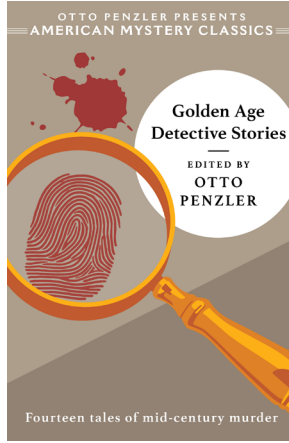
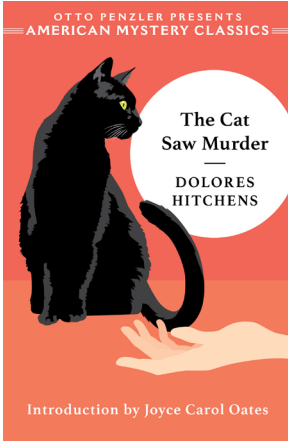
Frances Noyes Hart, *The Bellamy Trial*  
*Introduced by Hank Phillippi Ryan*

H.F. Heard, *A Taste for Honey*



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## American Mystery Classics



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*All Titles Introduced by Otto Penzler  
Unless Otherwise Noted*

Dolores Hitchens, *The Alarm of the Black Cat*  
*Introduced by David Handler*  
Dolores Hitchens, *The Cat Saw Murder*  
*Introduced by Joyce Carol Oates*

Dorothy B. Hughes, *Dread Journey*  
*Introduced by Sarah Weinman*  
Dorothy B. Hughes, *Ride the Pink Horse*  
*Introduced by Sara Paretsky*  
Dorothy B. Hughes, *The So Blue Marble*

W. Bolingbroke Johnson, *The Widening Stain*  
*Introduced by Nicholas A. Basbanes*

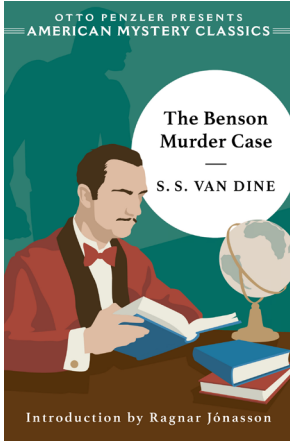
Baynard Kendrick, *Blind Man's Bluff*  
Baynard Kendrick, *The Odor of Violets*

C. Daly King, *Obelists at Sea*  
*Introduced by Martin Edwards*



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## American Mystery Classics



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*All Titles Introduced by Otto Penzler  
Unless Otherwise Noted*

Jonathan Latimer, *Headed for a Hearse*  
*Introduced by Max Allan Collins*

Frances and Richard Lockridge, *Death on the Aisle*

John P. Marquand, *Your Turn, Mr. Moto*  
*Introduced by Lawrence Block*

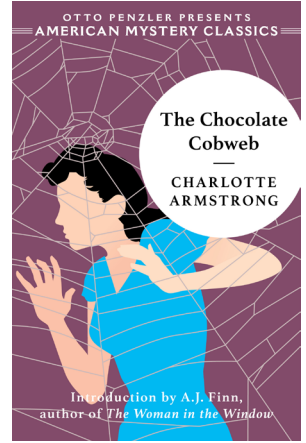
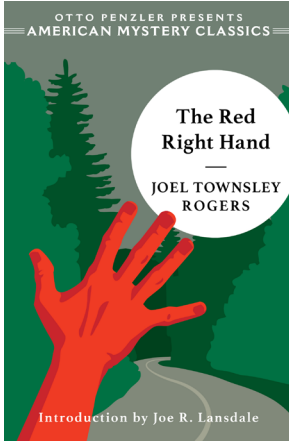
Stuart Palmer, *The Penguin Pool Murder*  
Stuart Palmer, *The Puzzle of the Happy Hooligan*

Otto Penzler, ed., *Golden Age Bibliomysteries*  
Otto Penzler, ed., *Golden Age Detective Stories*  
Otto Penzler, ed., *Golden Age Locked Room Mysteries*

Ellery Queen, *The American Gun Mystery*  
Ellery Queen, *The Chinese Orange Mystery*  
Ellery Queen, *The Dutch Shoe Mystery*  
Ellery Queen, *The Egyptian Cross Mystery*  
Ellery Queen, *The Siamese Twin Mystery*

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## American Mystery Classics



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Patrick Quentin, *A Puzzle for Fools*

Clayton Rawson, *Death from a Top Hat*

Craig Rice, *Eight Faces at Three*

*Introduced by Lisa Lutz*

Craig Rice, *Home Sweet Homicide*

Mary Roberts Rinehart, *The Album*

Mary Roberts Rinehart, *The Haunted Lady*

Mary Roberts Rinehart, *Miss Pinkerton*

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Mary Roberts Rinehart, *The Red Lamp*

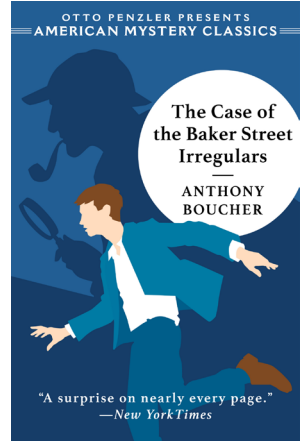
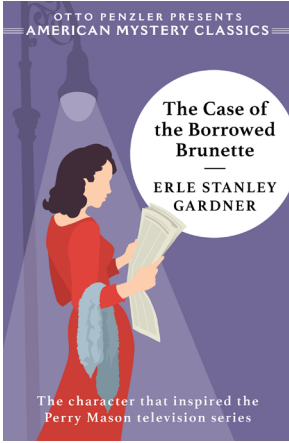
Mary Roberts Rinehart, *The Wall*

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Vincent Starrett, *The Great Hotel Murder*  
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Vincent Starrett, *Murder on "B" Deck*  
*Introduced by Raymond Betzner*

Phoebe Atwood Taylor, *The Cape Cod Mystery*

S.S. Van Dine, *The Benson Murder Case*  
*Introduced by Ragnar Jonasson*

Cornell Woolrich, *The Bride Wore Black*  
*Introduced by Eddie Muller*  
Cornell Woolrich, *Deadline at Dawn*  
*Introduced by David Gordon*  
Cornell Woolrich, *Waltz into Darkness*  
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