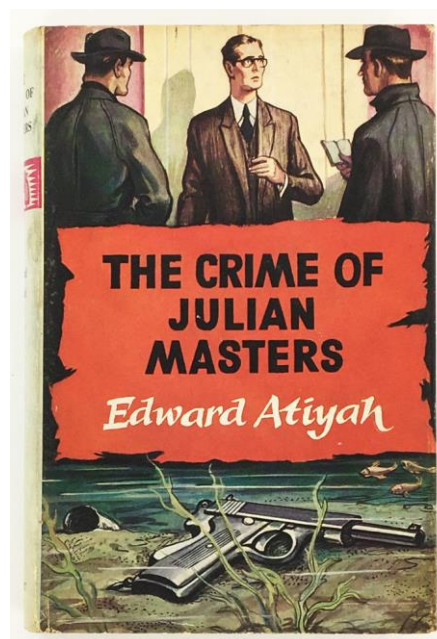


Crime 2025

1. **Atiyah (Edward) *The Crime of Julian Masters***. Robert Hale, 1959, *FIRST EDITION*, fly leaf inscribed by the author, title-page with smoking gun device, initial & final leaves and text block edges slightly spotted, pp. 191, 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in green with smoking gun device blocked in silver, dustjacket with a few nicks at fold edges, and faint stains to rear panel and backstrip, very good

£225

A tale of intrigue from political activist, Arab state specialist and Brasenose College alumnus, Edward Atiyah: 'Its sustained suspense, nicely balanced with humour, derives in part from the anguish of a man wrongly accused...' (blurb). The inscription is suitably mysterious: 'To Eleanor Hickox who helped so generously with another 'Crime' from Edward Atiyah'. (*Further Atiyah titles available*)

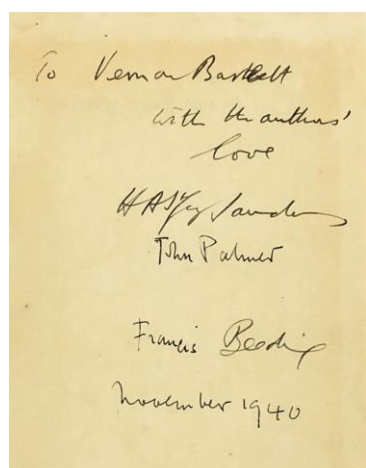


Inscribed by both authors and their pseudonym

2. **Beeding (Francis, pseud. for John Leslie Palmer & Hilary St. George Saunders) *Eleven Were Brave***. A Novel of Present History. Hodder & Stoughton, 1940, *FIRST EDITION*, inscribed on the flyleaf: 'To Vernon Bartlett with the authors' love H. St. George Saunders, John Palmer, Francis Beeding, November 1940' (see below), endpapers slightly toned, pp. 286, crown 8vo, original blue cloth, backstrip lettered in black, several spots to cloth, backstrip faded, good

£150

Francis Beeding was the pseudonym adopted by John Leslie Palmer and Hilary St George Saunders for their espionage-

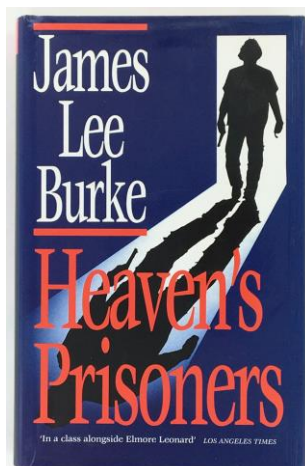
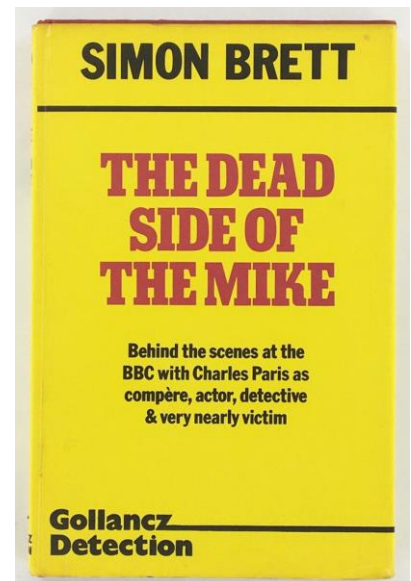


related novels. Both had attended Balliol College, Oxford and worked together at the League of Nations in Geneva, where Vernon Bartlett, journalist and author (most famously, co-authoring *Journey's End*, 1930) led the League's London Office before joining the BBC. The novel, set in the ongoing War, is dedicated, 'with his consent, in admiration', to Winston Churchill.

3. Brett (Simon) *The Dead Side of the Mike*. Victor Gollancz, 1980, *FIRST EDITION*, inscribed by the author 'with affectionate good wishes to a bright young man, Simon, 13th June, 1980' beneath the dedication, 'with thanks to John for the title' underlined by Brett, pp. 176, 8vo, original red boards, backstrip gilt lettered, yellow dustjacket with black and cerise lettering, very good

£80

The 6th of the 20 Charles Paris mysteries by Brett, rather conveniently set in the BBC, in which Paris, the thoroughly engaging actor/detective haphazardly stumbles across clues to uncover fraud and murder. Our hero, according to his most famous BBC incarnation, Bill Nighy, 'drinks too much and smokes too much and doesn't work very much. But every time he does go to work, somebody gets murdered.'



4. Burke (James Lee) *Heaven's Prisoners*. *Mysterious Press (Century)*, 1990, *FIRST ENGLISH EDITION*, page-borders faintly toned throughout with a faint spot at head of prelims, pp. [viii], 292, crown 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in silver, red endpapers patterned with publisher's device, dustjacket with a hint of fading to the red lettering on backstrip panel, very good

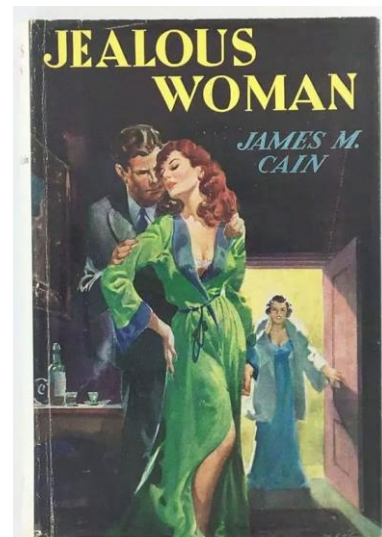
£45

His second Dave Robicheaux novel.

5. Cain (James M.) *Jealous Woman*. Robert Hale, 1955, *FIRST ENGLISH EDITION*, a few small spots at head of prelims, recurrent at rear, pp. 224, crown 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, a few small spots to edges, South African bookseller ticket to front pastedown, dustjacket with attractive pictorial design, faint crease next to upper joint-fold, very good

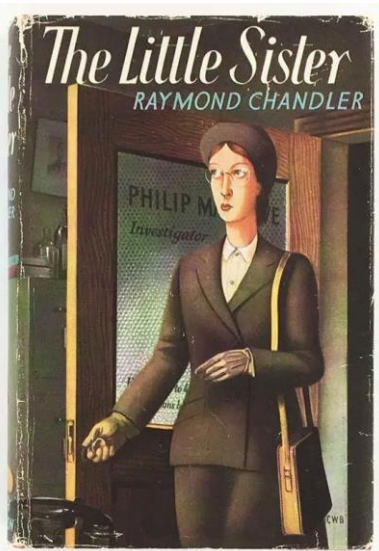
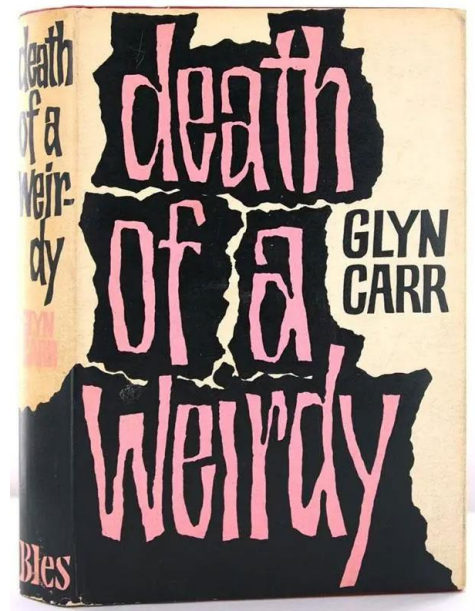
£150

Two short novels, that of the title and 'Sinful Woman'.
(Further Cain titles available)



6. Carr (Glyn, pseud. for Frank Showell Styles) **Death of a Weirdy**. Geoffrey Bles, 1965, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 223, 8vo, original crimson boards, spine lettered in black, upper corners slightly knocked, unclipped dustjacket, rear panel faintly toned, backstrip edges with a few nicks, very good
£350

One of the last of the series featuring Sir Abercrombie Lewker, renowned actor-manager and amateur detective, from the prolific author, whose own life-long interest in mountaineering is represented here by the character Gabriel Frome, artist and experienced climber. The 'weirdies' refer to the members of a maverick commune established in North Wales with the aim of living an artistic life, beyond the bounds of conventional morality.

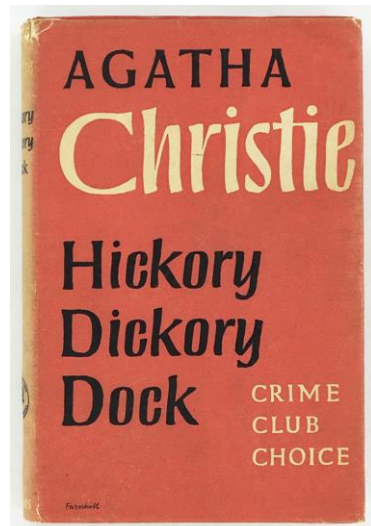


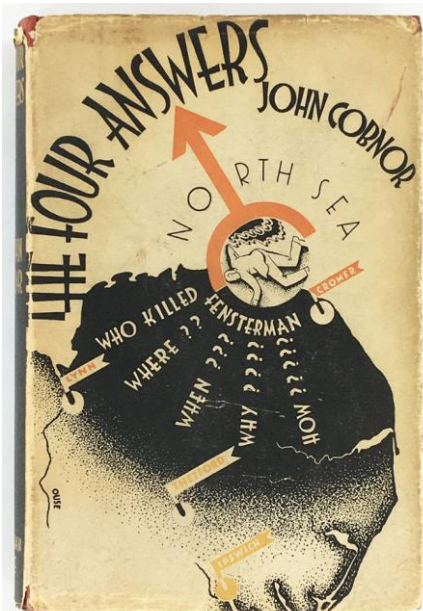
7. Chandler (Raymond) **The Little Sister**. Hamish Hamilton, 1949, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 256, crown 8vo, original red cloth, backstrip lettered in gilt, tiny faint mark at head of upper board, ownership inscription to flyleaf, dustjacket with a design by C.W. Bacon, slightly rubbed and nicked to extremities, very good
£400

Chandler's fifth Philip Marlowe title, involving missing persons and blackmail set in the film industry of late 1940s Los Angeles, a milieu Chandler knew well from his bitter experience as a Hollywood screenwriter. (*Further Chandler titles available*)

8. Christie (Agatha) **Hickory, Dickory, Dock**. The Crime Club by Collins, 1955, *FIRST EDITION*, a few faint spots at foot of prelims, receding into text, pp. 192, crown 8vo, original red boards, backstrip lettered in black, textblock edges a little toned with a few faint spots, free endpapers likewise, dustjacket a little rubbed at extremities, backstrip panel faded, rear panel a little browned and spotted, very good
£150

A Poirot novel, published in America as Hickory, Dickory, Death. (*Further Christie titles available*)





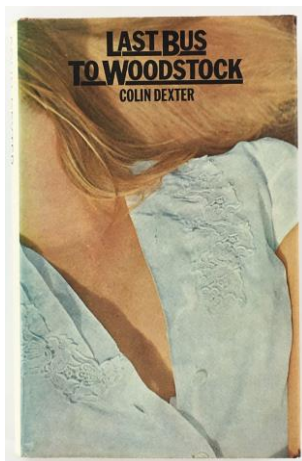
9. Cobnor (John) *The Four Answers*.

Jonathan Cape, 1931, *FIRST UK EDITION*, final two leaves lower edge half cm torn away, pp. 317, 8vo, original red cloth, backstrip gilt-lettered, wear with fading at backstrip and front board lower edges, dustjacket with compass pictorial diagram with needle in orange pointing away from the body on Cromer beach, with radiating questions beneath, nicks to folds and corners, backstrip tips slightly torn, faint toning, very good

£250

An intriguing work by the mysterious Cobnor, in which four fictional amateur detectives are set the task of discovering the murderer of the fifth participant in the experiment, the

hypothetical victim of the crime. Charles Williams reviewed it, in perspicacious style, for *The News Chronicle*, 7 April, 1931: '*The Four Answers* is concerned with four gentlemen playing a game of detection, and having it turn to a painful truth. It is all very good sleuthing, but the first part is pure art and therefore perfect; the second is applied art, and merely necessary. Besides, I hoped the Vicar was the murderer. Vicars so rarely murder since the Middle Ages, and yet when one thinks of the average congregation! Nothing much pointed to the Vicar, but (it is the only fault in the book) nothing at all pointed to the real criminal. And at least one dead finger always should.'

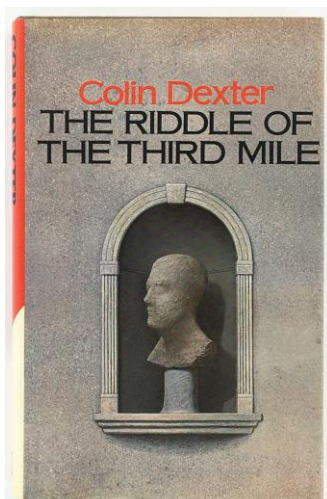
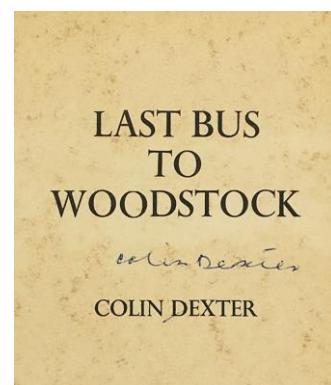


10. Dexter (Colin) *Last Bus to Woodstock*.

Macmillan, 1975, *FIRST EDITION*, pages browned throughout as usual with some faint foxing to prelims, pp. 256, crown 8vo, original mid-brown boards, backstrip lettered in black, very slight lean to spine, dustjacket with a tiny amount of internal tape-reinforcement at folds, hint of sunning to left-margin of front panel, very good

£600

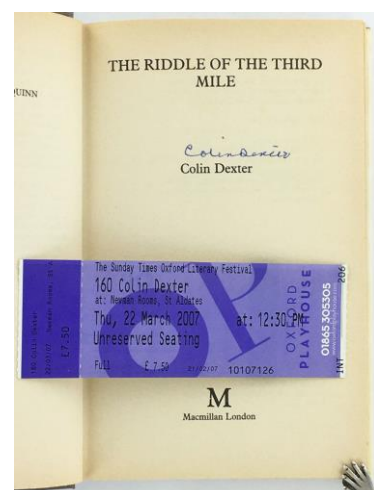
The author's first book, signed by him on the title-page.



11. Dexter (Colin) *The Riddle of the Third Mile*. Macmillan, 1983, *FIRST EDITION*, pages faintly toned as usual, pp. 224, crown 8vo, original grey boards, backstrip lettered in silver, edges toned and faintly spotted, very faint spotting to free endpapers offset from dustjacket flaps, dustjacket, very good

£175

Signed by the author on the title-page; the ticket for the event at which the signing took place, at

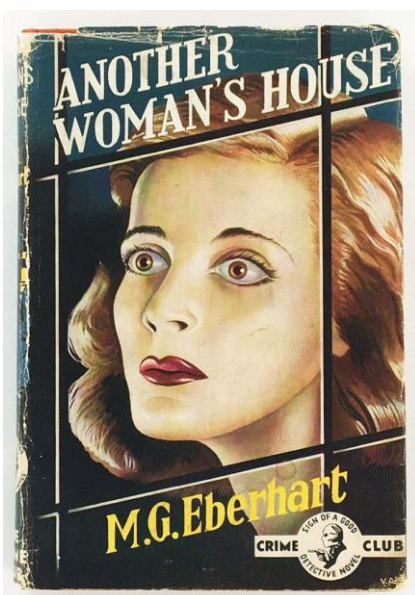
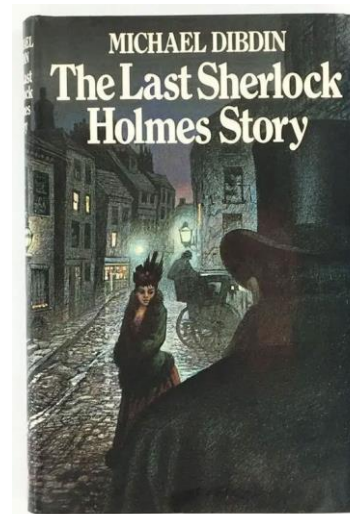


the Oxford Literary Festival 2007, is laid in at the front.

Dexter's sixth Morse novel, 'a story of marvellous ingenuity which features a number of dons from Lonsdale College Oxford' - the fictional alma mater of his detective. (*Further Dexter titles available*)

- 12. Dibdin (Michael) *The Last Sherlock Holmes Story*.** Jonathan Cape, 1978, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 192, crown 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, top edge blue, dustjacket with price crossed-through to front flap, fine
£150

The author's first book, bringing together Jack the Ripper and Sherlock Holmes. (*Further Dibdin titles available*)



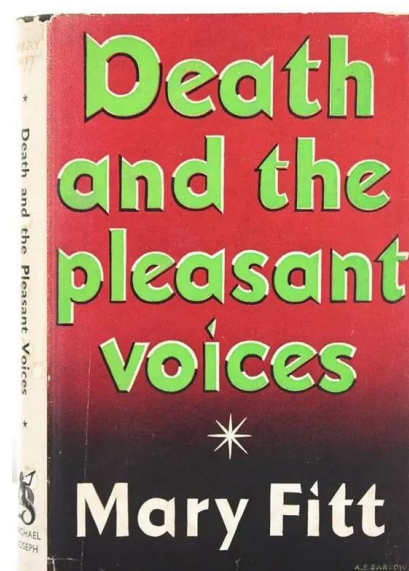
- 13. Eberhart (M.G.) *Another Woman's House*.** Crime Club by Collins, 1948, *FIRST ENGLISH EDITION*, fly leaf with ownership inscription, slight mark at lower edge of title verso, upper edges of final leaves with a few spots, pp. 192, 8vo, original crimson boards, small pale spots at upper edge of boards, dustjacket with nicks at folds, front panel upper edge creased, backstrip head with slight loss, very good
£375

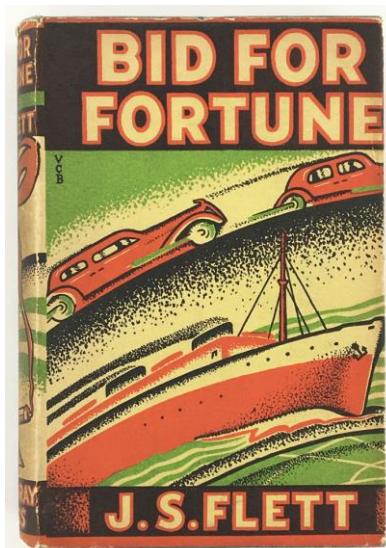
One of the few books which the hugely popular American crime writer wrote in the 1940s, (a period in which she divorced then re-married Alanson Eberhart), featuring, as often, an intricately drawn female protagonist, wealthy society, suspense and romance. (*Further Eberhart titles available*)

- 14. Fitt (Mary, pseud. for Kathleen Freeman) *Death and the Pleasant Voices*.** Michael Joseph, 1946, *FIRST EDITION*, a few tiny spots to half-title, pp. 208, crown 8vo, original black cloth, backstrip lettered in silver, light spotting to edges and endpapers, dustjacket by A.E. Barlow, very shallow chipping at head of backstrip panel, some faint spotting to white areas, the odd nick or very short closed tear, very good
£425

A scarce first edition.

Fitt was the pseudonym of classical scholar Kathleen Freeman, who was born in Birmingham, but lived in Wales for the majority of her adult life, with her partner Liliane Clopet.





15. **Flett (J.S.) *Bid for Fortune*.** *Edinburgh & London: The Moray Press, 1934, FIRST EDITION, prelims with a few tiny spots, pp. 278, [ii], [iv, ads], 8vo, original blue boards, backstrip lettered in blue with publisher's insignia, faint stain at lower edge of rear board, backstrip tips slightly pushed, striking dustjacket design, signed 'VCB' with speeding vehicles in red, green and black, repeating stain on rear panel (ink?), backstrip toned, with a few chips at head and foot, very good*

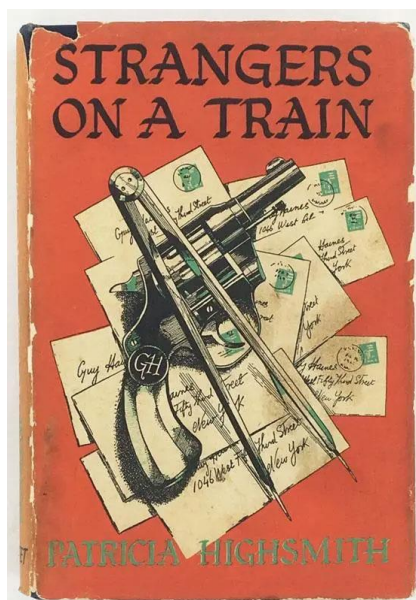
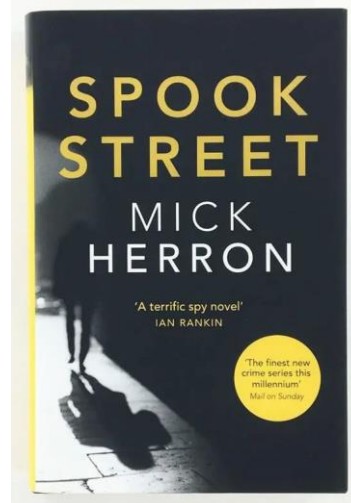
£300

A thoughtful thriller, with a striking dustjacket design, set in Stornaway and Newfoundland, featuring the smuggling of diamonds in herring barrels, inspired, in all probability, by the author's family trade - Flett, a leading name in the Hebridean herring business. On publication, it was reviewed favourably in the *Stornaway Gazette* by James Shaw Grant, 'the novel in many respects stands high in its class, and from the first page to the last it makes interesting reading... Anyone who has seen such a fishyard in operation on a fine day (they do occur in Stornaway) may be tempted to speculate whether Joe Flett may have found the inspiration for the diamonds' hiding place from the sunlight glinting on salt-crystals sparkling in dozens of barrels of herring.' (smothpubs.blogspot)

16. **Herron (Mick) *Spook Street*.** *John Murray, 2017, FIRST EDITION, pp. [x], 341, 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, dustjacket, fine*

£250

Signed by the author on the title-page; Herron has also written out a quote from the text: 'Listen and learn, grasshopper'. (*Further Herron titles available*)



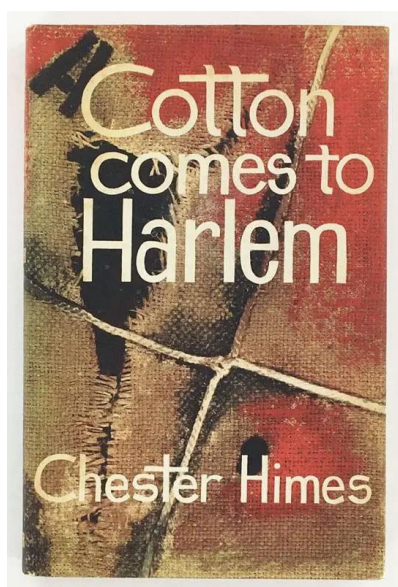
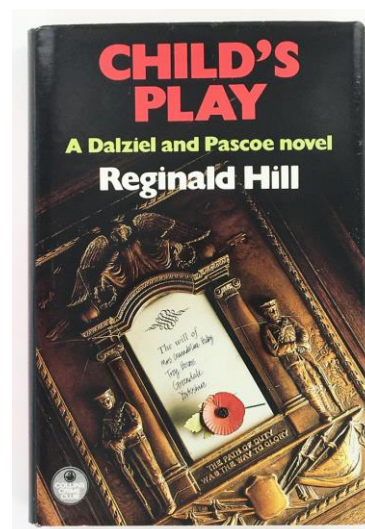
17. **Highsmith (Patricia) *Strangers on a Train*.** *Cresset Press, 1950, FIRST ENGLISH EDITION, incredibly faint spotting to half-title, pp. 307, crown 8vo, original dark blue cloth, backstrip and upper board lettered in gilt, touch of rubbing at extremities, faint spotting to edges, front endpapers replaced, dustjacket by J. Yunge-Bateman, price-clipped and with a short closed tear at foot of front flap, chipped and rubbed, the backstrip panel a shade faded, rear panel faintly dustsoiled with a couple of light marks, good*

£375

The author's first book - a stunning debut, and the basis for the Hitchcock film of the following year (the author bio on the rear flap notes that 'the film rights have already been sold'). (*Further Highsmith titles available*)

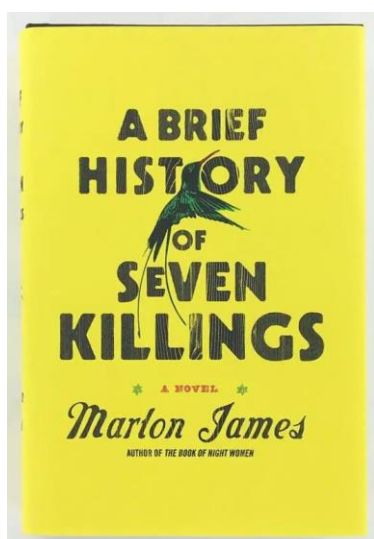
18. Hill (Reginald) *Child's Play*. A Dalziel and Pascoe novel. *The Crime Club* by Collins, 1987, *FIRST EDITION*, inscribed by the author on the title-page, 'For Sue, with very best wishes, Reginald Hill', usual faint marginal tanning, pp. 296, crown 8vo, original red boards, backstrip gilt-lettered, dustjacket with shadowed photo illustration of tomb with poppy, near fine
£165

A tragi-comedy police procedural, concerning a mysterious will and possibly faked death, investigated by the tenacious Dalziel and Pascoe duo, with the help of Wield, the usually one-dimensional policeman, who is much more fully realized in this, the ninth of the 24 book series. (*Further Hill titles available*)



19. Himes (Chester) *Cotton Comes to Harlem*. Frederick Muller, 1966, *FIRST ENGLISH EDITION*, pp. 192, crown 8vo, original terracotta boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, faintest of spotting to textblock edges, faint partial browning to free endpapers, dustjacket with a little browning to the rear panel, very good
£150

A Harlem Detective novel; the basis for the 1970 film.



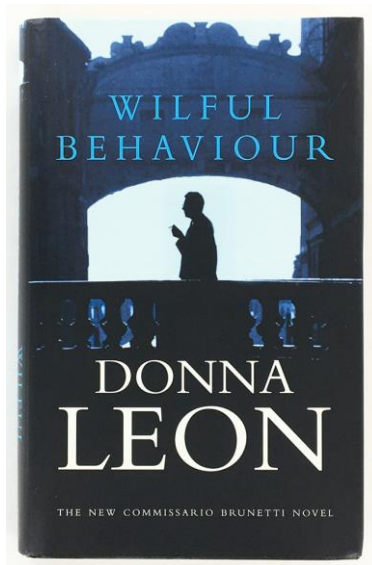
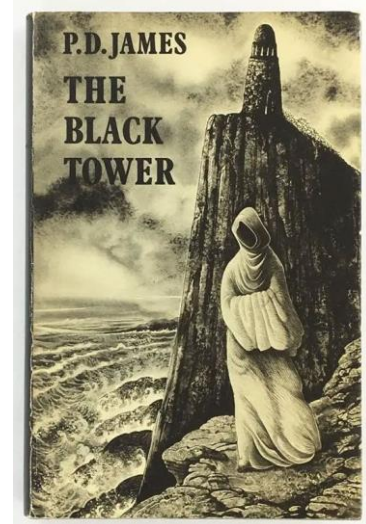
20. James (Marlon) *A Brief History of Seven Killings*. New York: Riverhead Books (Penguin), 2014, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. xiv, [1], 688, 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in white, dustjacket, fine
£300

Signed by the author on the title-page, and dated by him to 2015.

Set in New York and Jamaica in the 1970s and '80s, ending in 1991; the author's third novel, it won the Booker Prize in 2015. (*Further James titles available*)

21. **James (P.D.) *The Black Tower***. Faber and Faber, 1975, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 272, crown 8vo, original mid grey boards, backstrip gilt lettered, a couple of faint spots to top edge, dustjacket with a design by Errol Le Cain, slightly rubbed at extremities, with a touch of faint spotting at head of flaps, very good
£300

Signed by the author on the title-page, dated to 2012; the fifth appearance of her detective, Adam Dalgliesh.
(Further James titles available)

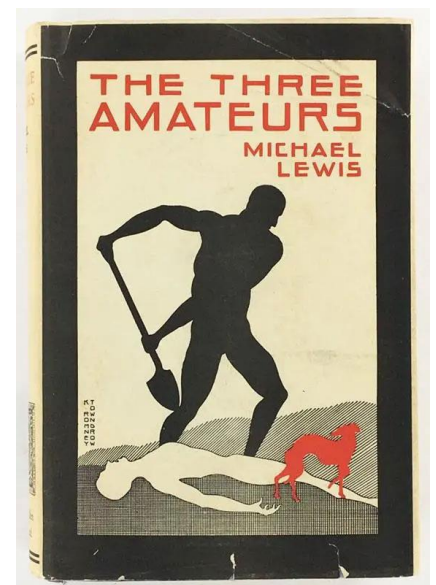


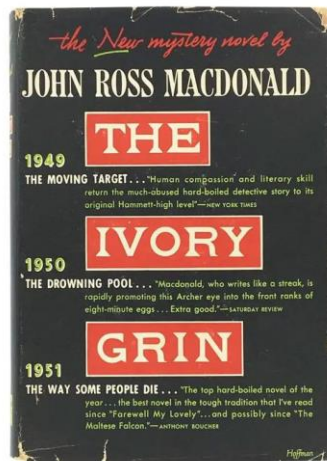
22. **Leon (Donna) *Wilful Behaviour***. William Heinemann, 2002, *FIRST EDITION*, signed by the author on the title-page, pp. 295, 8vo, original black boards, backstrip gilt-lettered, front board edge with slight dink, dustjacket backstrip head and foot a touch pushed, near fine
£40

The eleventh of the highly popular Commissario Brunetti series, featuring art history, war crimes, and the usual murder, set, as ever, in the shadowy Venetian cityscape. *(Further Leon titles available)*

23. **Lewis (Michael) *The Three Amateurs***. George Allen & Unwin, 1929, *FIRST EDITION*, a couple of very faint spots to prelims, pp. 316, crown 8vo, original purple cloth, backstrip lettered in gilt, this slightly faded and abraded to a mottled effect, a touch of this to boards also, textblock edges toned and very faintly spotted, ownership inscription to front pastedown, that at rear faintly spotted, dustjacket by K. Romney Towndrow, a few nicks and short closed tears with internal tape repair, some leading to a little creasing, very good
£400

A detective novel by an author known as a naval historian; after attending Trinity College, Cambridge, he pursued an academic career at various Royal Naval Colleges. The dustjacket is a striking design by K. Romney Towndrow, one of only a handful of designs in this medium by an artist whose work deserves wider appreciation.





24. **Macdonald (John Ross, pseud. for Kenneth Millar)** *The Ivory Grin*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1952, *FIRST EDITION* pp. [v], 240, crown 8vo, original patterned orange boards, the backstrip with lettering printed in black on a white panel, slight lean to spine with edges gently rubbed, top edge grey with others roughtrimmed, a couple of very faint spots to flyleaf, dustjacket slightly chipped, nicked and rubbed at extremities, very good

£1200

Inscribed by the author on the flyleaf, using a familiar form of his real name, to friends in Santa

Barbara - the setting for the Lew Archer novels: 'For Hugh and Josie, who have made Santa Barbara a more interesting place to live in. Affectionately, Ken'.

The fourth Lew Archer novel; the blurb compares the author to Dashiell Hammett, Raymond Chandler, and Eric Ambler. (*Further Macdonald titles available*)

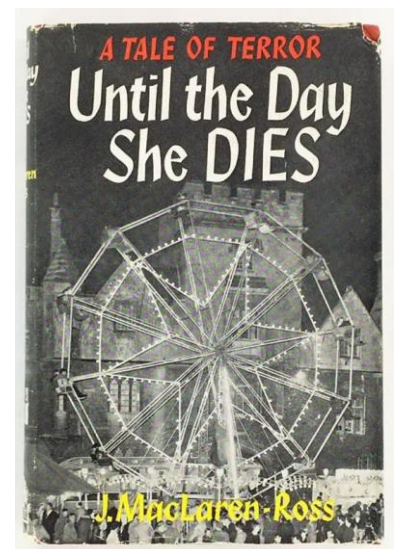
'The sinister possibilities of North Oxford'

25. **MacLaren-Ross (J. [Julian])** *Until the Day She Dies*. A Tale of Terror. Hamish Hamilton, 1960, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 186, [2], crown 8vo, original red boards, backstrip lettered in silver, ownership inscription to flyleaf, dustjacket using a photograph from the Oxford Mail, slightly nicked and rubbed at extremities with a chip at head of front flap-fold, very good

£450

The TLS review declared that 'If Mr Alfred Hitchcock were ever to turn his attention to the sinister possibilities of North Oxford, we might see something like a film version of *Until the Day She Dies*'.

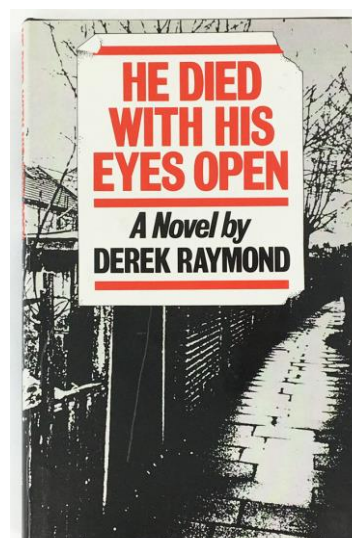
A scarce Oxford thriller from the Fitzrovia author; a nice copy. (*Further MacLaren-Ross titles available*)

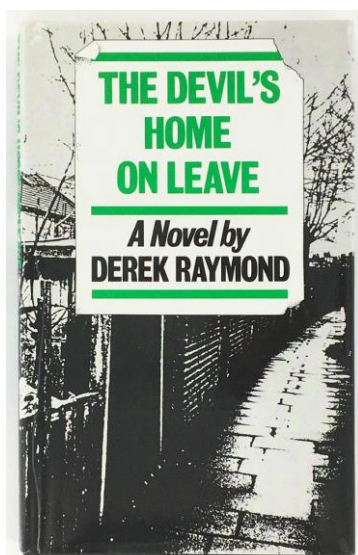


26. **Raymond (Derek, pseud. for Robert ['Robin'] Cook)** *He Died with His Eyes Open*. A Novel. Alison Press (Secker & Warburg), 1984, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 190, 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, dustjacket price-clipped with residue from price-sticker, near fine

£110

The first in the author's unflinching 'Factory' series.





27. **Raymond (Derek, pseud. for Robert ['Robin'] Cook)** *The Devil's Home on Leave*. A novel. *Alison Press (Secker & Warburg)*, 1984, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 205, 8vo, *original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, very slight lean to spine, dustjacket, near fine*

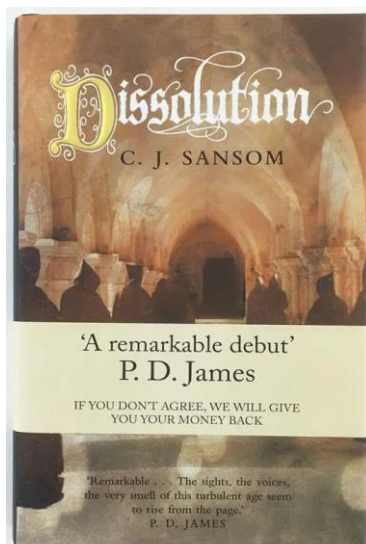
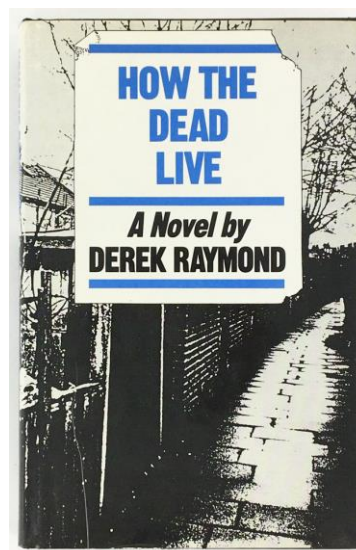
£50

The second 'Factory' novel, depicting 'the mean streets and sleazy pubs and clubs' of South London (blurb).

28. **Raymond (Derek, pseud. for Robert ['Robin'] Cook)** *How the Dead Live*. A novel. *Alison Press (Secker & Warburg)*, 1986, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. 203, 8vo, *original black boards, backstrip lettered in silver, dustjacket with a touch of creasing at ends of backstrip panel, near fine*

£45

The third novel in his lauded, gritty 'Factory' series.



29. **Sansom (C.J.)** *Dissolution* *Macmillan*, 2003, *FIRST EDITION*, pp. vii, 390, 8vo, *original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, small light-pressure-mark at foot of upper board, colour-printed endpaper maps, dustjacket with wraparound band (carrying the praise of P.D. James), near fine*

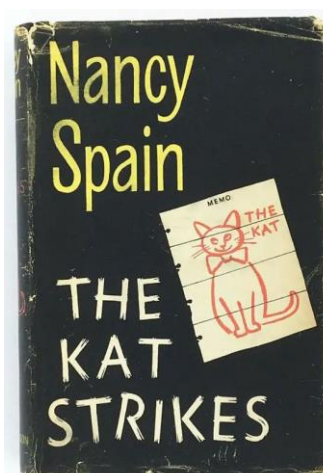
£600

Signed by the author on the title-page; a ticket for the event at which the book was signed, the Oxford Literary Festival 2009, is laid in.

The author's lauded debut, introducing his Tudor detective, Matthew Shardlake.

30. **Spain (Nancy)** *The Kat Strikes*. *Hutchinson*, 1955, *FIRST EDITION*, a few small spots to borders of prelims, pp. 216, crown 8vo, *original black boards, backstrip lettered in yellow with cat decoration in same, - gentle knock to top corner of upper board, sprinkling of spots to textblock edges, dustjacket a little rubbed, nicked and chipped, good*

£175



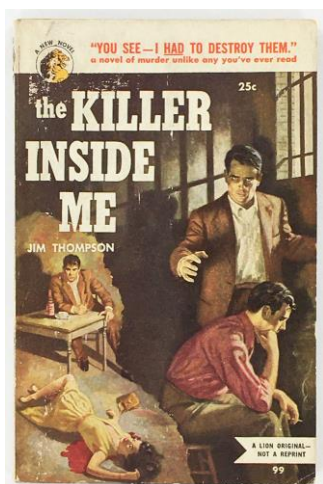
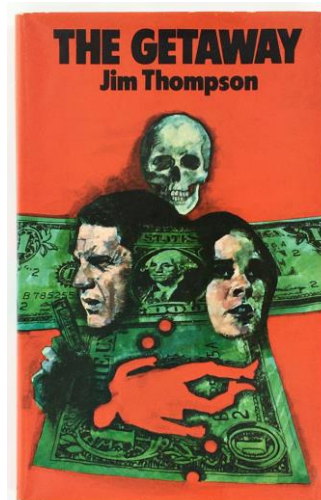
Inscribed by the author, without dedication, on the flyleaf: 'With love from Nancy Spain'.

A feminist crime novel - the eponymous heroine, with 'the legs of Marlene Dietrich' and 'the face of a Botticelli angel', 'leaves the Army with £120 in her pocket' and sets about tackling the London underworld (blurb). (*Further Spain titles available*)

31. Thompson (Jim) *The Getaway*. *W.H. Allen, 1972, FIRST ENGLISH EDITION*, pp. [iv], 187, crown 8vo, original black boards, backstrip lettered in gilt, a touch of faint surface abrasion at head of upper board, dustjacket with a design by Michael Bell, a mite rubbed at extremities, near fine

£225

The UK edition is published in the same year that the Sam Peckinpah film was released - it is also the first hardback edition.



32. Thompson (Jim) *The Killer Inside Me*. *New York: A Lion Book, 1952, FIRST EDITION*, paper faintly browned throughout, pp. 160, foolscap 8vo, original wrappers, some very faint dustsoiling and a touch of creasing at extremities, very good

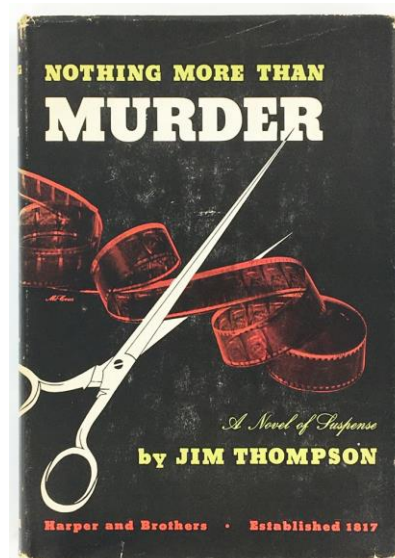
£200

A paperback original, Thompson's 'noir' is of a particularly dark variety - his Texas deputy sheriff, Lou Ford, leading a fatal double-existence. The basis for two film adaptations.

33. Thompson (Jim) *Nothing More than Murder*. *New York: Harper & Brothers, [1949,] FIRST EDITION*, pp. [vi], 234, 8vo, original green cloth, the backstrip lettering and publisher's device to upper board stamped in black, a touch of wear at extremities, textblock edges toned with fore-edge roughtrimmed, dustjacket slightly nicked, chipped and rubbed at extremities, very good

£800

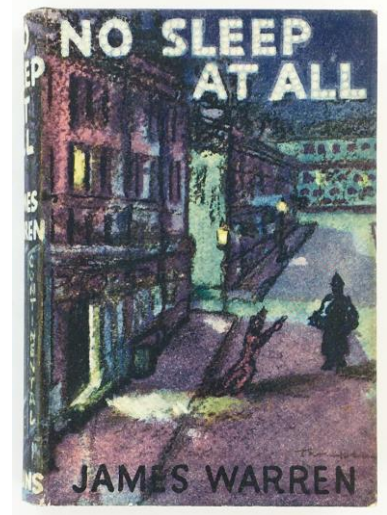
A 'first-rate novel of suspense', the author's breakout work - establishing him as a major voice in the 'hardboiled' brand of crime fiction.



34. Warren (James) *No Sleep at All*. Collins, 1941, *FIRST EDITION*, title-page inscribed by the author, 'To E.G. new[?] with sincere wishes James Warren', text block fore-edge with a few spots, pp. 252, [iii, ads], 8vo, original blue boards, backstrip lettered in black, backstrip head and foot slightly pushed, dustjacket rear panel very faintly toned, very good

£325

The author's first novel, set in the seedy world of London's nightclubs, featuring a bright young policeman who falls for a cabaret dancer who 'is horrified to find that the dashing Jimmy is simply a smart Alec of a copper' (blurb). The dustjacket design, the murky street scene printed in blues and purples beneath the title letters dotted with cabaret bulbs is particularly atmospheric.



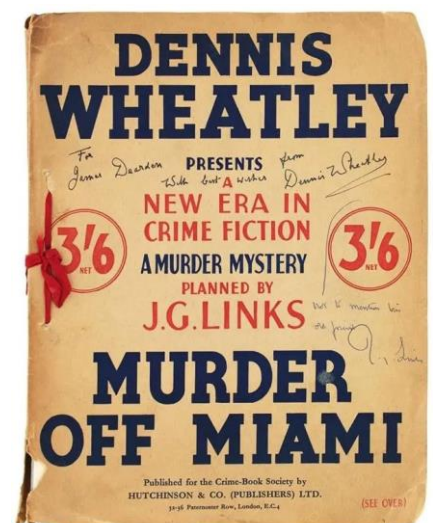
Inscribed by Links and Wheatley

35. Wheatley (Dennis) and J.G. Links. [Cover title:] *Murder Off Miami*. Hutchinson for the Crime-Book Society, [1936,] *FIRST EDITION*, dossier containing 138 reproductions of type-written A4 sheets, 2 clues (a snippet of hair and a match) in mounted tissue sachets, a section of curtain also, 14 plates of photographs of people posing as characters in the dossier and facsimiles of letters and telegrams, that part of the dossier giving details solving the murder has been opened, as usual, one or two spots, 4to, original buff wrappers with ribbon-tie, a little nicked and creased to overhanging edges, chipped at foot of upper joint, good

£300

Inscribed on the front cover: 'For James Dearden, With best wishes from Dennis Wheatley', beneath which is added (by his collaborator) 'not to mention his old friend, J.G. Links'.

The first of Wheatley and Links' Murder Mystery dossiers - announcing 'a new era in crime fiction', and uncommon inscribed.



36. Wilson (Colin) *Ritual in the Dark*. Victor Gollancz, 1960, *FIRST EDITION*, small spot carrying through fore-margin of prelims, small drinkstain at foot of central spread, some creasing to paperstock in one gathering, pp. 416, crown 8vo, original red boards, backstrip lettered in black, slight lean to spine, textblock edges toned with a few small spots, dustjacket in bright condition with some slight creasing, wraparound band present, very good £350

Signed by the author on the title-page; his debut novel, documenting a modern-day Jack the Ripper.

