

Midwinter Sacrifice

Author: Mons Kallentoft

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton

RRP: \$29.99

A hanging, mutilated body is found during Sweden's coldest winter in living memory. The investigator, Detective Malin Fors, has an instinct for her job – she picks up on the rhythms and nuances that others are too hasty or not intuitive enough to notice.

The rest of the time, she is a single mum with a teenage daughter. She doesn't sleep well, her car doesn't like starting in winter, and she has irritatingly demanding parents.

The discovery of the body is the beginning of a long, nasty, twisting case for the Violent Crimes Squad in Linköping. Identifying him and slowly reeling in the answers as to why he is dead, takes Fors and her colleagues into a place colder than the frost-crustured woods outside the city.

Truth Dare Kill

Author: Gordon Ferris

Publisher: Atlantic

RRP: \$29.99

It's 1945. The war is over. But there are no medals for Danny McRae, just amnesia and blackouts: twin handicaps for a private investigator, especially with a filthy rich client on the hook for murder.

McRae's blackouts mean that entire hours, or days, of his life are a complete blank. So, when the news of a brutal killer stalking London's red-light district begins to stir up some grisly memories, McRae is terrified about what he might discover if he starts to investigate his own fractured mind.

As these two bloody affairs overlap, McRae finds himself running for his life across the bomb-ravaged city. His only escape is offered by events he can't remember.

Ian Fleming's Commandos: The Story of No. 30 Assault Unit in WWII

Author: Nicholas Rankin

Publisher: Faber

RRP: \$39.99

In 1942, Lieutenant-Commander Ian Fleming RNVR was personal assistant



to the director of naval intelligence – the dynamic figure behind James Bond's fictional chief, "M".

In the Admiralty, Fleming had a brilliant idea: why not set up a unit of authorized looters, men who would go in with front-line troops to steal enemy intelligence?

Known as 30 Assault Unit, they took part in the landings in North Africa, Sicily and Normandy and helped liberate Paris. But 30AU really came into its own in Germany in 1945; and their final amazing coup was to seize the entire archives of the German navy – over 300 tons of documents.

Ian Fleming flew out in person to bring the loot back to Britain, where it was combed for evidence to use in the Nuremberg trials.

The Impossible Dead

Author: Ian Rankin

Publisher: Orion

RRP: \$32.99

Malcolm Fox and his team from Internal Affairs have been sent to Fife to investigate whether fellow cops covered up for corrupt colleague Detective Paul Carter.

Carter has been found guilty of misconduct, with his own uncle, also in the force, having proved to be his nephew's nemesis.

But what should be a simple job is soon complicated by intimations of

conspiracy and cover-up – and a brutal murder committed with a weapon that should not even exist.

The spiralling investigation takes Fox back to 1985, a year of turmoil in British political life. Terrorists, intent on a split between Scotland and the rest of the United Kingdom were sending letter bombs and poisonous spores to government offices and plotting kidnaps and murders.

Fox has a duty to get at the truth, while the body count rises.

Feast Day of Fools

Author: James Lee Burke

Publisher: Orion

RRP: \$32.99

In the harshly beautiful landscape of south Texas, Sherriff Hackberry Holland is facing more drug-fuelled murder and mayhem from across the Mexican border.

He patrols a small southwest Texas border town with a deep respect for the citizens in his care. Still mourning the loss of his cherished wife, Holland is locked in a perilous almost-romance with his deputy, Pam Tibbs, a woman many decades his junior.

After alcoholic ex-boxer Danny Boy Lorca witnesses a man tortured to death in the desert and reports it, Holland's investigation leads him to the home of Anton Ling, who is known for sheltering illegals.