

Booked To Die Cliff Janeway 1 John Dunning

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Discover the darkest side of the Garden State with this anthology of gritty mystery stories. Akashic Books continues its award-winning series of original noir anthologies, launched in 2004 with Brooklyn Noir. Each volume is comprised of all-new stories, each one set in a distinct location within the geographical area of the book. In New Jersey Noir, a star-studded cast of authors sifts through the hidden dirt of the Garden State. Featuring brand-new stories (and a few poems) by Joyce Carol Oates, Jonathan Safran Foer, Robert Pinsky, Edmund White & Michael Ondaatje, Gerald Stern, Lou Manfredo, S.A. Solomon, Bradford Morrow, Jonathan Santofier, Jeffrey Ford, S.J. Rozan, Barry N. Malzberg & Bill Pronzini, Hirsh Sawhney, and Robert Arellano. Praise for New Jersey Noir: "Oates's introduction to Akashic's noir volume dedicated to the Garden State, with its evocative definition of the genre, is alone worth the price of the book . . . Highlights include Lou Manfredo's 'Soul Anatomy,' in which a politically connected rookie cop is involved in a fatal shooting in Camden. S.J. Rozan's 'New Day Newark,' in which an elderly woman takes a fall which a struggling Hoboken artist finds his muse. . . . Poems by C.K. Williams, Paul Muldoon, and others—plus photos by Gerald Slota—enhance this distinguished entry." —Publishers Weekly "It was inevitable that this fine noir series would reach New Jersey. It took longer than some readers might have wanted, but, oh boy, was it worth the wait . . . More than most of the entries in the series, this volume is about mood and atmosphere more than it is about plot and character. . . . It should go without saying that regular readers of the noir series will seek this misuderstood term and style of writing." —Booklist, Starred Review "A lovingly collected assortment of tales and poems that range from the disturbing to the darkly humorous." —Shelf Awareness

Sophie Lawson should be enjoying her sister's wedding day. But nothing could have prepared her to see the best man again. After her mother became bedridden and her father balled on the family, Sophie found herself serving as a second mother to her twin brother, Seth, and younger sister, Jenna. Sophie supported her siblings through their college years, putting aside her own dream of opening a bookshop in Piper's Cove—the quaint North Carolina beach town they frequented as children. Now it's finally time for Sophie to follow her own pursuits. Seth has a reputation Sophie will best man Aiden Maddox, her high school sweetheart who left her without a backward glance. When an advancing hurricane strands Aiden in Piper's Cove after the wedding, he finds the hotels booked to capacity and has to ask Sophie to put him up until the storm passes. As the two ride out the weather, old feelings rise to the surface. The delay also leaves Sophie with mere days to get her bookshop up and running. Can she trust Aiden to stick around? And will he find the courage to risk his heart? Praise for Bookshop by the Sea: "Sophie's second-chance romance in Bookshop by the Sea. I adored this story! Five giant stars!" —Jenny Hale, USA TODAY bestselling author "Denise Hunter has never failed to pen a novel that whispers messages of hope and brings a smile to my face. Bookshop by the Sea is no different! With a warmhearted community, a small beachside town, a second-chance romance worth rooting for, and cozy bookshop vibes, this is a story you'll want to snuggle into like a warm blanket." —Melissa Ferguson, author of The Dating Charade Sweet and thoughtful contemporary fiction

The Bookman's Wake

The Expected One

A King's Ransom

Devil's Garden

Discover the secret missions behind America's greatest conflicts. Danny Manion has been fighting his entire life. Sometimes with his fists. Sometimes with his words. But when his actions finally land him in real trouble, he can't fight the judge who offers him a choice: jail... or the army. Turns out there's a perfect place for him in the US military: the Studies and Observation Group (SOG), an elite volunteer-only task force comprised of US Air Force Commandos, Army Green Berets, Navy SEALs, and even a CIA agent or two. With the SOG's focus on covert action and psychological warfare, Danny is guaranteed an unusual tour of duty, and a hugely dangerous one. Fortunately, the very same qualities that got him in trouble at home make him a natural-born commando in a secret war. Even if almost nobody knows he's there. National Book Award finalist Chris Lynch begins a new, explosive fiction series based on the real-life, top-secret history of US black ops.

Widely acclaimed for his groundbreaking crime novels Booked to Die and The Bookman's Wake, award-winning author John Dunning triumphantly returns with a riveting new thriller that takes us back to the summer of 1942, when radio was in its prime, when daylight saving time gave way to "wartime," when stations like WHAR on the New Jersey coast struggled to create programming that entertained and inspired a nation in its dark hour. On this intense community of radio artists and technicians in Regina Beach, New Jersey, come Jack Dulaney and Holly Carmahan. They are determined to find Holly's missing father, whose last desperate word came from his noisy seaside town. Holly sings like an angel and has what it takes to become a star. Jack -- a racetrack hot-walker and novelist who's hit every kind of trouble in his travels from sea to sea -- tries out as a writer at WHAR and soon discovers a passion for radio and a natural talent for script writing. While absorbing the ways of radio, from writing to directing, he meets some extraordinarily brave and gifted people who touch his life in ways he could not have imagined -- actresses Rue, Pauline, and Holly; actor-director Waldo, creator of the magnificent black show Freedom Road; and enigmatic station owner Loren Harford, among others. Jack's zeal for radio is exceeded only by his devotion to Holly, who needs his help but who is terrified for his safety. Strange things are happening in Regina Beach, starting with an English actor who walked out of the station six years ago and was never seen again. And Holly's father is gone too, in equally puzzling circumstances. As Jack and Holly penetrate deeper into the shadows of the past, they learn that someone will do anything, including murder, to hide some devastating truths. In a stunning novel that transcends genre, John Dunning calls upon his vast knowledge of radio and his incisive reading of history to create a poignant, page-turning work of fiction that sheds new insights on some of the most harrowing events of the twentieth century. Like E. L. Doctorow's Billy Bathgate or Caleb Carr's The Alienist, Dunning's brilliant tale of mystery, murder, and revenge brings to life another time, another place, another world.

When a circus tent fire results in the death of a young girl, reporter Dalton Walker searches for leads while juggling a second story about a young Amish woman who left her home to become a dancer in the Big Apple. Reprint. Tour. Under the heartless wail of Greenland's arctic sky the body of a girl is discovered. Half-naked and tied up, buried hundreds of miles from any signs of life, she has lain alone, hidden in the ice cap, for twenty-five years. Now an ice melt has revealed her. When Detective Chief Superintendent Konrad Simonsen is flown in to investigate this horrific murder and he sees how she was attacked, it triggers a dark memory and he realizes this was not the killer's only victim. As Simonsen's team works to discover evidence that has long since been buried, they unearth truths that certain people would prefer stayed forgotten. Disturbing details about the moral standing of some of Denmark's political figures are revealed and powerful individuals are suddenly working against the case. But the pressure is on as it becomes clear that the killer chooses victims who all look unsettlingly similar, a similarity that may be used to the investigators' advantage--just so long as they can keep the suspect in their sights.

A Cliff Janeway "Bookman" Novel

Unconventional Warfare (Special Forces, Book 1)

The Best Laid Plans

The Vanished

The Bookman's Promise

A killer is on the loose, blurring the line between fact and fiction. His prey - the writers of crime novels who have turned psychological profilers into the heroes of the nineties. But this killer is like no other. His bloodlust shatters all the conventional wisdom surrounding the motives and mechanics of how serial killers operate. And for one woman, the desperate hunt to uncover his identity becomes a matter of life and death. Professor Fiona Cameron is an academic psychologist who uses computer technology to help police forces track serial offenders. She used to help the Met, but vowed never to work for them again when they went against her advice and subsequently botched an investigation. Still smarting from the experience, she's working a case in Toledo when her lover, thriller writer Kit Martin, tells her a fellow crime novelist has been murdered. It's not her case, but Fiona can't help taking an interest. When the killer strikes again Fiona finds herself caught in a race against time - not only to save a life but also to find redemption, both personal and professional. Rich in atmosphere, Val McDermid's Killing the Shadows uses the backdrops of city and country to create an air of threatening menace, culminating in a tense confrontation between hunter and hunted, a confrontation that can have only one outcome.

BERNT LUND IS AN UNREPENTANT MONSTER. AND NOW HE'S ON THE LOOSE. . . . AN UNFLINCHING EXPLORATION OF WHAT PEOPLE--BOTH CRIMINALS AND VICTIMS--ARE CAPABLE OF WHEN THEY RELINQUISH SELF-CONTROL. "BLISTERING." --PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (STARRED REVIEW) "PROVOCATIVE." --BOOKLIST (STARRED REVIEW) "THIS IS NO STANDARD THRILLER." --KIRKUS REVIEWS Bernt Lund harbors a sickness. He is a monster, an unrepentant child molester and serial killer. In the mind of society, in the minds of his nine-year-old victims' parents, and in the minds of his fellow inmates, he is a waking nightmare. And now he has escaped from custody--the worst scenario imaginable for Aspås Prison's Department for Sexual Crimes. Detective Superintendent Ewert Grens is about to encounter the most profoundly appalling case in his career, and perhaps in Stockholm's history. During the course of one long, hot summer, Sweden will face an explosive series of events that spread across the country like wildfire, events that call into question the very nature of humanity, duty, forgiveness, and self-defense. And justice.

There are secrets that must remain buried. . . . Nine people have been slain in New York City—nine strangers with nothing in common—the apparent victims of a frighteningly elusive serial killer. Only one thing links the dead: postcards they received, mailed from Las Vegas, announcing the day they would die. Assigned to the case is a legendary FBI profiler with a troubled past, a drinking problem, and nothing left to lose. . . . Abandoned to a monastery is an unwanted son born under a curse on the seventh day of the seventh month of the year 777 . . . Unprepared for a momentous discovery is a post-World War II expedition into the crypts of a clandestine medieval society. . . . but all lead to a secret embroiled in destiny, history, evil, faith, and corruption. . . . and one terrifying truth that no one must ever know. . . .

A WWI widow investigates murder—and her late husband's secrets—in “this engrossing series launch” by the Daphne Award-winning author (Publishers Weekly). England, 1919. Verity Kent's grief over the loss of her husband pierces anew when she receives a cryptic letter suggesting her beloved Sidney may have committed treason before his untimely death. Determined to dull her pain with revelry, Verity's first impulse is to dismiss the claim. But the mystery sender knows too much—including the fact that during the war, Verity worked for the Secret Service, something not even Sidney knew. Lured to Umbersea Island to attend the engagement party of one of Sidney's fellow officers, Verity discovers dark secrets among the veterans—along with a murder meant to conceal them. Relying on little more than a coded letter, a dashing stranger, and her own sharp instincts, Verity pursues a deadly trail that leads her to a shocking truth. . . . “My favorite new mystery series!”—Alyssa Maxwell, USA Today bestselling author “Sure to please fans of classic whodunits and lovers of historical fiction alike.”—Jessie Crockett, author of Whispers Beyond the Veil

The Vig

Looking for Ginger North

Death by the Book

Booked to Die

Sandrine's Case

Lying at the bottom of his apartment stairs, a postman is found dead. At first glance, his death appears to be a simple fall, a straightforward accident and the perfect case for Detective Chief Superintendent Konrad Simonsen to return to after a severe heart attack. But when he is called to investigate, new forensic evidence comes to light and something doesn't add up. Did the postman fall or was he pushed? When life-size images of a girl are discovered plastering the walls of the dead man's attic, the case takes a new and sinister turn. Who is she? Could she be alive? Soon the homicide team find themselves delving into the past, but as they approach the truth, Simonsen discovers long-hidden skeletons in his own closet.

Booked to Die& Cliff Janeway NovelSimon and Schuster

Jack Susko is enjoying a quiet life as the owner of a secondhand bookstore, preferably in the company of his cat rather than actual paying customers. But when Hammond Kasprovicz, a crabby but wealthy businessman, offers Jack some easy money, of course Jack doesn't turn down the offer. After all, what problem could there possibly be with locating as many copies as possible of the works of an obscure poet? And who cares what Hammond wants to do with them? For all that Jack cares, he could burn them. Which, in fact, is exactly what Hammond does. But very soon, books aren't the only things disappearing. . . .

Denver cop-turned-bookdealer Cliff Janeway is lured by an enterprising fellow ex-policeman into going to Seattle to bring back a fugitive wanted for assault, burglary, and the possible theft of a priceless edition of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven." The bail jumper turns out to be a vulnerable young woman calling herself Eleanor Rigby, who is also a gifted book finder. Janeway is intrigued by the woman -- and by the deadly history surrounding the rare volume. Hunted by people willing to kill for the antique tome, a terrified Eleanor escapes and disappears. To find her -- and save her -- Janeway must unravel the secrets of the book's past and its mysterious maker, for only then can he stop the hand of death from turning another page. . . .

Bookscout

Run and Hide (An Eva Driscoll Thriller Book 1)

New Jersey Noir

Booked Twice

This Side of Murder

From the New York Times bestselling author of the Quinn Colson series comes a noir crime classic about one of the most notorious trials in American history. San Francisco, September 1921: Silent-screen comedy star Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle is throwing a wild party in his suite at the St. Francis Hotel--girls, jazz, bootleg hooch. . . .and a dead actress named Virginia Rappe. The D.A. says it was Arbuckle who killed her--crushed her under his weight--and brings him up on manslaughter charges. William Randolph Hearst's newspapers stir up the public and demand a guilty verdict. In desperation, Arbuckle's defense team hires an operative from the famed Pinkerton detective agency to investigate and, they hope, discover the truth. The agent's name is Dashiell Hammett. . . . and what he discovers will change American legal history--and his own life--forever

At a California racetrack, an ex-cop is haunted by his mother's suicide The old wooden tower looms over the racetrack, an eyecore that is too famous to tear down. To Wes Harrison, it is more than an architectural curiosity; it is a bitter reminder of Ginger North, the track employee who, three decades earlier, leapt from the tower to her death. Around the track, she is a legend, something to reminisce about in between races, but to Harrison, Ginger North is much more: she was his mother. A troubled ex-cop, Harrison drifts into the world of the racetrack as a way of connecting with his mother's spirit. Armed with a few old case files, he takes a job on the grounds, seeking answers about Ginger's death. Standing in his way are certain people--jockeys, trainers, grooms, and owners--who do not want the truth to come out. Conflict is natural among those who work with horses, but at this track, the competition could be deadly.

There's only so long you can run for your life. Eva Driscoll is used to chasing down bad guys, but now the bad guys are chasing her. She knows they won't stop until she's dead. After her brother is killed in a faked suicide, Driscoll teams up with ex-soldier Rees Colback, the one person who can help her find answers. Together they're determined to uncover why members of his Special Forces squad are dying in mysterious circumstances. But with every agency in the country in hot pursuit, their only choice is to flee. The clock is ticking. They can't run forever. It's time to make a choice: kill or be killed.

When Joey Molina kills himself in the Bright Ideas bookstore's upper room, clerk Lydia's life comes unglued. As she untangles the mystery of Joey's suicide, she unearths a long buried memory from her own violent childhood.

The Reader

Deadline

The Godwulf Manuscript

A Mystery

Jack and Pig

Billy Abrahams is a career criminal who makes a very good living from violence, armed robbery, sex shops, and theft from other criminals. But he becomes increasingly haunted by childhood ghosts and by the ever-growing influence of Danny, his psychopathic partner in crime. Billy finds himself starting to look beyond the violence and the scams, slowly descending into a drug-fueled netherworld that affects his judgment and his perceptions. He is finally tipped over the edge when Danny commits an act even Billy cannot stomach. And that's when things really go wrong. This explosive first novel from a reformed career criminal comes with authenticity stamped throughout.

For a rare book, a desperate buyer turns to violence Six days a week, Joel Beer hunts for books in Denver. He stalks them in bookstores and thrift stores, at yard sales and estate sales, his eyes scanning spines quickly and ruthlessly, searching for the \$0.25 gem that he can resell for \$250. If he were the only scout in town, he might be able to make a living, but there are close to a dozen full-timers now—including his archrival, Popeye Lamonica—and Joel is having trouble paying his rent. Facing eviction, Joel and his partner—a slow-witted vagrant named Lacy hunt for rare books to sell to a collector who offers a \$0.50 copy of Walter Behr's Something for Nothing that is worth \$500. But Popeye sees it, too. To make this treasure his, Joel will do whatever it takes—even if it means sacrificing his career.

Hailed for its colled eroticism and the moral claims it makes upon the reader, this mesmerizing novel is a story of love and secrets, horror and compassion, unfolding against the haunted landscape of postwar Germany. When he falls ill on his way home from school, fifteen-year-old Michael Berg is rescued by Hanna, a woman twice his age. In time she becomes his lover—then she inexplicably disappears. When Michael next sees her, he is a young law student, and she is on trial for a hideous crime. As he watches her refuse to defend her innocence, Michael grasps that Hanna may be guarding a secret she considers more shameful than murder.

Together for the first time in an omnibus edition are the first two Cliff Janeway novels--"Booked to Die" and "Bookman's Wake."

A Novel

A Cliff Janeway Novel

Booked to Die and The Bookman's Wake

The Man with a Load of Mischief

Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore

Former San Francisco lawyer Dismas Hardy is being hunted by one of the thugs he once put away in this thriller from New York Times bestselling author John Leercroart. Soldier. Cop. Lawyer. Dismas Hardy's done the tough jobs, and had some tough luck. Now he's kicking back and tending bar at the Shamrock in San Francisco. But the past returns in the form of Rusty Ingraham—a former fellow prosecutor who drops by for a drink, warning Hardy that a perp they put away nearly ten years ago just got released...and might still be looking for revenge. Next thing Hardy knows, Ingraham's houseboat becomes a murder scene, with a dead woman on board and Ingraham, presumably, at the bottom of the bay. To save himself, Hardy's got to solve the case. But there's more than one kind of payback, and it's not just the ex-con who might have wanted it. Now, as he tangles with a mob enforcer, a rejected lover, and a renegade cop, Hardy is haunted by the knowledge that the later you pay, the steeper the price...

Denver detective Cliff Janeway suspects that Jackie Newton, a psychopath who recently beat the rap for a series of vagrant killings, is responsible for the murder of a rare book hunter.

WINNER OF CBC CANADA READS Here's the set up: A burnt-out political aide quits just before an election—but is forced to run a hopeless campaign on the way out. He makes a deal with a crusty old Scot. Angus McLintock—an engineering professor who will do anything, anything, to avoid teaching English to engineers—to let his name stand in the election. No need to campaign, certain to lose, and so on. Then a great scandal blows away his opponent, and to their horror, Angus is elected. He checks out the good news, but the bad news is that he's elected to do in Parliament. The results are hilarious—and with chess, a hoverscraft, and the love of a good woman thrown in, this very funny book has something for everyone.

From bestselling author Martha Grimes, Detective Chief Inspector Richard Jury is back on the case in an installment in the Richard Jury Mystery series. Long Piddleton had always been wary of newcomers. But the quiet town was stunned when the first stranger was found dead, upended in a butt of ale in the cellar of the Men with a Load of Mischief. Then the second body appeared, swinging in place of the mechanical man above the door of the Jack and Hammer. Suddenly Long Piddleton had good reason to be wary of everyone! Its cozy pubs and inns with their polished pewter and blazing hearths had become scenes of the most bizarre crimes. Who were the victims? And who was the murderer? A stranger? A maniac? Or the disarmingly friendly man next door?

Bookshop by the Sea

Godless Country

The Sign of the Book

A Mystery Introducing Cliff Janeway

The Bookman's Last Fling

From New York Times bestselling author John Dunning comes a riveting Cliff Janeway Bookman novel, combining captivating book lore with page-turning suspense. Occasionally, Denver bookman Cliff Janeway has one of those perfect days—he sells a couple of good books and he buys something even better—perhaps a tough-to-find Steinbeck in mint condition. Even the jacket is fine. Working from his store on seedy Colfax Avenue, Janeway doesn't have enough of those days, but he's not complaining. Things are looking up because of his new partner and friend, lawyer Erin d'Angelo. So when Erin asks Janeway for a favor, it's hard to say no. She wants him to go over the mountain to the small town of Paradise where a former good friend, Laura Marshall, is in jail, accused of killing her husband. What happened at the Marshalls' remote mountain home? Did Laura kill Bobby, or is she trying to protect her oldest son? And where were the three children when the shooting occurred? What did they see? Rich with the intricacies of book collecting that only an expert like John Dunning can offer, The Sign of the Book is a beautifully crafted, entrancing novel of suspense from the consummate bookman himself.

The author of five bestselling novels, including Under Cover of Darkness and The Pardon, James Grippando writes compulsively readable thrillers that could be drawn from today's headlines, only better. Now his trademark gifts are wonderfully demonstrated in a taut new tale of intrigue that will keep you guessing to the final, breathtaking scene. Just two years out of law school, Nick Rey is on the career fast track at a hot Miami law firm when he is suddenly plunged headfirst into a dangerous bid to save his father. Matthew Rey has been kidnapped while on business in Columbia's exotic port city of Cartagena. The ransom demand of three million dollars is far more than the Rey family can ever hope to raise. Fortunately, Matthew had purchased an insurance policy to protect against just such a threat. Unfortunately, the kidnappers seem to know all about the policy, and the insurance company, suspecting fraud, is refusing to pay out. With nowhere to turn, Nick links up with Alex, a beautiful, street-smart woman who may be the only person capable of negotiating with Matthew's abductors. But Nick soon discovers that the gravest dangers to him and his family are not the kidnappers and their guns, but the men in suits: lawyers, to be exact, at a powerful firm with something to hide, and they will stop at nothing to keep Nick from unleashing the truth.

Clayton Guthrie is a private fixer for the aristocracy of New York City. His latest job is to protect a Manhattan heiress from a dangerous stalker. He hires retired bodyguard Abraham Swabe to protect her while he runs a trap operation assisted by his young operative, Rachel Vasquez, who juggles her new responsibilities while suffering from the shaky aftereffects of a shootout. Guthrie and Vasquez pursue the stalker across the city, from watching a quiet townhouse on the Upper East Side, to staking out New York University around Tompkins Square, and even crawling through the grimy industrial alleys of Brooklyn. Searching for the stalker's hideout, they learn the identity of one of his previous victims. She was murdered, but the killer is still at large. Dark, riveting and hardboiled, Hunt's sequel to Cuts Through Bone is a thrilling mystery, sure to cement his reputation as one of crime fiction's most promising new authors.

Booked to Die, the first book in John Dunning's bestselling, award-winning Cliff Janeway series, is "a joy to read for its wealth of inside knowledge about the antiquarian book business and its eccentric traders" (The New York Times Book Review). Denver homicide detective Cliff Janeway may not always play by the book, but he's an avid collector of rare and first editions. Bobby Westfall is a local bookscout, a gentle and quiet man who has sold enough valuable books to keep himself and his cats fed and housed. When Bobby is murdered, Janeway would like nothing better than to rearrange the suspect's spine. But the suspect, local lowlife Jackie Newton, is a master at eluding the law, and Janeway's wrathful brand of off-duty justice costs him his badge. Turning to his lifelong passion, Janeway opens a small bookshop—all the while searching for evidence to put Newton away. When prized volumes in a highly sought-after collection begin to appear, so do dead bodies. Now Janeway's life is about to change in profound and shocking ways as he attempts to find out who's dealing death along with vintage Chandlers and Twains. "One of the most enjoyable books I've read" (The Denver Post). Booked to Die is the first in the Cliff Janeway series. It is "a standout piece of crime fiction...Compelling page-turning stuff" (The Philadelphia Inquirer).

Pen 33

Mission Road

Killing the Shadows

Two O'Clock, Eastern Wartime

Secret of the Seventh Son

Rick Riordan, triple-crown winner of mystery's most prestigious awards—the Edgar, the Anthony, and the Shamus—returns with a hotter-than-Texas-chili Tres Navarre crime drama. This time Navarre reopens a cold case to catch a killer getting away with murder . . . again. "Riordan has a knack for showing readers a crazy good time."—The New York Times Book Review P.I. Tres Navarre is used to working the razor's edge between legal and life sentence. But when an old friend appears at his door, blood-spattered and wanted for homicide, Tres jumps both feet into a no-man's-land. Eighteen years ago an unsolved murder on notorious Mission Road threw the San Antonio underworld into bloody chaos. Now, armed and dangerous, the target of a citywide manhunt, Tres is on a collision course with the past. For on Mission Road waits a secret that will tear his life apart. Praise for Mission Road "Riordan is a master."—Harlan Coben "Anyone looking for a new Dave Robicheaux or Stephanie Plum mystery can add Riordan to his to-be-read list. He's one of the real artists in the world of neo-noir."—Milwaukee Journal Sentinel "In Rick Riordan's case, believe the hype. He really is that good."—Dennis Lehane "One of the best PI series being written today."—Crimesree Don't miss any of these hotter-than-Texas-chili Tres Navarre novels: BIG RED TEQUILA • THE WIDOWER'S TWO-STEP • THE LAST KING OF TEXAS • THE DEVIL WENT DOWN TO AUSTIN • SOUTHWEST • MISSION ROAD • REBEL ISLAND

In this Edgar Award Finalist and "slow-burning, intricate" thriller, a professor falls for his wife all over again. . . . while he stands trial for his murder (Publishers Weekly, starred review). Samuel Madison always wondered what Sandrine saw in him. He was a meek, stuffy doctoral student while she was a beautiful bohemian with limitless talent and imagination. On the surface their marriage seemed tranquil: jobs at the same small college, a precocious young daughter, and a home filled with art and literature. But then one night Sandrine is found dead from an overdose and Samuel is accused of poisoning her. As secrets about their tumultuous marriage come to light in the courtroom, Samuel must face a town and media convinced of his guilt; a daughter whose faith in her father has been shaken to its core, and astonishing revelations about his wife, who never ceased being a mystery to him. Sandrine's Case is a "gripping, moving, and elegiac" novel about the evil that can lurk within the heart of a seemingly ordinary man (Michael Connelly). "Cook plays with and against the conventions of the noir mystery to craft a novel deeper and richer than the genre would seem to allow." —Columbus Dispatch

By the 1920s, Denver had outgrown its frontier-town beginnings. But for some, life was still as perilous as the surrounding terrain. The insidious influence of the Ku Klux Klan was reaching its peak, and those who stood in its path feared for their safety. Denver is the saga of a family caught in this tempestuous time. To newspaperman Tom Hastings, his writing matters more than anything. As the book opens, President Harding has just died, and Hastings finds himself drawn toward the biggest story of his career. But his wife resents his allegiance to the newspaper and his Jewish stepfather is a target for the supremacist Klegales—two good reasons not to persist in his pursuit of the story: that and the KKK has penetrated the highest levels of government in the state. Some eighty characters surround Tom Hastings: there's his half-sister, the quiet, passionate Jewess Anna Kohl; David Waldo, a socialist and friend to Jack London; Willie Brown, a rising political star torn between his desire for elective office and the love of his life; and Marvel Millette, a Nellie Bly–like reporter in whom Tom Hastings finally meets his match. John Dunning creates flesh-and-blood figures, not only of these fictional characters but of historical personages as well. There is John Galen Locke, the Grand Dragon of the KKK, and Fred Bonfils, a founder of a newspaper dynasty built on tabloid sensationalism; President Calvin Coolidge, too, makes a gruff appearance. Denver is a panoramic novel as vibrant as the city for which it is named, as tumultuous as the era in which it is set. John Dunning never lets the reader lose sight of the men and women who live their lives on the pages of this saga. While crosses burst into angry flames and menacing droves of white-robed Klansmen gather against the torch-lit skies, passions, fears, joys, and hates are played out in Denver in the 1920s.

John Dunning brings together his knowledge of Denver cops and the rare book world in this striking new mystery. When a freelance who searches for valuable books is murdered, burned-out cop Cliff Janeway suspects he was onto something big. But who would kill for a book?

Denver

The Girl in the Ice

Cliff Janeway is back! The Bookman's Promise marks the eagerly awaited return of Denver bookman-author John Dunning and the award-winning crime novel series that helped to turn the nation on to first-edition book collecting. First, it was Booked to Die, then The Bookman's Wake. Now John Dunning fans, old and new, will rejoice in The Bookman's Promise, a richly nuanced new Janeway novel that juxtaposes past and present as Denver ex-cop and bookman Cliff Janeway searches for a book and a killer. The quest begins when an old woman, Josephine Gallant, learns that Janeway has recently bought at auction a signed first edition by the legendary nineteenth-century explorer Richard Francis Burton. The book is a true classic, telling of Burton's journey (disguised as a Muslim) to the forbidden holy cities of Mecca and Medina. The Boston auction house was a distinguished and trustworthy firm, but provenance is sometimes murky and Josephine says the book is rightfully hers. She believes that her grandfather, who was living in Baltimore more than eighty years ago, had a fabulous collection of Burton material, including a handwritten journal allegedly detailing Burton's undercover trip deep into the troubled American South in 1860. Josephine remembers the books from her childhood, but everything mysteriously disappeared shortly after her grandfather's death. With little time left in her own life, Josephine begs for Janeway's promise: he must find her grandfather's collection. It's a virtually impossible task, Janeway suspects, as the books will no doubt have been sold and separated over the years, but how can he say no to a dying woman? It seems that her grandfather, Charlie Warren, traveled south with Burton in the spring of 1860, just before the Civil War began. Was Burton a spy for Britain? What happened during the three months in Burton's travels for which there are no records? How did Charlie acquire his unique collection of Burton books? What will the journal, if it exists, reveal? When a friend is murdered, possibly because of a Burton book, Janeway knows he must find the answers. Someone today is willing to kill to keep the secrets of the past, and Janeway's search will lead him east: To Baltimore, to a Pulitzer Prize-winning author with a very stuffed shirt, and to a pair of unorthodox booksellers. It reaches a fiery conclusion at Fort Sumter off the coast of Charleston, South Carolina. What's more, a young lawyer, Erin d'Angelo, and ex-librarian Koko Bujak, have their own reasons for wanting to find the journal. But can Janeway trust them? Rich with the insider's information on rare and collectible books that has made John Dunning famous, and with meticulously researched detail about a mesmerizing figure who may have played an unrecognized role in our Civil War, The Bookman's Promise is riveting entertainment from an extraordinarily gifted author who is as unique and special as the books he so clearly loves.

New York Times bestselling author of the Spinner series of crime thrillers—Book 1 in the series “The toughest, funniest, wisest, private eye in the field these days.”—Houston Chronicle Spenser earned his degree in the school of hard knocks, so he is ready when a Boston university hires him to recover a rare, stolen manuscript. He is hardly surprised that his only clue is a radical student with four bullets in his chest. The cops are ready to throw the book at the pretty blond coed whose prints are all over the murder weapon but Spenser knows there are no easy answers. He tackles some very heavy homework and finds out that he doesn't finish his assignment home, he could end up marked “D”—for dead.

As a young man, New York Times bestselling author John Dunning earned his living for several years working behind the scenes on the racetrack circuit. Now he's chronicling his memories of the horse world and his expertise in collectible books in this mesmerizing new Bookman novel rich with the love of both books and horses. . . . Denver bookman Cliff Janeway would have liked Candice Geiger. She loved books with a true bookworm's passion. Her collection of first-edition children's books is the best that Janeway ever hopes to see. Sadly, Janeway and Candice Geiger will never meet. She died much too young. Now, twenty years later, her books remain a testament to an extraordinary woman's remarkable vision. Janeway first learns about the juvenilia collection when Candice's elderly husband, H. R. Geiger, passes away and Janeway travels to their Idaho home to assess the collection. The estate can't be distributed until the books are valued, so there's pressure on Janeway to do the job quickly. But one look at the books tells Janeway something's wrong. Valuable titles are missing, replaced by cheap reprints. Other hugely valuable pieces remain. Why would a thief take one priceless book and leave an equally valuable volume on the shelf? The answer may lie in Candice's story. The daughter of a wealthy industrialist, she married horse owner and trainer H. R. Geiger at a young age. They traveled the racetrack circuit with some success, as evidenced by winner's-circle photographs -- in which Candice is always a mysterious background figure dressed in white. Two decades after Candice's strange death, Janeway finds himself deep in a book mystery that may turn out to be much more than a cataloging exercise. It may even involve murder. Candice's daughter, Sharon, may be one of the few people who can help Janeway discover the truth. Sharon has her own Idaho ranch where she takes in sick and injured horses. Janeway worries that her house contains something that could make her very vulnerable: the half of her mother's fabulous book collection. The trail of Candice's shadowy past leads Janeway to California's Golden Gate and Santa Anita racetracks, where he signs on as a racehorse hot walker. A novice at racetrack life, he tries to remain inconspicuous while listening to the chatter among the hands. He doesn't like what he hears. And when he goes to the house where Candice died to look for answers, he finds more than he bargained for. With its rich mix of books and horses, The Bookwormer's Last Fling is a classic entry in John Dunning's acclaimed Bookman series of suspense novels, sure to bring this superbly talented author even more accolades.