

An Instance Of The Fingerpost

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An Instance Of The Fingerpost Iain Pears 2010-10-31 An extraordinary intellectual thriller set in Oxford in the 1660s, AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST has been compared to both Umberto Eco's THE NAME OF THE ROSE and Rose Tremain's RESTORATION. The 1660s were a time of great ferment - intellectual, religious and political - and this is reflected in Pears's text. The novel is centred on a suspicious death, that of Robert Grove, fellow of New College. We hear about it from four witnesses, a Venetian Catholic intent on claiming credit for the invention of blood transfusion; the son of a supposed traitor to the Royalist cause, determined to vindicate his father; John Wallis, chief cryptographer to both Cromwell and Charles II, a mathematician, theologian and master spy; and Anthony Wood, the famous Oxford antiquary. Each of the first three witnesses is unreliable - they seem convincing, but the conclusions are contradictory - and only Wood, in the final volume, reveals the truth. Brilliantly written, utterly convincing, gripping from the first page to the last, AN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST is destined to be a major international bestseller.

The Bernini Bust Iain Pears 2007 Clever italian art-history crime series featuring scholar and dealer Jonathon Argyll, from the author of the best-selling masterpiece 'An instance of the Fingerpost'. The hardest part of being an art dealer is having to sell your beloved works. For Jonathan Argyll, the pain is soothed when an American billionaire agrees to pay a vast sum for a relatively minor piece. Arriving in the Californian sunshine eager to collect his cheque, Jonathan bumps into one of his less scrupulous colleagues, and discovers he is not the American's only seller. A bust of Pope Pius V is being smuggled out of italy, and trouble is following in its wake. Within hours, Jonathan's billionaire is dead and both the smuggler and his bust have gone missing. Thinking things can't get any worse, Jonathan calls for the help of the italian Art Theft Squad - and instead finds himself the killer's next target...

The Dream of Scipio Iain Pears 2010-08-06 Three narratives, set in the fifth, fourteenth, and twentieth centuries, all revolving around an ancient text and each with a love story at its centre, are the elements of this brilliantly ingenious novel, a follow-up to the international bestseller *An Instance of the Fingerpost*. Now Ian Pears returns with a greatly anticipated novel, so expertly imagined and perfectly constructed the author himself describes it as “a complexity.” The centuries are the 5th (the final days of the Roman Empire); the 14th (the years of the Plague – the Black Death); and the 20th (World War II). The setting for each is the same – Provence – and each has at its heart a love story. The narratives intertwine seamlessly, and what joins them thematically is an ancient text – “The Dream of Scipio” – a work of neo-Platonism that poses timeless philosophical questions. What is the obligation of the individual in a society under siege? What is the role of learning when civilization itself is threatened, whether by acts of man or nature? Does virtue lie more in engagement or in neutrality? “Power without wisdom is tyranny; wisdom without power is pointless,” warns one of Pears’s characters. *The Dream of Scipio* is a bona fide novel of ideas, a dazzling feat of storytelling, fiction for our times.

The Hotel Neversink Adam O'Fallon Price 2019-08-06 "A gripping, atmospheric, heart-breaking, almost-ghost story. Not since Stephen King's *Overlook* has a hotel hiding a secret been brought to such vivid life." –Lydia Kiesling, author of *The Golden State* Thirty-one years after workers first broke ground, the magnificent Hotel Neversink in the Catskills finally opens to the public. Then a young boy disappears. This mysterious vanishing—and the ones that follow—will brand the lives of three generations. At the root of it all is Asher Sikorsky, the ambitious and ruthless patriarch whose purchase of the hotel in 1931 set a haunting legacy into motion. His daughter Jeanie sees the Hotel Neversink into its most lucrative era, but also its darkest. Decades later, Asher's grandchildren grapple with the family's heritage in their own ways: Len fights to keep the failing, dilapidated hotel alive, and Alice sets out to finally uncover the murderer's identity. Told by an unforgettable chorus of Sikorsky family members—a matriarch, a hotel maid, a traveling comedian, the hotel detective, and many others—*The Hotel Neversink* is the gripping portrait of a Jewish family in the Catskills over the course of a century. With an unerring eye and with prose both comic and tragic, Adam O'Fallon-Price details one man's struggle for greatness, no matter the cost, and a long-held family secret that threatens to undo it all.

Servants of the Map: Stories Andrea Barrett 2003-02-17 "Luminous....Each [story] is rich and independent and beautiful and should draw Barrett many new admirers."—Publishers Weekly, starred review Ranging across two centuries, and from the western Himalaya to an Adirondack village, these wonderfully imagined stories and novellas travel the territories of yearning and awakening, of loss and unexpected discovery. A mapper of the highest mountain peaks realizes his true obsession. A young woman afire with scientific curiosity must come to terms with a romantic fantasy. Brothers and sisters, torn apart at an early age, are beset by dreams of reunion. Throughout, Barrett's most characteristic

theme—the happenings in that borderland between science and desire—unfolds in the diverse lives of unforgettable human beings. Although each richly layered tale stands independently, readers of *Ship Fever* (National Book Award winner) and Barrett's extraordinary novel *The Voyage of the Narwhal*, will discover subtle links both among these new stories and to characters in the earlier works.

Codex Lev Grossman 2005-05-02 About to depart on his first vacation in years, Edward Wozny, a hot-shot young investment banker, is sent to help one of his firm's most important and mysterious clients. When asked to uncrate and organize a personal library of rare books, Edward's indignation turns to intrigue as he realizes that there may be a unique medieval codex hidden among the volumes, a treasure kept locked away for many years and for many reasons. As friends draw Edward into a peculiar and addictive computer game, his obsession deepens as he discovers surprising parallels between the game's virtual reality and the mystery of the codex. An accomplished and entertaining thriller, *Codex* explores the mysterious power of books in the medieval and modern ages.

The Bloodless Boy Robert J. Lloyd 2021-10-11 "Wonderfully imagined and wonderfully written . . . Superb!" -- Lee Child Part *Wolf Hall*, part *The Name of the Rose*, a riveting new literary thriller set in Restoration London, with a cast of real historic figures, set against the actual historic events and intrigues of the returned king and his court ... The City of London, 1678. New Year's Day. Twelve years have passed since the Great Fire ripped through the City. Eighteen since the fall of Oliver Cromwell and the restoration of a King. London is gripped by hysteria, and rumors of Catholic plots and sinister foreign assassins abound. When the body of a young boy drained of his blood is discovered on the snowy bank of the Fleet River, Robert Hooke, the Curator of Experiments at the just-formed Royal Society for Improving Natural Knowledge, and his assistant Harry Hunt, are called in to explain such a ghastly finding—and whether it's part of a plot against the king. They soon learn it is not the first bloodless boy to have been discovered. Meanwhile, that same morning Henry Oldenburg, the Secretary of the Royal Society, blows his brains out, and a disgraced Earl is released from the Tower of London, bent on revenge against the King, Charles II. Wary of the political hornet's nest they are walking into – and using scientific evidence rather than paranoia in their pursuit of truth – Hooke and Hunt must discover why the boy was murdered, and why his blood was taken. *The Bloodless Boy* is an absorbing literary thriller that introduces two new indelible heroes to historical crime fiction. It is also a powerfully atmospheric recreation of the darkest corners of Restoration London, where the Court and the underworld seem to merge, even as the light of scientific inquiry is starting to emerge ...

A Murderous Procession Ariana Franklin 2010-04-01 Tess Garritsen calls this one "my favorite book of the year!" In 1176, King Henry II sends his daughter Joanna to Palermo to marry his cousin, the king of Sicily. Henry chooses Adelia Aguilar to travel with the princess and safeguard her health. But when people

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in the wedding procession are murdered, Adelia and Rowley must discover the killer's identity, and whether he is stalking the princess or Adelia herself.

The Dress Lodger Sheri Holman 2010-04-09 A New York Times Notable Book from the author of *A Stolen Tongue: A tale of crime and survival in nineteenth-century England* "as unsettling as it is brilliant" (The Washington Post Book World). In Sunderland, England, a city quarantined by the cholera epidemic of 1831, a defiant, fifteen-year-old beauty in an elegant blue dress sells her body to feed her only love: a fragile baby boy. When the surgeon Henry Chiver offers Gustine a different kind of work, she hopes to finally change her terrible circumstances. But Chiver was recently implicated in the famous case of Burke and Hare, who murdered beggars and sold their corpses for medical research. And soon, Gustine's own efforts to secure cadavers for Chiver's anatomy school will threaten the very things she's working so hard to protect . . . "Reminiscent of *Wuthering Heights* . . . or the novels of Dickens . . . An even better book than Holman's first, with prose that's more limber and vivid—and with, appropriately, even more heart." –The New York Times Book Review "As unsettling as it is brilliant. Holman attempts Herculean feats of plot and character, and the resulting novel is seamlessly crafted." –The Washington Post Book World "Holman seduces you. Her prose, tart, racy and somber, will sing in your soul a long while." –Frank McCourt, author of *Angela's Ashes* "Holman's style is risky and direct . . . with unflinching emotional precision. This dazzlingly researched epic is an uncommon read." –Publisher Weekly, starred review

Death and Restoration Iain Pears 2007 Clever and witty art history-mystery featuring scholar and sleuth Jonathon Argyll, from the author of the bestselling masterpiece 'An Instance of the Fingerpost'.

Sovereign C. J. Sansom 2008-02-26 Awarded the CWA Diamond Dagger – the highest honor in British crime writing The third Matthew Shardlake Tudor Mystery by C. J. Sansom, the bestselling author of *Winter in Madrid* and *Dominion* C. J. Sansom has garnered a wider audience and increased critical praise with each new novel published. His first book in the Matthew Shardlake series, *Dissolution*, was selected by P. D. James in *The Wall Street Journal* as one of her top five all-time favorite books. Now in *Sovereign*, Shardlake faces the most terrifying threat in the age of Tudor England: imprisonment in the Tower of London. Shardlake and his loyal assistant, Jack Barak, find themselves embroiled in royal intrigue when a plot against King Henry VIII is uncovered in York and a dangerous conspirator they've been charged with transporting to London is connected to the death of a local glazer.

The Raphael Affair Iain Pears 2007 Art dealer Jonathan Argyll and Art Theft officer Flavia di Stefano are on the trail of a lost art work, but on the hunt must face vandalism and murder.

The Portrait Iain Pears 2010-10-22 After the dazzling achievement of his bestsellers *An Instance of the Fingerpost* ("May well be the best historical mystery ever written." –The Boston Globe) and *The Dream of Scipio* ("A virtuoso

display of craftsmanship." –Maclean's), Iain Pears returns with a stunning novel of suspense and revenge. An influential art critic in the early years of the twentieth century journeys from London to the remote island of Houat, off France's northwest coast, to sit for a portrait painted by an old friend, a gifted, once acclaimed artist living in self-imposed exile. Over the course of the sitting, the painter recalls their years of friendship, the double-edged gift of the critic's patronage, the power he wielded over aspiring artists, and his apparent callousness in anointing the careers of some and devastating the lives of others. The balance of power between the two men shifts dramatically – and ominously – as the critic becomes a passive subject; and as the painter slowly captures the character of the man on canvas, we discover why he left London suddenly and mysteriously at the height of his success and why now, with dark determination, he has taken on this unusual commission. Set against the dramatic, untamed landscape of Brittany, during one of the most explosive periods in art history, *The Portrait* is rich with atmosphere and suggestion, and psychological complexity. With the marvellous detail of a miniature, it brings to the fore the great artistic figures of the late nineteenth century, and their ambitions and desires. And it is a novel you will want to begin again immediately after turning the last chilling page, to read once more with a watchful eye and appreciate the hand of an ingenious storyteller at work.

The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle Stuart Turton 2019-05-07 "Agatha Christie meets Groundhog Day...quite unlike anything I've ever read, and altogether triumphant."—A. J. Finn, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window* *The Rules of Blackheath* Evelyn Hardcastle will be murdered at 11:00 p.m. There are eight days, and eight witnesses for you to inhabit. We will only let you escape once you tell us the name of the killer. Understood? Then let's begin... *** Evelyn Hardcastle will die. Every day until Aiden Bishop can identify her killer and break the cycle. But every time the day begins again, Aiden wakes up in the body of a different guest. And some of his hosts are more helpful than others. For fans of Claire North and Kate Atkinson, *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle* is a breathlessly addictive novel that follows one man's race against time to find a killer—but an astonishing time-turning twist means that nothing and no one are quite what they seem. Praise for *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle*: Costa First Novel Award 2018 Winner One of *Stylist Magazine's* 20 Must-Read Books of 2018 One of *Harper's Bazaar's* 10 Must-Read Books of 2018 One of *Guardian's* Best Books of 2018

Chasing Shakespeares Sarah Smith 2010-05-11 From an author the *San Francisco Chronicle* hails as "daring and splendid" comes an exhilarating novel of passion and ideas that cuts to the heart of one of literature's most fascinating and enduring mysteries: the enigma of Shakespeare. Meet Joe Roper, tough-minded young graduate student, who has been lucky enough to land a job cataloging the famed Kellogg Collection of Elizabethan texts and curiosities. Joe's been passionate about Shakespeare since he read a duct-taped paperback at age nine and found the witches, warriors, murders, and ghosts as much fun as Stephen King, but his working-class roots make him a fish out of water in the academic world. He is seemingly as far from adventure as it's possible to be -- until

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the delicious Posy Gould enters, stage right. A glamorous rising star at Harvard, she insists that a letter Joe has found, signed by one W. Shakespeare of Stratford, is a career-making discovery for them both -- because the letter says Shakespeare didn't write the plays. To Joe's mind, the letter is a forgery. When Posy insists they test it, the two literary sleuths head for England to prove their clashing theories. But they find themselves in a world where the London Eye looks out over Shakespeare's city, Hollywood producers rub elbows with Elizabethan spies, and mystery shadows the heart of Westminster Abbey and the lanes of rural England. And Joe and Posy find that, when you start chasing Shakespeares, what you find is not only who he was, but who you are, and how far you're willing to go.... A first-rate mystery from one of the masters of the genre, *Chasing Shakespeares* is also a literary shell game, a love story, and a profound meditation on identity and ownership. Sarah Smith has created a novel that rivals A. S. Byatt's *Possession* in its rich and fast-moving blend of literary history and page-turning suspense.

Surrender, New York Caleb Carr 2016 "Many dedicated years working for the NYPD didn't mean much when criminal psychologist Trajan Jones was fired from the force. Now living in exile on a dairy farm in upstate New York, Trajan is reduced to teaching an online course in criminal investigation, along with his partner Mike Li, an expert in DNA evidence. But Trajan is called back to duty when a friend in county law enforcement consults him on the suspicious death of several local kids. They're called "throwaways" because their parents have abandoned them, and the official response to their deaths seems equally callous. Trajan and Mike, armed only with their instincts and the help of a precocious neighborhood boy, fight for justice on behalf of the victims, but it soon puts them in a merciless killer's crosshairs"--

The Flanders Panel Arturo Pérez-Reverte 2004-06-07 "A sleek, sophisticated, madly clever chamber mystery" from the international bestselling author--the basis for the film *Uncovered* starring Kate Beckinsale (The New York Times Book Review). A fifteenth-century painting by a Flemish master is about to be auctioned when Julia, a young art restorer, discovers a peculiar inscription hidden in a corner: Who killed the knight? In the painting, the Duke of Flanders and his knight are locked in a game of chess, and a dark lady lurks mysteriously in the background. Julia is determined to solve the five-hundred-year-old murder, but as she begins to look for clues, several of her friends in the art world are brutally murdered in quick succession. Messages left with the bodies suggest a crucial connection between the chess game in the painting, the knight's murder, the sordid underside of the contemporary art world, and the latest deaths. Just when all of the players in the mystery seem to be pawns themselves, events race toward a shocking conclusion. A thriller like no other, *The Flanders Panel* presents a tantalizing puzzle for any connoisseur of mystery, chess, art, and history. "A beguiling puzzle--a game within a game within a game--solved in perplexing but entertaining fashion."--The Philadelphia Inquirer "For mystery fans who yearn for literate, intelligent, sophisticated whodunits, Spanish author Pérez-Reverte's highly acclaimed story fills the bill perfectly . . . An inventive plot, gripping suspense, fascinatingly complex

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characters, and innovative incorporation of art, literature, and music will enthrall readers looking for something a little different.”–Booklist “This intelligent mystery . . . comes up with a satisfying twist at the end.”–Library Journal

Arcadia Iain Pears 2016-02-09 From the author of the international best seller *An Instance of the Fingerpost*, *Arcadia* is an astonishing work of imagination. In Cold War England, Professor Henry Lytten, having renounced a career in espionage, is writing a fantasy novel that dares to imagine a world less fraught than his own. He finds an unlikely confidante in Rosie, an inquisitive young neighbor who, while chasing after Lytten's cat one day, stumbles through a doorway in his cellar and into a stunning and unfamiliar bucolic landscape—remarkably like the fantasy world Lytten is writing about. There she meets a young boy named Jay who is about to embark on a journey that will change both their lives. Elsewhere, in a dystopian society where progress is controlled by a corrupt ruling elite, the brilliant scientist Angela Meerson has discovered the potential of a powerful new machine. When the authorities come knocking, she will make an important decision—one that will reverberate through all these different lives and worlds.

The Immaculate Deception Iain Pears 2005-06-24 From internationally bestselling author Iain Pears comes the seventh in his Jonathan Argyll series -- an intriguing mystery of love, loss, and artistic license. For newlywed and Italian art theft squad head Flavia di Stefano, the honeymoon is over when a painting, borrowed from the Louvre and en route to a celebratory exhibition, is stolen. Desperate to avoid public embarrassment -- and to avoid paying a ransom -- the Italian prime minister leans hard on Flavia to get it back quickly and quietly. Across town, her husband, art historian Jonathan Argyll, begins an investigation of his own, tracing the past of a small Renaissance painting -- an Immaculate Conception -- owned by Flavia's mentor, retired general Taddeo Bottando. Soon both husband and wife uncover astonishing and chilling secrets, and Flavia's investigation takes a sudden turn from the search for an art thief to the hunt for a murderer.

The Portrait Iain Pears 2006-04-04 A national bestseller from acclaimed author Iain Pears, *The Portrait* is a novel of suspense and a tour de force. An art critic journeys to a remote island off Brittany to sit for a portrait painted by an old friend, a gifted but tormented artist living in self-imposed exile. The painter recalls their years of friendship, the gift of the critic's patronage, and his callous betrayals. As he struggles to capture the character of the man, as well as his image, on canvas, it becomes clear that there is much more than a portrait at stake... Iain Pears's *An Instance of the Fingerpost* and *The Dream of Scipio* are also available from Riverhead Books.

A Conspiracy of Paper David Liss 2001 An outsider in eighteenth-century London, Jewish pugilist and hired thug Benjamin Weaver prowls the city's mean streets in the service of England's gentry tracking down debtors and thieves, until the "accidental" death of his wealthy estranged father draws him into a dark

conspiracy controlled by powerful men in the world of British finance. Reader's Guide included. Reprint. 45,000 first printing.

Grave Goods Ariana Franklin 2009-03-19 The "richly detailed, almost indecently thrilling" (New York Times) follow up to *The Serpent's Tale* When a fire at Glastonbury Abbey reveals two skeletons, rumor has it they may belong to King Arthur and Queen Guinevere. King Henry II hopes so, for it would help him put down a rebellion in Wales, where the legend of Celtic savior Arthur is strong. To make certain, he sends Adelia Aguilar, his Mistress of the Art of Death, to Glastonbury to examine the skeletons. At the same time, the investigation into the abbey fire will be overseen by the Bishop of St. Albans, father of Adelia's daughter. Trouble is, someone at Glastonbury doesn't want either mystery solved, and is prepared to kill to prevent it...

An Instance of the Fingerpost Iain Pears 2000-04-01 A national bestseller and one of the New York Public Library's Books to Remember, *An Instance of the Fingerpost* is a thrilling historical mystery from Iain Pears. "It is 1663, and England is wracked with intrigue and civil strife. When an Oxford don is murdered, it seems at first that the incident can have nothing to do with great matters of church and state....Yet, little is as it seems in this gripping novel, which dramatizes the ways in which witnesses can see the same events yet remember them falsely. Each of four narrators—a Venetian medical student, a young man intent on proving his late father innocent of treason, a cryptographer, and an archivist—fingers a different culprit...an erudite and entertaining tour de force." —People Iain Pears's *The Dream of Scipio* and *The Portrait* are also available from Riverhead Books.

The Ninth Daughter Barbara Hamilton 2009-09-29 1773: The Massachusetts colony is torn between patriots who want independence from British rule and loyalists who support the King. At the center is the educated and beautiful Abigail Adams—wife of John Adams, a leader of the Sons of Liberty, the secret organization opposing the Crown. And when her husband is accused of murder, she must work to clear his name.

The Wolf Trial Neil Mackay 2016-03-01 Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose* meets Bret Easton Ellis' *American Psycho* in this brilliant historical epic. Inspired by an extraordinary true case - the first ever documented account of a serial killer in world history. In the second half of the 16th century, Paulus Melchior, lawyer, academic, and enlightened rationalist, travels with his young assistant Willy Lessinger to the isolated German town of Bideburg where local landowner, Peter Stumpf, is accused of brutally murdering dozens of people. A society still trapped in a medieval mindset, the townsfolk clamour for the killer to be tried as a werewolf. If their demands are met, his blameless wife and children will also be executed in the most barbaric way imaginable as agents of Satan and creatures contaminated by wolf blood. Paulus and Willy must fight superstition, the cruelty of those who fear what they don't understand, and a zealous church determined to retain its grip on the souls of Bideburg in this compelling, utterly unforgettable, shocking tour de force. Praise for *The*

Wolf Trial: 'a great storyteller' Louise Welsh 'First, a warning. This novel isn't for the squeamish. Then again, neither was 16th century Germany, yet Neil Mackay brings its crimes and cruelties, heresies and horrors to life with all the manifold skills of a natural-born story-teller. A frighteningly impressive achievement. Imagine a land in which Christianity is as bloodthirsty as Isis, and where the punishments hereti face make Bosch's nightmares look timid. That's what Neil Mackay has done here, turning back to 16th century Germany and the world's first recorded trial of a serial killer for an impeccably crafted story that also never stops rooting out answers to the question of evil.' David Robinson, author of In Cold Ink 'The tale is gripping, the violence extreme, and the storycraft utterly superb... The Wolf Trial will be one of the landmark texts of the year, without a shadow of a doubt.' Sogo Magazine

Dark Matter Philip Kerr 2010-04-28 I swore not to tell this story while Newton was still alive. 1696, young Christopher Ellis is sent to the Tower of London, but not as a prisoner. Though Ellis is notoriously hotheaded and was caught fighting an illegal duel, he arrives at the Tower as assistant to the renowned scientist Sir Isaac Newton. Newton is Warden of the Royal Mint, which resides within the Tower walls, and he has accepted an appointment from the King of England and Parliament to investigate and prosecute counterfeiters whose false coins threaten to bring down the shaky, war-weakened economy. Ellis may lack Newton's scholarly mind, but he is quick with a pistol and proves himself to be an invaluable sidekick and devoted apprentice to Newton as they zealously pursue these criminals. While Newton and Ellis investigate a counterfeiting ring, they come upon a mysterious coded message on the body of a man killed in the Lion Tower, as well as alchemical symbols that indicate this was more than just a random murder. Despite Newton's formidable intellect, he is unable to decipher the cryptic message or any of the others he and Ellis find as the body count increases within the Tower complex. As they are drawn into a wild pursuit of the counterfeiters that takes them from the madhouse of Bedlam to the squalid confines of Newgate prison and back to the Tower itself, Newton and Ellis discover that the counterfeiting is only a small part of a larger, more dangerous plot, one that reaches to the highest echelons of power and nobility and threatens much more than the collapse of the economy. Dark Matter is the latest masterwork of suspense from Philip Kerr, the internationally bestselling and brilliantly innovative thriller writer who has dazzled readers with his imaginative, fast-paced novels. Like An Instance of the Fingerpost, The Name of the Rose, and Kerr's own Berlin Noir trilogy, Dark Matter is historical mystery at its finest, an extraordinary, suspense-filled journey through the shadowy streets and back alleys of London with the brilliant Newton and his faithful protégé. The haunted Tower with its bloody history is the perfect backdrop for this richly satisfying tale, one that introduces an engrossing mystery into the volatile mix of politics, science, and religion that characterized life in seventeenth-century London.

Blood & Sugar Laura Shepherd-Robinson 2020-01-09 1781. An investigation into a gruesome murder on the Deptford Docks leads to a dark secret that could change the very core of British society . . .

The Quincunx Charles Palliser 1991 A meditation on the Victorian novel and a sprawling epic tale of a man's quest for his identity follows John Huffman as he journeys to the heart of the Quincunx to reveal his elusive past

Robert Ludlum's The Paris Option Robert Ludlum 2010-04-01 For 30 years, Robert Ludlum's novels have set the standard for the finest in international intrigue and suspense. With an unbroken string of bestsellers in almost every country in the world, Robert Ludlum's books have been enjoyed by hundreds of millions of readers, and are widely acknowledged as classics in the field. Now, after the bestselling Covert-One novels *The Hades Factor* and *The Cassandra Compact* comes the third thrilling novel in the series - *The Paris Option*. A fiery explosion in the dark of night shatters one of the laboratory buildings in Paris's esteemed Pasteur Institute. Among the dead is Emile Chambord, one of the leaders in the global race to create a molecular - or DNA - computer. Unfortunately, Professor Chambord kept the details of his work secret, and his notes were apparently destroyed in either the bomb blast or the raging fire that followed. The scientific community does not expect a workable DNA computer to be developed for years. But suddenly U.S. fighter jets disappear from radar screens for a full five minutes, and there's no explanation. Utilities across the Western states cease functioning, and all telecommunications abruptly stop, with devastating consequences. This is not the work of a clever hacker, although Washington, worried about a panic, assures the public it is. Only the enormous power and speed of a DNA computer could have caused such havoc. Under the cover of visiting his friend Marty Zellerbach, who was severely injured when the Pasteur lab was destroyed, Covert-One agent Jon Smith flies to Paris to search for the connection between the Pasteur explosion and the forces now wielding the computer. Following a trail that leads him across two continents, Smith uncovers a web of deception that threatens to wreck havoc and forever reshape the world.

Giotto's Hand Iain Pears 2007 Witty and clever art history-mystery featuring Jonathan Argyll, from the author of the bestselling masterpiece 'An Instance of the Fingerpost'. General Bottando of Rome's Art Theft Squad is in trouble: his theory that a single master criminal, dubbed 'Giotto', is behind a string of major art thefts has aroused the scorn of his arch enemy and rival, the bureaucrat Corrado Argan. He needs a result, and the confession of a dying woman may just provide the vital clue. In pursuit of the elusive Giotto, Bottando's colleague, Flavia di Stefano, sets off hotfoot for Florence, and English art dealer Jonathan Argyll is dispatched to London and then on to rural Norfolk – only to discover a body and a mystery which could lead to the greatest art find of his career..

A Burnable Book Bruce Holsinger 2014-02-18 In Chaucer's London, betrayal, murder, royal intrigue, mystery, and dangerous politics swirl around the existence of a prophetic book that foretells the deaths of England's kings. Bruce Holsinger's *A Burnable Book* is an irresistible historical thriller reminiscent of the classics *An Instance of the Fingerpost*, *The Name of the Rose*, and *The Crimson Petal and the White*. London, 1385. Surrounded by ruthless

courtiers—including his powerful uncle, John of Gaunt, and Gaunt's artful mistress, Katherine Swynford—England's young, still untested king, Richard II, is in mortal peril, and the danger is only beginning. Songs are heard across London—catchy verses said to originate from an ancient book that prophesies the end of England's kings—and among the book's predictions is Richard's assassination. Only a few powerful men know that the cryptic lines derive from a "burnable book," a seditious work that threatens the stability of the realm. To find the manuscript, wily bureaucrat Geoffrey Chaucer turns to fellow poet John Gower, a professional trader in information with connections high and low. Gower discovers that the book and incriminating evidence about its author have fallen into the unwitting hands of innocents, who will be drawn into a labyrinthine conspiracy that reaches from the king's court to London's slums and stews—and potentially implicates his own son. As the intrigue deepens, it becomes clear that Gower, a man with secrets of his own, may be the last hope to save a king from a terrible fate. Medieval scholar Bruce Holsinger draws on his vast knowledge of the period to add colorful, authentic detail—on everything from poetry and bookbinding to court intrigues and brothels—to this highly entertaining and brilliantly constructed epic literary mystery that brings medieval England gloriously to life.

Stone's Fall Iain Pears 2009-05-05 At his London home, John Stone falls out of a window to his death. A financier and arms dealer, Stone was a man so wealthy that he was able to manipulate markets, industries, and indeed entire countries and continents. Did he jump, was he pushed, or was it merely a tragic accident? His alluring and enigmatic widow hires a young crime reporter to investigate. The story moves backward in time—from London in 1909 to Paris in 1890 and finally to Venice in 1867—and the attempts to uncover the truth play out against the backdrop of the evolution of high-stakes international finance, Europe's first great age of espionage, and the start of the twentieth century's arms race. Stone's Fall is a tale of love and frailty, as much as it is of high finance and skulduggery. The mixture, then, as now, is an often fatal combination.

Heartstone C. J. Sansom 2011-01-20 The epic fifth novel in the Matthew Shardlake Tudor Mystery series by the bestselling author of *Winter in Madrid* and *Dominion Summer 1545*. A massive French armada is threatening England, and Henry VIII has plunged the country into economic crisis to finance the war. Meanwhile, an old servant of Queen Catherine Parr has asked Matthew Shardlake to investigate claims of "monstrous" wrongs committed against a young ward of the court. As the French fleet approaches, Shardlake's inquiries reunite him with an old friend—and an old enemy close to the throne. This fast-paced fifth installment in C. J. Sansom's "richly entertaining and reassuringly scholarly series" (Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times Book Review*) will enchant fans of *Wolf Hall*, *Bring Up the Bodies*, and *The Other Boleyn Girl*.

The Unburied Charles Palliser 2000-11-01 Invited to spend the holidays with his old friend, Austin, in the cathedral close of Thurchester, unworldly academic Dr. Courtine becomes engrossed in a haunting, two-hundred-year-old

mystery with ties to both a medieval manuscript and to terrifying events in the present. Reader's Guide available. Reprint.

An Instance of the Fingerpost Iain Pears 1998 The 1660s were a time of great ferment-intellectual, religious and political-and this is reflected in Pears's text. The novel is centred on a suspicious death, that of Robert Grove, fellow of New College. We hear about it from four witnesses, a Venetian Ca

The Doll Factory Elizabeth Macneal 2019-08-13 In this "sharp, scary, gorgeously evocative tale of love, art, and obsession" (Paula Hawkins, bestselling author of *The Girl on the Train*), a beautiful young woman aspires to be an artist, while a man's dark obsession may destroy her world forever. *The Doll Factory* is a sweeping tale of curiosity, love, and possession set among all the sordidness and soaring ambition of 1850s London. The greatest spectacle London has ever seen is being erected in Hyde Park and, among the crowd watching, two people meet. For Iris, an aspiring artist of unique beauty, it is the encounter of a moment-forgotten seconds later-but for Silas, a curiosity collector enchanted by the strange and beautiful, the meeting marks a new beginning. When Iris is asked to model for Pre-Raphaelite artist Louis Frost, she agrees on the condition that he will also teach her to paint, and suddenly her world expands beyond anything she ever dreamed of. But she has no idea that evil stalks her. Silas, it seems, has thought of only one thing since that chance meeting, and his obsession is darkening by the day...

An Instance of the Fingerpost Iain Pears 1999-03-01 In 1663 Oxford, a servant girl confesses to a murder. But four witnesses--a medical student, the son of a traitor, a cryptographer, and an archivist--each finger a different culprit...

The Titian Committee Iain Pears 2007 Witty Italian art-history crime series featuring English dealer Jonathan Argyll, from the author of the best-selling literary masterpiece, 'An instance of the Fingerpost'. Membership of the prestigious Titian Committee is normally considered a high honour. Normally, that is, until two of its members end up dead and someone seems to be taking the idea of backstabbing a little too far. Flavia de Stefano of Rome's Art Theft Squad is sent to find out why. She calls upon the help of dealer Jonathan Argyll, in Venice to buy a picture from the Marchesa di Mulino. But the sudden theft of the Marchesa's collection sets Flavia and Jonathan on a tortuous trail to uncover the truth. A further death threatens the very survival of the Committee itself, as well as offering the tantalizing possibility of an undiscovered Titian - a mysterious composition that may have been suppressed for 'moral' reasons....

The Last Judgement Iain Pears 2014-01-30 Witty Italian art-history crime series featuring English dealer Jonathan Argyll, from the author of the best-selling literary masterpiece, 'An Instance of the Fingerpost'.

Chopping Spree Diane Mott Davidson 2009-11-04 Her inventive recipe for mixing first-class suspense and five-star fare has made Diane Mott Davidson a favorite

of mystery lovers and a mainstay on major bestseller lists across the country. Now she has prepared another irresistibly tempting tale spiced with mystery and mayhem. . . . For Colorado caterer Goldy Schulz, business isn't just booming--it's skyrocketing. Her friend Marla is constantly warning her, "Success can kill you." But Goldy doesn't take the warning literally until her next booking: a cocktail party for the Westside Mall's Elite Shoppers Club. While setting up, Goldy is nearly run down by a truck with no intention of stopping. Then she finds an old friend in a pile of sale shoes--stabbed with one of Goldy's new knives. Goldy must catch the real killer between whipping up Sweethearts' Swedish Meatballs, Quiche Me Quick, and Diamond Lovers' Hot Crab Dip. Why was the victim carrying a powerful narcotic? Who hired a private investigator shortly before the murder? Goldy's gourmet instincts tell her the final course in this case will be a real killer. Praise for Chopping Spree "Today's foremost practitioner of the culinary whodunit."--Entertainment Weekly "Chef Goldy Schulz's life is a medley of murder, mayhem, and melted chocolate."--New York Post "The suspense factor rises higher than a champagne soufflé. Warning: With Goldy sharing her recipes . . . you may want to pull your reading chair up next to the oven."--People "A cross between Mary Higgins Clark and Betty Crocker!"--The Sun, Baltimore "You don't have to be a cook or a mystery fan to love Diane Mott Davidson's books. But if you're either--or both--her tempting recipes and elaborate plots add up to a literary feast!"--The San Diego Union-Tribune