

STARK HOUSE PRESS

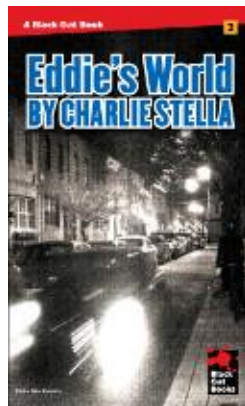
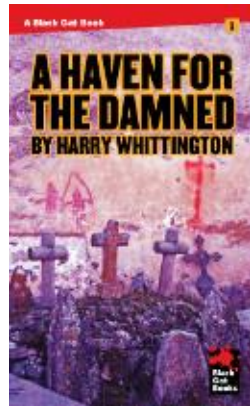
February Newsletter, volume 4, issue 2 2015



Remember when you were a kid, and you saved your hard-earned cash to rush down to the corner drug store's spinner rack to buy a new paperback. Maybe you read science fiction, or the sword & sorcery stuff; or maybe you loved the lure of a delightfully seedy looking mystery paperback. You'd put down your 50c or 75c or whatever books cost back then (we go back to the 40c paperback!), and rush home to your bedroom and start reading.

These days, those small paperbacks seem to be disappearing. But not at Stark House Press. We're bringing back the mass market paperback, just like the old Gold Medals, and giving the bookstores something to get excited about again.

Black Gat Books will premier in May 2015 with three books: *A Haven for the Damned* by Harry Whittington, *Eddie's World* by Charlie Stella and *The Stranger in the House* by Leigh Brackett.



The Whittington books is a classic Gold Medal original from 1962 about a group of people who converge on a ghost town, not all of whom will leave alive. *Eddie's World* is Stella's first novel, never before in paperback, about a heist that goes wrong with disastrous results for Eddie. And the Brackett murder mystery was originally ghost-written for actor George Sanders, who dedicated the book to Brackett—"whom I have never met."

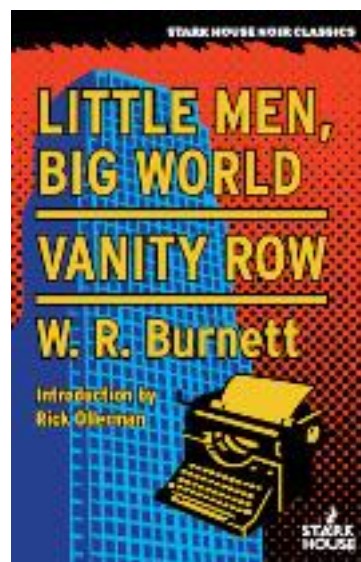
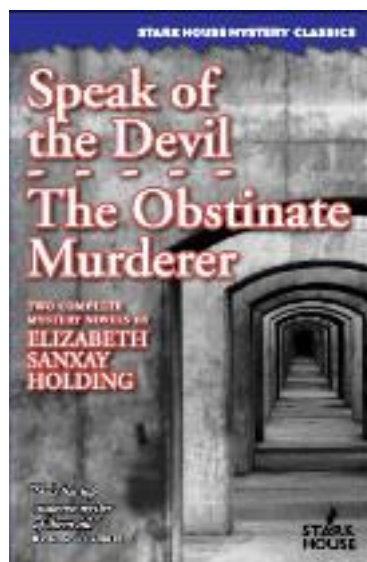
These three books will be followed in two months with *Felony Tank* by Malcolm Braly, the story of a young man who is arrested and jailed for a petty crime. Braly spent most of his life behind bars, and knew this story all too well.

After that, there will be a new **Black Gat** book every two to three months as we build this series. Unlike the Stark House trade paperbacks, each book will be numbered. But don't worry, there will still be a new two-in-one trade paperback every month as well. Plus a few a few classic specials from time to time.

Stark House Press continues to bring the best in reprint mystery fiction, and now we've got a mass market line as well. Save your quarters because the books will be \$9.99. Yeah, we wish they were 50c again, too.

As always, if you would like to sign up for the Stark House Crime Club, you can be the first to get these books shipped automatically to your door—they will constitute the May release. And if you have any comments, drop a line to griffinskye3@sbcglobal.net. We'd love to hear from you.

Last newsletter alerted readers to our new Winter releases: *Speak of the Devil/The Obstinate Murderer* by Elisabeth Sanxay Holding, two suspense classics for only \$17.95, is just out. After that, we have W. R. Burnett's *Little Men, Big World/Vanity Row*, which forms part of Burnett's thematic Urban Trilogy and centers on the corruption in a large Midwestern city. These two books are riveting reads with a new introduction by Rick Ollerman, and will be available early March.



After that, we have another publishing event—they just keep coming!—a never-before-collected volume of Algernon Blackwood stories and essays called *The Face of the Earth*, compiled by Mike Ashley. This should be available in late March or early April. If you are a member of the Crime Club and would like to receive a copy, please let us know at griffinskye3@sbcglobal.net because it won't be shipped automatically.

In April, we also have a new two-fer by Frank Kane called *Liz/Syndicate Girl*. Frank Kane is most famous as the creator of detective Johnny Liddell, whose hardboiled escapades thrilled paperback readers

throughout the 1950s and 60s. These two novels offer a different side of Mr. Kane, the first novel being the story of a woman whose road to success is paved with murder, the second a hard-hitting thriller about a corrupt city and the man who stakes his life to clean it up. Robert J. Randisi provides a succinct introduction.



And finally, after years of publishing two-fer trade paperbacks at \$19.95, we find we must raise our prices. Between printing costs and shipping charges, it was inevitable. But we're going to start slow. The books will only go up to \$20.95 this year. If we find we can survive at that level, we'll keep the price there. They really should be higher. But, hey, we didn't go into this business to get rich.

Greg Shepard, publisher



Bring back the mystery!

