

STARK HOUSE PRESS

October

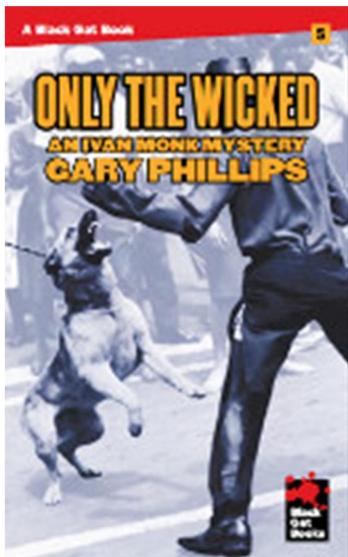
Newsletter, volume 4, issue 10

2015

What a nice surprise: just received a review last week from Cullen Gallagher at *The Life Sentence* blog for *Little Men, Big World/Vanity Row* by W. R. Burnett. Here's the link: <http://thelifesentence.net/book/born-to-lose-youve-never-read/>. This was our March title, but the timing is always right when you get a review like this one. We also want to thank Crime Club member Stephen V. Kempton for the kind words on Amazon.com regarding our recent Bruno Fischer book. It's always nice to get feedback—particularly positive reviews like these.

The two October books should arrive sometime next week. Most of the Crime Club members seem to have opted to receive both books, which is very gratifying. If you are one of those who don't want to receive two books at \$17.95 each, let us know if there is one of these you'd don't want to receive: *Fell the Angels* by Catherine Butzen, an urban dark fantasy detective novel; or *The Babysitter* by Andrew Coburn, a twisted tale of hidden secrets from the author of *The Sweetheart Trilogy*. As always, address all emails to griffinskye3@sbcglobal.net, and we'll make sure you only get the books you want.

November is another big month. First of all, we have Black Gat #5 to offer—*Only the Wicked* by Gary Phillips, the fourth Ivan Monk mystery. Previously available only in hardback, Black Gat will finally make this late 1990s Los Angeles thriller available in paperback for the first time. Monk becomes involved in a case when the death of an old baseball player from the Negro Leagues appears to involve more than old age. Another seemingly random death eventually sends him to the Deep South to unravel a series of crimes with roots in the Civil Rights Movement. Phillips lives in L.A. where he writes not only detective novels but gritty stand-alone books and graphic novels as well. Gary has been a friend of Stark House for a while. We're glad that we can welcome him to the Stark House list!



Black Gat #5: Only the Wicked by Gary Phillips

978-1-933586-93-9 \$9.99

Also this month is the latest Stark House crime two-fer, another new author to the Stark House list—Lionel White—with two noir capers, *Marilyn K.* and *The House Next Door*. Many people remember White as the writer of *Clean Break*, which became the basis for Stanley Kubrick's *The Killing*, a 1956 film noir starring Sterling Hayden and Colleen Gray. White wrote from the early 1950s to the mid-70s and was considered the master of the failed caper. His influence can still be seen in modern films like Quentin Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs*.

We hope to re-introduce White with a couple of untypical thrillers. *Marilyn K.* is the story of an opportunist who picks up a pretty woman by the side of the road, and gets taken for a ride instead. *The House Next Door* is about a neighborhood wracked by guilt over a murder that occurs one night after a drunken party. The



failed capers are still there in the background of each story, but these two books are more character-driven dramas, and an excellent introduction to this somewhat-forgotten master. *CriminalElement* critic, Brian Greene, provides an insightful introduction, and discusses some of the other films made from White's books.

Lionel White

Marilyn K./The House Next Door

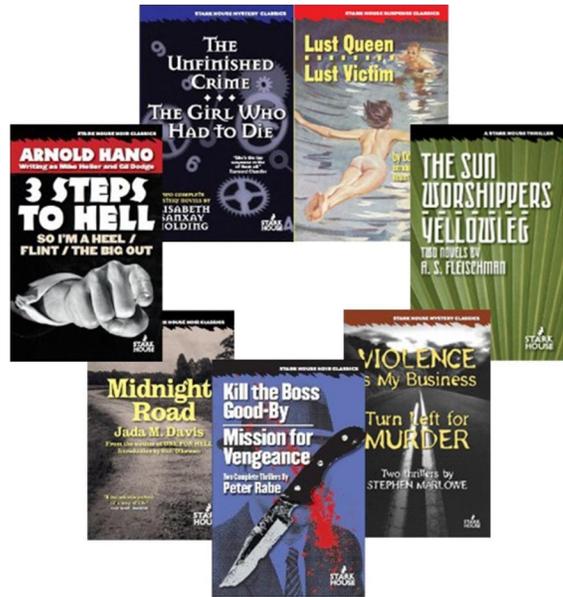
978-1-933586-87-8 \$20.95

Coming in December: a new thriller by Rick Ollerman called *Truth Always Kills* about a cop who is caught between loyalties and honesty. And if we can squeak one more book out of the year, we have planned a reprint of the first two Gaston Max mysteries by Sax Rohmer, with a new introduction by William Patrick Maynard, author of *The Destiny of Fu Manchu*. More on those next month.

In the meantime, it's SALE TIME again. It's inevitable when you use offset printing instead of print-on-demand that you are going to end up with more copies than you have room for after awhile. That is the case here: for whatever reason, we printed too many, and we need to make room. The following seven books are on sale for \$6 each plus \$3 postage:

- *Midnight Road* by Jada M. Davis
- *Lust Queen/Lust Victim* by Don Elliott (Robert Silverberg)

- The Sun Worshippers/Yellowleg by A. S. Fleischman
- So I'm a Heel/Flint/The Big Out by Arnold Hano
- The Unfinished Crime/The Girl Who Had to Die by Elisabeth Sanxay Holding
- Violence is My Business/Turn Left for Murder by Stephen Marlowe
- Kill the Boss Good-Bye/Mission for Vengeance by Peter Rabe



Again, just email us at griffinskye3@sbcglobal.net to take advantage of the sale. We'll bill you via Paypal, and ship via media mail.

That's it for this month's Stark House Newsletter. As we mentioned at the beginning of the newsletter, we love feedback. Do you enjoy seeing the occasional old-timer like Sax Rohmer, E. Phillips Oppenheim and Edgar Wallace? Do you like seeing more new authors on the list? Do you feel we need to be reprinting more classic women authors? Pulp authors? Obscure authors? If you have an old favorite mystery author or book that you think we should consider for reprint, feel free to let us know. If one of our books seemed particularly good—or even if we published a clunker—we'd love to hear from you on that. If you have time to add a couple sentences to one of our Amazon.com listings, we'd appreciate the hell out of that.

As they used to say, keep those cards and letters coming....

—Greg Shepard, publisher

Stark House Press

Bring back the mystery!

