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Survivors of the Black Death face new dangers as they seek safety and freedom in the New York Times–bestselling author’s sequel to *The Last Hours*. England, Winter, 1348. As the Black Death continues its devastating course across England, the quarantined people of Develish question whether they are the only survivors. Guided by their beloved young mistress, Lady Anne, they wait, knowing that when their dwindling stores are finally gone, they will have to leave the safety of their moated walls. But first, to prepare for the wasteland outside, one courageous man must venture out alone. Thaddeus Thurkell, a free-thinking, educated serf, goes in search of supplies and news. A compelling leader, he and his companions quickly throw off the shackles of serfdom and set their minds to ensuring Develish’s future—and freedom for its people. But what use is freedom that cannot be gained lawfully? When Lady Anne and Thaddeus conceive an audacious plan to secure her people’s independence, neither foresees the life-threatening struggle over power, money and religion that follows . . . As a plague descends on Medieval England, a courageous Lady must protect her land and people at all costs in this historical novel: “Enthralling” (Julian Fellowes, creator of *The Gilded Age*). England, 1348. When the Black Death arrives in Dorset, no one knows what manner of sickness it is or how it spreads and kills so quickly. The Church proclaims it a punishment from God, insisting that daily confession is their only hope for survival. But Lady Anne of Devilish has different ideas. With her trusted steward Thaddeus at her side—and her brutal husband absent—she gathers her serfs within the moated walls of Devilish and refuse entry to outsiders, including her husband. Bu in such a confined space, conflicts soon arise. Ignorant of the world outside, Lady Anne’s people wrestle with the terrible uncertainty of their futures. And as food stocks run low, they begin to wonder how long they can survive within. The moment will come when they must cross the moat . . . and encounter a world transformed in ways they can’t imagine. “If there is anyone who has emerged from the crowded field of medieval mysteries to take the place of the late Ellis Peters, it is Peter Tremayne.” --Denver Post on *Master of Souls* Ireland AD 670: When an eminent scholar is found murdered in his cell

in the Abbey of Lios Mor, fear spreads among his brethren. His door was secured from the inside, with no other means of exit. How did the murderer escape? And what was the content of the manuscripts apparently stolen from the scholar's room? Abbot Iarnla insists on sending for Sister Fidelma and her companion Brother Eadulf to investigate the killing. But even before they reach the abbey walls, there is an attempt on their lives. As the mystery deepens, Fidelma and Eadulf must also wrestle with problems of their own, problems which threaten to separate them forever... Missy is laudanum, or liquid opium. Missy is Dol McQueen, a nineteen-year-old "flash-girl" traveling the arduous wagon trail from San Francisco to the boomtowns of the Sierra Nevada. Her purpose: to fleece the silver miners and to have a marvelous time. Permanently gonged on missy, Dol and her entrepreneurial instincts wake up only when she comes into possession of a rum crate full of pure opium. But the crate has several owners, each more brutal than the last. Soon, instead of selling the boodle and opening her own establishment, Dol is fleeing across the salt flats and wastelands of the monumental American Southwest, where Civil War renegades, Native American mule thieves, and gangs of feral kids make hanging on to life a job for both hands. Chris Hannan has mixed the irresistible Mark Twain of *Roughing It* with Annie Proulx's brilliantly macabre wordplay, and the result is a historical novel of startling originality, in which every detail rings true. Dol McQueen is the most engaging antiheroine since Becky Sharp, and she makes Missy a debut of terrific energy, freshness, and delight. Reginald Hill brings us a brilliant new Dalziel and Pascoe novel, featuring a chilling Mid-Yorkshire mystery. Like father like son... But heredity seems to have gone a gene too far when Pal Maciver's suicide in a locked room exactly mirrors that of his father ten years earlier. In each case accusing fingers point towards Pal's stepmother, the beautiful enigmatic Kay Kafka. But she turns out to have a formidable champion, Mid-Yorkshire's own super-heavyweight, Detective Superintendent Andrew Dalziel. DCI Peter Pascoe, nominally in charge of the investigation, finds he is constantly body-checked by his superior as he tries to disentangle the complex relationships of the Maciver family. At first these inquiries seem local and domestic. What really happened between Pal and his stepmother? And how has key witness and exotic hooker Dolores, Our Lady of Pain, contrived to disappear from the face of Mid-Yorkshire? Gradually, however, it becomes clear that the fall-out from Pal's suicide spreads far beyond Yorkshire. To London, to America. Even to Iraq. But the emotional epicentre is firmly placed in mid-Yorkshire where Pascoe comes to learn that for some people the heart too is a locked room, and in there it is always midnight. By the acclaimed Dutch author of *Beyond Sleep*: a thriller set in Nazi occupied Holland: "fast-moving, frighteningly real yet verging on the incredible" (Milan Kundera, author of *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*). During the German occupation of Holland, tobacconist Henri Osewoudt is visited by a mysterious man named Dorbeck—a man who bears a strangely striking resemblance to Osewoudt himself. Dorbeck recruits him to perform simple, but top-secret missions on orders from London. But as the assignments keep coming, they get increasingly dangerous. Soon Osewoudt is being asked to commit murder in the name of Gestapo resistance. After the war, Osewoudt is taken for a traitor and captured. To prove his sacrifices for the Resistance, he must find the untraceable doppelgänger in an

existential thriller "crackling with tension . . . bringing to mind Camus and the Sartre of *Les Chemins de la Liberté*" (The Telegraph). "Striking, suspenseful . . . Brilliant." —The Observer A sweeping historical adventure set during one of the most turbulent periods of British history—featuring a heroine you'll never forget . . . Dorset, 1642. When bloody civil war breaks out between the king and Parliament, families and communities across England are riven by different allegiances. A rare few choose neutrality. One such is Jayne Swift, a Dorset physician from a Royalist family, who offers her services to both sides in the conflict. Through her dedication to treating the sick and wounded, regardless of belief, Jayne becomes a witness to the brutality of war and the devastation it wreaks. Yet her recurring companion at every event is a man she should despise because he embraces civil war as the means to an end. She knows him as William Harrier, but is ignorant about every other aspect of his life. His past is a mystery and his future uncertain. The Swift and the Harrier is a sweeping tale of adventure and loss, sacrifice and love, with a unique and unforgettable heroine at its heart. Two suspenseful stories in one volume from the Edgar Award-winning author of *The Dark Room*. From an acclaimed, multimillion-selling author known for her tales about seemingly normal people driven to commit the most heinous crimes imaginable, *Innocent Victims* collects two novellas in one volume: *Chickenfeed* Following young Norman Thorne and his girlfriend, Elsie, from their first meeting in chapel until Thorne is about to go on trial for killing her four years later, this chilling, twisting tale is based on the true story of the 'chicken run murder' in East Sussex in 1924. *The Tinder Box* Patrick O'Riordan has been arrested for the brutal murder of an elderly woman and her live-in nurse. As shock turns to fury, the village residents unite against the O'Riordan family. But a neighbor remains convinced that Patrick is innocent—and jeopardizes her own position within the community to stand firmly in defense of the O'Riordan name. But soon she is forced to question her loyalties . . . "Fans of Edgar-winner Walters will welcome this collection . . . the poignant *Chickenfeed*, based on an infamous 1924 murder case in East Sussex. [And] *The Tinder Box*, a compelling tale of prejudice and gossip [where] everything falls into place to produce a shockingly different picture than expected." —Publishers Weekly Outside London behind a stone wall stands Lake House, a private asylum for genteel women of a delicate nature. In the winter of 1859, recently-married Anna Palmer becomes its newest arrival, tricked by her husband into leaving her home, incarcerated against her will and declared hysterical and unhinged. With no doubts as to her sanity, Anna is convinced that she will be released as soon as she can tell her story. But Anna quickly learns that liberty will not come easily. And the longer she remains at Lake House, the more she realises that — like the ethereal bridge over the asylum's lake — nothing is as it appears. She begins to experience strange visions and memories that may lead her to the truth about her past, herself, and to freedom — or lead her so far into the recesses of her mind that she may never escape. A masterful combination of suspense, mystery and psychology in short, another triumph.'

CANBERRA TIMES. A woman's brutally damaged body washes up on a lonely beach. Twelve hours later, her three-year-old daughter is found, wandering abandoned twenty miles away from her mother. Why was Kate Sumner murdered, yet her child, a witness, allowed to live... When elderly Ailsa Lockyer-Fox

is found dead in her garden, dressed only in nightclothes and with blood stains on the ground near her body, the finger of suspicion points at her wealthy, landowning husband, Colonel James Lockyer-Fox. A Coroner's inquest gives a verdict of "natural causes" but the gossip surrounding James refuses to go away. Why? Because he's guilty? Or because resentful women in the isolated Dorset village where he lives rules the roost? Shenstead is a place of too few people and too many secrets. Why have James and Ailsa cut their children out of their will? What happened in the past to create such animosity within the family? Any why is James so desperate to find his illegitimate grandchild? Friendless and alone, his reclusive behavior begins to alarm his London-based solicitor, Mark Ankerton, whose concern deepens when he discovers that James has become the victim of a relentless campaign which accuses him of far worse than the death of his wife. Allegations which he refuses to challenge... Why? Because they're a motive for murder...? At the request of London police, psychologist Kit Quinn agrees to evaluate Michael Doll, a sexual predator who slashes her face. As she recovers, Kit has horrible dreams of a red room. Months later, Doll is arrested for murder. As Doll's obsession with Kit escalates, Kit is gripped with a paralyzing fear that the killer isn't Doll--but someone close to her heart. Winner of the Edgar Allen Poe Award for best crime novel, *The Sculptress* is the mystery thriller from crime queen Minette Walters. It was a slaughterhouse, the most horrific scene I have ever witnessed . . . Olive Martin is a dangerous woman. I advise you to be extremely wary in your dealings with her. The facts of the case were simple: Olive Martin had pleaded guilty to killing and dismembering her sister and mother, earning herself the chilling nickname 'The Sculptress'. This much journalist Rosalind Leigh knew before her first meeting with Olive, currently serving a life sentence. How could Roz have foreseen that the encounter was destined to change her life - for ever? From the author of *The Devil's Feather* comes a haunting psychological thriller about a scarred Iraq war veteran whose physical trauma may reflect the inner turmoil of a killer. Somewhere in the endless, deadly desert between Basra and Baghdad, Lieutenant Charles Acland's convoy was attacked. Recovering in the hospital, Charles is crippled by migraines and suspicious of his doctors. He grows uncharacteristically aggressive, particularly against women. Rejecting cosmetic surgery, he moves to London. There he sinks into a quagmire of guilt and paranoia--until an outburst of irrational, vicious anger brings him to the attention of the local police, who are investigating three recent murders. Now under suspicion, Charles is forced to confront his issues before it's too late, but the shadowy forces working against him--or in him--could be more than he can overcome. "An absolutely first-rate anthology. . . a thoughtful and intelligent paean to crime fiction." - New York Sun #1 New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth George serves up a century's worth of superb crime fiction penned by women. This veritable all-star team delivers tales of dark deeds that will keep you reading long into the night. Some of the works included are: "A Jury of Her Peers" by Susan Glaspell "The Summer of People" by Shirley Jackson "The Irony of Hate" by Ruth Rendell "Country Lovers" by Nadine Gordimer "Wild Mustard" by Marcia Muller "Murder-Two" by Joyce Carol Oates "The Man Who Knew How" by Dorothy Sayers A Moment on the Edge is a rare treat not only for fans of crime fiction but also for

anyone who appreciates a skillfully written, deftly told story. Set in the bleak environments of London's homeless community, *The Echo* is the mystery thriller from crime queen Minette Walters. It was the smell that Mrs Powell noticed first. Slightly sweet. Slightly unpleasant . . . It shocked her badly to find a dead man in the corner, his head slumped on his knees. Who was Billy Blake, other than a homeless alcoholic who wandered the streets? Why was he found dead from starvation in one of the richest areas of one of the richest capitals in the world? And why did he die alone in the garage of wealthy architect Amanda Powell - a woman whose wealth can only be explained if her husband is dead . . .? When Mathilda Gillespie, a wealthy English matron, is found dead, a medieval instrument of torture over her head, the ensuing investigation implicates one of her few friends, her physician and main beneficiary, Sarah Blakeney. Winner of the CWA Gold Dagger Award. Reprint. Content to live a quiet and reclusive life at Streech Grange, Phoebe Maybury's family estate, Phoebe and her housemates, Diana Goode and Anne Cattrell, suddenly find their sanctuary violated by the discovery of a corpse in the estate's ice house, launching an investigation that threatens to reveal long-hidden secrets. Winner of the CWA John Creasey/New Blood Dagger Award. Reprint. An early book in award-winning crime novelist Ann Cleeves's Vera Stanhope series, brought to life by Brenda Blethyn in the hit TV series *Vera*. Edgar Award-winning crime novelist Minette Walters is known for revitalizing the tradition of the stand-alone psychological thriller in books such as *The Ice House*, *The Dark Room*, *Acid Row* and *Fox Evil*. This book offers an in-depth analysis of Walters' narrative technique and examines the major themes found throughout her work, including truth and justice, the treatment of children, patterns of victimization, British social issues, body image and body politics, the fashioning of identity, and heroism and evil in society. In addition, it includes a valuable interview with Walters. Short though this novella may be, it contains all the compressed tension and unsettling ambience that we find in Minette's wide repertoire -- a chicken farm can be a dangerous place. . . . In *West of the Moon*, award-winning and New York Times bestselling author Margi Preus expertly weaves original fiction with myth and folktale to tell the story of Astri, a young Norwegian girl desperate to join her father in America. After being separated from her sister and sold to a cruel goat farmer, Astri makes a daring escape. She quickly retrieves her little sister, and, armed with a troll treasure, a book of spells and curses, and a possibly magic hairbrush, they set off for America. With a mysterious companion in tow and the malevolent "goatman" in pursuit, the girls head over the Norwegian mountains, through field and forest, and in and out of folktales and dreams as they steadily make their way east of the sun and west of the moon. Praise for *West of the Moon* FIVE STARRED REVIEWS "Like dun silk shot thought with gold, Preus interweaves the mesmerizing tale of Astri's treacherous and harrowing mid-nineteenth-century emigration to America with bewitching tales of magic. A fascinating author's note only adds to the wonder." --Booklist, starred review "Norwegian history, fiction and folklore intertwine seamlessly in this lively, fantastical adventure and moving coming-of-age story." --Kirkus Reviews, starred review "Enthralling and unflinching, this historical tale resonates with mythical undertones that will linger with readers after the final page is turned." --School Library Journal, starred review "Astri is like a girl

out of a fairy tale, and the native folktales that Preus weaves through the narrative serve as guides, lessons, and inspiration for her." --Publishers Weekly, starred review "Several Norwegian folktales are seamlessly integrated into the fast-paced, lyrically narrated story, which features a protagonist as stalwart and fearless as any fairy-tale hero." --The Horn Book Magazine, starred review "It's Astri's voice, however, that is most appealing: her direct, no-nonsense narration has a sharp bite, yet it also reveals the vulnerable young girl who's willing to continue to fight but is nonetheless exhausted by the weight of her struggle. The chapters have an episodic structure that makes this an ideal choice for readaloud or storytelling adaptations, while the mix of folklore, fact, and fantasy will please fans of Edith Patou's East." --The Bulletin of The Center for Children's Books

The tension is palpable as Walters takes the spellbound reader to a surprising climax.' MELBOURNE WEEKLY. 'Acid Row' is the name the beleaguered inhabitants give to their housing estate. It is a no-man's land of single mothers and fatherless children--where angry, alienated youth control the streets. Into this battlefield comes Sophie Morrison, a... A blistering new thriller about the horrors of war and the struggle to survive in the face of pure evil. Foreign correspondent Connie Burns is hunting a British mercenary that she believes is responsible for the rape and murder of five women in Sierra Leone in 2002. Two years later she finds him training Iraqi police in Baghdad. Connie is determined to expose his crimes, but then she is kidnapped and released after three days of unspeakable torture. Silently, she returns to England and attempts to isolate herself, but it soon becomes apparent that the horrors of the world and her own nightmarish past aren't so easy to escape from. In this acclaimed psychological mystery, Jinx Kingsley, a prominent photographer and millionaire's daughter, wakes up in an exclusive hospital suffering from amnesia. Not only can she not remember the car accident that caused her memory loss, but she doesn't remember that her impending wedding has been called off or that her former fiancé and his girlfriend have been brutally murdered in the same way her first husband had been ten years before. Now she must try to piece together her memories in order to determine her innocence. With deft psychological explorations and shocking twists, Walters brings the story to an awe-inspiring conclusion. A chilling tale of prejudice, ambition and cunning, The Tinder Box is a novella from crime queen Minette Walters. In the small Hampshire village of Sowerbridge, Irish labourer Patrick O'Riordan has been arrested for the brutal murder of elderly Lavinia Fanshaw and her live-in nurse, Dorothy Jenkins. As shock turns to fury, the village residents form a united front against Patrick's parents and cousin, who report incidents of vicious threats and violence. But friend and neighbour Siobhan Lavenham remains convinced that Patrick has fallen victim to a prejudiced investigation and, putting her own position within the bigoted community in serious jeopardy, stands firmly by his family in defence of the O'Riordan name. Days before the trial, terrible secrets about the O'Riordans' past are revealed to Siobhan, and the family's only supporter is forced to question her loyalties. Could Patrick be capable of murder after all? Could his parents' tales of attacks be devious fabrications? And if so, what other lies lurk beneath the surface of their world? As the truth rapidly unfurls, it seems that Sowerbridge residents

need to be very afraid. For beneath a cunning façade, someone's chilling ambition is about to ignite . . . "The terrifying Hammer novella by Minette Walters, bestselling author of *The Sculptress* and *The Scold's Bridle* Muna's bedroom is a dark windowless cellar and her activities are confined to cooking and cleaning. She's grown used to being maltreated by the Songoli family; to being a slave. She's never been outside, doesn't know how to read or write, and cannot speak English. At least that's what the Songolis believe. But Muna is far cleverer - and her plans more terrifying - than the Songolis, or anyone else, can ever imagine . . ." The play's the thing . . . To the outside world, Tom Pryne is an orphan traveling Elizabethan England with his uncle's theater troupe. In actuality, "Tom" is Viola, in disguise because her parents' Catholic sympathies have put them at odds with the Crown and forced them into hiding. When the troupe arrives in the sleepy little town of Stratford-on-Avon, Viola's uncle is arrested for murder, and she joins forces with an irksome local boy, named Will Shakespeare, with an active imagination, a penchant for trouble, and a smart turn of phrase, to uncover the real culprit. A perfect blend of humor, drama, and adventure and a rich evocation of 16th-century England inform this fresh and original historical mystery that introduces an appealing pair of amateur sleuths. A psychological thriller about race, family, and the brutal power of raw emotion.

Mrs. Ranelagh has never stopped thinking about the dead body she found in the gutter twenty years ago, during Britain's Winter of Discontent. "Mad Annie," as she was known, was the only black resident of her West London neighborhood and openly despised by the community. The police called her death an accident, but Mrs. Ranelagh has always suspected it was murder. However, her pleas for an investigation were met with a vicious hate campaign that drove her and her husband from the country. Now, determined to uncover the truth, Mrs. Ranelagh has returned to England, where she quickly discovers a sordid trail of domestic violence, racism and adultery that shockingly could lead back to her own family. In this acclaimed psychological mystery, Jinx Kingsley, a prominent photographer and millionaire's daughter, wakes up in an exclusive hospital suffering from amnesia. Not only can she not remember the car accident that caused her memory loss, but she doesn't remember that her impending wedding has been called off or that her former fiancé and his girlfriend have been brutally murdered in the same way her first husband had been ten years before. Now she must try to piece together her memories in order to determine her innocence. With deft psychological explorations and shocking twists, Walters brings the story to an awe-inspiring conclusion. Chilling psychological suspense with "exceptional punch" from the Edgar Award-winning author of *The Dark Room* (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). It seems like a respectable British home, occupied by the Songolis, an upstanding family of African immigrants. But hidden within the cellar is Muna—a teenage girl who cooks for them, cleans for them, endures brutal abuse from them . . . and is powerless to escape. Then one day, the Songolis' ten-year-old son fails to come home from school, and Scotland Yard arrives at the house to investigate. While they look into the boy's disappearance, Muna must play the role of beloved daughter. She suddenly has a real bedroom, with sunlight, and real clothing to wear. But she must continue to keep quiet—and hide the fact that she has learned how to speak English. Even as the police

are watching, her secret life of enslavement goes on. But Muna is hatching a plan—and her acts of rebellion and revenge will be more terrifying than this family could have imagined—in this dark, twisting tale that represents “contemporary crime writing at its absolute peak” (Val McDermid). A psychological thriller about race, family, and the brutal power of raw emotion. Mrs. Ranelagh has never stopped thinking about the dead body she found in the gutter twenty years ago, during Britain’s Winter of Discontent. “Mad Annie,” as she was known, was the only black resident of her West London neighborhood and openly despised by the community. The police called her death an accident, but Mrs. Ranelagh has always suspected it was murder. However, her pleas for an investigation were met with a vicious hate campaign that drove her and her husband from the country. Now, determined to uncover the truth, Mrs. Ranelagh has returned to England, where she quickly discovers a sordid trail of domestic violence, racism and adultery that shockingly could lead back to her own family. Edgar Award-winning crime novelist Minette Walters is known for revitalizing the tradition of the stand-alone psychological thriller in books such as *The Ice House*, *The Dark Room*, *Acid Row* and *Fox Evil*. This book offers an in-depth analysis of Walters’ narrative technique and examines the major themes found throughout her work, including truth and justice, the treatment of children, patterns of victimization, British social issues, body image and body politics, the fashioning of identity, and heroism and evil in society. In addition, it includes a valuable interview with Walters. This Picador Classic edition of Minette Walters’ *The Sculptress* features an introduction by Stephanie Merritt, journalist and author of *While You Sleep*. The facts of the case were simple: Olive Martin murdered her mother and sister and cut them into tiny pieces. She pled guilty to the crime and was sentenced to life imprisonment. Once incarcerated, she spends her days carving miniature human figures out of wax, earning herself the nickname ‘The Sculptress’. But is murder ever that simple? When Rosalind Leigh, an investigative journalist, is persuaded to research Olive’s background, she believes she has uncovered an injustice. If so, she has found the story of a lifetime, a story that may save her faltering career. Yet to write it she must speak with Olive, and she is ill-prepared, both emotionally and psychologically, for the monstrous – but childlike – woman she meets. Awarded the Edgar Allan Poe Award when it was first published in 1994, *The Sculptress* is a pioneering novel, undeniably influencing many of today’s dark, domestic thrillers which dominate the bestseller lists. An unforgettably menacing, gripping and twisting work, Walters will hold you on a knife-edge as Rosalind attempts to untangle the truth about Olive Martin. “Constant action and top-notch writing.” –New York Times A Palm Beach playboy who amuses himself with murder finds himself on a collision course with a vacationing Motown cop in Elmore Leonard’s *Split Images*—a gripping and electrifying example of noir gold from “the coolest, hottest writer in America” (Chicago Tribune). *Split Images* is Grand Master Leonard at the top of his game, a bravura example of how exemplary crime fiction is done by a writer who stands tall among the all-time mystery greats: John D. MacDonald, Dashiell Hammett, James M. Cain, et al. The brilliant creator of U.S. Marshal Raylan Givens (of TV’s *Justified*) now brings us a cast of vivid and unforgettable characters on both sides of the law, in a twisting masterwork of unrelenting suspense that

the Washington Post calls, "Brilliant...impressive...superb." In bleak midwinter, the people of Shipcott are shocked by the murder of an elderly woman in her bed. As snow cuts off the village, local policeman Jonas Holly is torn between catching a brutal killer and protecting his vulnerable wife, Lucy. When the inquiry is commandeered by an abrasive senior detective, Jonas finds himself derided by his colleagues and ashamed to admit to Lucy that he's been sidelined. It seems his first murder investigation may be over before it's begun. But when he receives a series of increasingly sinister anonymous notes, Jonas is thrust back into the center of the case. Someone in the village is taunting him, blaming him for the tragedy. Someone thinks he's not doing his job; someone seems to know every move he makes. And soon Jonas has to ask: Who's hunting who? Shortlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger Award, *The Dark Room* is the psychological thriller from crime queen Minette Walters. Something else had happened . . . Something so terrible that she was too frightened to search her memory for it . . . The newspapers reported the case with relish. Jane (Jinx) Kingsley, fashion photographer and heiress, tries to kill herself after being unceremoniously jilted by her fiancé, who has since disappeared - together with Jinx's best friend Meg Harris . . . But when Jinx wakes from her coma, she can remember nothing about her alleged suicide attempt. With the help of Dr Alan Protheroe of the Nightingale Clinic, she slowly begins to piece together the fragments of the last few weeks. Then the memories begin to surface . . . memories of utter desperation and absolute terror. A thirty year old murder case and a possible wrongful conviction, *Disordered Minds* is the mystery thriller from crime queen Minette Walters. In 1970, Harold Stamp, a retarded twenty-year-old was convicted on disputed evidence and a retracted confession of brutally murdering his grandmother - the one person who understood and protected him. Less than three years later he is dead, driven to suicide by isolation and despair. A fate befitting a murderer, perhaps, but what if he were innocent? Thirty years on, Jonathan Hughes, an anthropologist specializing in social stereotyping, comes across the case by accident. He finds alarming disparities in the evidence and has little doubt that Stamp's conviction was a terrible miscarriage of justice. But how far is Hughes prepared to go in the search for justice? Is the forgotten story of one friendless young man compelling enough to make him leave his books and face his own demons? And with what result? If Stamp didn't murder Grace Jeffries then somebody else did . . . and sleeping dogs are best left alone . . . In this lush, magical, queer, and feminist take on Hamlet in modern-day New York City, a neuro-atypical physicist, along with his best friend Horatio and artist ex-fiancé, Lia, are caught up in the otherworldly events surrounding the death of his father. Meet Ben Dane: brilliant, devastating, devoted, honest to a fault (truly, a fault). His Broadway theater baron father is dead-but on purpose or by accident? The question rips him apart. Unable to face alone his mother's ghastly remarriage to his uncle, Ben turns to his dearest friend, Horatio Patel, whom he hasn't seen since their relationship changed forever from platonic to something...other. Loyal to a fault (truly, a fault), Horatio is on the first flight to New York City when he finds himself next to a sly tailor who portends inevitable disaster. And who seems ominously like an architect of mayhem himself. Meanwhile, Ben's ex-fiancé, Lia, sundered her from her loved ones thanks to her addiction

recovery and torn from her art, has been drawn into the fold of three florists from New Orleans—seemingly ageless sisters who teach her the language of flowers, and whose magical bouquets hold both curses and cures. For a price. On one explosive night these kinetic forces will collide, and the only possible outcome is death. But in the masterly hands of Lyndsay Faye, the story we all know has abundant surprises in store. Impish, captivating, and achingly romantic, this is Hamlet as you've never seen it before.

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