



FALL/WINTER 2017 PUBLICATION LIST

INCLUDING TITLES FROM OUR IMPRINTS AND DIVISIONS



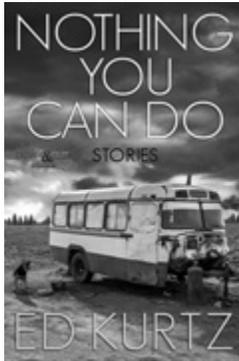
A Note from the Publisher...

Down & Out Books continues to expand its reach in the crime fiction world with an announcement in August that All Due Respect has joined our publishing family as an imprint. We will be releasing the first new All Due Respect title in December and then begin reissuing all previously published titles throughout 2018.

Highlights from this catalog include an exciting first in series thriller from J.J. Hensley, *Bolt Action Remedy*; *Passport to Murder*, *Bouchercon Anthology 2017*, edited by John McFetridge and awarded a starred review from Publishers Weekly; *Shakedown*, a new financial and political thriller by Martin Bodenham; and the publication of Eric Beetner's Lars and Shaine crime trilogy including the new title *The Devil at Your Door*.

In the following pages, we invite you to take a look at what is coming from Down & Out Books later this year and early next.

—Eric Campbell, Publisher



NOTHING YOU CAN DO
Stories
Ed Kurtz

Down & Out Books
September 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-943402-93-9

Sometimes people kill for profit, sometimes revenge, and sometimes they do it just for the fun of it...

Here are seventeen tales of crime, murder, and vengeance from Ed Kurtz, author of *The Rib From Which I Remake the World* and *Bleed*, including the acclaimed stories “A Good Marriage” and “The Trick.”

From backwoods Arkansas to the sleazy side of Cologne, Germany, America’s first serial killer in nineteenth century Texas to a broken family descending into madness in 1920s England, no one escapes their own darkest drives and everyone learns there is nothing you can do.



CLEANING UP FINN
Sarah M. Chen

All Due Respect
September 15, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$10.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-946502-49-0

Life is a constant party for restaurant manager, Finn Roose. When he seduces an underage woman on one of his booze cruises and loses her—literally, it sets off a massive search involving the police, her parents, and a private investigator.

Finn is an expert manipulator but his endless lies only tighten the screws on himself and his unsuspecting best friend. Finn scrambles to make things right which may be too much to ask from a guy who can’t resist a hot babe and a stiff drink.



DEAD CLOWN BLUES
R. Daniel Lester

Shotgun Honey
September 15, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$14.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-946502-02-5

Carnegie Fitch, once-upon-a-time drifter and now half-assed private eye, gets the case of a lifetime when he gets caught up in the death of a janitor with a checkered past as a circus performer and a stash of ill-gotten gains.

And since nothing attracts the moths quite like the glow of a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, he will cross paths with a series of lowlifes and nut jobs, including a gang of criminal clowns, a femme fatale with beaucoup daddy issues and an off-kilter circus elephant named Mary with a taste for human fear.



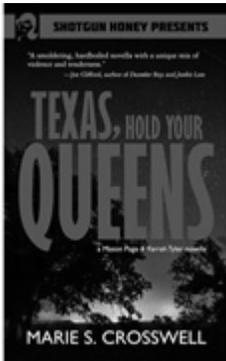
FALLING TOO
Gordon Brown

Down & Out Books
September 18, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-03-2

In the follow up to the highly successful *Falling* (Down & Out Books; March 2016), Charlie Wiggs, the world’s most unfortunate accountant, is back—back in trouble, back in danger, and back in the murky underworld of crime.

It’s a place he thought he’d long left behind—but sometimes, no matter how hard you try, history repeats itself.



TEXAS, HOLD YOUR QUEENS

Marie S. Crosswell

Shotgun Honey
September 22, 2017

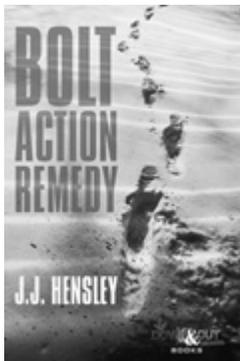
Trade Paperback: \$9.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-943402-74-8

Reissue

When the body of an undocumented Mexican immigrant is found abandoned on a roadside, Detectives Mason Page and Farrah Tyler have no clue how a throwaway case that neither wants to let go will affect their lives.

On the job, Page and Tyler are the only two female detectives in El Paso CID's Crimes Against Persons unit, and have to deal with the condescension of their male counterparts.

Off the clock, the two have developed an intimate friendship over the past seven years, one that will be jeopardized when the murder case puts them on suspect Reed Gabler's trail.



BOLT ACTION REMEDY

A Trevor Galloway Thriller

J.J. Hensley

Down & Out Books
October 2, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-04-9

Former Pittsburgh narcotics detective Trevor Galloway has been hired to look into the year-old homicide of a prominent businessman who was gunned down on his estate in Central Pennsylvania.

When Galloway arrives, he determines the murder could have only been committed by someone extremely skilled in two areas: skiing and shooting. He believes the assailant should not be too difficult to identify given the great amount of skill and athleticism needed to pull off the attack.

He then discovers the victim's property is next door to a biathlon training camp...and the situation becomes significantly more complicated.



PASSPORT TO MURDER: BOUCHERCON ANTHOLOGY 2017

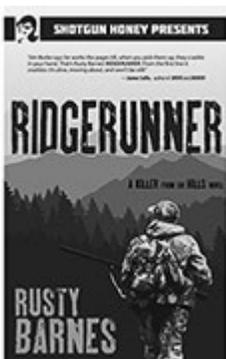
John McFetridge, editor

Down & Out Books
October 12, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-05-6

Passport to Murder is published in conjunction with Bouchercon this anthology spreads a broad canopy across a wide variety of crime writers from across the country and around the world—including both veteran writers and the brightest up-and-coming talents in the field. All of the stories include some kind of travel ranging from a cross-America ride-sharing trip to tourists in Italy and Japan to a woman on the run in Mexico to murder in Cuba. And even a haunted hotel in Toronto.

All participants contributed their efforts to support Frontier College, winner of the UNESCO Literacy Prize in 1977, and by extension readers and writers everywhere. All profits from the sale of this book go to the college.



RIDGERUNNER

A Killer from the Hills Novel

Rusty Barnes

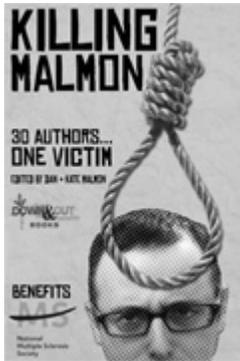
Shotgun Honey
October 13, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$11.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-946502-47-6

Reissue

Investigating a deer-poaching incident that lands him in deep trouble—with a broken ankle and multiple bullet wounds—wildlife conservation officer Matt Rider finds himself at odds with members of the renegade Pittman family, including clan leader Soldier Pittman.

When a large sum of Pittman's drug money comes up missing, Soldier Pittman is convinced Rider stole it. Rider's instincts are to call on his trusted brother Randy and his friend Dean Blackwell to help him out, but none of them imagine the lengths to which Soldier Pittman will go to get his drug money back.



KILLING MALMON
 30 Authors...One Victim
 Dan and Kate Malmon, editors

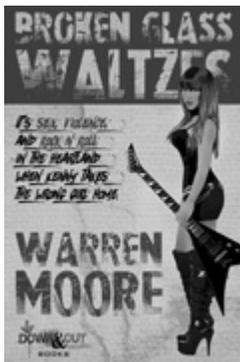
Down & Out Books
 October 19, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
 eBook Formats: \$8.99
 978-1-946502-08-7

Never before has killing someone benefitted such a good cause.

In 2014, Crimespree Magazine held an Internet-based flash fiction contest. The rules were simple: somewhere in the story you had to "Kill Dan Malmon." That was it. The story had to be brief, inventive, and somewhere, Malmon had to die. Now those original stories, plus a few more, are being collected into one volume with all proceeds going to the MS Society.

If you hate MS as much as the editors do, and if your feelings towards Dan Malmon are rather ambivalent anyway, then this is the volume for you.



BROKEN GLASS WALTZES
 Warren Moore

Down & Out Books
 October 23, 2017

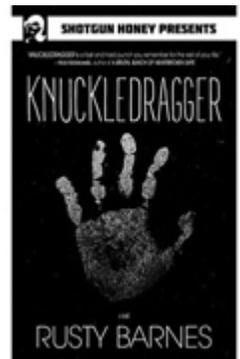
Trade Paperback: \$15.95
 eBook Formats: \$6.99
 978-1-946502-06-3

Cincinnati, just before rock changed from spandex to flannel...

Kenny Rockford has the best gig in town, drumming for local heroes The Selekt. The pay's OK, but the benefits are amazing. One benefit is Jean Cassidy, the girl at the club with a taste for the loud and fast. And they're making beautiful music together—until Kenny learns about Jean's husband.

From there on, it's lust, murder and madness, at a tempo even Kenny may not be able to match.

Reissue



KNUCKLEDRAGGER
 Rusty Barnes

Shotgun Honey
 October 27, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$14.95
 eBook Formats: \$4.99
 978-1-946502-07-0

Hooligan and low-level criminal enforcer Jason "Candy" Stahl ("Irish" to his sometime girlfriend Rosario) has made a good life collecting money for his boss Otis, breaking the occasional leg or elbow, and living the life in Revere, MA. One collection trip, though, unravels events that turn Candy's life into a horror-show.

In quick succession he moves up a notch in the organization, overseeing a chop shop, while he falls in lust with Otis's girlfriend Nina, gets beaten for insubordination, and is forced to run when Otis finds out about Candy and Nina's affair.

Events stretch as far as Houston, Texas, where Otis and Candy have a final showdown where everything is at stake. Loser gets nothing.

Reissue



YELLOW MEDICINE
 A Billy Lafitte Novel
 Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
 October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
 eBook Formats: \$5.99
 978-1-946502-24-7

Deputy Billy Lafitte is not unfamiliar with the law; he just prefers to enforce it, rather than abide by it. But his rule-bending and bribe-taking have gotten him kicked off the force in Gulfport, Mississippi, and he's been given a second chance...in the desolate, Siberian wastelands of rural Minnesota. Now Billy's only got the local girls and local booze to keep him company.

Until one of the local girls—cute little Drew, bassist for a psychobilly band—asks Billy for help with her boyfriend. Something about the drugs Ian's been selling, some product he may have lost, and the men who are threatening him because of it. Billy agrees to look into it, and before long he's speeding down a snowy road, tracking a cell of terrorists, with a severed head in his truck's cab. And that's only the start...



HOGDOGGIN'

A Billy Lafitte Novel
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-22-3

Reissue

Special Agent Franklin Rome has a plan to do what the too-lax government wouldn't let him do back in Yellow Medicine county: take down Billy Lafitte. Squeeze a man's ex-wife and watch her overprotective man appear from thin air to stand by his family. No matter that Rome s had to bend a few rules in order to make it happen; Billy's end will justify Rome's means.

Of course, Rome didn't count on Billy riding in to save the day on a turquoise motorcycle with a beard, fifty extra pounds of muscle, and the weight of a man named Steel God at his back. Nor did he think Billy would go and get himself caught up with paint-huffing, knife-wielding rednecks. And Rome certainly never predicted that a broken-hearted, vengeful woman named Colleen would be just as hot for Lafitte's blood as he is...



THE BADDEST ASS

A Billy Lafitte Novel
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

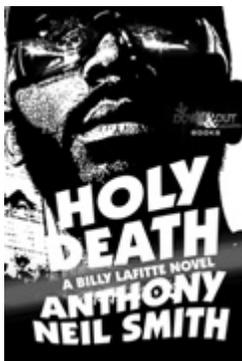
Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-23-0

Reissue

Billy Lafitte, former Deputy-Sheriff and motorcycle gang enforcer, was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. For some of his enemies, that's still not enough punishment.

Agents Colleen Hartle and Franklin Rome want Lafitte dead so bad, they've put a price on his head. Gang leader Ri'Chess and Head Prison Guard Garner want to collect, and they don't mind who gets run over while they try. Lafitte's church-going ex-mother-in-law brings his boy Ham for what she expects to be their final visit.

When they all converge on a half-finished prison on the North Dakota prairie during a blizzard, something bad is bound to happen...



HOLY DEATH

A Billy Lafitte Novel
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-943402-25-0

Reissue

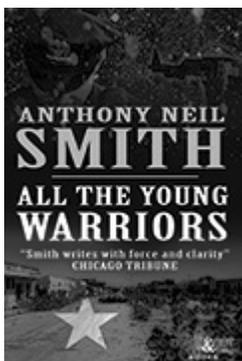
Billy Lafitte is back...

Back from the brink of death.

Back on the Gulf Coast, his home stomping grounds, looking to reunite with his beloved one last time.

Back in the sights of DeV Vaughn Lagrenade, a former gangbanger whose brother was gunned down by Lafitte and his partner during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Back in the mind of his biggest nemesis, Franklin Rome, who swings back into Lafitte's orbit in a most unusual way...



ALL THE YOUNG WARRIORS

An Mustafa & Adem Novel
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-943402-03-8

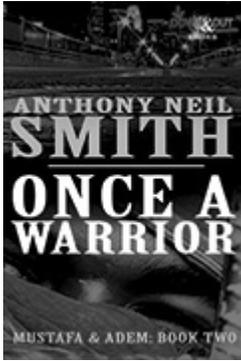
Reissue

When two of the Twin Cities' "Lost Boys"—young Somali men drafted to fight for terrorists back in the homeland—kill a pair of cops on his home turf, detective Ray Bleeker is left devastated.

One of the dead cops was his girlfriend.

The investigation grinds to a halt when he discovers that the young murderers have fled to Somalia to fight in the rebel army. He's at his wits' end until the father of one of the boys, an ex-gang leader called Mustafa, comes looking for answers.

Bleeker and Mustafa form an uneasy alliance, teaming up to help bring the boys back home. But little do they know what Somalia has in store for them.



ONCE A WARRIOR
An Mustafa & Adem Novel
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

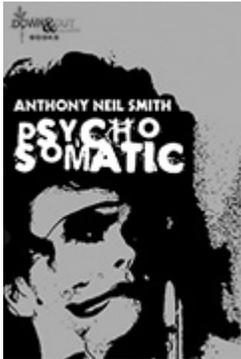
Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-943402-04-5

Reissue

It's been three years since Mustafa Bahdoon, one-time leader of the Southside Killaz, saved his fugitive son Adem from the clutches of pirates in Somalia. But when Mustafa is asked to rescue a young girl from the gang's sex trafficking empire, he returns from retirement to seize control once again.

Meanwhile, still haunted by guilt over the girl he left behind in Somalia, Adem reprises the role of Mr. Mohammed, legendary pirate negotiator. But the CIA is on his tail and he soon finds himself unwillingly enmeshed in a deadly campaign.

Half a world apart, survival for both father and son depends upon telling friend from enemy, truth from lie, and their own true selves from the roles they must play.



PSYCHOSOMATIC
Anthony Neil Smith

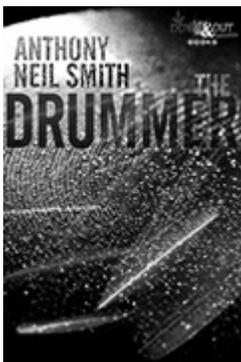
Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-25-4

Reissue

Because Lydia didn't have arms or legs, she shelled out three thousand bucks to a washed up middleweight named Cap to give her ex-husband the beating of his life. But the beating turns to murder, and the murder into lust and desperation between Lydia and an underworld clean-up man.

Meanwhile, overgrown frat boy car thieves take up cop killing as a side hobby. When these paths cross, a horror show of violence unfolds as they all slide into a hell of their own design, surrounded by the neon and noise of the casino strip on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Violent, vivid, life at hyper-speed.



THE DRUMMER
Anthony Neil Smith

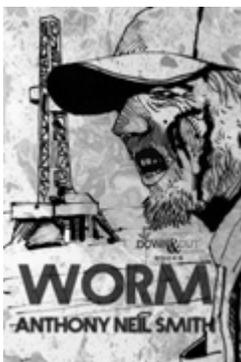
Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-26-1

Reissue

The 80s' hair-metal band Savage Night is living the rockstar fantasy. All that changes while on tour in Japan, when the band learns they owe more money than they have. They discuss their options: add a keyboardist, release a live album, and tour for six straight years in hopes of breaking even. The Drummer chooses a different path. He shaves his head, takes the next flight back, torches the mansion that his stripper ex-girlfriend designed, and fakes his own death.

Fifteen years after their collapse, the Singer of Savage Night has tracked down the Drummer in hopes of convincing him to come out of hiding for a reunion tour and second shot at glory. The chase is on, as the press, the Feds, and former bandmates hunt the Drummer down the streets of New Orleans.



WORM
Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

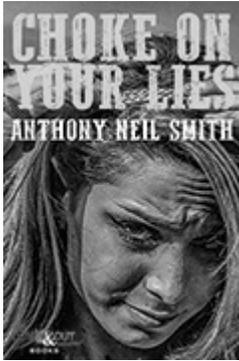
Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-937495-89-3

Reissue

In the Bakken oil field of North Dakota, they call the new guys "worms."

Ferret is a worm from Alabama, trying to kickstart a new life for his family, while back home his in-laws whisper break-up songs in his wife Dee Dee's ear. His boss, a shadowy old guy called Pancrazio, drags in Ferret, Gene Handy, and two roustabouts from Oklahoma to deal with a new meth empire on the prairie.

All Ferret wants is some easy money and the love of his family. But he quickly finds out that there's danger around every corner, in every drill, truck and train car. And if the machines or chemicals don't get him, then the other roughnecks will. Because beneath the dirt and grease, nobody is what they seem.



CHOKER ON YOUR LIES

Anthony Neil Smith

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-27-8

Reissue

Octavia VanderPlatts is wealthy, powerful, and “comfortable with her weight”. Her IQ is at the genius level, and she uses it to manipulate and frighten anyone who tries to get in her way. So when she offers her old friend poetry professor Mick Thooft some help in his impending divorce, they soon find they’re in deeper than they realized—robot pens, swinger clubs, and a blackmail scheme that holds an entire college faculty hostage.

Just when Mick and Octavia are on the cusp of victory, it all goes terribly wrong. Mick is framed for murder and someone targets Octavia’s immense wealth and secret backyard greenhouse full of exotic marijuana. With no one on their side, Octavia and Mick must find a way to turn the tables before they end up broke, humiliated, and in prison.



XXX SHAMUS

Anthony Neil Smith writing
as Red Hammond

Down & Out Books
October 30, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$5.99
978-1-946502-28-5

Reissue

Hopper Garland is good at finding lost girls. When his last target tries to taker her life upon being discovered, he begins to rethink his career as a private eye. However, a persuasive offer from a sexy woman has him back on the case, chasing a missing sixteen-year-old pregnant girl from the swampy ruins of post-Katrina New Orleans to the neon grime of Las Vegas.

Along the way he’ll have to contend with a rogue’s gallery of henchmen, pornographers, and his own incestuous sister. After he makes a deal with a sociopathic murderer who believes he’s found the secret to eternal life, Hopper will relearn that old saw: some things are better off left alone.



JUST LIKE THAT

Les Edgerton

Down & Out Books
November 6, 2017

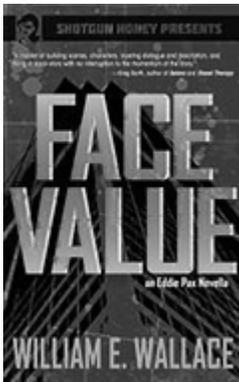
Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-09-4

Reissue

Based on an actual trip the author took with an ex-prison cellmate under similar circumstances as protagonist Jake Mayes does in the narrative.

The scenes in Pendleton are also based on true experiences he had while incarcerated. Approximately 85% of the novel is taken from real life.

Portions of the book have previously appeared as short stories in the literary magazines *Murdaland*, *Flatmancrooked*, and *High Plains Literary Review*, the latter of which was nominated for a Pushcart Prize and was selected for inclusion in Houghton Mifflin’s *Best American Mystery Stories, 2001*.



FACE VALUE

An Eddie Pax Novella
William E. Wallace

Shotgun Honey
November 10, 2017

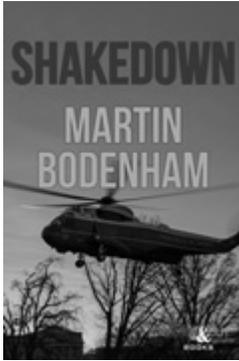
Trade Paperback: \$9.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-946502-13-1

Reissue

Eddie Pax is a special kind of repo man: he recovers “wet money”—assets that have been stolen from one of the largest criminal syndicates in North America. The job is often grim because when Eddie closes an account, he also kills the thieves.

But when his boss sends him out to recover five million dollars’ worth of bearer bonds two crooks hot-fingered from a vault in New York, Eddie gets a rare opportunity to mix business and pleasure: one of the thieves is a man who shot Pax during a jewelry heist in Southern California a dozen years earlier. Eddie’s recovery will give him a chance to even the score.

Unfortunately, the securities Pax are supposed to recover have been hidden. The cops have their eyes on Eddie, as does a woman who is hoping to grab her share of the loot. And the man who shot Pax knows his former partner is on his trail.



SHAKEDOWN

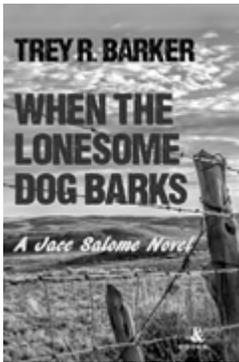
Martin Bodenham

Down & Out Books
November 13, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-13-1

Damon Traynor leaves a glittering career on Wall Street to set up his own private equity business. When it is the winning bidder in the multi-billion dollar auction for a government-owned defense company, his firm’s future success looks certain. But soon after the deal closes, Damon makes an alarming discovery—something that makes the recent acquisition worthless. Facing financial ruin, he investigates the US treasury officials behind the transaction.

What Damon uncovers is a terrifying web of blackmail and assassination on an industrial scale. When those around him begin to die, Damon finds himself locked in a deadly battle with the leader of the free world.



WHEN THE LONESOME DOG BARKS: A JACE SALOME NOVEL

Trey R. Barker

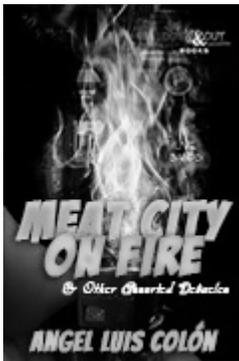
Down & Out Books
November 20, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-14-8

After discovering a fight club amongst the inmates in her jail, Zachary County Deputy Sheriff Jace Salome soon realizes the darkest recesses of her imagination cannot keep up with reality. Inexplicably, the fights seem to be directed from someone outside the jail.

This is a world of technology and on-line predators, and the stakes are much higher than her pay-grade.

Worse still...Jace Salome has to face this case alone.



MEAT CITY ON FIRE (AND OTHER ASSORTED DEBACLES)

Angel Luis Colón

Down & Out Books
December 4, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-10-0

Angel Luis Colón invites you on a short tour of the world as a literary mix tape to that strange goth girl with the lazy eye who still wants nothing to do with you; no matter how good that fedora looks on your head. So what’s in store for your brain?

Follow three major moments in the life of gambling addict and mafia muscle Sean Clarke as he goes from soft-hearted kid to full-blown bastard to broken old man.

The set of the country’s most popular trash TV talk show is appropriately trashier than what makes the air.

And crawl through the fire and smoke for a chance at a decent score and a way out of working in a place called “Meat City”.



DILLO

Max Sheridan

Shotgun Honey
December 8, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$14.95
eBook Formats: \$4.99
978-1-946502-32-2

There’s nothing 14-year-old Doc Candy likes better on a hot summer afternoon than snapping pictures of dead armadillos off Route 82. Until a no-good grifter of a father he hasn’t seen in eight years comes blowing up to his window at two in the morning talking about a family vacation in Miami.

Their Florida reunion turns into a 2000-mile getaway when Doc finds out the money used to pay for the trip was stolen from his lowlife uncle. But it isn’t until they’re hiding out in the Louisiana bayou that Doc learns the whole truth: it isn’t Doc’s uncle they’re running from. It’s a coal black Dodge Ram driven by a pair of bald, psychopathic teenage collectors looking to complete their gallery of human head hair toupees with the old man’s scalp.



CORROSION

Jon Bassoff

Down & Out Books
December 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$6.99
978-1-946502-33-9

A mysterious Iraq war veteran with a horribly scarred face...A disturbed young man in a strange mountain town...A masked preacher with a terrible secret...Amidst a firestorm of violence, betrayal and horror, their three worlds will eventually collide in an old mining shack buried deep in the mountains.

Corrosion, the shattering debut novel by Jon Bassoff, is equal parts Jim Thompson, Flannery O'Connor and William Faulkner, and an unforgettable journey into the underbelly of crime and passion. Drawn from the darkest corners of the human experience, it is sure to haunt readers for years to come.

Reissue



FACTORY TOWN

Jon Bassoff

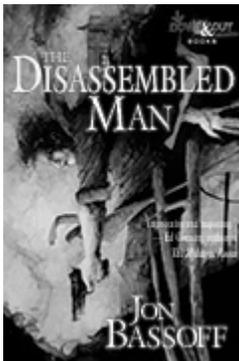
Down & Out Books
December 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$6.99
978-1-946502-34-6

Russell Carver, an enigmatic and tortured man in search of a young girl gone missing, has come to Factory Town, a post-industrial wasteland of abandoned buildings, crumbling asphalt, deadly characters, hidden secrets and unspeakable depravity. Wandering deeper and deeper into the dangerous, dream-like and darkly mysterious labyrinths in town, Russell stumbles upon clues that not only lead him closer to the missing girl, but to his own troubled past as well.

Because in Factory Town nothing is what it seems, no one is safe, and there's no such thing as a clean escape.

Reissue



THE DISASSEMBLED MAN

Jon Bassoff

Down & Out Books
December 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$6.99
978-1-946502-35-3

Frankie Avicious is a hard-luck fellow with a sordid past. Living in a dreary meatpacking town, stuck in a loveless marriage, and spending his days slaughtering cattle, Frankie has nothing to look forward to but his next swallow of bargain whiskey. His wife is threatening to leave him, and the local sociopath is threatening to kill him. And then there's Scarlett Acres, a stripper with a heart of fool's gold. Frankie can't stop thinking about her...

With the encouragement of a mysterious traveling salesman, Frankie sets out to reverse his destiny through a series of bizarre murders. The consequences of his brutality turn out to be far worse than even he could imagine.

Reissue



THE INCURABLES

Jon Bassoff

Down & Out Books
December 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$6.99
978-1-946502-36-0

The year is 1953. Disgraced in the psychiatric hospital where he'd practiced for nearly thirty years, Dr. Walter Freeman has taken to traversing the country and proselyting about a very new kind of salvation: the transorbital lobotomy.

With an ice pick and a hammer, Freeman promises to cure depression and catatonia, delusions and psychosis, with a procedure as simple and safe as curing a toothache.

When he enters the backwater Oklahoma town of Burnwood, however, his own sanity will be tested. Around him swirls a degenerate and delusional cast of characters all weaved into a grotesque narrative that reveals how blind faith in anything can lead to destruction.

Reissue



THE BLADE THIS TIME

Jon Bassoff

Down & Out Books
December 11, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$6.99
978-1-946502-37-7

Reissue

A man wakes to find himself below ground in the abandoned subway stations of New York City. He has no idea how he got there, no idea who he is. In his pocket he finds only a wad of blood-stained cash and a deck of playing cards.

Once above ground, he rents out a cheap apartment, previously occupied by an artist named Max Leider who'd left most everything behind. But most peculiar are a series of paintings, each one of a mysterious woman hidden behind a curtain.

Without an identity of his own, the man becomes fascinated with Leider. He begins wearing his clothes, painting on his canvases. But as his persona fully transforms into Max Leider, he will find some horrifying truths about the artist...and himself.



ACCIDENTAL OUTLAWS

Matt Phillips

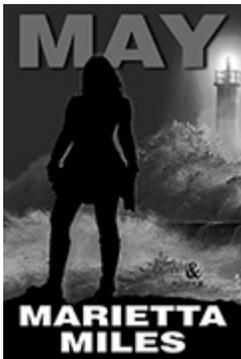
All Due Respect
December 15, 2017

Trade Paperback: \$14.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-44-5

A hellfire ride through working class America's angsty underbelly...

Three linked crime novellas that follow working class antiheroes as they indulge in theft, murder, and lawless shenanigans. Ain't no cops running things out this way.

In "Mesa Boys," Ronnie plots a haphazard heist with a twisted con man. In "The Feud," tough-as-nails Rex lets his resentment for a local pot dealer cloud his judgement. And, in "Bar Burning," a mysterious drifter goes toe-to-toe with his new lady's psychotic ex-husband.



MAY

Marietta Miles

Down & Out Books
January 8, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$14.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-17-9

May, lonely drifter and small time weed dealer, has spent years running from her ugly past. As a damaging nor'easter takes aim at her sleepy island home of Folly, however, she rushes to shore up, settle in and keep safe.

Though most of the islanders have evacuated, May is not entirely alone. Spoiled city kid Curtis, fleeing his own dark secrets, along with naïve local boy Tommy, are also stuck on the island, both boys tweaking, both desperate but only one grows vile and violent.

To save the boy and to save herself, May must learn to be bad.



BLACKCHURCH FURNACE

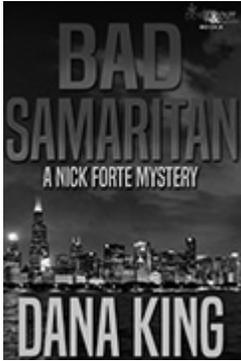
Nathan Singer

Down & Out Books
January 15, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-18-6

A scathing satire of faith, family, and all that we hold dear...

Blackchurch is not the sort of place where folks are inclined to be up in each other's business, and strange house guests at a neighbor's pad are not likely to be noticed, let alone remarked upon. So on a day in early October, when two beat-up-looking crackers, a pregnant teenage whore, and a small, androgynous Japanese woman in a large-brimmed sombrero, sunglasses, and wrapped in a patchwork down comforter came to call on D'antre Philips with heads full of prophetic visions and tales of the apocalypse already in progress, nary an eye was blinked. When the end times do come to Blackchurch, it'll be a day like any other day. And the next day will be too.



BAD SAMARITAN
A Nick Forte Mystery
Dana King

Down & Out Books
January 22, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-38-4

Nick Forte has a hard time leaving well enough alone. He seriously injures a man for slapping a woman Forte has never seen before, so when Becky Tuttle comes to him with disconcerting letters sent to her author alter ego Desiree d'Arnaud, he does more than a cursory investigation.

Following the thread of Becky's problem leads through a local cop who takes the situation too lightly for Forte's taste and into the disturbing world of men's rights activists, for whom he has no use at all.



ONE LAST HIT
A Joe Portugal Mystery
Nathan Walpow

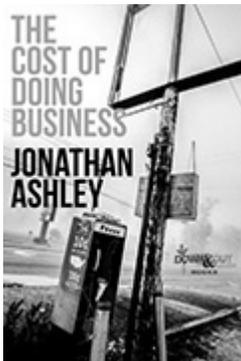
Down & Out Books
January 22, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-46-9

Back in '68 they made killer music...now their music is killing them...

It's been thirty years since Joe Portugal put his electric guitar away. Maybe that's one reason he's suffering a serious case of the mid-life doldrums. Then Joe stumbles upon a chance to put the band he was in as a teenager back together. And maybe his life too. All he has to do is find the lead guitarist, who hasn't been seen since the 70s. But when he starts to look, it's quickly clear that someone doesn't want to see a reunion tour...someone who's very handy with a gun.

Reissue



THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS
A Jon Catlett Novel
Jonathan Ashley

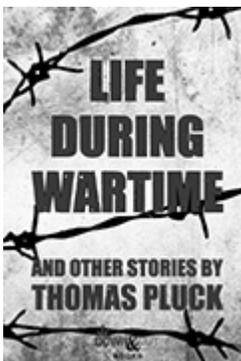
Down & Out Books
January 29, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$16.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-16-2

Jon Catlett, a misanthropic literary obsessive, is facing the loss of the only thing in the world he loves; his used bookstore, a haven for fellow weirdos, outcasts, misunderstood geniuses and malcontents. Jon has several other problems, the least of which are his love affair with a bi-polar femme fatale heiress to a thriving northern steel company or the exponentially growing opiate habit he has developed.

When Jon, during a deal gone wrong, accidentally kills a fellow drug addict, getting away with murder turns out to be the least of his worries. The steps he and Paul, the obsessive-compulsive manager of Jon's store, must take to cover up the killing result in the two cornering Louisville's blossoming heroin trade.

Reissue



LIFE DURING WARTIME
Stories
Thomas Pluck

Down & Out Books
January 29, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-39-1

A blackjack 21 of stories of people caught up in crime, facing bleak horrors, or spun in the whirlpool of human absurdity, this collects the best stories of Thomas Pluck. Take a ride on the neuter scooter in "The Big Snip", selected as one of the best crime stories of 2016. Follow a mountain man who's not what he seems into a snowbound frontier town where evil has sunk its claws. Dine at the most exclusive restaurant in New York, where "Eat the Rich" takes on a whole new meaning. And meet Denny the Dent, a hulking 350 pounds of muscle who wouldn't harm a fly... but who'll gladly crush a bully's skull. And read the Jay Desmarteaux yarn that takes off where *Bad Boy Boogie* ends. Read the stories readers call "hard-hitting bombs" full of "gut punches and belly laughs"... and be ready to get Plucked.



BLIND EYE

The Marker Series

Marcus Pelegrimas

Down & Out Books

February 5, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$18.95

eBook Formats: \$8.99

978-1-946502-21-6

Being a bad guy isn't just a way of life. It's an art ...

The figure at the top of St. Louis's biggest organized crime syndicate is known as Pyotr The Greek. Pyotr is the only man with enough power to convince Cecil to take inexperienced hitman Eddie Ballard under his wing and teach him about what it means to be a true professional. Along the way, perhaps Eddie can show Marker a thing or two about savoring the good things in a bad life.

Unfortunately for both of them, there is a new threat coming to town that might hit The Greek hard enough to topple his entire family.



SLAUGHTERHOUSE BLUES

A Love & Bullets Hookup

Nick Kolakowski

Shotgun Honey

February 9, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$14.95

eBook Formats: \$4.99

978-1-946502-40-7

Holed up in Havana, Bill and Fiona know the Mob is coming for them—it's just a question of time. But they're not prepared for who the Mob sends: a pair of assassins so utterly amoral and demented, their behavior pushes the boundaries of sanity. Seriously, what kind of killers pause in mid-hunt to discuss the finer points of thread count and luxury automobiles?

Forced on the run (again), Bill and Fiona will venture from the crumbling streets of Cuba to the steaming jungles of Nicaragua, and finally back to the mean streets of New York City. If they want to survive, our fine young criminals can't retreat anymore: they'll need to pull off a massive (and massively weird) heist—and the loot has some very dark history...



THE DEVIL DOESN'T WANT ME

A Lars and Shaine Crime Novel

Eric Beetner

Down & Out Books

February 12, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$15.95

eBook Formats: \$7.99

978-1-946502-41-4

For the last seventeen years, Lars—a hitman for an East Coast crime family—has been on the hunt for Mitch the Snitch. Mitch, an accountant who turned on Lars's employer, is living in witness protection and has been evading Lars for almost two decades.

In comes Trent, a young gun who has been sent to replace the aging gun for hire. With his old boss gone, Lars realizes he has lost the desire to kill his long-time target.

When things come to a head with Trent, Lars finds himself on the run with Mitch's teenage daughter Shaine, trying to stay one step ahead of angry mobsters and the FBI, as they make their way from New Mexico to California.



WHEN THE DEVIL COMES TO CALL

A Lars and Shaine Crime Novel

Eric Beetner

Down & Out Books

February 12, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$15.95

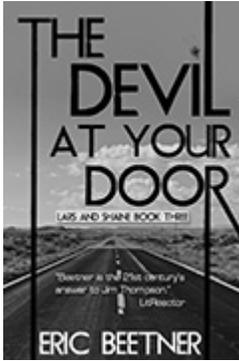
eBook Formats: \$7.99

978-1-946502-42-1

Two years after they escaped the mainland with their lives and little else, save for well over a million dollars in the bank, Lars and Shaine have carved out a nicely spartan existence in Hawaii. Two years without pulling a trigger on another human being. Until Lars's former employer calls about a job.

What follows is a coming of age forged in fire and a deepening bond built on the edge of life and death. Forced to confront the past and wonder about the future, Lars and Shaine are about to see what kind of team they make.

Reissue



THE DEVIL AT YOUR DOOR
A Lars and Shaina Crime Novel
Eric Beetner

Down & Out Books
February 12, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$15.95
eBook Formats: \$7.99
978-1-946502-43-8

Lars and Shaina have returned to a quiet life on the islands, but for Lars there is unfinished business. When he gets information that will lead him to exact revenge on behalf of his young protégé, the young woman he's grown to think of as a daughter, he decides to take action in secret.

When he lands in a hospital Shaina is called in from a thousand miles away and she must take the lead in the last job of Lars' storied career of death for hire.

Facing his own aging body, Lars struggles to take a back seat to the youngster he has trained in his image. They'll face a local drug boss along with an old enemy as they work to fire the last bullet they'll ever need to—before one finds them first.



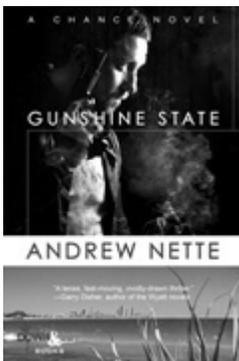
EXACTING JUSTICE
A Jesus De La Cruz Case File
TG Wolff

Down & Out Books
February 19, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$18.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-50-6

The sign read "Cleveland Corp Limit." It was the head mounted under the sign that snarled the Monday morning commute. After the shock subsides, the city returned to its normal rhythm, underwhelmed by the violent death of a criminal. Until the next. The murders were horrendous but there is a silver lining—it's now safe to walk Cleveland's toughest neighborhoods.

Half the city calls for the police to end the killer's reign. The other half cheers the killer on. Caught in the middle is Cleveland Homicide Detective Jesus De La Cruz, a former undercover narcotics cop and a recovering alcoholic, and the cost of progress is more than he bargained for as he moves all in, putting his own head on the line to bait a killer.



GUNSHINE STATE
A Gary Chance Crime Novel
Andrew Nette

Down & Out Books
February 26, 2018

Trade Paperback: \$17.95
eBook Formats: \$8.99
978-1-946502-20-9

Gary Chance is a former Australian army driver, ex-bouncer and thief. His latest job takes him to Surfers Paradise, Queensland, working for aging standover man, Dennis Curry. Curry runs off-site, non-casino poker games, and wants to rob one of his best customers, a high roller called Freddie Gao.

The job seems straightforward but Curry's crew is anything but. Frank Dormer is a secretive ex-soldier turned private security contractor. Sophia Lekakis is a highly-strung receptionist at the hotel where Gao stays when he visits Surfers Paradise. Amber, Curry's female housemate, is part of the lure for Gao. Chance knows he can't trust anyone, but nothing prepares him for what unfolds when Curry's plan goes wrong.

Reissue

To set up an interview with our authors, or to request a review copy of any book, please contact Lance Wright at lance@downandoutbooks.com. Information for booksellers and librarians is provided on our website, DownAndOutBooks.com.