

Dark Stars (The Thief Taker Series Book 3)

Henry Morton, a thief-taker with England's first detective organization, the Bow Street Runners, ventures from the dark slums and alleys of Regency London to the opulent heights of English high society as he investigates the murder of a man who turned up dead in the home of an English lord. A first novel.

After the Glorious Revolution, a not so glorious age of lawlessness befell England. Crime ran rampant, and highwaymen, thieves, and prostitutes ruled the land. Execution by hanging often punished the smallest infractions, and rip-roaring stories of fearless criminals proliferated, giving birth to a new medium: the newspaper. In 1724, housebreaker Jack Sheppard—a “pocket Hercules,” his small frame packed with muscle—finally met the hangman. Street singers sang ballads about the Cockney burglar because no prison could hold him. Each more astonishing than the last, his final jailbreak took him through six successive locked rooms, after which he shimmied down two blankets from the prison roof to the street below. Just before Sheppard swung, he gave an account of his life to a writer in the crowd. Daniel Defoe stood in the shadow of the day's literati—Swift, Pope, Gay—and had done hard time himself for sedition and bankruptcy. He saw how prison corrupted the poor. They came out thieves, but he came out a journalist. Six months later, the author of Robinson Crusoe and Moll Flanders covered another death at the hanging tree. Jonathan Wild looked every bit the brute-body covered in scars from dagger, sword, and gun, bald head patched with silver plates from a fractured skull—and he had all but invented the double-cross. He cultivated young thieves, profited from their work, then turned them in for his reward—and their execution. But one man refused to play his game. Sheppard didn't take orders from this self-proclaimed “thief-taker general,” nor would he hawk his loot through Wild's fences. The two-faced bounty hunter took it personally and helped bring the young burglar's life to an end. But when Wild's charade came to light, he quickly became the most despised man in the land. When he was hanged for his own crimes, the mob wasn't rooting for Wild as it had for Sheppard. Instead, they hurled stones, rotten food, and even dead animals at him. Defoe once again got the scoop, and tabloid journalism as we know it had begun.

A city of dark and deadly secrets, a prince who must be protected, a young man who can barely use a sword. Berren's thrilling new adventure from the author of THE ADAMANTINE PALACE. Berren is not enjoying himself. Trapped in a temple, forced to learn how to read, how to write and how to recall the histories of the Saints, all he wants is to be given a sword. As a thief-taker's apprentice he imagined a world of daring night-time chases, glorious victories and a life of excitement. His dreams aren't quite coming true. So when a prince - the first and last prince he'll ever see - hires the thief-taker as a bodyguard, Berren is thrilled. When he hears that a troupe of Dragon Monks - exotic warriors and the best swordsmen in the world - are visiting, he sees an opportunity to learn how to fight. When one of the Monks turns out to be a girl of the same age, his future suddenly seems a lot brighter. But when a shadowy figure launches an attack on the life of Prince Sharda, Berren finds himself plunged into a world of danger, intrigue and terror. He may discover that being trained with a sword isn't enough - sometimes, you have to know who to fight. Sequel to the best-selling THE THIEF-TAKER'S APPRENTICE, THE WARLOCK'S SHADOW drags the reader back in to the nocturnal and dangerous world of Berren, orphan and reluctant hero. Perfect for readers of Trudi Canavan and Robin Hobb.

Chronicles of the Raven: One ELITE, UNSTOPPABLE ... AND HIRED TO DO THE UNTHINKABLE The Raven are an elite. Formed of six men and an elf, they're swords for hire in the wars that have torn their land apart. For years their only loyalty has been to themselves, and to their code. But that time is coming to an end. The Wytch Lords have escaped and The Raven find themselves fighting for the Dark College of magic, on a mission which soon becomes a race for the secret location of Dawnthief. It's a spell - one created to end the world - and there's a danger that someone is going to use it ...

Chronicles of the Raven 1

The Dark Blue

Time's Children

Dragon Queen

Jonathan Wild and the Emergence of Crime and Corruption As a Way of Life in Eighteenth-Century England

In the cellar there was no sound at all except her own breathing and the soft rustle of her skirts. After her eyes had grown accustomed to the dark, she noticed a niche in the wall a yard from where she stood. She saw something there about the size of her fist. Agnes quietly picked it up. It was wrapped in a cloth and surprisingly heavy. . . a pistol, the hilt filthy with mud and dirt. Suddenly she heard the chinking sound of glasses nearby. There was no mistaking the voices now. Before she had time to call out, another door creaked open and the pair emerged from the darkness. Agnes Meadows is cook to the Blanchards of Foster Lane, the renowned London silversmiths. Preparing jugged hare, oyster loaves, almond soup, and other delicacies for the family has given her a dependable life for herself and her son. But when the Blanchards' most prestigious

commission, a giant silver wine cooler, is stolen and a young apprentice murdered, Theodore Blanchard calls on Agnes to investigate below stairs. Soon she is inside the sordid underworld of London crime, where learning the truth comes at a high price. Abduction. Murder. A conspiracy that could bring down the King. London, 1667: In the wake of the Great Fire, a new city has emerged from the flames. The King has reopened the capital's theatres, and the royal court is hell-bent on debauched entertainment. But amid the raucous festivities, an actress shows up dead, dressed in the clothes of a missing girl. It's a time of great change for thief taker Charlie Tuesday too: his old flame, Maria, is on the cusp of marrying someone else. But when she is abducted on the way to her wedding, Charlie realises her disappearance is linked to the murder. Meanwhile, as Lent draws to a close, London is exploding into shocking riot. With brothels and theatres being attacked, Charlie and his sidekick Lily must find clues before an angry mob does. And as the mystery deepens and violence fills the streets, can Charlie solve a riddle that threatens not just Maria, but London itself?

"This is more than just bloody murder Inspector, this is a race war, with magic on one side and a right evil monster who thinks it's the devil's work on the other." Archibald Strop. Editor. The Newgate Calendar. DCI Judas Iscariot of Scotland Yard's occult magic division, the Black Museum, has only been back in London for five minutes when things get bloody. Bloody quickly. Something evil has returned from the depths of the London Necropolis Burial Grounds. There's only one thing that its black heart desires - the extermination of the Fae and the destruction of the magical underworld they inhabit. The attacks begin, the death toll rises, and Judas quickly realises that the Fae and all the races of London's Under Folk are in danger. And with fairy pickpockets, Welsh tree spirits that love a good hustle, Dick Whittington's cat, angels and lots of friendly fire from a new threat to the Black Museum to contend with, he's far busier than he would like to be. Then Lucifer the Morningstar, First of the Fallen, arrives unannounced; he knows something that Judas doesn't, and wants him to change sides as payment for spilling the beans. Surrounded by enemies, always one step behind, and running out of time as usual, it's all looking a bit bleak for Judas. But isn't it always?

From playing a rogue agent in *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*, to taking on the role of villainous Bane in *Batman: The Dark Knight Rises*, Tom Hardy is well on the way to becoming the finest actor of his generation. His raw talent, edginess and ability to utterly inhabit the characters he plays have already prompted comparisons to screen legends such as Marlon Brando and Robert De Niro. With a host of critically acclaimed performances under his belt and the bright lights of Hollywood beckoning, Tom's star is undoubtedly in the ascendant. Born into an idyllic, middle-class life in the suburbs, by his teenage years Tom had grown restless and started to rebel. Bad behaviour in the form of alcoholism, drug-taking and criminal activity ensued and after a brief stint working as a model, fate intervened and he found his way onto an acting course at his local college. Having been plucked from drama school to appear in *Band of Brothers*, by 2003, his addictions had got the better of him and he collapsed in Soho following a drugs binge. Rehabilitation followed, as did a rare second chance at hitting the big time. It was Hardy's standout performance as Stuart Shorter in BBC TV's *Stuart: A Life Backwards* and as Britain's most notorious prisoner in the film *Bronson*, which really made audiences and critics sit up and take notice. Since then, he has earned himself a reputation as a shape-shifting actor with the skill to slip effortlessly in and out of contrasting characters such as Eames in blockbusters *Inception* and Heathcliff in *Wuthering Heights*. This affectionate and in-depth biography reveals the actor and the life that has shaped him into the star he has become. It explores his wayward youth, his drama school years, his burnout and his complex route to eventual success. With a host of major films on the horizon in 2012 and beyond, his is clearly Hollywood's hottest property - and the best is yet to come.

Book Two of The Last Druid Trilogy

The Blacktongue Thief

Professional Criminals of America

Oath Taker

A Talent for Trickery

Thieves' Quarry

Ethan Kaille isn't the likeliest hero. A former sailor with a troubled past, Ethan is a thieftaker, using conjuring skills to hunt down those who steal from the good citizens of Boston. And while chasing down miscreants in 1768 makes his life a perilous one, the simmering political tensions between loyalists like himself and rabble-rousing revolutionaries like Samuel Adams and others of his ilk are perhaps even more dangerous to his health. When one hundred sailors of King George III's Royal Navy are mysteriously killed on a ship in Boston Harbor, Ethan is thrust into dire peril. For he—and not

Boston's premier thieftaker, Sephira Pryce—is asked to find the truth behind their deaths. City Sheriff Edmund Greenleaf suspects conjuring was used in the dastardly crime, and even Pryce knows that Ethan is better equipped to contend with matters of what most of Boston considers dark arts. But even Ethan is daunted by magic powerful enough to fell so many in a single stroke. When he starts to investigate, he realizes that the mass murderer will stop at nothing to evade capture. And making his task more difficult is the British fleet's occupation of the city after the colonials' violent protests after the seizure of John Hancock's ship. Kaille will need all his own magic, street smarts, and a bit of luck to keep this Boston massacre from giving the hotheads of Colonial Boston an excuse for inciting a riot—or worse. Thieves' Quarry is a stunning second novel in D. B. Jackson's Thieftaker Chronicles. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

Dark Stars Thomas & Mercer

Berren has lived in the city all his life. He has made his way as a thief, paying a little of what he earns to the Fagin like master of their band. But there is a twist to this tale of a thief. One day Berren goes to watch an execution of three thieves. He watches as the thief-taker takes his reward and decides to try and steal the prize. He fails. The young thief is taken. But the thief-taker spots something in Berren. And the boy reminds him of someone as well. Berren becomes his apprentice. And is introduced to a world of shadows, deceit and corruption behind the streets he thought he knew. Full of richly observed life in a teeming fantasy city, a hectic progression of fights, flights and fancies and charting the fall of a boy into the dark world of political plotting and murder this marks the beginning of a new fantasy series for all lovers of fantasy - from fans of Kristin Cashore to Brent Weeks.

This carefully edited William Ainsworth collection has been designed and formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. Table of Contents: Novels: Rookwood Jack Sheppard The Tower of London Guy Fawkes Old Saint Paul's The Miser's Daughter Windsor Castle The Lancashire Witches Auriol The Star Chamber Ovingdean Grange Cardinal Pole The Constable de Bourbon Boscobel The Good Old Times (The Manchester Rebels of the Fatal '45) Preston Fight The Leaguer of Lathom Chetwynd Calverley Short Stories: The Spectre Bride The Old London Merchant A Night's Adventure in Rome

The Changeling Murders

The Bastille Spy

The Thief-taker

The Thief-Taker

The Thieves' Opera

Historical Romances, Adventure Novels, Gothic Tales & Short Stories

Set in a world of goblin wars, stag-sized battle ravens, and assassins who kill with deadly tattoos, Christopher Buehlman's The Blacktongue Thief begins a 'dazzling' (Robin Hobb) fantasy adventure unlike any other. Kinch Na Shannack owes the Takers Guild a small fortune for his education as a thief, which includes (but is not limited to) lock-picking, knife-fighting, wall-scaling, fall-breaking, lie-weaving, trap-making, plus a few small magics. His debt has driven him to lie in wait by the old forest road, planning to rob the next traveler that crosses his path. But today, Kinch Na Shannack has picked the wrong mark. Galva is a knight, a survivor of the brutal goblin wars, and handmaiden of the goddess of death. She is searching for her queen, missing since a distant northern city fell to giants. Unsuccessful in his robbery and lucky to escape with his life, Kinch now finds his fate entangled with Galva's. Common enemies and uncommon dangers force thief and knight on an epic journey where goblins hunger for human flesh, krakens hunt in dark waters, and honor is a luxury few can afford. 'The Blacktongue Thief is fast and fun and filled with crazy magic. I can't wait to see what Christopher Buehlman does next' - Brent Weeks, New York Times bestselling author of the Lightbringer series

Leeds, 1820. Simon Westow, a Leeds thief-taker, knows all about lost property. But when he is asked to find the kidnapped daughter of a successful Leeds businessman, Simon and his assistant, Jane, face a challenge like no other. Could the answers lie within the streets of Leeds and a figure from Simon's own past?

Blake Nelson had three perfect wives. Until one of them killed him. 'An exquisite murder mystery' CHRISTINA DALCHER 'Atmospheric and addictive' THE SUN 'I could not put it down... I loved it!' MARIAN KEYES *****

Blake's dead. His wife killed him. The question is... which one? Rachel, Emily and Tina have nothing in common - except that they share a husband and a homestead. When their beloved Blake is found dead under the desert sun, the questions pile up. But none of the widows know who would want to kill a good man like their husband. At least, that's what they'll tell the police... *** READERS AND CRITICS LOVE THE WIDOWS: 'Three wives, three motives, three utterly compelling stories' ELLY GRIFFITHS 'Oh, my, can this author write women!' NEW YORK TIMES 'Intense, gripping, superb' WILL DEAN 'A compelling read with a very dark heart' OBSERVER 'A brilliant joyride in the company of three unforgettable women - a hugely enjoyable and original mystery with real heart' JANE CASEY 'A sly, contemporary crime masterpiece. I loved it.' ADRIAN MCKINTY**

She's a liar. She's a con. She's a thief. And God help him, but he'll do anything to keep her safe. Beautiful and conniving, maddening and brilliant, Esther is everything private detective Samuel Brass shouldn't want. Esther knows she's put herself in terrible danger, but nothing will stop her from making amends-not her family's enemies, not old fears, and certainly not the domineering, interfering, and undeniably handsome former officer of the Scotland Yard. Yet whenever he's near, Samuel makes her long for a life that can never be hers...and wish she were worthy of being saved. Second in an exciting late Victorian romance series from a RITA Award nominee! Thief Takers Series: A Talent for Trickery, Book 1 A Gift for Guile, Book 2 Dangerous Deceit, Coming Soon "From the first page, Johnson seizes readers' attention... Losing none of her witty dialogue or clever plotting, she pulls readers this way and that as the story swiftly turns from suspense to romance and back again."-RT Book Reviews on A Talent for Trickery

The Hanging Psalm

The Shadow Ruins

The Collected Works of William Harrison Ainsworth (Illustrated Edition)

The Warlock's Shadow

Sample Questions from OECD's PISA Assessments

The Blind Beak of Bow Street

Georgian Court London is revealed here in all its elegance and squalid filth through the filter of its criminal underground, a world ruled by Jonathan Wild and Jack Sheppard. Reprint.

June 1815. When Henry Morton is called to the scene at Portman House in Claridge Square, the Bow Street constable finds a man dead in a hackney coach--ostensibly of asphyxiation. He was Halbert Glendinning, a gentleman of unsullied character. Then why was he seen frequenting one of London's most notorious dens of iniquity? And why has the driver of the coach vanished into the night? While Sir Nathaniel Conant, the chief magistrate at Number 4 Bow Street, accepts the official verdict of accidental death, Morton is certain that Glendinning was a victim of foul play. With the help of actress Arabella Malibrant, one of London's most celebrated beauties, he embarks on his own discreet inquiry. And as the upper circles of London society close ranks against him, Morton races to unmask a killer whose motives are as complex and unfathomable as the passions that rule the human heart.

With its engaging thief-taker hero, this YA series from the acclaimed author of *The ADAMANTINE PALACE* is perfect for fans of Trudi Canavan and Robin Hobb. Berren has left his past as an apprentice thief-taker behind him, in a mist of blood and screams and death. Press-ganged as a sailor, his old life is now just a distant memory. Until the day he spots someone who might well be his old master, Syannis, the man who killed Berren's first love. Syannis was thought dead, but he is a hard man to kill. As Berren chases down the man he believes to be an enemy, he finds himself caught up in a web of political machination and danger unlike anything he has encountered. For Syannis is a deposed prince, and he is willing to go to any lengths - including dealing with the black-hearted sorcerer Saffran Kuy - to regain his throne. As Berren struggles to understand his feelings towards Syannis and his mad quest, he slowly comes to realize that the world is going to war - and Berren is caught in the middle. Can he navigate a path through the dangers which surround him? Will he find a way to extricate himself from the sorcery and intrigue that follow him at every step? And who is destined to be the King's Assassin?

1789. The Bastille has fallen... As Parisians pick souvenirs from the rubble, a killer stalks the lawless streets. His victims are female aristocrats. His executions use the most terrible methods of the ancient regime. English spy Attica Morgan is laying low in Paris, helping nobles escape. When her next charge falls victim to the killer's twisted machinations, Attica realises she alone can unmask him. But now it seems his deadly sights are set on her. As the city prisons empty, and a mob mobilises to storm Versailles, finding a dangerous criminal is never going to be easy. Attica's only hope is to enlist her old ally, reformed pirate Jemmy Avery, to track the killer through his revolutionary haunts. But even with a pirate and her fast knife, it seems Attica might not manage to stay alive. 'A rip-roaring adventure' Tessa Harris on *The Bastille Spy*

Black Widows

Memoirs of a Bow Street Runner

Thief-Taker Hangings

He was murdered with the executioner's tools

Dark Stars

A Gift for Guile

Fifteen year-old Tobias Doljan, a Walker trained to travel through time, is called to serve at the court of Daerjen. The sovereign, Mearlan IV, wants him to walk back fourteen years, to prevent a devastating war which will destroy all of Islevale. Even though the journey will double Tobias' age, he agrees. But he arrives to discover Mearlan has already been assassinated, and his court destroyed. The only survivor is the infant princess, Sofya. Still a boy inside his newly adult body, Tobias must find a way to protect the princess from assassins, and build himself a future in the past. File Under: Fantasy [Time Demons | They See Me Walkin' | Young Inside | Disturbing Allies]

Escaping the battle of Birling Wood, Sam and Emily move deeper into Northumberland, still pursued by dark forces seeking the last Druid. But who is the last Druid? And who will find them first? The Shadow? The Grim-Witch and her horde of crow-men from the Underland? The risen dead? Or the terrifying Shadow Ruins?

Praised by the likes of Joe Abercrombie and Brent Weeks, Stephen Deas has made dragons his own. In the years before the Dragons laid waste to man's empire, the fearsome monsters were used for war and as gifts of surpassing wealth to buy favour in the constant political battles that tore at the kingdoms. Notorious in these battles was the Dragon Queen. And now she is a prisoner. But no one is more dangerous than when caged ... The critics, fellow authors and readers alike are agreed - if you love dragons and epic fantasy, Stephen Deas is the writer for you. The man who brought dragons back to their full glory, might and terror. *DRAGON QUEEN* is a companion volume to the *Memory of Flames* trilogy and to *THE BLACK MAUSOLEUM*.

When Haven Ashwood's best friend is taken by a curse, she's forced to partner with an immortal Lord she'd rather kill than trust. The rules are simple: break the curse or die. The rare magic flowing through Haven's veins gives her a fighting chance, but mixing light and dark magic might just cost Haven her soul.

Thieftaker

The Scarlet Code

From the bestselling author of *The Thief Taker* series

The Remarkable Lives of Jonathan Wild, Thief-taker, and Jack Sheppard, House-breaker

Thief-Taker General

A Regency Mystery Set in Leeds

The story of Jonathan Wild and Jack Sheppard and the criminal underworld of early eighteenth-century London which they inhabited.

Illustrated with period engravings by Hogarth and others.

Murder at Mansfield Park is a witty and clever reimagining of Jane Austen's much-loved novel *Mansfield Park*. But in this *Mansfield Park*, things have changed ... Formerly Austen's meekest heroine, Fanny Price has become not only an heiress to an extensive fortune but also a heartless, scheming minx. Hiding her true character behind a demure facade...

Boston, 1765: In D.B. Jackson's *Thieftaker*, revolution is brewing as the British Crown imposes increasingly onerous taxes on the colonies, and intrigue swirls around firebrands like Samuel Adams and the Sons of Liberty. But for Ethan Kaille, a thieftaker who makes his living by

conjuring spells that help him solve crimes, politics is for others...until he is asked to recover a necklace worn by the murdered daughter of a prominent family. Suddenly, he faces another conjurer of enormous power, someone unknown, who is part of a conspiracy that reaches to the highest levels of power in the turbulent colony. His adversary has already killed—and not for his own gain, but in the service of his powerful masters, people for whom others are mere pawns in a game of politics and power. Ethan is in way over his head, and he knows it. Already a man with a dark past, he can ill afford to fail, lest his livelihood be forfeit. But he can't stop now, for his magic has marked him, so he must fight the odds, even though he seems hopelessly overmatched, his doom seeming certain at the spectral hands of one he cannot even see. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

From the winner of the 1989 National Book Award (for *Spartina*), a major new novel—wise, sad, and richly comic—about the meltdown of a marriage against the backdrop of a gloriously awful congressional campaign. Charlottesville, Virginia, 1978: Mike is a successful forty-something lawyer, a onetime congressional staffer who's had it with Washington; Joss, his wife, is a filmmaker. They're Virginia liberals with a clan of close-knit friends—a bright, edgy, flirty, games-playing group, spinning like a Catherine wheel around Mike and Joss. But the sparks that fly between the two are getting hotter and more dangerous, as Joss' restlessness turns to impatience and then anger. When one of the group introduces them all to the woman he wants to marry, things suddenly explode—this new arrival and Joss fall passionately in love, and their whole world careens out of control. What ensues is tragicomedy, as Mike tries to allay his rage and misery by letting himself get sucked into a trial run for a seat in Congress. He wants to be a hero to someone; instead he becomes the unwitting star of a political farce. Meantime, Joss is struggling with her new life, and their two young daughters (who form a lovingly unmerciful Greek chorus commenting on the action) have to navigate a turmoil in which one parent is a public joke and the other a private scandal. Rarely has the undoing of love been chronicled with such large-hearted humanity.

The Thief Taker

The Thief's Daughter

W. H. Ainsworth Collection: 20+ Historical Novels, Gothic Romances & Adventure Classics

PISA Take the Test Sample Questions from OECD's PISA Assessments

¶I could not put it down!¶ MARIAN KEYES

Tom Hardy - Dark Star Rising

A woman driven to crime finds love with a man of the law in this tale of eighteenth-century Cornwall, “full of twists and turns” (Buried Under Romance). England, 1779. Though many citizens of Cornwall have resorted to smuggling as their only means of survival, Jenna Cartwright has determined to always abide the law. But when her brother is sent to debtor's prison, Jenna must do whatever it takes to free him. Housekeeping by day for one Jack Penhale, she joins a gang of violent brigands each night on Cornwall's rocky coast. A professional thief-taker, Jack knows to keep his business private, even from his charming new housekeeper. He has come to Cornwall to find the criminals who killed his father, but his mind keeps returning to Jenna's innocent, bewitching smile. As their lives become entangled, and the worlds of justice and crime collide, the love-struck pair must decide where their allegiances lie. This “striking” tale of passion and survival brings to life an unforgettable time and place in history (Historical Novel Society).

This carefully crafted ebook collection is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents: Novels: Rookwood Jack Sheppard The Tower of London Guy Fawkes Old Saint Paul's The Miser's Daughter Windsor Castle The Lancashire Witches Auriol The Star Chamber Ovingdean Grange Cardinal Pole The Constable de Bourbon Boscobel The Good Old Times (The Manchester Rebels of the Fatal '45) Preston Fight The Leaguer of Lathom Chetwynd Calverley Short Stories: The Spectre Bride The Old London Merchant A Night's Adventure in Rome

A steamy historical romance set in Anna Harrington's star-studded Regency world. Soldier turned solicitor Lord Merritt Rivers has dedicated his life to upholding the law. He patrols the streets faithfully, hoping to stop crimes before they can happen. While hunting an escaped convict, he encounters a woman also hunting thieves. She's a delicious distraction, until he discovers that she is the criminal he's after. She's smart, challenging, and everything he finds attractive, but he cannot trust her. Veronica Chase has hidden her past as a nobleman's daughter. She confesses to a crime to keep her adopted brother out of prison. She now lives in London's underworld, trapped between worlds, belonging nowhere. Forming an uneasy alliance, Veronica and Merritt work together to protect innocent Londoners during the city's riots. Moving between her world and his, they grow closer to each other and to the mob's dangerous leaders. But their newfound trust won't be enough, until each face their demons and ask what's worth saving—the lives they've chosen to lead or the love that leaves them yearning for more. This book presents all the publicly available questions from the PISA surveys. Some of these questions were used in the PISA 2000, 2003 and 2006 surveys and others were used in developing and trying out the assessment.

Fire Catcher

How Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Wild, and Jack Sheppard Captivated London and Created the Celebrity Criminal

Dawnthief

The Half-Life of Happiness

The Thief-Taker's Apprentice

Kingdom of Runes

Longlisted for the HWA Gold Crown 2020 _____ From the bestselling e-book sensation of The Thief Taker series comes a thrilling and sumptuous novel set during the early days of the French Revolution. 'A rip-roaring adventure.' Tessa Harris, author of the Dr Thomas Silkstone Mysteries _____ 'He was alive when he went in the mortuary.' 1789. The Bastille is marked for destruction. Skirmishes in the city are rife and revolution is in the air. When a gruesomely murdered rebel is found in the prison morgue, a plot is suspected. English spy, Attica Morgan, is laying low after an abortive mission. So when she's given an assignment inside the Bastille, her instinct is to

run. Instead, she's offered a pardon, in return for solving the mystery of the dead revolutionary; and exposing a plot that leads to Marie Antoinette. But as tensions rise to breaking point in the city, Attica quickly realises she's in a race against time. Soon there could be no Bastille to investigate. 'Incredible! It's the best action adventure novel I've ever read... A fantastic achievement that has blown me away with its ingenuity, scope and breathless pace.' Louise Voss, author of the Detective Lennon series

"In a plot that twists, turns and surprises, Johnson has woven a compelling romance between two stubborn, endearing people. If you love smart heroines, intelligent heroes, witty dialogue and clever mystery plots, this gem of a historical romance might steal your heart."—Bookpage Detective Inspector Owen Rednerwell once found himself entangled with Charlotte Walker, the daughter of an infamous criminal. Now his new case will draw him back to the woman he could never forget. Years ago, Owen Renderwell earned acclaim—and a title—for the dashing rescue of a kidnapped duchess. But only a select few knew that Scotland Yard's most famous detective was working alongside London's most infamous thief...and his criminally brilliant daughter, Charlotte Walker. Lottie was like no other woman in Victorian England. She challenged him. She dazzled him. She questioned everything he believed and everything he was, and he has never wanted anyone more. And then he lost her. Now a private detective on the trail of a murderer, Owen has stormed back into Lottie's life. She knows that no matter what they may pretend, he will always be a man of the law and she a criminal. Yet whenever he's near, Owen has a way of making things complicated...and long for a future that can never be theirs.

"The year is 1665...When a girl is gruesomely murdered, thief taker Charlie Tuesday reluctantly agrees to take on the case. But the horrific remains tell him this is no isolated death. The killer's mad appetites are part of a master plan that could destroy London, and reveal the dark secrets of Charlie's own past. Now the thief taker must find this murderous mastermind before the plague obliterates the evidence street by street"--Back cover.

The historical literature of political deviance is sparse. This unusual work, chronicling the history of Jonathan Wild, represents an effort to come to terms with one of the more amazing characters of English social history. Wild was both part of the policy system in eighteenth-century England, and also one of the most adroit criminals of the age. In the 1720s, London suffered the worst crime waves in its history. Civic corruption took place on a staggering scale. The government's answer was to pay a bounty for the capture of robbers, thus creating a class of professional informers. Wild was applauded as the most efficient thief hunter and gang breaker in British society; but his own posse of thief catchers was basically a front behind which he was able to control the underground world, through a complex system of blackmail, perjury, and terror which the book details. All who opposed him were betrayed to the law, and in the struggle for power Wild sacrificed several hundred of his own people to the hangman. No one since his time, with the exception of Lavrenti Beria of the late Stalin era GPU so nearly succeeded in bringing the underworld under the control of one system of power. At one level, this is a biography of the world's first supercriminal. At another, it is a sociology of criminal behavior and its political consequences. Howson sheds fresh light, not only on a figure who has become famous in literature, but more important, on the entire structure of gang life. The book is written "as a "terrifying and fascinating study of a historical epoch; it also offers a completely fresh picture of the birth of modern organized-crime families as part of modern organized political systems.

An Extraordinary Lord

The Rise and Fall of Jonathan Wild

A Novel

Murder at Mansfield Park

The King's Assassin

The Great Fire has reduced London to smouldering embers. From the ashes, thief taker Charlie Tuesday is drawn to investigate a string of strange murders. Mutilated corpses are washing up at Deptford, each marked with a dire astrological prediction. But London's best crime-solver realises the killer's deadly offerings will soon unleash a devastating force on England. With the help of Boswell, a gypsy street-girl with a knife and a grudge, Charlie must find the killer and put a stop to the murders. And by doing so, Thief Taker will find the man whose terrible destiny is entwined with his, their fates written in the dark stars...