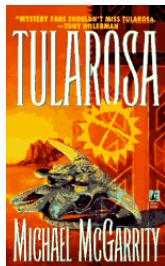


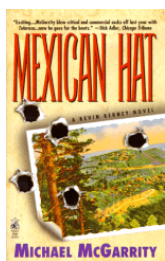
# The Kevin Kerney series by Michael McGarrity



## Tularosa [1996]

Tularosa -- the place of reddish willows in Spanish -- holds the key to Kevin Kerney's past and his future. Ex-chief of detectives in the Santa Fe Police department, retired by a shot-up leg, Kerney is drawn back into action when Navajo Indian Terry Yazzi, his ex-partner and the man responsible for his injuries, asks him to locate his son, reported missing from the high-security White Sands Missile Range in southern New Mexico.

To find Sammy Yazzi, Kerney must track clues that lead deep into the histories of the region -- Native American, Hispanic, and Anglo -- and surprisingly, into his own family's ranching past. And he must deal with the complicated feelings triggered by the army's investigator, Captain Sara Brannon, a fiery young officer as formidable as she is attractive. As Sammy Yazzi's trail spirals into a web of murder, treason, and the smuggling of priceless artifacts, Kerney and Sara travel an accelerating arc across the New Mexico scene -- from the boutique-ridden plaza of Santa Fe, through the sharp-edged beauty of the high desert, to border town gambling dens -- to a final confrontation in which, both wounded and at risk, they must fight for their lives and for each other against opponent who hold all the odds.



## Mexican Hat [1997]

"Tularosa" introduced Kevin Kerney, ex-Santa Fe chief of detectives and ex-rancher, as he followed the trail of his missing godson into a web of murder, treason, and the smuggling of historical artifacts. A year later, Kerney is working as a seasonal forest ranger in the Gila

Wilderness and banking his pay toward the down payment on a small ranch. Despite the county militia's planting pipe bombs on hiking trails, Kerney looks forward to a quiet summer in the high mountains.

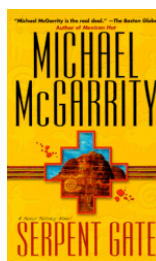
But the poaching of wildlife, the murder of a Mexican tourist, and the discovery of a disoriented old man in the wilderness thrust Kerney into an investigation that accelerates dangerously to a heart-stopping final confrontation.

Frustrated by the ineptness of the local sheriff and bureaucratic roadblocks within the forest service, Kerney teams up with Jim Stiles, a young, energetic game and fish officer. Together Kerney and Stiles begin an investigation that takes them back in time to a sixty-year-old feud between two land-rich brothers, Edgar and Eugene Cox, and its possible connection with the

death of an Hispanic rancher, and into the present-day intrigue of the paramilitary militia movement sweeping the country.

The investigation leads Kerney to question the motives of the new assistant district attorney, Karen Cox, Edgar's daughter, who may be more interested in shielding her father than in solving the crimes.

As the pieces of the puzzle begin to fall into place, someone keeps trying to kill Kerney. And soon Karen must choose between protecting her father's long-buried secret or joining Kerney in a battle for their lives and the truth.



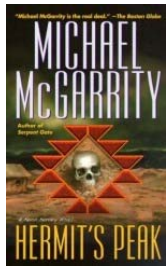
## Serpent Gate [1998]

Mountainair, New Mexico. The very name conjures up the clean air, the foothills, and the gorgeous mountains of the Southwest. Some would say this is God's country. It's also Kevin Kerney's, especially when crimes like rape and cop murder intrude on the outwardly idyllic setting.

It was opening night of the annual town rodeo six months ago when Patrolman Paul Gillespie left the calf-roping finals, headed toward the police station, and was killed by person or persons unknown. Nobody much is talking, at least not to Kerney, but Kerney suspects that one man, Robert Cordova, a schizophrenic, saw something that memorable night. Why, for instance, does Cordova seem obsessed with rape, and what about his ramblings on the subject of Serpent Gate? And what roles, if any, should the possibly imaginary Addie and veterinarian Nita Lassiter play in Kerney's investigation?

Murder and its aftermath, which are reflected on a small scale in Mountainair, play themselves out against a much glitzier backdrop in upmarket Santa Fe, where priceless art disappears from the governor's office and a beautiful young woman dies a quick and violent death in a millionaire's mansion. While monitoring Mountainair, Kerney, now deputy chief of the State Police, returns to Santa Fe to take on an old nemesis.

Restless, thinking perhaps too often of a woman who is, for him, off-limits, Kerney accepts the challenge. With his love of the land, his knowledge of police tactics and the criminal mind, his raw courage and tenaciousness, Kerney heads toward a showdown with his enemy...



## Hermit's Peak [1999]

When an old family friend unexpectedly leaves Kevin Kerney 6400 acres of high country land outside Las Vegas, New Mexico, the last thing Kerney wants to think about is police work. Taking a rare weekend off from his job as deputy chief of the New Mexico

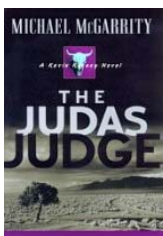
State Police, Kerney sets out to explore the land, a rugged mesa in the shadow of Hermit's Peak.

Before Kerney can get very far, he comes upon an ailing stray dog with a woman's running shoe in its mouth. The dog leads him to the butchered bones of a murder victim, and Kerney finds he's inherited a homicide along with a ranch.

Determined not to see his weekend ruined, Kerney turns the investigation over to the state police district office and continues his survey of his windfall inheritance, only to find that timber thieves have clear-cut a great swath of woodland in a remote canyon.

Unsure of whether he can pay the inheritance taxes, hold on to the land, and realize his dream to ranch again, Kerney returns to Santa Fe. There he finds that Sara Brannon -- a woman he cares deeply about -- has arrived to visit him. As Kerney and Sara begin trying to sort out a relationship that means more to both of them either is willing to admit, Kerney is called back to Hermit's Peak. Another murder victim has been found at a remote cabin next to Kerney's property.

Kerney is soon directing a multipronged investigation into crimes that may or may not be connected. Step by step, he assembles facts that cast suspicion on some unlikely suspects. As he races against time to solve two murders and avert another, Kerney must also grapple with what the truth may mean for a man he has grown to respect and trust.



## The Judas Judge [2000]

Deputy state police chief Kevin Kerney is weeks away from trading in his badge for a rancher's hat, when six murders are committed late one night at remote campgrounds in south central New Mexico. Most of the evidence

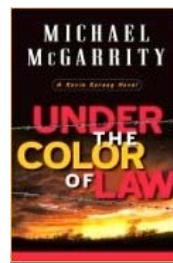
points to the work of a spree killer, but peculiarities at one crime scene suggest another grisly possibility, that five random people have been shot to death to cover the premeditated murder of the sixth victim, Vernon Langsford, a retired judge and wealthy businessman.

Ruling out neither scenario, Kerney uses all the available resources of the New Mexico State Police to mount a high-profile search for a possible spree killer and conduct a deep probe into the life of Vernon Langsford. Quickly, the investigation reveals a number of motives for Langsford's murder, including money, revenge, sexual indiscretions, and the six-year-old unsolved killing of Langsford's wife by a letter bomb meant for the judge. But Kerney has no clear suspects,

nor does he know why Langsford's son scornfully refers to his murdered father as "the Judas judge".

Under pressure to make an arrest, Kerney struggles to keep a team of investigators moving forward. As he pieces together a shocking history of family betrayal, he is harassed by a stalker with an unknown agenda, forced into a gunfight with a crooked cop that may taint his entire career, and shaken by new doubts about his plan to give up police work. Most troubling of all, he is reacquainted with a proud Apache woman from his past, who discloses a secret of her own which could easily disrupt his recent marriage to a wife he rarely sees, career army officer Sara Brannon.

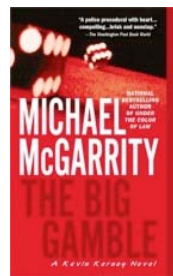
Challenged by the most sensational case of his career, Kerney must use all his skill to track down and bring to justice a brilliant and ruthless killer.



## Under the Color of Law [2001]

Kevin Kerney is back in Santa Fe, newly installed as police chief, when a U.S. ambassador's estranged wife is found murdered in her multi-million-dollar home. Before he can mount a proper investigation, an FBI anti-terrorism team arrives, takes

control of the inquiry, and forces Kerney to watch from the sidelines as the crime scene is sanitized, potential witnesses disappear, and the case is cleared with trumped-up evidence. Warned off, put under surveillance, and threatened with reprisals under the rubric of national security, Kerney balks at accepting the whitewash and begins a soft probe that points to a covert intelligence cover-up with tendrils stretching from every known government spy shop to the South American jungles. Convinced that unscrupulous government agents are acting outside the law, Kerney begins his own clandestine hunt for a hard target that will lead him to the truth about the Terrell homicide, knowing full well he might not survive the chase.



## The Big Gamble [2002]

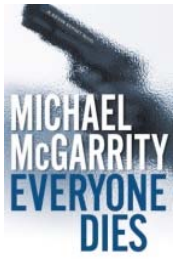
When a structure fire in an abandoned fruit stand in rural Lincoln County reveals the murdered body of a woman gone missing from Santa Fe years ago, Police Chief Kevin Kerney finds himself cooperating with his estranged son, a man he hardly knows, Deputy Sheriff Clayton Istea. While Kerney digs into the

woman's past hoping to find clues that will lead to a credible suspect, Clayton must unravel two more homicides which seem on the surface totally unrelated.

As Kerney chases down clues that raise questions about the legitimacy of a highly regarded modeling and talent agency, Clayton works to discover the identity of a murder suspect alleged to have ties to prostitution and illegal gambling.

Set against the backdrop of the high mountains of southern New Mexico where gambling is big business and private sexual encounters for VIPs can discreetly be arranged, Kerney and

Clayton must go up against rich and politically powerful opponents who are willing to protect their reputations at all costs.

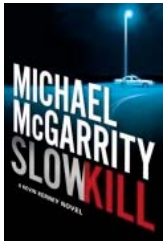


## Everyone Dies [2003]

Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney and his wife, Lt. Colonel Sara Brannon, are on leave and eagerly awaiting the birth of their son when a prominent gay attorney is gunned down outside his office by an unknown assailant. Called to the crime scene and faced with scanty evidence and no apparent motive, Kerney directs his chief of detectives to delve into the victim's personal and professional life, a decision which ultimately leads to a SWAT team screw-up and the death of two innocent people.

But the killer has just begun. Kerney's horse, a mustang he'd gentled and trained, is viciously and senselessly destroyed, a dead rat is left on his doorstep, and a second victim with ties to the criminal justice system is found in bed with her throat cut along with a warning, EVERYONE DIES.

As a time of joy turns into a nightmare, Kerney and Sara search desperately for a seemingly unstoppable chameleon killer who promises to murder them and their unborn son.

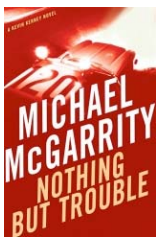


## Slow Kill [2004]

Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney travels to a California ranch looking to buy some prime quarter horse breeding stock; instead, he finds himself the prime suspect in a possible homicide when a guest at the ranch, Clifford Spalding, is found dead. Confronted by a determined cop unwilling to let him off the hook, Kerney decides to conduct his own investigation. As he digs into the victim's background, he learns that Spalding's ex-wife refuses to believe that her son, a soldier killed in Vietnam some thirty years ago, is dead.

Kerney soon finds himself sharing the woman's doubts. Did Spalding's current wife, a much younger woman, orchestrate his murder with the help of a lover? Did a California cop collude with Spalding to keep his ex-wife from learning the truth about her son?

Slow Kill races from West coast to East coast, as Kerney tries to find the answers to a thirty-year old mystery and extricate himself from a situation that could ruin his career.

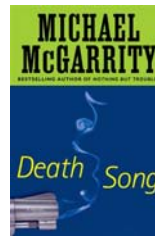


## Nothing But Trouble [2005]

After years away on the pro rodeo circuit, Johnny Jordan struts into Santa Fe to ask his boyhood friend, Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney, to serve as a technical advisor on a contemporary Western movie to be filmed along the Mexican border. Kerney agrees and plans a working vacation

on location in a remote area of the state known as the Bootheel with his wife, Lt. Colonel Sara Brannon, and their three year old son, Patrick. But a dead man on a road near an isolated border crossing, a federal undercover investigation into immigrant smuggling, the search for a fugitive from military justice hiding somewhere in Europe, and Johnny Jordan's troublesome behavior ensure that nothing goes as planned.

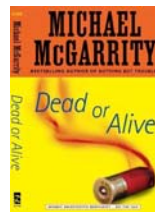
As separate investigations embroil Kerney and Sara in circumstances that will forever change their lives, Kerney must care for Patrick while Sara plays a dangerous game of Pentagon politics. Packed with family secrets, international intrigue, and memorable characters, this is McGarrity's most ambitious and involving novel to date, traveling an accelerating arc from Santa Fe to the desert grasslands and mountains of the Bootheel, the most secret levels of the Pentagon, a resort town on the coast of Ireland, and back to an adrenaline-charged climax on a desolate landing strip a few miles north of the Mexican border.



## Death Song [2007]

The bushwhack killing of a deputy sheriff in Lincoln County and the brutal murder of the deputy's wife in Santa Fe, bring Police Chief Kevin Kerney and his Mescalero Apache son, Sergeant Clayton Iste, back together in a double homicide investigation that is soon linked to a major drug trafficking scheme and the cold blooded slaughter of two women in Albuquerque. With few clues, no known motives, and no suspects, the investigation turns into a search for the son of the slain officer, eighteen year-old Brian Riley, who left Santa Fe before his father's death under suspicious circumstances.

Due to retire at the end of the month, Kevin Kerney isn't about to let the murder of a police officer's wife go unsolved on his watch, especially since the dead woman was the sister of a dear friend, and crime scene facts strongly suggest that the killer may have also ambushed the deputy sheriff. Kerney assumes command of the combined investigation and calls upon Clayton to find Brian Riley, discover what triggered the murders, and give him the ammunition he needs to bring a multiple murderer to justice.



## Dead or Alive [2008]

Living in London while his wife serves as a military attaché at the American Embassy, recently retired Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney gets an early morning phone call that changes everything and sends him hurrying home to his New Mexico ranch. Riley Burke, his partner in a horse training enterprise, has been mowed down on Kerney's doorstep by an escaped prisoner cutting a murderous swathe through New Mexico.

As the killings mount, Kerney teams up with his half-Apache son, Lieutenant Clayton Iste of the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, to hunt for a psychotic murderer with a growing appetite for blood, who has no intention of being taken alive.