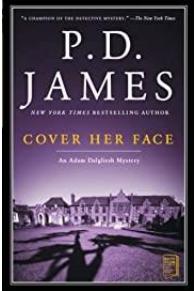


THE WORKS OF P.D. JAMES

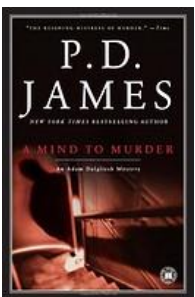
The Inspector Adam Dalgliesh Novels



[Cover Her Face](#) (1962)

Sally Jupp was a sly and sensuous young woman who used her body and her brains to make her way up the social ladder. Now she lies across her bed with dark bruises from a strangler's fingers forever marring her lily-white throat.

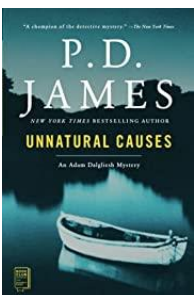
Someone has decided that the wages of sin should be death...and it is up to Chief Inspector Adam Dalgliesh to find who that someone is. Headstrong and beautiful, the young housemaid Sally Jupp was put rudely in her place, strangled in her bed behind a bolted door. Coolly brilliant policeman Adam Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard must find her killer among a houseful of suspects, most of whom had very good reason to wish her ill.



[A Mind to Murder](#) (1963)

On the surface, the Steen Psychiatric Clinic is one of the most reputable institutions in London. But when the administrative head, Enid Bolan, is found dead with a chisel in her heart, that distinguished facade begins to

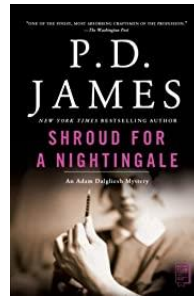
crumble as the truth emerges. Superintendent Adam Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard is called in to investigate and quickly finds himself caught in a whirlwind of psychiatry, drugs, and deceit. Now he must analyze the deep-seated anxieties and thwarted desires of patients and staff alike to determine which of their unresolved conflicts has resulted in murder and stop a cunning killer before the next blow.



[Unnatural Causes](#) (1967)

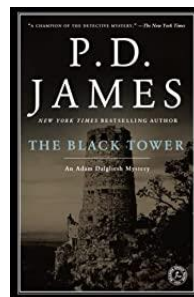
Superintendent Adam Dalgliesh was looking forward to a quiet holiday at his aunt's cottage on Monksmere Head. There would be long walks, tea in front of the fire, and, best of all, no corpses. But he reckoned without the discovery

of crime-writer Maurice Seton's mutilated body. Seton was a famous mystery writer — but no murder he ever invented was more grisly than his own death. When his corpse is found in a drifting dinghy with both hands chopped off at the wrists, ripples of horror spread among his bizarre circle of friends. Now it's up to Dalgliesh, and his extraordinary aunt, to uncover the shocking truth behind the writer's death sentence, before the plot takes another murderous turn.



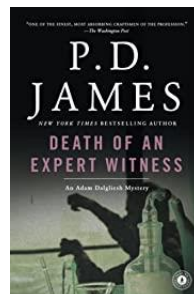
[Shroud for a Nightingale](#) (1971)

The young women of Nightingale House at John Carpenter Hospital are there to learn to nurse and comfort the suffering. But when one of the students plays patient in a demonstration of nursing skills, she is horribly, brutally killed. Another student dies equally mysteriously, and it is up to Adam Dalgliesh of Scotland Yard to unmask a killer who has decided to prescribe murder as the cure for all ills.



[The Black Tower](#) (1975)

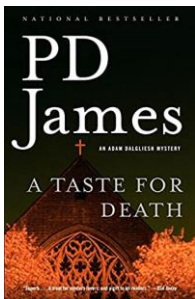
Unsettled by a brush with death and disenchanted with his job in the Force, Commander Adam Dalgliesh responds to an invitation to visit an old family friend, Father Baddeley, the chaplain at a private home for the disabled in Dorset. On arrival he discovers that his host has died suddenly. Is it merely his own brush with mortality that causes Dalgliesh to sense the shadow of death about to fall once more?



[Death of an Expert Witness](#) (1977)

An evil-tempered forensic scientist is put to death, putting many of his colleagues out of misery. Dr. Lorrimer appeared to be the picture of a bloodless, coldly efficient scientist. Only when his brutally slain body is discovered and his secret past dissected does the image begin to change. Once again, Chief Inspector Adam

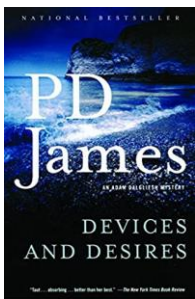
Dalglish learns that there is more to human beings than meets the eye, and more to solving a murder than the obvious clues.



[A Taste for Death](#) (1986)

When the quiet Little Vestry of St. Matthew's Church, Paddington, becomes the blood-soaked scene of a double murder, Scotland Yard Commander Adam Dalglish faces an intriguing conundrum: How did Sir Paul

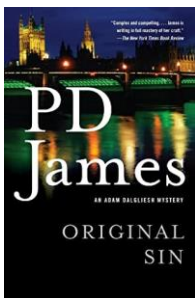
Berowne, a recently resigned Minister of the Crown come to lie, slit throat to slit throat, next to an alcoholic neighborhood derelict of the lowest order? Challenged with the investigation of a crime that appears to have endless motives, Dalglish explores the sinister web spun around a half-burnt diary and a violet-eyed widow who is pregnant and full of malice--all the while hoping to fill the gap of logic that joined these two disparate men in bright red death...



[Devices and Desires](#) (1989)

Commander Dalglish of Scotland Yard has just published a new book of poems and has taken a brief respite from publicity on the remote Larksoken headland on the Norfolk coast in a converted windmill left to him by his

aunt. But he cannot so easily escape murder. A psychotic strangler of young women is at large in Norfolk, and getting nearer to Larksoken with every killing. And when Dalglish discovers the murdered body of the Acting Administrative Officer on the beach, he finds himself caught up in the passions and dangerous secrets of the headland community and in one of the most baffling murder cases of his career.

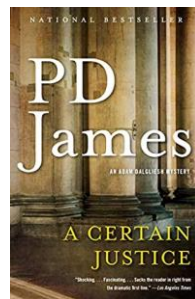


[Original Sin](#) (1994)

Commander Adam Dalglish and his team are confronted with a puzzle of impenetrable complexity. A murder has taken place in the offices of the Peverell Press, a venerable London publishing house located in a dramatic mock-

Venetian palace on the Thames. The victim is Gerard Etienne, the brilliant but ruthless new managing director,

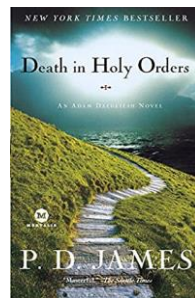
who had vowed to restore the firm's fortunes. Etienne was clearly a man with enemies—a discarded mistress, a rejected and humiliated author, and rebellious colleagues, one of who apparently killed herself a short time earlier. Yet Etienne's death, which occurred under bizarre circumstances, is for Dalglish only the beginning of the mystery, as he desperately pursues the search for a killer prepared to strike and strike again.



[A Certain Justice](#) (1997)

It begins, dramatically enough, with a trial for murder. The distinguished criminal lawyer Venetia Aldridge is defending Garry Ashe on charges of having brutally killed his aunt. For Aldridge the trial is mainly a test of her

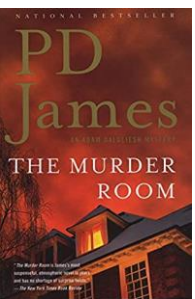
courtroom skills, one more opportunity to succeed--and she does. But now murder is in the air. The next victim will be Aldridge herself, stabbed to death at her desk in her Chambers in the Middle Temple, a bloodstained wig on her head. Enter Commander Adam Dalglish and his team, whose struggle to investigate and understand the shocking events cannot halt the spiral into more horrors, more murders...



[Death in Holy Orders](#) (2001)

On the bleak coast of East Anglia, atop a sweep of low cliffs, stands the small theological college of St. Anselm's. On the shore not far away, smothered beneath a fall of sand, lies the body of one of the school's young ordinands. He

is the son of Sir Alred Treves, a hugely successful businessman and he wants Adam Dalglish to investigate his son's death. Commander Dalglish has visited St Anselm's in his boyhood and, as he is due for a holiday, agrees to pay a visit. No sooner does he arrive, however, than the college is torn apart by a sacrilegious and horrifying murder, and Dalglish finds himself drawn into the labyrinth of an intricate and violent mystery.



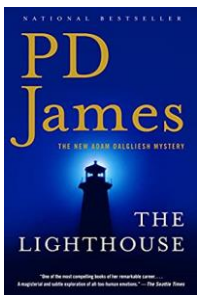
[The Murder Room](#) (2003)

When Commander Dalglish is persuaded by an old friend to visit the Dupayne, a small private museum on the

edge of Hampstead Heath, he can have no idea that he will return to it one week later under very different circumstances. One of the family trustees has been horribly murdered and Dalglish and his team are called in to investigate a death which, from the first, is fraught with complications. Even before the murder, the museum was in tumult. A new lease is due to be signed and two of the trustees are determined to keep the museum open, the third passionately determined on its closure.

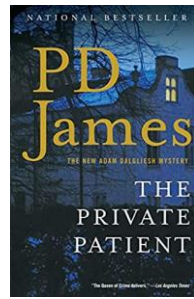
The museum is dedicated to the years 1919-1939 and one of the galleries, the Murder Room, displays exhibits from the most notorious cases of those inter-war years. And now a modern killer is at work, the crimes uncannily echoing the cases on display. All the small group of people, the trustees, staff and volunteers, who work in the Dupayne, have the means and the opportunity for murder. One of them has the ruthlessness to kill and kill again.

The investigation is complicated for Dalglish by his love for Emma Lavenham (introduced in *Death in Holy Orders*), but their relationship, at a sensitive stage for them both, is continually frustrated by the demands of his job. As step by step he moves closer to the murderer, is the investigation taking him further away from commitment to the woman he loves?



[The Lighthouse](#) (2005)

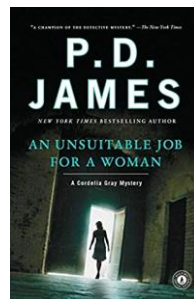
Combe Island off the Cornish coast has a bloodstained history of piracy and cruelty but now, privately owned, it offers respite to over-stressed men and women in positions of high authority who require privacy and guaranteed security. But the peace of Combe is violated when one of the distinguished visitors is bizarrely murdered. Adam Dalglish is called in to solve the mystery quickly and discreetly, but at a difficult time for him and his depleted team. Dalglish is uncertain about his future with Emma Lavenham, the woman he loves, Detective Inspector Kate Miskin has her own emotional problems and the ambitious Anglo-Indian Sergeant Francis Benton-Smith is worried about working under Kate. Hardly have the team begun to unravel the complicated motives of the suspects when there is a second brutal killing and the whole investigation is jeopardised when Dalglish is faced with a danger more insidious and potentially as fatal as murder.



[The Private Patient](#) (2008)

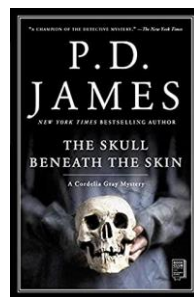
When the notorious investigative journalist, Rhoda Gradwyn, books into Mr. Chandler-Powell's private clinic in Dorset for the removal of a disfiguring, long-standing facial scar, she has every prospect of a successful operation by a distinguished surgeon, a week's peaceful convalescence in one of Dorset's most beautiful manor houses and the beginning of a new life. She will never leave Cheverell Manor alive. When Adam Dalglish and his team are called in to investigate the murder - and a second death occurs - even more complicated problems than the question of innocence or guilt arise.

The Cordelia Gray Novels



[An Unsuitable Job for a Woman](#) (1972)

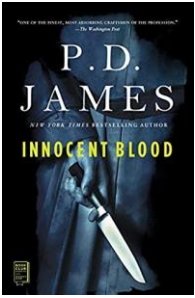
Handsome Cambridge dropout Mark Callender died hanging by the neck with a faint trace of lipstick on his mouth. When the official verdict is suicide, his wealthy father hires fledgling private investigator Cordelia Gray (who has just taken over her P.I. business after her own partner's suicide) to find out what led Mark to self-destruction. What she discovers instead is a twisting trail of secrets and sins, and the strong scent of murder.



[The Skull Beneath the Skin](#) (1982)

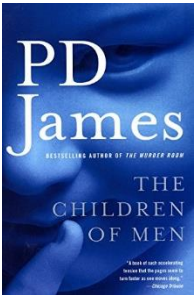
When leading actress Clarissa Lisle receives threats to her life the young detective, Cordelia Gray, is hired to accompany her to a castle on a private island, where she is going to star in "The Duchess of Malfi" – a castle whose owner collects funeral paraphernalia. The sharp-witted sleuth finds herself in the enclosed setting of a chilling country house on an island with a blood-stained history.

Stand-Alone Novels & Story Collections



Innocent Blood (1980)

Adopted as a child into a privileged family, Philippa Palfrey fantasizes that she is the daughter of an aristocrat and a parlor maid. The terrifying truth about her parents and a long-ago murder is only the first in a series of shocking betrayals. Philippa quickly learns that those who delve into the secrets of the past must be on guard when long-buried horrors begin to stir.

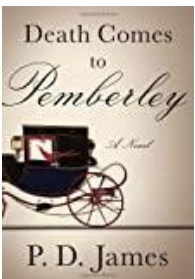


The Children of Men (1992) (Speculative Fiction)

Set 29 years from now. No child has been born for a quarter of a century. The human race faces extinction. Under the despotic rule of Xan Lypiatt, Warden of England, the old are despairing, the young beautiful but cruel.

The Girl Who Loved Graveyards (1996 – originally published in 1960s?)

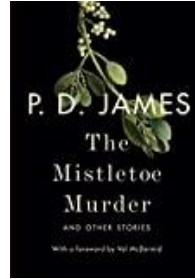
This "Penguin 60s" book contains two short stories, "The Victim" and "The Girl Who Loved Graveyards".



Death Comes to Pemberley (2011)

The year is 1803, and Darcy and Elizabeth have been married for six years. There are now two handsome and healthy sons in the nursery, Elizabeth's beloved sister Jane and her husband Bingley live nearby and the orderly world of Pemberley seems unassailable. But all this is threatened when, on the eve of the annual autumn ball, the guests are preparing to retire for the night when a chaise appears, rocking down the path from Pemberley's wild woodland. As it pulls up, Lydia Wickham - Elizabeth's younger, unreliable sister - stumbles out screaming that her husband has been murdered. Inspired by a lifelong passion for the work of Jane Austen, PD James masterfully recreates the world of *Pride and Prejudice*, and combines it with the excitement and suspense of a brilliantly-crafted crime story. *Death Comes*

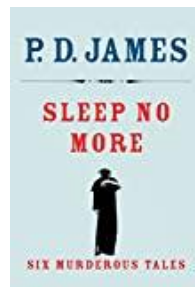
to Pemberley is a distinguished work of fiction, from one of the best-loved, most-read writers of our time.



The Mistletoe Murder (2016)

Four previously uncollected stories from one of the great mystery writers of our time--swift, cunning murder mysteries (two of which feature the young Adam Dalgliesh) that together, to borrow the author's own word, add up to a delightful "entertainment."

The newly appointed Sgt. Dalgliesh is drawn into a case that is "pure Agatha Christie." . . . A "pedantic, respectable, censorious" clerk's secret taste for pornography is only the first reason he finds for not coming forward as a witness to a murder . . . A best-selling crime novelist describes the crime she herself was involved in fifty years earlier . . . Dalgliesh's godfather implores him to reinvestigate a notorious murder that might ease the godfather's mind about an inheritance, but which will reveal a truth that even the supremely upstanding Adam Dalgliesh will keep to himself. Each of these stories is as playful as it is ingeniously plotted, the author's sly humor as evident as her hallmark narrative elegance and shrewd understanding of some of the most complex--not to say the most damning--aspects of human nature. A treat for P. D. James's legions of fans and anyone who enjoys the pleasures of a masterfully wrought whodunit.



Sleep No More (2017)

No one gets inside the head of the murderer—or makes it a more thrilling read—than the late, great P. D. James. Fast on the heels of her latest best seller: a new, fiendishly entertaining gathering of previously uncollected stories, from the author of *Death Comes to Pemberley* and *The Private Patient*.

It's not always a question of "whodunit?" Sometimes there's more mystery in the why or how. And although we usually know the unhealthy fates of both victim and perpetrator, what of those clever few who plan and carry out the perfect crime? The ones who aren't brought down even though they're found out? And what about those

who do the finding out who witness a murder or who identify the murderer but keep the information to themselves? These are some of the mysteries that we follow through those six stories as we are drawn into the thinking, the memories, the emotional machinations, the rationalizations, the dreams and desires behind murderous cause and effect.

The Victim (2019) Novella – originally published in 1994

On the whole, it was easier than I had expected. Only once did I feel myself at risk. That was when the Inspector suddenly intervened. He said in a harsh voice: "He married your wife, didn't he? Took her away from you some people might say. Nice piece of goods, too, by the look of her. Didn't you feel any grievance?"

I had been expecting this question. I knew exactly what I would say.

The late, great P. D. James takes us inside the mind of a murderer.

The Part-Time Job (2020) Novella

Come celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of P.D. James, the undisputed "Queen of Crime," with a dark, twisted take on how the best revenge is served *ice* cold. Willing to wait decades to dispatch the bully who tormented his youth, our narrator has a plan—and the unwavering patience and brutal fortitude to enact its every chilling step. With merciless, meticulous efficiency, James takes us into the mind of a seemingly ordinary man, beneath whose unassuming guise lurks a true Machiavellian genius—for murder.

Included in Anthologies

Nursing Stories (1979)

Includes a P.D. James short story.

Tales of Obsession (1994)

Includes P.D. James' novella "The Victim".

The Penguin Book of Modern Fantasy by Women (1995)

Includes a P.D. James short story.

Sightlines (2001) co-edited with Harriet Harvey Wood

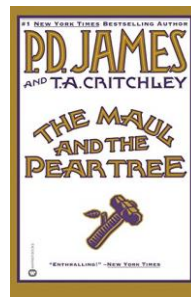
A dazzling collection of new writing by leading contemporary authors.

Published to promote and support the work of Britain's Royal National Institute for the Blind, Sightlines includes pieces from many of Britain's foremost writers, all of whom have contributed their writing without a fee. Introduced by Sue Townsend, who recently lost her sight, Sightlines includes many previously unpublished stories, essays and poems by leading contemporary authors such as Louis de Bernières, Antonia Fraser, Nina Bawden, Frederick Forsyth, Doris Lessing, A S Byatt, Malcolm Bradbury, David Lodge, John Fowles, D J Enright, Andrew Motion, David Malouf, Brian Aldiss, Tibor Fischer, Philip Kerr, and Reginald Hill, among many others.

Crime Writers: A Decade of Crime (2013)

Includes a P.D. James short story.

Non-Fiction



The Maul and the Pear Tree (1971)
with T.A. Critchley

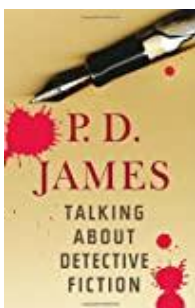
In this riveting true crime account, acclaimed author P. D. James, the "Queen of the English mystery novel" joins forces with historian T. A. Critchley to re-create the Radcliffe Highway murders, a series of vicious crimes committed in 1811 ... The scene is the London Docks near Wapping Old Stairs, a sinister neighborhood where pirates were often hanged. The first victims were two hardworking shopkeepers, along with their baby and shop boy. Twelve days later and only a few blocks away, an equally blameless pub owner was found together with his wife and servant, victims of equal cruelty and apparent absence of motive. The serial killings provoked nationwide notoriety and panic. Drawing on contemporary records and newspaper cuttings, for example, James and Critchley make a reconstruction of events. With the atmosphere and pacing of her best novels, James reveals the rudimentary police system of Regency London coping with a major murder investigation -- and crimes that rank up there with Jack the Ripper, the Boston Strangler, and Son of Sam as the very symbol of murderous and unthinking brutality. In 1811 John

Williams was buried with a stake through his heart. Was he the notorious East End killer or the eighth victim in the bizarre and shocking Ratcliffe Highway murders?



[Time to Be in Earnest: A Fragment of Autobiography](#) (1999)

In 1997, P. D. James, the much loved and internationally acclaimed author of mysteries, turned seventy-seven. Taking to heart Dr. Johnson's advice that at seventy-seven it is "time to be in earnest," she decided to undertake a book unlike any she had written before: a personal memoir in the form of a diary. This enchanting and highly original volume is the result. Structured as the diary of a single year, it roams back and forth through time, illuminating James's extraordinary, sometimes painful and sometimes joyful life. Here, interwoven with reflections on her writing career and the craft of crime novels, are vivid accounts of episodes in her own past — of school days in 1920s and 1930s Cambridge...of the war and the tragedy of her husband's madness...of her determined struggle to support a family alone. She tells about the birth of her second daughter in the midst of a German buzz-bomb attack (the Doodlebug bombardment of London); about becoming a civil servant (and laying the groundwork for her writing career by working in the forensic and criminal justice system); about her years of public service on such bodies as the Arts Council and the BBC's Board of Governors, culminating in entry to the House of Lords. Along the way, with warmth and authority, she offers views on everything from author tours to the problems of television adaptations, from book reviewing to her obsession with Jane Austen. Written with exceptional grace, this "fragment of autobiography" was received with enthusiasm by British reviewers and readers. The thousands of Americans who have enjoyed P. D. James's novels will be equally charmed. Diary or memoir or both, *Time to Be in Earnest* is a delight. During the busy year in which this memoir was penned, she published the #1 bestseller, [A Certain Justice](#).



[Talking About Detective Fiction](#) (2009)

To judge by the worldwide success of Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Christie's Poirot, it is not only the Anglo-Saxons who have an

appetite for mystery and mayhem. Talking about the craft of detective writing and sharing her personal thoughts and observations on one of the most popular and enduring forms of literature, P.D. James examines the challenges, achievements and potential of a genre which has fascinated her for nearly fifty years as a novelist. From the tenant of 221b Baker Street to the Village Priest from Cubhole in Essex, from the Golden Age of detective writing between the wars to the achievements of the present and a glimpse at the future, P.D. James explores the metamorphosis of a genre which has gripped and entertained the popular imagination like no other type of novel. Written by the author widely regarded as the queen of the detective novel, this book is sure to appeal to all aficionados of crime fiction.

P.D. James website:

<https://pdjames.co.uk/>

**This booklist created in September 2022 for the
Just Desserts Mystery Fiction Discussion Group | SDC**

