



### **Turkey Day Murder** By Leslie Meier

Despite all her volunteer work and family responsibilities, not to mention her part-time reporting job for her local paper, valiant Lucy Stone manages to maintain her poise in her seventh busy outing. For Lucy, escorting a preschool field trip to a turkey farm, baking pies for charity or entertaining her husband's difficult clients and son's college roommate for Thanksgiving dinner is all part of her routine in rural Tinker's Cove, Maine. For Native American Carl Nolan, life is full of conflict, whether with his boss, the board of selectmen or the local museum's anthropologist. As Thanksgiving approaches, Lucy covers a town meeting at which the main agenda item is whether the selectmen will support the Metinnicut Indian tribe's petition for recognition by the federal government. Approval would enable the tribe to build a casino on land belonging to Nolan's employer. The ink on that story is barely dry when Nolan's body, his head smashed with a priceless tribal artifact, turns up at the high school Thanksgiving football game. When Lucy accepts the challenge to solve the crime, she finds no lack of suspects.

*Available at Wayne in Fiction*



### **A Christmas Memory; One Christmas; and the Thanksgiving Visit** By Truman Capote

Available for the first time in a single volume are the three holiday stories that Truman Capote regarded as among his greatest works of short fiction. Two of these childhood memoirs—"A Christmas Memory" and "The Thanksgiving Visitor"—center on the author's early years with a family of distant relatives in rural Alabama. Both pay loving tribute to an eccentric old-maid cousin, Miss Sook Faulk, who became his best friend. And in "The Thanksgiving Visitor," Miss Sook invites the school bully, Odd Henderson—called by Buddy "the meanest human creature in my experience"—to Thanksgiving dinner.

*Available at Wayne in Fiction*



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11/08

# *November:*

## *A time to give*

### *Thanks*



**"In seedtime, learn. In harvest, teach. In winter, enjoy."**

~ William Blake

**"There is one day that is ours. Thanksgiving Day . . . is the one day that is purely American."**

~ O. Henry

**May your stuffing be tasty  
May your turkey plump,  
May your potatoes and gravy  
Have nary a lump.  
May your yams be delicious  
And your pies take the prize,  
And may your Thanksgiving dinner  
Stay off your thighs!**

~ Anonymous

## The Body of Jonah Boyd

By David Leavitt

In Leavitt's latest novel, secretary Judith "Denny" Denham recounts the events of a memorable Thanksgiving spent with her boss/lover's family in Wellspring, CA. It is 1969, and the Wright family psychoanalyst Ernest, wife Nancy (who has befriended Denny), and children Daphne and Ben is preparing for a visit from old friend Anne Armstrong and her new husband, author and professor Jonah Boyd. Proud as he is of his new manuscript, Jonah has an annoying habit of misplacing it wherever he travels, and, after reading from it to the Wrights that Thanksgiving evening, he loses it irretrievably. What this means to Boyd; his unhappy wife, Anne; Denny; and intense young writer Ben forms the crux of the novel, a warm and affectionate portrait of an extended family that is unwittingly changed by this turn of events.

*Available at Wayne in Fiction*



## Dolce Agonia

By Nancy Huston

A sometimes painful yet openly comic work, this book is a moral and social reflection on our times compressed into a few hours on a snowy Thanksgiving night in a small college town. Sean Farrell, a poet "with a gift for instilling discomfort," is hosting Thanksgiving dinner for a dozen people, not all of whom know one another. But as the evening unfolds, the reader comes to know each of the guests intimately—their thoughts, aspirations, sufferings—and even to catch a glimpse of their individual futures. Nancy Huston excels at moving seamlessly between comedy and tragedy. Even the death of a beloved character is rendered through such absurd twists that laughter ultimately overwhelms sadness.

*Available at Wayne in Fiction*



## Sins Out of School

By Jeanne M. Dam

When St. Stephen's schoolteacher Amanda Doyle insists on taking a day off for personal reasons right in the middle of flu season, expatriate American widow Dorothy Martin, a retired schoolmarm now living in the cozy English village of Sherebury with her second husband Alan, is pressed into service. Amanda's return lasts all of one day before the police detain her for questioning. Did she stab her husband to death on her day off, then tidy up the crime scene before notifying the authorities? And did she slip a lethal dose of digitalis into his tea as well? Or is she covering up a crime committed by her nine-year-old daughter Miriam, who loathed her martinet dad, a sanctimonious pillar of the Chapel of the One True God congregation? Donning her detecting hat (velvet with a plump red rose), Dorothy ponders Amanda's Tory politician father, whom she hasn't spoken to in years; her prickly TV scriptwriting sister; and her quickie marriage to cover up her pregnancy. She even ventures among the One True God congregation for clues, from irregularities in church finances to Doyle's whereabouts just before his death. Still around the bend are several train trips to London, where a Botticelli-beautiful solicitor works, a comparison of handwriting on a parliamentary pass and a lover's note, and a serious auto accident sending Amanda, her sister, and her daughter to the hospital. Fans of the English cozy will put the kettle on, snuggle under a lap rug, and sigh contentedly while Dorothy chats up village eccentrics, meddles her way from pub to church manse, and resolves matters with Miss Marple flair.

*Available at Wayne in Fiction*

## Speak of the Devil

By Richard Hawke

On Thanksgiving Day, New York City private investigator Fritz Malone goes out for bagels, saves a woman's life, and ends up in police custody. But the havoc doesn't stop there. Malone, the bastard son of the former police commissioner, learns that someone has been sending threatening letters to the mayor warning of imminent disaster, and city officials believe the mayor's girlfriend is the target. After a bomb explodes, a demand is issued for \$1 million to be delivered to the Cloisters in Upper Manhattan. Malone follows one piece of evidence, which leads to another and eventually takes him to a drug dealer in Brooklyn. First-time novelist Hawke has created a suspenseful tale involving police corruption, domestic terrorism, and political machinations of epic proportions, though it's a stretch to expect readers to believe that the New York Police Department, while under investigation for criminal activity, would allow a P.I. to muck about in one of its highest-priority cases. Read this for compelling characters and an intriguing, fast-paced plot and pick up the next book, too.

*Available at Wayne & Preakness in Fiction  
and on Audio CD at Wayne*



## Final Intuition

By Claire Daniels

When Thanksgiving dinner results in the demise of Aunt Daphne, Cally Lazar, attorney and clairvoyant, and her eccentric family discover that they have a killer, with a penchant for poison, in their midst.

*Available at Preakness in Large Print-Fiction*