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Women Crime Writers: Eight Suspense Novels of the 1940s & 50s: A Library of America Boxed Set (2 Book Series)

Vera Caspary, Helen Eustis, Dorothy B. Hughes, Elisabeth Sanxay Holding, Charlotte Armstrong, Patricia Highsmith, Margaret Millar, Dolores Hitchens

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From Book 1: The Library of America and editor Sarah Weinman redefine the classic era of American crime fiction with a landmark collection of four brilliant novels by the female pioneers of the genre, the women who paved the way for Gillian Flynn, Tana French, and Lisa Scottoline.

Though women crime and suspense writers dominate today's bestseller lists, the extraordinary work of the mid-century pioneers of the genre is largely unknown. Turning in many cases from the mean streets of the hardboiled school to explore the anxieties and terrors lurking in everyday life, these groundbreaking novelists found the roots of fear and violence in a quiet suburban neighborhood, on a college campus, or in a comfortable midtown hotel. Their work, influential in its day and still vibrant and extraordinarily riveting today, is long overdue for rediscovery. This volume, the first of a two-volume collector's set, gathers four classic works that together reveal the vital and unacknowledged lineage to today's leading crime writers. From the 1940s here are Vera Caspary's famous career girl mystery *Laura*, Helen Eustis's intricate academic thriller *The Horizontal Man*, Dorothy B. Hughes's *In a Lonely Place*, the terrifyingly intimate portrait of a serial killer, and Elizabeth Sanxay Holding's *The Blank Wall*, in which a wife in wartime is forced to take extreme measures when her family is threatened.

From the Hardcover edition.

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