

MEDIA RELEASE

DEATH HOLDS THE KEY

by **ALEXANDER THORPE**

ABOUT THE BOOK

When loathed landholder Fred O'Donnell is found dead in a locked room with a bullet in his chest, rookie Detective Hartley must seek help from a mysterious wanderer to solve the case. And it's one where everyone, including family, has a motive and a secret to keep.

Featuring the mendicant monk from Thorpe's previous novel, *Death Leaves the Station*, readers will be drawn into the world of small-town, late 1920s Western Australia, delighting in the characters as they navigate strained sensibilities and the dark secrets of the past.

Full of twists and turns, this seemingly impossible murder mystery is cosy crime writing at its finest.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alexander Thorpe lives in Boorloo/Perth, Western Australia. He has written about the virtues of artificial turf as an advertising copywriter, explored the fringes of the former Soviet Union as an English teacher and accidentally sealed his own feet in concrete during a blissfully brief stint as a construction hand. When not writing, Alexander can be found inflicting his idiosyncratic brand of English on innocent students, exploring new frontiers in miserable music or embracing his insomnia in the company of an old British radio drama.

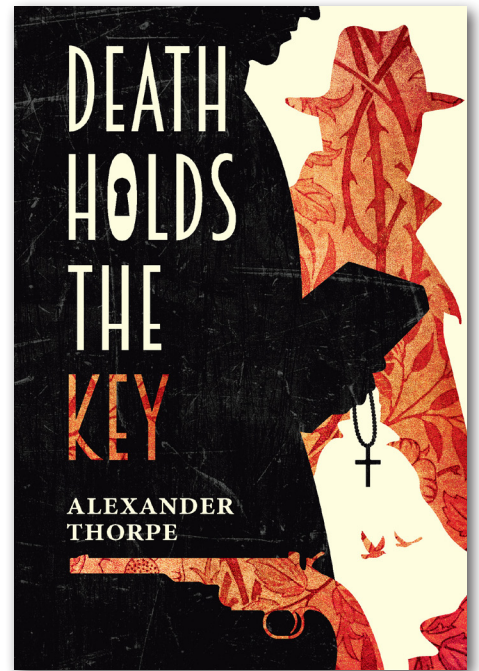


MEDIA NOTES

- *Death Holds the Key* is the second book in a series of four featuring the mendicant monk. The first book, *Death Leaves the Station*, was released in 2020.
- This cosy murder mystery harks back to the Golden Age of Crime and will appeal to readers of classic mysteries, cosy crime fiction and fans of Josephine Tey, Agatha Christie and John Dickson Carr.
- In addition to being a teacher for eight years, Alexander has a Bachelor of Mass Communication from Murdoch University and presented radio shows and performed in a band for many years.

PRAISE FOR THE SERIES

'A strong and highly entertaining new voice can now be added to the great tradition of cosy, historical murder mysteries.' *Books+Publishing*
'Serving up a mystery that will appeal to fans of those classic mysteries, your Agatha Christies and the like.' *AU Review*



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