



# **The Black Lizard Big Book of Locked-Room Mysteries (Vintage Crime/Black Lizard Original)**

*Otto Penzler*

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**The Most Complete Collection of Impossible Crime Stories Ever Assembled, with puzzling mysteries by Stephen King, Dashiell Hammett, Lawrence Sanders, Agatha Christie, Georges Simenon, Dorothy L. Sayers, P. G. Wodehouse, Erle Stanley Gardner, and many, many more**

THE BLACK LIZARD BIG BOOK OF LOCKED-ROOM MYSTERIES: An empty desert, a lonely ski slope, a gentleman's study, an elevator car—nowhere is a crime completely impossible.

Edgar Award-winning editor Otto Penzler has collected sixty-eight of the all-time best impossible-crime stories from almost two hundred years of the genre. In addition to the many classic examples of the form—a case of murder in a locked room or otherwise inaccessible place, solved by a brilliant sleuth—this collection expands the definition of the locked room to include tales of unbelievable thefts and incredible disappearances. Among these pages you'll find stories with evocative titles like "The Flying Death", "The Man From Nowhere", "A Terribly Strange Bed", and "The Theft of the Bermuda Penny", not to mention appearances by some of the cleverest characters in all of crime, including Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes, Georges Simenon's Jules Maigret, Agatha Christie's Hercule Poirot, Dashiell Hammett's Continental Op, and many more.

Featuring

- Unconventional means of murder
- Pilfered jewels
- Shocking solutions

Includes

- Edgar Allan Poe's "The Murders in the Rue Morgue", the first detective story and the first locked-room mystery
- Masters of the short story form: Edward D. Hoch, Ellery Queen, Carter Dickson, and Stanley Ellin

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#### **Henry Stehle:**

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