

Simon McCleave

Writer - fiction

Simon McCleave was born in South London. When leaving University, he worked in television and film development. He was a Script Editor at the BBC, a producer at Channel 4 before working as a Story Analyst in Los Angeles. He worked on films such as 'The Full Monty' and television series such as the BBC Crime Drama 'Between The Lines'.



Agents

Millie Hoskins
mhoskins@unitedagents.co.uk

Assistant
Melissa Tombere
MTombere@UnitedAgents.co.uk

Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
THE DARK TIDE 2022 Avon ((Harpercollins)	Will there be blood in the water? Three years ago, DCI Laura Hart was the top Hostage and Crisis Negotiator for the Greater Manchester Police. Then her husband was kidnapped. Despite her best efforts to reason with the criminals, he was brutally murdered. Now living on the Isle of Anglesey in Wales, Laura is slowly healing. Then she gets a call: armed drug dealers have seized a tourist boat – and her ten-year-old son Jake is on board. There's no other negotiator available, and the police need her to step up. With the life of a loved one yet again on the line and memories of the last time she failed still searingly fresh, Laura is living her worst nightmare. Can she lay to rest the ghosts of her past in time to save her son?

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IN TOO DEEP 2023 Avon (Harpercollins)	<p>Two months since ex-Police Negotiator Laura Hart was forced back into action after her son's kidnap, she has re-joined the force as a DI. On her first day, an anonymous tip-off leads to the discovery of a skeleton in a crumbling castle ruin near the seaside town of Beaumaris, Anglesey.</p> <p>Laura can't wait to prove herself by solving the case and when the investigation leads her to MI5 and the Real IRA, she knows she's on the trail of something truly explosive.</p> <p>But some people will do anything to stop their secrets coming out – as the rising body count shows. With the threat drawing in and her family yet again in danger, this time, is Laura in too deep?</p>
BLOOD ON THE SHORE 2023 Avon (Harpercollins)	<p>The beautiful Isle of Anglesey has been rocked by the brutal murders of three female students at a local college. DI Laura Hart is called in to track down the murderer – who the papers have dubbed the Anglesey Ripper – before he strikes again.</p> <p>She quickly identifies a suspect but just as she is about to pounce, he slips through her fingers.</p> <p>Laura and the Beaumaris CID must pursue the serial killer across the island in an increasingly dangerous game of cat and mouse – but he's always one step ahead of them. And soon, the hunters will become the hunted...</p>
THE DROWNING ISLE 2024 Avon (Harpercollins)	<p>Bestselling phenomenon Simon McCleave is back with another gripping, atmospheric new crime thriller set on the Isle of Anglesey, Wales.</p> <p>On a remote island, there's nowhere to run...</p> <p>When a teenage boy goes missing on a camping trip with his friends, the close-knit community of Anglesey is shaken. DI Laura Hart is brought in to lead the murder investigation and instantly feels the pressure, not least because her colleague's son was the last to see the missing boy alive.</p> <p>Laura's investigations force her to delve into the tangled web of relationships and personal lives of her own neighbours. The trail leads her to uncover a religious cult called The Fair Men, who locals say have a dark history and still hold their ceremonies on the island where the boys were camping. But could it be that yet more secrets are hidden behind closed doors?</p> <p>Amongst all the mysteries and lies, Laura is sure about one thing: the island will not give up the truth easily...</p>
DEAD IN THE WATER 2024 Avon (Harpercollins)	<p>Bestselling phenomenon Simon McCleave is back with another Anglesey-set gripping, crime thriller full of twists that will keep you guessing until the last page. Pre-order now!</p> <p>When a seventeen-year-old girl vanishes from her home overnight, DI Laura Hart knows that time is of the essence.</p> <p>Then, an inmate at the local prison is murdered in her cell and suddenly Beaumaris CID is juggling two major investigations.</p> <p>With inmates refusing to talk to the police, Laura is forced to take drastic action: going undercover behind bars.</p> <p>With everyone under suspicion, Laura's true identity must be kept a secret, meaning no one can protect her.</p> <p>Locked in with a killer, it's a race against time – can Laura find a lead... before she's found out?</p>

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LAST NIGHT AT VILLA LUCIA 2024 Canelo	<p>A murdered guest. A villa full of secrets. One night that changes everything. Recently divorced Cerys thought buying a luxury Tuscan villa would be the fresh start she so desperately needed. But a year later, she's struggling to move on from the pain of her past. Determined to make Villa Lucia a success, she's pinned all her hopes on this season's guests. Until one of them is found murdered in the villa's infinity pool.</p> <p>Now, as the police descend on the property, the secrets of her guests begin to unravel, and Cerys is forced to confront her own demons. But can she uncover the truth about that fateful night before the paradise she's built shatters around her?</p>
FIVE DAYS IN PROVENCE 2025 Storm	<p>Steph spent months planning her perfect birthday celebration. Five days in an idyllic setting with her best friends. Long lazy lunches, crisp white wine by the pool and a climb up the beautiful Mont Ventoux. She couldn't wait. They've been there for each other through the good times and the bad. This was the break everyone needed.</p> <p>After their first night partying, they begin their hike. But as the lavender-scented air turns acrid from local wildfires, fierce winds whip up smoke – and tensions in the group. They become separated. Hours later, when the smoke clears, one of the friends lies dead on the mountainside.</p> <p>As shadows lengthen across the limestone farmhouse, Steph's birthday transforms into a nightmare of police questions. Now there are only four friends. And the way they avoid each other's eyes suggests one unspeakable truth – the killer might be sitting around this kitchen table.</p>