

1979

Introducing ambitious young reporter Allie Burns, who knows she needs to be twice as good as the men she works to succeed.

1979. It is the winter of discontent, and reporter Allie Burns is chasing her first big scoop. There are few women in the newsroom and she needs something explosive for the boys' club to take her seriously.

Soon Allie and fellow journalist Danny Sullivan are exposing the criminal underbelly of respectable Scotland. They risk making powerful enemies – and Allie won't stop there.

When she discovers a plot to bring terror close to home, Allie comes up with a plan to infiltrate the group and make her name. But she's a woman in a man's world ... and putting a foot wrong could be fatal.

1979 is the first in a planned quintet of crime novels set at 10 year intervals, ending with 2019. Allie Burns will be the protagonist of all five books, though her professional world will not remain constant. As well as spotlighting Allie's proactive role, the series will provide a series of snapshots of how the world has changed over those 41 years -- culturally, forensically, politically, socially. Allie is the driver of the stories, but she's also the filter through which we see our changing world. Dynamic and insightful, the quintet will paint a fascinating and idiosyncratic picture.

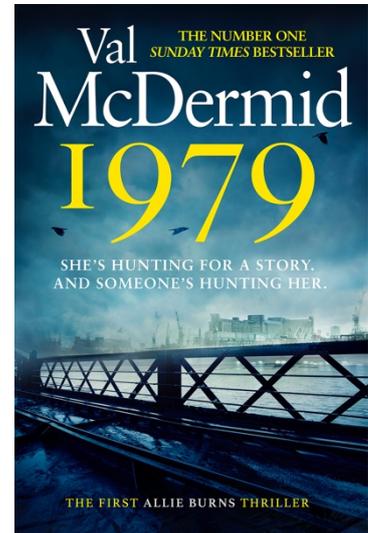
Praise for *Still Life*:

"She is... at the height of her powers . . . deeply enjoyable, one of her best" — Scotsman

**"As good a psychological thriller as it is possible to get"
– Sunday Express**

Val McDermid is a No.1 bestseller whose novels have been translated into more than thirty languages, and have sold more than sixteen million copies. She has won many awards internationally, including the CWA Gold Dagger for best crime novel of the year and the LA Times Book of the Year Award. In 2016, Val received the Outstanding Contribution to Crime Fiction Award at the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Writing Festival. In 2017, she received the DIVA Literary Prize for Crime and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and the Royal Society of Edinburgh. She is also the patron of the Scottish Book Trust.

VAL MCDERMID



The atmospheric, heart-pounding first novel in a gripping new series by the Queen of Crime.

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