



BITTER LEMON PRESS

ADVANCE INFORMATION

MOTHER OF SORROWS

Jurica Pavičić

Translated by Matt Robinson

PUB DATE: June 25, 2026

MARKET: Crime Fiction

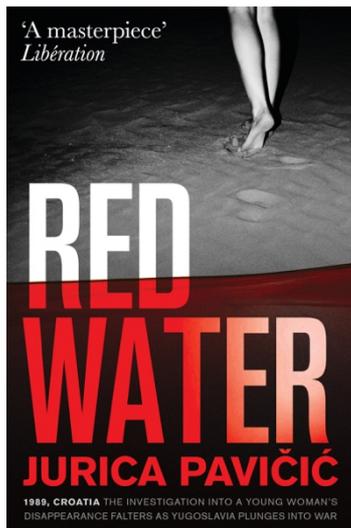
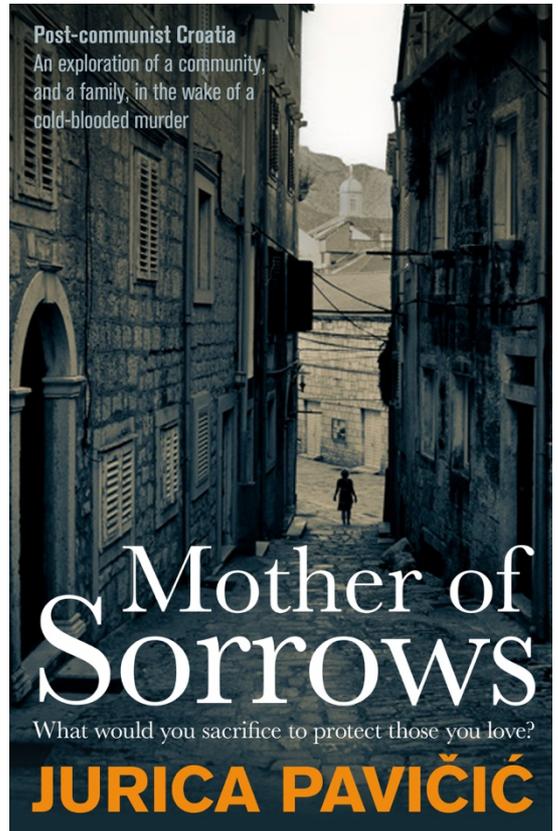
BINDING: Paperback **PRICE:** £10.99 **SIZE:** B • 336 pages

BIC CODE: FA/FF **ISBN:** 978-1916725-317

TERRITORY: UK & Commonwealth, Europe. **PRINTED:** UK

A masterful psychological mystery novel about the unbearable weight of maternal love, and the silences that shape a nation. In the quiet aftermath of Split's tourist season, the city is shaken by the brutal murder of 17-year-old Viktorija Zeba.

As the investigation unfolds, suspicion falls on Mario, a withdrawn young man whose mother, Katja, and sister, Ines, grapple with the possibility of his guilt. Katja's maternal instincts drive her to shield her son at all costs, while Ines is torn between loyalty and a quest for truth. Through the perspectives of Katja, Ines, and the diligent yet overlooked detective Zvone, *Mother of Sorrows* delves into the complexities of familial bonds, moral dilemmas, and the shadows of Croatia's past. Jurica Pavičić crafts a haunting narrative that intertwines personal tragedy with a portrait of a nation still healing from its historical wounds.



Mother of Sorrows follows on from the success of Pavičić's *Red Water* (9781916725157) published by Bitter Lemon in 2025. *Red Water* won the *Grand prix de la littérature policière*, previously awarded to such writers as Mary Higgins Clark and Michael Connelly, the *Prix Mystère de la critique*, and the *Prix Le Point*. *Red Water* was thriller of the summer at the *Financial Times* and thriller of the year to date at the *Times/ Sunday Times*.

Jurica Pavičić (born 1965) is a Croatian writer, scriptwriter, and journalist, living in Split. He has written seven novels, two collections of short stories and essays. His work has been translated into five languages. *Red Water* was his first novel to be translated into English.

Matt Robinson, born in the UK in 1978, lives in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Formerly a foreign correspondent with Reuters, he now works as a freelance editor and literary translator. He translated *Red Water* for Bitter Lemon Press.

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