



BLOOD MATTERS

Renée

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RRP \$40 • B format • 310pp • crime fiction

Selling points

- New crime fiction from award-winning Ōtaki playwright and novelist Renée
- Worldwide English rights ex NZ sold to UK publisher Joffe Books in a two-book deal with *The Wild Card*
- A Porohiwi tale, like Ngaio Marsh finalist *The Wild Card*. Small town #yeahnoir
- Māori protagonist



Renée ONZM, Ngāti Kahungunu, is one of Aotearoa's writing rangatira, turning 93 in 2022. A novelist, poet and playwright, she was awarded the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement, the Playmarket Award for significant artistic contribution to New

Zealand theatre and the Ngā Tohu ā Tā Kingi Ihaka for a lifetime contribution to toi Māori. *Blood Matters* is her second crime novel. Renée lives in Ōtaki.

Puti Derrell likes running at midnight. During lockdown it was safe but now lockdown is over and Porohiwi doesn't feel safe anymore – especially when she discovers her estranged grandfather has been murdered and left with a Judas mask on his face.

Puti's already got a lot on her plate. She's the new guardian of ten-year-old Bella Rose, who wants to be a private investigator when she grows up, and the new owner of a bookshop called Mainly Crime.

But when there's a murder closer to home and another of the grandfather's masks seems to be at the centre of it, Puti and Bella Rose are drawn into the investigation despite themselves. They discover that in matters of blood you often don't get a choice.

