

Ritual Of The Savage

by **JAY STRONGMAN**

A SYNOPSIS

It's the long, hot summer of 1958 and on the surface everything is swinging in Los Angeles, the City of Angels. For the public there's the usual mix of Hollywood, Tiki bars, beatniks and Sinatra. But for one man, behind the ring-a-ding-ding veneer of sharp suits, bottle blondes and cool cocktails lies something far more unsettling and sinister.

Struggling private eye Johnny Davis is about to discover more about this unseen world than he ever imagined. What starts out as just another case quickly turns into a nightmare of deception, lust and murder. Asked to find a brilliant young scientist and his girlfriend, who seem to have eloped together, Johnny quickly finds himself out of his depth. The young scientist is his ex-wife's younger brother and for Johnny, the chance to rekindle her affection for him only adds to the pressure of the case..

Finding the missing couple is just the start of our flawed hero's quest. Dragged into a world of mind-altering drugs, espionage and Cold War politics, he is soon fighting for his very survival. The intrigue takes him from the beatnik clubs of LA to the homes of the rich and famous in Palm Springs, and finally to the island paradise of Hawaii. Along the way he is drugged, kidnapped, tortured and torn between love and lust..

Faced with a Red Chinese plot to get their hands on a mysterious new weapon and an all-American girl turned traitor, our man realises that the old rules no longer apply. And, in an era when the old certainties are being challenged, the biggest betrayal of all is yet to come as Johnny begins to question his own loyalties.