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Concrete Desert: A David Mapstone Mystery

By Talton, Jon

Minotaur Books, New York, 2001. Hardcover. Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: Very Good. First Edition. Mylar protected dust jacket. The front Quarter-panel has a crease but there are no other flaws in the book. In this intriguing first novel, Jon Talton plunges his protagonist, David Mapstone, into a Sunbelt metropolis where corruption, betrayal and murder are lurking just beyond the glow of tony resorts and dramatic desert sunsets. "Having recently lost his job as a history professor, Mapstone returns to his boyhood home of Phoenix, Arizona, but finds the Southwest city he knew dramatically changed. It's now a haven for wealthy retirees and a seasonal retreat for West Coast "sophisticates." To Mapstone, who has a strong personal feeling for the area's history, it seems a foreign place. There remain, however, pockets of his earlier life, some welcome, some not. Mapstone eagerly accepts a temporary job from his old friend and Maricopa County Chief Deputy Mike Peralta: Look into still-open cases that have languished for years in the department's file cabinets and see if he can close any. A less welcome voice from the past is the college sweetheart, who appears at his door one evening. True to his memory of...

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