



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

August 2017

This may be the last newsletter you get. What with that “fire and fury like the world has never seen” that the swamp dweller in the White House is promising and the “thousand-fold” revenge from that the inbred head of the failed Stalinist utopia...I fear that nuclear war is just around the corner and that is not going to bode well for book sales. So, stock up while you still can and get ready.

And, in case you are behind in your survival techniques, it's no longer “duck and cover” as it was in the Cold-war era, but "Get inside, stay inside, stay tuned." Because everybody knows that brick and mortar are a complete defense against nuclear holocaust. If bombs start raining any time soon, I'm going to head to Marian's cottage and learn to swim. And pray.

Come meet

BARBARA FRADKIN
Trickster's Lullaby (#2) (\$17.99)

VICKI DELANY
Elementary She Read (#1) (\$22.95)

September 23, 1-3 pm

As the end seems nigh, there is one more thing I need to get off my chest, in case I do not get another chance...I need someone to explain this to me, please. I have a pair of running shoes and the label reads “US size 11, European size 45, CM 28.5” and I can't wear them as they are just fractionally too small and I feel like I need to keep my toes curled in to not lose my nails. I have another pair that is “US size 11, European size 44.5, CM 29.5 (It actually reads MM 295 so I'm making an assumption here)” and I feel like I'm swimming in them. And then I tried a friend's golf shoes which only listed “43” and I'm going to assume that that is the European size 43, and they fit just fine.

The Merchant of Menace,

Sleuth's monthly newsletter, is available for download from SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca at no charge. If you'd like the hard copy mailed to you, it's \$50 a year for the bi-monthly edition.

Postage & Handling

In a word: Actual

Hours of Business

Thursday to Saturday: 10 to 6

Sunday: Noon - 4pm

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
& Statutory Holidays:** Closed

We're often here outside of business hours, so call and we just might let you in.

So, what the *&^%)(#@ is a guy supposed to do? I have shorts that are anywhere from size 33 to 36 and none fit well, and 36 jeans that I can't do up, and 34s that I'm always hitching up. I have Nike golf shirts, size XL, that I find uncomfortably tight and size L that I hate wearing as I feel like I went to the Goodwill store and that's the best I could do. How hard is it to figure out that "34" is smaller than "35" but bigger than "33?"

And then, and then, I read that e-commerce sales for clothing and accessories officially became the best-selling e-commerce category—for the first time *in 2015*. (Computer hardware used to hold the number-one spot.) According to the comScore report, consumers (I'm going to assume American consumers) spent a whopping \$51.5 billion on clothes, shoes, handbags, and makeup. The clothing category increased by 19% compared to 2014, which *The Wall Street Journal* attributes to the increased popularity of mobile shopping and more free shipping options than ever. Imagine the returns; they must be massive! Actually, I have read somewhere that the biggest headache for online retailers is, indeed, returns. I wonder why that is! The only ones doing well must be the shipping companies.

Okay, now that I've got that off my chest...

JD's Picks

MICHAEL CONNELLY, Harry Bosch's and Michael Haller's daddy, has a new character, Renee Ballard, and she makes her debut appearance in [The Late Show](#) (\$36.50). As this novel is also one of Marian's Picks, I'll just leave it at that and let you read her comments later on.

I was delighted to see that **LARRY WATSON**'s latest novel, [As Good as Gone](#) (\$23.95), is now available in trade paperback. The reviews have not been as glowing as I think the book deserves, but there you are. The writing is spare and clear and I read it in one sitting. I've long been a fan of this writer's works and it is a stretch to really call him a writer of detective fiction but don't let that put you off. The story is about Calvin Sidelity who long ago abandoned his young family to live a life of self-reliance out in the wilderness. It's when his son asks him to babysit his grandchildren that Calvin moves back to the small town where he once lived and soon enough, problems arise. Calvin only knows one way to solve a problem: the Old West way. I thought this one was a stunner. I particularly loved the way the author would strike out on a tangent and, at first, you wonder why this diversion, only to marvel at the clever way the author would circle back and return to the main story. After a while, I found myself waiting for these diversions. Loved it.

PETRA HAMMESFAHR is a very successful [German](#) crime writer who has won several awards and one of her novels, [The Sinner](#) (\$22), is in the news these days as it has been adapted for television by USA Network as a "limited series" which premiered earlier this month. The story is about Cora Bender, who on a sunny summer afternoon by the lake, stabs a complete stranger to death. Why? What would cause this quiet, kind young mother to commit such a startling act of violence in front of her family and friends? Cora quickly confesses and it seems like an open-and-shut case. But the police commissioner, decides there is more to the story and refuses to close the file until he is satisfied and, so, and begins his own maverick investigation. I was a little hesitant to start reading this story, but I'm glad I did. This kind of psychological story—more a whodunnit than a whodunnit—can be slow going and usually longer than they need be, but not in this case. This one was riveting from page one.

Marian's Picks

What an abundance of fruits and vegetables at our local farmer's markets right now. I sometimes wish I lived in someplace like California where fresh produce is always in season, available all year around, unlike here with our much shorter growing season. I always buy way too much and every two weeks or so end up making a pot of soup. Into it goes every slightly soft or delicately withered veg that I didn't get around to using. Nothing wrong with a great bowl of soup when the weather is 30C outside. Just have a really nice cold glass of white wine and a crusty slice of bread. Hmmmm. Wonder what's

in my fridge right now that I can use up.

Never one to not sate my curiosity...I just looked in the fridge, found some eggs, onion, a cooked potato, yesterday's leftover fried cauliflower with cheese sauce and a bag of mushrooms. Hmmm, I know, a quiche! So, off I go chopping and prepping. I don't have milk to mix in with the eggs but there is a bit of half and half coffee cream that I'm going to "borrow" from my nephew, who is staying with me. My quiches tend to not have a crust, one, because I'm not very good at making pie crusts and two, my strange nephew just won't touch anything that has a pie crust under or around it. To go with my quiche, I have some very sweet carrots that I got from a local farmer so I'll roast those. Pixie said she wanted to test how sweet the carrots are so I gave her one. Seems not to have passed muster, as I've just found a mush of chewed carrot spit out beside her dog bed. Maybe she will like quiche!!! What a girl; she is truly an amazing dog. She's coming into her own, and how different she is from Percy. One of the big differences is their activity levels. Trim Percy would, at the slightest provocation, take you out for an hour-long walk. Rolly polly herself, a block is too far to go before she needs a rest. She's almost eleven-months old, and a real joy to have around.

I would likely not have picked up [A Justified Bitch](#) (\$21.95) by **H. G. MCKINNIS** but as I was going to Las Vegas with my folks to the Barbershop Harmony Society's international singing competition, the "A Las Vegas Mystery" burst on the cover caught my eye, so I did. There was nothing about the cover art, and, certainly not the title, to entice me to pick it up, but, oh my, what a terrific read. So, as they say, don't judge a book by its cover. I literally flew through the book's 309 pages and the 4-hour 42-minute flight was just the perfect length of time to devour this insightful, delightful, madcap read. What fun! I hope we get more from this writer soon.

When a severed finger shows up on her doorstep in a seedy section of Las Vegas, Helen Taylor does not freak out. She's already crazy, as evidenced by her junk-stuffed house and its ever-growing population of cats. There's also Bobby, her long-dead husband, whom she talks to and, maybe being long-dead has something to do with it, he talks back. Her hallucinations don't help either, especially when the police try to interview her.

Summoned by the detective on the case, Helen's sister Pat, arrives from Phoenix with two teen-age boys in tow. You can imagine the chaos that ensues when Pat and her boys (ages 15 and 17) check into a two-bedroom suite in Caesar's Palace (at \$495 US a night!). Seems things have gotten very expensive in Vegas. I remember doing any number of book shows there a decade or two ago and my recollection is of how cheap things were. Anyway, back to the book...Pat is pulled in three directions trying to keep tabs on the boys as well as Helen. And when a second murder happens, all hell breaks loose.

The story is as much a look into the issues of mental illness as it is a mystery. But Helen, and how she tries to cope with her issues is, for me, the best part of the book. She is a terrific character and I was hooked right from the first chapter. I wanted to see what happened to Helen and hoped, as I was reading the book, that everything would work out for her.

MICHAEL CONNELLY has created the character of Detective Renee Ballard in his latest offering, [The Late Show](#) (\$36.50) and I was hooked by the end of the first page! Ballard and her partner, Jenkins, work the midnight shift (LAPD's toughest beat) out of Hollywood Station; they are often the first detectives at a crime scene but rarely do they get to finish a case, usually leaving all the legwork to the day shift detectives. But one evening, after responding to two cases in under two hours, Ballard decides that there is something about each case she wants to see through to the end. That poses some difficulties, however, as she had been transferred to the midnight shift after she filed a sexual harassment complaint against a supervisor and he's making her life as difficult as he can. Working on her own time, she follows leads but is hindered at every turn. The one thing she has going for her is her stubborn determination to do the right thing for the victims. Here's hoping that this is the beginning of a long career for Renee as I thoroughly enjoyed [The Late Show](#). And I envision Bosch, Haller and Ballard working together sometime in the future. Would that not be fun?

I have not read every book that **DANIEL SILVA** has written—there are seventeen in his Gabriel Allon series—but every single one that I have read has been terrific. [The Kill Artist](#) (#1) (\$12.50), published in 2000, introduced us to Gabriel Allon, living the quiet life of an art restorer. As a former Israeli intelligence operative, Allon keeps his past well behind him, but, he's being called back into the game. He teams up with an agent

who is also keeping her past well hidden behind her; she was a beautiful fashion model. Their target in the series debut was a cunning terrorist on one last killing spree, a Palestinian zealot who played a dark part in Gabriel's past.

Not only is each book a really terrific action-packed yarn, but there is usually lots of art stuff woven through: a specific artist perhaps, an individual painting, counterfeiting, a hidden secret found in the holiest of holy places... Set in Paris, Rome, Jerusalem, among many other locations, Allon travels the world and takes us with him. There is a different flavour to this latest book, House of Spies (#17) (\$24.99), and I am not going to say much more than that. Other than, I wish there had been more "art" in the book. That aside, I was glued to all 544 pages, barely stopping for my evening martini.

If you have not read the previous novel, The Black Widow (#16) (\$12.50), you might want to start there, but you don't need to. I picked up House of Spies and dove right in. Four months after the deadliest attack on American homeland since 9/11, terrorists leave a trail of carnage through London's glittering West End. The attack is a brilliant feat of planning and secrecy, but with one loose thread. That thread leads Gabriel Allon and his team of operatives to the south of France and into their latest adventure. No doubt I missed some of the background and leadup to the new novel, by not reading The Black Widow, but nothing that kept me from enjoying it thoroughly. I might just go back and give it a go. Or, maybe, I'll catch up on all the ones I missed. If you have yet to encounter this terrific series, you lucky person you, start at the beginning and you have lots of pleasure to look forward to!

Just a quick reminder that the new Gamache mystery, Glass Houses (#13) (\$33.99), goes on sale on the 29th of August. You don't want to miss **LOUISE PENNY**'s latest. It is, yet again, so different from her previous book, Great Reckoning (#12) (\$13.99), and I'm left marveling at the author's creativity and ingenuity.

I don't know who suggested that I have a look at The Tilted World (\$18.50) by **TOM FRANLIN** and **BETH ANN FENNELLY** but I did and, perhaps not your usual mystery, it is well worth the read. It's what himself would call a literary mystery, and a love story, set in 1927 in the Deep South. The Mississippi River is set to overflow its banks and the levees won't be able to hold it back. It's a story about moonshine, prohibition, bootleggers and revenue. It's about poor folk, rich folk and what people will do to survive, especially during the worst rains and flooding the US South had ever had. It's about managing on your own as the rest of the country seems to not care one bit. It was a pretty darn good read! (*Now you tell me. I love Tom Franklin's writing and his novel, Crooked Letter. Crooked Letter* (\$18.50) is a marvel.—JD)

Hardbacks

AKUNIN, BORIS fandorin STATE COUNSELLOR (#6) (\$36.50) Russia, 1891. The new governor-general of Siberia has been secreted away on a train from St. Petersburg to Moscow. A blizzard rages outside as a mustachioed official climbs aboard, near the city; with his trademark stutter, he introduces himself as State Counsellor Erast Fandorin. He then thrusts a dagger inscribed with the initials CG into the governor-general's heart and, tearing off his mustache, escapes out the carriage window. The head of the Department of Security soon shows up at the real Fandorin's door and arrests him for murder. The only way to save his reputation is to find CG—and the government mole who is feeding the group information. Can Fandorin survive corruption among his fellow officials, the fearlessness of an unknown enemy, and the advances of a sultry young nihilist with his morals intact?

ATKINS, ACE quinn FALLEN (#7) (\$36) Tibbehah County Sheriff Quinn Colson had to admit he admired the bank robbers who'd been wreaking havoc in the Midsouth. A new bank was getting hit every week, and the robbers rushed in and out with such skill and precision it reminded him of raids he'd led as an Army Ranger. In fact, it reminded him so much of the techniques in the *Ranger Handbook* that he couldn't help wondering if the outlaws were former Rangers themselves. Quinn and his right-hand woman, straight-talking deputy Lillie Virgil, turned the county upside down after the crew hit Jericho First National, but they had disappeared like smoke. Almost as if they had help.

BOLTON, SHARON DEAD WOMAN WALKING (\$32.99) Just before dawn in the hills near the Scottish border, a man murders a young woman. At the same time, a hot-air balloon crashes out of the sky. There's just one survivor. She's seen the killer's

face—but he’s also seen hers. And he won’t rest until he’s eliminated the only witness to his crime. Alone, scared, trusting no one, she’s running to where she feels safe—but it could be the most dangerous place of all . . .

BOWEN, GAIL WINNERS’ CIRCLE (#17) (\$32) As Joanne Kilbourn-Shreve, her husband, Zack, and their soon-to-be seventeen-year-old daughter, Taylor, rush through the rain from their cottage to their car, the Thanksgiving weekend they just spent at the lake with Zack’s law partners is already slipping away, burnished into memory as pleasantly as the hundreds of other weekends the Falconer-Shreve families have shared at Lawyers’ Bay. Thoughts of the weekend past will now focus on the future and be prefaced by the words “next time.” But, within weeks, a triple homicide will rip apart the lives of those related to the lawyers who, at the end of their first year in law school, only half-jokingly styled themselves “The Winners’ Circle.” Dazed by grief, Joanne will seek answers to an impossible question: “Why did they die?”

BOWEN, RHYS royals ON HER MAJESTY’S FRIGHTFULLY SECRET SEREVICE (#11) (\$35) Lady Georgiana Rannoch juggles secret missions from the Queen, her beau Darcy, and her mother. But it’s all in a day’s work when you’re thirty-fifth in line to the British Crown... When Darcy runs off on another secret assignment, Georgiana is left to figure out how to travel to Italy sans maid and chaperone to help dear friend Belinda, as she awaits the birth of her baby. An opportunity presents itself in a most unexpected way, her cousin the queen, is in need of a spy to attend a house party in the Italian lake country. The Prince of Wales and the dreadful Mrs. Simpson have been invited, and Her Majesty is anxious to thwart a possible secret wedding. What luck! A chance to see Belinda and please the queen as Georgian seeks her permission to relinquish any claim to the throne so she can marry Darcy. Only that’s as far as her good fortune takes her. Mummy is attending the villa party and she has her own secret task for Georgina. Then, Darcy shows up and tells her that the fate of a world on the brink of war could very well depend on what she overhears at dinner! Georgian shouldn’t be all that surprised when one of the fellow guests is murdered and her Italian holiday becomes a nightmare.

BOX, C J cassie dewell PARADISE VALLEY (#3) (\$38.99) For three years, Investigator Cassie Dewell has been on a hunt for a serial killer known as the Lizard King whose hunting grounds are the highways and truck stops where runaways and prostitutes are most likely to vanish. Cassie almost caught him...once. Working for the Bakken County, North Dakota sheriff’s department, Cassie has set what she believes is the perfect trap and she has lured him and his truck to a depot. But the plan goes horribly wrong, and the blame falls on Cassie. Disgraced, she loses her job and investigation into her role is put into motion. At the same time, Kyle Westergaard, a troubled kid whom Cassie has taken under her wing, has disappeared after telling people that he’s going off on a long-planned adventure. Kyle’s grandmother begs Cassie to find him and, with nothing else to do, Cassie agrees—all the while hunting the truck driver. Kyle’s disappearance may have a more sinister meaning than anyone realizes...

CASEY, JANE kerrigan LET THE DEAD SPEAK (#7) (\$38.99) When eighteen-year-old Chloe Emery returns to her West London home she finds her mother missing, the house covered in blood. Everything points to murder, but there’s no sign of the body. London detective Maeve Kerrigan and the homicide team turn their attention to the neighbours. The ultra-religious Norrises are acting suspiciously; their teenage daughter and Chloe Emery definitely have something to hide. Then there’s William Turner, once accused of stabbing a schoolmate and the neighbourhood’s favorite criminal. Is he merely a scapegoat, or is there more behind the charismatic facade? As a body fails to materialize, Maeve must piece together a patchwork of testimonies and accusations. Who is lying, and who is not? And soon Maeve starts to realize that not only will the answer lead to Kate Emery, but more lives may hang in the balance.

CASTILLO, LINDA amish DOWN A DARK ROAD (#9) (\$37.99) Two years ago, Joseph King was convicted of murdering his wife and sentenced to life in prison. He was a “fallen” Amish man and a known drug user with a violent temper. Now King has escaped, and he’s headed for Painters Mill. News of a murderer on the loose travels like wildfire, putting Chief of Police Kate Burkholder and her team of officers on edge. But this is personal for Kate. She grew up with Joseph King. As a 13-year-old Amish girl, she’d worshipped the ground he walked on. She never could have imagined the nightmare scenario that becomes reality when King shows up with a gun and takes his five children hostage at their Amish uncle’s farm. Armed and desperate, he has nothing left to lose. Fearing for the safety of the children, Kate makes contact with King only to find herself trapped with a killer. Or is he? All King asks of her is to help him prove his innocence—and he releases her unharmed. Kate is skeptical, but when the facts and the evidence don’t align, she begins to wonder who she should trust. Spurned by some of her fellow cops, she embarks on her own investigation only to unearth an unspeakable secret—and someone who is willing to commit murder to keep it buried.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL ballard LATE SHOW (#1) (\$36.50) Renee Ballard works the night shift in Hollywood—also known as the Late Show—beginning many investi-

gations but finishing none, as each morning she turns everything over to the day shift. A once up-and-coming detective, she's been given this beat as punishment after filing a sexual harassment complaint against a supervisor. But one night she catches two assignments she doesn't want to part with: the brutal beating of a prostitute left for dead in a parking lot and the killing of a young woman in a nightclub shooting. Ballard is determined not to give up at dawn. Against orders and her partner's wishes, she works both cases by day while maintaining her shift by night. As the investigations entwine, they pull her closer to her own demons and the reason she won't give up her job, no matter what the department throws at her.

CRISPIN, EDMUND TCOT GILDED FLY (\$18.99) The very first case for Oxford-based sleuth Gervase Fen, one of the last of the great Golden Age detectives. Originally published in 1944.

FABBRI, ROBERT *vespasian* ARMINIUS (#8) (\$30.95) A.D. 9: In the depths of the Teutoburg Wald, in a landscape riven by ravines, darkened by ancient oak and bisected by fast-flowing streams, Arminius of the Cherusci led a confederation of six Germanic tribes in the annihilation of three Roman legions. Deep in the forest almost 20,000 men were massacred without mercy; fewer than 200 of them ever made it back across the Rhine. To Rome's shame, three sacred Eagles were lost that day. But Arminius wasn't brought up in Germania Magna—he had been raised as a Roman. This is the story of how Arminius came to turn his back on the people who raised him and went on to commit a betrayal so great and so deep, it echoed through the ages.

FAIRSTEIN, LINDA *cooper* DEADFALL (#19) (\$37) A wild heart beats within New York City. Amid concrete and skyscrapers, the Wildlife Conservation Society works to preserve and protect the animal kingdom both within and beyond the borders of the five boroughs. But dangerous creatures don't always have claws and fangs, as Assistant DA Alexandra Cooper and NYPD detectives Mike Chapman and Mercer Wallace know all too well. Predators lurk close to home, and in the aftermath of the shocking assassination of an iconic public figure—someone Alex has worked with for years—the trio must unravel the motive behind the shooting to discover who is the bigger snake: the killer or the victim. From street gangs to secret societies, from big-game hunting to the illegal animal trade, from New York City zoos to the highest offices in city government, Alex has her work cut out for her—especially since the task force handling the investigation, led by the US Attorney, seems to be more against her than with her. As tensions rise between Alex and the feds, she must determine just how far she is willing to go to uncover the truth—and uphold the integrity of the office she has so proudly served.

GRIMWOOD, JACK MOSKVA (\$38.99) Red Square, 1985. The naked body of a young man is left outside the walls of the Kremlin, frozen solid—like marble to the touch—missing the little finger from his right hand. A week later, Alex Marston, the headstrong fifteen-year-old daughter of the British Ambassador, disappears. Army Intelligence Officer Tom Fox, posted to Moscow to keep him from telling the truth to a government committee, is asked to help find her. It's a shot at redemption. But Russia is reluctant to give up the worst of her secrets. As Fox's investigation sees him dragged deeper towards the dark heart of a Soviet establishment determined to protect its own, his fears for Alex's safety grow with those of the girl's father. And if Fox can't find her soon, she looks likely to become the next victim of a sadistic killer whose story is bound tight to that of his country's terrible past...

HAMILTON, GLEN ERIK EVERY DAY ABOVE GROUND (#3) (\$33.50) It sounds like a thief's dream to Van Shaw: A terminally ill ex-con tells him of an easy fortune in gold, abandoned and nearly forgotten after its original owner died in prison. For the dying man, the money is a legacy to ensure his preteen daughter's future. For Van, the gold is cash he desperately needs to rebuild his destroyed family home. The grandson of a career criminal who taught him all the tricks of his trade, Van suspects that nothing is ever that easy. Sure enough, the safe holding the fortune is a trap. Now, Shaw's partner is in the clutches of the hunters, and the former army ranger may be their next prey.

HILTON, L S DOMINA (#2) (\$36) Since opening her own art gallery in Venice, Judith Rashleigh—now Elisabeth Teerlinc—can finally stop running. She's got the paycheck, lifestyle, and wardrobe she always dreamed of, not to mention the interest of a Russian billionaire. But when a chance encounter in Ibiza leads to a corpse that is, for once, not her own doing, she finds her life is back on the line—and she's more alone than ever. It seems Judith's become involved with more than just one stolen painting, and there is someone else willing to kill for what's theirs. From St. Moritz to Serbia, Judith again finds herself maneuvering the strange landscapes of wealth, but this time there's far more than her reputation at stake. How far will Rage take Judith? Far enough to escape death? Sequel to Maestra (#1) (\$22), the fabulously sexy, ruthless, and decadent thriller.

HURLEY, GRAHAM FINISTERRE (\$39.95) Germany, September 1944: dozens of cities lie in ruins. Enemy armies are at the gates. For the Thousand Year Reich, time is

running out. Desperate to avoid the humiliation of unconditional surrender, German intelligence launch Operation Finisterre—a last-ditch plan to enable Hitler to deny the savage logic of a war on two fronts and bluff his way to the negotiating table. Success depends on two individuals: Stefan Portisch, a German naval officer washed ashore on the coast of Spain after the loss of his U-boat, and Hector Gómez, an ex-FBI detective, planted by Director J. Edgar Hoover in the middle of the most secret place on earth: the American atomic bomb complex. Both men will find themselves fighting for survival as Operation Finisterre plays itself out.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN & JESSE delaware CRIME SCENE (#33) (\$38.99)

Natural causes or foul play? That's the question Clay Edison, former star athlete turned deputy coroner, must answer each time he examines a body. Figuring out motives and chasing down suspects aren't part of his beat—not until a seemingly open-and-shut case proves to be more than meets his highly trained eye. Eccentric, reclusive Walter Rennert lies cold at the bottom of his stairs. At first glance, the scene looks straightforward: a once-respected psychology professor, done in by booze and a bad heart. But his daughter Tatiana insists that her father has been murdered, and she persuades Clay to take a closer look at the grim facts of Rennert's life. What emerges is a history of scandal and violence, and an experiment gone horribly wrong that ended in the brutal murder of a coed. Walter Rennert, it appears, was a broken man—and maybe a marked one. And when Clay learns that a colleague of Rennert's died in a nearly identical manner, he begins to question everything in the official record.

LAWSON, M A hamilton K STREET (#3) (\$37) It's been almost a year since Kay Hamilton was fired from the DEA for going rogue. Since then, she's been employed by the Callahan Group, a covert intelligence agency based in Washington, D.C. Her job description is as dubious as the people she works for, and the undercover mission that nearly killed her in Viking Bay (#2) (\$12099) has Hamilton questioning the legitimacy of her employers. When Hamilton arrives at the Callahan Group's K Street office to tender her resignation, she unwittingly interrupts a deadly heist during which the robbers have stolen the company safe and left her boss gravely injured. She knows that Thomas Callahan doesn't keep much cash in the safe—the men must have been after something other than money. But before Callahan slips into a coma, he whispers a name that will lead Kay to an organization even more secretive than the Callahan Group: the NSA. Start with Rosarito Beach (#1) (\$11.99).

MACKENZIE, JASSY BAD SEEDS (\$31.95) Despite her checkered history with law enforcement, Johannesburg private investigator Jade de Jong is attempting to operate on the right side of the law, confining herself to low-profile cases. But her remarkably attractive new employer, Ryan Gillespie, has tasked her with finding a missing security official after a break-in at the nuclear energy plant he runs. The target of her search is Carlos Botha, a skilled operative and a threat to national security. Jade traces Botha to a run-down suburb, but discovers she's not the only one looking for him. Someone has put a hit out on Botha, and Jade forms an unlikely alliance with her mark to learn more. But how long can she keep up the facade of friendship before he realizes she's been hired to track him?

MACNEAL, SUSAN ELIA hope PARIS SPY (#7) (\$35) Maggie Hope has come a long way since serving as a typist for Winston Churchill. Now she's working undercover for the Special Operations Executive in the elegant but eerily silent city of Paris, where SS officers prowl the streets in their Mercedes and the Ritz is draped with swastika banners. Walking among the enemy is tense and terrifying, and even though she's disguised in chic Chanel, Maggie can't help longing for home. But her missions come first. Maggie's half-sister, Elise, has disappeared after being saved from a concentration camp, and Maggie is desperate to find her—that is, if Elise even wants to be found. Equally urgent, Churchill is planning the Allied invasion of France, and SOE agent Erica Calvert has been captured, the whereabouts of her vital research regarding Normandy unknown. Maggie must risk her life to penetrate powerful circles and employ all her talents for deception and spycraft to root out a traitor, find her sister, and locate the reports crucial to planning D-Day in a deadly game of wits with the Nazi intelligence elite.

MARON, MARGARET harald TAKE OUT (#9) (\$35) Sigrid is still reeling from the untimely death of her lover, acclaimed painter Oscar Nauman, when she is called to investigate the deaths of two homeless men in the West Village. The police at first assume an overdose, until they realize that one of the men shows no signs of drug use. Then when containers of poisoned takeout food are found nearby, Sigrid's case is suddenly much more complicated. As Sigrid investigates, she uncovers an intriguing neighbourhood history: a haughty mafia widow and her disgraced godson, a retired opera star with dark secrets, an unsolved hit-and-run, and the possible discovery of a long-missing painting that will rock the art world. Soon the case is fraught with myriad suspects and motives. Who killed the two homeless men, and why? And which one was the intended victim? Or was the poisoned food meant for someone else entirely?

MEADE, GLENN UNQUIET GHOSTS (\$35) Kathy Kelly's world was shattered

when a plane carrying her husband—an Iraq War veteran and devoted father—and her two children vanished from the sky one night. No trace of the plane was ever found. Eight years later, Kathy has struggled to rebuild her life, but then wreckage of his plane is found in the wilderness of Great Smoky Mountain National Park—hundreds of miles from where it should have been. The pilot perished in the crash, but there is no sign of Jack or the children. Could they have made it out alive after all? But if so, where have they been all this time? Where are they now? As Kathy searches for any clue about what happened to her family, the investigation uncovers some unsettling clues—including a briefcase containing millions of dollars in cash, a priceless mask stolen from an Iraqi museum, and a clue that links Jack’s disappearance with the suspicious death of Kathy’s mother years ago.

MORRIS, R A V LYTTLETON CASE (\$18.99) From the vaults of HarperCollins, for the detective connoisseur, the only novel by this Welsh writer. The chance discovery of a young man’s body floating in a Sussex stream provides the first clue to the mysterious disappearance of Sir James Lytton, who sent his daughter a curt wire announcing his departure for America before completely vanishing. But this is no ordinary missing persons inquiry—when Sir James’s body turns up inside another man’s coffin, journalist James Dawson and Chief Inspector Candlish of Scotland Yard find themselves on the trail of a particularly ruthless and ingenious murderer. Introduced by author and editor Douglas A. Anderson, and first published in 1922.

PETERS, ELIZABETH peabody PAINTED QUEEN (#20) (\$34.99) Egypt, 1912—Amelia Peabody and her dashing archeologist husband, Radcliffe Emerson, are once again in danger as they search for a priceless, stolen bust of legendary Queen Nefertiti and Amelia finds herself the target of assassins in this long-awaited, eagerly anticipated final installment of this bestselling, beloved mystery series. Left incomplete at the time of the author’s death, the manuscript is now massaged into a whole novel by **Joan Hess**.

ROSENFELT, DAVID carpente COLLARED (#16) (\$37.99) Two and a half years ago, Jill Hickman was a single mother of an adopted baby. Her baby and dog were kidnapped in broad daylight in Eastside Park, and they haven’t been seen since. A tip came in that ID’d a former boyfriend of Hickman’s, Keith Wachtel, as the kidnapper. A search of his house showed no sign of the child but did uncover more incriminating evidence, and the clincher that generated Wachtel’s arrest was some dog hair, notable since Wachtel did not have a dog. DNA tests showed conclusively that the hair belonged to Hickman’s dog. Wachtel was convicted of kidnapping, but the dog and baby were never found. Then the DNA dog turns up, abandoned at the Tara Foundation, lawyer Andy Carpenter’s true passion.

SAGER, RILEY FINAL GIRLS (\$35) Three girls, known as the Final Girls—because they alone survived the massacres that killed all their friends—are attempting to put their nightmares behind them. That is, until Lisa, the first Final Girl, is found dead in her bathtub, wrists slit, and Sam, the second, appears on Quincy, the third’s doorstep. “The first great thriller of 2017 is here...”—**Stephen King**.

SMITH, ALEXANDER MCCALL Isabel dalhousie DISTANT VIEW OF EVERYTHING (#11) (\$29.95) In this latest installment of the ever-delightful and perennially bestselling series, amateur sleuth and philosopher Isabel Dalhousie is called upon to help when a matchmaker begins to question her latest match.

TOYNE, SIMON creed BOY WHO SAW (#2) (\$34.99) Solomon Creed has no recollection of who he is, or where he comes from. The only solid clue to his identity is a label stitched in his jacket that reads: “*This suit was made to treasure for Mr. Solomon Creed.*” The jacket fits perfectly, and so does the name, but there is a second name on the label, the name of the tailor who made the suit and an address in southern France. Solomon heads to France in search of this man, hoping to discover more about who he is. But instead of answers he finds a bloody corpse, the Star of David carved into his chest and the words “*Finishing what was begun*” daubed in blood on the wall. When the police discover Solomon at the crime scene they suspect he is the murderer and lock him up. Solomon must escape to clear his name and solve the mystery of why the last remaining survivors of a notorious Nazi death camp are being hunted down and murdered. Only by saving these survivors from evil can Solomon hope to piece together the truth about a decades-old conspiracy as well as discover the key to his own identity. Sequel to *Searcher* (#1) (\$12.50).

WILSON, ANDREW christie TALENT FOR MURDER (\$35) **Agatha Christie’s** mysterious ten-day disappearance serves as the starting point for a gripping novel, in which Christie herself is pulled into a case of blackmail and murder. Agatha must use every ounce of her cleverness and resourcefulness to thwart an adversary determined to exploit her expertise and knowledge about the act of murder to kill on his behalf.

Paperbacks

ALEXANDER, TASHA ashton TERRIBLE BEAUTY (#11) (\$22.99) On a quest to distract her lifelong friend Jeremy from his recent heartbreak, Lady Emily organizes a holiday in Greece. As a lover of all things Greek, she quickly finds herself occupied with tours of ancient ruins, lively debates with Margaret, a devoted Latinist, and slightly more scandalous endeavors with her dashing husband, Colin Hargreaves. But the pleasantries are brought to an abrupt halt when a man long believed dead greets the party at their island villa. Lord Philip Ashton, Colin's childhood best friend and Emily's first husband, has returned. But can Philip really be who he claims, even if he has the scars and stories to prove it? Where has he been for all this time? And will his undying love for Emily drive him to claim what's his?

BAGLEY, DESMOND FREEDOM TRAP (#2), SPOILERS, and VIVERO LETTER (\$16.99 each). Reprints of novels first published in the late 60s and early 70s.

BALDACCI, DAVID puller NO MAN'S LAND (#4) (\$12.99) John Puller's mother, Jackie, vanished thirty years ago from Fort Monroe, Virginia, when Puller was just a boy. Paul Rogers has been in prison for ten years. But twenty years before that, he was at Fort Monroe. One night three decades ago, Puller's and Rogers' worlds collided with devastating results, and the truth has been buried ever since. Until now.

BARCLAY, LINWOOD FEAR THE WORST (\$19.95) Seventeen-year-old Sydney Blake's summer is shaping up to be typical for a teenager: she's spending it with her father, and she has landed a part-time job at a local hotel. One night, Syd fails to come home from her shift, and her father Tim is a bit alarmed. However, that alarm turns to full-on panic after he visits the Just Inn Time hotel and the manager claims that Syd has never worked there. Grilling his daughter's friends for clues leads Tim nowhere — except to threats against his life — and as he frantically chases every lead, he can't help but wonder if Syd is even still alive. Despite a growing list of unanswered questions, all Tim knows for certain is that he must continue searching for his daughter — no matter how high the stakes become.

BEATON, M C agatha PUSHING UP DAISIES (#27) (\$10.99) Agatha Raisin, private detective, resident in the Cotswold village of Carsely, should have been a contented and happy woman, but things are about to get a little less cozy. Lord Bellington, a wealthy land developer, wants to turn the community garden into a housing estate. And when Agatha and her friend Sir Charles Fraith attempt to convince Lord Bellington to abandon his plans, he scoffs, "Do you think I give a damn about what a lot of pesky villagers want?" So it's no surprise that some in the town are feeling celebratory when Agatha finds his obituary in the newspaper two weeks later.

BINGHAM, HARRY griffiths DEAD HOUSE (#5) (\$15.99) On a wild October night, the body of a young woman is found in a remote country churchyard. She's wearing nothing but a thin, white dress. There are no marks of violence and no obvious cause of death. Who is the victim? Why is she here? But another young woman went missing from the area a few years back, and DC Fiona Griffiths soon suspects a crime even more chilling than she first imagined.

BLACK, SAUL LOVEMURDER (\$24.99) When she's called to the murder scene, the last thing San Francisco Homicide detective Valerie Hart is expecting is for Katherine Glass to walk back into her life. Six years earlier, revulsion and fascination had gripped the nation in equal measure, as beautiful, intelligent, charming, and utterly evil, Katherine Glass had been convicted on six counts of Murder One. But the freshly-mutilated corpse in the ground-floor apartment bears all the hallmarks of Katherine's victims. And then there's the note, with its chilling implications. Addressed to Valerie. Valerie needs Katherine Glass to help her decipher the killer's twisted message.

BOND, MICHAEL BEAR CALLED PADDINGTON (#1) (\$9.99) To commemorate the recent death of this wonderful writer...

BOWEN, RHYS royals CROWNED AND DANGEROUS (#10) (\$10.99) Lady Georgiana Rannoch knows nothing is simple when you're thirty-fifth in line for the British crown, but her upcoming marriage proves to be the ultimate complication. And then Darcy's father, her future father-in-law, is arrested for murder.

BUNKER, EDWARD DEATH ROW BREAKOUT: AND OTHER STORIES (\$21) Seven short stories by this writer, who knew better than anyone what it means to be a criminal, inside and outside of prison. In these stories, which were unpublished at the time of his death in 2005, he shows again the talent that made him such a remarkable writer.

CAMILLERI, ANDREA NEST OF VIPERS (#20) (\$22) Inspector Montalbano enjoys simple pleasures: delicious food, walks along the water, the occasional smoke — yet these are just the backdrop to his duties as a detective. His latest case is the killing of the wealthy Cosimo Barletta. Thought to be a widower living out a quiet life by the sea, Cosimo's sudden death, by gunshot to the neck, opens up his past to scrutiny. What

Montalbano uncovers is Cosimo's trove of salacious photographs, used to extort young women, and a history full of greed and corruption. Montalbano, though resolved to find the killer, muses on where justice lies—in his pursuit of a suspect or with one of Cosimo's innumerable victims getting the revenge they deserved?

CASS, LAURIE bookmobile WRONG SIDE OF THE PAW (#6) (\$10.99) Librarian Minnie Hamilton is happy to take her bookmobile for a spin with her rescue cat, Eddie—but her tenacious tabby always seems to find trouble...As the bookmobile rolls along the hills of Chilson, Michigan, Minnie and Eddie spread good cheer and good reads. But when her faithful feline finds his way into the middle of a murder, Minnie is there, like any good librarian, to check it out.

COCHRAN, PEG daughter SOWED TO DEATH (#2) (\$10.99) The county fair is the highlight of the year for the small town of Lovett, Michigan—especially for food-and-lifestyle blogger Shelby McDonald, who writes as the Farmer's Daughter. She's submitting jams and jellies she's created from the produce she grows at Love Blossom Farm in hopes of harvesting a blue ribbon. But the townspeople get more than just the excitement of hayrides, tractor pulls, and cotton candy when Shelby's neighbour and volunteer fireman, Jake Taylor, extricates the body of Zeke Barnstable instead of a dummy during a demonstration of the Jaws of Life. The fact that Jake and Zeke were known to be at odds plants suspicion in the minds of the police. As evidence against Jake grows, Shelby knows she has to plow through the clues to weed out the true killer and save her friend.

COLEMAN, REED FARREL moe HOLLOW GIRL (#9) (\$18.99) Drunk, alone, and racked with guilt over the tragic death of his girlfriend Pam, Moe Prager is destined for oblivion. But destiny takes a detour when a shadowy figure from Moe's past reappears to beg for Moe's help in locating her missing daughter. As a reluctant, distracted Moe delves into the case, he discovers that nothing is as it seems and no one involved is quite who or what they appear to be. This is especially true of the missing daughter, an early internet sensation known ironically as the Lost Girl or the Hollow Girl. The case itself is hollow, as Moe finds little proof that anyone is actually missing.

DAVIS, FIONA DOLLHOUSE (\$22) Enter the lush world of New York City's glamorous Barbizon Hotel for Women, where in the 1950s a generation of aspiring models, secretaries, and editors lived side by side while attempting to claw their way to fairy-tale success, and where a present-day journalist becomes consumed with uncovering a dark secret buried deep within the Barbizon's glitzy past. Half a century later, the Barbizon's gone condo but rumours of a deadly skirmish with a hotel maid back in 1952 still haunt the halls. Journalist Rose Lewin investigates.

DE GIOVANNI, MAURIZIO ricciardi GLASS SOULS (#8) (\$23) In the abyss of a profound personal crisis, Commissario Ricciardi feels unable to open himself up to life. He has refused the love of both Enrica and Livia and the friendship of his partner, Mazione. Contentment for Ricciardi proves as elusive as clues to the latest crime he has been asked to investigate. The beautiful, haughty Bianca, countess of Roccaspina, pleads with Ricciardi to investigate a homicide that was officially closed months ago. In the tense, charged atmosphere of 1930s Italy, where Benito Mussolini and his fascist thugs monitor the police closely, an unauthorized investigation is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal charges. But Ricciardi's thirst for justice cannot be sated.

DEMILLE, NELSON CHARM SCHOOL (\$12.99) On a dark road deep inside the Russian woods at Borodino, a young American tourist picks up an unusual passenger with an explosive secret: an U.S. POW on the run from "The Charm School," a sinister operation where American POWs teach young KBG agents how to be model U.S. citizens. Their goal? To infiltrate the United States undetected. With this horrifying conspiracy revealed, the CIA sets an investigation in motion, and three Americans—an Air Force officer, an embassy liaison, a CIA chief—pit themselves against the country's enemies in a high-powered game of international intrigue. First published in 1988.

DOWNIE, RUTH medicus VITA BREVIS (#7) (\$23) Ruso and Tilla and their new baby daughter have left Roman-occupied Britain, and the military, for Rome. Physician Ruso thinks he has been offered a reputable medical practice only to find that his predecessor, Doctor Kleitos, has fled, leaving a dead man in a barrel on the doorstep and the warning, "Be careful who you trust." Distracted by the body and his efforts to help his patron Accius win the hand of a rich young heiress, Ruso makes a grave mistake, causing him to question both his competence and his integrity. With Ruso's reputation under threat, he and Tilla must protect their small family from Doctor Kleitos's debt collectors and find allies in their new home while they track down the vanished doctor and find out the truth about the unfortunate man in the barrel.

DOYLE/FINLAY, MICK ARROWOOD: SHERLOCK HOLMES HAS MET HIS MATCH (\$19.99) 1895. London is scared. A killer haunts the city's streets; the poor are hungry; crime bosses are taking control; the police force is stretched to the breaking point. The rich turn to Sherlock Holmes, but the celebrated private detective rarely visits the densely populated streets of South London, where the crimes are sleazier and the

people are poorer. There, in the dark corner of Southwark, victims turn to a man who despises Holmes, his wealthy clientele and his showy forensic approach to crime: Arrowood—self-taught psychologist, occasional drunkard and private investigator. When a man mysteriously disappears and Arrowood's best lead is viciously stabbed before his eyes, he and his sidekick Barnett face their toughest quest yet: to capture the head of the most notorious gang in London.

DOYLE/MACBIRD, BONNIE UNQUIET SPIRITS: WHISKY, GHOSTS, MURDER (\$21.99). December 1889. Fresh from debunking a “ghostly” hound in Dartmoor, Sherlock Holmes has returned to London, only to find himself the target of a deadly vendetta. From the author of Art in the Blood (\$17.99).

EDWARDS, MARTIN CONTINENTAL CRIMES (\$19.50) A man is forbidden to uncover the secret of the tower in a fairy-tale castle by the Rhine. A headless corpse is found in a secret garden in Paris—belonging to the city's chief of police. And a drowned man is fished from the sea off the Italian Riviera, leaving the *carabinieri* to wonder why his socialite friends at the Villa Almirante are so unconcerned by his death. Just three of the scenarios in this new collection of vintage crime stories. Detective stories from the golden age and beyond have used European settings—cosmopolitan cities, rural idylls and crumbling chateaux—to explore timeless themes of revenge, deception, murder and haunting. Including lesser-known stories by **Christie, Doyle, Chesterton, Farjeon** and other classic writers, this collection reveals many hidden gems of British crime.

EDWARDS, MARTIN STORY OF CLASSIC CRIME IN 100 BOOKS (\$23.99)

Leading expert on classic crime discusses one hundred books ranging from The Hound of the Baskervilles to Strangers on a Train which highlight the entertaining plots, the literary achievements, and the social significance of vintage crime fiction. This book serves as a companion to the acclaimed British Library Crime Classics series but it tells a very diverse story. It presents the development of crime fiction—from Sherlock Holmes to the end of the golden age—in an accessible, informative and engaging style.

EISLER, BARRY rain ZERO SUM (#9) (\$22.95) Returning to Tokyo in 1982 after a decade of mercenary work in the Philippines, a young John Rain learns that the killing business is now controlled by Victor, a half-Russian, half-Japanese sociopath who has ruthlessly eliminated all potential challengers. Victor gives Rain a choice: kill a government minister or die a grisly death. But the best route to the minister is through his gorgeous Italian wife, Maria, a route that puts Rain on a collision course not only with Victor but with the shadowy forces behind the Russian's rise to dominance—and the longings of Rain's own conflicted heart. It's a battle between kingpin and newcomer, master and apprentice, a zero-sum contest that can only end with one man dead and the other the world's foremost assassin.

FLOWERS, JEAN postmistres ADDRESSED TO KILL (#3) (\$10.99) Love is in the air for postmaster Cassie Miller and the residents of North Ashcot, Massachusetts. Valentine's Day is right around the corner, and the town is gearing up for a special dinner dance at the senior centre. With the local musical group performing at the dance displaced from their regular practice location, Cassie is all too happy to host them during off-hours at the post office. But not everything is coming up roses. When one of the musicians, Dennis Somerville, is found shot in his home, rumours swirl over who might have wanted him dead. Cassie must determine if there is a link between a string of recent break-ins and Dennis's murder before another victim winds up with more than a broken heart.

FLUKE, JOANNE STEPCHILD (\$8.99) Kathi Ellison is an English literature major at the University of California in Berkeley, living with her boyfriend off-campus. She is also the daughter of a candidate for the U.S. Senate. But before she can consider her future, Kathi must first come to terms with her past. A car accident when she was four-years-old killed her mother and left her in a coma for several days. The migraines and nightmares that plagued her as a child have recently returned with a vengeance, leaving her mind full of visions that feel more like memories. Memories that are not her own. Memories of a frightened and traumatized child named Sheri Walker. Memories linked to her mother's death that her stepmother doesn't want her to remember . . .

FLYNN, VINCE MITCH RAPP ORDER TO KILL (#15) (\$12.99) Mitch Rapp is used to winning. But thanks to several scheming and unscrupulous members of the Pakistani secret service, he finds himself chasing false leads from continent to continent in an effort to keep Pakistani nukes from falling into the hands of terrorists. Together with friend and colleague Scott Coleman, Rapp struggles to prevent the loss of these lethal weapons. Soon it becomes alarmingly clear that the forces in Moscow are bent on fomenting even more chaos and turmoil in the Middle East, and Rapp must go deep into Iraqi territory, posing as an American ISIS recruit. There, he uncovers a plan much more dangerous and insidious than he ever expected—one that could have far-reaching and catastrophic consequences.) After the death of **Mr. Flynn** in 2013, **KYLE MILLS** continued the Mitch Rapp series penning Number 14 The Survivor (\$12.99).

FOSSUM, KARIN sejer HELLFIRE (#12) (\$18.99) A mother and child are found

brutally murdered in an old caravan on a remote piece of land. A bloody footprint is discovered at the scene, and Chief Inspector Sejer is called to investigate. Meanwhile, another mother, dying of cancer, confesses to her 21-year-old son that he is adopted. The man who abandoned them, whom the boy has become obsessed by, is not his real father. Why do we lie to those closest to us?

FRENCH, TANA TRESPASSER (#6) (\$23) Being on the Murder squad is nothing like Detective Antoinette Conway dreamed it would be. Her partner, Stephen Moran, is the only person who seems glad she's there. The rest of her working life is a stream of thankless cases, vicious pranks, and harassment. Antoinette is savagely tough, but she's getting close to the breaking point. Their new case looks like yet another by-the-numbers lovers' quarrel gone bad. Aislinn Murray is blond, pretty, groomed to a shine, and dead in her catalogue-perfect living room, next to a table set for a romantic dinner. There's nothing unusual about her—except that Antoinette's seen her somewhere before. And that her death won't stay in its neat by-numbers box. Other detectives are trying to push Antoinette and Steve into arresting Aislinn's boyfriend, fast. Antoinette knows the harassment has turned her paranoid, but she can't tell just how far gone she is. Is this case another step in the campaign to force her off the squad, or are there darker currents flowing beneath its polished surface?

HAMILTON, VICTORIA muffin MUFFIN TO FEAR (#5) (\$10.99) While Merry is distracted by her quickly planned marriage to Virgil Grace and a blissful honeymoon in New York, her friend Pish invites the ghost-hunting crew from the TV show *Haunt Hunt* to investigate Merry's home, Wynter Castle. Merry soon discovers that not only is the crew out of sync, there are so many feuds and squabbles, it's a miracle they get a show produced at all. It all goes from bad to worse when the show's psychics claim to have contact with people murdered on Merry's property. When two cast members are found dead, Merry and Virgil must figure out who's picking off the *Haunt Hunt* team before their hard-earned happily ever after is cut short.

HAMMESFAHR, PETRA SINNER (\$22) On a sunny summer afternoon by the lake, Cora Bender stabs a complete stranger to death. Why? What would cause this quiet, kind young mother to commit such a startling act of violence in front of her family and friends? Cora quickly confesses and it seems like it's an open-and-shut case. But the police commissioner, haunted by these unanswered questions, refuses to close the file and begins his own maverick investigation. So begins the slow unraveling of Cora's past, a harrowing descent into the depths of her own psyche and the violent secrets buried within.

HARRIS, ROBERT CONCLAVE (\$12.99) The pope is dead. Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and eighteen cardinals from all over the globe will cast their votes in the world's most secretive election. They are holy men. But they have ambition. And they have rivals. Over the next seventy-two hours one of them will become the most powerful spiritual figure on Earth. A terrific read, says Marian.

HARTWELL, SADIE yarn YARNED AND DANGEROUS (#1) (\$8.99) Josie Blair finds herself heading back to her hometown. Her great-uncle was injured in a car accident and his wife didn't survive the crash, so Josie is tasked with selling the contents of her Aunt Cora's yarn shop, Miss Marple Knits, one of the few businesses still open in the dreary downtown. Josie can't imagine how it stayed open for so long, yet something about the cozy, resilient little shop appeals to her. But when one of the town's most pernickety knitters turns up dead in a pile of cashmere yarn, Josie realizes there's something truly twisted lurking beneath the town's decaying façade.

JAMES, ED fenchurch HOPE THAT KILLS (#1) (\$22.95) The body of a young woman is found on the streets of East London, in the shadow of the City's gleaming towers. No ID on her, just hard-earned cash. But there is no doubting the ferocity of the attack. DI Simon Fenchurch takes charge but, as his team tries to identify her and piece together her murder, they're faced with cruel indifference at every turn—nobody cares about yet another dead prostitute. To Fenchurch, however, she could just as easily be Chloe, his daughter still missing after ten years, whose memory still haunts his days and nights, his burning obsession having killed his marriage. Then a second body is discovered.

KAMAL, SHEENA LOST ONES (\$21.99) It begins with a phone call that Nora Watts has dreaded for fifteen years—since the day she gave her newborn daughter up for adoption. Bonnie has vanished. The police consider her a chronic runaway and aren't looking, leaving her desperate adoptive parents to reach out to her birth mother as a last hope. A biracial product of the foster system, transient, homeless, scarred by a past filled with pain and violence, Nora knows intimately what happens to vulnerable girls on the streets. Caring despite herself, she sets out to find Bonnie with her only companion, her mutt Whisper, knowing she risks reopening wounds that have never really healed—and plunging into the darkness with little to protect her but her instincts and a freakish ability to detect truth from lies. The search uncovers a puzzling conspiracy that leads Nora on a harrowing journey of deception and violence, all to save a girl she wishes had never been born. Debut novel and the first of a new series.

KELLERMAN, FAYE decker BONE BOX (#24) (\$12.50) On a crisp September morning, while walking a bucolic woodland trail, Rina stumbles upon human remains once buried deep beneath the forest floor. Immediately, she calls her husband, Peter Decker, a former detective lieutenant with the LAPD now working for the local Greenbury Police. The body has been interred for years and there is scant physical evidence at the gravesite: a youthful skeleton, a skull wound, and long, dark strands of hair surrounding the bones. As Decker and his partner, Tyler McAdams, investigate further, they realize that they're most likely dealing with a missing student from the nearby Five Colleges of Upstate—a well-known and well-respected consortium of higher learning. When more human remains are found in the same area, Decker and McAdams know this isn't just a one-off murder case.

KHAN, VASEEM ganesh STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE OF A BOLLYWOOD STAR (#3) (\$20.99) Mumbai is a city that thrives on extravagant spectacles and larger-than-life characters. But as Chopra is about to discover, even in the city of dreams, there is no guarantee of a happy ending. Rising star and incorrigible playboy Vikram Verma has disappeared, leaving his latest film in jeopardy. Hired by Verma's formidable mother to find him, Inspector Chopra and his sidekick, baby elephant Ganesha, embark on a journey deep into the world's most flamboyant movie industry. As they uncover feuding stars, failed investments and death threats, it seems that many people have a motive for wanting Verma out of the picture. And yet, as Chopra has long suspected, in Bollywood the truth is often stranger than fiction...The third in this delightful series, sequel to Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra (#1) (\$19.49) and Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown (#2) (\$20.99).

KORYTA, MICHAEL RISE THE DARK (\$12.99) *Rise the dark.* These were the last words written in Lauren Novak's notebook before she was murdered in a strange Florida village. They've never meant anything to the police or to her husband, investigator Markus Novak. Now the man he believes killed her is out of prison, and draws Markus to the place he's avoided for so long: the lonely road where his wife was shot to death beneath the cypress trees and Spanish moss in a town called Cassadaga.

KUKAFKA, DANYA GIRL IN SNOW (\$22) When a beloved high schooler named Lucinda Hayes is found murdered, no one in her sleepy Colorado suburb is untouched—not the boy who loved her too much; not the girl who wanted her perfect life; not the officer assigned to investigate her murder. In the aftermath of the tragedy, these three indelible characters—Cameron, Jade, and Russ—must each confront their darkest secrets in an effort to find solace, the truth, or both.

LEATHER, STEPHEN shepherd DARK FORCES (#13) (\$10.99) A violent South London gang will be destroyed if Dan 'Spider' Shepherd can gather enough evidence against them while posing as a ruthless hitman. What he doesn't know is that his work as an undercover agent for MI5 is about to intersect with the biggest terrorist operation ever carried out on British soil. Only weeks before Shepherd witnessed a highly skilled IS sniper escape from a targeted missile strike in Syria. But never in his wildest dreams did he expect to next come across the shooter in a grimy East London flat.

LEHTOLAINEN, LEENA kallio MY FIRST MURDER (#1) (\$21.95) After a student choir's practice session at a Helsinki villa turns deadly, Detective Maria Kallio finds herself in the middle of the action—and her first murder case. Someone in the group wanted playboy Tommi Peltonen dead, but that's one song these suspects refuse to sing. Behind the choir's jovial facade lies bitter passion, and the victim's seemingly perfect life hid a host of sins that made him a target of almost everyone in the villa. As a young female—and a redhead to boot—Maria knows that solving this case will help her overcome her perceived shortcoming in the eyes of her colleagues. But as the case takes startling twists and turns, and friends and foes become interchangeable, will she be able to piece together the clues before the killer strikes again?

LISS, DAVID DAY OF ATONEMENT (\$21) Sebastião Raposa is only thirteen when his parents are unjustly imprisoned, never to be seen again, and he is forced to flee Portugal lest he too fall victim to the Inquisition. But ten years in exile only serve to whet his appetite for vengeance. Returning at last to Lisbon, in the guise of English businessman Sebastian Foxx, he is no longer a frightened boy but a dangerous man tormented by violent impulses. Haunted by the spectre of all he has lost—including his exquisite first love—Foxx is determined to right old wrongs by punishing an unforgivable enemy with unrelenting fury.

LOVESEY, PETER diamond ANOTHER ONE GOES TONIGHT (#16) (\$19.95) En route to investigate a late-night disturbance, a patrol car spins off the road, killing one of the cops and leaving the other in critical condition. Detective Peter Diamond is assigned to look into the case. His supervisor is desperately hoping Diamond will not discover the officers were at fault. Instead, he discovers something even worse—a civilian on a motorized tricycle was involved in the crash and has been lying on the side of the road for hours. Diamond administers CPR, but the man's fate is unclear. Soon, though, Diamond becomes suspicious of the civilian victim and begins a private inquiry that leads to a trail of uninvestigated deaths. As the man lingers on life support, Diamond

wrestles with the fact that he may have saved the life of a serial killer.

MARKS, MARY quilting KNOT WHAT YOU THINK (#5) (\$8.99) Martha Rose is alarmed by the discovery of Dolleen Doyle's dead body, especially when evidence suggests a fellow quilter committed the crime. Set on clearing her pal, Martha searches for answers—but with ties to a convicted fraudster's stolen millions and a secret office room, the victim's past raises even more questions. As Martha inches towards the culprit, she learns that wrapping the case up—and living to baste another square—will be trickier than she ever imagined. . . .

MEIER, LESLIE lucy stone BRITISH MANOR MURDER (#23) (\$8.99) Although the earl of the house and his sister are surprisingly accommodating to their jetlagged guests, Lucy feels uneasy after a fallen portrait sparks talk of a deadly family omen. The bad vibes come in quickly—snobby Aunt Millicent and her handmaiden Harrison unexpectedly drop by for the exhibition, and meals with the family are consistently tense. But real trouble begins when a body, bludgeoned by the chapel's gold-plated reliquary, is found in a hidden, sealed off room. Stranger still, the corpse is identified as Harrison's son, Cyril. While Cyril wasn't exactly a gentleman, and it's unclear what business he had on the property, one thing's for sure—the criminal is privy to Moreton Manor secrets. And Lucy has a hunch that the killer has been in her company all along, just waiting for a chance to make blueblood run red. . . .

MEYER, STEPHENIE CHEMIST (\$22.49) She used to work for the U.S. government, but very few people ever knew that. An expert in her field, she was one of the darkest secrets of an agency so clandestine it doesn't even have a name. And when they decided she was a liability, they came for her without warning. Now she rarely stays in the same place or uses the same name for long. They've killed the only other person she trusted, but something she knows still poses a threat. They want her dead, and soon. When her former handler offers her a way out, she realizes it's her only chance to erase the giant target on her back. But it means taking one last job for her ex-employers. . . .

MOURON, QUENTIN THREE DROPS OF BLOOD AND A CLOUD OF COCA (\$21.50) A 25-year-old Swiss novelist's first mystery novel, which garnered ecstatic reviews in the French-speaking world, now available in English. "...a darkly humorous literary and psychological mystery set in a Boston still suffering from the consequences of the financial crisis. Written with the pace and controlled violence of the very best Tarantino film." When old Jimmy Henderson is found murdered in his Ford pick-up truck in a suburb of Boston, Sheriff Paul McCarthy takes charge of the investigation. Soon, Franck, a young private detective visiting from New York, also takes an interest in the case. Breaking the conventions of the genre, the novel holds a satirical mirror to our society by entering the minds of two men right on the edge of sanity

MUKHERJEE, ABIR NECESSARY EVIL (#2) (\$27.99) India, 1920. Captain Wyndham and Sergeant Banerjee of the Calcutta Police Force investigate the dramatic assassination of a Maharajah's son. The fabulously wealthy kingdom of Sambalpore is home to tigers, elephants, diamond mines and the beautiful Palace of the Sun. But when the heir to the throne is assassinated in the presence of Captain Sam Wyndham and Sergeant 'Surrender-Not' Banerjee, they discover a kingdom riven with suppressed conflict. Prince Adhir was a moderniser whose attitudes—and romantic relationship—may have upset the more religious elements of his country, while his brother—now in line to the throne—appears to be a feckless playboy. As Wyndham and Banerjee desperately try to unravel the mystery behind the assassination, they become entangled in a dangerous world where those in power live by their own rules and those who cross their paths pay with their lives. The first in this series is The Rising Man (\$18.99). Just a terrific read, says Marian.

MULLER, MARCIA mecone SOMEONE ALWAYS KNOWS (#31) (\$10.49) Finally settled into their new home after losing their house in a fire, and fully established in their new shared offices, private investigator Sharon McCone and her business partner husband Hy are starting to feel comfortable. That calm is shattered when Hy's former colleague Gage Renshaw—a shady troublemaker who they had presumed dead—reappears, and it's unclear what he wants from his prosperous former associate. Meanwhile, Sharon has a new client with a desire to rid a derelict house he's just bought in the city's notorious Western Addition neighbourhood from intruders, drug users, and thugs. However, the abandoned house holds its share of secrets, and soon Sharon is contending with more than a simple eyesore as she searches for the individual who is obsessed with destroying her life. . . .

PARIS, B A BREAKDOWN (\$24.99) Cass is having a hard time since the night she saw the car in the woods, on the winding rural road, in the middle of a downpour, with the woman sitting inside—the woman who was killed. She's been trying to put the crime out of her mind; what could she have done, really? It's a dangerous road to be on in the middle of a storm. Her husband would be furious if he knew she'd broken her promise not to take that shortcut home. And she probably would only have been hurt herself if she'd stopped. But since then, she's been forgetting every little thing: where

she left the car, if she took her pills, the alarm code, why she ordered a pram when she doesn't have a baby. The only thing she can't forget is that woman, the woman she might have saved, and the terrible nagging guilt. Or the silent calls she's receiving, or the feeling that someone's watching her...

PARSONS, TONY wolfe DIE LAST (#4) (\$27.99) As dawn breaks on a snowy February morning, a refrigerated lorry is found parked in the heart of London's Chinatown. Inside twelve women, apparently illegal immigrants, are dead from hypothermia. But in the cab of the abandoned death truck, DC Max Wolfe of West End Central finds thirteen passports. Twelve dead women. Thirteen passports. What happened to the one who survived? The hunt for the missing woman will take Max Wolfe into the dark heart of the world of human smuggling, mass migration and 21st century slave markets. A world where the borders are coming down and the blackest forces in history are once again on the rise.

PATTERSON, JAMES NEVER NEVER (\$20.99) Never...Assume you know someone. Accept a reassignment to the middle of nowhere "for your own good." Trust anyone. Go anywhere without leaving a trace.

PETERS, ELIZABETH peabody FALCON AT THE PORTAL (#11) (\$18.50) Re-issue.

PETRIE, NICHOLAS ash BURNING BRIGHT (#2) (\$13.50) War veteran Peter Ash sought peace and quiet among the towering redwoods of northern California, but the trip isn't quite the balm he'd hoped for. The dense forest and close fog cause his claustrophobia to buzz and spark, and then he stumbles upon a grizzly, long thought to have vanished from this part of the country. In a fight of man against bear, Peter doesn't favor his odds, so he makes a strategic retreat up a nearby sapling. There, he finds something strange: a climbing rope, affixed to a distant branch above. It leads to another, and another, up through the giant tree canopy, and ending at a hanging platform. On the platform is a woman on the run. From below them come the sounds of men and gunshots...Excellent sequel to the equally excellent Drifter (#1) (\$11.99).

POLLOCK, DONALD RAY HEAVENLY TABLE (\$22) In 1917, in that sliver of border land between Georgia and Alabama, Pearl Jewett ekes out an existence as a dispossessed farmer along with his three criminally-minded sons Cane, Cob, and Chimney. Hundreds of miles away, another farming family, the good-natured Fiddlers, have been swindled out of their family fortune while reeling from the disappearance of their son Eddie, who left to fight the Germans. When a crime spree sets the Jewetts on a collision course for the Fiddlers, an unlikely—and turbulent—relationship begins between the families.

POTZSCH, OLIVER CASTLE OF KINGS (\$22.50) In 1524, in what is now Germany, hundreds of thousands of peasants revolted against the harsh treatment of their aristocratic overlords. Agnes is the daughter of one of these overlords, but she is not a typical sixteenth-century girl, refusing to wear dresses and spending more time with her pet falcon than potential suitors. There is only one suitor she is interested in: Mathis, a childhood friend whom she can never marry due to his low birth status. In the midst of war, Agnes's falcon finds a mysterious ring, and Agnes begins having strange but seemingly meaningful dreams. Dreams that lead her and Mathis to run away from their home in Trifels Castle and into the midst of the tumultuous Peasants' War, cast into an adventure that will lead them to shocking revelations about themselves and the future of the emerging German states. From the author of the Hangman's Daughter series.

RANKIN, IAN rebus RATHER BE THE DEVIL (#21) (\$15.99) John Rebus can't close the door on the death of glamorous socialite Maria Turquand. Brutally murdered in her hotel room forty years ago, her killer has never been found. Meanwhile, Edinburgh's dark heart is up for grabs. Young Darryl Christie may have staked his claim, but has criminal mastermind and Rebus' long-time adversary, Big Ger Cafferty, really settled down to a quiet retirement? Or is he hiding in the shadows until Edinburgh is once more ripe for the picking?

REDONDO, DOLORES salazar LEGACY OF THE BONES (#2) (\$16.99) Set in Basque country, Spain, part two of a trilogy featuring Insp. Amaia Salazar and sequel to Invisible Guardian (#1) (\$16.99).

ROBERTS, NORA seven PAGAN STONE (#3) (\$10.49) When the young woman—dazed, naked, and bloody—wanders in front of their car, Roarke slams on the brakes just in time, and Eve, Lieutenat Eve Dallas, that is—still in glittering gown and heels—springs into action. It's been a long night for the tired homicide cop, and it's far from over.

ROBINSON, PETER FRIEND OF THE DEVIL (#17) (\$21.95) A re-issue.

ROBSON, AMANDA OBSESSION (\$21.99) He's not your husband, he's hers. Two couples. A doctor's surgery. A deadly obsession. Who's telling the truth?

ROTENBERG, ROBERT HEART OF THE CITY (#5) (\$24.95) When Detective Ari Greene was charged with the murder of the woman he loved, he stopped at nothing to clear his name and uncover the real killer. After his acquittal, Greene fled to London to get away from it all, but now he's back. And he's not alone—with Greene is his twenty-

year-old daughter, Alison. The child he never knew he had. Determined to leave his life as a cop behind him, Greene gets a job on a construction site for one of Toronto's many new condos. It seems he has finally found peace as he settles into a new career and new role as father, helping Alison adjust to life in Canada. But when Greene stumbles upon the corpse of hated developer Livingston Fox, he is plunged back into the life he tried so hard to leave behind.

SNOEKSTRA, ANNA ONLY DAUGHTER (\$9.99) In 2003, sixteen-year-old Rebecca Winter disappeared. She'd been enjoying her summer working at a fast-food restaurant, crushing on an older boy and shoplifting with her best friend. Then ominous things began to happen—a presence in her room at night, blackouts, a feeling of being watched. Eleven years later, she is replaced. A young woman, desperate after being arrested, claims to be the decade-missing Bec. Soon the imposter is living Bec's life. Sleeping in her bed. Hugging her mother and father. Playing with her little brothers. But Bec's welcoming family and enthusiastic friends are not quite as they seem. As the imposter dodges the detective investigating her case, she begins to delve into the life of the real Bec Winter—and soon realizes that whoever took Bec is still at large, and that she is in imminent danger.

SOLES, CARO A FRIEND OF MR. NIJINSKY (\$23) When the great Nijinsky arrives in New York to a tumultuous welcome in April 1916, young Morgan Vanheusen braves his father's wrath by helping the dancer steal away from his family's estate during a charity event. An unlikely alliance blossoms and Morgan becomes known as "a friend of Mr. Nijinsky." Doors open and he grabs the opportunity to get back to racing the motorcars he loves. But as the young American is drawn in to Nijinsky's paranoid world, he is pulled into a murder investigation and discovers a side of his city he never knew existed. Then his sister is kidnapped by a mad Russian and only his new "friend" can save her. Can Morgan count on the eccentric dancer to rescue his sister? You actually feel like you are in New York, the atmosphere is heady with everyone trying to get a piece of the famous Mr. Nijinsky.

STAINCLIFFE, CATH SILENCE BETWEEN BREATHS (\$15.99) Passengers boarding the 10.35 train from Manchester Piccadilly to London Euston are bound for work, assignments, reunions, holidays or new starts, with no idea that their journey is about to be brutally curtailed. Amidst the Hollys and Jeffs, the Nazis and Nicks, and the Carolines and Megs...sits Saheel, carrying a deadly rucksack.

WAIT, REBECCA FOLLOWERS (\$22) Judith has been visiting her mother, Stephanie, in prison once a month for the last eight years. She still can't bring herself to talk with her mother about what brought them here—or about Nathaniel, the man whose religious cult almost cost them their lives. When Stephanie first meets him, she is a struggling single mother and Nathaniel is a charismatic outsider, unlike anyone she's ever known. In deciding to join the small religious cult he has founded, Stephanie thinks she is doing the best thing for her daughter: a new home, a new purpose. Judith and Stephanie are initiated into a secret society whose "followers" must obey the will of a zealous prophet. As Stephanie immerses herself in her new life, Judith slowly realizes the moral implications of the strict lifestyle Nathaniel preaches. Tensions deepen, faith and doubt collide, and a horrifying act of violence changes everything. In the shattering aftermath, it seems that no one is safe.

WARE, RUTH LYING GAME (\$24.99) *"I need you."* Three small words that change everything. Isa Wilde knows something terrible has happened when she receives this text from an old friend. Why else would Kate summon her and their two friends Thea and Fatima to the seaside town where they briefly attended school together seventeen years ago? The four friends first met at Salten House boarding school, where they quickly bonded over The Lying Game, a risky contest that involved tricking fellow boarders and faculty with their lies. But the game had consequences, and now, years later, the proverbial chickens...

WATSON, LARRY AS GOOD AS GONE (\$23.95) It's 1963, and Calvin Sidey, one of the last of the old cowboys, has long ago left his family to live a life of self-reliance out on the prairie. He's been a mostly absentee father and grandfather until his estranged son asks him to stay with his grandchildren, Ann and Will, for a week while he and his wife are away. So Calvin agrees to return to the small town where he once was a mythic figure, to the very home he once abandoned. But trouble soon comes to the door when a boy's attentions to seventeen-year-old Ann become increasingly aggressive and a group of reckless kids portend danger for eleven-year-old Will. Calvin knows only one way to solve problems: the Old West way.

WELSH, IRVINE BLADE ARTIST (\$18.99) Jim Francis has finally found the perfect life—and is now unrecognisable, even to himself. A successful painter and sculptor, he lives quietly with his wife, Melanie, and their two young daughters, in an affluent beach town in California. Some say he's a fake and a con man, while others see him as a genuine visionary. But Francis has a very dark past, with another identity and a very different set of values. When he crosses the Atlantic to his native Scotland, for the funeral of a murdered son he barely knew, his old Edinburgh community expects him to take

bloody revenge. But as he confronts his previous life, all those friends and enemies—and, most alarmingly, his former self—Francis seems to have other ideas. When Melanie discovers something gruesome in California, which indicates that her husband's violent past might also be his psychotic present, things start to go very bad, very quickly. The return of one of modern fiction's most infamous, terrifying characters, the incendiary Francis Begbie from Trainspotting (\$18.99).

WILKSHIRE, NICK foreign ESCAPE TO HAVANA (#1) (\$15.99) With his career stalled and the office abuzz about his soon-to-be-ex-wife's indiscretions, Ottawa bureaucrat Charlie Hillier is desperate for a change. So, when the chance at a posting to the Canadian embassy in Havana comes up, he jumps at it, grateful to get as far away as he can from his ex and his dead-end job at Foreign Affairs headquarters. At first, exotic Havana seems just the place to bury his past and start anew, but he didn't count on finding a couple of kilos of cocaine under his bedroom floor, the kidnapping of a fellow diplomat, or the unsettling connection he uncovers between the former occupant of his house and a Colombian drug-runner. Before long, Charlie's only concern is whether he'll survive his posting at all.

WINTERS, BEN UNDERGROUND AIRLINES (\$20.99) It is the present-day, and the world is as we know it: smartphones, social networking and Happy Meals. Save for one thing: the Civil War never occurred. A young black man calling himself Victor has struck a bargain with federal law enforcement, working as a bounty hunter for the US Marshall Service in exchange for his freedom. He's got plenty of work. In this version of America, slavery continues in four states called "the Hard Four." On the trail of a runaway known as Jackdaw, Victor arrives in Indianapolis knowing that something isn't right—with the case file, with his work, and with the country itself. As he works to infiltrate the local cell of an abolitionist movement called the Underground Airlines, tracking Jackdaw, Victor believes he's hot on the trail. But his strange, increasingly uncanny pursuit is complicated by a boss who won't reveal the extraordinary stakes of Jackdaw's case, as well as by a heartbreaking young woman and her child, who may be Victor's salvation.