



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

December 2016

Another year comes to a close. Like most years, this one had its share of exciting moments, although, for the most part, life marches on pretty uneventfully. We “celebrated” thirty-four years of our owning and operating Sleuth, thirty-seven years of its existence, and the arrival of Miss Pixie. What a cutie she is, what a pleasure she’s turning out to be. Percy is not entirely pleased; hates it when she plays with his toys. Quite funny to watch him get up and rescue his toys the instant she puts them down! He’s spoken to her sharply a few times, but, on the whole, he tolerates her well enough. I try to pay him lots of attention, and make sure to tell him that he’s the best boy in the whole world.

And, as we do every year, Marian and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support, your friendship, your generosity. We learn a great deal from our customers; your recommendations and suggestions are always welcome. Your support allows us to continue doing what we love doing and keeping the bookstore going. Not sure who’d hire me at this stage, so I may as well keep the bookstore going. Winters are getting to be a pain, however. I swore that fifty winters would be enough for one lifetime, but #50 was a few years back!

So, here’s wishing you all the best of the season, a very merry Christmas, happy holidays. May the coming year bring you nothing but health and happiness.

JD's Picks

It was the quote from **Craig Johnson**, the author of the Walt Longmire series—one of the finest series being written these days, in my humble opinion—that caught my eye: “**J. TODD SCOTT**’s The Far Empty (\$35) is so good I wish I’d written it.” That was enough for me to give this a whirl. The other quotes were equally laudatory, but, for me, superfluous. The author has been a federal agent with the DEA for many years, working cases investigating international maritime smuggling, domestic meth labs, and Mexican cartels and this is his debut novel. The story is told from numerous points of view—17-year-old Caleb, his father the tough, violent, feared Sheriff of the town, Deputy Chris Cherry, the revered high-school football hero, his wife Melissa, Anne, the

The Merchant of Menace,

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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.

new school teacher, among others. Seventeen-year-old Caleb Ross is adrift in the wake of the sudden disappearance of his mother more than a year ago, and is struggling to find his way out of the small Texas border town of Murfee. Chris Cherry is a newly minted sheriff's deputy, a high school football hero who has reluctantly returned to his hometown. When skeletal remains are discovered in the surrounding badlands, the two are inexorably drawn together as their efforts to uncover Murfee's darkest secrets lead them to the same terrifying suspect: Caleb's father and Chris's boss, the charismatic and feared Sheriff Stanford "Judge" Ross. Dark, elegiac, and violent, The Far Empty is a modern Western, a story of loss and escape set along the sharp edge of the Texas border.

A terrific read, a terrific story. And, high praise, indeed from one of my favourite writers. Thank you, Mr. Johnson for bringing it to my attention.

Although **TORQUIL MACLEOD's** first Insp. Sundstrom novel, Meet Me in Malmo (#1) (\$21.95) was published in 2010, the book did not become available in Canada until mid-2015. The publisher has made up for that delay as the next three in the series, written in 2013 and 2015, are now all available in trade paperback. I recently started the first and enjoyed it very much. Although the series is billed as the Insp. Sundstrom series and set in Sweden, in this first one, our hero is really an English journalist from

HOURS OF BUSINESS

DECEMBER 2016- JANUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	12th closed	13th closed	14th 10-6	15th 10-6	16th 10-6	17th 10-6
18th 12-4	19th 10-7	20th 10-7	21st 10-7	22nd 10-7	23rd 10-7	24th 10-4
25th closed	26th closed	27th 10-6	28th 10-6	29th 10-6	30th 10-6	31st 10-4
1st closed	2nd closed	3rd closed	4th closed	5th 10-6	6th 10-6	7th 10-6

Newcastle who manages an exclusive interview with a Scottish filmmaker who has made it very big in Sweden—billed as the new Ingmar Bergman. The two were school-mates a long time ago and now they are going to meet in Malmo and catch up. And, as they say, the game's afoot. I very much enjoyed it.

Last month I told you how much I had enjoyed **LIZ NUGENT's** Lying in Wait (\$27.99) and that I was going to on to her first novel, Unravelling Oliver (\$16.99). Well, I did go on to read Unravelling and I was equally impressed. Oliver is a bit of a sociopath in the making. He is handsome, charismatic, successful. He lives in the suburbs with his devoted wife, illustrator of his children's books. Their life is one of enviable ease and privilege—until, one evening after supper, he attacks and beats her into a coma. Very Ruth Rendell or Patricia Highsmith. Winner of the Irish Book Awards Crime Fiction Book of the Year 2014.

Marian's Picks

When it rains, it pours. Is that the saying? (*Wasn't that the slogan for Sifto salt?*) I found a lump on Percy and the biopsy came back as Sarcoma. It was recommended by his vets not to have the lump removed, so my poor dog now has two different cancers in his body. What next? To look at him you would never know that he was poorly. He's alert, active and happily goes for long walks. You know that other saying, live better chemically? Well, he is on regular doses of pain medication and that seems to help a great deal. The little rascal, Princess Pixie Dust—Pixie for short—his new sister, is keeping him a tad more active than he'd like; he's not amused. There are a couple of photos of Percy and Pixie on Sleuth's Facebook Page. She is quite a handful and already, at twelve weeks, you can tell she is going to grow into a big dog. She is a Standard Poodle, and that's the only thing "standard" about her; she's extraordinary in every way. Both kids are from the same breeder, and, share grandparents.

Needless to say I have not read much this past month, so my Pickings are slim. Conclave (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$42 hardcover) by **ROBERT HARRIS** caught my attention because the first print run of the trade paperback sold out immediately and we had to wait a bit for the reprint. Guess they seriously underestimated the demand! Or maybe it was the rich-red-coloured dust cover that caught my eye. The pope is dead and behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and eighteen cardinals from all over the world will elect a new pope. This is an insider's view (supposedly) of what happens when there is a conclave to elect the pope. It's quite the story, presumably fiction, with all the back stabbing, strategizing, intrigue that might surround the ambitious cardinals who want to become pope. You get a detailed account of the art, accommodations, processes involved in the sequestering the cardinals and the voting process. Absolutely fascinating. An excellent thriller.

On a completely different note, Prose and Cons (#2) (\$10.99) by **AMANDA FLOWER** is the second in the series featuring Violet Waverly and Grandma Daisy who run Charming Books, a magical bookshop with a talking crow, a very clever cat and a tree growing right up through the middle of the store. Yes, I know, I know, but I loved the first one in the series, Crime and Poetry (\$10.49), and I needed a diversion, so there you are. In Prose and Cons, tourists are pouring into the small village for the annual Food and Wine Festival, and Grandma Daisy hopes to draw those crowds to the store. She asks Violet and the local writing group, the Red Inkers, to give a reading of the works of Edgar Allan Poe in the shop's back garden to entertain the tourists. But one of the writers dies during the event and the shop magically tells Violet she'll need to rely on Poe's works to solve the murder. Under the name of **ISABELLA ALAN** she writes the Amish Quilt Shop Mysteries.

A couple of quick reminders: The Promise (\$13.50) by **ROBERT CRAIS** is now out in paperback. Do you remember The Suspect (\$11.99) which introduced former Marine Corp dog Maggie and her handler Officer James? Well, The Promise has Maggie and James working with Elvis Cole and Joe Pike on a case. Both are terrific reads. If you haven't read **ADRIAN MCKINTY** then try Cold Cold Ground (\$17). It introduces Sean Duffy, a Catholic policeman, working with his Protestant colleagues in Belfast during the Troubles. There are four other titles in the trilogy: I Hear the Sirens in the Street (#2), In the Morning I'll be gone (#3), Gun Street Girl (#4) and Rain Dogs (#5) (\$17 each) with the sixth due March 2017. Excellent. Fabulous. Superb.

The sequel to the brilliant Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra (#1) (\$19.49) by **VASEEM KHAN** arrived in August so don't forget to give it a go as well. It's titled The Perplexing Theft of the Jewel in the Crown (#2) (\$19.49). When the British Crown Jewels go on display in Mumbai, security is everyone's principal concern. And yet, on the very day Inspector Chopra visits the exhibition, the Koh-i-Noor diamond is stolen from under his nose. The heist was daring and seemingly impossible. The hunt is on for the culprits. But it soon becomes clear that only one man, and his elephant, can possibly crack this case. Both were great fun.

Hardbacks

ARCHER, JEFFREY clifton THIS WAS A MAN (#7) (\$34.99) The final installment of the Clifton Chronicles, a series of seven novels. Harry Clifton sets out to write his magnum opus, while his wife Emma completes her ten years as Chairman of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and receives an unexpected call from Margaret Thatcher offering her a job.

AXAT, FEDERICO KILL THE NEXT ONE (\$34) Ted McKay had it all: a beautiful wife, two daughters, a high-paying job. But after being diagnosed with a terminal brain tumor he finds himself with a gun to his temple, ready to pull the trigger. Then the doorbell rings. A stranger makes him a proposition: why not kill two deserving men before dying? The first target is a criminal, and the second is a man with terminal cancer who, like Ted, wants to die. After executing these kills, Ted will become someone else's next target, like a kind of suicidal daisy chain. Ted understands the stranger's logic: it's easier for a victim's family to deal with a murder than with a suicide. However, as Ted commits the murders, the crime scenes strike him as odd. The targets know him by name and possess familiar mementos. Even more bizarrely, Ted recognizes locations and men he shouldn't know. As Ted's mind begins to crack, dark secrets from his past seep through the fissures.

BALDACCI, DAVID puller NO MANS LAND (#4) (\$38) Special Agent John Puller, combat veteran and the army's most tenacious investigator, is back. Thirty years ago, when Puller was just a boy, his mother, Jackie, vanished from Fort Monroe, Virginia. 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. Military investigators, armed with a letter from a friend of Jackie's, arrive in the hospital room of Puller's father—a legendary three-star now sinking into dementia—and reveal that Puller Sr. has been accused of murdering Jackie. Aided by his brother Robert Puller, an Air Force major, and Veronica Knox, who works for a shadowy U.S. intelligence organization, Puller begins a journey that will take him into his own past, to find the truth about his mother.

BUCKLEY, FIONA blacchard HERETIC'S CREED (#14) (\$43.50) *February, 1577.* Sir William Cecil has a dangerous new mission for Ursula Blanchard. He has asked her to visit Stonemoor House on the bleak Yorkshire moors, the home of a group of recusant women led by Abbess Philippa Gould. In their possession is an ancient book, and the Queen's advisor, Dr. John Dee, is eager to get hold of it. However, while the Abbess is anxious to sell the book, others such as her half-sister Bella believe it to be heretical and demand that it be burned. It is not Sir William's first attempt to secure the book. His two previous emissaries vanished without trace. What happened to them—and will Ursula suffer the same fate?

BURNET, GRAEME MACRAE HIS BLOODY PROJECT (\$34.99) Man Booker Prize Shortlist Finalist. A brutal triple murder in a remote Scottish farming community in 1869 leads to the arrest of seventeen-year-old Roderick Macrae. There is no question that Macrae committed this terrible act. What would lead such a shy and intelligent boy down this bloody path? And will he hang for his crime?

COHEN, TAMMY DYING FOR CHRISTMAS (\$34.95) Out Christmas shopping one December afternoon, Jessica Gould meets the charming Dominic Lacey and impulsively agrees to go home with him for a drink. What follows is a Twelve Days of Christmas from hell as Lacey holds Jessica captive, forcing her to wear his missing wife's gowns and eat lavish holiday meals. Each day he gifts her with one item from his twisted past—his dead sister's favorite toy, disturbing family photos, a box of teeth. As the days pass and the "gifts" become darker and darker, Jessica realizes that Lacey has a plan for her, and he never intends to let her go. But Jessica has a secret of her own ... a secret that may just mean she has a chance to make it out alive.

CROSBY, ELLEN wine country CHAMPAGNE CONSPIRACY (#7) (\$36.99) Winter has come to the Montgomery Estate Vineyard in Atoka, Virginia. Lucie Montgomery and winemaker Quinn Santori have decided to make champagne, a first for the vineyard. But then Gino Tomassi, Quinn's uncle, turns up on their doorstep one afternoon, demanding help in solving the mystery of what happened to Zara Tomassi, the first wife of his grandfather, who died in a San Francisco hotel in 1923 under suspicious circumstances. And it seems there's no coincidence that her death came the day after President Warren Harding passed away in that same hotel. Lucie searches for what happened almost a hundred years ago as she delves into Prohibition-era Washington, D.C.—a town of bootlegging and duplicity, jazz clubs and speakeasies. But then the investigation turns deadly, threatening Lucie, her relationship with Quinn, and the vineyard, as they realize someone is still out there nearly a century later who will go to any lengths

to keep the truth about Zara's death a buried secret.

DOYLE/SHAW, F C SHERLOCK ACADEMY (#1) (\$22) Young Adult. When Rollie and his best friend, Cecily, are invited to attend the mysterious Sherlock Academy of Fine Sleuths, where children learn the art of detection just like the great Sherlock Holmes, they discover a strange burglary has been committed and a mystery is afoot. Determined to investigate, Rollie discovers that appearances can be deceiving, the truth can be hurtful and friends sometimes turn into foes.

DOYLE/SHAW, F C SHERLOCK ACADEMY (#2) WATSONS CASE (\$22) Young Adult. In book two of the Sherlock Academy series, mysteries await Rollie Wilson at the Sherlock Academy of Fine Sleuths. It has been several weeks since the evil Herr Zilch tried to steal from the academy's secret library. When Rollie finds a note from Zilch in a wastepaper basket, Headmaster Yardsly asks Rollie to help discover who Zilch's "mole" is. Rollie's Great Auntie Ei has sent him an antique newspaper from 1894 reporting on one of Sherlock Holmes's cases. What appears to be old news is actually a secret map hidden within the paper's pages. Rollie must decipher the map, then discover the Academy's secrets before the mole can hand them over to Herr Zilch. With his best friend Cecily at his side, Rollie is determined to catch the spy, all while dealing with his odious roommate, his mysterious great-aunt, and the school's new teacher.

DOYLE/SHAW, F C SHERLOCK ACADEMY (#3) HOLMES BRIGADE (\$22) Young Adult. Sherlock Academy is out for Christmas break, but Rollie and Cecily are ready to solve their third mystery. When Rollie finds a letter in his great aunt's study questioning his decision to attend Sherlock Academy, he confronts her and finds out that his aunt can be just as determined and stubborn as he is about keeping secrets. Aunt Ei's secretive manners aren't the only mystery brewing: an agent from Scotland Yard and Wesley arrive at Rollie's house for protection, having just barely escaped from the clutches of Herr Zilch's henchmen. Even with the fun of friends and the holiday, Rollie still spies strange happenings at Herr Zilch's old mansion and goes with Cecily and Wesley to investigate. Between his grumpy aunt, protecting Wesley, and exploring Zilch's mansion, Rollie holiday turns out to be more than he expected.

ERIKSSON, KJELL lindell STONE COFFIN (#7) (\$36.99) One sunny summer morning a young woman and her six-year old daughter are run over by a car. Both are killed immediately. Is it an accident, or did someone kill them on purpose? The same morning the husband of the deceased young woman disappears. During the police investigation, it turns out that the husband had recently bought a property that nobody knew anything about. A few days later a macabre discovery is made in a forest nearby.

FRANCIS, FELIX TRIPLE CROWN (\$42) There being no sign of the Canadian edition of this book, we have decided to smuggle in some copies of the US hardcover. Expensive—the dollar being what it is—and please call and make sure that we have received stock. Jeff Hinkley, investigator for the British Horseracing Authority, has been seconded to the US Federal Anti-Corruption in Sports Agency (FACSA) where he has been asked to find a mole in their organization—an informant who is passing on confidential information to those under suspicion in American racing. At the Kentucky Derby, Jeff joins the FACSA team in a raid on a horse trainer's barn at Churchill Downs, but the bust is a disaster, and someone ends up dead. Then, on the morning of the Derby itself, three of the most favored horses in the field fall sick. These suspicious events can be no coincidence. In search of answers, Jeff goes undercover as a groom on the backstretch at Belmont Park racetrack in New York. But he discovers far more than he was bargaining for: corrupt individuals who will stop at nothing—including murder—to capture the most elusive prize in world sport, the Triple Crown.

HARRIS, ROBERT CONCLAVE (\$42 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) 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.

HARROD-EAGLES, C slider OLD BONES (#19) (\$42) A young couple discover human remains buried in the garden of their new house: could this be the resting place of 14-year-old Amanda Knight, who disappeared from the same garden two decades before, and was never seen again? The problem comes almost as a relief to DCI Slider, still suffering from the fallout of his previous case. He is not popular with the Powers That Be, and his immediate boss, Detective Superintendent Porson, reckons that at least this little puzzle will keep Slider out of trouble. After all, with a murder twenty years in the past, this is the coldest of cold cases. Most of the suspects and principal players are now dead too, and all passion is long spent ... Or is it?

HEOS, BRIDGET BLOOD BULLETS AND BONES STORY OF FORENSI (\$23.99) Forensic analysis has been practiced for thousands of years. Ancient Chinese detectives studied dead bodies for signs of foul play, and in Victorian England, officials used crime scene photography and criminal profiling to investigate the Jack the Ripper murders. In the intervening decades, forensic science has evolved to use the most cut-

ting-edge, innovative techniques and technologies. In this book, the author uses real-life cases to tell the history of modern forensic science, from the first test for arsenic poisoning to fingerprinting, firearm and blood spatter analysis, DNA evidence, and all the important milestones in between.

HIGASHINO, KEIGO UNDER THE MIDNIGHT SUN (\$38.99) From the author of The Devotion of Suspect X (\$18.50)...the story of a brutal crime and the two teenagers—Ryo, the son of the murdered man, and Yukiho, the daughter of the main suspect—whose lives remain inextricably linked over the twenty-year search for the truth behind the crime. In Osaka in 1973, the body of a murdered man is found in an abandoned building. Investigating the crime, Detective Sasagaki is unable to find the killer. Over the next twenty years, through the lens of a succession of characters, Higashino tells the story of the two teens whose lives are most affected by the crime, and the obsessed detective, Sasagaki, who continues to investigate the murder, looking for the elusive truth.

HUNT, ANDREW art oveson DESOLATION FLATS (#3) (\$37.99) In the summer of 1938, as war clouds loom overseas, auto racers from around the world gather at the Bonneville Salt Flats west of Salt Lake City, intent on breaking the land-speed record. But when Clive Underhill, a wealthy English motorist, mysteriously disappears and his younger brother, Nigel, is found dead, Art Oveson of the Salt Lake City Missing Persons Bureau is called to investigate. His older brother, FBI Agent Frank Oveson, helps out and tries to prevent his kid brother from discovering dark truths that may threaten his life.

PATTERSON, JAMES cross CROSS THE LINE (#24) (\$38) After shots pierce the tranquil nighttime calm of Rock Creek Park, a man is dead: what looks at first like road rage might be something much more sinister. But Alex has only just begun asking questions when he's called across town to investigate a new murder, one that hits close to home: Washington's own chief of detectives. And Alex's former boss, beloved mentor of Alex's wife, Bree. Now there's a killer on the loose, a long list of possible suspects, a city in panic, and nobody in charge of the besieged police force. Until Bree gets tapped for the job. As Bree scrambles to find her footing and close two high-profile cases, new violence stuns the capital.

PUBLIKUMART SH HARDCOVER JOURNAL (\$12) A great companion for thinkers or artists to put their thoughts, notes, and sketches...these blank journals include intriguing quotes and unique illustrations from literary classics on cream colored, acid free, archival quality, lined pages.

ROWLING, J K FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM: The Original Screenplay (\$29.99) When Magizoologist Newt Scamander arrives in New York, he intends his stay to be just a brief stopover. However, when his magical case is misplaced and some of Newt's fantastic beasts escape, it spells trouble for everyone. Rowling's screenwriting debut.

SIGURDARDOTTIR, YRSA WHY DID YOU LIE? (\$32.99) A journalist on the track of an old case attempts suicide...An ordinary couple return from a house swap in the states to find their home in disarray and their guests seemingly missing...Four strangers struggle to find shelter on a windswept spike of rock in the middle of a raging sea...They have one thing in common: *they all lied*. And someone is determined to punish them...

STOCKWIN, JULIAN INFERNO (#17) (\$34.99) 1807. Although Britain's Navy remains imperious at sea, a succession of battles has seen Napoleon Bonaparte victorious on mainland Europe. His enemies have sued for peace and the Emperor's Continental System, establishing a European blockade, will mean that Britain will be cut off from her economic lifeblood. But not if they can persuade neutral Denmark, which controls the straits through which the entire Baltic Trade passes, to give up their fleet to Britain. But the Danes are caught between two implacable forces and will not yield, opting instead for the inferno of battle. Kydd sails with a combined navy and ground force. Soon a bloody and fiery battle for Copenhagen is raging. Mariners, soldiers and civilians are all caught up in a conflict in which the stakes could not be higher.

TAYLOR, ANDREW FIRESIDE GOTHIC (\$21.99) From the author of The American Boy (\$15.99) and The Ashes of London (\$24.99) and so many others, comes a collection of three gothic novellas—Broken Voices, The Leper House and The Scratch.

TURSTEN, HELENE WHO WATCHETH (#9) (\$33.95) He watches the women from the shadows. He has an understanding with them; as long as they follow his rules, they are safe. But when they sin, he sentences them to death. A woman is found dead in a cemetery, strangled and covered in plastic. Just a few days before her death, the victim had received a flower, an unintelligible note, and a photograph of herself. Detective Inspector Irene Huss and her colleagues on the Violent Crimes Unit in Göteborg, Sweden, have neither clue nor motive to pursue, and when similar murders follow, their search for the killer becomes increasingly desperate. Meanwhile, strange things have been going on at home for Irene: first the rose bush in her garden is mangled, then she

receives a threatening package with no return address. Is Irene being paranoid, or is she next on the killer's list?

Paperbacks

AHNHEM, STEFAN risk NINTH GRAVE (\$19.95) On a cold winter evening, the Swedish minister of justice disappears without a trace from the short walk between the house of Parliament and his car. At the same time the wife of a famous Danish TV-star is found brutally murdered in her luxury home north of Copenhagen. Soon more bodies are discovered, all missing different body parts. As criminal investigator Fabian Risk and Danish counterpart Dunja Hougaard race to put the pieces together, they are dragged into a conspiracy worse than anyone could imagine. This second stand-alone Detective Fabian Risk novel is set six months before the events in Victim Without a Face (\$19.95).

ALAUX, JEAN-PIERRE RED-HANDED IN ROMANEE-CONTI (#13) (\$20) When world-renowned wine expert Benjamin Cooker's elderly father needs him most, the erudite consultant and his dashing assistant Virgile Lanssien are called away to Burgundy to orchestrate the harvest. More than just picking grapes, the Winemaker Detective must keep a delicate balance between an old-time vintner and his heir as a catastrophic hailstorm endangers some of France's most celebrated wines. Adding insult to injury, the brutal and mysterious murder of a grape picker sends shock waves through the winemaking world and the small-town gendarmes find evidence incriminating Cooker. He and his trusty assistant put their sharp senses to work detecting clues and subtleties in the tight-knit community to find where the real killer is lurking.

ARCHER, JEFFREY clifton COMETH THE HOUR (#6) (\$12.99) opens with the reading of a suicide note, which has devastating consequences for Harry and Emma Clifton, Giles Barrington and Lady Virginia...Giles must decide if he should withdraw from politics and try to rescue Karin, the woman he loves, from behind the Iron Curtain. But is Karin truly in love with him, or is she a spy? Lady Virginia is facing bankruptcy, and can see no way out of her financial problems, until she is introduced to the hapless Cyrus T. Grant III from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, who's in England to see his horse run at Royal Ascot...Sebastian Clifton is now the Chief Executive of Farthings Bank and a workaholic, whose personal life is thrown into disarray when he falls for Priya, a beautiful Indian girl. Meanwhile, Sebastian's rivals are still plotting to bring him and his chairman down...Harry Clifton remains determined to get Anatoly Babakov released from a gulag in Siberia.... But then something unexpected happens that none of them could have anticipated....

BINGHAM, HARRY griffiths DEAD HOUSE (#5) (\$22.99) When the body of a young woman is found in an old 'dead house'—the annexe where the dead were stored before burial in medieval times—of a tiny church in a small town in Wales, it seems that past and present have come together in a bizarre and horrifying way. For DC Fiona Griffiths, the girl—a murder victim whose corpse was laid out with obvious tenderness—represents an irresistibly intriguing puzzle, given Fiona's unusual empathy for the dead. And when her investigations lead her to an obscure and secretive monastery hidden in a remote valley, she finds that the murder victim is far from the only victim of a dark and disturbing melding of modern crime and medieval religious practices. Only Fiona is capable of solving this mystery.

BLOCK, LAWRENCE SINNER MAN (\$13.50) To escape punishment for a murder he didn't mean to commit, insurance man Don Barshter has to take on a new identity: Nathaniel Crowley, ferocious up-and-comer in the New York mob. But can he find safety in the skin of another man...a worse man...a sinner man...? The author's first crime novel, lost for nearly 50 years.

BUDE, JOHN CORNISH COAST MURDER (\$19.50) The Reverend Dodd, vicar of the quiet Cornish village of Boscawen, spends his evenings reading detective stories by the fireside—but heaven forbid that the shadow of any real crime should ever fall across his seaside parish. But the vicar's peace is shattered one stormy night when Julius Tregarthan, a secretive and ill-tempered magistrate, is found at his house in Boscawen with a bullet through his head. The local police inspector is baffled by the complete absence of clues. Luckily for Inspector Bigswell, the Reverend Dodd is on hand, and ready to put his keen understanding of the criminal mind to the test. This classic mystery novel of the golden age of British crime fiction is set against the vividly described backdrop of a fishing village on Cornwall's Atlantic coast. Reprinted for the first time since the 1930s in 2014, this is a new edition, but with the same stunning jacket illustration. Introduction by **Martin Edwards**.

BUDE, JOHN LAKE DISTRICT MURDER (\$19.50) When a body is found at an isolated garage, Inspector Meredith is drawn into a complex investigation where every clue leads to another puzzle: was this a suicide, or something more sinister? Why was the dead man planning to flee the country? And how is this connected to the shady business dealings of the garage? This classic mystery novel is set amidst the stunning scenery of a small village in the Lake District. Reprinted for the first time since the 1930s in 2015, this is a new edition, but with the same stunning jacket illustration. Introduction by **Martin Edwards**.

CHALLINOR, C S rex graves JUDGMENT OF MURDER (#10) (\$20) It's a dark day for Scottish barrister Rex Graves when he learns that Lord Gordon Murgatroyd has passed away. Referred to as "Judge Murder" by Rex's colleagues, the famously severe judge supposedly died of natural causes—but his daughter Phoebe thinks otherwise. Wanting to honor the man who'd always been uncharacteristically kind to him, Rex thinks it would be a good idea to follow up on Phoebe's suspicions . . . until a meeting with his first suspect. With a target on his back and a child abduction case gripping the region, Rex fears that the judge's death won't be an isolated incident.

CHALLINOR, C S rex graves PRELUDE TO MURDER (#9) (\$18.95) When a glamorous young couple, who appear to have everything going for them, are found dead in their house on his fiancée's street, Scottish barrister Rex Graves feels compelled to get involved in the case. Helen is less enthusiastic. He had promised to dedicate the weekend to planning their wedding, not solving a juicy double murder.

CORNELL, PAUL shadow pol SEVERED STREETS (#2) (\$12.99) Desperate to find a case to justify the team's existence, with budget cuts and a police strike on the horizon, Quill thinks he's struck gold when a cabinet minister is murdered by an assailant who wasn't seen getting in or out of his limo. A second murder, that of the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, presents a crime scene with a message . . . identical to that left by the original Jack the Ripper. The new Ripper seems to have changed the MO of the old completely: he's only killing rich white men. The inquiry into just what this supernatural menace is takes Quill and his team into the corridors of power at Whitehall, to meetings with MI5, or 'the funny people' as the Met call them, and into the London occult underworld. They go undercover to a pub with a regular evening that caters to that clientele, and to an auction of objects of power at the Tate Modern. Meanwhile, the Ripper keeps on killing and finally the pattern of those killings gives Quill's team clues towards who's really doing this . . . Sequel to **London Falling (#1)** (\$9.99).

COYLE, MATT cahill YESTERDAYS ECHO (#1) (\$24) Rick Cahill was never convicted of his wife's murder, but he was never exonerated either. Not by the police. Not by the media. Not even by himself. Eight years later, police suspicion and his own guilt remain over his responsibility in his wife's death. When he meets Melody Malana, a beautiful yet secretive TV reporter, he sees a chance to love again. When she is arrested for murder and asks Rick for help, the former cop says no, but the rest of him says yes and he grasps at a chance for redemption. But Rick's attempt to help turns terribly wrong, and he becomes a suspect in the murder and the target of a police manhunt. On the run, Rick encounters desperate people who'll kill to keep their pasts buried. Before Rick can save himself and bring down a murderer, he must confront the truth about his own past and untangle his feeling for a woman he can never fully trust.

CRAIS, ROBERT PROMISE (\$13.50) Elvis Cole is hired to find a woman who's disappeared, a seemingly ordinary case, until he learns the missing woman is an explosives expert and worked for a Defense Department contractor. Meanwhile, LAPD K-9 Officer Scott James and his patrol dog, Maggie, track a fugitive to a house filled with explosives—and a dead body. As the two cases intertwine, they all find themselves up against shadowy arms dealers and corrupt officials, and the very woman they promised to save may be the cause of their own deaths. We are first introduced to Maggie and Officer James in **The Suspect** (\$11.99).

DAHEIM, MARY bnb HERE COMES THE BRIBE (#30) (\$9.99) Rodney Schmuck and his wife, Millie, Hillside Manor's latest guests, seem normal, well, except for that last name. Innkeeper Judith McMonigle Flynn is touched to hear that the for-tysomething couple is in town to visit family. Rodney is especially eager to see his long-lost mother—who he insists is Judith. Shocked to meet an alleged son she's sure she never had, she can't believe Rodney when he swears he has proof from a Norway General Hospital birth certificate listing Judith Anne Grover as his mother. The father's name is Unknown. Judith has never heard of Rodney, let alone given him life. But she's got a bigger problem when one of the B&B guests turns up dead in the backyard. To Judith's surprise, Joe is willing to help investigate, but he's also seeking compensation for Judith's so-called abandonment of him. Perhaps she'll sign over Hillside Manor? What's going on?

DAVIS, LINDSEY flavia GRAVEYARD OF THE HESPERIDES (#4) (\$15.99) From the creator of the much-loved Marcus Didius Falco and his friends and family . . . We first met Flavia Albia, Falco's feisty adopted daughter, in **The Ides of April (#1)** (\$14 remaindered). Albia is a remarkable woman in what is very much a man's world:

young, widowed and fiercely independent, she lives alone on the Aventine Hill in Rome and makes a good living as a hired investigator. An outsider in more ways than one, Albia has unique insight into life in ancient Rome, and she puts it to good use going places no man could go, and asking questions no man could ask.

DEXTER, COLIN morse DEATH IS NOW MY NEIGHBOUR (#12), REMORSEFUL DAY (#13) (\$18.99 each) and MORSE'S GREATEST MYSTERY short stories (\$22.99). The entire Morse oeuvre is now back in print. If somehow you have missed this excellent series, now is the time. Start with Last Bus to Woodstock (#1) (\$18.99)

DONACHIE, DAVID pearce PERILS OF COMMAND (#12) (\$18.99) John Pearce, having negotiated the highly questionable sale of the two French prizes taken in The Devil to Pay, has left HMS Flirt, as well as the crew and the wounded Henry Digby in Brindisi and is headed for Naples to see his lover. In an uncomfortable journey, he seeks to work out a way to best both Admiral Sir William Hotham and Captain Ralph Barclay, men who are his sworn enemies. All his calculations are thrown into turmoil when he discovers that Emily is pregnant which, while it is a cause for joy, is also a reason to worry; she is still married to Ralph Barclay and by the laws of the time he can claim the child as his own.

DOUGLAS, CAROLE NELSON midnight Louie CAT IN AN ALPHABET ENDGAME (#28) (\$28) The 28th, and last, novel in the Midnight Louie feline PI alphabet-titled mystery series.

DOYLE/ANDERSEN, ALAN LANCE AFFAIRS OF SHWELOCK HOLMES BY SAX ROHMER Vol. 1 (\$28) and Vol. 2 (\$40) Now that both Sax Rohmer's stories and the Doyle canon are all in the public domain, it is now possible to present ... two collections of Sherlock Holmes stories as Sax Rohmer would re-imagine them.

DOYLE/BOSCO, DON sherlock hong IMMORTAL NIGHTINGALE (#1) (\$10.50) Will Sherlock Hong be able to solve the mystery of the immortal nightingale and prove himself worthy of the International Order of Seekers? This is the first title in the series of four.

DOYLE/LANE, ANDREW YOUNG SH (#8) NIGHT BREAK (\$14.99) Sherlock's mother has died, his father has disappeared in India and his sister is acting strangely. The Holmes family seems to be falling apart, and not even brother Mycroft can keep it together. But while Sherlock is worrying about all of this, a man living nearby vanishes in his own house while Sherlock and Mycroft are visiting. Where did he go, and what is the connection with a massive canal being built in Egypt? The answer will rock the world, and tear the Holmes family apart! Another adventure for the teenage Sherlock Holmes to investigate.

DOYLE/SMITH, DENIS O LOST CHRONICLES OF SH VOL 2 (\$16.99) Whether in the shrouding fog of London, or far from the city, deep in the countryside, these twelve new stories, set in the late nineteenth century, before Holmes's disappearance at the Reichenbach Falls, recreate with wonderful fidelity the world of Conan Doyle's best Holmes stories.

DOYLE/VELEY, CHARLES lucy WILHELM CONSPIRACY (#2) (\$23.95) A prominent banker is found dead in an unsavory part of London. Hours later, the charred remains of another body lie on a beach in Dover. Both deaths—and their possible link—attract Sherlock Holmes. Then the Secretary of War summons the detective with catastrophic news whose consequences could harm the nation for generations: on the eve of war, a new British superweapon has fallen into the wrong hands. Holmes must recover it. Lucy James, an actress and Holmes's recently discovered grown daughter, insists, despite her father's objections, on helping him find the weapon and solve the murders.

DOYLE/VELEY, CHARLES lucy LAST MORIARTY (#1) (\$23.95) On a cold November morning, a young American actress visits 221B Baker Street, desperate for Sherlock Holmes to protect her from the threats of a mysterious, menacing man who has recently appeared in her life. Holmes agrees to help, even though he has just promised the Prime Minister to solve the murder of John D. Rockefeller's security agent before the incident can derail an upcoming British-American summit. To find the agent's killer, and help the young actress, Holmes will need all his talents for both deduction and deception.

DUNCAN, ELIZABETH shakespeare UNTIMELY DEATH (#1) (\$22.95) A Catskills resort's production of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet takes a wickedly ironic turn when the leading lady, Lauren Richmond, is first poisoned and then stabbed. Who would extinguish the life of such a beautiful young thespian? Who wouldn't? Seems like just about everyone had a motive to pull the ropes on her final curtain call. At the centre of this Shakespearian tragedy is Charlotte Fairfax, formerly the costume mistress of the Royal Shakespeare Company. Upstate New York is a long way from the royal stage, but Charlotte is always the queen of her domain. As this small production's costume designer, she has stitched her way into everyone's lives, learning more than anyone could possibly imagine about the rise and fall of Lauren Richmond. But curiosity killed the cat. And it might well kill the costume designer.

DWYER, LIAM D ed AT YOUR AGE (\$18.50) A collection of short stories and poems written by residents, aged 70 to 103 years, of the Castle Peak Retirement Residence, Bracebridge. These are stories of childhood experiences; romance that failed; romances that flourished; stories of World War II and the Nazi occupation of Holland. The incentive was to ensure that the stories would not be lost and the publisher's profits from the sale of the book will go to charities in Muskoka.

FINCH, PAUL clayburn STRANGERS (#1) (\$16.99) A stranger is just a killer you haven't met yet... "Wonderfully dark... Finch is a born storyteller."—**Peter James**.

FLOWER, AMANDA bookshop PROSE AND CONS (#2) (\$10.99) October in Cascade Springs means tourists are pouring in for the annual Food and Wine Festival, and Violet Waverly and her grandma, Daisy, proprietors of Charming Books, hope to draw those crowds to the store. Daisy asks Violet and the local writing group, the Red Inkers, to give a reading of the works of Edgar Allan Poe in the shop's back garden to entertain the revelers. Everyone eagerly agrees. Yet their enthusiasm is soon extinguished when Violet discovers one of the writers dead during the event. After the shop magically tells Violet she'll need to rely on Poe's works to solve the murder, she enlists the help of her trusty tuxedo cat, Emerson, and the shop's crew, Faulkner. But they must act fast before someone else's heart beats nevermore...

GAIND, ARJUN sikander VERY PUKKA MURDER (#1) (\$24) Major William Russell, the English Resident of the small, princely state of Rajpore, is renowned as a straitlaced man of rigorous habit. On the morning after the 1909 New Year's Ball, the Resident is dead in his bed. His Highness Farzand-i-Khas-i-Daulat-i-Inglishia Mansur-i-Zaman Maharaja Sikander Singh, Light of Heaven, Sword of Justice, Shield of the Faithful, sole ruler of Rajpore, is slow to rise after the night of revelry. But news of the murder galvanizes him. The fabulously wealthy Maharaja, who perforce has surrendered much of his authority to the British, is a man of indolent habit although he keeps himself thoroughly fit. A lover of luxury cars and beautiful women, his deepest passion is for mysteries. He cannot resist an enigma, relishing a riddle and the rush of resolving it. Like August Dupin and Sherlock Holmes, Sikander wields careful and deliberate logic to crack puzzles that leave less intelligent men confounded. Here is such an opportunity, and well timed—for the Maharaja, resigned to another year of indolence, is almost fatally bored.

GALE, IAIN keane KEANE'S CHARGE (#3) (\$15.99) An intrepid band of intelligence officers and warriors, led by Captain James Keane, have been given their toughest job yet by Wellington. Both British and French armies have retreated from the old university city of Coimbra, leaving it in ruins, the inhabitants destitute and the houses full of wounded from all sides. Infiltrating the streets are Spanish guerrillas who may support either side, local Portuguese determined to avenge the horrors inflicted upon their city and rival spies seeking a book of ciphers, hidden in the famous library of Coimbra, guarded by a dissident Jesuit group. James Keane and his men are sent into the midst of this not only to prevent the book falling into enemy hands but also to discover which of the ruthless guerrilla groups are to be trusted and supported by the British. But should they follow Wellington's orders—or follow others in the hunt for Masena's hidden gold?

GARNIER, PASCAL ESKIMO SOLUTION (\$20.50) A crime author writing the story of Louis, who decides to do his cash-strapped friends a favor by hastening their parents' demise, finds reality and fiction overlapping during a stay in Normandy.

GIAMBANCO, VALENTINA madison DARK (#2) (\$17.99) In the sequel to The Gift of Darkness (#1) (\$14.99) echoes of the decades-old Hoh River Boys kidnapping and murder continue to haunt Seattle Homicide Detective Alice Madison. After the nightmarish showdown in the woods with the madman Harry Salinger, Madison, and the surviving Hoh River Boys, attorney Nathan Quinn and his now-imprisoned client John Cameron are bound together by the experience, which changed all their lives forever. But the nightmare isn't over, especially for Quinn, whose younger brother David never returned from the awful night the boys were kidnapped. When David's remains are found, Madison resolves to follow the trail to see if it can lead her to the killer. But Madison has a knack for attracting all the wrong kinds of attention. As she follows the evidence, a sadistic murderer follows her every move. And as Madison's personal demons threaten her career with the Seattle PD and darkness once again closes in, she finds herself gripped by obsession. She's determined to bring a psychopath to justice, but it will prove to be one of the most difficult—and dangerous—things she has ever done.

GREGORY, SUSANNA chaloner CHELSEA STRANGLER (#11) (\$15.99) In the sapping summer heat of 1665 there is little celebration in London of the naval victory at the Battle of Lowestoft. The King, his retinue and anyone with sufficient means has fled the plague-ridden city, its half-deserted streets echoing to the sound of bells tolling the mounting number of deaths. Those who remain clutch doubtful potions to ward off the relentless disease and dart nervously past shuttered buildings, watchful for the thieves who risk their lives to plunder what has been left behind. At Chelsea, a rural

backwater by the river, with fine mansions leased to minor members of the Court avoiding the capital, there are more immediate concerns: the government has commandeered the theological college to house Dutch prisoners of war and there are daily rumours that those sailors are on the brink of escaping. Moreover, a vicious strangler is stalking the neighbourhood. Thomas Chaloner is sent to investigate the murder of the first victim, an inmate of a private sanatorium known as Gorges. There have been thefts there as well, but the few facts he gleans from inmates and staff are contradictory and elusive. He realises, though, that Gorges has stronger links to the prison than just proximity, and that the influx of strangers offers plenty of camouflage for a killer—a killer who has no compunction about turning on those determined to stop his murderous rampage.

HAINES, CAROLYN pluto's BOOK OF BELOVED (#1) (\$22.95) As a young woman widowed by World War I, Raissa James is no stranger to ghosts. But when an invitation arrives from Caoin House, her uncle's estate in Mobile, Alabama, she's finally ready to cast off the shadows of her past. And what better way to do so than with a grand party in her honor? But the revelries come to an abrupt end when one of her uncle's guests takes a deadly plunge. And when a ghost from the property's past, a Confederate soldier, reveals himself to Raissa, she's more determined than ever to get to the heart of the mysterious deaths that plague Caoin House. Enlisting the help of Reginald Proctor, a self-proclaimed medium, she holds a séance to shed light on old secrets. But she discovers that some secrets, even those long dead, still have a startling hold on the living....

HARGLA, INDREK melchior GHOST OF RATASKAEVU STREET (#2) (\$21.95) Tallinn, 1419. What links the Keeper of the Tower, a prostitute and a Flemish painter to a haunted house on Rataskaevu Street? All three claim to have seen a ghost near the house, and each is found dead soon afterwards. Melchior Wakenstede, apothecary and assistant bailiff, is charged with unearthing the truth. Sequel to Mystery of St. Olaf's Church (#1) (\$19.95).

HARRIS, ROBERT CONCLAVE (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$42 hardcover) See the hardcovers section for an annotation.

HAY, MAVIS DORIEL DEATH ON THE CHERWELL (\$19.50) For Miss Cordell, principal of Persephone College, there are two great evils to be feared: unladylike behavior among her students, and bad publicity for the college. So her prim and cozy world is turned upside down when a secret society of undergraduates meets by the river on a gloomy January afternoon, only to find the drowned body of the college bursar floating in her canoe. The police assume that a student prank got out of hand, but the resourceful Persephone girls suspect foul play, and take the investigation into their own hands. Soon they uncover the tangled secrets that led to the bursar's death—and the clues that point to a fellow student. This classic mystery novel, with its evocative setting in an Oxford women's college, was reprinted for the first time since the 1930s in 2014. This new edition, but with the same stunning jacket illustration, is introduced by **Stephen Booth**.

HIAASEN, CARL TOURIST SEASON (\$22) The author's fabulous debut novel. If you haven't read it, you've missed a good one.

HILTON, MATT grey & villere BLOOD TRACKS (#1) (\$26.99) When her local District Attorney offers her a considerable sum of money to track down state witness Crawford Wynne, private investigator Tess Grey is in no position to refuse. Wynne is one of the few men still alive who can help the State nail vicious drug lord Alberto Suarez. But Tess is not the only one trying to track Wynne down. Suarez's psychotic brother Hector has been hunting and butchering anyone who is a danger to his brother. Tess needs help and there's only one man she can turn to: Southern renegade ex-con Nicolas Villere, known to all as Po. Po always gets his man, but he has never been teamed with a woman before. Both have their own agenda for taking on this case, and neither fully trusts the other. But of one thing they are sure: if they don't cover each other's backs, they are both going to die.

(\$10.99)

HUMPHREYS, C C absolute JACK ABSOLUTE (#1), BLOODING OF JACK ABSOLUTE (#2) and ABSOLUTE HONOUR (#3) (\$10.99 each) The three adventures of Jack Absolute, set in the late 1700s in Upper Canada in the battles against the Americans. Years before, he was adopted by the Iroquois, knows their language and ways, can rally these vital allies to the King's cause.

JAMES, PETER grace LOVE YOU DEAD (#12) (\$13.99) An ugly duckling as a child, Jodie Bentley had two dreams in life—to be beautiful and rich. She's achieved the first, with a little help from a plastic surgeon, and now she's working hard on the second. Her philosophy about money is simple. You can either earn it or marry it. Marrying is easy, it's getting rid of the husband afterwards that's harder, that takes real skill. But hey, practice makes perfect . . . Detective Superintendent Roy Grace is feeling the pressure from his superiors, and now a Black Widow is operating in his city. One with a venomous mind . . . and venomous skills.

JARVELA, JARI GIRL AND THE BOMB (#1) (\$21.95) Rust and Metro live life to the fullest in the small Finnish city of Kotka. The lovers work together by day and write graffiti by night, always staying one step ahead of the law. But their luck runs out after an ambush by rogue security guards causes Rust to fall to his death. Having literally left their marks all over the city, Metro cannot help but be reminded of Rust everywhere she goes, making it impossible for her to move past the tragedy. Heartbroken and alone, she becomes determined to get to the bottom of her partner's death and to exact revenge on those responsible by using the tool she knows best: spray paint. As she fights to bomb the system, she is constantly—and harshly—reminded of how unfair life can be. Up against lies, betrayal, and corruption, Metro musters the strength and inspiration to persevere in the name of truth and by adding beauty to an ugly world.

JARVELA, JARI GIRL AND THE RAT (#2) (\$21.95) After losing her boyfriend and partner in crime, Rust, during a tragic run-in with security, Metro moves to Berlin to start over. She finds a home in a grimy squat where she befriends other graffiti artists, and together they carry out aggressive attacks, bombing entire trains and buildings with fresh paint and achieving international notoriety by posting their hits online. Adorning the attic of their squat is a wall-size piece by world-famous tagger Banksy depicting a silhouetted rat spraying a wall. It's a hidden treasure amid the squalor. But when Metro comes home one day to find bodies—including one familiar face from her past—scattered around the building and the amazing mural missing entirely, she and her friends are forced into action. The piece turns up at auction for millions of dollars, and Metro must follow it to its new home in Kotka, Finland, a town she thought she had left behind for good. Up against the law and on the run from her personal demons, Metro has no choice but to seek justice with the only means she has: graffiti.

JOHNSTON, PAUL dalrymple SKELETON BLUES (#7) (\$26.99) Edinburgh, spring 2034. The weather's balmy, there's a referendum on whether to join a reconstituted Scotland coming up—and a tourist is found strangled. As usual, maverick detective Quint Dalrymple is called in to do the Council of City Guardians' dirty work. For the first time in his career, Quint is stumped by the complexity of the case. An explosion at the City Zoo is followed by the discovery of another body—and the prime suspect is nowhere to be found. Can Quint and his sidekick, Guard commander Davie, put a stop to the killings before the city erupts into open violence? Are the leaders of other Scottish states planning to take over Edinburgh, or is the source of unrest much closer to home? Quint must race to pull the threads together before he becomes one of the numerous skeletons on display ...

KENT, CHRISTOBEL LOVING HUSBAND (\$15.99) Fran Hall and her husband Nathan live in a farmhouse on the edge of the Fens with their two children. One February night, when Fran is woken by her baby, she finds the bed empty beside her and Nathan gone. Searching the house for him she makes a devastating discovery. As Fran finds herself under intense police scrutiny, she and her two small children become more isolated as she starts to doubt whether or not she really knew Nathan. Was he really the loving husband that Fran had trusted him to be? As police suspicion grows the questions for Fran begin to mount. Is there something that she is hiding from them—something that she has kept hidden from everyone, including her husband?

KIELY, TRACY nic & nigel MURDER WITH A TWIST (#1) (\$22) Visiting New York to attend a cousin's birthday gala, Nic and Nigel Martini are looking forward to cocktails with old friends and a pampered stay at the Ritz. But when the birthday girl's gold-digging cad of a husband goes missing, the Martini family worries that the social event of the season may turn into a story for the scandal sheets. Nigel's condescending aunt begs former detective Nic to find sleazy Leo, despite the fact that it would be better for everyone if he just stayed lost. Trailing a "married bachelor" with a penchant for trouble isn't pretty; in fact, it's downright deadly. Assisted by Nigel and their newly adopted Bullmastiff, Nic must tangle with her old underworld connections if she hopes to hunt down the dirtiest Martini. Sounds a bit Nick and Nora and Astaish...

LEE, WENDY ART OF CONFIDENCE (\$16.95) Liu Qingwu doesn't set out to commit a crime. He only wants to sell a painting—something more substantial than the Impressionist knockoffs he flogs to tourists outside New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. But the lucrative commission he receives from a Chelsea art dealer is more complicated than he initially realizes. Liu has been hired to create not an homage to Andrew Cantrell's modernist masterpiece, *Elegy*, but a forgery that will sell for millions.

LOTEMPIO, T C CRIME AND CATNIP (#3) (\$10.99) Nick and Nora aren't just pussyfooting around this time as they deal with a missing person's case and murder. While catering a gala for the Cruz Museum, Nora Charles agrees to look into the disappearance of director Violet Crenshaw's niece, a case previously undertaken by her frisky feline friend Nick's former owner, a private eye whose whereabouts are also currently unknown. As Nora and her curious cat Nick pull at the string of clues, they begin to unravel a twisted tale of coded messages, theft, false identities, murder, and international espionage. Nora dares to hope that the labyrinth of leads will not only help them locate the missing young woman, but also solve the disappearance of the detective.

That's if Nora can stay alive long enough to find him...

LUPTON, ROSAMUND QUALITY OF SILENCE (\$22) The story of Yasmin, a beautiful astrophysicist, and her precocious deaf daughter, Ruby, who arrive in a remote part of Alaska to be told that Ruby's father, Matt, has been the victim of a catastrophic accident. Unable to accept his death as truth, Yasmin and Ruby set out into the hostile winter of the Alaskan tundra in search of answers. But as a storm closes in, Yasmin realizes that a very human danger may be keeping pace with them. And with no one else on the road to help, they must keep moving, alone and terrified, through an endless Alaskan night.

LUTZ, LISA PASSENGER (\$21.99) From the author of the Spellman Files series, comes the story of a woman who creates and sheds new identities as she crisscrosses the country to escape her past. Forty-eight hours after leaving her husband's body at the base of the stairs, Tanya Dubois cashes in her credit cards, dyes her hair brown, demands a new name from a shadowy voice over the phone, and flees town. It's not the first time. She meets Blue, a female bartender who recognizes the hunted look in a fugitive's eyes and offers her a place to stay. With dwindling choices, Tanya-now-Amelia accepts. An uneasy—and dangerous—alliance is born. It's *almost* impossible to live off the grid in the twenty-first century, but Amelia-now-Debra and Blue have the courage, the ingenuity, and the desperation, to try. Hopscoching from city to city, Debra especially is chased by a very dark secret. From heart-stopping escapes and devious deceptions, we are left to wonder...can she possibly outrun her past?

MACCOY/MCCOY, A P NARROWING THE FIELD (\$15.99) Everything seems to be going right for brilliant young jockey Duncan Claymore. A career on the up, a beautiful wife, and all the trappings of wealth. But Duncan is haunted by the death of one of his arch-rivals. He may not have pulled the trigger, but he still has blood on his hands. As Duncan struggles to keep his focus on the job, Michelle O'Brien—a friend and talented fellow jockey—is killed and Duncan knows this was far from a tragic accident. He's never liked William Osborne, but now he will stop at nothing to avenge Michelle's death. With Duncan's seemingly perfect world starting to come apart at the seams, can he balance his desire for victory on the field with his desire to see justice served?

MACINTOSH/MCINTOSH, PAT cunningham PIG OF COLD POISON (#7) (\$15.99) Glasgow in the 15th century... Danny Gibson and Nanty Bothwell, rivals for the affections of Agnes Renfrew, the apothecary's pretty daughter, are also good friends. When they both take part in the festive play at the house of Gil's sister Kate, it ends in Danny's death, apparently by poison from his friend's flask. So was it deliberate, and if not, why won't Nanty defend himself? Why is Agnes's eccentric brother Nicol so insistent that Nanty had the wrong flask, and why do none of the apothecaries in Glasgow recognize the poison it held? Gil, convinced Nanty is innocent, sets out to answer these questions and finds himself enmeshed in the tensions of the Renfrew household and the tangled relationships among the apothecary houses. And then a second and third death confuse matters further still, and bring Gil's wife Alys into the investigation.

MACKINTOSH, CLARE I SEE YOU (\$24) It all starts with a classified ad. During her commute home one night, while glancing through her local paper, Zoe sees her own face staring back at her; a grainy photo along with a phone number and a listing for a website called FindTheOne.com. Other women begin appearing in the same ad, a different one every day, and Zoe realizes they've become the victims of increasingly violent crimes—including murder. With the help of a determined cop, she uncovers the ad's twisted purpose...A discovery that turns her paranoia into full-blown panic. Zoe is sure that someone close to her has set her up as the next target. And now that man on the train—the one smiling at Zoe from across the car—could be more than just a friendly stranger. He could be someone who has deliberately chosen *her* and is ready to make his next move...

MACLEOD, TORQUIL sundstrom MIDNIGHT IN MALMO (#4) (\$21.50) Featuring Inspector Anita Sundstrom. After a woman is stabbed to death while jogging in Malmo's main park, Inspector Sundstrom finds herself unofficially investigating a case that has its roots in a 1917 chance meeting in Malmo.

MACMAHON/MCMAHON, JENNIFER PROMISE NOT TO TELL (\$12.50) Forty-one-year-old school nurse Kate Cypher has returned home to rural Vermont to care for her mother, who's afflicted with Alzheimer's. On the night she arrives, a young girl is murdered—a horrific crime that eerily mirrors another from Kate's childhood. Three decades earlier, her dirt-poor friend Del—shunned and derided by classmates as "Potato Girl"—was brutally slain. Del's killer was never found, while the victim has since achieved immortality in local legends and ghost stories. Now, as this new murder investigation draws Kate irresistibly in, her past and present collide in terrifying, unexpected ways. Because nothing is quite what it seems . . . and the grim specters of her youth are far from forgotten.

MISHANI, D A avraham MAN WHO WANTED TO KNOW EVERYTHING (#3) (\$19.99) Inspector Avraham Avraham is back in this sequel to A Possibility of Vio-

lence (#2) (\$22.50) and The Missing File (#1) (\$17.99). Called on a stormy night to the scene of his first murder investigation as the new commander of investigations, Inspector Avraham Avraham is shocked to discover that he knows the victim: Leah Yeger, a widow found brutally murdered in her home and the victim of a rape that he investigated some years prior. But with her rapist still behind bars, Avraham's only lead is an eyewitness claiming he saw a policeman leave the scene of the crime—a policeman who seems to have since vanished into thin air.

NICKLESS, BARBARA BLOOD ON THE TRACKS (#1) (\$22.95) A young woman is found brutally murdered, and the main suspect is the victim's fiancé, a hideously scarred Iraq War vet known as the Burned Man. But railroad police Special Agent Sydney Rose Parnell, brought in by the Denver Major Crimes unit to help investigate, can't shake the feeling that larger forces are behind this apparent crime of passion. In the depths of an icy winter, Parnell and her K9 partner, Clyde—both haunted by their time in Iraq—descend into the underground world of a savage gang of rail riders. There, they uncover a wide-reaching conspiracy and a series of shocking crimes. Crimes that threaten everything Parnell holds dear. As the search for the truth puts her directly in the path of the killer, Parnell must struggle with a deadly question: Can she fight monsters without becoming one herself?

PRESSEY, ROSE haunted HAUNTED IS ALWAYS IN FASHION (#4) (\$8.99) As the owner of It's Vintage, Y'All in Sugar Creek, Georgia, Cookie Chanel has agreed to share her expertise with author Juliana McDaniel. But on her way to town, Juliana is shot dead, and that was all she wrote. Cookie picks up the thread of the story with help from her psychic cat and a couple of inquisitive ghosts. To unmask this killer, she'll have to lift the lid on family secrets and hidden motives—because she might wind up getting capped herself if she doesn't cloche this case.

ROBERTS, I D kingdom FOR KINGDOM AND COUNTRY (#2) (\$18.99) May 1915. Kingdom Lock and his faithful sidekick, Siddhartha Singh are gunned down on the streets of Basra and suspicion falls on German spy, Wilhelm Wassmuss. Major Ross believes Wassmuss is not only still alive but that he is behind the assassination of a senior Turkish officer, the death of whom has been blamed on Lock. Meanwhile, Lock has discovered that Amy Townshend is pregnant and that the child is his. But the general's daughter stubbornly refuses to break off her engagement with Bingham-Smith. Then, when Lock learns that there is a price on his head and every cut-throat and desperate man in the area is after the bounty, Ross sends him to the frontlines for his own safety...

ROBERTSON, CRAIG winter RANDOM (#1) (\$20) Glasgow is being terrorised by a serial killer the media have nicknamed The Cutter. The murders have left the police baffled. There seems to be neither rhyme nor reason behind the killings; no kind of pattern or motive; an entirely different method of murder each time, and nothing that connects the victims except for the fact that the little fingers of their right hands have been severed. If DS Rachel Narey could only work out the key to the seemingly random murders, how and why the killer selects his victims, she would be well on her way to catching him. But as the police, the press and a threatening figure from Glasgow's underworld begin to close in on The Cutter, his carefully-laid plans threaten to unravel—with horrifying consequences.

ROBOTHAM, MICHAEL oloughlin CLOSE YOUR EYES (#8) (\$15.99) A mother and her teenage daughter are found murdered in a remote farmhouse, one defiled by multiple stab wounds and the other left lying like Sleeping Beauty waiting for her Prince. Reluctantly, clinical psychologist Joe O'Loughlin is drawn into the investigation when a former student, calling himself 'the Mindhunter', jeopardises the police inquiry by leaking details to the media and stirring up public anger. With no shortage of suspects and tempers beginning to fray, Joe discover links between these murders and a series of brutal attacks where his victims have been choked unconscious and had the letter 'A' carved into their foreheads. As the case becomes ever more complex, nothing is quite what it seems and soon Joe's fate, and that of those closest to him, become intertwined with a merciless, unpredictable killer.

RUSSELL, LEIGH steel MURDER RING (#8) (\$20) The dead body of unassuming David Lester is discovered in a dark side-street, and DI Geraldine Steel is plunged into another murder investigation. The clues mount up along with the suspects, but with the death of another man in inexplicable circumstances, the case becomes increasingly complex. As Geraldine investigates the seemingly unrelated crimes, she makes a shocking discovery about her birth mother.

SARIF, SHAMIM DESPITE THE FALLING SNOW (\$19.95) After an early career amongst the political elite of Cold War Russia, Alexander Ivanov has built a successful business in the States. For 40 years, he has buried the tragic memories surrounding his charismatic late wife, Katya—or so he believes. For into his life come two women—one who will open up the heart he has protected for so long; another who is determined to uncover what really happened to Katya so long ago. The novel's journey back to the snowbound streets of post-Stalinist Moscow reveals a world of secrets and

treachery.

SIMENON, GEORGES MAIGRETS FIRST CASE (\$16) A musician walking home along the Rue Chaptal in the early hours of the morning sees a panic-stricken woman call for help from an upstairs window; moments later he hears a gun shot. He tries to go to her assistance, pushing past the man who opens the door upon his frantic knocking, but he finds himself roughly ejected from the premises. Undeterred, he heads for the nearest police station and urges Maigret to return with him and find out what has taken place. With this look into the man he once was, and how he became the insightful inspector we have come to know, Simenon offers new insights into the brilliance of Maigret.

SMITH, DONALD CONSTABLE'S TALE (\$21.95) When a traveling peddler discovers the murder of a farm family in colonial North Carolina whose bodies have been left in bizarre positions, circumstances point to an Indian attack. But Harry Woodyard, a young planter who is the volunteer constable of Craven County during a period in America's past when there was no professional police force, finds clues that seem to indicate otherwise. The county establishment wants to blame the crime on a former inhabitant, an elderly Indian who has suddenly reappeared in the vicinity like an old ghost. But he is a person to whom Harry owes much. Defying the authorities, Harry goes off on his own to find the real killer. His investigation takes him up the Atlantic seacoast and turns into a perilous hunt for even bigger quarry that could affect the future of Britain in the American continent.

SMITH, KAREN ROSE de luca SHADES OF WRATH (#6) (\$8.99) Between her booming business, her family, and her work rescuing stray animals, home stager Caprice De Luca's life is packed. But when a murder unsettles peaceful Kismet, Pennsylvania, she adds amateur sleuth to her resume. Thanks to a wealthy patron, Kismet's women's shelter, Sunrise Tomorrow, has inherited a run-down mansion. Now the shelter's director, Wendy Newcomb, wants Caprice's decorating expertise. Caprice is happy to help, but when she glimpses a few heated encounters between Wendy and some locals, she fears that Wendy may need protection herself. When Wendy is found dead inside the old house, Caprice is compelled to poke around in her affairs—and discovers she had her share of enemies.

SMITH, MARTIN CRUZ grey GYPSY IN AMBER (#1) (\$22) From the bestselling author of Gorky Park (#1) (\$19), the author's first mystery novel—a classic crime whodunit with a shocking twist. A murder threatens to force the police into a confrontation with New York's gypsy community. The cops are determined to pin the blame on a gypsy. But antique dealer Roman Grey knows there is more to the case than the convenient closing of a crime file, and he vows to bring the truly guilty to justice. First published in 1971.

SMITH, MARTIN CRUZ grey CANTO FOR A GYPSY (#2) (\$22) The priceless Royal Crown of Hungary is on display in St Patrick's Cathedral in New York. Guarded by many, including the NYPD and the gypsy antique dealer Roman Grey, a heist is impossible. But everybody wants the legendary Crown of Saint Stephen. The Hungarian government wants it as a symbol of national greatness. Exiled rebels want it simply to rob the Communists of their pleasure. And an ex-Nazi art plunderer wants it to settle a very old score. Then the unthinkable happens, and murder, mayhem, and all hell breaks loose...and only Grey knows the century's old secret about the crown. First published in 1972.

SMITH, WILBUR PREDATOR (\$12.50) One of the most formidable fighters in the world, ex-SAS warrior and former private security consultant Major Hector Cross has survived explosive tangles with depraved enemies—warlords, pirates, and arms dealers—from the Middle East to the heart of Africa. Now, Cross must take the law into his own hands once again to stop a vengeful old enemy who has resurfaced—and hunt down a deadly new nemesis in pursuit of global domination.

SMOOKLER, KENNETH FARR AND BEYOND (\$19.95) Lawyers for the otherworldly. Welcome to Farr & Beyond, the extraordinary law firm that isn't limited by time, space, or reality. Meet their clients from the land of literature: Dracula, Cinderella, the Pied Piper, Brünnhilde, Aesop, Hansel & Gretel, Captain Nemo, and many, many more, and find out what happens when they hire a lawyer! Enjoy the tongue-in-cheek legal issues that Farr & Beyond finds lurking within our traditional tales and fables. Why does Merlin charge an assistant with arboreal kidnapping, Frankenstein's monster accuse his creator of negligence, or William Tell's son sue his father for reckless endangerment? Discover how Farr & Beyond's law teams clear Ali Baba on a charge of the murder of 40 thieves; secure damages for defamation and non-payment of extermination fees for the Pied Piper; and deal with the claims and summonses filed against Cinderella by her stepmother and stepsisters. Great fun, says Marian.

STARK, RICHARD grofield LEMONS NEVER LIE (#4) (\$7.99) Reissue. First published in 1971.

STARR, MELVIN R ASHES TO ASHES (#8) (\$22) Master Hugh, Kate, and their children attend the Midsummer's Eve fire. The next morning Hugh hears the passing

bell ring from the Church of St. Beornwald, and moments later is summoned. Tenants collecting the ashes to spread upon their fields have found burned bones and he soon learns that the bones are those of a bailiff from a nearby manor. Someone has slain him and placed his body in the fire to destroy evidence of murder. Bailiffs are not popular men; they dictate labor service, collect rents, and enforce other obligations. Has this bailiff died at the hand of some angry tenant? Hugh soon discovers this is not the case. There is quite another reason for murder...

TARKINGTON, ED ONLY LOVE CAN BREAK YOUR HEART (\$22.95) “A lush mystery-within-a-coming-of-age-tale-within-a-Southern-Gothic.” —*NPR Books*. “A richly textured portrait of small-town dysfunction and murder . . . Secrets abound, imaginations run wild.” —*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. Welcome to Spencerville, Virginia, 1977.

THOFT, INGRID BRUTALITY (#3) (\$22) Fina Ludlow isn't looking for a case independent of Ludlow and Associates, her family's personal-injury law firm, but when Liz Barone is attacked in her kitchen, Fina sees a golden opportunity. A former college soccer star at New England University, Liz has experienced a serious cognitive decline that soured the memories of her athletic glory days, and she is determined to hold someone responsible. Fina considers this an entrée into the burgeoning world of sports-injury litigation, and if her freelance work annoys her father? All the better. Lots of people have a stake in the trouble Liz is stirring up, and the more Fina digs, the more she learns that the case transcends sports. Was Liz attacked to stop her lawsuit, or were there dangerous secrets in the seemingly innocent woman's life? Where is the line between toughness and savagery? What is the price, and ultimately, who pays it? Fina discovers that wading into the financially lucrative and emotionally charged world of collegiate sports requires nerves of steel. As the list of suspects grows and hidden agendas are revealed, she navigates the rough waters of conflicting values and beloved traditions and begins to wonder: Is any game worth the price?

TURSTEN, HELENE TREACHEROUS NET (#8) (\$19.95) It's May and the snow has hardly melted in Göteborg, Sweden, but things are heating up quickly for Detective Inspector Irene Huss in the Violent Crimes Unit. The body of a teenage girl is found in the woods, naked and horrifically scarred. Then there's the mummified body that is discovered bricked up in a chimney on a demolition site, not to mention the city's ongoing problem with gang violence. With the sudden influx of cases and one detective out on maternity leave, everyone is stretched thin. To make matters worse, Irene feels more than a little intimidated by the new superintendent, Efva Thylqvist, who uses her sex appeal and smooth talking to bend the predominately male staff to her will. Then a second young girl is found, wearing what appears to be the other half of the sexy lingerie set recovered near the first body. Fearing the two cases are linked and that the killer may strike again, Irene and her colleagues embark on a desperate hunt that takes them deep into a shadowy world of anonymous online predators and insecure teenage girls on a deadly quest for affirmation.