



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

907 Millwood Rd., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4G 1X2
416-483-3111 e-mail sleuth@SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca

SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca

Greetings

July 2016, part le deux

Had I but waited another day or so in pulling together the July new arrivals these titles would have been included. So, I figured I'd do a short, separate addendum

Hardbacks

ATKINS, ACE quinn INNOCENTS (#6) (\$36.00) Quinn Colson didn't owe his home town of Jericho, Mississippi, a damn thing. After serving for more than a decade as a U.S. Army Ranger, he'd returned, been elected sheriff, and tried to make the town and surrounding Tibbehah county a better place. He was rewarded with being voted out of office, and went back to the war zone he'd left. Now, back in Jericho, trying to fix things with his still-married high school girlfriend and retired Hollywood stuntman father, he's drawn to becoming a lawman again. This time, he accepts a badge from acting Sheriff Lillie Virgil, a foul-mouthed law woman with shades of Calamity Jane. But what they must confront together is something brand-new: the Syndicate from down on the Gulf Coast has big plans for his neck of the woods.

BILLINGHAM, MARK DIE OF SHAME (\$32.99 hardcover, \$22.99 trade paperback) Every Monday evening, six people gather in a smart North London house to talk about addiction. There they share their deepest secrets: stories of lies, regret, and above all, shame. Then one of them is killed—and it's clear one of the circle was responsible. Detective Inspector Nicola Tanner quickly finds her investigation hampered by the strict confidentiality that binds these people and their therapist together. So what could be shameful enough to cost someone their life? And how do you find the truth when denial and deception are second nature to all of your suspects?

BLACK, CARA MURDER ON THE QUAI (#16) (\$35.95) A prequel. The author dips back in time to reveal how Aimée first became a detective . . . November 1989: Aimée Leduc is in her first year of

college at Paris's preeminent medical school. She lives in a 17th-century apartment that overlooks the Seine with her father, who runs the family detective agency. But the week the Berlin Wall crumbles, so does Aimée's life as she knows it. First, someone has sabotaged her lab work, putting her at risk of failing out of the program. Then, she finds out her aristo boyfriend is getting engaged to another woman. And finally, Aimée's father takes off to Berlin on a mysterious errand. He asks Aimée to help out at the detective agency while he's gone—as if she doesn't already have enough to do. But the case Aimée finds herself investigating—a murder linked to a transport truck of Nazi gold that disappeared in the French countryside during the height of World War II—has gotten under her skin. Her heart may not lie in medicine after all—maybe it's time to think harder about the family business.

DOUGLAS-HOME, MARK sea MALICE OF WAVES (#3) (\$35.99) Five years ago, fourteen-year-old Max Wheeler disappeared from Priest's Island, an isolated but bleakly beautiful place on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. In the close knit local community, there are no secrets, except what happened to Max. None of the police or private investigations since have shed any light on what happened the night he went missing, presumed dead. But there is one man who is yet to take on the case: The Sea Detective. Cal McGill is an oceanographer and unique investigator who uses his knowledge of tides, winds and currents to solve mysteries no-one else can. However, Cal is an unwelcome stranger who must navigate the tensions between Max's inconsolable father, the broken family he has neglected, and the embittered locals, resentful after years of suspicion. As Cal arrives, a violent storm approaches, threatening to completely cut off the island, with a possible murderer at large... The first two novels in this excellent series are The Sea Detective (#1) (\$16.99) and The Woman Who Walked into the Sea (#2) (\$16.99)

DOYLE/ROBERTSON, MICHAEL BAKER STREET JURORS (#5) (\$34.99) A nation's greatest sports hero has been accused of murder. The trial is approaching, and the public is clamoring—both for and against. And in a desperate, computer-generated quest to fill its quota of jurors, the Crown Court has included on its summons list the known occupants—real and otherwise—of 221B Baker Street. One

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summons is addressed to Sherlock Holmes; it doesn't matter to the Crown Court Jury Selection Service whether Holmes is real or fictional, or in which century he existed. The other is addressed to Mr. Nigel Heath—he of brothers Reggie and Nigel Heath fame, charged with answering letters to Sherlock that arrive at their law office, located at 221B Baker Street. Before the trial is done, Nigel and each of his fellow prospective jurors will wonder not only which of them will be impaneled—and what verdict they will reach—but also who will survive to render it.

HAWLEY, NOAH BEFORE THE FALL (\$31.00) On a foggy summer night, eleven people—ten privileged, one down-on-his-luck painter—depart Martha's Vineyard on a private jet headed for New York. Sixteen minutes later, the unthinkable happens: the plane plunges into the ocean. The only survivors are Scott Burroughs—the painter—and a four-year-old boy, who is now the last remaining member of an immensely wealthy and powerful media mogul's family. With chapters weaving between the aftermath of the crash and the backstories of the passengers and crew members, the mystery surrounding the tragedy heightens. Dumb chance? Conspiracy?

HYDE, KATHERINE BOLGER ARSENIC WITH AUSTEN (#2) (\$34.99) When Emily Cavanaugh inherits a fortune from her great aunt, she expects her life to change. She doesn't expect to embark on a murder investigation, confront the man who broke her heart 35 years before, and nearly lose her own life. Emily travels to the sleepy coastal village of Stony Beach, Oregon, to claim her inheritance. And soon learns of a covert plan to develop Stony Beach into a major resort. She also hears hints that her aunt may have been murdered. Soon another suspicious death confirms this, and before long Emily herself experiences a near-fatal accident. Meanwhile, Emily reads Persuasion (\$12), hoping to find belated happiness with her first love as Anne Elliot did with Captain Wentworth. She notices a similarity between her not-quite-cousin Brock Runcible, heir to a smaller portion of her aunt's property, and Mr. Elliot, and her suspicions of Brock crystallize. But as she and Luke continue to investigate and events speed toward a climax, Emily realizes that underneath the innocent-looking rocks of Stony Beach lurk festering jealousies that would have shocked even the worst of Jane Austen's charming reprobates.

KING, STEPHEN gold END OF WATCH (#3) (\$36.99) The finale to the bestselling trilogy that began with Mr. Mercedes (#1) (\$12.99) (winner of the Edgar Award) and Finders Keepers (\$12.99). In this one, the diabolical “Mercedes Killer” drives his enemies to suicide, and if Bill Hodges and Holly Gibney don't figure out a way to stop him, they'll be victims themselves.

LOVESEY, PETER diamond ANOTHER ONE GOES TO-NIGHT (#16) (\$35.95) Two police officers are about to head home after a long night shift when they receive one last call. En route to investigate, the patrol car spins off the road, killing one of the exhausted 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, Diamond 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 must wrestle with the fact that he may have saved the life of a serial killer.

MOSLEY, WALTER easy CHARCOAL JOE (#14) (\$35.95) Ezekiel “Easy” Rawlins finds his life in transition. He's ready—finally—to propose to his girlfriend, Bonnie Shay, and start a life together. And he's taken the money he got from the Rose Gold (#13) (\$18.95) case and, together with two partners, Saul Lynx and Tinsford “Whisper” Natly, has started a new detective agency. But, inevitably, a case gets in the way: Easy's friend Mouse introduces him to Rufus Tyler, a very old man everyone calls Charcoal Joe. Joe's friend's son, Seymour (young, bright, top of his class in physics at Stanford), has been arrested and charged with the murder of a white man from Redondo Beach. Joe tells Easy he will pay and pay well to see this young man exonerated, but seeing as how Seymour literally was

found standing over the man's dead body at his cabin home, and considering the racially charged motives seemingly behind the murder, that might prove to be a tall order.

MUIR, FRANK (T F) gilchrist BLOOD TORMENT (#6) (\$36.99 hardcover, \$22.99 trade paper) When a three-year old girl is reported missing, DCI Andy Gilchrist is assigned the case. But Gilchrist soon suspects that the child's mother—Andrea Davis—may be responsible for her daughter's disappearance, or worse, her murder. The case becomes politically sensitive when Gilchrist learns that Andrea is the daughter of Dougal Davis, a former MSP who was forced to resign from Scottish Parliament after being accused of physically abusing his third wife. Now a powerful businessman, Davis demands Gilchrist's removal from the case when his investigation seems to be stalling. But then the case turns on its head when Gilchrist learns that a paedophile, recently released from prison, now lives in the same area as the missing child. The paedophile is interrogated but hours later his body is found floating in the harbour with evidence of blunt force trauma to the head, and Gilchrist launches a murder investigation.

MUKHERJEE, ABIR RISING MAN (\$27.99) Captain Sam Wyndham, former Scotland Yard detective, is a new arrival to Calcutta. Desperately seeking a fresh start after his experiences during the Great War, Wyndham has been recruited to head up a new post in the police force. But with barely a moment to acclimatise to his new life or to deal with the ghosts which still haunt him, Wyndham is caught up in a murder investigation that will take him into the dark underbelly of the British Raj. A senior official has been murdered, and a note left in his mouth warns the British to quit India: or else. With rising political dissent and the stability of the Raj under threat, Wyndham and his two new colleagues—arrogant Inspector Digby and British-educated, but Indian-born Sargeant Banerjee, one of the few Indians to be recruited into the new CID—embark on an investigation that will take them from the luxurious parlours of wealthy British traders to the seedy opium dens of the city.

NAKAMURA, FUMINORI KINGDOM (\$27.95) Yurika is a freelancer in the Tokyo underworld. She poses as a prostitute, carefully targeting potential johns, selecting powerful and high-profile men. When she is alone with them, she drugs them and takes incriminating photos to sell for blackmail purposes. She knows very little about the organization she's working for, and is perfectly satisfied with the arrangement, as long as it means she doesn't have to reveal anything about her identity, either. She operates alone and lives a private, solitary life, doing her best to lock away painful memories. But when a figure from Yurika's past resurfaces, she realizes there is someone out there who knows all her secrets: her losses, her motivations, her every move. There are whispers of a crime lord named Kizaki—“a monster,” she is told—and Yurika finds herself trapped in a game of cat and mouse. Is she wily enough to escape one of the most sadistic men in Tokyo?

RAYBOURN, DEANNA speedwel CURIOUS BEGINNING (#1) (\$33.95) London, 1887. As the city prepares to celebrate Queen Victoria's golden jubilee, Veronica Speedwell is marking a milestone of her own. After burying her spinster aunt, the orphaned Veronica is free to resume her world travels in pursuit of scientific inquiry—and the occasional romantic dalliance. As familiar with hunting butterflies as she is fending off admirers, Veronica wields her butterfly net and a sharpened hatpin with equal aplomb, and with her last connection to England now gone, she intends to embark upon the journey of a lifetime. But fate has other plans

ROSENFELT, DAVID carpente OUTFOXED (#14) (\$36.99) Defense lawyer Andy Carpenter spends as much time as he can working on his true passion, the Tara Foundation, the dog rescue organization he runs. Lately, Andy has been especially involved in a county prison program where inmates help train dogs the Tara Foundation has rescued to make them more adoptable, benefiting both the dogs and the prisoners. One of the prisoners Andy has been working with is Brian Atkins, who has 18 months left on a 5-year term for fraud. Brian has been helping to train Boomer, an adorable fox terrier the Tara Foundation rescued from a neglectful owner. Brian and Boomer are clearly a terrific match. In fact, Andy hopes that Brian will adopt Boomer

himself, once his sentence is up. But one day, Andy arrives at the prison to discover that Brian has used Boomer to make an ingenious escape, and man and dog are both in the wind. The next day, the man on whose testimony Brian was convicted is found murdered. Brian is caught and arrested for the crime, though he forcefully protests his innocence. Suddenly, Andy finds himself with a new client in Brian and a new dog in Boomer. And as he starts to dig deeper into the murder and the events leading up to it, Andy realizes he might be putting them all in far more danger than anyone had realized.

SALLIS, JAMES WILLNOT (\$31.00) In the woods outside the town of Willnot, the remains of several people have suddenly been discovered, unnerving the community and unsettling Hale, the town's all-purpose general practitioner, surgeon, and town conscience. At the same time, Bobby Lowndes—his military records disappeared, being followed by the FBI—mysteriously reappears in his hometown, at Hale's door. Over the ensuing months, the daily dramas Hale faces as he tends to his town and to his partner, Richard, collide with the inexplicable vicarities of life in Willnot. And when a gunshot aimed at Lowndes critically wounds Richard, Hale's world is truly upended.

SCOTT, J TODD FAR EMPTY (\$35.00) 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. Set along the sharp edge of the Texas border and told by a longtime federal agent who knows the region, a debut novel of which **Craig Johnson** says "... is so good I wish I'd written it."

SILVA, DANIEL allon BLACK WIDOW (#16) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$21.99 trade paperback) Gabriel Allon, the art restorer, spy, and assassin described as the most compelling fictional creation "since Ian Fleming put down his martini and invented James Bond"—*Rocky Mountain News*, is about to become the chief of Israel's secret intelligence service. But on the eve of his promotion, events conspire to lure him into the field for one final operation. ISIS has detonated a massive bomb in the Marais district of Paris, and a desperate French government wants Gabriel to eliminate the man responsible before he can strike again.

SUND, ERIK AXL CROW GIRL (#1) (\$36.95) In a Stockholm city park, police discover the mutilated body of a young boy. Detective Superintendent Jeanette Kihlberg heads the investigation, battling an apathetic prosecutor and a bureaucratic police force unwilling to devote resources to solving the murder of a nameless immigrant child. But with the discovery of two more children's corpses, it becomes clear that a serial killer is at large. Jeanette turns to therapist Sofia Zetterlund for her expertise in psychopathic perpetrators and their lives become increasingly intertwined, professionally and personally. As they draw closer to the truth about the killings—working together but, ultimately, each on her own—we come to understand that these murders are only the most obvious evidence of a hellishly insidious evil woven deep into Swedish society. Huge bestseller in Europe, the first part of a trilogy. A tale of almost unfathomably heinous deeds, and of the profound damage—and the equally profound need for revenge—left in their wake.

Paperbacks

ATKINS, ACE quinn REDEEMERS (#5) (\$22.00) Quinn Colson is jobless—voted out of his position as sheriff of Tibbehah County, Mississippi. But in the middle of the long, hot summer, somebody

smashes through the house of a wealthy mill owner, making off with a safe full of money and shooting a deputy. As Deputy Lillie Virgil hunts the criminals and draws Colson in, other people join the chase, too, but with a much more personal motive. For that safe contained more than just money—it held secrets. And as Colson well knows, secrets can kill.

BATACAN, F H SMALLER AND SMALLER CIRCLES (\$19.95) Winner of the Philippine National Book Award, this novel follows two Catholic priests on the hunt through Manila for a brutal serial killer. Payatas, a 50-acre dump northeast of Manila's Quezon City, is home to thousands of people who live off of what they can scavenge there. It is one of the poorest neighborhoods in a city whose law enforcement is already stretched thin, devoid of forensic resources and rife with corruption. So when the eviscerated bodies of preteen boys begin to appear in the dump heaps, there is no one to seek justice on their behalf. In the rainy summer of 1997, two Jesuit priests take the matter of protecting their flock into their own hands. Father Gus Saenz is a respected forensic anthropologist, one of the few in the Philippines, and has been tapped by the Director of the National Bureau of Investigations as a backup for police efforts. Together with his protégé, Father Jerome Lucero, a psychologist, Saenz dedicates himself to tracking down the monster preying on these impoverished boys.

BILLINGHAM, MARK DIE OF SHAME (\$22.99 trade paper, \$32.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

BLACKWELL, JULIET witcher TOXIC TROUSSEAU (#8) (\$10.99) Even the most skilled sorceress can't ward off a lawsuit, and Lily is not at her enchanting best with her hands full as the temporary leader of San Francisco's magical community. So after her potbellied pig Oscar head-butts rival clothier Autumn Jennings, Lily tries to make peace without a costly personal injury case. But any hope of a quiet resolution is shattered when Autumn turns up dead. As one of the prime suspects, she's got to figure out who wanted to harm Autumn fast, before the curse claims another victim...

BLOCK, LAWRENCE GIRL WITH THE DEEP BLUE EYES (\$12.95) Cashed out from the NYPD after 24 years, Doak Miller operates as a private eye in steamy small-town Florida, doing jobs for the local police. Like posing as a hit man and wearing a wire to incriminate a local wife who's looking to get rid of her husband. But when he sees the wife, when he looks into her deep blue eyes...he falls, and falls hard. Soon he's working with her, against his employer, plotting a devious plan that could get her free from her husband and put millions in her bank account. But can they do it without landing in jail? And once he's kindled his taste for killing...will he be able to stop at one?

BUCKLEY, JULIA writers DARK AND STORMY MURDER (#1) (\$10.99) Camilla Graham's bestselling suspense novels inspired Lena London to become a writer, so when she lands a job as Camilla's new assistant, she can't believe her luck. Not only will she help her idol craft an enchanting new mystery, she'll get to live rent-free in Camilla's gorgeous Victorian home in the quaint town of Blue Lake, Indiana. But Lena's fortune soon changes for the worse. First, she lands in the center of small town gossip for befriending the local recluse. Then, she stumbles across one thing that a Camilla Graham novel is never without—a dead body, found on her new boss's lake-front property. Now Lena must take a page out of one of Camilla's books to hunt down clues in a real crime that seems to be connected to the novelist's mysterious estate—before the killer writes them both out of the story for good...

BURDETT, JOHN jitpleechee BANGKOK ASSET (#6) (\$22.00) Royal Thai Police Detective Sonchai Jitpleecheep is called to investigate a crime scene in Bangkok—which quickly reveals itself to be anything but typical. For one thing, the victim has been beheaded in a bizarre manner, and for another, a message was left in blood. Then Sonchai is summoned to a river in the middle of the night to observe a spectacle that violates everything he holds dear as a Thai, as a Buddhist, and as a human being. A trail of breadcrumbs has been carefully laid out for him, but by whom? Sonchai's search for answers takes him deep into the Cambodian jungle, where he faces a conspiracy that

may implicate the American CIA and the Chinese military—and discovers exactly how far a government will go to protect its worst secrets.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA PALE HORSE (\$15.99) New trade paperback edition.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA SPARKLING CYANIDE (\$17.50) New trade paperback edition.

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS ed. MANHATTAN MAYHEM (\$17.99) Take a tour of Manhattan's most iconic neighborhoods in this anthology of all-new stories from Mystery Writers of America, produced to commemorate its 70th anniversary. Stories by **Lee Child, Jeffery Deaver, Mary Higgins Clark, T. Jefferson Parker, S. J. Rozan, Nancy Pickard, Ben H. Winters, Brendan DuBois, Persia Walker, Jon L. Breen, N. J. Ayres, Angela Zeman, Thomas H. Cook, Judith Kelman, Margaret Maron, Justin Scott, and Julie Hyzy.** Illustrated with iconic photography of New York City...

CORRIGAN, MAYA ANN five FINAL FONDUE (#3) (\$8.99) Val Deniston certainly has her plate full running a café, dabbling with recipes, and helping her grandfather prepare for the town's upcoming tricentennial celebration, but she's grown fond of her new life in the Chesapeake Bay town of Bayport... So when Val is asked to reclaim her old position as a cookbook publicist in New York City, she puts off her decision in order to help her grandfather perfect his chocolate fondue for the weekend festivity's dessert cook-off. But after the opening ceremonies, Val finds a houseguest strangled to death in her grandfather's backyard. She suspects a classic case of mistaken identity, especially when another guest nearly bids her life a fondue farewell. Now it's up to Val to keep the killer from making another stab at murder...

COULTER, CATHERINE fbi NEMESIS (#19) (\$13.50) In New York, Special Agent Lacey Sherlock foils a terrorist attack at JFK airport, but stopping the grenade-carrying crazy was only the beginning. Another plot unfolds nearly simultaneously with a bomb at St. Patrick's Cathedral... Meanwhile, Savich—with the help of Agent Griffin Hammersmith—has his hands full trying to track an elusive murderer who is able to control those under his thrall. When an attempt on Savich's life collides with Sherlock's terrorist case, they must race against the clock, as more lives are in danger with every passing minute.

CUTLER, JUDITH champion CHEATING THE HANGMAN (#3) (\$18.99) It is Easter Day, and a body hangs crucified on a tree. Unlike the Master whom Tobias serves, it will not rise from the dead. Naked except for a loincloth and a crown of thorns, the victim is unrecognizable, his face bludgeoned to a pulp.

DOYLE/KANE, PAUL SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SERVANTS OF HELL (\$12.99) Sherlock Holmes faces his greatest challenge yet when he meets the Cenobites, the infamous servants of hell. Late 1895, and Sherlock Holmes and his faithful companion Dr. John Watson are called upon to investigate a missing persons case. On the face of it, this seems like a mystery that Holmes might relish—as the person in question vanished from a locked room—and something to occupy him other than testing the limits of his mind and body. But this is just the start of an investigation that will draw the pair into contact with a shadowy organization, The Order of the Gash. As more and more people go missing in a similar fashion, the clues point to a sinister asylum in France and to the underworld of London. No, the other one. Hell.

ELLORY, R J MOCKINGBIRD SONGS (\$16.99) Henry Quinn only survived three years inside because of Evan Riggs, a one-time country singer, one-time killer, now serving a life sentence, no parole. On the day he gets out, Henry promises Evan he will find his daughter, the daughter he never met, and deliver a letter. A free man, Henry heads to the small Texan town where Evan grew up and where his brother Carson is Sheriff. There's no sign of the girl, and her uncle claims to know nothing of her whereabouts. But Henry isn't about to give up. Carson's behaviour towards him grows threatening, and Henry realises that there are dark secrets buried at the heart of this quiet town. What terrible thing drove the brothers apart, and what happened to Evan's daughter?

FREYDONT, SHELLEY newport GOLDEN CAGE (#2) (\$22.00) With her mother in Europe, Deanna is staying with the Ballard family, who agree to chaperone her through the summer season and guide her toward an advantageous marriage proposal—or so her mother hopes. Relishing her new freedom, Deanna is more interested in buying one of the fashionable new bathing costumes, joining a ladies' bicycling club, and befriending an actress named Amabelle Deeks, all of which would scandalize her mother. Far more scandalous is the discovery of a young man bludgeoned to death on the conservatory floor at Bonheur, the Ballards' sumptuous "cottage."

HART, ELSA li du JADE DRAGON MOUNTAIN (#1) (\$22.99) Li Du was an imperial librarian. Now, he is an exile. Arriving in Dayan, the last Chinese town before the Tibetan border, he is surprised to find it teeming with travelers, soldiers, and merchants. All have come for a spectacle unprecedented in this remote province: an eclipse of the sun commanded by the Emperor himself. When a Jesuit astronomer is found murdered in the home of the local magistrate, blame is hastily placed on Tibetan bandits. But Li Du suspects this was no random killing. Everyone has secrets: the ambitious magistrate, the powerful consort, the bitter servant, the irreproachable secretary, the East India Company merchant, the nervous missionary, and the traveling storyteller who can't keep his own story straight. Beyond the sloping roofs and festival banners, Li Du can see the mountain pass that will take him out of China forever. He must choose whether to leave and embrace his exile, or to stay and investigate a murder that the town of Dayan seems all too willing to forget. Excellent. A JD's Pick a year or so ago.

HECHTMAN, BETTY yarn GONE WITH THE WOOL (#4) (\$10.99) Every October, thousands of monarch butterflies flock to California's Monterey Peninsula to spend the winter there. To welcome their colorful guests, Cadbury by the Sea holds a weeklong festival complete with a butterfly queen and her court. Eager to show some town spirit, Casey Feldstein finds herself fluttering back and forth between setting up a yarn retreat, baking and helping out at the festival. But when a former butterfly queen is found dead with a knife in her back after a Bless the Butterflies service, Casey must set her loom aside to hook a killer with a score to settle. Includes knitting patterns and a recipe!

HUBER, ANNA LEE darby STUDY IN DEATH (#4) (\$10.99) Scotland, 1831. Lady Kiera Darby is thrilled to have found both an investigative partner and a fiancé in Sebastian Gage. But with her well-meaning sister planning on making their wedding the event of the season, Kiera could use a respite from the impending madness. After she's commissioned to paint the portrait of Lady Drummond, Kiera is shocked to find her client prostrate on the floor. Both a physician and Lord Drummond appear satisfied to rule her death natural, but Kiera is convinced that poison is the real culprit. Now, armed only with her knowledge of the macabre and her convictions, Kiera intends to discover the truth—no matter what, or who, stands in her way...

HUBER, ANNA LEE darby AS DEATH DRAWS NEAR (#5) (\$22.00) July 1831. In the midst of their idyllic honeymoon in England's Lake District, Kiera and Gage's seclusion is soon interrupted by a missive from her new father-in-law. A deadly incident involving a distant relative of the Duke of Wellington has taken place at an abbey south of Dublin, Ireland, and he insists that Kiera and Gage look into the matter. Intent on discovering what kind of monster could murder a woman of the cloth, the couple travel to Rathfarnham Abbey school. Soon a second nun is slain in broad daylight. Before long, Kiera starts to suspect that some of the girls may be hiding a sinister secret. With the killer poised to strike yet again, Kiera and Gage must make haste and unmask the fiend, before their matrimonial bliss comes to an untimely end...

HYZY, JULIE marshfield GRACE SEES RED (#7) (\$10.99) Grace Wheaton, curator and manager of Marshfield Manor, and her benefactor, Bennett Marshfield, are discussing how to help her roommates Bruce and Scott with their wine shop troubles when Grace's trusted—if testy—assistant, Frances, calls, saying she needs some assistance of her own. Arriving at the address Frances has given them,

they find a coroner's van and police cars parked outside an upscale assisted-living facility called Indwell. One of the elderly residents has been found dead under suspicious circumstances, and Frances, seen arguing with the man earlier that day, is now a person of interest. It's up to Grace to clear her assistant's name and find the real killer—before another Indwell resident checks out early...

JARDINE, QUINTIN skinner PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS (#26) (\$22.99) Enjoying life as a private citizen after a thirty-year police career, Bob Skinner is on the way to answer a friend's plea for help when a freak accident gives him an unwelcome glimpse of the dark side. As his former colleagues investigate the mystery of a dead child in the boot of a stolen car, the ex-Chief Constable undertakes an unusual challenge of his own, tracing a missing multi-million pound yacht that has vanished from its moorings. The two events seem unconnected, yet as the casualty count rises, is there a link that no one has seen? The whodunnit is clear. The mystery is: why.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN MURDERERS DAUGHTER (\$13.50) A brilliant, deeply dedicated psychologist, Grace Blades has a gift for treating troubled souls and tormented psyches—perhaps because she bears her own invisible scars: Only five years old when she witnessed her parents' deaths in a bloody murder-suicide, Grace took refuge in her fierce intellect and found comfort in the loving couple who adopted her. But even as an adult with an accomplished professional life, Grace still has a dark, secret side. When her two worlds shockingly converge, Grace's harrowing past returns with a vengeance. An evil she thought she'd outrun has reared its head again, but Grace fears that a police inquiry will expose her double life. Launching her own personal investigation leads her to a murderously manipulative foe, one whose warped craving for power forces Grace back into the chaos and madness she'd long ago fled.

LINDSAY, JEFF DEXTER IS DEAD (#8) (\$21.95) Dexter Morgan—blood-spatter analyst . . . husband . . . father . . . serial killer—knew that he couldn't burn the candle at both ends forever, and now, his dark deeds have finally ensnared him. He is in prison on multiple homicide charges, although, ironically, he did not commit any of the murders of which he is accused. He's lost everything: his wife, kids, career, and the loyalty of his sister. Now his sole, small shot at redemption may come from his brother, Brian, a homicidal maniac who makes Dexter look like the angel in the family. By helping Brian through some serious trouble of his own making, Dexter sees a potential path to proving himself innocent. But the stakes are truly deadly. And, with nothing left to hold him back, Dexter hurtles into an epic showdown . . . which may be his last.

MORAN, TERRIE FARLEY READ TO DEATH (#3) (\$10.99) At their seaside Read 'Em and Eat bookstore café, Sassy Cabot and Bridgy Mayfield offer fresh scones, great books, and excellent detective work... With their book club season wrapping up with The Florida Life of Thomas Edison, Sassy and Bridgy decide to take their group on a day trip to the beautiful Edison and Ford Winter Estates. Oscar Frieland, is the driver. After a lovely excursion, the club returns to the café for lunch and a book discussion, but the group falls silent after Oscar is found dead in his van. The sheriff's deputies have some questions of their own for the group, and if the ladies don't find some answers soon, the next book they read might be from a prison library.

MORRIGAN, LAURA call TAKE THE MONKEY AND RUN (#4) (\$10.99) Grace Wilde is excited to head to New Orleans for her first "real" case as an animal telepath. She intends to help a woman find her missing sister, but when she attempts to communicate with her client's cat, Coco, Grace gets distracted by the presence of a much wilder animal. Coco confirms that a mysterious monkey has been swinging around the Big Easy. Grace thinks she might be able to help corral the cheeky Capuchin in addition to solving her case. But things get complicated when she receives a cryptic warning that her client isn't what she seems. Now it's up to Grace to separate the truth from the monkey business...

MUIR, FRANK (T F) gilchrist BLOOD TORMENT (#6) (\$22.99 trade paper, \$36.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

PANOWICH, BRIAN BULL MOUNTAIN (\$22.00) Clayton Bur-

roughs comes from a long line of outlaws. For generations, the Burroughs clan has made its home on Bull Mountain in North Georgia, running shine, pot, and meth over six state lines, virtually untouched by the rule of law. To distance himself from his family's criminal empire, Clayton took the job of sheriff in a neighboring community to keep what peace he can. But when a federal agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms shows up at Clayton's office with a plan to shut down the mountain, his hidden agenda will pit brother against brother, test loyalties, and could lead Clayton down a path to self-destruction.

REDMOND, PATRICK PUPPET SHOW (\$16.99) Michael Turner is about to make a big mistake. Having struggled for years to escape the demons of his childhood—an orphan lost in a maze of institutions and foster homes—he is finally happy. Now in his early twenties, he has a loving fiancée and is taking the first steps in a promising legal career. And then he meets Max, the father figure that Michael has always craved...

REED, HANNAH highlands DRESSED TO KILT (#3) (\$10.99) Winter is leaving the residents of Glenkillen snowbound, but Eden isn't about to let the weather dampen her spirits. With only a little time left in Scotland, she's determined to make the most of it—starting with attending a fancy whisky tasting with local looker Leith Cameron. But her classy date turns into a major party foul after a woman is found drowned in one of the vats of alcohol. Eden immediately steps in as a Special Constable to help solve the case, but her investigation turns sour when she realizes that the killer could be somehow connected to her own Scottish heritage. Now, in order to find the proof she needs to put the murderer behind bars, she'll have to take a shot at unearthing her family's past—before she herself winds up buried...

ROBERTS, I D kingdom KINGDOM LOCK (#1) (\$17.99) It is 1914 and while battles rage across Europe, three empires—the Ottoman, the German and the British—fight for dominance in the Middle East. Kingdom Lock works for the British Intelligence Service known as the White Tab and has a mission in Persia. He must stop a German spy from inciting jihad and rebellion among the population and from seizing control of the previous oilfields. But to complete his task, the Australian-born Lock has not only to battle resentment and enemies on his own side, but to keep one step ahead of the war raging around him.

ROY, LORI LET ME DIE IN HIS FOOTSTEPS (\$22.00) On a dark Kentucky night in 1952, exactly halfway between her fifteenth and sixteenth birthdays, Annie Holleran crosses into forbidden territory. Everyone knows Hollerans don't go near Baines, not since Joseph Carl was buried two decades before, but Annie runs through her family's lavender fields toward the well on the Baines' place, hoping to see her future in the water. Instead, she finds a body, and Annie's future becomes inextricably tied with her family's dark past.

RUNCIE, JAMES grantchester DANGERS OF TEMPTATION (#5) (\$23.00) It's the summer of love in late 1960s England. Basil D'Oliveira has just been dropped from the English cricket team before for a test series in apartheid South Africa; the war in Biafra dominates the news; and the Apollo 11 astronauts are preparing to land on the moon. In the midst of all this change, Sidney Chambers, now Archdeacon of Ely Cathedral, is still up to his amateur sleuthing investigations. Charming, witty, intelligent, and filled with a strong sense of compassion, here are six new stories guaranteed to satisfy and delight.

SILVA, DANIEL allon BLACK WIDOW (#16) (\$21.99 trade paper, \$34.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

STOCKWIN, JULIAN kydd TYGER (#16) (\$16.99) With his frigate L'Aurore unfit for sea, Kydd is given a commission that some hope will destroy his career. Tyger has recently mutinied but instead of having her company dispersed around the fleet as is customary, the ship is pressed into immediate service in the North Sea. Kydd faces a crew still under some malign influence. Enemies aboard and on the high seas are just the start of the problem. Soon he will have to take his untested and untrustworthy crew into the Baltic and there they will get entangled with Napoleon's invasion of Prussia. The stakes are desperate, the task seemingly impossible and the French implacable. But the only way for Kydd to avoid disgrace is to gamble his reputa-

tion and crew on a crazy mission to snatch a Prussian division out of the jaws of Napoleon's advancing army. Will he return home once more a hero, or himself face a court martial?

SUTTON, WILLIAM lawless LAWLESS AND THE FLOWERS OF SIN (#2) (\$19.50) It is 1863, and as a reluctant Inspector of Vice, Campbell Lawless undertakes a reckoning of London's houses of ill repute, a shadowy netherworld of frayed glamour and double standards, mesmerising and unspeakable by turns. From the erotic booksellers of Holywell Street to the alleys of Haymarket, he discovers backstreet cast-offs and casualties of the society bordellos, and becomes fascinated by a musician who has established a foundation for fallen women. But his inquiries draw the attention of powerful men, who can be merciless in defending their reputations. Lawless must unlock the heart of a clandestine network, before he too is silenced

WAITE, URBAN SOMETIMES THE WOLF (\$18.50) Sheriff Patrick Drake tried to lead an upstanding life and maintain some financial stability until his wife passed away. He did okay for a while, singlehandedly raising his family in a small mountain town. Then he was hit with money troubles, fell in with some unsavory men, and ended up convicted of one of the biggest crimes in local history.

Twelve years later Patrick is on parole under the watchful eye of his son Bobby, who just happens to be a deputy sheriff in his father's old department. Bobby hasn't had it easy, either. No matter how much distance he's tried to put between himself, his father, his grandfather, and the past, small town minds can have very long memories. But trouble isn't done with the Drakes—and a terrifying threat boils up from Patrick's old life. And this time, no one will be spared...

WALKER, MARTIN bruno CHILDREN RETURN (#7) (\$13.99) When an undercover agent tracking domestic jihadists is found murdered, it's troubling enough for Bruno's beloved village. But when this is followed by the return of Sami, a local autistic youth thought lost to Islamic extremism, provincial St. Denis suddenly becomes a front line in the global war on terror. Bruno must scramble to track down the terrorists before they exact their own justice. As if things aren't complicated enough, Bruno finds himself contending with the mixed, alluring signals of one of the high-ranking U.S. intelligence officers on Sami's case, even while juggling the affections of his neighbour and sometime lover...

WEAVER, TIM raker CHASING THE DEAD (#1) (\$16.00) One year ago, Alex Towne's body was found. One month ago, his mother saw him on the street. One week ago, David Raker agreed to look for him. Now he wishes he hadn't. Alex had gone missing six years ago. Five years later he finally turned up—as a corpse in a car wreck. Missing persons investigator David Raker doesn't want the work: it's clearly a sad but hopeless case of mistaken identity brought to him by a woman unable to let go of her son. But haunted by a loss of his own, Raker reluctantly agrees. Big mistake. For as he digs deeper, he discovers that Alex's life was not the innocent one his mother believed.

WIKEN, LINDA dinner club TOASTING UP TROUBLE (31) (\$10.99) Event planner Jennifer "J.J." Tanner has a full plate, but that's the way she likes it. First, it's her turn to choose the recipe for the next meeting of the Culinary Capers Dinner Club, a gathering of foodie friends who experiment with entrées for their creative and gastronomical pleasure. Second, she's organizing an Italian princess party for the twenty-one-year-old daughter of a high-tech millionaire. But one thing J.J. didn't plan on is that the caterer for the event—hotshot chef Antonio Marcotti—would end up murdered the night of the party. Or that she'd end up being a prime suspect after having had a heated argument with the unscrupulous chef. Now it's up to J.J.—with help from her fellow Club members and a handsome if mysterious private eye—to turn the tables on the real killer...

WILLIAMS, CONRAD sorrell SONATA OF THE DEAD (#2) (\$16.95) It's four months on from the events of Dust and Desire (#1) (\$16.95). Joel Sorrell has recovered from the injuries he sustained in his fight with The Four-Year-Old. A body has been found, sealed into the dead space behind a false wall in a flat in Muswell Hill. Beheaded and surrounded by bloodstained pages of typewritten text, it is the third such murder committed by a killer known as The Hack. And

it may be linked to his daughter's disappearance.

ZISKIN, JAMES W stone HEART OF STONE (#4) (\$17.00) In the waning days of a lazy August holiday, Ellie Stone is enjoying a bright Adirondack-lake morning. Nearby, two men plummet to their deaths just a few feet short of the water of a dangerous diving pool. A tragic accident, it seems. But the police quickly establish that the two victims—one a stranger to the lake and the other a teenaged boy from a nearby music camp—surely didn't know each other. So how did they come to die together? Wading into a slippery morass of free-love intellectuals and charismatic evangelicals, Ellie's investigation forces her to navigate old grudges and cold war passions, lost ideals and betrayed loves. As usual, she sticks her nose where it's unwanted, rattling nerves and putting herself in jeopardy. But this time it's her heart that's also at risk.