



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

April 2021

The third wave is on us—more ferocious than the first two. The numbers, although not as high as they were in early January, are on the upswing and rising quickly. Assuming I'm reading the numbers correctly. At times it seems that one needs to be an epidemiologist to understand and interpret the numbers. The variants are coming thick and fast, like springtime weeds. The GTA is still in the Grey Lockdown zone. Patios, open for a week or so, are shut down again. Non-essential retail, like Sleuth, can be open—which makes little sense to me—even if it is with 25% capacity. Yet, hope is in the air. More and more are getting their first shots and vaccinations are the one thing that will bring the world to some semblance of normalcy—he says, beseechingly.

JD's Picks

All that doom and gloom aside...**WILLIAM DEVERELL's** Arthur Beauchamp is one of crime fiction's most enchanting, most delightful characters. Where I have the pleasure of being stood to a drink by the author, I'd be happy to hoist a few with Arthur. You know my distaste for lengthy books—not due to length but because the author has run out of interesting things to say and begins regurgitating—but that is not a problem that you'll ever have with this magnificent series of novels. I tell you this every time, and I will again: if you have not started this series yet—and you call yourself a mystery aficionado?—start with Trial of Passion (#1) (\$19.95) and then you can work your way forward. Or just skip to the latest, Stung (#8) (\$32.95) and I promise you'll be enchanted with both. Three of the eight are currently not in print but I read somewhere that they will be reprinted this year.

A brief synopsis: Lawyer Arthur Beauchamp is facing the most explosive trial of his career: the defence of seven boisterous environmentalists accused of sabotaging an Ontario plant that pumps out a pesticide that has led to the mass death of honeybees. The story zig-zags between Toronto, where the trial takes place, and Arthur's West Coast island home, where he finds himself arrested for fighting his

own environmental cause: the threatened destruction of a popular park. The Toronto trial concludes with a tense, hang-by-the-fingernails jury verdict. Realistic and riveting...

A total delight, from start to finish. The central story—the environmental cost of these poisons—is an important one and the knowledge you might gain about the trade off between cost and benefit of this kind of “progress” is the bonus. Read the novel for the large cast of eccentrics—those funny, quirky, delightful characters that populate the pages—and that will have you wanting more.

A writer that has been around for many years is **ELLY GRIFFITHS** with her Ruth Galloway stories. In 2018 she wrote The Stranger Diaries (#1) (\$22.99) the beginning of a new series featuring DS Harbinder Kaur. If I noted the detective's name at the time, I quickly forgot it. It was not until the second in the series, Postscript Murders (#2) (\$35), was published earlier this year that the name struck home. Of course, I had to read the series. That this story is a “fiercely intelligent, warm, human, and at times, funny”—Louise Penny or an “utterly mesmerizing thriller”—*Washington Book Review* is useful to know, what did it for me is the name. Let me explain.

DS Kaur is one of my kind. The name is the giveaway. So, of course, I wanted to sample the novel, but, with some trepidation! The pleasure of a good read can be spoiled by errors and inaccuracies, even small ones. Whether it's something big—religion, culture—or small—do Glockes have a safety—if it's something you know to be inaccurate, it can irritate and spoil the read. I'm happy to say that I thoroughly enjoyed meeting DS Kaur and loved the read.

Here's a short blurb: Clare Cassidy is no stranger to murder. A high school English teacher specializing in the Gothic writer R. M. Holland, she teaches a course on it every year. But when one of Clare's colleagues and closest friends is found dead, with a line from R. M. Holland's most famous story, “The Stranger,” left by her body, Clare is horrified to see her life collide with the storylines of her favorite literature. To make matters worse, the police suspect the killer is someone Clare knows. Unsure whom to trust, she turns to her closest confidant, her diary, the only outlet she has for her darkest suspicions and fears about the case. Then one day she notices something odd. Writing that isn't hers, left on the page of an old diary: *Hallo Clare. You*

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don't know me. Clare becomes more certain than ever: "The Stranger" has come to terrifying life. But can the ending be rewritten in time?

Although I picked up the book for a specific reason, this turned out to be nicely-paced, totally satisfying thriller. Now, onto the further adventures of DS Kaur. Oh, the boss has just reminded me, Stranger Diaries won the 2020 Edgar for Best Novel.

Marian's Picks

The province of Ontario is in another shutdown effective April 3rd, 2021 lasting four weeks. Good luck to everyone. Another month of take out only is going to put a great deal of additional pressure on restaurants, so they need all the help you can give them. Don't worry about the extra pounds; summer is around the corner and you'll work them off. Not that restaurants are the only ones hurting! We need the vaccines and we need them now. Until this is behind us, please keep socially distant, wear masks, wash your hands...you know the drill. Please keep safe. Oh, yeah, and read lots. (*Marian, Marian, Marian, that should be BUY lots. Read them, sure, but use them as shims if you need.*—jd)

Pixie got her Spring grooming a couple of weeks ago and she no longer looks like a great big woolly sheep. The essential Poodle has emerged! And, she's gorgeous! She woke me up at 3 am this morning—not like her; she normally sleeps like a log—wanting to go outside, and sure enough off she ran looking for grass to chew, and then, well, upchucked. When her inner cow emerges, I know something's up. I can't think of anything she ate yesterday that was different from what she eats everyday, but something triggered her upset tummy. My poor girl.

April 21, 2021 is the day that the Crime Writers of Canada announces the short lists for the Awards of Excellence. I love seeing which books get nominated, but then have to wait until May 27th to find out who the winners are. Check the website for the announcements: crimewriterscanada.com.

If you are into the lighter style of mystery, (for books that make us smile...as they say on their website) check out the Bony Blithe Light Mystery Award shortlist, which will be announced April 14, 2021, with the winner announced May 28, 2021. Details at bonyblithe.com.

Let's support our Canadian crime writers!

It's a rare book where I want to read each and every word; mostly you can "fast" read your way through the book and not feel like you've missed much. But Slough House (#7) (\$35.95) by **MICK HERRON**, is not one of those books. The entire series, actually. Every word is a pleasure, so I want to savour every single one. Of course, I'm sad to get to the end of the book because I know I must wait another year for the next one. The books are so good; his writing is so clever, so subtle, and so humorous. Most fun, is all the jabs he takes at the British establishment, even though I'm sure that a good number have gone over my head. His gang of unique and quirky misfit MI5 agents, called slow horses, working in Slough House, under the brilliance of Jackson Lamb, amaze me. Set out to pasture, these has-beens, nonetheless, entertain me with their antics. Don't get me wrong. This series is not a lighthearted jaunt through spy land. They do deal with serious threats to person and country, but you won't be able to keep from chuckling your way through the reads. If you want to sample this terrific series, then start with the first one, Slow Horses (#1) (\$9.99).

Here is the description of Slough House: In his best and most ambitious novel yet, Mick Herron, "the le Carré of the future" (BBC), offers an unsparing look at the corrupt web of media, global finance, spycraft, and politics that power our modern world.

At Slough House—MI5's London depository for demoted spies—Brexit has taken a toll. The "slow horses" have been pushed further into the cold, Slough House has been erased from official records, and its members are dying in unusual circumstances, at an unusual clip. No wonder Jackson Lamb's crew is feeling paranoid. But are they actually targets?

With a new populist movement taking hold of London's streets and the old order ensuring that everything's for sale to the highest bidder, the world's a dangerous place for those deemed surplus. Jackson Lamb and the slow horses are in a fight for their lives as they navigate dizzying layers of lies, power, and death.

I loved The Alice Network (\$21) and The Huntress (\$22.99) by **KATE QUINN** and was so excited when The Rose Code (\$24.99) was released last month. It's the story of three female code breakers working at Bletchley Park during World War II and their discovery that there might have been a spy working there as well, something they didn't realise until after the war was over. This is a great story about the secret workings at Bletchley Park, in a frantic effort to crack German codes. I can't begin to imagine the desperate pressure and the pressure cooker atmosphere the women must have had to contend with. It took all my will power not to just flip to the end of the book to find out what happened!

Here is a brief plot summary: 1940. As England prepares to fight the Nazis, three very different women answer the call to mysterious country estate Bletchley Park, where the best minds in Britain train to break German military codes. Vivacious debutante Osla is the girl who has everything—beauty, wealth, and the dashing Prince Philip of Greece sending her roses—but she burns to prove herself as more than a society girl, and puts her fluent German to use as a translator of decoded enemy secrets. Imperious self-made Mab, product of east-end London poverty, works the legendary codebreaking machines as she conceals old wounds and looks for a socially advantageous husband. Both Osla and Mab are quick to see the potential in local village spinster Beth, whose shyness conceals a brilliant facility with puzzles, and soon Beth spreads her wings as one of the Park's few female cryptanalysts. But war, loss, and the impossible pressure of secrecy will tear the three apart.

1947. As the royal wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip whips post-war Britain into a fever, three friends-turned-enemies are reunited by a mysterious encrypted letter—the key to which lies buried in the long-ago betrayal that destroyed their friendship and left one of them confined to an asylum. A mysterious traitor has emerged from the shadows of their Bletchley Park past, and now Osla, Mab, and Beth must resurrect their old alliance and crack one last code together. But each petal they remove from the rose code brings danger, and their true enemy closer.

It's not often that JD and I read the same book. His tastes are very different than mine, but when he told me I'd like City of Windows (#1) (\$24.50) by **ROBERT POBI**, and suggested I read it, I did. Now, I can hardly wait to get back to the city so I can get my hands on the second book in the series, Under Pressure (#2) (\$36.50). The book is relentless action from page one to page last, and if it hadn't been for Pixie needing to go for her walks or my 5pm restorative martini, I wouldn't have budged from my chair and read the book non-stop. You know when they say a book is unputdownable? Well, this is one of those books. It's gritty, edgy, set in New York City, FBI, assassinations, interesting characters, great plot, but not stupidly simplis-

tic.... What more can I say? I loved the main character, Lucas Page, a former FBI agent who is called in to help on a case. He teams up with take no guff, Whitaker, and the two just sweep you up and take you on an adventure.

Here's the plot: During the worst blizzard in memory, an FBI agent in a moving SUV in New York City is killed by a nearly impossible sniper shot. Unable to pinpoint where the shot came from, as the storm rapidly wipes out evidence, the agent-in-charge Brett Kehoe turns to the one man who might be able to help them—former FBI agent Lucas Page.

Page, a university professor and bestselling author, left the FBI years ago after a tragic event robbed him of a leg, an arm, an eye, and the willingness to continue. But he has an amazing ability to read a crime scene, figure out angles and trajectories in his head, and he might be the only one able to find the sniper's nest. With a new wife and family, Lucas Page has no interest in helping the FBI—except for the fact that the victim was his former partner.

Agreeing to help for his partner's sake, Page finds himself hunting a killer with an unknown agenda and amazing sniper skills in the worst of conditions. And his partner's murder is only the first in a series of meticulously planned murders carried out with all-but-impossible sniper shots. The only thing connecting the deaths is that the victims are all with law enforcement—that is until Page's own family becomes a target.

Hardbacks

ALEXANDER, TASHA ashton DARK HEART OF FLORENCE (#15) (\$37.99) 1903...the legendary city of Florence, where Lady Emily and Colin must solve a murder with clues leading back to the time of the Medici. Emily secretly launches her own clandestine inquiry into the murder, aided by her spirited and witty friend, Cécile. They soon discover that the palazzo, where the death took place, may contain a hidden treasure dating back to the days of the Medici and the violent reign of the fanatic monk, Savonarola—days that resonate in the troubled early twentieth century, an uneasy time full of intrigue, duplicity, and warring ideologies. Emily and Cécile race to untangle the cryptic clues leading them through the Renaissance city, but an unimagined danger follows closely behind. And when another violent death puts Emily directly in the path of a killer, there's much more than treasure at stake...

ANDREWS, ALEXANDRA WHO IS MAUD DIXON? (\$35) Florence Darrow is a low-level publishing employee who believes that she's destined to be a famous writer. When she stumbles into a job the assistant to the brilliant, enigmatic novelist known as Maud Dixon—whose true identity is a secret—it appears that the universe is finally providing Florence's big chance. The arrangement seems perfect. Maud Dixon (whose real name, Florence discovers, is Helen Wilcox) can be prickly, but she is full of pointed wisdom—not only on how to write, but also on how to live. Florence quickly falls under Helen's spell and eagerly accompanies her to Morocco, where Helen's new novel is set. Amidst the colorful streets of Marrakesh and the wind-swept beaches of the coast, Florence's life at last feels interesting enough to inspire a novel of her own. But when Florence wakes up in the hospital after a terrible car accident, with no memory of the previous night—and no sign of Helen—she's tempted to take a shortcut. Instead of hiding in Helen's shadow, why not upgrade into Helen's life? Not to mention her bestselling pseudonym...

BERRY, FLYNN NORTHERN SPY (\$35) A producer at the BBC and mother to a new baby, Tessa is at work in Belfast one day when the news of another raid comes on the air. The IRA may have gone underground in the two decades since the Good Friday Agreement, but they never really went away, and lately bomb threats, security

checkpoints, and helicopters floating ominously over the city have become features of everyday life. As the news reporter requests the public's help in locating those responsible for the robbery, security footage reveals Tessa's sister, Marian, pulling a black ski mask over her face. The police believe Marian has joined the IRA, but Tessa is convinced she must have been abducted or coerced.

COBEN, HARLAN WIN (\$37) Over twenty years ago, the heiress Patricia Lockwood was abducted during a robbery of her family's estate, then locked inside an isolated cabin for months. Patricia escaped, but so did her captors—and the items stolen from her family were never recovered. Until now. On the Upper West Side, a recluse is found murdered in his penthouse apartment, alongside two objects of note: a stolen Vermeer painting and a leather suitcase bearing the initials WHL3. For the first time in years, the authorities have a lead—not only on Patricia's kidnapping, but also on another FBI cold case—with the suitcase and painting both pointing them toward one man. Windsor Horne Lockwood III—or Win, as his few friends call him—doesn't know how his suitcase and his family's stolen painting ended up with a dead man. But his interest is piqued, especially when the FBI tells him that the man who kidnapped his cousin was also behind an act of domestic terrorism—and that the conspirators may still be at large. The two cases have baffled the FBI for decades, but Win has three things the FBI doesn't: a personal connection to the case; an ungodly fortune; and his own unique brand of justice.

DEVERELL, WILLIAM beauchamp STUNG (#8) (\$32.95) Fabulous. Elegant. Witty. Stop reading this boring newsletter and order a copy of what's going to be one of the best books of 2021. And certainly, a jds favourite novel of the year. I'm not biased, I'm president. **DOYLE/TREML, RENEE** SHERLOCK BONES AND THE SEA-CREATURE FEATURE (\$24.99) a graphic novel. Sherlock Bones's home, the Natural History Museum, has added an exciting new exhibit, Reef to Shore, that includes a mangrove forest and shallow coral reef habitat, with touch tanks in between. When Sherlock overhears a that a swamp monster has been sighted, he gathers his team to investigate. At first Sherlock Bones suspects Nivlac, a quirky octopus with a talent for camouflage—and tank pranks. But then, loud bellowing leads Bones and team to the mangroves, where they find a horrifying long-haired green beast! Can they escape the creature—or is it too late for our beloved frogmouth bird skeleton and his ragtag mystery-solving team?

DRUART, RUTH WHILE PARIS SLEPT (\$35) Santa Cruz, 1953. Jean-Luc is a man on the run from his past. The scar on his face is a small price to pay for surviving the horrors of Nazi occupation in France. Now, he has a new life in California, a family. He never expected the past to come knocking on his door. Paris, 1944. A young Jewish woman's past is torn apart in a heartbeat. Herded onto a train bound for Auschwitz, in an act of desperation she entrusts her most precious possession to a stranger. All she has left now is hope. On a darkened platform, two destinies become intertwined, and the choices each person makes will change the future in ways neither could have imagined. Told from alternating perspectives.

FOX, CANDICE crimson GATHERING DARK (#4) (\$37.99) Dr. Blair Harbour, once a wealthy, respected pediatric surgeon, is now an ex-con down on her luck. She's determined to keep her nose clean and win back custody of her son. But when her former cellmate begs for help to find her missing daughter, Blair is compelled to put her new-found freedom on the line. Detective Jessica Sanchez has always had a difficult relationship with the LAPD. And her inheritance of a multi-million dollar mansion as a reward for catching a killer has just made her police enemy number one. It's been ten years since Jessica arrested Blair for cold-blooded murder. So when Jessica opens the door to the disgraced doctor late one night she expects abuse, maybe even violence. What comes next is a plea for help...

HARRIS, C S st. cyr WHAT THE DEVIL KNOWS (#16) (\$35) It's October 1814. The war with France is finally over and peace is finally at hand. London, though, now finds itself in the grip of a series of heinous murders eerily similar to the Ratchliffe Highway murders of 1811. Two entire families were viciously murdered in their homes and a suspect—a young seaman named John Williams—was arrested.

But before he could be brought to trial, Williams hanged himself in his cell. The murders ceased, and London slowly began to breathe easier. But when the lead investigator, Sir Edwin Pym, is killed in the same brutal way three years later and others possibly connected to the original case meet violent ends, the city is paralyzed with terror once more. Was the wrong man arrested for the murders? Bow Street magistrate Sir Henry Lovejoy turns to his friend Sebastian St. Cyr, Viscount Devlin, for assistance.

MAY, PETER enzo NIGHT GATE (#7) (\$32.49) In a sleepy French village, the body of a man shot through the head is disinterred by the roots of a fallen tree. A week later a famous art critic is viciously murdered in a nearby house. The deaths occurred more than seventy years apart, but there is, as it turns out, an unexpected link between the murders—the Mona Lisa. Asked by a colleague to inspect the site of the former, forensics expert Enzo Macleod quickly finds himself embroiled in the investigation of the latter. Two extraordinary narratives are set in train—one historical, unfolding in the treacherous wartime years of Occupied France; the other contemporary, set in the autumn of 2020 as France re-enters Covid lockdown.

MUNIER, PAULA mercy elvis HIDING PLACE (#3) (\$37.99) When her late grandfather's dying deputy calls Mercy to his side, she and Elvis inherit the cold case that haunted him—and may have killed him. But finding Beth Kilgore 20 years after she disappeared is more than a lost cause. It's a Pandora's box releasing a rain of evil on the very people Mercy and Elvis hold most dear. The timing couldn't be worse when the man who murdered her grandfather escapes from prison and a fellow Army vet turns up claiming that Elvis is his dog, not hers. With her grandmother Patience gone missing, and Elvis's future uncertain, Mercy faces the prospect of losing her most treasured allies, the only ones she believes truly love and understand her. She needs help, and that means forgiving Vermont Game Warden Troy Warner long enough to enlist his aid. With time running out for Patience, Mercy and Elvis must team up with Troy and his search-and-rescue dog Susie Bear to unravel the secrets of the past and save her grandmother—before it's too late.

PALMER, MATTHEW WOLF OF SARAJEVO (\$37) Twenty years after the Srebrenica massacre that claimed the life of his friend and colleague, Eric Petrosian is back in Sarajevo at the American embassy, and the specter of war once again hangs over the Balkans. The Bosnian Serb leader, who had for a time been seeking a stable peace, has turned back to his nationalist roots and is threatening to pull Bosnia apart in a bloody struggle for control . . . and behind him is a shadowy mafia figure pulling the strings. As Eric is dragged deeper into the political maelstrom and uncovers a plot of blackmail and ruthless ambitions, Eric is faced with an impossible choice: use the information he's uncovered to achieve atonement for the past or use it to shape the future.

PALMER, MATTHEW ENEMY OF THE GOOD (\$37) Katarina "Kate" Hollister is a second-generation Foreign Service officer, recently assigned to Kyrgyzstan. She's not there by chance. Kate is a Foreign Service brat who attended high school in the region; her uncle is the U.S. ambassador to the country, and he pulled a few strings to get her assigned to his mission. U.S.–Kyrgyz relations are at a critical juncture. U.S. authorities have been negotiating with the Kyrgyz president on the lease of a massive airbase that would significantly expand the American footprint in Central Asia and could tip the scale in "the Great Game," the competition among Russia, China, and the United States for influence in the region. The negotiations are controversial in the United States because of the Kyrgyz regime's abysmal human-rights record. The fate of the airbase is balanced on a razor's edge. Amid these events, Kate's uncle assigns her to infiltrate an underground democracy movement that has been sabotaging Kyrgyz security services and regime supporters. Washington has taken an interest in the movement, her uncle conveys, and may find it worth supporting if they understand more about the aims and leadership. And Kate has an in—many followers of the movement were high school classmates of hers. But it soon becomes clear that nothing about Kate's mission is as it seems . . . and that she might need to lay her life on the line for what she knows is right.

PATTERSON, JAMES RED BOOK (\$35) For Detective Billy Harney, getting shot in the head, stalked by a state's attorney, and accused of murder by his fellow cops is a normal week on the job. So when a drive-by shooting on the Chicago's west side turns political, he leads the way to a quick solve. But Harney's instincts—his father was once chief of detectives and his twin sister, Patti, is also on the force—run deep. As a population hungry for justice threatens to riot, he realizes that the three known victims are hardly the only casualties. When Harney starts asking questions about who's to blame, the easy answers prove to be the wrong ones. On the flip side, the less he seems to know, the longer he can keep his clandestine investigation going . . . until Harney's quest to expose the evil that's rotting the city from the inside out takes him to the one place he vowed never to return: his own troubled past.

ROSENFELT, DAVID K team ANIMAL INSTINCT (#2) (\$37.99) The K Team's latest case—a recent unsolved murder—gives Corey a chance to solve "the one that got away". Corey knew the murder victim from his time on the force, when he was unable to protect her in a domestic dispute. Now, he is convinced the same abusive boyfriend is responsible for her murder. With some help from Laurie's lawyer husband, Andy Carpenter, the K Team is determined to prove what the police could not, no matter the cost. What they uncover is much more sinister than they could have imagined.

SEARS, MICHAEL TOWER OF BABEL (\$35.95) Queens, New York—the most diverse place on earth. Native son Ted Molloy knows these streets like the back of his hand. Ted was once a high-powered Manhattan lawyer, but after a spectacular fall from grace, he has found himself back on his home turf, scraping by as a foreclosure profiteer. It's a grubby business, but a safe one—until Ted's case sourcer, a mostly reformed small-time conman named Richie Rubiano, turns up murdered shortly after tipping Ted off to an improbably lucrative lead. With Richie's widow on his back and shadows of the past popping up at every turn, Ted realizes he's gotten himself embroiled in a murder investigation. His quest for the truth will take him all over Queens, plunging him into the machinations of greedy developers, mobsters, enraged activists, old litigator foes and old-school New York City operators.

SHELTON, PAIGE bookshop DEADLY EDITIONS (#7) (\$36.50) It's a quiet, snowy morning at The Cracked Spine bookshop, when bookseller Delaney Nichols receives a mysterious visitor, a messenger. He presents her with a perplexing note: an invitation to a meeting with eccentric socialite Shelagh O'Conner, who requests Delaney's participation in an exclusive treasure hunt. Delaney is intrigued, but also cautious: Shelagh, while charming in person, has a reputation for her hijinks as a wealthy young woman in the '70s. She was even once suspected for the murder of a former boyfriend, though ultimately cleared of all charges. But Delaney is enticed by the grand prize at the end of the treasure hunt: a highly valuable first edition copy of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, by Robert Louis Stevenson. The winner is also to receive the contents of Shelagh's vast library, and all participants will earn a large sum of cash. If it sounds too good to be true . . .

SIMON, CLEA witch cat CAT ON THE CASE (#3) (\$38.95) When a panicked stranger shows up at Charm and Cherish, Becca Colwin feels compelled to help. But when that stranger then disappears, leaving behind her heirloom violin the aspiring witch detective is drawn further into a web of deceit and intrigue complicated by a history that only Becca's three magical cats truly understand.

THEROUX, PAUL UNDER THE WAVE AT WAIMEA (\$40) Now in his sixties, big-wave surfer Joe Sharkey has passed his prime and is losing his "stoke." The younger surfers around the breaks on the north shore of Oahu still idolize the Shark, but his sponsors are looking elsewhere. One night, while driving home from a bar after one too many, Joe accidentally kills a stranger near Waimea, a tragedy that sends his life out of control. As the repercussions of the accident spiral ever wider, Joe's devoted girlfriend, Olive, throws herself into uncovering the dead man's identity and helping Joe find vitality and refuge in the waves again.

VERDON, JOHN gurney ON HARROW HILL (#7) (\$36) The idyllic community of Larchfield is rocked to its core when Angus Russell, its wealthiest and most powerful citizen, is found dead in his mansion on Harrow Hill. A preliminary analysis of DNA gathered at the crime scene points to the guilt of local bad boy Billy Tate, whose hatred for the victim was well known. Except that Tate fell from the roof of a local church and was declared dead by the medical examiner the day before Russell was killed. When police rush to the mortuary, they discover Tate's coffin has been broken open from the inside, and the body is gone. A series of murders soon follows as Larchfield loses its collective mind. Gun sales explode. Conspiracy theories and religious fundamentalism spread. The once-peaceful town becomes a magnet for sensation seekers, self-proclaimed zombie hunters, TV producers eager for ratings, and apocalyptic preachers rallying the faithful for the end of days. His quiet retirement shattered, ex-NYPD detective Dave Gurney finds himself not only facing down a murderer, but struggling to restore order to the town rapidly spiraling out of control.

WOODS, STUART barrington DOUBLE JEOPARDY (#57) (\$37) Stone Barrington is settling in for a stretch in New York when he receives news that demands immediate action. An old family matter has unexpectedly resurfaced, and Stone must decamp to the craggy shores of Maine to address the issue head-on. There, Stone finds that a dual-pronged threat is hiding in plain sight among the stately houses and exclusive coastal clubs, and the incursion isn't easily rebuffed. These enemies have friends in high places, funds to spare, and a score to settle with Stone . . . and only the cleverest plot will draw them out into the open. From luxuriously renovated homes to the choppy ocean waters, the pursuit can only lead to an explosive end.

Paperbacks

AEGISDOTTIR, EVA BJORG CREAK ON THE STAIRS (\$20.95) When a body of a woman is discovered at a lighthouse in the Icelandic town of Akranes, it soon becomes clear that she's no stranger to the area. Chief Investigating Officer Elma, who has returned to Akranes following a failed relationship, and her colleagues Sævar and Hörður, commence an uneasy investigation, which uncovers a shocking secret in the dead woman's past that continues to reverberate in the present day. But as Elma and her team make a series of discoveries, they bring to light a host of long-hidden crimes that shake the entire community. Sifting through the rubble of the townspeople's shattered memories, they have to dodge increasingly serious threats, and find justice . . . before it's too late.

AIRTH, RENNIE COLD KILL (\$26.99) Actress Adelaide Banks is swapping her native New York for London to spend Christmas with her widowed Aunt Rose. Rose wrote in her note that she was off to Paris for a few days and would be back in time for Addy's arrival. But when Addy reaches Rose's Knightsbridge address, no one's home, and she has two unexpected callers. Where is Rose, and what has she got herself entangled in? Dragged into a deadly game of cat-and-mouse on the snowy streets of London, Addy finds herself navigating a dark underworld of ruthless assassins, rogue agents and international crime. Can she survive long enough to uncover the truth? From the author of the Insp. John Madden novels.

AKUNIN, BORIS fandorin SHE LOVER OF DEATH (#8) (\$23.95) The Lovers of Death are a small group of poets enraptured by death who gather nightly at the home of their leader, the Doge, and conduct seances to determine death's next chosen lover. Once named at a seance, the chosen member must await three signs from death before taking his own life. The string of suicides resulting from the group have drawn attention, becoming fodder for extensive media coverage and widespread hysteria in Moscow. As the group's numbers dwindle, a mysterious newcomer appears. Revealed to the reader as Erast Fandorin thanks to the presence of his trusty Japanese sidekick, Fandorin begins to investigate the suicides while also trying to convince the members that death is neither beautiful nor poetic and should not

be sought out. But will the gentleman detective be able to stop our naive young Masha Mironova, now Columbine, recently arrived in Moscow from Siberia, from taking action when she receives her three unmistakable signs?

ANDERSON, LIN macleod EASY KILL (#5) (\$19.99) A vulnerable young woman has been brutally slain and left on a grave in Glasgow's sprawling cemetery, the Necropolis. Upon examining the body, forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod has no doubt that the depraved killer's motives were sexual in nature. The case takes on an even more disturbing dimension when the removal of the girl's body reveals a second victim, who has recently been buried in a shallow grave underneath. When yet another sex worker is reported missing, there are fears that a serial killer is at large in the city. This man has killed before—and will again unless Rhona can break the chain and track him down before any more lives are lost.

ANDERSON, LIN macleod FINAL CUT (#6) (\$19.99) When Claire regains consciousness after a stranger causes her car to crash in a snowstorm, she is frantic to discover that her nine-year-old daughter Emma is missing from the back seat. Then Emma is found in the woods nearby, unharmed but cradling a child's skull. She claims it "called" to her—and she can hear another voice nearby. Meanwhile, forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod is trying to discover the identity of a corpse found badly burnt in a skip. The body is wearing a soldier's ID tag, but DNA tests show it's not him. When DS Michael McNab asks for her help identifying the remains Emma found, they discover the two cases are linked in ways they could never have imagined.

ARCHER, JEFFREY warwick HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT (#2) (\$12.99) William Warwick has been promoted to Detective Sergeant, but his promotion means that he, along with the rest of his team, have been reassigned to the Drugs Squad. They are immediately tasked with apprehending Assem Rashidi, a notorious drug dealer, who operates his extensive network out of South London. As the investigation progresses, William runs into enemies old and new: Adrian Heath, from his school days, now a street dealer who he convinces to turn informer; and financier Miles Faulkner, who makes a mistake that could finally see him put behind bars. Meanwhile, William and his fiancée Beth enjoy making preparations for their upcoming wedding, though an unpleasant surprise awaits them at the altar. As William's team closes the net around a criminal network like none they have ever faced before, he devises a trap they would never expect, one that is hidden in plain sight . . . Sequel to Nothing Ventured (#1) (\$12.99).

ARCHER, JEFFREY KANE AND ABEL (\$12.99) William Lowell Kane and Abel Rosnovski, one the son of a Boston millionaire, the other a penniless Polish immigrant—born on the same day near the turn of the century on opposite sides of the world—are brought together by fate and the quest of a dream. Two men—ambitious, powerful, ruthless—are locked in a relentless struggle to build an empire, fueled by their all-consuming hatred. Over sixty years and three generations, through war, marriage, fortune, and disaster, Kane and Abel battle for the success and triumph that only one man can have. Published 1979.

BERG, GRETCHEN OPERATOR (\$21) Nobody knows the people of Wooster, Ohio, better than switchboard operator Vivian Dalton, and she'd be the first to tell you that. She calls it intuition. Her teenage daughter, Charlotte, calls it eavesdropping. Vivian and the other women who work at Bell on East Liberty Street connect lines and lives. They aren't supposed to listen in on conversations, but they do, and they all have opinions on what they hear—especially Vivian. She knows that Mrs. Butler's ungrateful daughter, Maxine, still hasn't thanked her mother for the quilt she made, and that Ginny Frazier turned down yet another invitation to go to the A&W with Clyde Walsh. Then, one cold December night, Vivian listens in on a call between that snob Betty Miller and someone whose voice she can't quite place and hears something a shocking secret. But as Vivian is about to be reminded, in a small town like Wooster, one secret usually leads to another . . .

BLACK, CARA THREE HOURS IN PARIS (\$20.95) In June of 1940, when Paris fell to the Nazis, Hitler spent a total of three hours in the City of Light—abruptly leaving, never to return. To this day,

no one knows why. Kate Rees, a young American marksawoman, has been recruited by British intelligence to drop into Paris with a dangerous assignment: assassinate the Führer. Wrecked by grief after a Luftwaffe bombing killed her husband and infant daughter, she is armed with a rifle, a vendetta, and a fierce resolve. But other than rushed and rudimentary instruction, she has no formal spy training. Thrust into the red-hot center of the war, a country girl from rural Oregon finds herself holding the fate of the world in her hands. When Kate misses her mark and the plan unravels, Kate is on the run for her life—all the time wrestling with the suspicion that the whole operation was a set-up.

BLACK, SUE ALL THAT REMAINS: A RENOWNED FORENSIC SCIENTIST ON DEATH, MORTALITY, AND SOLVING CRIMES (\$25.99) The author is an internationally renowned forensic anthropologist and human anatomist. She has lived her life eye to eye with the Grim Reaper, and she writes vividly about it in this book, which is part primer on the basics of identifying human remains, part frank memoir of a woman whose first paying job as a schoolgirl was to apprentice in a butcher shop, and part no-nonsense but deeply humane introduction to the reality of death in our lives. It is a treat for CSI junkies, murder mystery and thriller readers, and anyone seeking a clear-eyed guide to a subject that touches us all. Cutting through hype, romanticism, and cliché, she recounts her first dissection; her own first acquaintance with a loved one's death; the mortal remains in her lab and at burial sites as well as scenes of violence, murder, and criminal dismemberment; and about investigating mass fatalities due to war, accident, or natural disaster, such as the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. She uses key cases to reveal how forensic science has developed and what her work has taught her about human nature.

BLOCK, LAWRENCE scudder TIME TO SCATTER STONES novella (\$28) A Matthew Scudder novella.

BOX, C J pickett OPEN SEASON (#1) (\$16) And so it began for Joe Pickett, a Wyoming game warden. With the shot of a rifle, he is thrust into a race to save not only an endangered species, but to unravel a mystery that threatens the life and the family he loves... Published 2001, the beginning of what became a very successful series, still going strong.

BRIGHT, VERITY lady eleanor swift MYSTERY BY THE SEA (\$22) Spring, 1921. Lady Eleanor Swift, explorer extraordinaire and accidental sleuth, hasn't had a vacation since she arrived in England a year ago. Being an amateur detective can be a rather tiring business and she is determined to escape any more murder and mysteries. So she books into the Grand Hotel in the fashionable resort of Brighton for some fresh air, fish and chips and, of course, a dip in the ocean. Eleanor is enjoying her view of the waves and trying to find her bathing suit when calamity strikes: a guest has been found dead at her beautiful hotel. The distraught manager, who can't afford a scandal, asks Eleanor to solve the case as swiftly as possible. Thank goodness she has her partner in crime – Gladstone the bulldog – to help her sniff out the dastardly culprit. But when Eleanor enters the dead man's room, she receives a shock big enough to make her forget even the finest ice cream sundae. The body is that of her husband, who supposedly died six years ago on the other side of the world. Has he been alive all these years? Why does he have a copy of their wedding photograph with a cryptic message written on the back? If Eleanor can keep herself safe long enough to find her husband's killer, she might discover that everything is not quite as it seems beside the seaside...

BUCHANAN, PAUL CITY OF FALLEN ANGELS (\$19.95) Summer, 1962. A scorching heat wave is suffocating L.A. PI John Keegan is offered a small fortune to find a beautiful woman from a set of photographs. He refuses; the job seems suspicious. But the next day the same woman, Eve, turns up, unbidden, on his doorstep. Eve fears for her safety. She is being watched. Before Keegan knows it, someone has been killed with Keegan's own gun, and he gets sucked into a world of suspicion and betrayal where he's never quite sure where the truth lies. Before long he's the prime suspect in a murder he didn't commit, and all the evidence seems to point in his direction. It's almost like someone planned it that way...

CAMILLERI, ANDREA montalbano COOK OF THE HALCYON (#27) (\$22) Giovanni Trincanato has brought ruin to the shipyard he inherited from his father and when a worker he fires hangs himself on the construction site, Inspector Montalbano is called to the scene. In short order, the inspector loses his temper with the crass Giovanni, delivers a slap to his face, and unfortunately, it won't be the last he sees of Trincanato. Meanwhile, a mysterious schooner called Halcyon shows up in the harbor, seemingly deserted except for just one man. With its presence comes even more mysteries, another death, and the arrival of the FBI. Alongside Sicilian-American Agent Pennisi, Montalbano and his team must attempt a suspenseful infiltration operation...

CARCATERRA, LORENZO rizzo PAYBACK (#2) (\$12.99) If there's one kind of person Tank Rizzo hates most in this world, it's a dirty cop. Criminals are at least honest about being dishonest; dirty cops are a disgrace to the badge they carry. Detective Eddie Kenwood is one such disgrace. He needs to be taken down. Also in need of a takedown: the money-laundering accounting firm where Tank's brother used to work—before he mysteriously died, leaving Tank the sole guardian of his nephew, Chris. Working two big cases means getting out the big guns, and Tank assembles his A-team. With help from a retired mobster, a professional boxer, a Chelsea psychic, a dog named Gus, and the U.S. Attorney—not to mention his and Pearl's own quick wits and Chris's burgeoning skills as a computer whiz—Tank gears up to take on his most dangerous and personal cases to date.

CARLYLE, ROSE GIRL IN THE MIRROR (\$23.99) Beautiful twin sisters Iris and Summer are startlingly alike, but beneath the surface lies a darkness that sets them apart. Cynical and insecure, Iris has long been envious of open-hearted Summer's seemingly never-ending good fortune, including her perfect husband Adam. Called to Thailand to help sail the beloved family yacht to the Seychelles, Iris nurtures her own secret hopes for what might happen on the journey. But when she unexpectedly finds herself alone in the middle of the Indian Ocean, everything changes. Now is her chance to take what she's always wanted—the idyllic life she's coveted from afar. But just how far will she go to get the life she's dreamed about? And how far will she go to ensure no one discovers the truth?

CARR, JOHN DICKSON bencolin LOST GALLOWS (#3) (\$21.99) Follow up to It Walks by Night (#1) (\$21.99) in which Inspector Bencolin attempts to piece together a puzzle involving a disappearing street, a set of gallows which mysteriously reveals itself to a number of figures traipsing through the London fog, and the bizarre suggestion that a kind of fictional bogeyman, Jack Ketch, may be afoot and in the business of wanton execution. An early gem from one of the great writers of the genre. Also includes the rare Bencolin short story The Ends of Justice.

CASS, LAURIE bookmobile CHECKING OUT CRIME (#9) (\$10.99) Minnie and her rescue cat Eddie can often be found out and about in their bookmobile near Chilson, Michigan, delivering great reads to grateful patrons all over the county. But they always brake for trouble, and when Minnie sees a car speeding away down the road, and soon comes upon a dead bicyclist, she assumes she just missed seeing a hit-and-run. Minnie is determined to discover who was behind the wheel, but it soon turns out that things are far more complicated than they seem and there's more to this case than meets the eye. Luckily, this librarian is ready to read the killer his rights.

CHIEN, VIVIEN noodle shop FATAL FRIED RICE (#7) (\$10.99) Lana Lee runs her family's Chinese restaurant in Cleveland's Asia Village like nobody's business. When it comes to actual cooking, however, she's known to be about a step up from boiling rice. So Lana decides to go to culinary school on the sly—and prove that she has what it takes in the kitchen after all. But when course instructor Margo Chan turns up dead after class, Lana suddenly finds herself on the case, frying pan in hand. Since she was the one who discovered the body, Lana must do double duty in finding the killer and clearing her name. Now, with or without the help of her boyfriend Detective Adam Trudeau, Lana launches her own investigation into Margo's life and mysterious death. Doing so leads her on a wild goose chase to

and from the culinary school—and all the way back to the Ho-Lee noodle shop, where the guilty party may be closer than Lana thinks. **CHUNG, MAXINE MEI-FUNG** EIGHTH GIRL (\$21) Beautiful. Damaged. Destructive. Meet Alexa Wú, a brilliant yet darkly self-aware young woman whose chaotic life is controlled by a series of alternate personalities. When Alexa's friend Ella gets a job at a high-end gentlemen's club, she catches the attention of its shark-like owner and is gradually drawn into his inner circle. As Alexa's world becomes intimately entangled with Ella's, she soon finds herself the unwitting keeper of a nightmarish secret as she follows Ella into London's cruel underbelly. Threatened and vulnerable, Alexa will discover whether her multiple personalities are her greatest asset, or her most dangerous obstacle.

COBEN, HARLAN HOLD TIGHT (\$16) "We're losing him." With those words, Mike and Tia Baye decide to spy on their sixteen-year-old son Adam, who has become increasingly moody and withdrawn since the suicide of his best friend. The software they install on his computer shows them every Web site visited, every e-mail sent or received, every instant message. And each keystroke draws them deeper and deeper into a maze of mayhem and violence that could destroy them all....

COBEN, HARLAN bolitar HOME (#11) (\$16) A decade ago, kidnappers grabbed two boys from wealthy families and demanded ransom, then went silent. No trace of the boys ever surfaced. For ten years their families have been left with nothing but painful memories and a quiet desperation for the day that has finally, miraculously arrived: Myron Bolitar and his friend Win believe they have located one of the boys, now a teenager. Where has he been for ten years, and what does he know about the day, more than half a life ago, when he was taken? And most critically: What can he tell Myron and Win about the fate of his missing friend? Drawing on his singular talent, Harlan Coben delivers an explosive and deeply moving thriller about friendship, family, and the meaning of home. Published 2016.

COLES, CATHERINE christie MURDER AT THE MANOR (#1) (\$21.95) Evelyn Christie has resigned herself to another long, boring weekend at Hesseham Hall, the home of her husband, Tommy's, family. However, it turns out to be anything but dull when his uncle, the Earl of Northmoor, is shockingly murdered! Evelyn must use all of her sleuthing knowledge, gained whilst she was a member of the Police force during the war, to find out who the murderer is before the bungling local police force decide the Earl was bumped off so Tommy could inherit his title.

COLES, CATHERINE christie MURDER AT THE VILLAGE FETE (#2) (\$21.95) Evelyn Christie, the new Lady Northmoor, is looking forward to hosting the local village fete in the grounds of Hesseham Hall. However, the last thing she expects to see on the morning of the fete is the local Member of Parliament face down in the stream at the edge of the lawn! Evelyn and her husband, Tommy, are again called into action to find the dastardly murderer before he strikes again!

CORNWELL, PATRICIA scarpetta POSTMORTEM #1 (\$12.99) Under cover of night in Richmond, Virginia, a monster strikes, leaving a gruesome trail of stranglings that has paralyzed the city. Medical examiner Kay Scarpetta suspects the worst: a deliberate campaign by a brilliant serial killer whose signature offers precious few clues. With an unerring eye, she calls on the latest advances in forensic research to unmask the madman. But this investigation will test Kay like no other, because it's being sabotaged from within—and someone wants her dead. Published 1989.

DAVIES, DAVID STUART hawke SPIRAL OF LIES (#7) (\$15) 1950. England. In the midst of the growing Cold War, Detective Johnny 'One Eye' Hawke is approached by Frances Clements, to help locate her missing husband. A seemingly ordinary case, nothing can prepare Hawke for the mystery that unravels. Clements is not who his wife thought he was, and Hawke's new client is found dead a day later. Hawke sets out on a dangerous investigation, alongside Mrs Clements' sister, who came to support Frances after her husband's disappearance. They soon discover that this mystery is bigger than a missing person.

DAVIS, KRISTA paws&claws BIG LITTLE SPIES (#7) (\$10.99) The ladies of the Wagtail Animal Guardians, WAG for short, are in town for a pet adoption charity ball, and Holly is making sure to roll out the red carpet for her special guests. She and her furry best friend Trixie are busy keeping the WAG ladies happy and preparing for the ball when they learn that a retired judge has lost his prized pup. The venerable citizen has hired a pet detective who has some personal ties to Holly's new guests. His presence ruffles some feathers, and when the PI is found DOA not long before the ball, Holly wonders if one of the WAG ladies had a motive for murder. To make matters worse, some pet-loving guests of the ball nearly suffer the same deadly fate. Holly and Trixie will have to sniff out the clues and leash a callous killer before they strike again....

DAY, MADDIE cozy capers MURDER AT THE TAFFY SHOP (#2) (\$11.99) When your mother is an astrologist and your dad is a minister, you learn to keep an open mind. Which is just what Mac loves to do—exercise her mind by puzzling out fictional clues in the mystery novels she reads and discusses with her Cozy Capers Book Group. But now Mac's friend Gin has found herself in a sticky situation. After wealthy genealogist Beverly Ruchart is found dead outside Gin's taffy shop, the candy maker becomes a person of interest. When it's revealed that Beverly was poisoned the night Gin brought a box of taffy to a dinner party at Beverly's house, she's bumped to the top of the suspects list. It's up to Mac and her Cozy Capers crime solvers to unwrap this real-life mystery. But this time they might have bitten off more than they can chew...

DEAVER, JEFFERY shaw GOODBYE MAN (#2) (\$12.99) In the wilderness of Washington State, expert tracker Colter Shaw has located two young men accused of a terrible hate crime. But when his pursuit takes a shocking and tragic turn, Shaw becomes desperate to discover what went so horribly wrong and if he is to blame. Shaw's search for answers leads him to a shadowy organization that bills itself as a grief support group. But is it truly it a community that consoles the bereaved? Or a dangerous cult with a growing body count? Undercover, Shaw joins the mysterious group, risking everything despite the fact that no reward is on offer. He soon finds that some people will stop at nothing to keep their secrets hidden. . . and to make sure that he or those close to him say "goodbye" forever.

DOLAN, HARRY GOOD KILLER (\$23.95) Sean Tennant and Molly Winter are living quietly and cautiously in Houston when a troubled, obsessive stranger shatters the safety they have carefully constructed for themselves. Sean is at a shopping mall when Henry Alan Keen, scorned by a woman he's been dating, pulls out a gun at the store where she works and begins shooting everyone in sight. A former soldier, Sean rushes toward Keen and ends the slaughter with two well-placed shots—becoming a hero with his face plastered across the news. But Sean's newfound notoriety exposes him to the wrath of two men he thought he had left safely in his past. Thus begins a cross-country chase that leads from Texas to Montana, from Tennessee to New York to Michigan, as the hunters and their prey grow ever closer and, in a heart-stopping moment, converge.

DOYLE, CARRIE hamptons DEATH ON BULL PATH (#4) (\$12.99) Antonia Bingham, chef and proprietor of the Windmill Inn, is looking forward to baking goodies for her customers and relaxing after a busy summer. But when a Labor Day visit by two slick Wall Streeters ends with their gruesome deaths in a summer rental house, Antonia gets pulled into the murder investigation! Soon she's wading through social media, the local nightclub scene, and other unfamiliar haunts of the young and glamorous, all while managing her inn and restaurant. And the timing couldn't be worse: Nick Darrow, Antonia's movie star crush, is back in town and ready for a commitment... while the arrival of Antonia's sinister ex-husband threatens to bring everything crashing down.

DRISCOLL, SARA k9 STORM RISING (#3) (\$12.99) In the wake of a devastating hurricane, Special Agent Meg Jennings and her Labrador, Hawk—invaluable members of the FBI's Human Scent Evidence Team—have been deployed to Virginia Beach. Amid debris and the buried cries for help, the most alarming discovery is yet to come—a teenage girl hiding in the Great Dismal Swamp. Her name is

Emma—a disheveled runaway lost to the sordid underbelly of a Virginia sex-trafficking ring. Its leader has disappeared in the chaos—along with other victims. Meg joins forces with Special Agent Walter Van Cleave and uncovers a vast network of abuse rooted in some of the most influential powers in Virginia. Now as Meg's investigation digs deeper, she's making some very dangerous enemies. And one by one, they're coming out of the storm to stop her.

DRISCOLL, SARA k9 NO MAN'S LAND (#4) (\$12.99) For Meg Jennings and her K-9 companion, Hawk, exploring a deserted building is an exciting way to sharpen their skills without the life-or-death stakes they face as part of the F.B.I.'s Human Scent Evidence Team. But deep in an abandoned asylum, Hawk finds the body of an elderly woman. Soon, Meg learns of more elders found dead in neglected urban structures. Meg is sure a murderer is on the hunt, and she can prove it if she can just find a connection. It will take the expert coordination of her whole team, along with help from Clay McCord and Todd Webb, to uncover the means, let alone a motive. And to stop someone who has operated in the dark for so long, Meg will need to risk more than she has to give...

DUNCAN, EMMELINE ground rules FRESH BREWED MURDER (#1) (\$21.95) Portland is famous for its rain, hipsters, craft beers...and coffee. Sage Caplin has high hopes for her coffee truck, Ground Rules, which she runs with her business partner, Harley—a genius at roasting beans and devising new blends. That's essential in a city where locals have intensely strong opinions about cappuccino versus macchiato—especially in the case of one of Sage's very first customers. Sage finds the man's body in front of her truck, a fatal slash across his neck. There's been plenty of anger in the air, from long-time vendors annoyed at Ground Rules taking a coveted spot in the food truck lot, to protestors demonstrating against a new high-rise. But who was mad enough to commit murder? Sage is already fending off trouble in the form of her estranged, con-artist mother, who's trying to trickle back into her life. But when Sage's very own box cutter is discovered to be the murder weapon, she needs to focus on finding the killer fast—before her business, and her life, come to a bitter end...

EHRHART, PEGGY knit nibble KNITTY GRITTY MURDER (#7) (\$11.99) Most times of the year, the tight-knit community gardens in quaint Arborville, New Jersey, overflow with seasonal vegetables and herbs. But who planted the dead body? Farm-to-table enthusiast Jenny Miller had a cookbook in the works when she was suddenly found strangled by a circular knitting needle in her own plot. Now, the pressure is on Pamela and her neighbor Bettina as they weave together clues in search of the person who kept Jenny's renowned heirloom plants—and budding career—from growing. With suspects and victims cropping up like weeds, it'll take a whole lot more than green thumbs and creative minds this spring to entangle the crafty culprit...

ELLIOTT, LAUREN bookstore UNDER THE COVER OF MURDER (#6) (\$11.99) It promises to be Greyborne Harbor's wedding of the year. The impending nuptials of Serena Chandler and Zach Ludlow will take place aboard his family's luxurious super-yacht, currently moored in the harbor and the talk of the town. But on the day of the wedding, a man's body washes up on the beach with no ID, only a torn page from a book in his pocket. As owner of Beyond the Page Books and Curios, bibliophile Addie is called in to identify the book, but she cannot. The morning following the extravagant ceremony, a second body washes ashore and Addie has a sinking feeling that the two deaths are connected. While the guests are held on the yacht as the police investigate, at least Addie can peruse Zach's father's rare books library on board. A copy of **Agatha Christie's first Hercule Poirot novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles* (\$12.50) provides a clue that the killer may still be on the ship—but narrowing down the suspects without becoming the next victim may prove a truly Herculean task...

EVANOVICH, JANET FULL BLAST & FULL BLOOM (\$12.99) Two-in-one!

EVANOVICH, JANET fox & o'hare BOUNTY (#7) (\$24.99) Straight as an arrow special agent Kate O'Hare and international

criminal Nick Fox have brought down some of the biggest bad guys out there. But now they face their most dangerous foe yet—a vast, shadowy international organization known only as the Brotherhood. Directly descended from the Vatican Bank priests who served Hitler during World War II, the Brotherhood is on a frantic search for a lost train loaded with \$30 billion in Nazi gold, untouched for over seventy-five years somewhere in the mountains of Eastern Europe.

FERRARI, K LIKE FLIES FROM AFAR (\$22) Mr. Luis Machi is an unforgettably loathsome and hilarious Argentinian oligarch who made his fortune collaborating with the worst elements of society—parasites, pushers, and secret policemen. He has a cocaine habit, a collection of three hundred ties, ten million dollars in the bank, and a bloody corpse in the trunk of his BMW . . . but as far as the body goes, he's completely innocent. He has no idea who the victim could be, or who among his many, many enemies might be trying to frame him for murder, and he doesn't have much time to find out . . . twenty-four hours, one full day, in which to solve this mystery, or at least to make sure he isn't the one to take the fall! The first novel to appear in English by the "subway janitor by night, novelist by day," who began his writing career while an undocumented immigrant in the United States.

FINN, MELANIE HARE (\$25.50) "In this brooding feminist thriller, a former art student and her daughter are isolated in a rural Vermont cabin and have to contend with the toxic presence of an unbalanced con man in their lives." —*New York Times*

FLYNN, VINCE mitch rapp LAST MAN (#13) (\$23) Joe Rickman has spent the last eight years running the CIA's clandestine operations in Afghanistan, working with every disreputable figure in the Islamic Republic. When he suddenly goes missing, the initial assumption is kidnapping, but Mitch Rapp knows certain things about his old friend that gives him pause. When he's ordered to find Rickman, no matter the cost, Rapp knows his mission will be an exceptionally dangerous one. With the Taliban, Iran, Pakistan, and Russia all vying for a piece of the war-torn state and the FBI dispatching their own special agent to investigate, Rapp is facing his most difficult assignment yet.

FORSYTHE, ROBIN vereker PLEASURE CRUISE MYSTERY (#3) (\$23.99) Algernon Vereker's best friend Manuel Ricardo is looking forward to a cruise on the luxury liner Mars, and persuades an overwrought Vereker to join him. Once on board, Ricky's mind is on romance while the amiable and eccentric Vereker is keener to relax with a cigar and a good book - until murder at sea means an abrupt detour into spine-chilling mystery. Vereker starts to investigate Mrs. Mesado's demise, which presents many baffling features—beneath borrowed gloves, the lady's hands were cut and bruised; and where was the diamond necklace she had been wearing earlier that evening? These and other conundrums must be solved before Vereker can bring the culprit (or culprits) to justice, but as Ricky sagely observes: "half the fun of eating a nut is cracking the shell". Published 1934.

FORSYTHE, ROBIN vereker GINGER CAT MYSTERY (#4) (\$23.99) All is not well in the village of Marston-le-Willows. Frank Cornell, heir to Marston Manor, has been found shot on the staircase of the family home—mere months after the death of his father in circumstances felt by many in the neighbourhood to have been suspicious. It is a mystery that Anthony Vereker, the artist turned amateur sleuth, finds hard to resist. Soon, he and his old friend Detective-Inspector Heather are on the scene and facing their strangest case yet. Could some stray cat hair really hold the key to the mystery? And what is the secret of the haunted room? Published 1935.

FREDERICKS, MARIAH prescott DEATH OF AN AMERICAN BEAUTY (#3) (\$24.50) Jane Prescott is taking a break from her duties as lady's maid for a week and plans to begin it with attending the hottest and most scandalous show in town: the opening of an art exhibition, showcasing the cubists, that is shocking New York City. 1913 is also the fiftieth anniversary of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation speech, and the city's great and good are determined to celebrate in style. Dolly Rutherford, heiress to the glamorous Rutherford's department store empire, has gathered her coterie of society ladies to put on a play—with Jane's employer Louise Tyler in the starring role as Lincoln himself. Jane is torn between helping the ladies with their

costumes and enjoying her holiday. But fate decides she will do neither, when a woman is found murdered outside Jane's childhood home—a refuge for women run by her uncle. Deeply troubled as her uncle falls under suspicion and haunted by memories of a woman she once knew, Jane—with the help of old friends and new acquaintances, reporter Michael Behan and music hall pianist Leo Hirschfeld—is determined to discover who is making death into their own twisted art form.

FRENCH, TANA dublin BROKEN HARBOUR (#4) (\$24) Mick "Scorcher" Kennedy is the star of the Dublin Murder Squad. He plays by the books and plays hard, and that's how the biggest case of the year ends up in his hands. On one of the half-abandoned "luxury" developments that litter Ireland, Patrick Spain and his two young children have been murdered. His wife, Jenny, is in intensive care. At first, Scorcher thinks it's going to be an easy solve, but too many small things can't be explained: the half-dozen baby monitors pointed at holes smashed in the Spains' walls, the files erased from the family's computer, the story Jenny told her sister about a shadowy intruder slipping past the house's locks. And this neighborhood—once called Broken Harbor—holds memories for Scorcher and his troubled sister, Dina: childhood memories that Scorcher thought he had tightly under control.

GEORGE, ELIZABETH lynley WITH NO ONE AS WITNESS (#13) (\$21) Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley faces the greatest challenge of his career. When an adolescent boy's nude body is found draped over a tomb in a graveyard, the police recognize the work of a serial killer who's been murdering boys in London. This is the killer's fourth victim but the first to be white. Hoping to avoid charges of institutionalized prejudice in their failure to pursue the earlier crimes to their conclusion, New Scotland Yard takes the case and hands it over to Lynley and his colleagues Detective Constable Barbara Havers and Detective Sergeant Winston Nkata. The killer is a psychopath who does not intend to be stopped. But a devastating tragedy within their ranks causes the police to fumble in their pursuit, which may bring more fatal consequences. Published 2005.

GIORDANO, MARIO poldi AUNTIE POLDI FRUITS OF THE LORD (#2) (\$15.99) Wine and murder—nothing is more likely to rouse Auntie Poldi's love of the chase. Still relishing the notoriety from her spectacular resolution of the Candela case, Poldi is alive to the faintest whiff of criminality. What to others might seem a series of misfortunes—the water supply cut off, a poisoned dog—is clearly, to Poldi, an escalation: the Mafia have had her in their sights ever since she solved Valentino's murder. Poldi has tasted blood. No one is above suspicion. And trouble will surely follow.

GORDON-SMITH, DOLORES hal FORGOTTEN MURDER (#10) (\$26.99) When an old schoolfriend of Jack's wife Betty witnesses a disturbing vision in the garden of a smart suburban house, Jack is intrigued. Just what did Jenny Langton see beneath the cedar tree at Saunder's Green that frightened her so much she fainted on the spot? Jack's subsequent enquiries stir up a hornet's nest of repressed emotions and long-buried secrets. What exactly happened at Saunder's Green almost twenty years before—and why will no one talk about it? As he unearths evidence of a possible murder, how is even a seasoned investigator like Jack supposed to solve a crime that took place two decades before with no tangible clues, no reliable witnesses—and at least one person who is determined to stop him discovering the truth ... whatever it takes.

GRISHAM, JOHN STREET LAWYER (\$16) Michael was in a hurry. He was scrambling up the ladder at Drake & Sweeney, a giant D.C. law firm with eight hundred lawyers. The money was good and getting better; a partnership was three years away. He was a rising star with no time to waste, no time to stop, no time to toss a few coins into the cups of panhandlers. No time for a conscience. But a violent encounter with a homeless man stopped him cold. Michael survived; his assailant did not. Who was this man? Michael did some digging, and learned that he was a mentally ill veteran who'd been in and out of shelters for many years. Then Michael dug a little deeper, and found a dirty secret, and the secret involved Drake & Sweeney. The fast track derailed; the ladder collapsed. Michael bolted the firm and

took a top-secret file with him. He landed in the streets, an advocate for the homeless, a street lawyer. And a thief.

HAMILTON, GLEN ERIK shaw DANGEROUS BREED (#5) (\$12.99) An invitation addressed to his long-dead mother sparks Van Shaw's curiosity about the woman he barely knew. As he digs into young Moira Shaw's past, he uncovers startling details about her life, including her relationship to a boy named Sean Burke—a boy Moira may have been seeing when she became pregnant. Could this Burke be the biological father who abandoned Van before he was born? Although Van knows all too well that some doors shouldn't be opened, he decides to investigate the man—only to discover that Burke has an even darker family history than Van's own. But Van's got more immediate problems. His friend Hollis is in a jam, and helping him out accidentally steers Van into the path of a master extortionist named Bilal Nath. Nath demands that the talented thief mastermind a daring heist targeting a Seattle biotechnology firm, or the blackmailer will destroy the lives of people Van loves. Will Van be forced to steal a viral weapon with the potential to kill thousands?

HIAASEN, CARL NATURE GIRL (\$22.95) Passionate and willful Honey Santana is taking rude, gullible telemarketer Boyd Shreave and his less than enthusiastic mistress, Eugenie Fonda, into the mangroves of Florida's Ten Thousand Islands for a gentle lesson in humility. What Honey doesn't know is that she's being followed by her obsessed former employer, Piejack, and her still-smitten ex-husband, Perry, with their protective and wise-beyond-his-years twelve-year-old son, Fry. And when they all arrive on Dismal Key, they don't know the island is occupied by Sammy Tigertail, a failed alligator wrestler trying like hell to be left alone despite the Florida State coed clinging to his side. South Florida has never been quite so hilarious as it is in this outrageous tale of one woman's single-handed quest to eradicate greed and enforce civility in her corner of the Sunshine State.

HUBER, ANNA LEE darby WICKED CONCEIT (#9) (\$23) Edinburgh, Scotland. March 1832. Soon-to-be new parents Kiera and her husband, Sebastian Gage, have been hoping for a respite from their inquiries, but murder and mayhem have a startling way of dropping into their laps.

HUGHES, DOROTHY B RIDE THE PINK HORSE (\$21.95) Three desperate men converge in the midst of an annual carnival in New Mexico. Sailor used to be Senator Willis Douglass' protege. When he met the lawmaker, he was just a poor kid, living on the Chicago streets. Douglass took him in, put him through school, and groomed him to work as a confidential secretary. And as the senator's dealings became increasingly corrupt, he knew he could count on Sailor to clean up his messes. Willis Douglass isn't a senator anymore; he left Chicago, Sailor, and a murder rap behind and set out for the sunny streets of Santa Fe. Now, unwilling to take the fall for another man's crime, Sailor has set out for New Mexico as well, with blackmail and revenge on his mind. But there's another man on his trail as well—a cop who wants the ex-senator for more than a payoff. In the midst of a city gone mad, bursting with wild crowds for a yearly carnival, the three men will violently converge...Published 1946.

INNES, LOUISE thorne DEATH AT THE SALON (#2) (\$11.99) When Ooh La La regular Mel Haverstock left the hair salon that morning, no one expected it would be her final parting. But when Daisy closes shop Saturday night, she finds her client dead as the mullet cut. Homicide is back in style in the quiet village of Edgemoed in Surrey, England. But who would want to harm a hair on poor Mel's head? Suspicions higher than a beehive pile on Daisy when it's revealed that she and Mel had tangled back in high school, and DNA evidence seems to color her guilty. Handsome DCI Paul McGuinness gives the hairstylist new accessories—a lovely pair of silver handcuffs. To clear her name, Daisy must highlight the real backstabber, or she'll end up shaving heads in the prison barbershop.

JAMES, PETER grace YOU ARE DEAD (#11) (\$19.99) Is Detective Superintendent Roy Grace tracking his home city's first serial killer in over eighty years? A series of young women—all beautiful, all with long brown hair—have been stalked and abducted. Each victim is found with a brand on their body, a marking that reads 'U R

Dead'. And some of their remains are from thirty years ago. When Logan Somerville is taken while on the phone to her fiancé, Grace must find a lead, connect the cases and track down the killer before they can strike again.

JAMES, PETER grace NEED YOU DEAD (#13) (\$19.99) Lorna Belling, desperate to escape the marriage from hell, falls for the charms of a man who promises her the earth. But, as Lorna soon finds, life seldom follows the plans you've made. When the body of a woman is found, Grace is called to the scene. At first it looks an open-and-shut case with a clear prime suspect. That is, until Grace realizes there is a darker, far more terrifying alternative.

JERROLD, IANTHE DEAD MAN'S QUARRY (\$25.50) On a cycling holiday in the idyllic Wales-Herefordshire border countryside, Nora and her friends make a gruesome discovery—the body of their missing comrade at the bottom of a quarry. But an apparently accidental fall turns out to have been murder—for the man was shot in the head. Fortunately John Christmas, last seen in The Studio Crime (#1) (1929), is on hand with his redoubtable forensic assistant, Sydenham Rampson. Between them they shed light on an intricate pattern of crimes... and uncover a most formidable foe. Published 1930.

JONASSON, RAGNAR ari thor WINTERKILL (#6) (\$21.95) Easter weekend is approaching, and snow is gently falling in Siglufjörður, the northernmost town in Iceland, as crowds of tourists arrive to visit the majestic ski slopes. Ari Thór Arason is now a police inspector, but he's separated from his girlfriend, who lives in Sweden with their three-year-old son. A family reunion is planned for the holiday, but a violent blizzard is threatening and there is an unsettling chill in the air. Three days before Easter, a nineteen-year-old local girl falls to her death from the balcony of a house on the main street. A perplexing entry in her diary suggests that this may not be an accident, and when an old man in a local nursing home writes 'She was murdered' again and again on the wall of his room, there is every suggestion that something more sinister lies at the heart of her death... As the extreme weather closes in, cutting the power and access to Siglufjörður, Ari Thór must piece together the puzzle to reveal a horrible truth ... one that will leave no one unscathed.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN delaware WEB (#10) (\$10.99) Three months in paradise, all expenses paid. It's an invitation Alex Delaware can't refuse. Dr. Woodrow Wilson Moreland, a revered scientist and philanthropist on the tiny Pacific island of Aruk, has invited Alex to his home to help him organize his papers for publication—a light workload leaving Alex plenty of time to enjoy a romantic interlude with Robin Castagna. Quickly, however, secretive houseguests, frightening nocturnal visitors, and the elusive Dr. Moreland himself dim the pleasures of deep blue water and white sand. Published 1995.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN delaware SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST (#12) (\$11.99) The daughter of a diplomat disappears on a school field trip—lured into the Santa Monica Mountains and killed in cold blood. Her father denies the possibility of a political motive. There are no signs of struggle and no evidence of sexual assault, leaving psychologist Alex Delaware and his friend LAPD homicide detective Milo Sturgis to pose the essential question: Why? Published 1996.

KENDRICK, BAYNARD maclain ODOR OF VIOLETS aka eyes in the night (\$21.95) Meet Captain Duncan Maclain. Blinded during his service in the first World War, Maclain made up for his lack of vision by sharpening his other senses, achieving a mastery of the subtle unseen clues often missed by those who see only with their eyes. Aided by his dogs Schnucke and Driest, the Captain puts the intelligence-gathering techniques he learned in the Army to work, making a name for himself as New York City's most sought-after private detective. Now it's 1940, there's a second World War breaking out, and Maclain is pulled into a case unlike any he's investigated before. The murder of an actor in his Greenwich Village apartment would cause a stir no matter the circumstances but, when the actor happens to possess secret government plans, and when those plans go missing along with the young woman with whom he was last seen, it's sensational enough to interest not only the local police, but the American government as well. Published 1941.

LAWTON, JOHN joe wilderness HAMMER TO FALL (#3) (\$23.95) It's London, the swinging sixties, and by all rights MI6 spy Joe Wilderness should be having as good a time as James Bond. But alas, his postings are more grim than glamorous. Luckily, Wilderness has a knack for doing well for himself even in the most unpromising postings, though this has gotten him into hot water in the past. A coffee-smuggling gig in divided Berlin was a steady money-maker but things went pear-shaped when he had to smuggle a spy back to the KGB instead. In the wake of what became an embarrassing disaster for MI6, Wilderness is reprimanded with a posting to remote northern Finland, under the guise of a cultural exchange program to promote Britain abroad. Bored by his work, with nothing to spy on, Wilderness finds another way to make money, this time by smuggling vodka across the rather porous border into the USSR. He strikes a deal with his old KGB pal Kostya, who explains to him there is, no joke, a vodka shortage in the Soviet Union, following a grain famine caused by Khrushchev's new agricultural policies. But there is something fishy about why Kostya has suddenly turned up in Finland—and MI6 intelligence from London points to a connection to the mining of cobalt in the region, a critical component in the casing of the atomic bomb. Wilderness's posting is getting more interesting by the minute, but more dangerous too. An excellent series.

LELCHUK, S A griffin SAVE ME FROM DANGEROUS MEN (\$24.50) Nikki Griffin isn't your typical private investigator. In her office above her bookstore's shelves and stacks, where she luxuriates in books and the comfort they provide, she also tracks certain men. Dangerous men. Men who have hurt the women they claim to love. And Nikki likes to teach those men a lesson, to teach them what it feels like to be hurt and helpless, so she can be sure that their victims are safe from them forever. When a regular PI job tailing Karen, a tech company's disgruntled employee who might be selling secrets, turns ugly and Karen's life is threatened, Nikki has to break cover and intervene. Karen tells Nikki that there are people after her. Dangerous men. She says she'll tell Nikki what's really going on. But then something goes wrong, and suddenly Nikki is no longer just solving a case—she's trying hard to stay alive. Part Lisbeth Salander, part Jack Reacher, part Jessica Jones, Nikki Griffin is a kickass character who readers will root for as she seeks to right the world's wrongs.

LEON, DONNA TRACE ELEMENTS (#29) (\$25.50) When Dottoressa Donato calls the Questura to report that a dying patient at the hospice Fatebenefratelli wants to speak to the police, Commissario Guido Brunetti and his colleague, Claudia Griffoni, waste no time in responding. "They killed him. It was bad money. I told him no," Benedetta Toso gasps the words about her recently-deceased husband, Vittorio Fadalto. Even though he is not sure she can hear him Brunetti softly promises he and Griffoni will look into what initially appears to be a private family tragedy. They discover that Fadalto worked in the field collecting samples of contamination for a company that measures the cleanliness of Venice's water supply and that he had died in a mysterious motorcycle accident. Piecing together the tangled threads, in time Brunetti comes to realize the perilous meaning in the woman's accusation and the threat it reveals to the health of the entire region. But justice in this case proves to be ambiguous...

LINDSTEIN, MARIETTE fog FOG ISLAND (#1) (\$16.99) Sofia has just finished university and ended a troubled relationship when she attends a lecture about a New Age movement, Via Terra. Its leader is Franz Oswald, young, good-looking, urbane and mesmerizing. When Sofia meets Franz, she's dazzled and intrigued. Visiting his headquarters on Fog Island, Sofia's struck by the beautiful mansion overlooking the sea, the gardens, the sense of peace and the purposefulness of the people who live there. And she can't ignore the attraction she feels for Franz. So she agrees to stay, just for a while. But as summer gives way to winter, and the dense fog from which the island draws its name sets in, it becomes clear that Franz rules the island with an iron fist. No phones or computers are allowed. Contact with the mainland is severed. Electric fences surround the grounds. And Sofia begins to realize how very alone she is and that no one ever leaves Fog Island...

LIPPMAN, LAURA monaghan BALTIMORE BLUES (#1) (\$19.99) In a city where someone is murdered almost every day, attorney Michael Abramowitz's death should be just another statistic. But the slain lawyer's notoriety—and his taste for illicit midday trysts—make the case front-page news in every local paper except the Star, which crashed and burned before Abramowitz did. A former Star reporter who knows every inch of this town—from historic Fort McHenry to the crumbling projects of Cherry Hill—now-unemployed journalist Tess Monaghan also knows the guy the cops like for the killing: cuckolded fiancé Darryl "Rock" Paxton. The time is ripe for a career move, so when rowing buddy Rock wants to hire her to do some unorthodox snooping to help clear his name, Tess agrees. But there are lethal secrets hiding in the Charm City shadows. And Tess's own name could end up on that ever-expanding list of Baltimore dead. Published 1997.

LOGAN, KYLIE jazz SECRETS OF BONES (#2) (\$10.99) Assembly Day at St. Catherine's dawns bright and cloudless as professional woman gather from all around Ohio to talk to the schoolgirls about their careers ranging from medicine, to NASA, to yoga. Jazz Ramsey has also signed up to give the girls a taste of her lifelong passion: cadaver dog training. Her adorable new puppy Wally hasn't been certified yet, so she borrows the fully-trained Gus from a friend and hides a few bones in the unused fourth floor of the school for him to find. The girls are impressed when Gus easily finds the first bone, but then Gus heads confidently to a part of the floor where Jazz is sure no bones are hidden—at least not any that she's put there. But Gus is a professional, and sure enough, behind a door that no one has opened in ages, is a human skeleton. This looks like murder and there are a plethora of suspects.

LUNA, LOUISA alicia vega JANES (#2) (\$22) On the outskirts of San Diego, the bodies of two young women are discovered. They have no names, no IDs, but one of the Jane Does holds a note bearing the name, "Alice Vega." The police and FBI reach out to Vega, a private investigator known for finding the missing. Fearing the possibility of a human trafficking ring, Vega enlists the help of her one-time partner, former cop Max "Cap" Caplan. Despite a case with so few leads, Alice Vega is a powerful woman whose determination is matched only by her intellect, and, along with her partner Cap, she will stop at nothing to find the Janes' killers before it is too late.

MACCLURE, JAMES kramer SONG DOG (#0) (\$19.95) The year is 1962. Young Lieutenant Tromp Kramer of the Trekkersburg Murder and Robbery Squad has been ordered up to Jafini, a small, dusty town in northern Zululand, to investigate the "hero's death" of the town's chief detective, Maaties Kritzinger—another Afrikaner maverick, and one with many secrets. Kramer finds himself increasingly identifying with the victim as the investigation proceeds. And then his path crosses that of Bantu Detective Sergeant Mickey Zondi, who is trying to locate a multiple killer whose summary execution will quiet the spirits of his ancestors. Despite racial differences, the two men sense a kinship . . . one that might prove dangerous in rural South Africa in the year of Nelson Mandela's imprisonment. Although the eighth in the series to be published, this is a prequel, how the two met. Published 1991.

MACCREIGHT/MCCREIGHT, KIMBERLY GOOD MARRIAGE (\$21) Lizzie Kitsakis is working late when she gets the call. Grueling hours are standard at elite law firms like Young & Crane, but they'd be easier to swallow if Lizzie was there voluntarily. Until recently, she'd been a happily underpaid federal prosecutor. That job and her brilliant, devoted husband Sam—she had everything she'd ever wanted. And then, suddenly, it all fell apart. No. That's a lie. It wasn't sudden, was it? Long ago the cracks in Lizzie's marriage had started to show. She was just good at averting her eyes. The last thing Lizzie needs right now is a call from an inmate at Rikers asking for help—even if Zach Grayson is an old friend. But Zach is desperate: his wife, Amanda, has been found dead at the bottom of the stairs in their Brooklyn brownstone. And Zach's the primary suspect. As Lizzie is drawn into the dark heart of idyllic Park Slope, she learns that Zach and Amanda weren't what they seemed—and that their friends, a close-knit group of fellow parents at the exclusive Brooklyn Coun-

try Day school, might be protecting troubling secrets of their own. In the end, she's left wondering not only whether her own marriage can be saved, but what it means to have a good marriage in the first place.

MAY, PETER SILENT DEATH (\$20.49) Spain, 2020. When ex-pat fugitive Jack Cleland watches his girlfriend die, gunned down in a pursuit involving officer Cristina Sanchez Pradell, he promises to exact his revenge and destroy the policewoman. Cristina's aunt Ana has been deaf and blind for the entirety of her adult life: the victim of a rare condition named Usher Syndrome. Ana is the center of Cristina's world—and of Cleland's cruel plan. John Mackenzie—an ingenious yet irascible Glaswegian investigator—is assigned to aid the Spanish authorities in their manhunt. He alone can silence Cleland before the fugitive has the last, bloody, word.

MENUHIN, KAREN BAUGH MURDER AT MELROSE COURT (#1) (\$22.50) it's 1920 and Christmas is coming. Major Lennox finds a body on his doorstep—why on his doorstep? Was it to do with the Countess? Was it about the ruby necklace? Lennox goes to Melrose Court, home to his uncle, Lord Melrose, to uncover the mystery. But then the murders begin, and it snows and it all becomes very complicated....Major Heathcliff Lennox—ex-WW1 war pilot, 6feet 3inch, tousled dark blond hair, age around 30—named after the hero of Wuthering Heights by his romantically minded mother—much to his great annoyance.

MICHAELS, BARBARA WITCH (\$11.99) For Ellen March, the secluded old house nestled in the pine woods is more than the dream home she's long been searching for. It's an escape, a chance to start over, to forget the pain of her failed marriage and enjoy the restful pace of small-town living. Here, too, is a golden opportunity to get to know Norman McKay, her handsome and worldly new neighbor. But after dark in Ellen's "perfect" house, strange visions invade her restless mind: silent strangers moving through the twilight shadows, the ghostly figure of a woman and a spectral white cat. Ellen came here hoping to bury the past, but something terrifying has taken its place. Her safe haven has become her prison . . . and there is no escape. Published 1973.

MUSSO, GUILLAUME CENTRAL PARK (\$12.99) Alice, a fierce and respected Parisian cop, wakes up on a Central Park bench with no memory of the night before, handcuffed to a complete stranger—a musician named Gabriel. Disoriented, dazed, and with someone else's blood on her shirt, Alice works furiously to reconnect the dots. She remembers clubbing with her friends the night before on the Champs-Élysées. Gabriel claims he was playing a gig in Dublin. Was she drugged? Kidnapped? Why is the gun in her jacket pocket missing a bullet? And whose blood is on her clothes? Over the next twenty-four hours, Alice and Gabriel race across New York in search of answers, stumbling upon a startling set of clues that point to a terrible adversary from the past. Alice must finally confront her memories of hunting the serial killer who took everything from her—a man she thought was dead, until now.

NESS, LUCY PHANTOMS AND FELONIES (\$10.99) When a local theater troupe puts on a new play at the club, manager Avery Morgan is excited. This is just the sort of event that's destined to bring in potential new members. Okay, millionaire banker Bob Hanover has more bucks than talent and has used his position to grab the lead role, but that seems like a small price to pay...until Bob is found dead backstage. Bob rubbed many people the wrong way, but would anyone want him dead? The short answer to that is: Who wouldn't want him dead? His long-suffering wife had to put up with years of womanizing. The show's playwright has been tricked out of his one great idea by Bob, who claimed it as his own work. And Bob bankrupted one of the town's small businessmen. The choices are many and the time to find the killer is running short. Avery is working overtime to keep the club open and find the killer. Fortunately, she has help with the latter task. Clemmie Bow was once a singer in the speakeasy in the club's basement. Now she's a ghost who's also a top-notch detective. Together Clemmie and Avery will find the killer—even if it kills one of them.

NEUBAUER, ERICA jane MURDER AT WEDGEFIELD MANOR (#2) (\$35) England, 1926: Wedgefield Manor, deep in the tran-

quill Essex countryside, provides a welcome rest stop for Jane and her matchmaking Aunt Millie before their return to America. While Millie spends time with her long-lost daughter, Lillian, and their host, Lord Hughes, Jane fills the hours devouring mystery novels and taking flying lessons—much to Millie's disapproval. But any danger in the air is eclipsed by tragedy on the ground when one of the estate's mechanics, Air Force veteran Simon Marshall, is killed in a motorcar collision. The sliced brake cables prove this was no accident, yet was the intended victim someone other than Simon? The house is full of suspects—visiting relations, secretive servants, strangers prowling the grounds at night—and also full of targets. The enigmatic Mr. Redvers, who helped Jane solve a murder in Egypt, arrives on the scene to once more offer his assistance. It seems that everyone at Wedgefield wants Jane to help protect the Hughes family. But while she searches for answers, is she overlooking a killer hiding in plain sight?

O'REILLY, JUDITH north CURSE THE DAY (#2) (\$21.95) Tobias Hawke was the tech genius boss of the British Institute for Deep Learning. Now his body has been found in his lab: he has been brutally murdered. Hawke was on the brink of an astonishing breakthrough in the field of Artificial Intelligence. His creation, "Syd," a machine-learning device that mimics human thought, promised to change the face of humanity forever. But, in the wake of her creator's murder, Syd has gone into emergency shutdown procedure. What secrets are her neural networks hiding? Michael North, ex-assassin and spy-for-hire, is the man to find out. But he can't work alone. Teenage hacker Fangfang, and Hawke's widow, a prize-winning ethicist, have their own reasons to solve the murder. But can they uncover the truth before it's too late?

PARAMADITHA, INTAN WANDERING (\$19.99) You've grown roots, you're gathering moss. You're desperate to escape your boring life teaching English in Jakarta, to go out and see the world. So you make a Faustian pact with a devil, who gives you a gift, and a warning. A pair of red shoes to take you wherever you want to go. You're forever wandering, everywhere and nowhere, but where is your home? And where will you choose to go? To New York, to follow your dreams? To Berlin or Amsterdam? Lima or Tijuana? Or onto a train that will never stop? The choices you make about which pages to turn to may mean you'll become a tourist or an undocumented migrant, a mother or a murderer, and you will meet many travellers with their own stories to tell. As your paths cross and intertwine, you'll soon realise that no story is ever new. A Choose Your Own Adventure—remember them?—for adults?

PARETSKY, SARA warshawski DEAD LAND (#20) (\$21) Chicago may be the city of broad shoulders, but its political law is "Pay to Play." Money changes hands in the middle of the night, and by morning, buildings and parks are replaced by billion-dollar projects. Chicago PI V.I. Warshawski gets pulled into one of these clandestine deals through her impetuous goddaughter, Bernie Fouchard. Bernie tries to rescue Lydia Zamir, a famed singer-songwriter now living on the streets; Zamir's life fell apart when her lover was murdered next to her in a mass shooting at an outdoor concert. Not only does Bernie plunge her and V.I. headlong into the path of some ruthless developers, they lead to the murder of the young man Bernie is dating. He's a computer geek working for a community group called SLICK. Before she finds answers, V.I. learns one thing: People who pay to play take no prisoners.

PARIS, B A BRING ME BACK (\$12.99) Finn and Layla are young, in love, and on vacation. They're driving along the highway when Finn decides to stop at a service station to use the restroom. He hops out of the car, locks the doors behind him, and goes inside. When he returns Layla is gone—never to be seen again. That is the story Finn told to the police. Ten years later Finn is engaged to Layla's sister, Ellen. Their shared grief over what happened to Layla drew them close and now they intend to remain together. Still, there's something about Ellen that Finn has never fully understood. His heart wants to believe that she is the one for him...even though a sixth sense tells him not to trust her. Then, not long before he and Ellen are to be married, Finn gets a phone call...

PARKER, ROBERT B randall GRUDGE MATCH (#8) (\$12.99) When Sunny's long-time gangster associate Tony Marcus comes to her for help, Sunny is surprised—after all, she double crossed him on a recent deal, and their relationship is on shakier ground than ever. But the way Tony figures it, Sunny owes him, and Sunny's willing to consider his case if it will clear the slate. Tony's trusted girlfriend and business partner has vanished, appears to have left in a hurry, and he has no idea why. He just wants to talk to her, he says, but first he needs Sunny to track her down. While Sunny isn't willing to trust his good intentions, the missing woman intrigues her—against all odds, she's risen to a position of power in Tony's criminal enterprise. Sunny can't help but admire her, and if this woman's in a jam, Sunny would like to help. But when a witness is murdered hours after speaking to Sunny, it's clear there's more at stake than just Tony's love life. Someone—maybe even Tony himself—doesn't want this woman on the loose...and will go to any lengths to make sure she stays silent.

PENNER, SARAH LOST APOTHECARY (\$24.99) Hidden in the depths of eighteenth-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women across the city whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella who sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in their lives. But the apothecary's fate is jeopardized when her newest patron, a precocious twelve-year-old, makes a fatal mistake, sparking a string of consequences that echo through the centuries. Meanwhile in present-day London, aspiring historian Caroline Parcellwell spends her tenth wedding anniversary alone, running from her own demons. When she stumbles upon a clue to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London two hundred years ago, her life collides with the apothecary's in a stunning twist of fate—and not everyone will survive.

PENNEY, ELIZABETH BODIES AND BOWS (#3) (\$10.99) Iris Buckley is hoping for a bit of rest and relaxation now that the summertime rush is winding down in Blueberry Cove, Maine. Her apron shop Ruffles & Bows has been a huge success, her friendships are stronger than ever, and now she's ready for all of the end of summer cookouts on the beach that she can handle. But before Iris can even turn on the grill, Bella's latest fling, former Olympian sailor and gorgeous bad boy Lance Pederson is killed in a hit and run while jogging at dawn—and all the evidence points to Bella herself. Suddenly the month of August isn't looking so restful, since now Iris has been roped into the Lighthouse Rehabilitation Committee, helping her friend Sophie plan a wedding, and—most importantly of all—tracking down a killer and clearing Bella's good name before everything unravels.

PERKINS, S C LINEAGE MOST LETHAL (\$10.99) A classic Montblanc pen is pressed onto Texas genealogist Lucy Lancaster's hand by a man with instructions to "Keep them safe," before he collapses at her feet, dead. When Lucy shows the fountain pen to her grandfather, an avid collector and World War II veteran, she's in for another shock. Not only does Grandpa recognize the Montblanc, he also reveals a secret: he was an Allied spy during the war and the pen is both a message regarding one of his wartime missions and the key to reading a microdot left by the dead man. On the microdot is a series of ciphers, some decrypted to form names. Could they be the descendants of Grandpa's fellow spies? When two from the list end up murdered and Grandpa's life is put in jeopardy, Lucy's sure she's right.

PERRY, ANNE daniel pitt ONE FATAL FLAW (#3) (\$23) When a desperate woman comes to Daniel Pitt seeking a lawyer for her boyfriend, Rob Adwell, Daniel is convinced of the young man's innocence. Adwell has been accused of murder and of setting a fire to conceal the body, but Daniel is sure that science can absolve him—and Miriam fford Croft is the best scientist he knows. Miriam connects Daniel with her former teacher Sir Barnabas Saltram, an expert in arson, and together, they reveal Adwell's innocence by proving that an accidental fire caused the victim's death. But it's not long before Adwell is killed in the same fiery fashion. If these deaths are, in fact, murders, what essential clue could Daniel and Miriam have missed?

REEVE, ARTHUR B kennedy SILENT BULLET (\$21.99) The first collection of the Craig Kennedy mysteries. In this book of twelve tales of intrigue and suspense, readers are introduced to Kennedy, sometimes called the 'American Sherlock Holmes', and his friend and assistant, reporter Walter James. A professor at Columbia University, Kennedy uses his scientific expertise and inventions to solve cases, usually employing pioneering turn-of-the-century technology, such as hidden microphones, lie detectors, and a makeshift defibrillator. Full of thrilling escapades as well as insight into the discoveries of the early 1900s...Published 1910.

ROBERTS, NORA UNDER CURRENTS (\$11.99) From the outside, the house in Lakeview Terrace looks perfect and the Bigelows seem like the perfect family: the respected surgeon father, the glamorous, devoted mother and two beautiful children. A perfect family, in a perfect house living their perfect lives. But perfect surfaces can hide dark undercurrents and behind closed doors lies a very different story. Teenager Zane and his younger sister, Britt, are terrorised by their violent father and dysfunctional mother. Too afraid to speak out, Zane does his best to protect his sister and counts the days until they can finally be free. One dark, brutal night when their father's temper takes a horrifying turn for the worse, the perfect façade is exposed for the lie it is and Zane and Britt manage to escape. With the help of their beloved aunt, they rebuild their lives a day at a time, creating new families and putting their past behind them. But a childhood like that can cast a shadow the length of a lifetime. Can Zane and Britt ever be free of their past?

RYAN, CHRIS danny black HUNTER KILLER (#2) (\$15.99) The suicide bomb strikes central London. The trail leads first to a hate cleric in a North London mosque, and his connections to a devout Saudi prince with a taste for hookers, drugs and booze. But it's only when Danny tracks down his target to a training camp in the Yemen that he finds there may be a connection a hell of a lot closer to home.

RYAN, CHRIS danny black MASTERS OF WAR (#1) (\$15.99) In north Africa, young SAS trooper Danny Black is coming to the end of a gruelling tour of duty, or so he thinks. Danny has a new mission. An MI6 agent needs to make contact with Syrian rebel forces, and also with the private military contractors who are—unofficially—training this rebel faction as it struggles to bring down their government and establish a new regime that will be favourable to British business interests. Danny will learn who the masters of war, the men who call the shots, really are. Danny discovers a world where death is dispensed by the highest bidder and individuals will betray anybody if the price is right.

SAENZ, EVA GARCIA de ayal WATER RITUALS (#2) (\$22.95) A pregnant woman has been murdered in a brutal, ritualistic way: burned, hung, and then placed upside down in a Bronze Age cauldron. When Unai "Kraken" Lopez de Ayala discovers the victim is his first love, Ana Belén Liaño, memories of their time together come flooding back, and with them reminders of a dark secret long buried. Then the killer strikes again, enacting the same ritual against a second expectant parent. Kraken knows he must confront his past in order to unmask this fiend. And there's no time to waste, because Deputy Superintendent Díaz de Salvatierra has just found out she's carrying a child. And the father could very well be Kraken himself...

SANDFORD, JOHN davenport MASKED PREY (#30) (\$12.99) Clayton Deese looks like a small-time criminal, muscle for hire when his loan shark boss needs to teach someone a lesson. Now, seven months after a job that went south and landed him in jail, Deese has skipped out on bail, and the U.S. Marshals come looking for him. They don't much care about a low-level guy—it's his boss they want—but Deese might be their best chance to bring down the whole operation. Then, they step onto a dirt trail behind Deese's rural Louisiana cabin and find a jungle full of graves. Now Lucas Davenport is on the trail of a serial killer who has been operating for years without notice. His quarry is ruthless, and—as Davenport will come to find—full of surprises . . .

SAYERS, DOROTHY wimsey GAUDY NIGHT (\$18.50) Obscene graffiti, poison pen letters and a disgusting effigy greeted Harriet Vane on her return to Oxford. A graduate of ten years before and now

a successful novelist, this should have been a pleasant, nostalgic visit for her. She asks her lover, Lord Peter Wimsey, for help.

SAYERS, DOROTHY wimsey UNPLEASANTNESS AT THE BELLONA CLUB (#5) (\$15.99) 90-year-old General Fendman was definitely dead, but no one knew exactly when he had died—and the time of death was the determining factor in a half-million-pound inheritance. Lord Peter Wimsey would need every bit of his amazing skills to unravel the mysteries of why the General's lapel was without a red poppy on Armistice Day, how the club's telephone was fixed without a repairman, and, most puzzling of all, why the great man's knee swung freely when the rest of him was stiff with rigor mortis.

SAYERS, DOROTHY wimsey MURDER MUST ADVERTISE (#10) (\$15.99) Victor Dean falls to his death on the stairs of Pym's Advertising Agency, and no one is sorry. That is until Lord Peter Wimsey joins the firm and asks some awkward questions. Finding himself involved in a web of blackmail and drugs, more must die before the sinister plot can be unravelled.

SELLERS, PETER KICKBACK AND OTHER STORIES (\$21.95) In settings as diverse as a struggling advertising agency, a bookstore, and a large computer company, the protagonists in these stories find duplicity, betrayal, and sudden violence. As so often in life, there are no heroes, and it's often hard to tell who is the greater villain. A four-time nominee for the Crime Writers of Canada's Arthur Ellis Award for Best Short Story, and winner of the 2001 Ellery Queen Readers' Award, the author's stories have appeared in Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine, Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine, Down & Out Magazine and numerous anthologies. Closing Doors, which appears in this collection and originally appeared in Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, recently was awarded the 2020 Arthur Ellis Best Crime Short Story Award.

SHELTON, PAIGE bookshop STOLEN LETTER (#5) (\$10.99) Delaney Nichols, rushing to the Cracked Spine, the bookstore where she works, collides with another woman, sending a stack of books the woman is carrying to the ground. Delaney's hapless victim's name is Mary, and the two women can't help but notice that they bear an uncanny resemblance to one another. According to Mary, they both also look like the long-beheaded Mary Queen of Scots. Even stranger, Mary believes she is the reincarnation of the Scottish queen. But peculiar as Delaney's doppelgänger is, she doesn't have time to dwell on it: on her arrival to the bookshop, she learns the Edinburgh city council wants to close the Cracked Spine, citing code violations, and she's determined to stop them. But when Mary's husband dies in a car explosion—and Delaney learns he was the very member of city council who proposed that the city take a closer look at the bookshop's construction—she starts to wonder if her meeting with Mary wasn't an accident.

SHERRATT, MEL allendale GOOD GIRL (#4) (\$19.99) Erin was a good girl. But someone wanted her dead...

STEINHAUER, OLEN weaver LAST TOURIST (#4) (\$22.50) In the author's bestseller An American Spy (#3) (\$22.99) reluctant CIA agent Milo Weaver thought he had finally put "Tourists"—CIA-trained assassins—to bed. A decade later, Milo is hiding out in Western Sahara when a young CIA analyst arrives to question him about a series of suspicious deaths and terrorist chatter linked to him. Their conversation is soon interrupted by a new breed of Tourists intent on killing them both, forcing them to run. As he tells his story, Milo is joined by colleagues and enemies from his long history in the world of intelligence, and the young analyst wonders what to believe. He wonders, too, if he'll survive this encounter.

SWANSON, PETER EVERY VOW YOU BREAK (\$23.99) Right before Abigail Baskin's wedding to Bruce Lamb—rich, good guy, stable, level-headed, kind—she has a drunken one-night stand on her bachelorette weekend. She puts the incident—and the sexy guy who wouldn't give her his real name—out of her mind, and now believes she wants to be with Bruce for the rest of her life. Then the mysterious stranger suddenly appears—and Abigail's future life and happiness are turned upside down. He insists that their passionate night was the beginning of something much, much more. Something special. Something real—and he's tracked her down to prove it. Does she tell

Bruce and ruin their idyllic honeymoon—and possibly their marriage? Or should she handle this psychopathic stalker on her own? To make the situation worse, strange things begin to happen. She sees a terrified woman in the night shadows, and no one at the resort seems to believe anything is amiss... including her perfect new husband.

SYKES, S D somershill CITY OF MASKS (#3) (\$15.99) 1358. Oswald de Lacy, Lord Somershill, is in Venice, awaiting a pilgrim galley to the Holy Land. While the city is under siege from the Hungarians, Oswald lodges with an English merchant, and soon comes under the dangerous spell of the decadent and dazzling island state that sits on the hinge of Europe, where East meets West. Oswald is trying to flee the chilling shadow of something in his past, but when he finds a dead man on the night of the carnival, he is dragged into a murder investigation that takes him deep into the intrigues of this mysterious, paranoid city. Coming up against the feared Signori di Notte, the secret police, Oswald learns that he is not the only one with something to hide. Everybody is watching somebody else, and nobody in Venice is what he or she seems. The masks are not just for the carnival.

SYKES, S D somershill BUTCHER BIRD (#2) (\$15.99) The Black Death killed his father and brothers, making Oswald de Lacy Lord of Somershill Manor. It also killed many of his villagers, leaving fewer people to do more work. So Oswald tries to use logic and patience to manage a struggling estate, a socially ambitious mother, an overbearing sister and a mutinous workforce. Then a baby is found impaled on a thorn bush and people say they have seen a huge creature in the skies, the Butcher Bird. And now there is no room for common sense, no time for patience. If Oswald is to survive, he must find the truth behind a series of ever more brutal events. From the plague-ruined villages of Kent to the luxurious bedchambers of London, it is a journey full of danger, darkness and shocking revelations.

SYKES, S D somershill PLAGUE LAND (#1) (\$15.99) England, 1350: the Black Death has changed the country forever, taking master and servant alike. Young Oswald de Lacey was never meant to be Lord of Somershill Manor, but when his father and older brothers die of the Plague, he must return home from the monastery and assume responsibility for an estate ravaged by pestilence. Almost immediately Oswald is confronted with the vicious murder of a young woman, Alison Starvecrow. The village priest claims it is the work of demonic dog-headed men, a theory Oswald rejects as nonsense. But proving this—by finding the real killer—only leads Oswald deeper into a maze of political intrigue, family secrets and violent strife. And then the body of another girl is found...

SZYMICZKOWA, MARYLA sofia KAROLINA AND THE TORN CURTAIN (#2) (\$22.99) Cracow, 1895. Zofia and her maid Franciszka have their hands full organizing Easter festivities, especially with the household short one servant—where has the capable Karolina disappeared to? Shortly after, Zofia hears that the body of a young woman, violated and stabbed, has washed up on a bank of the River Vistula. Domestic work can wait—Zofia must go investigate. Shockingly, the body turns out to be none other than Karolina. Working with the police, Zofia's investigations take her deep into the city's underbelly—a far cry from the socialite's Cracow she's familiar with. Desperate to unearth what happened to Karolina, though, she pushes her prejudice aside, immersing herself among prostitutes, gangsters, and duplicitous politicians to unravel a twisted tale of love and deceit.

TANABE, KARIN HUNDRED SUNS (\$24.50) On a humid afternoon in 1933, American Jessie Lesage steps off a boat from Paris and onto the shores of Vietnam. Accompanying her French husband Victor, an heir to the Michelin rubber fortune, she's certain that their new life is full of promise, for while the rest of the world is sinking into economic depression, Indochine is gold for the Michelins. But it is that interwar period where communism has been pushed underground by the government, the French are really living the high life, and the Vietnamese are struggling as the French quickly take away all their natural resources. Change is in the air.

TAYLOR, ANDREW ashes LAST PROTECTOR (#4) (\$18.99) Brother against brother. Father against son. Friends turned into enemies. No one in England wants a return to the bloody days of the Civil War. But Oliver Cromwell's son, Richard, has abandoned his exile

and slipped back into England. The consequences could be catastrophic. James Marwood, a traitor's son turned government agent, is tasked with uncovering Cromwell's motives. But his assignment is complicated by his friend—the regicide's daughter, Cat Lovett—who knew the Cromwells as a child, and who now seems to be hiding a secret of her own about the family. Both Marwood and Cat know they are putting themselves in great danger. And when they find themselves on a top secret mission in the Palace of Whitehall, they realize they are risking their lives...and could even be sent to the block for treason.

THORARINSSON, ARNI SEASON OF THE WITCH (\$21.95) When the editors at Reykjavik-based The Afternoon News decide to expand the newspaper into northern Iceland—with their crime writer Einar as its sole reporter on location—the journalist feels as though he has stepped back in time. Compared to the hustle and bustle of the capital, where the nation's economic and social crises rear their heads on a daily basis, the small town of Akureyri feels slow, quiet, and terribly old-fashioned. So it's only fitting that one of Einar's first assignments is to cover a college theater production of *Loftur the Sorcerer*, an Icelandic folktale of ambition and greed. But that supposedly ancient history becomes ominously relevant when a local woman dies after falling overboard during a corporate boating retreat. All evidence indicates an accident, but when the victim's mother cries foul play, kind-hearted Einar agrees to investigate. Just days later, the lead actor in *Loftur* vanishes, leaving the locals reeling—and Einar unconvinced that a single village could be so accident prone. Keenly perceptive and hungry for the truth, Einar begins to chip away at the quaint small-town facade, uncovering a tangled web of power and greed that threatens to devour the historic community for good.

WALKER, MARTIN bruno SHOOTING AT CHATEAU ROCK (#13) (\$22.95) It's summer in the Dordogne. The heirs of a Périgordian sheep farmer learn that they have been disinherited, and their father's estate sold to an insurance company in return for a policy that will place him in a five-star retirement home for the rest of his life. But the farmer never gets his life of luxury—he dies before moving in. Was it a natural death? Was there foul play? Chief of Police Bruno Courrèges begins an investigation that will lead him to several shadowy insurance companies owned by a Russian oligarch with a Cypriot passport. The companies are based in Cyprus, Malta, and Luxembourg, but Bruno finds a weak spot in France: the Russian's France-based notaire and insurance agent. As Bruno is pursuing this lead, the oligarch's daughter turns up in the Périgord, and complications ensue, eventually bringing the action to the château of an aging rock star. It will take all of Bruno's resolve and quick thinking to untangle the truth in one of his toughest cases yet. But, as ever—there's always time for lunch.

WALKER, NICO CHERRY (\$22.95) A young medic returns from deployment in Iraq to two things: the woman he loves, and the opioid crisis sweeping across the Midwest. Soon, deep in the thrall of heroin addiction, the soldier arrives at what seems like the only logical solution: robbing banks!

WESTLAKE, DONALD E CASTLE IN THE AIR (\$17.50) When four groups of international heist artists team up to pull off the theft of the century—stealing an entire castle, and the treasure hidden in its walls—what could possibly go wrong? Well, consider this: none of the master thieves speak each other's languages...and no one knows precisely where the loot is stashed...and every one of them wants to steal it all for him or herself. It's MWA Grand Master at his wildest, a breathless slapstick chase through the streets of Paris only one step ahead of the law—and each other. Published 1980.

WINSPEAR, JACQUELINE dobb CONSEQUENCES OF FEAR (#16) (\$22.99, \$36.99 large print) October 1941. While on a delivery, young Freddie Hackett, a message runner for a government office, witnesses an argument that ends in murder. Crouching in the doorway of a bombed-out house, Freddie waits until the coast is clear. But when he arrives at the delivery address, he's shocked to come face to face with the killer. Dismissed by the police when he attempts to report the crime, Freddie goes in search of a woman he once met when delivering a message: Maisie Dobbs. While Maisie believes the boy

and wants to help, she must maintain extreme caution: she's working secretly for the Special Operations Executive, assessing candidates for crucial work with the French resistance. Her two worlds collide when she spots the killer in a place she least expects. She soon realizes she's been pulled into the orbit of a man who has his own reasons to kill—reasons that go back to the last war.

WOODS, STUART UNDER THE LAKE (\$12.99) Situated on a peaceful lake in the prettiest part of the North Georgia mountains, Sutherland seems like a nice town, warm and quiet. The kind of place where families know their neighbors and children can grow up safe. The perfect sanctuary for John Howell, a former investigative journalist trying to escape from his past. But Sutherland harbors a dark evil, hidden deep within the lake's waters. Soon, whispered rumors of greed, lust, and, corruption reach Howell, who begins to dig into the history of Sutherland. But someone doesn't want Howell to uncover the truth of what lies beneath the lake, and will stop at nothing to silence him...One of the author's earliest books, published 1986.