



# *The Merchant of Menace*

The official newsletter of

## **SLEUTH of Baker Street**

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Greetings

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Vaccination rollouts are the latest talk of the town: percentages vaccinated, not vaccinated, and more importantly, why not, how to entice the holdouts to get vaccinated, yada, yada, yada. Why anyone needs an enticement, other than you get to live and, I don't know, get to see your daughter graduate, is beyond my comprehension. Except for medical reasons, anyone over the age of twelve who chooses not to be vaccinated is, in my opinion a selfish person, who cares for no one but themselves. But, perhaps, they need someone they trust to talk to, someone to convince them that this is not a hoax, this is not the flu. (What they really need is a slap upside the head, but I digress.) I'm sure that some of the holdouts do not have access to accurate, trusted information—too much Fox—and I'm also sure that many of these holdouts are involuntary holdouts: access and availability are lacking in many parts of the city. Please get help, get informed, get vaccinated.

That aside, here's the deal: if you are not vaccinated, please do not come inside the bookstore. We'll do curbside for you, or mail order, but not instore shopping.

This is a controversial topic, and I'm expecting a lot of blowback. So be it. You do not have an option when it comes to wearing seat belts—outside of New Hampshire—or obeying stop signs and I do not see why you should have the option to infect me. If you want to infect your elderly parents or young nieces, fine, I suppose. Have at it. Front line health care workers who see the destruction daily and are choosing to not get vaccinated—we're not sure of the long-term risks of the vaccine, they bleat; well you know the short term risks, and it's spelt DEATH—that too is beyond my comprehension.

According to published reports, cases in Ontario are on the rise, again. The numbers released on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August show 378 more cases and that's the highest single-day case count since June 16. Is this a portent of the fourth wave? The Delta variant? Are there even more deadly variants to come? Please get informed, get vaccinated.

That little anxiety aside, it's been a pretty nice, safe summer for all of us at Sleuth. All vaccinated—well, except Pix—keeping masked, keeping distant so still avoiding restaurants, pubs, movie theatres, crowds...July was a pretty rainy month, but golf was rarely interrupted, so have been chasing that little hard ball all over the place. I justify it as good exercise as I pretty much always walk and carry. One of the dangers with all this rain is the risk of lightning but, fingers crossed, have managed to avoid that fate so far!

## *The Merchant of Menace,*

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

## **Postage & Handling**

In a word: Actual

## **Hours of Business**

**Please check the website.**  
Will try to keep that up to date!

## JD's Picks

I have never been to Switzerland but a visit to Basel through **HANSJORG SCHNEIDER's** The Basel Killings (\$23.95) will have to do during these COVID times. This is Inspector Hunkeler's first case and, where more of his adventures have been published, this is the only one available in English. At the moment, Silver Pebbles (#2) is due next March. Teacher, journalist and playwright, the author lives in Basel, so I'll presume he has his geography right. This one has won numerous awards, including the Friedrich Glauser Prize, Germany's Edgar.

A short blurb: It all begins with two murders, an old man found dead on a street bench in Basel and a prostitute pulled out of a nearby lake. Both strangled and both found with their left earlobes slit. Inspector Hunkeler of the Basel police investigates and is soon faced with the consequences of certain recent events in Swiss history that everyone wants to keep buried.

"Schneider has created a wonderful protagonist: gnarly, edgy and sympathetic.—*Hamburger Abendblatt*, and "Not a word too many, but also not a word too few"—*Rheinische Post*. "Swiss author Schneider's excellent first mystery and series launch...gripping, plausible debut bodes well for future entries."—*Publishers Weekly, Starred Review*.

Hunkeler sounds like the kind of guy I'd happily waste a few hours in a pub with. Not too full of himself, sympathetic, but no fool.

I think Marian had mentioned **JOHN MCMAHON** in a recent issue and that's what made pick up The Good Detective (#1) (\$23). "Pretty much perfect."—*The New York Times Book Review* said. I'm pretty sure I wouldn't go that far, but pretty entertaining for sure.

Here's a short blurb: Detective P.T. Marsh was a rising star on the police force of Mason Falls, Georgia—until his wife and young son died in an accident. Since that night, he's lost the ability to see the line between smart moves and disastrous decisions. Such as when he agrees to help out a woman by confronting her abusive boyfriend. When the next morning he gets called to the scene of his newest murder case, he is stunned to arrive at the house of the very man he beat up the night before. He could swear the guy was alive when he left, but can he be sure? What's certain is that his fingerprints are all over the crime scene.

That Marsh, a long-serving professional is having such trouble seeing "the line between smart and disastrous" is a tad pushing it, but I guess one does need to cut the author some slack, keep one's tongue planted firmly in one's cheek, suspend a little disbelief, or the stories become boring and read like they were written by a computer. And there was a firm-tongue-planting requirement here. Nonetheless, this read helped make the five-plus hours long bus ride to Ottawa, for a few days of golf with my younger brother, reasonably painless. (I'd take the train but Via, in their infinite wisdom, wanted to charge me \$40 one way to carry my golf bag! I'll pay their exorbitant fares because they have a bar service on board, but I will not pay the extortionate fare for the golf clubs, so I've taken the bus the last three or four times I've made the trek. Even Air Canada, that paragon of customer service, will take my clubs all the way to Florida for a little less. My day to rant...)

And, finally, a favourite writer, the Australian **PETER TEMPLE**, author of nine books, four featuring Jack Irish...**Temple** wrote screenplays, stories and dozens of reviews. He died in March 2018, leaving an unfinished Jack Irish novel in his drawer. This unfinished manuscript, about 100-pages long, is included in the recently released The Red Hand (\$25.50) along with the screenplay of Valentine's Day, an improbably delightful story about an ailing country football club, which in 2007 was adapted for television by the ABC. Also included are his short fiction, his reflections on the Australian idiom, a handful of autobiographical fragments, and a selection of his brilliant book reviews. If you have not read this wonderful writer, you can easily start here. His book reviews, alone, are worth the price. I think I have read eight of his nine novels, and loved them all, and Jack Irish is a favourite. The author's article on Australian idiom will come in very handy when you read Bad Debts (#1) (\$21), the series debut.

## Marian's Picks

We haven't told Pixie yet, but she is getting a brother. The new puppy is expected to arrive around August 26th. I was going to go on a road trip to Prince Edward Island with Wendy (remember when she worked with us at Sleuth?) to pick him up, but with all the fears and restrictions surrounding Covid we decided not to go. Instead, he is flying in with his breeder, Heather Pendragon, along with three of his brothers. Pixie and I will be able to play with all four puppies for a while before she boards her flight to the west coast to continue her deliveries. I am excited and very apprehensive. We are still toying with names for the new fella but, having a Princess Pixie Dust and a Sir Percival we might call him Prince. (*I suggested HRH Prince Paddington the Second, but I'm getting some pushback on that. Paddington was that magnificent feline, the last one of the era of the feline.—jd.*) The name has to start with the letter "P," and he does come from PEI and his siblings are royalty, so Prince it is until we see him, when another name might "declare" itself. Wish us luck. To that end I am reading How to be Your Dog's Best Friend (\$35) by the **Monks of New Skete**. When we first got Percy, I had read their The Art of Raising a Puppy (\$36.50 now in a revised edition) which was very helpful in coaching Percy through the simple steps of learning how to sit, stay, come etc. These Monks have achieved international renown as breeders of German shepherds and as outstanding trainers of dogs of all breeds. Their unique approach to canine training, developed and refined over four decades, is based on the philosophy that "understanding is the key to communication, compassion, and communion" with your dog. I had always wanted a German Shepard which is how I found the Monks in the first place, but when I met the gang at Pendragon Poodles, I knew I had to have one of their pups. So, I'm diligently reading How to be Your Dog's Best Friend and hopefully glean new insight as I prepare for our Prince.

I've almost finished reading the Mitch Rapp series. It was originally written by **VINCE FLYNN**, and after he died the series was continued by **KYLE MILLS**. Not sure why I want to read them all, but I just can't stop. The books are nonstop action from start to finish, the body count is always high, and I wonder if the CIA really does have assassin type operatives like our Mr. Rapp. The first book published was Transfer of Power (\$23), in 1999, but ten adventures later, in 2010, American Assassin (\$23) finally explained how Mitch Rapp got his career started with the CIA. So, Assassin, and 2011's Kill Shot (\$22.99) were written as prequels to the series. What does all this mean? Nothing. Start with either Transfer or Assassin; either could be argued to be the series debut. You'll be just fine.

Since I am almost finished reading all 20 books featuring Mitch Rapp, I've turned my reading to **BRAD THOR**, who has written 20 books featuring Scott Harvath, a Secret Service Agent to the President of the USA. I know I've read one or two books in this series but for the life of me I cannot remember the titles, so I decided to go back to the first book The Lions of Lucerne (#1) (\$23), first published in 2002, and give it a go. When the president is kidnapped during his ski holiday in Colorado, disavowed Secret Service Agent Scott Harvath is his only hope of rescue.

A short blurb: As the FBI and CIA chase a string of dangerously false clues across the Middle East, Agent Harvath's investigation leads him to Switzerland. Throughout the picturesque towns of Bern, Interlaken and Lucerne, Harvath plays a deadly game of cat and mouse with the real kidnappers, as well as rogue factions within his own government that want him terminated before he can save the president. With only the ambitious Claudia Muehler of the Swiss Federal Attorney's Office to assist him, the pair are forced to go it alone as they realise the kidnapping plot reaches some of the highest levels of the Swiss Intelligence community.

Where, in my humble opinion, Lucerne did not open with a Rappian bang, it certainly picked up speed very quickly and exploded into action that never let up. I've got Path of the Assassin (#2) (\$23) lined up, but first, a few chapters of my puppy training book. His latest book is Black Ice (#20) (\$22 trade paperback or \$38,99 hardcover.).

And, now, for something completely different...I loved Murder in a Teacup (#2) (\$35), **VICKI DELANY's** second entry in her Tea by the Sea series, sequel to Tea and Treachery (#1) (\$21.95). Victoria-on-Sea is a bed and breakfast owned by Rose, Lily Roberts' grandmother, and Lily operates Tea by the Sea, a tea shop adjacent to the bed and breakfast. Full of detail about teas, cooking, the bed and breakfast and tearoom business, this is a perfect light summer read.

Here is the blurb for Teacup, which I'm thinking I enjoyed even more than Treachery although I can't tell you why, so you'll have to read both and see what you think! Lily has her work cut out for her when a visit from her grandmother Rose's dear friend, Sandra McHenry, turns into an unexpected—and unpleasant—McHenry family reunion. The squabbling boils over and soon Tea by the Sea's serene afternoon service resembles the proverbial tempest in a teapot. Somehow, Lily and her tearoom survive the storm, and Sandra's bickering brethren finally retreat to Rose's B & B. But later that evening, a member of their party—harmless Ed French—dies from an apparent poisoning and suddenly Tea by the Sea is both scene and suspect in a murder investigation!

Mercifully, none of the other guests fall ill. They all ate the same food, but Ed insisted on bringing his own special blend of herbal teas. So, it seems, amid the whining and dining, someone snuck up to one of Lily's cherished teapots and fatally spiked Ed's bespoken brew, but who?

Did you read Flowers Over the Inferno (#1) (\$20.95) by **ILARIA TUTI**? I loved it. We were introduced to the 60-something Superintendent Teresa Battaglia who was investigating a gruesome murder in the Italian Alps. She pulls no punches, swears like a sailor and is fighting against what she believes to be the onset of dementia. Brilliant. Sleeping Nymph (#2) (\$20.95) has just been released in trade paperback and you need to read it as well. This time she is investigating a decades-old murder after DNA analysis has revealed that a painting from the final days of World War II contains matter from a human heart. Teresa is able to trace the evidence to Val Resia, one of Italy's most isolated, untouched regions. Translated from the Italian. Another great read.

Another book that I "Picked" in the newsletter when it was in hardcover has also just been released in trade paperback. Murder in Chianti (\$20.95) by **CAMILLA TRINCHIERI** is set in the heart of Tuscan wine country and introduces us to former NYPD homicide detective Nico Doyle. He has moved to Gravigna, the hometown of his recently deceased wife, and is trying to get on with his life. A murder, just outside his new home, draws him into the investigation. This is what **Martin Walker** says about the book and what hooked me into reading it: "A Tuscan feast of old lusts and new loves, meals and murder in Chianti country with an ex-NYPD cop and a dog." What's not to love in that short and succinct summary? How could you read that and not want to grab a cup, sorry, copy, of Chianti? The second in the series, A Bitter Taste of Murder (#2) (\$35.95) will be out soon. I can hardly wait!

## Hardbacks

**ATKINS, ACE quinn HEATHENS** (#11) (\$36) Sheriff Quinn Colson and his former deputy Lillie Virgil find themselves on opposite sides of a case for the first time after a woman is found dead and three delinquent teens go on the run. Someone has gone to a lot of violent trouble to make TJ and her friends the logical target of the investigation. It's easy, and who cares about a bunch of lawless kids? As the bloody evidence against TJ piles up, Quinn knows someone truly evil is at work here—and that puts TJ and her friends in more danger than they can imagine.

**BARRETT, LORNA tricia DEADLY DELETION** (#15) (\$35) A murder leads to a string of shocking revelations for bookstore owner Tricia Miles. Tricia Miles has just received a second marriage proposal within fifteen minutes. The first was from her friend with benefits, Marshall Chambers, and the second from her ex-lover, police chief Grant Baker. Tricia's got some serious thinking to do. She's still weighing her options when Marshall is killed in a hit and run. Then she learns that everything Marshall told her was a lie—in particular, that he was a widower. Was his death an act of revenge? Tricia's on the hunt for a killer, and it seems like she might be next on the list.

**COSBY, S A RAZORBLADE TEARS** (\$36.99) Ike Randolph has been out of jail for fifteen years, with not so much as a speeding ticket in all that time. But a Black man with cops at the door knows to be afraid. The last thing he expects to hear is that his son Isiah has been murdered, along with Isiah's white husband, Derek. Ike had never fully accepted his son but is devastated by his loss. Derek's father Buddy Lee was almost as ashamed of Derek for being gay as Derek was ashamed of his father's criminal record. Buddy Lee still has contacts in the underworld, though, and he wants to know who killed his boy. Ike and Buddy Lee, two ex-cons with little else in common other than a criminal past and a love for their dead sons, band together in their desperate desire for revenge. In their quest to do better for their sons in death than they did in life, hardened

men Ike and Buddy Lee will confront their own prejudices about their sons and each other, as they rain down vengeance upon those who hurt their boys.

**DAVIS, LINDSEY flavia** COMEDY OF TERRORS (#9) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) Flavia Albia, daughter and successor of private informer Marcus Didius Falco is twiddling her thumbs with no clients during the December festival of Saturnalia. But that doesn't mean all is quiet. Her husband Tiberius and the Fourth Cohort are battling organized crime interests that are going to war over the festival nuts. A series of accidental poisonings, then bloody murders of rival nut-sellers, and finally a gruesome warning to Tiberius from the hidden criminal powers to back off. Albia has had just about enough and combines forces with Tiberius to uncover the hidden criminal gangs trying to worm their way into the establishment at a banquet of the emperor Domitian.

**DELANY, VICKI tea by sea** MURDER IN A TEACUP (#2) (\$35) Cape Cod tearoom proprietress and part-time sleuth, Lily Roberts, has her work cut out for her when a visit from her grandmother Rose's dear friend, Sandra McHenry, turns into an unexpected—and unpleasant—McHenry family reunion. The squabbling boils over and soon Tea by the Sea's serene afternoon service resembles the proverbial tempest in a teapot. Somehow, Lily and her tearoom survive the storm, and Sandra's bickering brethren finally retreat to Rose's B & B. But later that evening, a member of their party—harmless Ed French—dies from an apparent poisoning and suddenly Tea by the Sea is both scene and suspect in a murder investigation!

**DOIRON, PAUL bowditch** DEAD BY DAWN (#12) (\$37.99) Mike Bowditch is fighting for his life. After being ambushed on a dark winter road, his Jeep crashes into a frozen river. Trapped beneath the ice in the middle of nowhere, having lost his gun and any way to signal for help, Mike fights his way to the surface. But surviving the crash is only the first challenge. Whoever set the trap that ran him off the road is still out there, and they're coming for him.

**DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN sherlock** SIGN OF THE FOUR (\$16.99) When Miss Mary Morstan is invited to meet a secretive stranger, she asks Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson to help her. Captain Morstan has disappeared from his hotel without a trace. Should Miss Morstan dare hope that her father is still alive? What horrible scene awaits the famous detective and his friend when they break down the door to Bartholomew Sholto's attic room? Who is the man with the wooden leg, and why is he so full of bitterness and hatred? Will Toby, the cleverest tracker dog in London, help Holmes and Watson solve one of their most difficult cases? For ages 9-11.

**DOYLE/GOLDBERG, LEONARD daughter of sherlock holmes** ABDUCTION OF PRETTY PENNY (#5) (\$36.50) Joanna and the Watsons are called in by the Whitechapel Playhouse to find Pretty Penny, a lovely, young actress who has gone missing without reason or notice. While on their search, the trio is asked by Scotland Yard to join in the hunt for a vicious murderer whose method resembles that of Jack The Ripper. It soon becomes clear that The Ripper has re-emerged after a 28-year absence and is once again murdering young prostitutes in Whitechapel. Following a line of subtle clues, Joanna quickly reasons that Pretty Penny has been taken capture by the killer.

**FESPERMAN, DAN COVER WIFE** (\$36) When CIA agent Claire Saylor is told that she'll be going undercover in Hamburg to pose as the wife of an academic who has published a controversial interpretation of the Quran's promise to martyrs, she assumes the job is a punishment for past unorthodox behavior. But when she discovers her team leader is Paul Bridger, another Agency maverick, she realizes there may be more to this mission than meets the eye—and not just for professional reasons. Claire learns the truth about her mission and it spells disaster far beyond the CIA.

**FREEMAN, BRIAN BOURNE TREACHERY** (\$37) Three years ago, Jason Bourne embarked on a mission in Estonia with his partner and lover, a fiery Treadstone agent code-named Nova. Their job was to rescue a Russian double agent who'd been smuggled out of St. Petersburg in the midst of an FSB manhunt. They failed. The Russian died at the hands of a shadowy assassin known only by the nickname Lennon. Now everything has changed for Bourne. Nova is gone, killed in a mass shooting in Las Vegas. Bourne is a lone operative, working in the shadows for Treadstone, when he's called in for a new mission in London—to prevent another assassination masterminded by Lennon. But nothing about this mission is what it seems.

**GORDON, DAVID bouncer** AGAINST THE LAW (#3) (\$34.95) Joe is an ex-Special Forces operative with a bad case of PTSD and some substance abuse issues, trying to rebuild a simple life as a strip club bouncer living with his grandmother in Queens. But this simple life is constantly complicated by the fact that, at the invitation of a childhood friend, now a Mafia boss, Joe also moonlights as a fixer for the most powerful crime families in town. In his newest assignment, Joe is sent to take out a shadowy figure named Zahir, the faceless name behind White Angel, a powerful new brand of heroin invading the mob's territories and threatening their sales. Then Joe discovers a link between Zahir and a shady group of private military contractors, and the stakes of his mission become increasingly deadly.

**KOONTZ, DEAN OTHER EMILY** (\$34.99) A decade ago, Emily Carlino vanished after her car broke down on a California highway. She was presumed to be one of serial killer Ronny Lee Jessup's victims whose remains were never found. Writer David Thorne still hasn't recovered from losing the love of his life, or from the guilt of not being there to save her. Since then, he's sought closure any way he can. He even visits regularly with Jessup in prison, desperate for answers about Emily's final hours so he may finally lay her body to rest. Then David meets Maddison Sutton, beguiling, playful, and keenly aware of all David has lost. But what really takes his breath away is that everything about Maddison, down to her kisses, is just like Emily. As the fantastic becomes credible, David's obsession grows, Maddison's mysterious past deepens—and terror escalates. Is she Emily? Or an irresistible dead ringer?

**LEONARD, NIALL M. KING'S BODYGUARD** (\$36) A gripping, atmospheric thriller based on a true story about anarchy and assassination in Edwardian London, and one detective's mission to preserve the life of his king and prevent a bloody war in Europe... From humble beginnings in Ireland, William Melville has risen through hard work, intelligence, and occasional brute force to become head of Scotland Yard's Special Branch, personal bodyguard to Queen Victoria and her family, and the scourge of anarchists at home and abroad. But when the aged Queen dies in January 1901 and the crowned heads of Europe converge on London for her funeral, Melville learns of a conspiracy, led by a mysterious nihilist known only as Akushku, to assassinate Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany at the ceremony. Racing to prevent the atrocity, Melville and his German counterpart Gustav Steinhauer find themselves tangled in a web of adultery, betrayal, and violence. As the funeral looms ever closer, Melville realizes that Akushku is the most resourceful and vicious foe he has yet encountered—but is the greater threat from Melville's enemies, or his allies?

**MACBRIDE, STUART SAWBONES ss** (\$18.99) They call him Sawbones: a serial killer touring America kidnapping young women. The FBI's investigating—but getting nowhere. The latest victim is Laura Jones. Sixteen years old. Pretty. Blonde. And the daughter of one of New York's most notorious gangsters. Laura's Dad doesn't care about the law. What he wants is revenge. And he knows just the guys to get it. This time, Sawbones picked on the wrong family. A novella at 112 pages.

**MACHUGH/MCHUGH, LAURA WHAT'S DONE IN DARKNESS** (\$36) Seventeen-year-old Sarabeth has become increasingly rebellious since her parents found God and moved their family to a remote Arkansas farmstead where she's forced to wear long dresses, follow strict rules, and grow her hair down to her waist. She's all but given up on escaping the farm when a masked man appears one stifling summer morning and snatches her out of the cornfield. A week after her abduction, she's found alongside a highway in a bloodstained dress—alive—but her family treats her like she's tainted. One good thing arises from the horrific ordeal: a chance to leave the Ozarks and start a new life. Five years later, Sarabeth is struggling to keep her past buried when investigator Nick Farrow calls. Convinced that her case is connected to the strikingly similar disappearance of another young girl, Farrow wants Sarabeth's help, and he'll do whatever it takes to get it, even if that means dragging her back to the last place she wants to go—the hills and hollers of home, to face her estranged family and all her deepest fears.

**MACNEAL, SUSAN ELIA hope HOLLYWOOD SPY (#10)** (\$36) Los Angeles, 1943. As the Allies beat back the Nazis in the Mediterranean and the United States military slowly closes in on Tokyo, Walt Disney cranks out wartime propaganda and the Cocoanut Grove is alive with jazz and swing every night. But behind this sunny façade lies a darker reality. Somewhere in the lush foothills of Hollywood, a woman floats lifeless in the pool of one of California's trendiest hotels. When American-born secret agent and British spy Maggie Hope learns that this woman was engaged to her former fiancée, John Sterling, and that he suspects her death was no accident, intuition tells her he's right. Leaving London under siege is a lot to ask. But John was once the love of Maggie's life . . . and she won't say no.

**MARSTON, EDWARD railway TRAGEDY ON THE BRANCH LINE (#19)**

(\$32.95) When Bernard Pomeroy finds a letter slipped under his door in the early hours, he flies into a panic. After dashing off a short note to a friend, he hands it to the porter at Corpus Christi College before hastening on to the railway station and boarding a train leaving Cambridge. However, shortly after disembarking at his destination, the undergraduate lies dead on the platform. Inspector Colbeck and Sergeant Leeming are summoned by the Master of the college to investigate Pomeroy's untimely demise. With the Boat Race on the horizon, the president of the Cambridge Boat Club believes their Oxford rivals are responsible for the death of their talented cox. Yet it seems Pomeroy had ruffled many feathers during his short time at the university...

**MILLER, DEREK B horowitz HOW TO FIND YOUR WAY IN THE DARK (#1)**

(\$38) Remember Sheldon Horowitz—widowed, impatient, impertinent—in the beautifully charming *Norwegian by Night* (\$22)? That was the novel, published 2013, where he had grudgingly agreed to leave New York and move in with his granddaughter, Rhea, and her new husband, Lars, in Norway? Norway, a country of blue and ice with

one thousand Jews. And, not one of them a former Marine sniper in the Korean War turned watch repairman. Well, not until then, anyway. Now, meet the twelve-year old Sheldon Horowitz. It is 1938, and Sheldon, recently orphaned is hell-bent on revenge. **MOHLIN, PETER adderley** BUCKET LIST (#1) (\$34) Swedish-American undercover FBI Agent John Adderley wakes up in a hospital bed in Baltimore with extensive gunshot wounds. He knows he's lucky to be alive. And just a few beds away is the man who 24 hours ago pointed a gun to his head. For his protection, he's now in Sweden (where he's not lived since he was a boy) in witness protection, hiding until he can testify against the drug cartel he infiltrated back in the States. To keep him occupied, he's given the very cold case of Emelie, the young heiress to (an H&M-esque) clothing empire, who went missing ten years earlier in Sweden. Adderley is determined to solve Emelie's case, but, at the same time, he knows that the drug cartel has a price on his head.

**NOOR, ROZLAN mislan** 21 IMMORTALS (#1) (\$34.99) Inspector Mislan Latif's final case after a long night's shift could be his last. Called to a wealthy neighborhood of Kuala Lumpur, he finds a crime scene unlike any he has encountered before: pristine, the victims a family seated at dinner, Mona Lisa smiles fixed to their faces, frozen mid-gesture. It makes an eerie, chilling tableau of death, but signifying what? Every clue points to another unknown. This isn't the primary scene: where is it? Maverick, hard-boiled yet tender, a single father raising a young child, Mislan must rely on his team—and the politically savvy woman leading Major Crimes who is his boss—to support, protect him from the corruption above, and help find a way to ensure the course of justice.

**QUINN, SPENCER chet berni** TENDER IS THE BITE (#11) (\$36.99) Chet and Bernie are contacted by a terribly scared young woman who seems to want their help. Before she can even tell them her name, she flees in panic. But in that brief meeting Chet sniffs out an important secret about her, a secret at the heart of the mystery he and Bernie set out to solve. It's a case with no client and no crime and yet great danger, with the duo facing a powerful politician who has a lot to lose. Their only hope lies with a ferret named Griffie who adores Bernie. Is there room for a ferret in the Chet and Bernie relationship? That's the challenge Chet faces, the biggest of his career. Hanging in the balance are the lives of two mistreated young women and the future of the whole state.

**ROSENFELT, DAVID carpenter** DOG EAT DOG (#23) (\$37.99) Lawyer Andy Carpenter and his wife, Laurie, out walking their dogs, come across a man mistreating his dog. Three things happen at once: Andy yells, Laurie runs to stop the abuse, and so does a closer passerby, who so thoroughly beats the owner that both are arrested when the cops arrive. Andy scoops up the dog and takes him to the Tara Foundation, the dog rescue organization that's always been his true passion. Meanwhile, at the police station, the passerby is identified as Matthew Jantzen, and he's wanted for murder. Andy and Laurie are struck by the fact that Jantzen, a man on the run, would nevertheless intervene to help a dog, and decide to find out more.

**SHEPHERD, SCOTT grant** LAST COMMANDMENT (#1) (\$34.95) Christmastime in London. When three seemingly unconnected victims are murdered with matching sequential Roman numerals carved into their foreheads, Metropolitan Police Commander Austin Grant finds his answer in one of the last places he'd expect: the Holy Bible. Each of the deaths correspond to a transgression of one of the Ten Commandments, and Grant must find the killer before the remaining Commandments are commemorated with homicides.

**SILVA, DANIEL allon** CELLIST (#21) (\$35.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) Viktor Orlov had a longstanding appointment with death. Once Russia's richest man, he now resides in splendid exile in London, where he has waged a tireless crusade against the authoritarian kleptocrats who have seized control of the Kremlin. His mansion in Chelsea's exclusive Cheyne Walk is one of the most heavily protected private dwellings in London. Yet somehow, on a rainy summer evening, in the midst of a global pandemic, Russia's vengeful president finally manages to cross Orlov's name off his kill list. The Metropolitan Police determine that it was a Moscow Center assassin who had penetrated Orlov's formidable defenses. Gabriel Allon, who owes his very life to Viktor Orlov, believes his friends in British intelligence are dangerously mistaken.

**SMITH, ALEXANDER varg** MAN WITH THE SILVER SAAB (#3) (\$29.95) Life—and crime—is not always as it seems for Ulf Varg and the other fearless detectives in Malmo's Department of Sensitive Crimes. There are always surprising new cases to take on, and the latest batch is no exception. And that's not to mention Ulf's struggle to contain his feelings for his colleague Anna Bengsdotter. All in all, things are distinctly difficult in Malmo, and it seems up to Ulf and the Department to set them right.

**STAFFORD, DAVID guides** SKELTON'S GUIDE TO SUITCASE MURDERS (#2) (\$29.95) A woman's dismembered corpse is discovered in a suitcase, and police quickly identify her husband, Doctor Ibrahim Aziz, as their chief suspect. Incriminating evidence is discovered at his home and his wife was rumoured to be having an affair, giving him clear motive. With his reputation for winning hopeless cases, barrister Arthur

Skelton is asked to represent the accused. Though Aziz's guilt does not seem to be in doubt, a question of diplomacy and misplaced larvae soon lead Skelton to suspect there may be more to the victim's death. Aided by his loyal clerk Edgar, Skelton soon finds himself seeking justice for both victim and defendant. But can he uncover the truth before an innocent man is put on trial and condemned to the gallows?

**THOR, BRAD horvath** BLACK ICE (#20) (\$38.99 hardcover, \$22 trade paperback) Scot Harvath is having his best summer ever. With a cottage on the fjord, a boat, and his beautiful girlfriend Sølvi, he's got everything he could possibly want. But out of vacation days and long overdue back home, America's top spy has a decision to make—return, or submit his resignation. When his deadly past comes calling, though, he'll be left with no choice at all. Leaving his favorite Oslo café, Harvath watches as a ghost climbs out of a taxi—a man he killed years ago, halfway around the world. How is he still alive? And what is he doing in Norway?

**TYLER, L C elsie** FAREWELL MY HERRING (#9) (\$32.95) Ethelred Tressider and his agent Elsie Thirkettle have been invited to lecture on a creative writing course at Fell Hall, a remote location in the heart of ragged countryside that even sheep are keen to shun. While Ethelred's success as a writer is distinctly average, Elsie sees this as an opportunity to scout for new, hopefully more lucrative, talent. But heavy snow falls overnight, trapping those early arrivals inside, and tensions are quick to emerge between the assembled group. When one of their number goes missing, Ethelred leads a search party and makes a gruesome discovery. With no phone signal and no hope of summoning the police, can Ethelred and Elsie identify the killer among them before one of them is next?

**WALKER, MARTIN bruno** COLDEST CASE (#14) (\$36) After attending an exhibit on the facial reconstruction of ancient skulls, Bruno wonders if this technology might provide an invaluable clue to a thirty-year-old cold case. But learning the identity of the murder victim is only the beginning. The investigation quickly turns thorny and leads Bruno to a reclusive vintner, Henri Bazaine, whose education at a vocational school in a formerly Communist region has raised some eyebrows. An inquiry into the defunct school turns up shadowy reports of possible connections and funding from the Stasi, the repressive police agency of the former East Germany. The scrutiny on Henri intensifies once Bruno discovers that he was declared dead thirty years ago and has been living under an assumed name ever since.

## Paperbacks

**ALGER, CRISTINA** GIRLS LIKE US (\$12.99) FBI agent Nell Flynn hasn't been home in ten years. Nell and her father, Homicide Detective Martin Flynn, have never had much of a relationship. And Suffolk County will always be awash in memories of her mother, Marisol, who was murdered when Nell was just seven. Home now to clean up her father's estate, Nell gets involved with an investigation into the murder of two young women, and the finger is pointing directly at her late father.

**ALLAN, GABBY whit whisker** MUCH ADO ABOUT NAUTICALING (#1) (\$21.95) The bubbly fun of a rom-com meets the irresistible quirkiness of a cozy mystery in this buoyant new series set off the coast of Southern California, where 30-something Whitney Dagner has moved home to help with her family's boat tour business. Living in a Pacific paradise isn't always smooth sailing, but things really get rocky when Whit's brother is accused of murder and it falls on her – with the help of her ex-boyfriend Felix and police dispatcher roommate Mirabel—to clear his name...

**ALLEN, MERI ice cream** ROCKY ROAD TO RUIN (#1) (\$10.99) Riley Rhodes, travel food blogger and librarian at the CIA, makes a bittersweet return to her childhood home of Penniman, Connecticut—land of dairy farms and covered bridges—for a funeral. Despite the circumstances, Riley's trip home is sprinkled with reunions with old friends, visits to her father's cozy bookshop on the town green, and joyful hours behind the counter at the beloved Udderly Delicious Ice Cream Shop. But Caroline and her brother Mike have to decide what to do with the assets they've inherited—the ice cream shop as well as the farm they grew up on—and they've never seen eye to eye. Trouble begins to swirl. When Mike turns up dead in the barn the morning after the funeral, the peace and quiet of Penniman seems upended for good. Can Riley find the killer before another body gets scooped?

**ALLOTT, SUSAN** SILENCE (\$21) It is 1997, and in a basement flat in Hackney, Isla Green is awakened by a call in the middle of the night: her father phoning from Sydney. 30 years ago, in the suffocating heat of summer 1967, the Greens' next-door neighbour Mandy disappeared. At the time, it was thought she had fled a broken marriage and gone to start a new life; but now Mandy's family is trying to reconnect, and there is no trace of her. Isla's father Joe was allegedly the last person to see her alive, and now he's



under suspicion of murder. Isla unwillingly plans to go back to Australia for the first time in a decade to support her father.

**ANDERSON-DARGATZ, GAIL** ALMOST WIFE (\$24.99) Kira is engaged to the man of her dreams: he's charming, handsome, wealthy, and a great dad to their baby, Evie, and his thirteen-year-old daughter, Olive. Having grown up with a troubled relationship with her mother and mostly estranged from her father, Kira craves a close family and secure home, and with Aaron, Evie and Olive, she almost has it. The only problem is Aaron's ex-wife, Madison, who's out of control and trying to get to Olive. When Kira takes the girls out of town to her childhood summer home and finds out that Madison has followed them, she panics. Between the beach and the forest on Manitoulin Island, Kira fights to protect Olive, Evie and her fiancé, until a dark secret threatens to unravel the life that is almost hers. With the future she has built hanging in the balance, and her past haunting her at every turn, Kira must choose who to believe and who she wants to be.

**ASHLEY, JENNIFER** below DEATH AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE (#5) (\$23)

While attending an exhibition at the Crystal Palace, young cook Kat Holloway is approached by a woman in distress. Lady Covington is a wealthy widow convinced that her entire family is trying to kill her. Kat feels compelled to help. So, she escorts the lady home to discover whether she is delusional or in true danger. When it quickly becomes apparent that the threat is all too real, Kat promises aid. Her charming confidant Daniel McAdam is busy infiltrating a plot against the Crown, and she worries he will not have time to lend his sleuthing expertise. This might be for the best, as Kat fears her growing emotional entanglement with Daniel can only lead to disaster. But soon, Kat faces a more serious threat when her involvement in both investigations plunges her into peril.

**BENN, JAMES R billy boyle** RED HORSE (#15) (\$20.95) England, 1944: Recovering from physical and psychological wounds sustained in the liberation of Paris, US Army detective Billy Boyle and Lieutenant Kazimierz are sent to a convalescent hospital in the English countryside—only to discover that St. Albans may have its own war secrets, including a killer.

**BLAKE, JAMES CARLOS wolfe** BONES OF WOLFE (#5) (\$23.50) In the newest Wolfe-family adventure, Rudy and Frank Wolfe are engaging in routine miscellaneous business—some legitimate and some less so—for their family when they stumble upon a stash of high-quality pornographic films in a raid. The plot thickens when their Aunt Catalina, the family matriarch aged 115, recognizes a resemblance to her long-lost sister in one of the young performers. Catalina tasks the boys with tracking the girl down, however improbable a connection may be. This proves to be no simple task: the upper echelons of the Sinaloa drug cartel are involved! Frank and Rudy must find a way to extract her from the cartel. Ever daring and innovative, and assisted by the family's ready resources, the Wolfe brothers must run the highest risks in order to achieve the mission assigned them by the Grande Dame.

**BURDETTE, LUCY** KEY LIME CRIME (#10) (\$22.99) During the week between Christmas and New Year's, the year-round population of Key West, Florida, faces a tsunami of tourists and snowbirds. It doesn't help that outrageously wealthy key lime pie aficionado David Sloan has persuaded the city to host his pie-baking contest. Every pie purveyor on the island is out to win the coveted Key Lime Key to the City and Key Zest food critic Hayley Snow is on the scene to report it. But complicating matters is her intimidating mother-in-law's surprise visit and a corpse—Au Citron Vert's controversial new pastry chef. Can Hayley handle the heat of a killer's kitchen?

**CAHOON, LYNN kitchen wite** TWO WICKED DESSERTS (#2) (\$11.99) Magic Springs, Idaho, may be a small town, but Mia Malone is living an enchanted life running her own catering business and cooking school. And while she's teaching the locals culinary craft, her grandmother is teaching her witchcraft for the day she inherits the family magical spells that have been passed down for generations. Unfortunately, all that knowledge is not helping Mia or her grandmother in removing the spirit of warlock Dorian Alexander from Mia's cat Mr. Darcy.

**CARTER, CHARLOTTE hayes** RHODE ISLAND RED (#1) (\$21) The first book in the Nanette Hayes Mystery series introduces us to jazz-loving, street busker Nanette, whose love life leads her into some very hot water...Nan's day is not off to a good start. Her on-again, off-again relationship with Walter is off...again, and when she offers a fellow busker a place to stay for the night, he ends up murdered on her kitchen floor. To make matters worse, the busker turns out to have been an undercover cop. And his former partner has taken an immediate and extreme dislike to Nan. When she finds that the dead man stashed a wad of cash in her apartment, cash that could go to help his blind girlfriend, Nan's desire to do the right thing lands her in trouble. Soon she's on the hunt for a legendary saxophone worth its weight in gold. But there are plenty of people who would kill for the priceless instrument, and Nan's new beau just might be one of them. Published 1997.

**CASEY, JANE** KILLING KIND (\$24.99) As a barrister, Ingrid Lewis is used to dealing with tricky clients, but no one has ever come close to John Webster. After Ingrid defended Webster against a stalking charge, he then turned on her—following her, ruining her relationship, even destroying her home. Just when Ingrid believes she has finally escaped his clutches, one of her colleagues is run down on a busy London road and, Ingrid is sure she was the intended victim. And then Webster shows up at her door, claiming Ingrid is in danger—and that only he can protect her. Stalker or saviour? Murderer or protector? The clock is ticking for Ingrid to decide. Because the killer is ready to strike again.

**CASTILLO, LINDA** amish HER LAST BREATH (#5) (\$10.99) It's a rainy night in Painter's Mill when, from out of nowhere, a speeding car comes hurtling toward an Amish man and his three children. What at first seems like a tragic but routine car accident becomes personal for Chief of Police Kate Burkholder when she discovers that the victims are the family of her childhood friend, Mattie. As Kate delves into the investigation, she comes face-to-face with her own Amish past and memories of growing up with Mattie, an extraordinary beauty for whom trouble has never been far behind. Is there something more to this mysterious car crash that killed Mattie's husband? What is Mattie hiding—and who is she trying to protect? Published 2013.

**COLES, CATHERINE** christie MURDER IN THE CHURCHYARD (#3) (\$25)

When the body of Isolde Newley's long lost husband is found in the grounds of St Augustus churchyard, suspicion falls on Isolde and everyone close to her - especially her new love interest, the dashing Dr Mainwaring. The mystery is exacerbated by the largest snowfall seen in North Yorkshire for years. No one can get in—or out—of the village. It will take all of Tommy & Evelyn Christie's sleuthing powers to clear their friends and find the murderer before the police arrive from York.

**CONNELLY, MICHAEL** macevoy FAIR WARNING (#3) (\$12.99) Veteran reporter Jack McEvoy has taken down killers before, but when a woman he had a one-night stand with is murdered in a particularly brutal way, McEvoy realizes he might be facing a criminal mind unlike any he's ever encountered. Jack investigates—against the warnings of the police and his own editor—and makes a shocking discovery that connects the crime to other mysterious deaths across the country. Undetected by law enforcement, a vicious killer has been hunting women, using genetic data to select and stalk his targets. Uncovering the murkiest corners of the dark web, Jack races to find and protect the last source who can lead him to his quarry. But the killer has already chosen his next target, and he's ready to strike.

**CONTE, CATE** cat cafe CLAWS FOR ALARM (#5) (\$10.99) Maddie and her JJ's House of Purrs—and their fifteen purring friends!—is making such a splash that she's getting national attention. Jillian Allen, the executive director of The East Coast Animal Rescue League, asks to partner on a fundraiser to support the local rescue efforts—and she offers up her celebrity endorser and her celebrity cat to sweeten the deal. Maddie, caught up in the prospect, offers up her sister Val to help plan the event. But when Val shows up for a site visit at the venue, she finds Jillian strangled with a fancy cat leash—a piece of swag they were intending to use for the fundraiser—leaving Maddie with a lot of questions to answer. Was her death a tragic one-off event, or is there something more sinister going on? Maddie has to figure it out fast, before anyone else in the rescue community is jeopardized.

**CORNWELL, BERNARD** warrior WAR LORD (#13) (\$12.99) The final installment in the author's bestselling Saxon Tales series, chronicling the epic story of the making of England—the basis for The Last Kingdom, the hit Netflix series. England is under attack. Chaos reigns. Northumbria, the last kingdom, is threatened by armies from all sides, by land and sea – and only one man stands in their way. Torn between loyalty and sworn oaths, the warrior king Lord Uhtred of Bebbanburg faces his greatest ever battle – and prepares for his ultimate fate...

**CROUCH, BLAKE** RECURSION (\$23) At first, it looks like a disease. An epidemic that spreads through no known means, driving its victims mad with memories of a life they never lived. But the force that's sweeping the world is no pathogen. It's just the first shock wave, unleashed by a stunning discovery—and what's in jeopardy is not our minds but the very fabric of time itself. In New York City, Detective Barry Sutton is closing in on the truth—and in a remote laboratory, neuroscientist Helena Smith is unaware that she alone holds the key to this mystery . . . and the tools for fighting back. Together, Barry and Helena will have to confront their enemy—before they, and the world, are trapped in a loop of ever-growing chaos.

**DAVIS, LINDSEY** flavia COMEDY OF TERRORS (#9) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$34.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

**DELANY, VICKI** tea by sea TEA AND TREACHERY (#1) (\$21.95) As the proud proprietor and head pastry chef of Tea-by-the-Sea, a traditional English tearoom on the picturesque bluffs of Cape Cod, Lily Roberts' hands are full, often literally. But nothing keeps her busier than steering her sassy grandmother, Rose, away from trouble. Rose operates the grand old Victorian B&B adjacent to Lily's shop...for now. An aggressive

real estate developer, Jack Ford, is pushing hard to rezone nearby land, with an eye towards building a sprawling golf resort that would drive Rose and Lily out of business. Tempers are already steaming, but things really get sticky when Ford is found dead at the foot of Rose's property and the police think she had something to do with his dramatic demise. Lily can't let her grandmother get burned by a false murder charge. So she starts her own investigation and discovers Ford's been brewing bad blood all over town, from his jilted lover to his trophy wife to his shady business partners.

**DE PALMA, BRIAN** ARE SNAKES NECESSARY? (\$17.50) When the beautiful young videographer offered to join his campaign, Senator Lee Rogers should've known better. But saying no would have taken a stronger man than Rogers, with his ailing wife and his robust libido. Enter Barton Brock, the senator's fixer. He's already gotten rid of one troublesome young woman—how hard could this new one turn out to be? Pursued from Washington D.C. to the streets of Paris, 18-year-old Fanny Cours knows her reputation and budding career are on the line. But what she doesn't realize is that her life might be as well

**DONNELLY, GARY** sheen NEVER ASK THE DEAD (#3) (\$21.95) DI Owen Sheen and DC Aoife McCusker are back working on the reformed Serious Historic Offences Team in Belfast, although the hands-on approach of the chief constable and the political agendas at play are a struggle to manage. And that's before a cryptic message from a retired, and now missing, cop begins to prey on Sheen's mind. The note Tom 'Tucker' Rodgers sent says that they killed his friend, and now they're coming for him. Sheen and Aoife's search for Tucker and the truth places them on the path of the most highly placed IRA double agent of the Troubles, as well as another man with an old score to settle...

**DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN** PARASITE AND OTHER TALES OF TERROR (\$21.99) Nine tales of the macabre and the supernatural. Even before he created Sherlock Holmes, the author terrified and delighted readers with tales of suspense, haunted by mysterious forces that defy rational explanation. These stories capture the unique draw of the uncanny and the curiosity that compels us all to ask, "Could it be true?"

**DOYLE, SIR ARTHUR CONAN** MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$19.99) A new edition of the second collection of stories.

**ELLIS, KATE** peterston BONE GARDEN (#5) (\$15.99) An excavation at the lost gardens of Earlsacre Hall is halted when a skeleton is discovered beneath a 300-year-old stone plinth—the remains of a woman who was buried alive. But even when more skeletons are found in the walled garden, DS Wesley Peterson has more pressing matters on his hands. A man has been stabbed to death at a holiday park and the only clue to his identity is a newspaper cutting about the restoration of Earlsacre Hall gardens. Local solicitor Brian Willerby is eager to talk to Wesley about the case, but before Brian can reveal his secret he is killed. What is it about Earlsacre Hall that leads people to murder? And what is the sinister secret of the bone garden? For someone close to Wesley, time is running out . . . Published 2001.

**ELLIS, KATE** peterston ARMADA BOY (#2) (\$17.99) When archaeologist Neil Watson finds the body of an American veteran of the D-Day landings in the ruins of an old chapel, he turns to his old friend DS Wesley Peterson for help. Both men are researching an invading force: Wesley, a group of American veterans on a sentimental journey to their wartime base; and Neil, a group of Spaniards killed by outraged locals as they limped from the wreckage of the Armada. Four hundred years apart, two strangers in a strange land have died violently. Could the same motives of hatred, jealousy and revenge be at work? Wesley is running out of time to find out . . . Published 1999.

**FINLAY, MICK** ARROWOOD AND THE MEETING HOUSE MURDERS (#4) (\$18.99) London, 1879. As winter grips the city, a group of African travellers seek sanctuary inside the walls of the Quaker Meeting House. They are being hunted by a ruthless showman, who is forcing them to perform in his ethnic exhibition in the London Aquarium. Private investigator William Arrowood and his assistant Barnett agree to help the travellers avoid capture. But when they arrive at the Meeting House, they find a scene of devastation. Two people have been murdered and the others have fled into the night. The hunt for the real killer leads Arrowood into the dark heart of Victorian London. A shadowy world of freak shows, violence and betrayal, where there are no good choices and only the slimmest chance of survival...

**FLOOD, HELENE** THERAPIST (\$22.95) Sara runs a private psychology practice for troubled youth in the newly inherited house she is refurbishing with her husband, Sigurd. One morning, a voicemail from Sigurd tells Sara he's arrived at a holiday cabin for a weekend away with the guys. A couple of hours later, Sigurd's friends call from the cabin asking where he is — according to them, Sigurd never arrived. Sara is irritated by what she thinks is a practical joke. But as the hours stretch out, her anger turns to fear, and the large empty house begins to feel increasingly threatening. To get to the root of Sigurd's disappearance, Sara must question everything she knows about their relationship. But can she trust her own thoughts? And where is she safe?

**FOLLETT, KEN** EYE OF THE NEEDLE (\$22) His code name was “The Needle.” He was a German aristocrat of extraordinary intelligence—a master spy with a legacy of violence in his blood, and the object of the most desperate manhunt in history. But his fate lay in the hands of a young and vulnerable English woman, whose loyalty, if swayed, would assure his freedom—and win the war for the Nazis. Published 1976.

**FOLLETT, KEN** KEY TO REBECCA (\$23) A brilliant and ruthless Nazi master agent is on the loose in Cairo. His mission is to send Rommel’s advancing army the secrets that will unlock the city’s doors. In all of Cairo, only two people can stop him. One is a down-on-his-luck English officer no one will listen to. The other is a vulnerable young Jewish girl. Published 1980.

**FOLLETT, KEN** TRIPLE (\$23) As Egypt comes closer and closer to developing a nuclear bomb, the Mossad’s number one Israeli agent is given an impossible mission: to beat the Arabs in the nuclear arms race by finding and stealing two hundred tons of uranium. The world’s balance of power will shift. And the Mossad, the KGB, the Egyptians, and Fedayeen terrorists will play out the final, violent moves in this devastating game where the price of failure is a nuclear holocaust. Published 1970.

**FREEMAN, BRIAN** INFINITE (\$23.95) One rainy night, the unthinkable happens: Dylan Moran’s car plunges off the road into a raging river, his beautiful wife drowning as he struggles to shore. In the aftermath, through his grief, Dylan experiences sudden, strange visions: wherever he goes, he’s haunted by glimpses of himself. Dylan initially chalks it up to trauma, but that changes when he runs into a psychiatrist who claims he’s her patient. She says he has been undergoing a unique hypnotherapy treatment built on the idea that with every choice, he creates an infinite number of parallel universes. Now those parallel universes are unlocked—and Dylan’s doppelgänger has staked a claim to his world. Can Dylan use these alternate realities to get a second chance at the life that was stolen from him? Or will he lose himself...to himself?

**GALBRAITH, ROBERT** strike TROUBLED BLOOD (#5) (\$23.99) Private Detective Cormoran Strike is visiting his family in Cornwall when he is approached by a woman asking for help finding her mother, Margot Bamborough—who went missing in mysterious circumstances in 1974. Strike has never tackled a cold case before, let alone one forty years old. But despite the slim chance of success, he is intrigued and takes it on; adding to the long list of cases that he and his partner in the agency, Robin Ellacott, are currently working on. And Robin herself is also juggling a messy divorce and unwanted male attention, as well as battling her own feelings about Strike. As Strike and Robin investigate Margot’s disappearance, they come up against a fiendishly complex case with leads that include tarot cards, a psychopathic serial killer and witnesses who cannot all be trusted. And they learn that even cases decades old can prove to be deadly.

**GARDNER, ERLE STANLEY** TCOT TERRIFIED TYPIST (\$26.99) Defense lawyer Perry Mason needs a temporary typist, but the one he hires turns out to be more temporary than expected. When she disappears, leaving a couple of diamonds behind in her haste, Mason winds up taking on a new client: a gem importer in his office building who’s been charged with smuggling and murder. But if Mason’s going to untangle this case, finding the typist is key . . .Published 1956.

**GERRITSEN, TESS & GARY BRAVER** CHOOSE ME (\$22.95) Taryn Moore is young, beautiful, and brilliant...so why would she kill herself? When Detective Frankie Loomis arrives on the scene to investigate the girl’s fatal plunge from her apartment balcony, she knows in her gut there’s more to the story. Her instincts are confirmed when surprise information is revealed that could have been reason enough for Taryn’s suicide—or a motive for her murder. After Frankie uncovers a trove of sordid secrets, it becomes clear that English professor Jack Dorian may know the truth. He is guilty of deception, but is he capable of cold-blooded murder?

**GOODMAN, CAROL** STRANGER BEHIND YOU (\$21.99) Journalist Joan Lurie has written a seething article exposing a notorious newspaper tycoon as a sexual predator. But the night it goes live, she is brutally attacked. Traumatized and suffering the effects of a concussion, she moves into a highly secure apartment in Manhattan called the Refuge, which was at one time a Magdalen Laundry. Joan should be safe here...

**GREENWOOD, KERRY** fisher DEATH IN DAYLESFORD (#21) (\$22.99) Waited seven years for the next Phryne Fisher... When a mysterious invitation for a spa vacation arrives for Miss Phryne Fisher from an unknown retired Captain Herbert Spencer, Phryne's curiosity is piqued. Spencer runs a retreat in Victoria's rural spa country for shell-shocked veterans of World War I. It's a cause after Phryne's own heart, but what can Spencer want from her?

**GRISHAM, JOHN** brigance TIME FOR MERCY (#3) (\$24 trade paperback, \$12.99 mass market paperback) Clanton, Mississippi. 1990. Jake Brigance finds himself embroiled in a deeply divisive trial when the court appoints him attorney for Drew Gamble, a timid sixteen-year-old boy accused of murdering a local deputy. Many in Clanton want a swift trial and the death penalty, but Brigance digs in and discovers that there is more to the story than meets the eye. Jake’s fierce commitment to saving Drew from

the gas chamber puts his career, his financial security, and the safety of his family on the line.

**GRUNER, JOHN SCOTT** INFIDEL (\$21.95) A supernatural historical thriller, based on facts, set inside Nazi Germany. Not a doctrinaire Nazi, SS Lieutenant Ernst Teschler discovers Himmler's SS occult activities, then co-opts their European bank channels to impede the coming Holocaust. His mission is derailed when he discovers that his childhood mentor, Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, is a spy set against Hitler.

**HARRIS, SHERRY chloe** TIME TO SWILL (#2) (\$11.99) Chloe loves her new life pouring beers and mixing cocktails at the Sea Glass Saloon in the Florida Panhandle town of Emerald Cove. But on the job, the only exercise she gets is walking from one end of the bar to the other, so in the mornings she loves to run on the beach. On this morning's foggy run, she spots a sailboat washed up on a sandbar. Hearing a cry, she climbs aboard the beached vessel to investigate and finds not only a mewling kitten—but a human skeleton in the cabin. The skeleton is tied back to Chloe's friend Ralph, whose wife disappeared on a sailboat with three other people twelve years ago. Believing his wife was lost at sea, Ralph remarried. Now he finds himself a murder suspect. Chloe is determined to find out who's been up to some skulduggery, but her sleuthing will lead her into some rough waters and some bone-chilling revelations.

**HAWKSWOOD, SARAH bradecot** BLOOD RUNS THICKER (#8) (\$16.95) August 1144. Osbern de Lench is known far and wide as a hard master, whose temper is perpetually frayed. After his daily ride to survey his land, his horse returns to the hall riderless, and the lifeless body of the lord is found soon after. Was it the work of thieves, or something closer to home? With an heir who is cast in the same hot-tempered mould, sworn enemies for neighbours and something amiss in the relationship between Osbern and his wife, undersheriff Hugh Bradecote, the wily Serjeant Catchpoll and apprentice Walkelin have suspects aplenty.

**HIAASEN, CARL** LUCKY YOU (\$22.99) A Florida woman wins millions in the lottery only to have her ticket stolen. Published 1997.

**HIAASEN, CARL** BASKET CASE (\$22.95) Jack Tagger's years in exile at the obituaries desk of a South Florida daily haven't dulled his investigative reporter's nose for a good story. When Jimmy Stoma, the infamous front man of Jimmy and the Slut Puppies, dies in a fishy scuba accident, Jack sees his ticket back to page one—if only he can figure out what really happened. Standing in his way are, just for starters, his ambitious young editor, who hasn't yet fired anyone but plans to "break her cherry" on Jack; the rock star's pop-singer widow, who's using the occasion of her husband's death to relaunch her own career; and the soulless, profit-hungry owner of the newspaper, whom Jack once publicly humiliated at a stockholders' meeting. Following clues from the late rock singer's own music, Jack tries to unravel the lies surrounding Jimmy Stoma's strange fate. Published 2002.

**HILLERMAN, TONY** SINISTER PIG (#16) (\$21) Sergeant Jim Chee of the Navajo Tribal Police is troubled by the nameless corpse discovered just inside his jurisdiction, at the edge of the Jicarilla Apache natural gas field. More troubling still is the FBI's insistence that the Bureau take over the case, calling the unidentified victim's death a "hunting accident." But if a hunter was involved, Chee knows the prey was intentionally human. "Legendary Lieutenant" Joe Leaphorn agrees. Once again he's pulled out of retirement by the possibility of serious wrongs being committed against the Navajo nation by the Washington bureaucracy. Published 2003.

**HILLERMAN, TONY chee** WAILING WIND (#12) (\$21) Officer Bernadette Manuelito finds the dead man slumped over in the cab of a pickup, with a rich ex-con's phone number in his pocket . . . and a tobacco tin filled with placer gold. She figures he's just another drunk—an assumption that gets her in trouble for mishandling a crime scene and brings down the wrath of the FBI on her supervisor, Sergeant Jim Chee of the Navajo Tribal Police. For Chee's mentor, former Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn, the death eerily echoes a long dormant cold case. Years earlier, Leaphorn followed the trail of a beautiful, young, and missing wife to a dead end, and the failure to close that investigation has haunted him ever since. This new case could lead to the truth, and the legendary lawman comes out of retirement, determined to solve it. Published 2002.

**HITCHENS, DOLORES sader** SLEEP WITH SLANDER (#2) (\$15.95) "You're playing with a child's life": The search for a kidnapped boy leads private detective (and ex-alcoholic) Jim Sader through a labyrinth of well-hidden family secrets and into the heart of an elaborate and malevolent deception. With little to go on—a tight-lipped client, an anonymous letter, a mother who is supposed to be dead—Sader must rely on his wits to find the child even as he outraces the demons that dog him. This novel has been called "the best hard-boiled private eye novel written by a woman—and one of the best written by anybody" (1001 Midnights: The Aficionado's Guide to Mystery and Detective Fiction).

**JAMES, PETER grace** FIND THEM DEAD (#16) (\$19.99) Ending his secondment to London's Met Police, Roy Grace gets a tip-off about a drugs mastermind operating out of Brighton. On his first day back in his old job, he is called to a seemingly senseless

murder. Gradually, Grace's investigation draws him into the evil sphere of an utterly ruthless drug dealer on trial. A man prepared to order the death of anyone it takes to enable him to walk free from court. Sitting in the jury is Meg Magellan, whose daughter's life is being threatened by a stranger who tells her that if she ever wants to see her alive again, it is very simple. At the end of the trial, all she has to do is make sure the jury says just two words . . . Not guilty.

**JAMES, PETER** grace LEFT YOU DEAD (#17) (\$25.99) Niall and Eden Paternoster start their Sunday the same way they always do – with a long drive, a visit to a country house and a quick stop at the local supermarket on the way home. But this Sunday ends differently—because while Niall waits and waits in the car park for Eden to pick up supplies, Eden never returns. She's not waiting for him at home, and none of their family or friends have heard from her. Gone without a trace, Niall is arrested on suspicion of her murder. When DS Roy Grace is called in to investigate, it doesn't take long to realize that nothing is quite as it seems—and this might be his most mysterious case yet.

**JOHNSTONE, DOUG** DARK MATTER (\$21.95) Meet the Skelfs: well-known Edinburgh family, proprietors of a long-established funeral-home business, and private investigators. . . . When patriarch Jim dies, it's left to his wife Dorothy, daughter Jenny and granddaughter Hannah to take charge of both businesses, kicking off an unexpected series of events. Dorothy discovers mysterious payments to another woman, suggesting that Jim wasn't the husband she thought he was. Hannah's best friend Mel has vanished from university, and the simple adultery case that Jenny takes on leads to something stranger and far darker than any of them could have imagined. As the women struggle to come to terms with their grief, and the demands of the business threaten to overwhelm them, secrets from the past emerge, which change everything.

**KINSLEY, ERIN** INNOCENT (\$17.99) The pretty market town of Sterndale is a close-knit community where everyone thinks they know everyone else. But at a lavish summer wedding a local celebrity is discovered slumped in the gardens, the victim of a violent assault that leads to a murder investigation. As the police search for answers, suspicion and paranoia build—and the lives of the locals are turned upside down. Secrets that lurk beneath the pristine facade of Sterndale come to light as detectives close in on the truth...

**KIRK, MARGARET** mahler IN THE BLOOD (#3) (\$24.99) Some cases are personal...Tied to a derelict pier on Orkney, the bloated remains of a man bob in the waves, under the shadow of forbidding Sandisquoy House. The locals know him as William Spencer. But DCI Lukas Mahler identifies him as Alex Fleming—his former boss. Unable to step away from the case, Mahler tries to piece together why Fleming would retire to such a remote location. But the deeper he digs, the more disturbing the investigation becomes. Seal bones, witches' salve, and runic symbols appear everywhere he looks, ushering Mahler towards Fleming's most notorious unsolved case: the 'Witchfinder' murders. And towards a dark and uncomfortable truth someone has gone to great lengths to bury.

**LA PLANTE, LYNDA** warr JUDAS HORSE (#2) (\$22) Wild mustangs are difficult to rope, their lead stallion wary and protective of his herd. To capture that special stallion takes time. He is separated, roped, and lead back to the ranch. Once tamed, he is sent back into the wild. And before long, he will lead the entire herd back to the ranch. He is given the name 'Judas Horse'. When Detective Jack Warr identifies an informer, the terrified man begins to give details of a massive robbery planned by a team of unscrupulous and dangerous men. These men have already orchestrated many audacious robberies, leaving terrified victims in their wake. And they have already killed to get what they want. Detective Jack Warr and his team must use their informant as a 'Judas Horse' to draw in the unsuspecting robbers, so that they go ahead with the planned robbery. However, one false move, and more blood will be spilled.

**LACKBERG, CAMILLA** adelhei SILVER TEARS (#2) (\$24.99) Faye Adelheim is living a delicious lie. She is wealthy beyond imagination, she is the Chairman of her self-made global cosmetics brand, and her ex-husband, the monster who killed her beloved daughter Julianne, is living out the remainder of his days behind bars. But unbeknownst to journalists, police officers, and investors, and even the lovers she occasionally invites to her bed, Faye has a secret: her daughter is, in fact, alive and well and so is her mother, the woman Faye's father was sentenced for allegedly killing years ago. Together, three generations of women have survived in hiding from the men who sought to destroy them. But unfortunately for Faye, cages are meant to be opened, pillow talk can lead to betrayal, and secrets always end in tears.

**LAPENA, SHARI** NOT A HAPPY FAMILY (\$24.95) Brecken Hill in upstate New York is an expensive place to live. You have to be rich to have a house there, and Fred and Sheila Merton certainly are rich. But even all their money can't protect them when a killer comes to call. The Mertons are brutally murdered after a fraught Easter dinner with their three adult kids. Who, of course, are devastated. Or are they? They each stand to inherit millions. They were never a happy family, thanks to their vindictive father and neglectful mother, but perhaps one of the siblings is more disturbed than any-

one knew. Did someone snap after that dreadful evening? Or did another person appear later that night with the worst of intentions? That must be what happened. After all, if one of the family were capable of something as gruesome as this, you'd know. Wouldn't you

**LARSEN, WARD** *slaton* ASSASSIN'S STRIKE (#7) (\$12.99) In a Syrian palace, the presidents of Russia and Iran undertake a clandestine meeting. No staff or advisors are permitted in the room. No records are kept. By necessity, however, there are two witnesses: the interpreters. The Russian, Ludmilla Kravchuk, returns to her hotel room burdened by what she has heard. When her Iranian counterpart is murdered before her eyes, Kravchuk fears she is next and goes into hiding in Syria. The CIA gets word of the defection. Desperate to uncover the purpose of the meeting, they task their newest off-the-books operator—legendary assassin David Slaton—to undertake a daring rescue. Deep inside Syria's war-torn borders, what Slaton finds is a plot that will tear the Middle East apart. And one that only he can stop.

**LAURIE, VICTORIA** *cat gilley* TO COACH A KILLER (#2) (\$11.99) As the Hamptons drags through early spring, Cat's shot at becoming the toast of the town in time for Memorial Day is dwindling—and fast. The only client she can find has been house-bound for decades and claims to be the victim of a devastating curse. Then there's the matter of Detective Shepherd's intense jealousy over Maks Grinkov, the handsome bad boy who approaches Cat with an unusual offer she can't stop thinking about. Havoc finally breaks loose when a string of murders rocks the coastal community, landing Maks on the hook as the culprit. With a storm approaching shore and no one to trust, Cat and her sharp-tongued best friend, Gilley, must solve a client's curse and a series of violent deaths before a killer sends them all sailing to their doom...

**LINDSEY, JULIE ANNE** *cider* CIDER SHOP RULES (#3) (\$11.99) The Fall Festival is in full swing. Civil War reenactors from three counties are partaking in Blossom Valley's tribute to John Brown. Blue Ridge Mountain foliage is in full bloom. And best of all is Jacob Potter's pumpkin farm where his hayrides, piglet races, pumpkin picking and corn maze are time-honored draws for locals and tourists alike. That's why it's such a shock when Mr. Potter is found dead, hidden under a tarp in the back of Winnie's pickup truck. This certainly betrays Potter's reputation as one of the town's most popular citizens. Fortunately, when it comes to solving a murder, no one has a patch on Winnie. Now, all eyes are on her to do it. Unfortunately, that includes those of the killer who'll do anything to keep an orchard full of secrets buried.

**LOVESEY, PETER** *diamond* FINISHER (#19) (\$20.95) Through a particularly ill-fated series of events, couch potato Maeve Kelly, has been forced to sign up for the Other Half, Bath's springtime half marathon. The training is brutal and she has to collect pledges for her aunt's beloved charity. What Maeve doesn't know is just how vicious some of the other runners are. Meanwhile, Detective Peter Diamond is tasked with crowd control on the raucous day of the race—and catches sight of a violent criminal he put away a decade ago, and who very much seems to be up to his old tricks now that he is paroled. Diamond's hackles are already up when he learns that one of the runners never crossed the finish line and disappeared without a trace. Was Diamond a spectator to murder?

**MACKENZIE/MCKENZIE, CATHERINE** SIX WEEKS TO LIVE (\$22) Jennifer Barnes never expected the shocking news she received at a routine doctor's appointment: she has a terminal brain tumor—and only six weeks left to live. While stunned by the diagnosis, the forty-eight-year-old mother decides to spend what little time she has left with her family—her adult triplets and twin grandsons—close by her side. But when she realizes she was possibly poisoned a year earlier, she's determined to discover who might have tried to get rid of her before she's gone for good. Was it her soon-to-be ex? It couldn't have been the girls?

**MACLEAN, ALISTAIR** PARTISANS (\$18.99) In wartime, people are either friends or enemies. In wartime, friends are friends and enemies die...Published 1982.

**MACLEAN, ALISTAIR** RIVER OF DEATH (\$18.99) The classic tale of adventure and the dark secrets of a lost city in the Brazilian jungle, from the acclaimed master of action and suspense. Published 1981.

**MARKS, MARY** *quilting* KNOT READY FOR MURDER (#9) (\$11.99) One loose thread threatens to unravel Martha's wedding plans: the groom-to-be married a pregnant teen to save her from scandal thirty years ago—and the marriage was never annulled. Now Crusher's wife Hadas is coming to LA, along with his sister Fanya. But soon after she arrives, their houseguest goes missing, with her room ransacked and a chloroform-soaked cloth left behind. Could her apparent abduction be connected to her brother's unsolved death from a hit-and-run six months ago? Martha and her quilting cohorts must find the pattern to solve the twin mysteries and determine if Crusher is still married—or now a widower.

**MARSTON, EDWARD** *domesday* FOXES OF WARWICK (#9) (\$16.95) While hunting in the Forest of Arden, Henry Beaumont discovers the crushed body of a former member of his household. Flying into a rage, he soon arrests Boio, a local black-

smith, who was seen in the area, though the man disputes this. Ralph Delchard and Gervase Bret arrive in Warwick to find the place in a frenzy. Though there to resolve property disputes on behalf of William the Conqueror, the pair are soon involved with preventing a miscarriage of justice, as the evidence against the blacksmith is flimsy at best. But with Beaumont deaf to reason, the race is on to find the anonymous man the blacksmith claims can corroborate his story before he's sent to the gallows. Published 1999.

**MARSTON, EDWARD** domesday WILDCATS OF EXETER (#8) (\$16.95) As Nicolas Picard rides home from Exeter he is attacked by a snarling wildcat. Yet, when his body is discovered, there are lacerations on his neck that could only have come from human hands. When royal commissioners of William the Conqueror, Ralph Delchard and Gervase Bret, arrive in the city to preside over local land disputes, their proceedings are immediately hampered by the death of a key participant: Picard. With Picard's wife and mistress, as well as the wife of the former owner of the estate, staking their claim to the land, Delchard and Bret wonder whose greed has driven them to kill. But the root of the mystery lies far deeper than mere avarice. Published 1998.

**MASON, JAMIE** HIDDEN THINGS (\$12.99) Twenty-eight seconds. That's all it takes for a home-security camera to capture the hidden resolve in fourteen-year-old Carly Liddell as she fends off a vicious attack just inside her own front door. The video of her heroic escape appears online and goes viral. As the view count climbs, the lives of four desperate people will be forever changed by what's just barely visible in the corner of the shot. Carly's stepfather is spurred to protect his darkest secret: how a stolen painting—four hundred years old, by a master of the Dutch Golden Age—has come to hang in his suburban foyer. The art dealer, left for dead when the painting vanished, sees a chance to buy back her life. And the double-crossed enforcer renews the hunt to deliver the treasure to his billionaire patrons—even if he has to kill to succeed. But it's Carly herself, hailed as a hero, whose new perspective gives her the courage to uncover the truth as the secrets and lies tear her family apart.

**MACKINNON/MCKINNON, HANNAH** MARY YOU WILL REMEMBER ME (\$21.99) He wakes up on a deserted beach in Maryland with a gash on his head and wearing only swim trunks. He can't remember who he is. Everything—his identity, his life, his loved ones—has been replaced by a dizzying fog of uncertainty. But returning to his Maine hometown in search of the truth uncovers more questions than answers... Lily Reid thinks she knows her boyfriend, Jack. Until he goes missing one night, and her frantic search reveals that he's been lying to her since they met, desperate to escape a dark past he'd purposely left behind... Maya Scott has been trying to find her estranged stepbrother, Asher, since he disappeared without a trace. Having him back, missing memory and all, feels like a miracle. But with a mutual history full of devastating secrets, how far will Maya go to ensure she alone takes them to the grave? Shared fates intertwine in a twisty novel of suspense, where unearthing the past might just mean being buried beneath it...

**MURPHY, ELAINE** LOOK WHAT YOU MADE ME DO (\$22.99) Carrie wants a normal life. She doesn't need a happily ever after. She'll just settle for "after." After a decade of helping her sister hide her victims. After a lifetime of lies. She just wants to be safe, boring, and not trekking through the woods at night with a dead body wrapped in a carpet. Becca, however, wants to get away with murder. She doesn't believe in happily ever after either because she's already happy. She's gotten away with murder for a decade and has blackmailed her sister into helping her hide the evidence—what more could a girl want? But when thirteen bodies are discovered in their small town, and Becca swears she's not behind the grisly new crimes, they realize the town has a second serial killer who has the sisters in his sights, and what he wants is . . . Carrie.

**NADEL, BARBARA** ikmen BLOOD BUSINESS (#22) (\$17.99) Brothers Ugur and Lokman Bulut are locked in a bitter inheritance battle and need a sample of their mother's DNA to contest her Will. But when her body is exhumed, her corpse is found to be missing and a fresh body, with its heart removed, has been put in her grave. Assigned to the case, Inspector Mehmet Süleyman quickly realises that the heart has been illegally harvested, and his team has a murder inquiry on its hands. Meanwhile, retired inspector Çetin Ikmen is tracking down a missing person: Sevval Kalkan, a once-famous actress, who has joined an underground movement called the Moral Maze, whose mission is to help the destitute living on Istanbul's streets. The unidentified body in the grave cannot be Sevval's, but her shocking reappearance leads Ikmen to fear that she, too, is a victim of organ harvesting...Joining forces, Süleyman and Ikmen confront Istanbul's darkest underbelly to expose the horrifying truth of a city in crisis.

**NAY, ROZ** HUNTED (\$24.99) Two couples who meet backpacking through Africa, but what begins as friendship quickly turns to obsession, with deadly consequences...

**NESBO, JO** KINGDOM (\$21) Roy has never left the quiet mountain town he grew up in, unlike his little brother, Carl, who couldn't wait to get out and escape his troubled past. Everyone thought Carl was gone for good, but he has big plans for his hometown. And when he returns with a mysterious new wife and a business opportunity that seems



too good to be true, simmering tensions begin to surface and unexplained deaths in the town's past come under new scrutiny. Powerful players soon set their sights on taking the brothers down by exposing their role in the town's sordid history. But Roy and Carl are survivors and no strangers to violence. As the body count rises, though, Roy's loyalty to family is tested, as when he finds himself inextricably drawn to his brother's wife, Shannon, an attraction that will have devastating consequences. Roy's world is coming apart, and soon there will be no turning back. He'll be forced to choose between his own flesh and blood and a future he had never dared to believe possible.

**O'CONNOR, CARLENE** irish MURDER IN CONNEMARA (#2) (\$11.99) Former New Yorker and interior designer Tara Meehan is eagerly anticipating the grand opening of her architectural salvage shop Renewals in her newly adopted home of Galway. She's in the midst of preparations when heiress Veronica O'Farrell bursts in to announce she's ready for some renewal of her own. To celebrate one year of sobriety, she's invited seven people she wronged in her drinking days to historic Ballynahinch Castle Hotel in neighboring Connemara to make amends in style. But perhaps one among them is not so eager to pardon her past misdeeds...

**O'LOUGHLIN, ED** THIS EDEN (\$24.95) Michael Atarian is out of his depth. The closest he ever came to working in tech was when he rode a delivery bike for a food app in Vancouver. Yet when his coder girlfriend dies, he is inexplicably headhunted by a sinister tech mogul and transplanted to Silicon Valley. There, a reluctant spy named Aoife lures him into the hands of an enigmatic war-gamer who tricks them both into joining his quest to save the world. Hunted by government agents and corporate goons, and manipulated at every turn, Aoife and Michael find themselves in an intercontinental chase that takes them from California to New York, from the forests of Uganda to Jerusalem, Gaza, Alexandria, and Paris, and to a final showdown with the truth in Dublin.

**OSMAN, RICHARD** THURSDAY MURDER CLUB (\$23) In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club. When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case. As the bodies begin to pile up, can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer, before it's too late?

**PADURA, LEONARDO** conde HERETICS (#7) (\$22.50) In 1939, the *Saint Louis* sails from Hamburg into Havana's port with hundreds of Jewish refugees seeking asylum from the Nazi regime. But the ship and its passengers are refused entry and forced to leave the harbor, bound for the horrors of Europe. Among the passengers are the Kaminskys and they have a treasure that they hope will save them: a small Rembrandt portrait of Christ. The Kaminskys, along with their priceless heirloom, disappear. Nearly seven decades later, the Rembrandt reappears in an auction house in London, prompting a Kaminsky to travel to Cuba to track down the story of his family's lost masterpiece. He hires the down-on-his-luck private detective Mario Conde, and together they navigate a web of deception and violence in the morally complex city of Havana.

**PARIS, B A** THERAPIST (\$24.99) When Alice and Leo move into a newly renovated house in The Circle, a gated community of exclusive houses, it is everything they've dreamed of. But appearances can be deceptive...As Alice is getting to know her neighbours, she discovers a devastating secret about her new home, and begins to feel a strong connection with Nina, the therapist who lived there before. Alice becomes obsessed with trying to piece together what happened two years before. But no one wants to talk about it. Her neighbors are keeping secrets and things are not as perfect as they seem.

**PARKER, T JEFFERSON** ford THEN SHE VANISHED (#4) (\$12.99) Private Investigator Roland Ford has taken a job for a fellow Marine and a rising politician, Dalton Strait. Strait is contending with unexplained bombings of government buildings in his district...but that is not why he hired Ford. Strait's wife, Natalie, has gone missing, leaving behind a cryptic plea for help. Strait has made many enemies during his time in politics--including some of his own family members--all of whom could be looking for revenge. But as Ford digs into the details of a troubled marriage, Natalie's disappearance becomes more and more complicated. Meanwhile, the bombings in the city intensify, with a mysterious group known only as the Chaos Committee claiming responsibility. Ford soon learns that the seemingly random attacks may be connected to the case he's on--and suddenly, his hunt for a missing woman might decide the fate of an entire city.

**PENNY, LOUISE** ALL THE DEVILS ARE HERE (#16) (\$12.99) On their first night in Paris, the Gamaches gather as a family for a bistro dinner with Armand's godfather, the billionaire Stephen Horowitz. Walking home together after the meal, they watch in horror as Stephen is knocked down and critically injured in what Gamache knows is no accident, but a deliberate attempt on the elderly man's life. When a strange key is found in Stephen's possession it sends Armand, his wife Reine-Marie, and his former second-in-command at the Sûreté, Jean-Guy Beauvoir, from the top of the Tour d'Eiffel, to the

bowels of the Paris Archives, from luxury hotels to odd, coded, works of art. It sends them deep into the secrets Armand's godfather has kept for decades.

**PENZLER, OTTO** GOLDEN AGE DETECTIVE STORIES (\$21.95) Sometimes, the police aren't the best suited to solve a crime. Depending on the case, you may find that a retired magician, a schoolteacher, a Broadway producer, or a nun have the necessary skills to suss out a killer. Or, in other cases, a blind veteran, or a publisher, or a hard-drinking attorney, or a mostly-sober attorney... or, indeed, any sort of detective you could think of might be able to best the professionals when it comes to comprehending strange and puzzling murders. At least, that's what the authors from the Golden Age of American mystery fiction, the likes of \*\* Ellery Queen, Mary Roberts Rinehart, Cornell Woolrich, Erle Stanley Gardner, Anthony Boucher... would have you think.

**PERRY, ANNE** DEATH IN DEVIL'S ACRE (#7) (\$23) When a doctor is found brutally murdered in the lurid section of London aptly named "Devil's Acre," even its most hardened residents are stunned. But shock soon turns to horror when Inspector Thomas Pitt discovers three more bodies with the same gruesome "calling card": a stab wound in the back and a rather inexpertly executed mutilation. As Pitt and his wife, Charlotte, race against time to find the killer, a treacherous mystery unfolds. And no one, not the lowest brand of ruffian or the most established aristocrat, will escape unscathed. Published 1985.

**PERRY, ANNE** BLUEGATE FIELDS (#6) (\$23) Inspector Thomas Pitt is shocked. The body of a boy, clearly from the upper classes, has been found in the filthy sewers of Bluegate Fields, one of London's most dangerous slums. What's more, the unfortunate boy had been violated before he was murdered. So vile a case is hardly a topic for drawing-room conversation. But when the Waybournes, the boy's family, refuse to answer the police's questions, Inspector Pitt begins to wonder what secrets they are trying to hide. Pitt's wife and helpmeet, Charlotte, is determined to find out—even if it means tearing down the façades of an oh-so-proper family. Published 1984.

**PETRIE, NICHOLAS** ash BREAKER (#6) (\$12.99) A man wanted by two governments, Peter Ash has found a simple, low-profile life in Milwaukee, living with his girlfriend June and renovating old buildings with his friend Lewis. Staying out of trouble is the key to preserving this fragile peace . . . but when Peter spots a suspicious armed man walking into a crowded market, he knows he can't stand by and do nothing. Peter does interrupt a crime, but it wasn't at all what he'd expected. The young gunman appeared to have one target and one mission—but when he escapes, and his victim vanishes before police arrive, it seems there is more to the encounter than meets the eye. Peter's hunch is proven correct when a powerful associate from his past appears with an interest in the crime, and an irresistible offer: if he and June solve this mystery, Peter's record will be scrubbed clean.

**POBI, ROBERT** AMERICAN WOMAN (\$25) A stifling heat wave rolls into New York City, amplifying the already critical level of tension in the fragile concrete ecosystem. The air tastes of electricity—the negative charge of bad things to come—but everyone hopes it's just the temperature. Then, on the morning homicide detective Alexandra "Hemi" Hemingway finds out she is pregnant, a twisted serial killer makes his debut. And the heat goes up. Not for the faint of heart. From the author of City of Windows (#1) (\$24.50).

**RANKIN, IAN** rebus SONG FOR THE DARK TIMES (#23) (\$17.99) When his daughter Samantha calls in the dead of night, John Rebus knows it's not good news. Her husband has been missing for two days. Rebus fears the worst—and knows from his lifetime in the police that his daughter will be the prime suspect. He wasn't the best father—the job always came first—but now his daughter needs him more than ever. But is he going as a father or a detective? As he leaves at dawn to drive to the windswept coast—and a small town with big secrets—he wonders whether this might be the first time in his life where the truth is the one thing he doesn't want to find...

**ROBB, J D** FAITHLESS IN DEATH (#52) (\$12.99) The scene in the West Village studio appears to be classic crime-of-passion: two wineglasses by the bed, music playing, and a body with a bashed-in head. But when Dallas tracks down the wealthy Upper East Side woman who called 911, the details don't add up. Gwen Huffman is wealthy, elegant, tearful over the trauma of finding the body—but why did it take an hour to report it? And why is she lying about little things? As Eve and her team look into it, they find that the lies go well beyond murder—and soon they're getting the FBI involved in a case that involves a sinister, fanatical group and a stunning criminal conspiracy...

**ROCHON, LISA** TUSCAN DAUGHTER (\$24.99) Set during five epic years in the early 1500s when Florence was rebranding itself through its creative geniuses, this novel reveals the humanity and struggles of a young woman longing to find the only family she has left and be an artist in her own right, and the way she influences the artistic masters of the time to stake everything on the power of beauty to transform and heal.

**ROSENFELT, DAVID** carpente MUZZLED (#21) (\$22.99) Andy Carpenter is a lawyer who would rather not practice law. He'd rather spend his time working with the Tara Foundation, his dog rescue organization, and being with his family and his two

dogs, Tara and Sebastian. But when a friend asks him for a favor that involves both dogs and his lawyerly expertise, he can't say no.

**SAENZ, EVA GARCIA de ayal** LORDS OF TIME (#3) (\$22.95) Kraken is enjoying life as a family man, content to spend his days with Alba and their young daughter Deba. But there's no rest for the weary, especially when you're the most famous investigator in Vitoria. Kraken and Esti are charged with investigating the mysterious disappearance of two sisters and finding it hard to make any headway when a wealthy businessman's murder appears to shine a light on the case. The man was poisoned with a medieval aphrodisiac--a crime that has eerie similarities to one detailed in the novel everyone in Vitoria is buzzing about. When the two sisters are discovered trapped behind a wall--bricked up alive--the parallels to the novel are undeniable. With the author's identity a closely held secret, will Kraken be able to track down the killer before they can strike again? Or will Vitoria's sordid underworld finally break Kraken, and his family, apart.

**SCHNEIDER, HANSJORG hunkeler** BASEL KILLINGS (#1) (\$23.95) It all begins with two murders, an old man found dead on a street bench in Basel and a prostitute pulled out of a nearby lake. Both strangled and both found with their left earlobes slit. Inspector Hunkeler of the Basel police investigates and is soon faced with the consequences of certain recent events in Swiss history that everyone wants to keep buried.

**SERONG, JOCK** BURNING ISLAND (\$23.50) Eliza Grayling has lived in Sydney all her life, born there some 32 years ago, when the colony itself was still an infant. Too tall, too stern--too old, now--for marriage, she lives with her reclusive father, a former lieutenant and governor's aide. Eliza watches over him, in case he injures himself while drunk. There is a shadow in his past, she knows. Something obsessive. Something to do with a man who bested him decades earlier. Then Srinivas, another figure from that dark past, offers Joshua Grayling the chance for a reckoning. Unable to dissuade her father from his outlandish quest, Eliza begins to understand she may be forced to go with him. Then she sees the ship they will be sailing on. And in that instant, the voyage of the Moonbird becomes Eliza's mission too.

**SILVA, DANIEL allon** CELLIST (#21) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$35.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

**SLAUGHTER, KARIN** FALSE WITNESS (\$23.99) Leigh Collier has worked hard to build what looks like a normal life. She's an up-and-coming defense attorney at a prestigious law firm in Atlanta, would do anything for her sixteen-year-old daughter Maddy, and is managing to successfully coparent through a pandemic after an amicable separation from her husband Walter. But Leigh's ordinary life masks a childhood no one should have to endure ... a childhood tarnished by secrets, broken by betrayal, and ultimately destroyed by a brutal act of violence. But her past may be catching up to her. She knows her new client, a rapist, and also knows why he wants her on his defense team.

**STAFFORD, DAVID guides** SKELTON'S GUIDE TO DOMESTIC POISONS (#1) (\$16.95) January 1929. When Arthur Skelton won the legal case of the century, he went from being an unremarkable barrister to front-page sensation. Now he faces a new challenge. Mary Dutton is accused of poisoning her husband and the police are utterly convinced she is guilty. Even her supporters think she did it. Skelton agrees to take on what many consider an unwinnable case. With an army of women set to vote for the first time in history, the fate of Mary Dutton will have a significant impact on Britain's political future. Skelton faces mounting pressure to find the truth, but will that be enough to save a young woman's life?

**STEN, VIVECA sandhamn** IN THE NAME OF TRUTH (#8) (\$20.95) With the summer season on Sandhamn comes an unsettling mystery for Detective Inspector Thomas Andreasson. A bullied young boy has vanished from a sailing camp on neighboring Lökholmen Island. Has the terrorized eleven-year-old run away? Or, in this isolated vacation spot where strangers lurk, is it something more ominous? Time is running out to find the boy alive. Because on Sandhamn Island, the truth is buried as deep as the secrets.

**STEN, VIVECA sandhamn** IN BAD COMPANY (#9) (\$20.95) Building a case against Andreis Kovač is a risky strategy for prosecutor Nora Linde. A violent key player in Stockholm's drug trade and untouchable when it comes to financial crimes, he has the best defense money can buy. To topple Andreis's empire, Nora's working a different angle. It's personal. Nora's critical witness is Andreis's wife, Mina—if she'll testify. Mina has suffered her husband's rage too long. It's nearly cost her her life. Still carrying the traumas of the Bosnian War, Andreis can be triggered like an explosive. He must be taken down. And as the trial looms, Mina and her infant son must disappear. The police have found her a safe place to hide on Runmarö Island in Sandhamn's archipelago. But there's no shelter from a man as powerful and merciless as Andreis. Especially when he's being crossed.

**STEVENSON, ROBERT LOUIS** JEKYLL AND HYDE (\$14.99) This Penguin Readers is an ELT graded reader series for learners of English as a foreign language. With carefully adapted text, new illustrations and language learning exercises, the print

edition also includes instructions to access supporting material online. Dr Jekyll is a good person. He is nice, and he has lots of friends. But Mr. Hyde is a bad person. He walks in the streets of London at night and does bad things. Why are the two men friends?

**SWANSON, DENISE welcome COME HOMICIDE OR HIGH WATER (#3)**

(\$11.99) Welcome back to Scumble River! Skye Denison-Boyd is getting ready to return to work from her maternity leave and hoping for a peaceful year in her job as a school psychologist. But when an elderly woman disappears on her first day back and a disgruntled parent threatens to sue the school, Skye realizes that her return will be anything but quiet. When the parent suing Skye's school is found dead and with the missing woman's case is still unsolved, Skye suspects the crimes are somehow linked.

**SWANSON, DENISE welcome BODY OVER TROUBLED WATERS (#4)** (\$12.99)

Stupid Cupid is making School psychologist Skye Denison-Boyd regret returning to work after her maternity leave. It starts with an emergency school lockdown, continues with her godfather's arrest by the state police, and ends with a dead body! It's every teacher and administrator's worst nightmare—a school shooter lockdown. And even worse for Skye because she's trapped in a tiny room with the district's creepy superintendent, Dr. Wraige while they wait for the all-clear. When Dr. Wraige turns up dead in his home just a short time later, is it a coincidence, or something more?

**SWIFT, GRAHAM MOTHERING SUNDAY** (\$19.95) Jane Fairchild, orphaned at birth, has worked as a maid at an English country estate since she was sixteen. And for almost all of those years, she has been the secret lover of Paul Sheringham, the scion of the estate next door. On an unseasonably warm March afternoon, when all the servants have been let off work for the day in order to pay their annual visits to their families, Jane and Paul will make love for the last time in Paul's own bedroom—though not, as Jane believes, because Paul is about to be married. The events of the day will alter Jane's life forever.

**SYMON, VANDA shephard OVERKILL (#1)** (\$21.95) When the body of a young mother is found washed up on the banks of the Mataura River, a small rural community is rocked by her tragic suicide. But all is not what it seems. Sam Shephard, sole-charge police constable in Mataura, soon discovers the death was no suicide and has to face the realisation that there is a killer in town. To complicate the situation, the murdered woman was the wife of her former lover. When Sam finds herself on the list of suspects and suspended from duty, she must cast aside her personal feelings and take matters into her own hands. To find the murderer ... and clear her name.

**THOR, BRAD harvath BLACK ICE (#20)** (\$22 trade paperback, \$38.99 hardcover)

See the hardcover section for an annotation.

**THOR, BRAD harvath PATH OF THE ASSASSIN (#2)** (\$23) After rescuing the President from kidnappers in Scot Harvath's debut, *The Lions of Lucerne* (#1) (\$23), Secret Service agent Scot Harvath shifts his attentions to rooting out, capturing, or killing all those responsible for the plot. As he prepares to close out his list, a bloody and twisted trail of clues points toward one man—the world's most dangerous terrorist. But no one knows what he looks like. Published 2003.

**TUTI, ILARIA battaglia SLEEPING NYMPH (#2)** (\$20.95) A decades-old murder investigation has landed on Superintendent Teresa Battaglia's desk. DNA analysis has revealed that a painting from the final days of World War II contains matter from a human heart. Teresa is able to trace the evidence to Val Resia, one of Italy's most isolated, untouched regions. When Teresa's investigation hits too close to the truth, a fresh human heart is hung at the valley's entrance, a warning not to cross its threshold. As she hunts a ruthless killer, Teresa must face down her own rapidly deteriorating physical and cognitive abilities, as well as someone she hoped never to see again—a man who has just become her supervisor. Sequel to the excellent *Flowers Over the Inferno* (#1) (\$20.95).

**UNGER, LISA CONFESSIONS ON THE 7:45** (\$21.99) Selena Murphy is commuting home on the train when she strikes up a conversation with a beautiful stranger in the next seat. The woman introduces herself as Martha and soon confesses that she's been stuck in an affair with her boss. Selena, in turn, confesses that she suspects her husband is sleeping with the nanny. When the train arrives at Selena's station, the two women part ways, presumably never to meet again. Then the nanny disappears. As Selena is pulled into the mystery of what happened, and as the fractures in her marriage grow deeper, she begins to wonder, who was Martha really? But she is hardly prepared for what she'll discover.

**VAN DINE, S S philo vance WINTER MURDER CASE (#12)** (\$23.50) Like *The Gracie Allen Murder Case* (\$23.50) before it, *Winter* was first written as a screenplay, in this case a vehicle for the figure skater Sonja Henie. However, while Allen's scatter-brained persona made a charming foil for Philo's stuffed-shirt pretensions, Ms. Henie provided no such inspiration. The author did not live long enough to see her outed as a Nazi supporter, but her ice-princess act offered less for Philo to play against. It should be noted that *Winter* was published posthumously to close out the series, and though it

went to press without then author's usual repeated revisions, it is true vintage Philo—utterly distinctive in style and its own very genuine kind of pleasure.

**VAN DINE, S S philo vance** GRACIE ALLEN MURDER CASE (#11) aka smell of murder (\$23.50) Gracie Allen was a very real, much-loved comedienne in the 1930s, famous for her double act with George Burns, and in fact the plot revolves around her. Gracie's centrality is no accident: the author wrote the story as a vehicle for Allen, and actually created the novel only after the film had come out.

**WASSMER, JULIE whitstable** MAY DAY MURDER (#3) (\$15.99) It's springtime and Whitstable is emerging from hibernation. While neither the restaurant nor detective agency is too busy, Pearl Nolan resolves to spend some time at the family allotment. But her best friend, Nathan, has persuaded one of his favourite actresses to open the May Day festivities at Whitstable Castle and involves Pearl in his plans. The actress, Faye Marlowe is a Whitstable native, and, while her presence in the town causes a stir, not everyone is impressed. As it soon becomes clear when the actress's dead body is discovered—tethered to the maypole on the Castle grounds...

**WEIDEN, DAVID HESKA WANBLI** WINTER COUNTS (\$21) Virgil Wounded Horse is the local enforcer on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota. When justice is denied by the American legal system or the tribal council, Virgil is hired to deliver his own punishment, the kind that's hard to forget. But when heroin makes its way into the reservation and finds Virgil's nephew, his vigilantism suddenly becomes personal. He enlists the help of his ex-girlfriend and sets out to learn where the drugs are coming from, and how to make them stop. A dangerous mission...

**WITTIG ALBERT, SUSAN** PECAN SPRINGS ENTERPRISE TRILOGY (\$30) The three novellas featuring Pecan Springs Enterprise crime reporter Jessica Nelson collected in one volume.

**YOUNG, DAVID muller** STASI WOLF (#2) (\$19.95) East Germany, 1975. Karin Müller, sidelined from the murder squad in Berlin, jumps at the chance to be sent south to Halle-Neustadt, where a pair of infant twins have gone missing. But Müller soon finds her problems have followed her. Halle-Neustadt is a new town—the pride of the communist state—and she and her team are forbidden by the Stasi from publicizing the disappearances, lest they tarnish the town's flawless image. Meanwhile, in the eerily nameless streets and tower blocks, a child snatcher lurks, and the clock is ticking to rescue the twins alive.