



# The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

## SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

July 2021

It's turning out to be a good summer for golf. Although the forecasts have shown a lot of rain, it seems to clear up, come tee time; a few minutes of cooling sprinkles, has been pretty much the extent of rain. And there was one day when the group cancelled an outing. Okay with me, from a selfish point of view, but a whole lot more rain would be useful. I'd even sacrifice a few rounds to ensure that happens.

As Marian and I talk about transitioning away from the bookstore to our retirement, the thought of buying a condo as a Toronto pied a terre has come up. Then I see what's going on in Florida, one building collapsed, two others condemned, and, to make me totally paranoid, this morning I read an article about the Leaning Millennium Tower of San Francisco. A 58-story luxury building, completed in 2009, it has sunk 18 inches and is tilting! Yikes. Maybe I'll look for one of those single storey, tiny little East York bungalows, war houses as they are commonly called, built really close to the ground. Although, buying a house in Toronto these days is well out of the reach of a clerk in a bookstore. Seems, buying a house anywhere around here is out of reach.

### JD's Picks

Golf and the miraculous run of the Canadiens to the Stanley Cup have put some pressure on my reading...

Forget who brought COLIN FALCONER's Lucifer Falls (\$17.99) to my attention, (*that might have been me! It's a terrific read. Marian*), but it's a gritty, entertaining read. DI Charlie George and his team are after a killer who is stalking the street of London. First a priest is found crucified in an abandoned chapel in north London, then a police officer goes missing and he's found a few days later, stoned to death. A killer tormented by an unforgiving god, as the blurb points out. There are two more books in the series, Innocence Dies (\$17.99) and Angels Weep (\$17.99) with a fourth due soon.

VALERIO VARESI's Commissario Soneri investigations are a delight. The author, the antithesis of Colin Falconer, has only managed to produce five novels in his decades on this planet—perhaps having been the Parma correspondent for La Stampa and La Repubblica, he has less time for this kind of frivolous scribblings—and I'd love it if he managed a few more. The books are often difficult to source, but there are a few copies of the latest The Lizard Strategy (#5) (\$28) lurking around, so get 'em while they are hot.

Here's a brief blurb: Parma is blanketed in snow, but this pristine, white veneer cannot mask the stench of corruption. Its officials are no longer working for its people—only for themselves—crime is out of control and resentment festers in every district.

Commissario Soneri remains at heart an idealist, so the state of Parma wounds him more than most. And now he is presented with three mysteries at once, each more impenetrable than the last.

In a river creek on the outskirts of the city, tipped off by a local, he finds a mobile phone that rings through the night but holds no data; an elderly patient with senile dementia is reported missing from a hospice; and the mayor of Parma, who was reported as taking a holiday on the ski slopes, has disappeared off the face of the earth—just when he seemed certain to be implicated in a seismic corruption scandal at city hall.

And for those days, when maybe you've had too much sun, maybe some of it at the 19<sup>th</sup> hole, and you need a read that is not going to tax your concentration unduly, give TODD SCOTT's Lost River (\$12.99) a go. I read the author's first book, The Far Empty (#1) (\$13.50), the first in his Sheriff Chris Cherry series some years ago and remember liking it. Lost River is a stand alone, and deals with a poor, forgotten place in America where the opioid crisis has destroyed all hope for many. Here's a quote from Kirkus that pretty much nails the feel of this read: "This grim, gritty novel captures the feeling of hopelessness that the opioid epidemic brings... Well-told but raw as an open wound and not for the squeamish."

I'm pretty squeamish, but I managed. The story moves along at a good pace, once you get past the opening dozen pages, and if the opioid crisis has been something you just read about in your morning pa-

## The Merchant of Menace,

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### Postage & Handling

In a word: Actual

### Hours of Business

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

per, this novel will help you understand the real devastation that has been inflicted. The author was a federal agent with the DEA for more than twenty years, working cases investigating international maritime smuggling, domestic meth labs, Mexican cartel smuggling routes, so has a pretty good handle on the topic.

## Marian's Picks

I've been going thru baskets of strawberries this summer, like nobody's business. I may have overdone it! I can't remember them tasting as sweet as this year's crop. Is there a new variety this year? Maybe the abundant sunshine and rain we've had? Any road up, I had planned on making a few jars of jam, but that didn't work out so well; I just ate them all instead. Good job Pixie doesn't like them.

The weather has been up and down where I am. One minute it's sunny and warm—good strawberry weather—the next, the heavens open up, the thunder pounds and I can't see more than 8 feet in front of me. I know when a storm is imminent because my personal meteorologist, Ms. Pixie, will refuse to go for a walk. I'll get her out the door but then she refuses to budge. Literally, she becomes a stubborn donkey, all four brakes come on and it's I'm not moving, can't make me. And, sure enough, it won't be long before the bad weather arrives. So, we do our business quickly, and inside we go. It's ok with me, I get a lot of reading done. Here are a few of my favourites.

[A Good Kill](#) (#3) (\$36) by **JOHN MCMAHON** had this quote on its front cover: Cross my heart, this thriller may be the best one you'll read all year.—**William Kent Krueger**. It's the third in his P.T. Marsh series but I still thought I'd give it a go because it's the one I had on hand and, really, how could I resist such a good recommendation?

And, OMG, it is, as promised, terrific. I'm going to go back to the beginning and read [The Good Detective](#) (#1) (\$23) and maybe even read the next one [The Evil Men Do](#) (#2) (\$36). [A Good Kill](#) certainly clears up a lot of what must have happened in the first two books, but even still, I read it and loved it and would certainly recommend this series. The writing style is quite enjoyable, fast paced—short chapters, so you feel that things are moving along quickly—and I really liked the interaction between Marsh and his partner Remy Morgan. (Remy, of course, put me in mind of Remy Martin and that leads to a French Manhattan, because it's cocktail hour somewhere!)

Here is the blurb: An electrifying mystery featuring a troubled small-town police detective faced with three interwoven crimes that reveal sinister secrets about his community—and the deaths of his family, by the Edgar Award- and Thriller Award-short-listed author whose novels have been described by the New York Times Book Review as "pretty much perfect."

In the years since the mysterious deaths of his wife and child, P.T. Marsh, a police detective in the small Georgia town of Mason Falls, has faced demons—both professional and personal. But when he is called to the scene of a school shooting, the professional and personal become intertwined, and he suspects that whoever is behind the crime may be connected to his own family tragedy.

As Marsh and his partner Remy investigate the shooting, they discover that it is far from straightforward, and their search for answers leads them to a conspiracy at the highest levels of local government—including within the police force. The stakes in the case become increasingly high, culminating in a showdown that has Marsh questioning everything he knows, and wondering if some secrets are better left undiscovered.

Another new writer to me this month is **EMMELINE DUNCAN**. Her first book, [Fresh Brewed Murder](#) (\$21.95), is set in Portland (where I ran a marathon once... beautiful city) and introduces us to Sage Caplin, who, along with her business partner Harley are opening up a coffee cart. I just loved the discussions about coffee, how to make it, what beans to use, so that info, combined with a very interesting cast of characters, along with controversial issues of homelessness and gentrification, made for a very good read.

Here's a brief summary of the plot: Portland is famous for its rain, hipsters, craft beers...and coffee. Sage Caplin has high hopes for her coffee truck, Ground Rules, which she runs with her business partner, Harley—a genius at roasting beans and devising new blends.

Sage finds a man's body in front of her truck, a fatal slash across his neck. There's been plenty of anger in the air, from long-time vendors annoyed at Ground Rules taking a coveted spot in the food truck lot, to protestors demonstrating against a new high-rise. But who was mad enough to commit murder? Sage is already fending off trouble in the form of her estranged, con-artist mother, who's trying to trickle back into her life. But when Sage's very own box cutter is discovered to be the murder weapon, she needs to focus on finding the killer fast—before her business, and her life, come to a bitter end...

[The Giver of Stars](#) (\$23) by **JOJO MOYES** sounded interesting so the small book club I belong to decided to include it as one of our selections this year. It certainly generated a lot of discussion, and the consensus was it was a great choice. One of the issues we discussed was the controversy of the similarity of **Ms. Moyes's Stars** and [The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek](#) (\$22.99) by **KIM MICHELE RICHARDSON**, which was published five months prior to [Stars](#). So, we've decided to read the **Richardson** book next and make our own decision.

Here is the blurb: Based on a true story rooted in America's past, [The Giver of Stars](#) is unparalleled in its scope and epic in its storytelling. Funny, heartbreaking, enthralling, it is destined to become a modern classic—a richly rewarding novel of women's friendship, of true love, and of what happens when we reach beyond our grasp for the great beyond.

Alice Wright marries handsome American Bennett Van Cleve, hoping to escape her stifling life in England. But small-town Kentucky quickly proves equally claustrophobic, especially living alongside her overbearing father-in-law. So, when a call goes out for a team of women to deliver books as part of Eleanor Roosevelt's new traveling library, Alice signs on enthusiastically.

The leader, and soon Alice's greatest ally, is Margery, a smart-talking, self-sufficient woman who's never asked a man's permission for anything. They will be joined by three other singular women who become known as the Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky.

What happens to them—and to the men they love—becomes an unforgettable drama of loyalty, justice, humanity, and passion. These heroic women refuse to be cowed by men or by convention. And though they face all kinds of dangers in a landscape that is at times breathtakingly beautiful, at others brutal, they're committed to their job: bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives.

The recent heat dome and forest fires out west, which we have all read about, are troubling. And, as they seem to be connected to climate change and, being a bit of a nature lover, I've been reading any number of books about the environment and how to protect it and how to understand it.

Nothing to do with crime fiction, but when I heard that **PETER WOHLLEBEN**, author of the lovely [The Hidden Life of Trees](#) (\$29.95), which I adored, had written a follow up book, [The Heart-](#)

beat of Trees (\$32.95) I made himself order a few copies for the store; one of the few times he listened, he managed to snag a few autographed copies. This, like Peter's first book, is a delightful read. He has a charming way of writing and I just felt good reading it. And, you should read his books as well. There's a life to trees that we take for granted. They have a community among themselves, they communicate and protect each other. I found these two to be not only enjoyable reads, but real eye openers. As the blurb says, trees have heartbeats and roots are like brains that extend underground. Humans are deeply connected to the natural world, and the age-old ties linking us to the forest remain alive and intact. We might just need to re-discover them.

## Hardbacks

**BENTLEY, DON** TOM CLANCY TARGET ACQUIRED (\$39) Jack Ryan, Jr. would do anything for Ding Chavez. That's why Jack is currently sitting in an open-air market in Israel, helping a CIA team with a simple job. The man running the mission, Peter Beltz, is an old friend from Ding's Army days. Ding hadn't seen his friend since Peter's transfer to the CIA eighteen months prior and intended to use the assignment to reconnect. Unfortunately, Ding had to cancel at the last minute and asked Jack to take his place. It's a cushy assignment—a trip to Israel in exchange for a couple hours of easy work, but Jack could use the downtime after his last operation. Jack is here merely as an observer, but when he hastens to help a woman and her young son, he finds himself the target of trained killers. Alone and outgunned, Jack will have to use all his skills to protect the life of the child.

**BERENSON, LAURIEN travis** PUP FICTION (#27) (\$35) While usually protective, Melanie feels comfortable sending her sons to the Graceland School's summer camp for two reasons: The institution is well-regarded and proprietor Emily Grace is a trusted friend. But Emily has been acting strange since three rambunctious Dalmatian puppies suddenly appeared on her doorstep. The unusual arrival marks the first of several mysterious happenings at camp, each more intense than the last. Emily's rough streak takes a frightening turn with a discovery in the nearby woods—the body of her estranged ex-husband. As suspicions rush in, proving that Emily didn't murder her biggest mistake will be about as easy as raising prize-winning show dogs. Realizing she's the only one who can prove her friend's innocence and keep the Graceland School from shutting down, Melanie dives into an investigation on the victim's whereabouts leading up to his demise.

**BUCKLEY, FIONA blanchard** FOREST OF SECRETS (#19) (\$39.99) May, 1586. Ursula and her retinue return home from a lengthy trip to discover she has an unexpected visitor. Etheldreda Hope is a simple countrywoman who has come to Ursula with disturbing tales of strange goings-on in her rural village. Fearing that Etheldreda's reports of mysterious forest rites indicate a possible conspiracy to overthrow Queen Elizabeth in favour of her cousin, Mary Stuart, the queen's spymaster, Sir Francis Walsingham, orders Ursula to travel to Etheldreda's home to find out what's really going on. On reaching Chenston village, deep in the New Forest, Ursula discovers an isolated, suspicious community; the locals deeply in thrall to the old pagan traditions and beliefs. But are these ancient customs harmless—or are they part of a genuine conspiracy against the queen? And, if so, who is behind it?

**CASTILLO, LINDA amish** FALLEN (#13) (\$35.99, also available in trade paperback, \$24.99) When a young woman is found murdered in a Painters Mill motel, Chief of Police Kate Burkholder is shocked to discover she once knew the victim. Rachael Schwartz was a charming but troubled Amish girl who left the fold years ago and fled Painters Mill. Why was she back in town? And who would kill her so brutally? As the case heats to a fever pitch and long-buried secrets resurface, a killer haunts Painters Mill. Someone doesn't want Rachael's past—or the mysteries she took with her to the grave—coming to

light. As Kate digs deeper, violence strikes again, this time hitting close to home. Will Kate uncover the truth and bring a murderer to justice? Or will a killer bent on protecting a terrible past stop her once and for all—and let the fallen be forgotten?

**CHRISTY, BRYAN** IN THE COMPANY OF KILLERS (\$36) Tom Klay is a celebrated investigative wildlife reporter for the esteemed magazine *The Sovereign*. But Klay is not just a journalist. His reporting is cover for an even more dangerous job: CIA agent. Klay's press credentials make him a perfect spy—able to travel the globe, engage both politicians and warlords, and openly record what he sees. When he needs help, the Agency provides it to him, and asks little in return. But while on assignment in Kenya, Klay is attacked and his closest friend is murdered. Soon Klay's carefully constructed double life unravels as his ambition turns to revenge. The CIA has an answer, but it's a devil's bargain.

**CUSSLER, CLIVE** SABOTEURS (\$39) Detective Isaac Bell's wife has said that he is always in the wrong place at the right time. This is certainly the case when Bell thwarts the assassination of a U.S. Senator shortly after meeting the man. This heroic rescue is just the start of the mystery for Bell, who suspects that the would-be assassins have a much larger and more dangerous agenda—one involving the nearly-constructed Panama Canal. While the senator supports the building of the canal, there are many, including a local Panamanian insurgency known as the Red Vipers, who never want to see its completion. With millions of dollars and the fates of two nations at stake, Bell heads to Panama to find answers.

**DAMS, JEANNE M martin** BATH CONSPIRACY (#24) (\$39.99) Retired chief constable Alan Nesbit and his wife Dorothy Martin are in the beautiful historic city of Bath to celebrate Dorothy's birthday, enjoying the city's elegant surroundings, sightseeing, shopping—and champagne. But the celebrations are curtailed when they discover a curious assortment of loot in their car boot during a trip to Stonehenge—from precious artefacts to cheap jumble sale trinkets. The stolen items are linked to various historic sites in Bath, but how did they end up in the Martins' car? As Dorothy and Alan seek to prove their innocence and catch a thief, they are soon swept into a conspiracy that runs much deeper and darker . . .

**DOYLE/KING, LAURIE R russell** CASTLE SHADE (#17) (\$37) A queen, a castle, a dark and ageless threat—all await Mary Russell and Sherlock Holmes in this chilling new adventure.

**ELLROY, JAMES** WIDESPREAD PANIC (\$37) A novel based on the real-life Hollywood fixer Freddy Otash, the malevolent monarch of the 1950s L.A. underground, and his Tinseltown tabloid Confidential magazine. Freddy was the man in the know and the man to know in '50s L.A. He was a rogue cop, a sleazoid private eye, a shakedown artist, a pimp—and, most notably, the head strong-arm goon for Confidential magazine. Confidential presaged the idiot internet—and delivered the dirt, the dish, the insidious ink, and the scurrilous skank. It mauled misanthropic movie stars, sex-soiled socialites, and putzo politicians. Mattress Jack Kennedy, James Dean, Montgomery Clift, Burt Lancaster, Liz Taylor, Rock Hudson—Frantic Freddy outed them all. He was the Tattle Tyrant who held Hollywood hostage, and now he's here to CONFESS.

**FREEMAN, BRIAN** INFINITE (\$34.95) 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?

**FURLONG, SUSAN bone gap** SHATTERED JUSTICE (#3) (\$35) In the Appalachian town of Bone Gap, Tennessee, backwoods justice is more than just blind. It's swift, silent, and shockingly personal. Es-

pecially for Irish Traveller turned deputy sheriff Brynn Callahan... The first message is found in a playground. A few feet away, a pair of human ears hang from the monkey bars. The second message is discovered next to a human tongue on a park pavilion. For Brynn, the investigation hits too close to home—forcing her to confront the demons of her own past. But time is running out. Brynn has to track down the culprit before a third message is delivered—and a third victim is claimed.

**GRIFFITHS, ELLY** galloway NIGHT HAWKS (#13) (\$39) Ruth is back as head of archaeology at the University of North Norfolk when a group of local metal detectorists—the so-called Night Hawks—uncovers Bronze Age artifacts on the beach, alongside a recently deceased body, just washed ashore. Not long after, the same detectorists uncover a murder-suicide—a scientist and his wife found at their farmhouse, long thought to be haunted by the Black Shuck, a humongous black dog, a harbinger of death. The further DCI Nelson probes into both cases, the more intertwined they become, and the closer they circle to David Brown, the new lecturer Ruth has recently hired, who seems always to turn up wherever Ruth goes.

**IMAMURA, NATSUKO** WOMAN IN THE PURPLE SKIRT (\$30) Almost every afternoon, the Woman in the Purple Skirt sits on the same park bench, where she eats a cream bun while the local children make a game of trying to get her attention. Unbeknownst to her, she is being watched—by the Woman in the Yellow Cardigan, who is always perched just out of sight, monitoring which buses she takes, what she eats, whom she speaks to.

**JACKLIN, TONY** BAD LIES (\$39.95) Eddie Bennison is at the top of his game, one of the most successful and popular golfers out there, until Tee Time, a national golf magazine, publishes a story that destroys his reputation. Now Eddie, championed by cunning lawyer Charlie Mayfield, must defend himself in court. But proving libel is extremely difficult, and the truth has a way of coming out, especially when the trial becomes a national spectacle. Eddie and Charlie are in for the fight of their lives: proving that what was written in that article was nothing but bad lies.

**JANCE, J A ali reynolds** UNFINISHED BUSINESS (#16) (\$36.99) Mateo Vega, a one-time employee of Ali Reynold's husband, B. Simpson, has spent the last sixteen years of his life behind bars. According to the courts, he murdered his girlfriend. But Mateo knows that her real killer is still on the loose, and the first thing he's going to do when he gets a taste of freedom is track him down. After being granted parole, a wary Mateo approaches Stu Ramey of High Noon Enterprises for a reference letter for a job application, but to his surprise, Stu gives him one better: He asks him to come on board and work for B. once again. Just as Mateo starts his new job, though, chaos breaks out at High Noon—a deadbeat tenant who is in arrears has just fled, and tech expert Cami Lee has gone missing. As Ali races to both find a connection between the two disappearances and help Mateo clear his name with the help of PI J.P. Beaumont, tragedy strikes in her personal life, and with lives hanging in the balance, she must thread the needle between good and evil before it's too late.

**KORELITZ, JEAN HANFF** PLOT (\$38) Jacob Finch Bonner: once a promising young novelist with a respectably published first book, now all dried up, is teaching at a minor school. When Evan Parker, his most arrogant student, announces he doesn't need Jake's help because the plot of his book in progress is a sure thing, Jake is prepared to dismiss the boast as typical amateur narcissism. But then . . . he hears the plot. The student dies. Jacob steals the book. Tremendous success. Then the chickens come home to roost. A NYT bestseller and "Insanely readable" says **Stephen King**.

**KUBICA, MARY** LOCAL WOMAN MISSING (\$34.99) People don't just disappear without a trace... Shelby Tebow is the first to go missing. Not long after, Meredith Dickey and her six-year-old daughter, Delilah, vanish just blocks away from where Shelby was last seen, striking fear into their once-peaceful community. Are these incidents connected? After an elusive search that yields more questions than answers, the case eventually goes cold. Now, eleven years later, Delilah shockingly returns. Everyone wants to know what happened to her, but no one is prepared for what they'll find...

**LIN, TOM** THOUSAND CRIMES OF MING TSU (\$35) Orphaned young, Ming Tsu, the son of Chinese immigrants, is raised by the notorious leader of a California crime syndicate, who trains him to be his deadly enforcer. But when Ming falls in love with Ada, the daughter of a powerful railroad magnate, and the two elope, he seizes the opportunity to escape to a different life. Soon after, in a violent raid, the tycoon's henchmen kidnap Ada and conscript Ming into service for the Central Pacific Railroad. Battered, heartbroken, and yet defiant, Ming partners with a blind clairvoyant known only as the prophet. Together the two set out to rescue his wife and to exact revenge on the men who destroyed Ming, aided by a troupe of magic-show performers, some with supernatural powers, whom they meet on the journey. Ming blazes his way across the West, settling old scores with a single-minded devotion that culminates in an explosive and unexpected finale.

**MACMAHON/MCMAHON, JOHN marsh** GOOD KILL (#3) (\$36) In the years since the mysterious deaths of his wife and child, P.T. Marsh, a police detective in the small Georgia town of Mason Falls, has faced demons—both professional and personal. But when he is called to the scene of a school shooting, the professional and personal become intertwined, and he suspects that whoever is behind the crime may be connected to his own family tragedy. As Marsh and his partner Remy investigate the shooting, they discover that it is far from straightforward, and their search for answers leads them to a conspiracy at the highest levels of local government—including within the police force. The stakes in the case become increasingly high, culminating in a showdown that has Marsh questioning everything he knows, and wondering if some secrets are better left undiscovered.

**MASSEY, SUJATA** BOMBAY PRINCE (\$35.95) November 1921. Edward VIII, Prince of Wales and future ruler of India, is arriving in Bombay to begin a four month tour. The Indian subcontinent is chafing under British rule, and Bombay solicitor Perveen Mistry isn't surprised when local unrest over the royal arrival spirals into riots. But she's horrified by the death of Freny Cuttingmaster, an eighteen-year-old female Parsi student, who falls from a second-floor gallery just as the prince's grand procession is passing by her college. Freny had come for a legal consultation just days before her death, and what she confided makes Perveen suspicious that her death was not an accident.

**NICIEZA, FABIAN** SUBURBAN DICKS (\$36) Andie Stern thought she'd solved her final homicide. Once a budding FBI profiler, she gave up her career to raise her four (soon to be five) children in West Windsor, New Jersey. But one day, between soccer games, recitals, and trips to the local pool, a very pregnant Andie pulls into a gas station—and stumbles across a murder scene. An attendant has been killed, and the bumbling local cops are in way over their heads. Suddenly, Andie is obsessed with the case, and back on the trail of a killer, this time with kids in tow.

**PAGE, MICHAEL** NO GRAVES AS YET (\$29.99 Audio) On a sunny afternoon in late June, Cambridge professor Joseph Reavley is summoned from a student cricket match to learn that his parents have died in an automobile crash. Joseph's brother, Matthew, an officer in the Intelligence Service, reveals that their father had been en route to London to turn over to him a mysterious secret document—allegedly with the power to disgrace England forever and destroy the civilized world. A paper so damning that Joseph and Matthew dared mention it only to their restless sister. Now it has vanished. What has happened to this explosive document, if indeed it ever existed? How had it fallen into the hands of their father, a quiet countryman?

**PATTERSON, JAMES/CLINTON, BILL** PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER (\$38) Matthew Keating, a one-time Navy SEAL—and a past president—has always defended his family as staunchly as he has his country. Now those defenses are under attack. A madman abducts Keating's teenage daughter, Melanie—turning every parent's deepest fear into a matter of national security. As the world watches in real time, Keating embarks on a one-man special-ops mission that tests his strengths: as a leader, a warrior, and a father.

**PERRY, ANNE ww1** ANGELS IN THE GLOOM (#3) (\$29.99 Audio) A saga of love, hate, obsession, and murder that features an hon-

orable English family—brothers Joseph and Matthew Reavley, and their sisters, Judith and Hannah. In March 1916, Joseph, a chaplain at the front, and Judith, an ambulance driver, are fighting not only the Germans but the bitter cold and the appalling casualties of the Battle of Somme. Scarcely less at risk, Matthew, an officer in England's Secret Intelligence Service, fights the war covertly from London. Only Hannah, living with her young children in the old family home in tranquil Cambridgeshire, seems safe. Published 2005.

**PERRY, ANNE** ww1 AT SOME DISPUTED BARRICADE (#4) (\$14.99 Audio) July 1917: Joseph Reavley, a chaplain, and his sister Judith, an ambulance driver, are bone-weary as they approach the fourth year of the conflict; the peace of the English countryside seems a world away. On the Western Front, the Battle of Passchendaele has begun, and among the many fatalities from Joseph's regiment is the trusted commanding officer, who is replaced by a young major whose pompous incompetence virtually guarantees that many good soldiers will die needlessly. But soon he, too, is dead—killed by his own men. Although Joseph would like to turn a blind eye, he knows that he must not. Judith, however, anguished at the prospect of courts-martial and executions for the twelve men arrested for the crime, has no such inhibitions and, risking her own life, helps all but one of the prisoners to escape. Published 2006.

**SAYLOR, STEVEN** rome DOMINUS (#3) (\$39.99) A.D. 165: The empire of Rome has reached its pinnacle. Universal peace—the Pax Roma—reigns from Britannia to Egypt, from Gaul to Greece. Spanning 160 years and seven generations, teeming with some of ancient Rome's most vivid figures, this epic brings to vivid life some of the most tumultuous and consequential chapters of human history, events which reverberate still.

**SULLIVAN, CONNOR** SLEEPING BEAR (\$36) After her young husband's untimely death, Army veteran Cassie Gale decides to take a few days of solitude in the Alaska wilderness before she starts her new job. But when she fails to show up on her first day and her dog is discovered injured at her wrecked campsite, her father knows that this is much more than a camping trip gone awry. As it turns out, Cassie's not the first person to disappear without a trace in Alaska's northern interior. Bears. Wolves. Avalanches. Frostbite. Starvation. There are many ways to die in here. But not all disappearances can be explained. Cassie's is one of them, along with a number of other outdoor enthusiasts who have vanished in recent years.

**TAYLOR, ANDREW** ashes ROYAL SECRET (#5) (\$34.99, \$24.99 trade paperback) Two young girls plot a murder by witchcraft. Soon afterwards a government clerk dies painfully in mysterious circumstances. His colleague James Marwood is asked to investigate – but the task brings unexpected dangers. Meanwhile, architect Cat Hakesby is working for a merchant who lives on Slaughter Street, where the air smells of blood and a captive Barbary lion prowls the stables. Then a prestigious new commission arrives. Cat must design a Poultry House for the woman that the King loves most in all the world. Unbeknownst to all, at the heart of this lies a royal secret so explosive that it could not only rip apart England but change the entire face of Europe...

**TODD, CHARLES** crawford IRISH HOSTAGE (#12) (\$34.99) The Great War is over—but in Ireland, in the wake of the bloody 1916 Easter Rising, anyone who served in France is now considered a traitor, including nurse Eileen Flynn and former soldier Michael Sullivan, who only want to be married in the small, isolated village where she grew up. Even her grandmother is against it, and Eileen's only protection is her cousin Terrence who was a hero of the Rising and is still being hunted by the British. Bess Crawford had promised to be there for the wedding. And in spite of the danger to her, she keeps that promise—only to be met with the shocking news that the groom has vanished. Eileen begs for her help, but how can Bess hope to find him when she doesn't know the country, the people, or where to put her trust?

**TROW, M J** chaucer KNIGHTS TALE (#1) (\$39.99) April, 1380. About to set off on his annual pilgrimage, Comptroller of the King's Woollens and court poet Geoffrey Chaucer is forced to abandon his plans following an appeal for help from an old friend. The Duke of

Clarence, Chaucer's former guardian, has been found dead in his bed at his Suffolk castle, his bedroom door locked and bolted from the inside. The man who found him, Sir Richard Glanville, suspects foul play and has asked Chaucer to investigate. It's up to Chaucer, with his sharp wits and eye for detail, to root out the evil within.

## Paperbacks

**AFIA, NEKESA** harlem DEAD DEAD GIRLS (#1) (\$22) Harlem, 1926. Following a harrowing kidnapping ordeal when she was in her teens, Louise is doing everything she can to maintain a normal life. She's succeeding, too. She spends her days working at Maggie's Café and her nights at the Zodiac, Harlem's hottest speakeasy. Louise's friends, especially her girlfriend, Rosa Maria Moreno, might say she's running from her past and the notoriety that still stalks her, but don't tell her that. When a girl turns up dead in front of the café, Louise is forced to confront something she's been trying to ignore—two other local Black girls have been murdered in the past few weeks. After an altercation with a police officer gets her arrested, Louise is given an ultimatum: She can either help solve the case or wind up in a jail cell. Louise has no choice but to investigate and soon finds herself toe-to-toe with a murderous mastermind hell-bent on taking more lives, maybe even her own...

**ALEXANDER, ELLIE** bakeshop MOCHA SHE WROTE (#13) (\$12.50) Summer and the livin' is easy, as the song goes. And Torte is bustling. Jules and the team are buzzing with excitement when they learn that Andy, Torte's head barista, has been selected to compete in the West Coast Barista Cup. The prestigious competition draws coffee aficionados from up and down the coast to Ashland. The winner will not only claim to be best-in-brew, but also be awarded a hefty cash prize. Andy's nervous about his chances, but Jules is confident that her star barista will shine. However, things take a grim turn when head judge Benson Vargas spits out Andy's first offering, claiming it to be the worst thing to ever touch his lips—and hours later, is found dead clutching Andy's creamy latte. Suddenly Torte's favorite barista becomes the number one suspect. There's no roast for the weary. Jules will have to sleuth out whodunit to clear Andy's name and catch a killer before she ends up with one foot in the grounds.

**ALLEN, HANIA** ICE HOTEL (\$26.99) Maggie Stewart travels with friends Liz and Harry to the Ice Hotel, a surreal building in Swedish Lapland constructed from ice cut from the nearby river. Shortly after their arrival, the holiday turns into a nightmare. A near-miss snowmobile accident is followed by the discovery of the frozen body of one of the hotel's American guests. Maggie is shocked to learn that this was no accident: the American was drugged and pushed out of his sleeping bag to freeze to death in the room. As the body count rises and Maggie finds herself in mortal danger, she realizes that the only person she can trust is Thomas Hallengren, the detective leading the case. But can he uncover the killer's identity before the Ice Hotel and other buildings—the Ice Chapel and Ice Theatre—melt back into the river, taking the clues with them?

**ANDERSON, LIN** macleod PATHS OF THE DEAD (#9) (\$18.99) The body of a young man is found inside a Neolithic stone circle high above the city of Glasgow and forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod is soon on the case. The hands have been severed and there is a stone in the victim's mouth with the number five scratched on it. DI Michael McNab is certain it's a gangland murder, but Rhona isn't convinced. When a second body is found in similar circumstances, a pattern begins to emerge, of a killer intent on masterminding a gruesome Druidic game that everyone will be forced to play. Published 2014.

**ANDREWS, DONNA** langslow FALCON ALWAYS WINGS TWICE (#27) (\$10.99) When Meg's grandmother Cordelia hosts a Renaissance Faire at her craft center, the whole family is put to work: Meg handles the blacksmithing, Michael and the boys will be performing, and no one misses the opportunity to dress up in full regalia.

More exciting to Grandfather is the pair of rare falcons he discovers breeding at the fairgrounds. Concerned for their well-being amid all the activity, he appoints himself their protector. When one of the actors performing at the fair is found dead—an actor suspected of mistreating one of the falcons, among other sins—Grandfather is a prime suspect.

**ARCHER, C J** cleo fox MURDER AT THE PICCADILLY PLAYHOUSE (#2) (\$26) When a hotel guest's mistress is found dead in the stalls of the Piccadilly Playhouse, a verdict of suicide is given. Convinced his lover didn't kill herself, Lord Rumford wants the truth uncovered. Against his better judgement, he hires Cleo Fox to find the murderer. Cleo quickly learns that the truth is buried beneath years of secrets; secrets that powerful people want desperately to keep. With the help of her friends from the Mayfair Hotel, Cleo exposes the bitter rivalry and jealousy of London's West End. But can she find the killer before the final curtain closes on the Playhouse?

**ARLIDGE, M J** helen grace ALL FALL DOWN (#9) (\$17.99) "You have one hour to live." Those are the only words on the phone call. Then they hang up. Surely, a prank? A mistake? A wrong number? Anything but the chilling truth... That someone is watching, waiting, ready to take your life in one hour. But why? The job of finding out falls to DI Helen Grace: a woman with a track record in hunting killers. However, this is one case where the killer seems to always be one step ahead of the police and the victims.

**BALDACCI, DAVID** pine DAYLIGHT (#3) (\$22.99) For many long years, FBI Agent Atlee Pine was tormented by uncertainty after her twin sister, Mercy, was abducted at the age of six and never seen again. Now, just as Atlee is pressured to end her investigation into Mercy's disappearance, she finally gets her most promising breakthrough yet: the identity of her sister's kidnapper, Ito Vincenzo.

**BARRETT, LORNA** tricia HANDBOOK FOR HOMICIDE (#14) (\$10.99) Haven't Got A Clue bookshop owner Tricia Miles's relationship is on the rocks and she needs a distraction, but, perhaps not this: her assistant manager, Pixie, finds homeless vet Susan Morris's body behind Haven't Got A Clue, and Pixie's checkered past makes her the prime suspect. Tricia sets out to clear Pixie's name armed with only an anchor insignia earring found at the scene of the crime.

**BLACKWELL, JULIET** witcher SYNCHRONIZED SORCERY (#11) (\$10.99) Strange things are happening in Lily Ivory's San Francisco. First, she finds a vintage mermaid costume which dates from the 1939 San Francisco's Treasure Island World's Fair – and which gives off distinctly peculiar vibrations. Next, she stumbles upon a dead man in the office of her predecessor, and as the community's new leader, she feels compelled to track down the culprit. Just when Lily thinks things can't get any stranger, a man appears claiming to be her half-brother, spouting ideas about the mystical prophecy involving San Francisco and their family...When the dead man is linked to the mysterious mermaid costume, and then yet another victim is found on Treasure Island, Lily uncovers ties between the long-ago World's fair and the current murders, and begins to wonder whether the killer might be hiding in plain sight. But unless Lily can figure everything out in time, there may be yet another body floating in San Francisco Bay.

**BREWER, BILL** diegert DAWN OF THE ASSASSIN (#1) (\$22.50) Kill or be killed is the fatal choice of David Diegert. Having few options in life, Diegert falls into a world of deception, betrayal, and violence. To survive he becomes a reluctant hitman, extinguishing human lives for a man of immeasurable power and wealth. Given a chance to earn his freedom, and protect the one person he loves, Diegert must win a twisted contest to the death known as the tournament of assassins. Trained by his kick-ass mentor, Fatima Hussain, Diegert will face the most deadly men in the world and either emerge victorious or be zipped up in a body bag.

**BREWER, BILL** diegert BLOOD OF THE ASSASSIN (#2) (\$22.50) David Diegert is ensnared into serving Crepusculous, a secret society that controls the economy. In spite of his reluctance, Diegert is coerced into completing deadly missions in which the stakes keep getting higher. Set up to take the fall for killing a target of

immense importance, his fragile world falls apart. Betrayed by Crepusculous, he becomes a fugitive sought after from all sides.

**BURKE, JAMES LEE** robicheaux PEGASUS DESCENDING (#15) (\$23) When a nice young woman named Trish Klein blows into Louisiana, passing hundred-dollar bills in local casinos, detective Dave Robicheaux senses a storm bearing down on his new life of contentment...Published 2006.

**CARLSON, BRENDEN** walking shadows MIDNIGHT (#2) (\$17.99) In a gritty, tech-noir version of 1930s Manhattan, an ex-cop and his robot partner must stop a killer who's sending the city into chaos. Sequel to Night Call (#1) (\$17.99).

**CASTILLO, LINDA** amish FALLEN (#13) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$35.99 hardcover) See the hardcovers for an annotation.

**CHASE, EVE** DAUGHTERS OF FOXCOTE MANOR (\$23) The truth can shatter everything... When the Harrington family discovers an abandoned baby deep in the woods, they decide to keep her a secret and raise her as their own. But within days a body is found in the grounds of their house and their perfect new family implodes. Years later, Sylvie, seeking answers to nagging questions about her life, is drawn into the wild beautiful woods where nothing is quite what it seems. Will she unearth the truth? And dare she reveal it?

**CHRISTIE, AGATHA** poirot PERIL AT END HOUSE (#8) (\$19.99) On holiday on the Cornish Riviera, Hercule Poirot is alarmed to hear pretty Nick Buckley describe her recent "accidental brushes with death." First, on a treacherous Cornish hillside, the brakes on her car failed. Then, on a coastal path, a falling boulder missed her by inches. Later, an oil painting fell and almost crushed her in bed. So when Poirot finds a bullet hole in Nick's sun hat, he decides that this girl needs his help. Can he find the would-be killer before he hits his target? Published 1932.

**COBEN, HARLAN** BOY FROM THE WOODS (\$12.99) Thirty years ago, Wilde was found as a boy living feral in the woods, with no memory of his past. Now an adult, he still doesn't know where he comes from, and another child has gone missing. Wilde can't ignore an outcast in trouble, but in order to find Naomi he must venture back into the community where he has never fit in, a place where the powerful are protected even when they harbor secrets that could destroy the lives of millions... secrets that Wilde must uncover before it's too late.

**COCHRAN, PEG** cranberry cove BERRIED MOTIVES (#6) (\$26.50) With the cranberry farm in full harvest mode, Monica is thrilled to learn that they'll be the featured guests on a local TV news show. Certain the exposure will give her bakery products and the farm's store a welcome boost, she's also nervous about how she'll come across on-screen. But her real worries begin when the show's ruthless star is found bludgeoned to death on a side road of the farm—and Monica's own brother heads up the list of suspects.

**COYLE, CLEO** clare cosi BREWED AWAKENING (#18) (\$10.99) When coffeehouse manager Clare Cosi awakens on a bench in Washington Square Park, she has no idea she's been missing for the past week, or that her friends and family have been frantic with worry. Now that she's back, everyone is overjoyed, including a handsome NYPD detective who claims to be her fiancé. But to Mike Quinn's crushing distress, Clare doesn't remember him, or much of anything about the last decade of her life. Clare's missing memory is tied to a kidnapping she witnessed. Or, as the mounting evidence is starting to suggest, she set up. To clear her name, Clare must find a way to reclaim her memories and to rescue the kidnapped woman.

**DAVE, LAURA** LAST THING HE TOLD ME (\$24.99) Before Owen Michaels disappears, he smuggles a note to his beloved wife of one year: Protect her. Meaning his sixteen-year-old daughter, Bailey. Bailey, who lost her mother tragically as a child. Bailey, who wants absolutely nothing to do with her new stepmother. As Hannah's increasingly desperate calls to Owen go unanswered, as the FBI arrests Owen's boss, it becomes clear that her husband isn't who he said he was. And that Bailey just may hold the key to figuring out Owen's true identity—and why he really disappeared. Hannah and Bailey set out to discover the truth.

**DOYLE, CARRIE** paradise IT TAKES TWO TO MANGO (#1) (\$12.99) After Plum Lockhart's job as a travel magazine editor is eliminated in corporate cuts, she decides she's sick of cold winters in NYC and fruitless swiping on dating apps—what she needs is a dramatic change of scenery. On a whim, she accepts a job as a villa broker and moves to a beautiful Caribbean island. It may be paradise, but it ain't perfect. Particularly when a client is found dead in the jacuzzi of Casa Mango—a property Plum manages.

**EDUGYAN, ESI** HALF-BLOOD BLUES (\$18.99) From the smoky bars of pre-war Berlin to the salons of Paris, the narrator of this award-winning bestseller, musician Sid Griffiths, leads the reader through a fascinating, little-known world and into the heart of his own guilty conscience. A story about jazz, race, love and loyalty, and the sacrifices we ask of ourselves—and demand of others—in the name of art.

**ELIAS, MICHAEL** YOU CAN GO HOME NOW (\$21) Nina is a tough Queens detective with a series of cold case homicides on her desk—men whose widows had the same alibi: they were living in Artemis, a battered women's shelter, when their husbands were killed. So, Nina goes undercover into Artemis.

**FLYNN, VINCE** mitch rapp THIRD OPTION (#4) (\$23) When diplomacy fails and military intervention is inappropriate, our leaders sometimes take a third option and Mitch Rapp has been assigned just such an “unofficial” task—targeting a German industrialist who is supplying a notorious terror sponsor. But when the mission is dangerously compromised, Rapp realizes he's been deemed an expendable asset in a power struggle on home turf: the battle over who will become the successor of the dying CIA director. But no one counted on Mitch Rapp's return...or how far he'll go to find out who set him up. Published 2000.

**FOLLETT, KEN** century trilogy EVENING AND THE MORNING (#0) (\$27) It is 997 CE, the end of the Dark Ages. England is facing attacks from the Welsh in the west and the Vikings in the east. Those in power bend justice according to their will, regardless of ordinary people and often in conflict with the king. Without a clear rule of law, chaos reigns. Thirty years ago, the author published his most popular novel, The Pillars of the Earth (\$29) and this prequel ends where Pillars begins.

**FOLLETT, KEN** pillars PILLARS OF THE EARTH (#1) (\$29) A departure for the bestselling thriller writer, the historical epic stunned readers and critics alike with its ambitious scope and gripping humanity when it was published in 1989.

**FORBES, ELENA** eve west BAD BAD THING (#1) (\$17.50) After a police operation ends in catastrophe, DCI Eve West is suspended. She faces expulsion from the force, until John Duran—a violent criminal Eve incarcerated, still serving his sentence—offers to help clear her name. But nothing comes without a price and his is that he wants Eve to help free a fellow prisoner, who he claims has been wrongly convicted of murder. But as her investigation takes a dark turn, Eve finds that more than just her job is at stake, and realises Duran is a dangerous man to trust . . .

**GALLIGAN, JOHN** bad axe BAD MOON RISING (#3) (\$23) Sheriff Heidi Kick has a dead body on her hands, a homeless young man last seen alive miles from the Bad Axe. Chillingly, the medical examiner confirms what Sheriff Kick has been fearing: the victim was buried alive. As the relentless summer heat bears down and more bodies are discovered, Sheriff Kick also finds herself embroiled in a nasty reelection campaign. Enter Vietnam veteran Leroy Fanta, editor-in-chief of the local paper who believes Heidi's strange case might be tied to a reclusive man writing deranged letters to the opinions section for years. With his heart and liver on their last legs, Fanta drums up his old journalistic instincts in one last effort to help Heidi find a lead in her case, or at least a good story...

**GEORGE, KAYE** vintage sweets REVENGE IS SWEET (#1) (\$25.50) Tally Holt has poured her heart, soul, and bank account into Tally's Olde Tyme Sweets, specializing in her grandmother's delicious recipes. Tally's homemade Mallomars, Twinkies, fudges, and taffy are a hit with visiting tourists—and with Yolanda Bella, the flamboyant owner of Bella's Baskets next door. But both shops en-

counter a sour surprise when local handyman Gene Faust is found dead in Tally's kitchen, stabbed with Yolanda's scissors.

**GEORGE, KAYE** vintage sweets DEADLY SWEET TOOTH (#2) (\$25.50) With Tally's Old Tyme Sweets finally—well, almost—turning a profit, Tally Holt is taking one busy Saturday off to host a grand party for her parents, traveling performers who spend most of their time on the road. Tally's counting on the publicity and free treats to attract new customers. And the event is a sweet success—at least until Fran Abraham, the town's foul-tempered theater director, drops dead after a bitter confrontation with Tally's mother.

**GEORGE, KAYE** vintage sweets INTO THE SWEET HEREAFTER (#3) (\$25.50) Tally Holt is thrilled to see her new replicas of vintage sweets displayed in the window of Bella's Baskets, a gift basket shop owned by her friend, Yolanda Bella. There's just one problem—the creations appear to be melting. The ladies assume the culprit is the broiling heat of the Texas sun—until that night, the store window is smashed, and there's only one thing missing: the replicas.

**GILBERT, HEATHER DAY** BELINDA BLAKE AND BIRDS OF A FEATHER (#3) (\$25.50) The moment Belinda arrives in Larches Corner, her Upstate New York hometown, she's immediately recruited to care for a deceased friend's flock of homing pigeons. But Belinda's plans for a swift visit scatter after a local college student is mowed down in a malicious hit-and-run that has the whole town reeling.

**GILBERT, HEATHER DAY** BELINDA BLAKE AND THE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING (#2) (\$25.50) Pet-sitter Belinda Blake is no stranger to dealing with wild animals, but she's wary when the owner of the Greenwich, Connecticut, preserve asks her to help out with her "fluffy darlings." Her caution seems justified on her very first day, when she discovers a tour guide—dead, bloodied, and surrounded by wolves in the enclosure.

**GILBERT, HEATHER DAY** BELINDA BLAKE AND THE SNAKE IN THE GRASS (#1) (\$25.50) When exotic pet-sitter Belinda Blake moves into a carriage house in tony Greenwich, Connecticut, she's hoping to find some new clients. Instead she discovers a corpse in the garden—and a knack for solving murders . . . Move-in day was eventful, to say the least. The python in her care tried to slither to freedom - just as she met Stone Carrington V, her landlords' disarmingly handsome son. With the constrictor back in its cage, she heads out to the garden, only to discover a designer shoe poking out of the boxwood hedge—attached to a woman's dead body.

**GIORDANO, MARIO** poldi AUNTIE POLDI AND THE LOST MADONNA (#4) (\$24) Strange dealings are afoot in the Apostolic Palace—a nun leapt to her death shortly after participating in a seemingly routine exorcism. But when a priest clad in Gammarelli and a Vatican Commissario with an almost unholy level of sex appeal turn up at her door, Poldi is shocked to hear that she's a suspect in their case. Who is the woman being exorcised, and where has she disappeared to? And why in the world does she claim, in perfect Bavarian, to be Poldi, Isolde Oberreiter, of Torre Achirafari?

**GOLDSBOROUGH, ROB** wolfe TROUBLE AT THE BROWNSTONE (#16) (\$25) Archie Goodwin is not overly fond of Theodore Horstmann, who takes care of the orchids on the rooftop of Nero Wolfe's West Thirty-Fifth Street brownstone. But as loyal assistant to the legendary private detective, Archie will put his animosity aside when the surly orchid-keeper stumbles through the front door beaten within an inch of his life. While the gardener lies in a coma, Nero sends Archie to poke around his apartment near the river.

**GRIFFITHS, ELLY** galloway LANTERN MEN (#12) (\$24.99) Everything has changed for Ruth Galloway. She has a new job, home, and partner, and she is no longer north Norfolk police's resident forensic archaeologist. That is, until convicted murderer Ivor March offers to make DCI Nelson a deal. Nelson was always sure that March killed more women than he was charged with. Now March confirms this and offers to show Nelson where the other bodies are buried—but only if Ruth will do the digging.

**GRISHAM, JOHN** brigance TIME FOR MERCY (#3) (\$12.99) 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 Brigrance 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.

**HAMILTON, VICTORIA** muffin DOUBLE OR MUFFIN (#7) (\$27.99) When a reality TV show for aspiring opera singers descends on Wynter Castle, Merry's got her hands full catering to the endless demands of the distinguished judges and ambitious contestants. Then mysterious rumors about the cast and crew begin to surface, suggesting that some of their performances may be filled with false notes. When a dogged reporter with an eye for scandal who's been covering the competition is attacked and left for dead, Merry's determined to discover who orchestrated the heinous deed.

**HARRIS, ZAKIYA DALILA** OTHER BLACK GIRL (\$24.99) twenty-six-year-old editorial assistant Nella Rogers is tired of being the only Black employee at Wagner Books. Fed up with the isolation and microaggressions, she's thrilled when Harlem-born and bred Hazel starts working in the cubicle beside hers. They've only just started comparing natural hair care regimens, though, when a string of uncomfortable events elevates Hazel to Office Darling, and Nella is left in the dust. Then the notes begin to appear on Nella's desk: LEAVE WAGNER. NOW.

**HEWSON, DAVID** SHOOTER IN THE SHADOWS (\$22.50) Tom Honeyman made his name cracking a horrific double murder in his hometown of Prosper, New York. He got an international best seller out of it, made a small fortune, and left his newspaper reporting days behind. But was it all based on a lie? More than a decade after his one and only success, Honeyman's life is in tatters. and his books don't sell. He's sequestered himself in his wreck of a retreat on an island in Venice, desperate to find the inspiration that will revive his career. But Tom Honeyman is not alone. An unseen stranger tells Honeyman he got it wrong all those years ago. And he has just four days to uncover the real murderer. Tom Honeyman is no longer writing for his livelihood. He's writing for his life.

**HEYER, GEORGETTE** QUIET GENTLEMAN (\$25.99) Returning to his family seat from Waterloo, Gervase Frant, seventh Earl of St Erth, could have expected more enthusiasm for his homecoming. His quiet cousin, stepmother, and young half-brother seem openly disappointed that he survived the wars. And when he begins to fall for his half-brother's sweetheart, his chilly reception goes from unfriendly to positively murderous. One of her Regency romances.

**HITCHENS, DOLORES** MURDOCK CAT SAW MURDER (#1) (\$21.95) The first in the Rachel Murdock novels, published 1939, under the pseudonym, **D B Olsen**. A prototypical early "cat mystery," written before the subgenre became a staple of cozy mystery fiction, this is "an entertaining and endlessly surprising whodunit" with a focus on felines.

**HOLLIS, LEE** DEATH OF AN ITALIAN CHEF (#14) (\$11.99) As the food and cocktails columnist for the Bar Harbor, Maine Island Times, it's Hayley Powell's job to stay on top of the latest eateries in town. Just in time for the summer tourist season, Chef Romeo, a successful restaurateur from New York City, has opened an establishment called—naturally—Romeo's. But between his over-the-top temperament and his no-holds-barred diet, Chef Romeo may not live through the grand opening. When the chef actually does suffer a mild heart attack, Hayley ends up taking over his restaurant while he's laid up. But this temporary gig may turn permanent, after the chef dies from complications. Or, maybe murder?

**HOLLON, CHERYL** PAINT DRAW AND ORDER (#2) (\$11.99) For her latest excursion, Miranda is thrilled to take a close-knit group of rock climbers, the Risky Business Adventurers, up the challenging Battleship Rock Trail to paint and sample moonshine. But the outing is cut short when they discover a skeleton near the trailhead. Even more startling, the bones belong to Howard Cable, Miranda's cousin...and a former classmate of the Risky Business group. The sheriff chalks it up to a hiking accident, but Miranda isn't convinced.

**KELLY, DIANE** homebrew MOONSHINE SHACK MURDER (#1) (\$10.99) The Hayes family has made moonshine in Chattanooga since the days of Prohibition, and Hattie is happy to continue the tradition, serving up fun, fruity flavors in mason jars for locals and tourists alike. All signs indicate her new 'shine shop will be a smashing success. What's more, mounted police officer Marlon Landers has taken a shine to Hattie. For the first time ever, the stars seemed to have aligned in both her work and romantic life. But when a body ends up on her store's doorstep alongside a broken jar of her Firefly Moonshine, it just might be lights out for her fledgling business.

**KLEIN, LIBBY** BEAUTY EXPOS ARE MURDER (#6) (\$11.99) Poppy McAllister is selling her paleo muffins and keto cookies at the Health and Beauty Expo in Cape May's Convention Hall where prominent cosmetic surgeon Dr. Lance Rubin reveals his breakthrough anti-aging technology. Unfortunately, someone has one-upped him with a truly foolproof anti-aging formula: murder. With the plastic surgeon dead under his own UV mask, and bedlam reigning in the hall Poppy needs to follow a twisted trail marked by glowing footprints to unmask a killer...

**LAPENA, SHARI** SOMEONE WE KNOW (\$12.99) In a quiet, leafy suburb in upstate New York, a teenager has been sneaking into houses—and into the owners' computers as well—learning their secrets, and maybe sharing some of them, too. Who is he, and what might he have uncovered? Whispers start to circulate, and suspicion mounts. And when a woman down the street is found murdered, the tension reaches the breaking point. Who killed her? Who knows more than they're telling? And how far will all these very nice people go to protect their own secrets?

**LEESON, GAYLE** fashionista CHRISTMAS CLOCHES AND CORPSES (#3) (\$19.50) Max's nephew, Dwight, is in a nursing home; but instead of the holiday season being a time of goodwill, several of Dwight's friends have died under mysterious circumstances. Max, the Ghostly Fashionista, is determined not to let her beloved nephew be the next victim and enlists Amanda to help keep an eye on him. But someone drugs the cake that Amanda gives Dwight, and Amanda is banned from visiting him again. It's going to take a Christmas miracle for Amanda to clear her name and stay out of the killer's line of fire...

**LEESON, GAYLE** down south FRUIT BASKETS AND HOLIDAY CASKETS (#5) (\$21.99) Amy Flowers thinks her biggest problem is going to be creating an enormous cake dummy to mount atop her car for Winter Garden's upcoming Christmas parade. But when one of Roger's employees is murdered, making the float is the least of Amy's worries. When Amy starts trying to clear Roger of the murder, she unexpectedly finds herself involved in international intrigue. How will our favorite café owner outwit sophisticated criminals who want to deck the halls with her head?

**LIPPMAN, LAURA** DREAM GIRL (\$23.99) A dark, complex tale of psychological suspense with echoes of **Stephen King's Misery** (\$23) involving a novelist, incapacitated by injury, who is plagued by mysterious phone calls.

**LOGAN, ELIZABETH** alaskan MURPHY'S SLAW (#3) (\$10.99) When a local prize-winning farmer is murdered at the state fair, Charlie Cook gets called in to help investigate, but she's shocked to learn the victim is a friend...

**LONDON, JACK** SCARLET PLAGUE (\$13.50) Once the red rash appears, it is too late. The victims die within hours, their rapidly decomposing bodies spreading the disease in the dust. Art, science, and learning die with them while the few survivors degenerate into feral clans. This story takes place in 2073, sixty years after the great pandemic of 2013... This tale, which originally appeared in The London Magazine in 1912, ranks among the earliest works of post-apocalyptic fiction. This pioneering science-fiction novella, like many of the master storyteller's other tales, explores the thin line between civilization and barbarism.

**LOUDON, MARGARET** open book FATAL FOOTNOTE (#2) (\$10.99) The wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Upper Chumley-on Stoke has all the makings of a fairy tale, complete with a glowing bride and horse-drawn carriage. But it wouldn't be much of a story



without a villain, and as American Gothic novelist Penelope Parish is coming to learn, happy-ever-afters are as fraught in this charming British town as they are in her books. When the Duke's former girlfriend is found murdered at the reception it's up to Penelope and her newfound family at the Open Book bookshop to catch the killer before they strike again.

**MACFETRIDGE/MCFETRIDGE, JOHN** stewart EVERY CITY IS EVERY OTHER CITY (#1) (\$19.95) Gord Stewart, 40 years old, single, is stuck in limbo. He's been working in the movie business as a location scout for years, and when there isn't much filming, as a private eye for a security company run by ex-cops, OBC. When a fellow crew member asks him to find her missing uncle, Gord reluctantly takes the job. The police say the uncle walked into some dense woods in Northern Ontario and shot himself, but the man's wife thinks he's still alive.

**MACKINTOSH, CLARE** HOSTAGE (\$24.99) A claustrophobic thriller set over twenty hours on one airplane flight, the inaugural nonstop flight from London to Sydney. Mina is trying to focus on her job as a flight attendant, not the problems of her five-year-old daughter back home, or the fissures in her marriage. But the plane has barely taken off when Mina receives a chilling note from an anonymous passenger, someone intent on ensuring the plane never reaches its destination. Someone who needs Mina's assistance and who knows exactly how to make her comply. It's twenty hours to landing. A lot can happen in twenty hours.

**MAJOR, KEVIN** synard TWO FOR THE TABLELANDS (#2) (\$22.95) Sebastian Synard is back. It's the off-season, and the Newfoundland tour guide introduced in One for the Rock (#1) (\$19.95) has crossed the island with his spirited teenage son for a weekend exploring the wonders of Gros Morne National Park. But on a hike across the spectacular rockscape of The Tablelands, they discover the half-buried body of a murder victim. Life as a tour guide had its twists and turns, but now Sebastian—with his offhand, Scotch-enriched nature—is crossing a more dangerous landscape, on a path that will leave him face-to-face with a killer.

**MAJUMDAR, MEGHA** BURNING (\$21) A debut novel about three unforgettable characters who seek to rise—to the middle class, to political power, to fame in the movies—and find their lives entangled in the wake of a catastrophe—a terrorist attack on a train—in contemporary India.

**MARTIN, MIKE** windflower SAFE HARBOUR (#11) (\$22) Sgt. Windflower is on a special assignment in St. John's and adjusting to life in the big city. He is navigating traffic, a difficult boss at work and what seems like an epidemic of missing girls. He becomes more interested when he discovers that one of the girls is from Grand Bank. Then a girl approaches his RCMP van one night and he is pulled into the underlife of the capital city.

**MICHAELIDES, ALEX** MAIDENS (\$24.99) Edward Fosca is a murderer. Of this Mariana is certain. But Fosca is untouchable. A handsome and charismatic Greek tragedy professor at Cambridge University, Fosca is adored by staff and students alike—particularly by the members of a secret society of female students known as The Maidens. Mariana, a group therapist, becomes fixated on The Maidens when one member, a friend of Mariana's niece Zoe, is found murdered in Cambridge. Mariana, who was once herself a student at the university, quickly suspects that behind the idyllic beauty of the spires and turrets, and beneath the ancient traditions, lies something sinister. And she becomes convinced that, despite his alibi, Edward Fosca is guilty of the murder. But why would the professor target one of his students?

**MONTCLAIR, ALLISON** sparks ROYAL AFFAIR (#2) (\$22.99) In London 1946, The Right Sort Marriage Bureau is just beginning to take off and the proprietors, Miss Iris Sparks and Mrs. Gwendolyn Bainbridge, are in need of a bigger office and a secretary to handle the growing demand. Unfortunately, they don't yet have the necessary means. So when a woman arrives—a cousin of Gwen's—with an interesting and quite remunerative proposition, they two of them are all ears. The cousin, one Lady Matheson, works for the Queen in "some

capacity" and is in need of some discreet investigation into the past of a suitor of a royal princess.

**MOSHFEGH, OTTESSA** DEATH IN HER HANDS (\$22) ...a novel of haunting metaphysical suspense about an elderly widow whose life is upturned when she finds an ominous note on a walk in the woods.

**MURPHY, CATIE** driver DEATH OF AN IRISH MUMMY (#3) (\$11.99) American-born Cherise Williams believes herself to be heir to an old Irish earldom, and she's come to Dublin to claim her heritage. Under the circumstances, Megan's boss Orla at Leprechaun Limos has no qualms about overcharging the brash Texas transplant for their services. Megan chauffeurs Cherise to the ancient St. Michan's Church, where the woman intends to get a wee little DNA sample from the mummified earls—much to the horror of the priest. But before she can desecrate the dead, Cherise Williams is murdered—just as her three daughters arrive to also claim their birthright. With rumors of famine-era treasure on the lands owned by the old Williams family and the promise of riches for the heirs, greed seems a likely motive.

**NEVILLE, STUART** lennon GHOSTS OF BELFAST (#1) aka twelve (\$20.95) Northern Ireland's Troubles may be over, but peace has not erased the crimes of the past. Gerry Fegan, a former paramilitary killer, is haunted by the ghosts of the twelve people he slaughtered. Every night, at the point of losing his mind, he drowns their screams in drink. But it's not enough. In order to appease the ghosts, Fegan is going to have to kill the men who gave him orders. From the greedy politicians to the corrupt security forces, the street thugs to the complacent bystanders who let it happen, all are called to account. A masterpiece. Published 2009.

**ONSTAD, KATRINA** STAY WHERE I CAN SEE YOU (\$24.99) The Kaplan family has just won 10 million dollars in the lottery. As they navigate the notoriety that the lottery brings and try to adjust to their new lives in the upper class—hubby launches a dubious start-up, daughter falls headfirst in love at her elite prep school—a tightly held secret is unlocked. Along with the truth come long-buried memories from mom, Gwen's, troubled youth, forcing her to confront her painful past and threatening to unravel the incredibly tight bond between her and Maddie. Her meticulously constructed identity as the good wife and mother begins to crack. And when their changed circumstances place her family under threat, Gwen must wake up from her domestic slumber.

**ORCZY, BARONESS** teahouse UNRAVELLED KNOTS (\$19.95) How did Prince Orsoff disappear from his railway carriage in-between stations? How could the Ingres masterpiece be seen in two places at once? And what is the truth behind the story of the blood-stained tunic that exonerated its owner? From the comfort of his seat by the fire, the Teahouse Detective sets his brilliant mind to work once more. Published 1925. From the author of The Scarlet Pimpernel (\$14.99.)

**PENNY, LOUISE** ALL THE DEVILS ARE HERE (#16) (\$24.99) 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.

**PLEITER, ALLIE** riverbank ON SKEIN OF DEATH (#1) (\$10.99) Libby has come home to Collinstown, Maryland to live her dream and open her own yarn shop, aptly named Y.A.R.N., along the Chester River. And she is particularly thrilled when she lands famous Norwegian knitting celebrity Perle Langager for a series of events at Y.A.R.N. Libby's English bulldog, Hank, has been modeling one of Perle's doggie sweaters, and customers just can't wait to see Perle in action. But once Perle arrives in town, she seems distracted and on

edge. And when she's found strangled with a skein of red yarn, Libby knows she has to solve a knotty mystery before her new life unravels. **POBI, ROBERT MANNHEIM REX** (\$22) After the sudden death of his wife, famous horror writer Gavin Corlie retreats from New York City to a secluded house on Lake Caldasac. But his new life in the country is far from idyllic, and when a thirteen-year-old wheelchair-bound boy named Finn Horn nearly drowns in the lake, Gavin discovers a startling secret: people in this peaceful lakeside community keep vanishing. Is the corrupt, drug-fuelled town sheriff to blame? Or is Finn's account of a lake-dwelling leviathan more than a near-death hallucination?

**POBI, ROBERT HARVEST** (\$19.99) A stifling heat wave rolls into New York City, amplifying the already critical level of tension in the fragile concrete ecosystem. Recently recovered from a shoot-out that nearly killed her, homicide detective Alexandra "Hemi" Hemingway is already on edge. But then, on the morning Hemi discovers she is pregnant, a twisted serial killer makes his debut. And the heat goes up. Soon, Hemi is besieged on all fronts as she struggles to catch up to a killer who always seems one step ahead. And as she pieces together the clues along the trail, it isn't long before tensions boil over and Hemi finds herself a target in the deadly competition.

**REICHS, KATHY** tempe **BONE CODE (#20)** (\$24.99) On the way to hurricane-ravaged Isle of Palms, a barrier island off the South Carolina coast, Tempe receives a call from the Charleston coroner. The storm has tossed ashore a medical waste container. Inside are two decomposed bodies wrapped in plastic sheeting and bound with electrical wire. Tempe recognizes many details as identical to those of an unsolved case she handled in Quebec years earlier. With a growing sense of foreboding, she travels to Montreal to gather evidence.

**SANDFORD, JOHN** virgil **DARK OF THE MOON (#1)** (\$12.99) Virgil Flowers, introduced in the Prey series, in the debut of his own series...He's been doing the hard stuff for three years, but he's never seen anything like this. In the small rural town of Bluestem, an old man is bound in his basement, doused with gasoline and set on fire. Three weeks before, a doctor and his wife were murdered. Three homicides in Bluestem in just as many weeks is unheard of. It's also no coincidence. And it's far from over...Published 2007.

**SCOTT, J TODD** cherry **LOST RIVER** (\$12.99) Angel, Kentucky: Just another one of America's forgotten places, where opportunities vanished long ago, and the opioid crisis has reached a fever pitch. When this small town is rocked by the vicious killing of an entire infamous local crime family, the bloody aftermath brings together three people already struggling with Angel's drug epidemic: Trey, a young medic-in-training with secrets to hide; Special Agent Casey Alexander, a DEA agent who won't let the local law or small-town way of doing things stand in her way; and Paul Mayfield, a former police chief who's had to watch his own young wife succumb to addiction. Over the course of twenty-four hours, loyalties are tested, the corrupt are exposed, and the horrible truth of the largest drug operation in the region is revealed. And though Angel will never be the same again, a lucky few may still find hope.

**SEYMOUR, GERALD** **BEYOND RECALL** (\$17.99) He had been to the limit. Then they sent him further. Gary Baldwin is a watcher, not a killer. Operating with a special forces unit deep in Syria, he is to sit in a hide, observe a village, report back and leave. But the appalling atrocity he witnesses will change his life forever. Before long, he is living as a handyman on the Orkney islands, far from Syria, far from the army, not far enough from the memories that have all but destroyed him. Retribution has got to come.

**SHINDLER, WILL** alex finn **BURNING MEN (#1)** (\$17.99) When a development in South London catches fire mid-construction, a close-knit team of fire fighters runs in to save a man spotted at the window. They come out without a body. They quit the service. They plan never to speak to each other again. Five years later one of them is set alight at his own wedding. Soon after, a second is found, nothing but a smoking corpse. It appears that someone knows what they did that night. What they chose over their duty. And there are still three men left to burn...DI Alex Finn and his new partner DC Mattie Paulsen

are an unlikely pairing, but they need to discover who is behind these killings before the next man faces the fire.

**SILVER, ABI** **RAPUNZEL ACT** (\$22.95) When Breakfast TV host and nation's darling, Rosie Harper, is found brutally murdered at home, suspicion falls on her spouse, formerly international football star, Danny 'walks on water' Mallard, now living out of the public eye as trans woman, Debbie. Not only must Debbie challenge the hard evidence against her, including her blood-drenched glove at the scene of the crime, she must also contend with the nation's prejudices, as the trial is broadcast live, turning it into a public spectacle. For someone trying to live their life without judgment, it might just be too much to bear. Legal duo Judith Burton and Constance Lamb are subjected to unyielding scrutiny as they strive to defend their most famous client yet.

**SMITH, ALEXANDER MCCALL** isabel **GEOMETRY OF HOLDING HANDS (#13)** (\$19.95) Just when Isabel and Jamie finally seem to have some time to connect and unwind, a wealthy Edinburgh resident reaches out to Isabel with an unusual request—he would like her to become the executor of his large Highland estate. Though Isabel initially demurs, he presses on. He has only a short time to live, and, without any direct heirs. As if this weren't enough to keep Isabel occupied, she's also spending more time helping her niece, Cat, at the deli. Cat, perennially unlucky in love, seems to have finally found her match in the leonine Leo. But Isabel is beginning to suspect that Leo might be interested in more than Cat's charms—namely her access to the family trust. Isabel will need to rely upon remarkable reserves of intelligence and compassion in order to give all parties exactly what they want and deserve—no more and no less.

**STAALESEN, GUNNAR** veum **FALLEN ANGELS (#23)** (\$21.95) When Bergen PI Varg Veum finds himself at the funeral of a former classmate on a sleet-grey December afternoon, he's unexpectedly reunited with his old friend Jakob—the once-famous lead singer of 1960s rock band The Harpers—and his estranged wife, Rebecca, Veum's first love. Their rekindled friendship come to an abrupt end with a horrific murder, and Veum is forced to dig deep into his own adolescence and his darkest memories, to find a motive ... and a killer.

**STARFORD, REBECCA** **UNLIKELY SPY** (\$23.99) Evelyn Varley has always been ambitious and clever. As a girl, she earned a scholarship to a prestigious academy well above her parents' means, gaining her a best friend from one of England's wealthiest families. In 1939, with an Oxford degree in hand and war looming, Evelyn finds herself recruited into an elite MI5 counterintelligence unit. A ruthless secret society seeks an alliance with Germany and, posing as a Nazi sympathizer, Evelyn must build a case to expose their treachery. But as she is drawn deeper into layers of duplicity—perhaps of her own making—some of those closest to her become embroiled in her investigation. With Evelyn's loyalties placed under extraordinary pressure, she'll face an impossible choice: save her country or the people who love her. Her decision echoes for years after the war, impacting everyone who thought they knew the real Evelyn Varley.

**STARR, MEL** singleton **UNHALLOWED GROUND (#4)** (\$19.99) Thomas atte Bridge, a man no one likes, is found hanging from a tree near Cow-leys Corner. All assume he has taken his own life, but Master Hugh and Kate find evidence that this may not be so. Many of the town had been harmed by Thomas, and Hugh is not eager to send one of them to the gallows. Then he discovers that the priest John Kellet, atte Bridge's partner in crime in **A Corpse at St. Andrew's Chapel (#2)** (\$26), was covertly in Bampton at the time atte Bridge died. Master Hugh is convinced that Kellet has murdered atte Bridge—one rogue slaughtering another. He sets out for Exeter, where Kellet now works. But there he discovers that the priest is an emaciated skeleton of a man, who mourns the folly of his past life. Hugh must return to Bampton and discover which of his friends has murdered his enemy. Published 2011.

**STEADMAN, CATHERINE** **DISAPPEARING ACT** (\$24) Once a year, actors from across the globe descend on the smog and sunshine of Los Angeles for pilot season. Careers will be made, dreams will be realized, stars will be born. And some will be snuffed out. British star

Mia Eliot has landed leading roles in costume dramas in her native country, but now it's time for Hollywood. There she meets Emily, another actress from out of town and a kindred spirit. Emily stands out in a conveyor-belt world of fellow auditionees. But a simple favor takes a dark twist when Emily disappears, and Mia realizes she was the last person to see her. Unable to convince the authorities, Mia is forced to risk the role of a lifetime to try to uncover the truth about Emily.

**STEADMAN, CATHERINE** MR. NOBODY (\$12.99) When a man is found on a British beach, drifting in and out of consciousness, with no identification and unable to speak, interest in him is sparked immediately. From the hospital staff who find themselves inexplicably drawn to him, to international medical experts who are baffled by him, to the national press who call him Mr. Nobody, everyone wants answers. Who is this man? And what happened to him? Neuropsychiatrist Dr. Emma Lewis is asked to assess the patient in a small town deep in the English countryside. This is her field of expertise, this is the chance she's been waiting for, and this case could make her name known across the world. But therein lies the danger. Emma left this same town fourteen years ago and has taken great pains to cover all traces of her past since then. Is someone calling her back?

**SYMON, VANDA** shephard CONTAINMENT (#3) (\$20.95) Chaos reigns in the sleepy village of Aramoana on the New Zealand coast, when a series of shipping containers wash up on the beach and looting begins. Detective Constable Sam Shephard experiences the desperation of the scavengers first-hand, and ends up in an ambulance, nursing her wounds and puzzling over an assault that left her assailant for dead. What appears to be a clear-cut case of a cargo ship running aground soon takes a more sinister turn when a skull is found in the sand, and the body of a diver is pulled from the sea ... a diver who didn't die of drowning. As first officer at the scene, Sam is handed the case.

**TAYLOR, ANDREW** ashes ROYAL SECRET (#4) (\$24.99, \$34.99 hardcover) See the hardcovers section for an annotation.

**TRINCHIERI, CAMILLA** tusca MURDER IN CHIANTI (#1) (\$20.95) Mourning the loss of his wife, Rita, former NYPD homicide detective Nico Doyle moves to her hometown of Gravigna in the wine-soaked region of Chianti. Half Italian and half Irish, Nico finds himself able to get by in the region with the help of Rita's relatives, but he still feels alone and out of place. He isn't sure if it's peace he's seeking, but it isn't what he finds. Early one morning, he hears a gunshot and a dog's cries near his new home and walks out to discover a dead body in the woods, flashily dressed in gold tennis shoes. When the police arrive, Nico hastily adopts the fluffy white dog as his own and wants nothing more to do with the murder. But Salvatore Perillo, the local maresciallo, discovers Nico's professional background and enlists him to help with the case. It turns out more than one person in this idyllic corner of Italy knew the victim, and with a very small pool of suspects, including his own in-laws, Nico must dig up Gravigna's every last painful secret to get to the truth.

**TROPE, NICOLE** BOY IN THE PHOTO (\$16.99) Six years ago Megan's six-year-old son, Daniel, disappears. And then, miracle of miracles, he walks into a police station in a remote town just a few miles away. But when he returns, there is something different about Daniel. According to the police, Daniel was kidnapped by his father. After his dad died in a fire, Daniel was finally able to escape. Desperate to find out the truth, Megan tries to talk to her little boy—but he barely answers her questions. And as they struggle to connect, Megan begins to suspect that there is more to the story. Soon, she fears that her son is hiding a secret. A secret that could destroy her family . . .

**TUCKER, NANCY** FIRST DAY OF SPRING (\$24) "So that was all it took," I thought. "That was all it took for me to feel like I had all the power in the world. One morning, one moment, one yellow-haired boy. It wasn't so much after all." That's Chrissie. Twenty years later, adult Chrissie is living in hiding under a changed name. A single mother, all she wants is for her daughter to have the childhood she herself was denied. That's why the threatening phone calls are so terrifying. People are looking for them, the past is catching up, and

Chrissie fears losing the only thing in this world she cares about, her child.

**VERNON, P J** WHEN YOU FIND ME (\$21.99) Gray Godfrey wakes from a night out to an empty bed—her husband Paul is gone—and a thrashing hangover has wiped her memory clean. At first, she's relieved for the break from her tumultuous marriage; perhaps Paul just needed some space. But when his car is found abandoned on the highway, Gray must face the truth: Paul is gone. And Gray may not want him found. When a stranger named Annie calls claiming to know Paul's whereabouts, Gray reluctantly accepts her help. But this ally is not what she seems: soon Annie is sending frightening messages and revealing disturbing secrets only Gray could know. As Annie's threats escalate and Gray's grip on reality begins to slip, the life she thought she had and the dark truth she's been living begin to merge, leaving an unsettling question: What does Annie want? And what will she do to get it?

**WARE, RUTH** ONE BY ONE (\$12.99) When the cofounder of Snoop, a trendy London-based tech startup, organizes a weeklong trip for the team in the French Alps, it starts out as a corporate retreat like any other: PowerPoint presentations and strategy sessions broken up by mandatory bonding on the slopes. But as soon as one shareholder upends the agenda by pushing a lucrative but contentious buyout offer, tensions simmer and loyalties are tested. The storm brewing inside the chalet is no match for the one outside, however, and a devastating avalanche leaves the group cut off from all access to the outside world. Even worse, one Snooper fails to return from the slopes after the avalanche hits. As each hour passes without any sign of rescue, panic mounts, the chalet grows colder, and the group dwindles further...one by one.

**WATT, PETER** steele QUEEN'S CAPTAIN (#3) (\$33.95) In October 1863, Ian Steele, having taken on the identity of Captain Samuel Forbes, is fighting the Pashtun on the north-west frontier in India. Half a world away, the real Samuel Forbes is a lieutenant in the 3rd New York Volunteers and is facing the Confederates at the Battle of Mission Ridge in Tennessee. Neither is aware their lives will change beyond recognition in the year to come. As 1864 dawns, Ian is posted to the battlefields of the Waikato in New Zealand, where he comes face to face with an old nemesis. As the ten-year agreement between Steele and Forbes nears its end, their foe is desperate to catch them out and cruel all their hopes for the future...

**WELLS, CHRISTINE** SISTERS OF THE RESISTANCE (\$23.99) Paris, 1944: The war is nearly over, but for members of the Resistance in occupied France, it is more dangerous than ever before. Twenty-five-year-old Gabby Foucher loathes the Nazis, though as the concierge of 10 rue Royale, she does her best to avoid conflict—unlike her bolder sister Yvette, who finds trouble at every turn. Then they are both recruited into the Resistance by Catherine Dior and swept into a treacherous world of spies, fugitives, and intrigue. While Gabby risks everything for the man she is hiding from the Nazis, Yvette must decide whether to trust an enigmatic diplomat who seems to have guessed her secret. As the threat of betrayal draws ever-closer, one slip could mean the deaths of many, and both sisters must make choices they might regret.

**WOODS, STUART** barrington SHAKEUP (#55) (\$12.99) Upon returning from a dangerous coastal adventure, Stone Barrington is looking forward to some normalcy with the leading lady in his life. But when a grisly crime arrives on his doorstep, along with some suspicious new clients eager for his help, Stone realizes peace and quiet are no longer an option. As it turns out, the mastermind behind the malfeasance rocking New York City and the nation's capital wields a heavy hand of influence. And when Stone is unable to recruit those closest to the case to his side, he is left with few leads and a handful of dead-ends. But with the help of important people in high places--and the expertise of alluring new friends--Stone is more than ready to rise to the occasion.