



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

March 2022

I'm getting way too old to deal with a real Canadian winter, so, the Ides of March notwithstanding, I'm happy to see February in my rear-view mirror. To celebrate, I went to an indoor driving range—a simulator, to be exact—at my golf course and spent a pleasant time with friends hitting balls into the screen. These simulators are pretty slick. You hit your clubs and real golf balls—not those squidgy things that indoor driving ranges normally make you play with—and the high-speed cameras pick up the ball and the software returns all sorts of numbers: club head speed, ball speed, smash factor, spin rates, carry distance and so on and so forth. Most of them are beyond me. I just like hitting the ball. And, oh yeah, lunch that follows! I was surprised to see how little room is needed, a good-size bedroom would do it, and the cost is not unsurmountable...hmmm. (*Don't even think about it!*—mtm).

Looking forward to the season. With all the snow we've had this year it might be a while before the fairways are dry enough, but patience, we'll get there.

JD's Picks

DOUG JOHNSTONE is a Scottish crime writer based in Edinburgh who has written three novels featuring the Skelfs, a well-known Edinburgh family, proprietors of a long-established funeral-home business, and private investigators... In the first book, [A Dark Matter](#) (#1) (\$21.95), 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...

This was as unputdownable a novel as I've had the good fortune to come across recently. This was a blackly funny, compelling read but it's the three generations of strong, authentic, intelligent female protagonists that you'll want to get to know and read more about.

The Merchant of Menace,

Sleuth's monthly newsletter, is available for download from 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.

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Will keep that up to date!

As *The Guardian* put it so eloquently, 'This enjoyable mystery is also a touching and often funny portrayal of grief, as the three tough but tender main characters pick up the pieces and carry on: more, please.'

This was so compelling that I immediately went onto the second *The Big Chill* (#2) (\$21.95) and it was equally funny, dark, compelling, enjoyable. The third in the series has just become available, *The Great Silence* (#3) (\$21.95) and I suspect it won't be long before I get to it as well. Especially when *Daily Mail* says: "This is their third outing and the stories get better each time... Told with a wry humour and affection, the novel underlines just how accomplished Johnstone has become."

Don't miss this series.

It was the cover illustration of *A Quiet Death in Italy* (#1) (\$17.99), **TOM BENJAMIN**'s first Daniel Leicester novel, that caught my attention. And, yet again, I'm glad it did. There are three now in this quietly delightful series set in contemporary Bologna, although the long history of the area adds to the texture of the story.

Here's a blurb: When the body of a radical protestor is found floating in one of Bologna's underground canals, it seems that most of the city is ready to blame the usual suspects: the police. But when private investigator Daniel Leicester, son-in-law to the former chief of police, receives a call from the dead man's lover, he follows a trail that begins in the 1970s and leads all the way to the rotten heart of the present-day political establishment. Beneath the beauty of the city, Bologna has a dark underside, and English detective Daniel must unravel a web of secrets, deceit and corruption—before he is caught in it himself.

Having read any number of books set in Venice and Florence and Rome, it's now Bologna's turn.

Just a quick mention that **BELINDA BAUER**'s most recent novel, *Exit* (\$23.95) has just been released in paperback. If you have not read this author yet, do yourself a favour and do so. This is a great place to start. I loved this. But then, I have loved everything she has written. I lie; there was one that should not have seen the light of day. I won't tell you which one, in case I was in a snit that week, but not to worry, should that one be the one you pick up I'll tell you. After you've paid, of course.

Some months back a review by Margaret Cannon in *The Globe and Mail* caught the attention of a number of customers: *Beneath Her Skin* (\$19.95) by **C S PORTER**. Here's what she had to say in introducing the book: In a season of 500-plus page behemoths, this slight book may get overlooked. That's a pity because it's a tough, carefully constructed mystery with a great setting and a great female detective. In short, for a debut, it's a sure winner and deserving of attention.

Here's the blurb: When a small east coast town falls prey to a series of shocking murders, city homicide detective Kes Morris is called in to lead the case with the aid of the local precinct. As usual, she's the only woman in the room, and must draw on the lessons passed down by her detective father, a furtive and dangerous practice of going deep inside a killer's mind to put on their skin.

What Kes uncovers is a web of gruesome crimes reaching back decades, and a town that may have been complicit. With a reputation of being hard, relentless and unbending to authority, she finds herself on the hunt for a killer seeking brutal retribution, someone who takes sadistic pleasure in the death and wants their work seen. The farther she follows the trail, the more the line blurs between guilt and innocence, predator and prey.

As always, Margaret is right on. This one deserves attention.

And finally, I chanced upon a small pile of **MARGARET MILLAR**'s *Rose's Last Summer* (\$9.95) in the basement. Score. The author was born in Kitchener, Ontario, and went to the University of Toronto. She married **Kenneth Millar**, aka **Ross MacDonald**, in 1938 and both went onto illustrious careers in the mystery business, and both were awarded the Grand Master of the Mystery Writers of America, MWA's highest honour, for lifetime achievement.

First published 1952, this is the 1985 International Polygonics edition. The typeface is a tad small, but this surprising funny novel is well worth a read.

Marian's Picks

It was a tough February and I'm glad we're into March. Frustrated puppies that could not go for long walks due to the snow and ice...Lots of snow and ice...Fears of slipping on the icy fire roads, which were more rinks than roads...I don't think I've seen a more Canadian winter than this one in a long, long time. February was quite the challenge but by and large Pixie and Prince and I managed to survive. *(I managed rather well in the city, except for my sore back from all the shoveling because our snow plough guy skipped town with the deposit. But, all's well that ends well-jd)*. Since I didn't take the pups out for the normal, longer walks that we usually do at the cottage, I found myself reading more. Which is a good thing. Here are some short and sweet picks.

I love finding new writers and I read a couple this month that I want to tell you about. JD does all the book ordering and when he sees a title he thinks I'll like, he gets me a copy. Often, when I get back from the cottage, there are two or three surprise books waiting for me to read.

Who knew that **MARK DAWSON** has written 21 books in his John Milton series? And in nine years? Yet, we just received the first one in the bookstore a few days ago titled The Cleaner (#1) (\$23.99). John Milton, code name One, is an assassin who works for a covert government agency and if the government wants someone to vanish, he makes it happen. But what happens when he's the one that needs to disappear? The book is slow to get started: to ease some of his feelings of guilt for the havoc he has caused in his calling—an assassin with a conscience?—One gets involved in helping out a youngster who is involved with gang “warfare” in London's East End. It's when an agent, codename Twelve, is given the job of eliminating One, that the action heats up; that's the best part of the book. *(From a quick look it would seem that the Milton series was self-published, and until recently, available as e-books only. Cleaner is now published in hardcopy by Welbeck Publishing. As the technology has changed it has become easier and easier for authors to self-publish, eliminating the difficulties in interesting a traditional publisher, mostly in e-book, and, if they achieve some measure of success—as many have—traditional publisher show interest in taking them on.—jd)*

Here is the blurb: After a botched job leaves a bloody trail, government assassin John Milton does the one thing he's never done before: he hides. Disappearing into London's bustling East End and holing up in a vacant flat, Milton becomes involved with single mother Sharon and her troubled son Elijah, who are caught in an increasingly bloody turf war between two rival gangs. Unable to ignore the threat, Milton sets about protecting mother and son, meeting violence with violence. But his involvement puts him in the sight of the government's next best killer, and before long Milton is not just fighting to save a family and a home—he's fighting to stay alive.

ANTHONY RICHES is not a new writer but, Nemesis (#1) (\$22.95), is the first in a new series which is completely different from what he has written before. One of his series, currently with 12 titles available, is set in Roman Britain, and the another is a trilogy which details the story of the uprising of the Batavi in AD 69.

In Nemesis we are introduced to Michael Bale, who is an elite close protection officer for the Metropolitan Police and, when not on duty, is finding ways to get revenge on the mafia family who killed his sister.

This book is non-stop action from the get-go to the end. Bale is a great character (maybe a bit naive in his quest for revenge), but you keep rooting for him, hoping things will work and that he can do both of his “jobs” successfully. He is a highly respected police officer on the one hand, but who will also take the law into his own hands when he needs, (or wants) to.

Here is the blurb, along with some of the reviews the book has garnered: Mickey Bale is an elite close protection officer. That's why the Met police has given him the toughest job of all: guarding the Minister of Defence at a moment when Chinese-British relations have hit a deadly boiling point.

And when Mickey's life isn't on the line for his work, he's taking his chances waging war on a powerful London gang family. Their dealer supplied a lethal ecstasy pill to his sister, and Mickey is determined to take them down, one at a time.

But will he get away with it—or will his colleagues in the force realise that the man on an underworld killing spree is one of their own?

'Nemesis is a full-throttle adventure that twists and turns from the corridors of power to London's gangland underbelly, propelled by a hero with a thirst for vengeance and the skillset to execute it'—*Andy McNab*.

'Nemesis kicks like a 12-bore shotgun ... A British thriller to rival Reacher'—*Giles Kristian*

'Mickey Bale is a Jack Reacher for a harder, faster, more assured millennium. Nemesis is the kind of book for which the word 'compelling' was coined'—*Manda Scott*

JOSEPH KANON's new book is titled The Berlin Exchange (\$37.99), and it is terrific. I've read Kanon on and off over the years and this is a really good one. His first book, Los Alamos (\$23), was published in 1997 and won the Edgar for Best First Novel. It's a thriller set in Los Alamos, New Mexico, during the final years of World War II and involves a murder investigation that leads into the top-secret heart of the Manhattan Project. It too is fabulous.

Here is the blurb for The Berlin Exchange: 1963. The height of the Cold War. An early morning spy swap, not at the familiar setting for such exchanges, or at Checkpoint Charlie, where international visitors cross into the East, but at a more discreet border crossing, usually reserved for East German VIPs. The Communists are trading two American students caught helping people to escape over the wall and an aging MI6 operative. On the other side of the trade: Martin Keller, a physicist who once made headlines, but who then disappeared into the English prison system. Keller's most critical possession: his American passport. Keller's most ardent desire: to see his ex-wife Sabine and their young son.

The exchange is made with the formality characteristic of these swaps. But Martin has other questions: who asked for him? Who negotiated the deal? The KGB? He has worked for the service long enough to know that nothing happens by chance. They want him for something. Not physics—his expertise is out of date. Something else, which he cannot learn until he arrives in East Berlin, when suddenly the game is afoot.

One of my very current favourite writers is **M. W. CRAVEN**. Supply of the books from the Canadian distributor has been sporadic, but we have been smuggling copies in from the UK as we have needed to. Just need a little patience! We'll get them for you. Trust me, the wait will be worth it.

The first book in the Washington Poe, Tilly Bradshaw series, The Puppet Show (\$25 import, \$17.99 for the Canadian edition, due November 2022), won the CWA Gold Dagger Award 2019 for Best Crime Novel and it is spectacular (if a bit gritty in spots). The characters of Poe and Tilly work so well together. Poe was suspended by the force but was called back to help on a case. And Tilly, a computer genius nerd who has absolutely no social skills, becomes his unlikely partner. I couldn't get enough of this pair; so of course, I proceeded to read the other three in the Poe series: Black Summer (#2) (\$17.99), The Curator (#3) (\$17.99) and Dead Ground (#4) (\$25.) Equally fabulous is the author's DI Avison Fluke series. Fortunately, they are readily available: Born in a Burial Gown (#1) and Body Breaker (#2) (\$17.99 each.) It is not often that I read every book by a writer, but this guy is amazing, and if you love a terrific British police procedural you can't go wrong. Besides, there are only six!

And finally, as an aside, a customer ordered a copy of Four Seasons in Rome (\$22) by **ANTHONY DOERR**. I had loved his All the Light We Cannot See (\$25)—a Pulitzer Prize winner—so I figured I needed Four Seasons as well. It is a short, wonderful, read regaling us about the year he spent with his family in Rome, while writing and researching another novel. Here is a summary: Anthony Doerr has received many awards—from the New York Public Library, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the American Library Association. Then came the Rome Prize, one of the most prestigious awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and with it a stipend and a writing studio in Rome for a year. Doerr learned of the award the day he and his wife returned from the hospital with newborn twins.

It describes Doerr's varied adventures in one of the most enchanting cities in the world. He reads **Pliny**, **Dante**, and **Keats**—the chroniclers of Rome who came before him—and visits the piazzas, temples, and ancient cisterns they describe. He attends the vigil of a dying Pope John Paul II and takes his twins to the Pantheon in December to wait for snow to fall through the oculus. He and his family are embraced by the butchers, grocers, and bakers of the neighborhood, whose clamor of stories and idiosyncratic child-rearing advice is as compelling as the city itself.

This intimate and revelatory book is a celebration of Rome, a wondrous look at new parenthood, and a fascinating story of a writer's craft—the process by which he transforms what he sees and experiences into sentences.

It's a delight.

Hardbacks

BARRON, STEPHANIE austen JANE AND THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER (#14) (\$36.95) May 1816: Jane Austen is feeling unwell, with an uneasy stomach, constant fatigue, rashes, fevers and aches. Her apothecary recommends a trial of the curative waters at Cheltenham Spa, in Gloucestershire. Jane decides to use some of the profits earned from her last novel, Emma, and treat herself to a period of rest and reflection at the spa, in the company of her sister, Cassandra. Cheltenham Spa hardly turns out to be the relaxing sojourn Jane and Cassandra envisaged, however. It is immediately obvious that other boarders at the guest house where the Misses Austen are staying have come to Cheltenham with stresses of their own—some of them deadly. But perhaps with Jane's interference a terrible crime might be prevented. Set during the Year without a Summer, when the eruption of Mount Tambora in the South Pacific caused a volcanic winter that shrouded the entire planet for sixteen months, this fourteenth installment in Stephanie Barron's critically acclaimed series brings a forgotten moment of Regency history to life.

BEATON, M C macbeth DEATH OF A GREEN-EYED MONSTER (#34) (\$34 hardcover, \$37 large print hardcover) Hamish's new constable, Dorothy McIver, may be the most beautiful woman he's ever seen. Completely bewitched by her sparkling blue eyes, Hamish spends the summer traveling with her up and down Sutherland until finally, he can take it no longer. He gets down on one knee beside the Land Rover and begs her to marry him—and to his amazement and delight, she says yes. But just as the town of Lochdubh gets ready to celebrate, Hamish finds himself with a new murder on his hands. If he doesn't find the killer fast, Hamish's dream wedding could become a nightmare.

BIGGERS, EARL DERR SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (\$23.99) When William Magee arrives at Baldpate Mountain from his native New York City, he discovers that the hotel where he will be staying is virtually closed for the winter. Despite this setback, Magee manages to secure a key to the Baldpate Inn. There, he begins to work on what he hopes will become his first serious novel, his big break after years as a pulp fiction writer. Soon, other guests begin to arrive, each of them harboring a dangerous secret. The author is better known as the creator of the series featuring Chinese American detective Charlie Chan.

BOX, C J pickett SHADOWS REEL (#22) (\$37) A day before the three Pickett girls come home for Thanksgiving, Joe is called out for a moose poaching incident that turns out to be something much more sinister: a local fishing guide has been brutally tortured and murdered. At the same time, Marybeth opens an unmarked package at the library where she works and finds a photo album that belonged to an infamous Nazi official. Who left it there? And why?

BYEONG-MO, GU OLD WOMAN WITH THE KNIFE (\$24.99) At sixty-five, Hornclaw is beginning to slow down. She lives modestly in a small apartment, with only her aging dog, a rescue named Deadweight, to keep her company. There are expectations for people her age—that she'll retire and live out the rest of her days quietly. But Hornclaw is not like other people. She is an assassin. Double-crossers, corporate enemies, cheating spouses—for the past four decades, Hornclaw has killed them all with ruthless efficiency, and the less she's known about her targets, the better. But now, nearing the end of her career, she has just slipped up. An injury leads her to an unexpected connection with a doctor and his family. But emotions, for an assassin, are a dangerous proposition. As Hornclaw's world closes in, this final chapter in her career may also mark her own bloody end.

CLEMENTS, OLIVER agents QUEEN'S MEN (#2) (\$36) As she travels through Waltham Forest, Queen Elizabeth I is ambushed by masked gunmen who leave her carriage riddled with holes before disappearing into the night. The Queen's Private Secretary, Sir Francis Walsingham, is tasked with finding the perpetrators, about whom they know precious little. But someone alerted the gunman to the route of the Queen's carriage, and Walsingham knows that the assassins will not stop until she's dead.

CONNOLLY, SHEILA victoria SECRET STAIRCASE (#3) (\$36.99) Kate Hamilton is feeling good about her plans to recreate Asheboro, Maryland as the Victorian village it once was. The town is finally on her side, and the finances are coming together. Kate's first goal is to renovate the Barton Mansion on the outskirts of town. Luckily, it's

been well maintained in the century since the wealthy Henry Barton lived and died there. The only substantial change she's planning is to update the original kitchen so that it can be used to cater events in the building. But when the contractor gets started, he discovers a hidden staircase that had been walled in years earlier. And as Kate's luck would have it, in the stairwell is a body.

DORSEY, TIM *serge storms* MERMAID CONFIDENTIAL #25 (\$35.99) Serge A. Storms and his permanently baked sidekick, Coleman, have decided to pump the brakes and live on island time. After years of manic road tripping across their beloved Sunshine State, the irrepressible anti-heroes drop anchor in the Florida Keys. They settle down in Pelican Bay, a thriving condo complex with scenic views and friendly neighbors. But the community is at war with investors who are buying up units and leasing them to young vacationers who party at all hours. With their little slice of heaven on the line, Serge takes it upon himself to convince the tourists to move on and quickly becomes a local favorite. Meanwhile, the island chain's long and rich smuggling heritage is causing mayhem—a gang war erupts when a local drug lord passes the family business to his young, enterprising son, and the sun-loving residents are suddenly dodging bullets. Luckily, Florida's most lovable serial killer is there to help!

FOLLETT, KEN *PILLARS OF THE EARTH* (\$54) "Follett risks all and comes out a clear winner," extolled *Publishers Weekly* on the release of this novel in 1989. A departure for the bestselling thriller writer, the historical epic stunned readers and critics alike with its ambitious scope and gripping humanity. A new hardcover edition.

GIGL, ROBYN *SURVIVOR'S GUILT* (\$36) LGBTQ+ activist Robyn Gigl tackles the complexities of gender, power, and human trafficking with a ripped-from-the-headlines plot in her second legal thriller featuring Erin McCabe, a protagonist who, like the author, is a transgender attorney.

GREANEY, MARK *gray man* SIERRA SIX (#11) (\$37) Before he was the Gray Man, Court Gentry was Sierra Six, the junior member of a CIA action team. In their first mission they took out a terrorist leader, at a terrible price. Years have passed. The Gray Man is on a simple mission when he sees a ghost: the long-dead terrorist, but he's remarkably energetic for a dead man. A decade of time hasn't changed the Gray Man. He isn't one to leave a job unfinished or a blood debt unpaid.

HURWITZ, GREGG *orphan x* DARK HORSE (#7) (\$38.99) Aragon Urrea is a kingpin of a major drug-dealing operation in South Texas. He's also the patron of the local area—supplying employment in legitimate operations, providing help to the helpless, rough justice to the downtrodden, and a future to a people normally with little hope. He's complicated—a not completely good man, who does bad things for often good reasons. However, for all his money and power, he is helpless when one of the most vicious cartels kidnaps his innocent eighteen-year-old daughter, spiriting her away into the armored complex that is their headquarters in Mexico. With no other way to rescue his daughter, he turns to The Nowhere Man...

JANCE, J A *beaumont* NOTHING TO LOSE (#25) (\$35.99) Years ago, when he was a homicide detective with the Seattle PD, J. P. Beaumont he had saved his partner's two from their father's murderous rage. Now, almost twenty years later, Jared reappears in Beau's life seeking his help once again—his younger brother Chris is missing. Still haunted by the events of that tragic night, Beau doesn't hesitate to take on the case. Following a lead all the way to the wilds of wintertime Alaska, he encounters a tangled web of family secrets in which a killer with nothing to lose is waiting to take another life.

KANON, JOSEPH BERLIN EXCHANGE (\$37) Berlin. 1963. The height of the Cold War. An early morning spy swap, not at the familiar setting for such exchanges, or at Checkpoint Charlie, where international visitors cross into the East, but at a more discreet border crossing, usually reserved for East German VIPs. The Communists are trading two American students caught helping people to escape over the wall and an aging MI6 operative. On the other side of the trade: Martin Keller, a physicist who once made headlines, but who then disappeared into the English prison system. Keller's most critical possession: his American passport. Keller's most ardent desire: to see his ex-wife Sabine and their young son. The exchange is made with the formality characteristic of these swaps. But Martin has other questions: who asked for him? Who negotiated the deal? The KGB? He has worked for the service long enough to know that nothing happens by chance. They want him for something. Not physics—his expertise is out of date. Something else, which he cannot learn until he arrives in East Berlin, when suddenly the game is afoot.

KATZ, ERICA FAKE (\$33.50) Emma Caan is a fake. She's a forger, an artist who specializes in nineteenth-century paintings. But she isn't a criminal; her copies are commissioned by museums and ultra-wealthy collectors protecting their investments. Emma's more than mastered a Gauguin brushstroke and a van Gogh wheat field, but her work is sometimes a painful reminder of the artistic dreams she once chased for herself, when she was younger and before her family and her world fell apart. When oligarch art collector Leonard Sobetsky unexpectedly appears with an invitation, Emma sees a

way out—a new job, a new path for herself, and access to the kind of money she needs to support her unstable and recently widowed mother. But every invitation incurs an obligation . . . and Emma isn't prepared for what's to come.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN delaware CITY OF THE DEAD (#37) (\$38.99) The past comes back to haunt psychologist Alex Delaware and Detective Milo Sturgis when they investigate a grisly double homicide and uncover an even more unspeakable. Los Angeles is a city of sunlight, celebrity, and possibility. The L.A. often experienced by Homicide Lt. Detective Milo Sturgis and psychologist Alex Delaware, is a city of the dead. . .

MASON, A E W hanaud AT THE VILLA ROSE (#1) (\$23.99) Madame Dauvray was captivated by the supernatural world. She and her companion, Celia Harland, would often engage the public as spiritual mediums. Yet, their presentations were a farce fueled by trickery and performance. One day, Madame Dauvray is found strangled to death at the illustrious Villa Rose. Her maid is indisposed, and her jewels are stolen. Due to proximity and the nature of their business, Celia is made the prime suspect. In an effort to clear her name, the young Englishman, Harry Wethermill asks Inspector Hanaud to crack the case. Published 1910. By the author of The Four Feathers.

MAYQUIST, KIT TRIPPING ARCADIA (\$35) Med school dropout Lena is desperate for a job, any job, to help her parents, who are approaching bankruptcy after her father was injured and laid off nearly simultaneously. So when she is offered a position, against all odds, working for one of Boston's most elite families, the illustrious and secretive Verdeaus, she knows she must accept it—no matter how bizarre the interview or how vague the job description. But when she stumbles upon the knowledge that the Verdeau patriarch is the one responsible for the ruin of her own family, Lena vows to get revenge—a poison-filled quest that leads her further into this hedonistic world than she ever bargained for, forcing her to decide how much—and who—she's willing to sacrifice for payback.

NEWMAN, JAY UNDERMONEY (\$34.99) When a U.S. airdrop of billions of dollars disappears in the desert sands of Syria, only a small group of military operatives knows its ultimate destination or why it has been stolen. Their goal is no less than the restoration of America's geopolitical dominance on the global stage. Essential to this scheme are Greta Webb, a sophisticated CIA operative who is an expert on dark money, not to mention lethally skilled in hand-to-hand combat, and Elias Vicker, the damaged, dangerous soul who runs the world's largest hedge fund. To achieve its goals, the group must form dangerous alliances. One is with the hidden family that manages the largest private pool of capital that has ever existed. Another is with Fyodor Volk, the ruthless founder of Russia's most successful private military company, a mercenary with ties to Vladimir Putin. Volk has his eye on Greta. She would be wise to avoid him but cannot.

OSLER, ROB DEVIL'S CHEW TOY (\$35.99) Seattle teacher and part-time blogger Hayden McCall wakes sporting one hell of a shiner, with the police knocking at his door. It seems that his new crush, dancer Camilo Rodriguez, has gone missing and they suspect foul play. What happened the night before? And where is Camilo? Determined to find answers, pint-sized, good-hearted Hayden seeks out two of Camilo's friends—Hollister and Burley—both lesbians and both fiercely devoted to their friend. From them, Hayden learns that Camilo is a "Dreamer" whose parents had been deported years earlier, and whose sister, Daniela, is presumed to have returned to Venezuela with them. Convinced that the cops won't take a brown boy's disappearance seriously, the girls join Hayden's hunt for Camilo. "This was a fun story!", says Marian.

SCHELLMAN, KATHARINE lily BODY IN THE GARDEN (#1) (\$35.99) London 1815. Though newly-widowed Lily Adler is returning to a society that frowns on independent women, she is determined to create a meaningful life for herself even without a husband. She's no stranger to the glittering world of London's upper crust. At a ball thrown by her oldest friend, Lady Walter, she expects the scandal, gossip, and secrets. What she doesn't expect is the dead body in Lady Walter's Garden. Lily overheard the man just minutes before he was shot: young, desperate, and attempting blackmail. But she's willing to leave the matter to the local constables--until Lord Walter bribes the investigating magistrate to drop the case. Stunned and confused, Lily realizes she's the only one with the key to catching the killer.

SCHELLMAN, KATHARINE lily SILENCE IN THE LIBRARY (#2) (\$36.99) Regency widow Lily Adler has finally settled into her new London life when her semi-estranged father arrives unexpectedly, intending to stay with her while he recovers from an illness. Hounded by his disapproval, Lily is drawn into spending time with Lady Wyatt, the new wife of an old family friend. Lily barely knows Lady Wyatt. But she and her husband, Sir Charles, seem as happy as any newly married couple until the morning Lily arrives to find the house in an uproar and Sir Charles dead. All signs indicate that he tripped and struck his head late at night. But when Bow Street constable Simon Page is called to the scene, he suspects foul play. And it isn't long before Lily stumbles on evidence that Sir Charles was, indeed, murdered.

STEVENSON, WILLIAM MAN CALLED INTREPID (\$29.99) A classic about real-life WWII espionage...the true story of Sir William Stephenson (codenamed Intrepid) and the spy network he founded that would ultimately stall the Nazi war machine and help win World War II. **Ian Fleming**, bestselling author of the James Bond novels, once remarked, "James Bond is a highly romanticized version of a true spy. The real thing is William Stephenson." Illustrated with thirty-two pages of black-and-white photographs, this book describes the infamous "Camp X" spy training center in Ontario, Canada; the breaking of the Ultra Code used by Enigma; and countless tales of assassinations, clandestine activities, guerrilla armies, resistance support, and suicide missions. This modern classic, which reads like fiction, was a national bestseller when first published in 1976.

WEINMAN, SARAH SCOUNDREL (\$37) Having spent almost half his lifetime in California's state penitentiary system, convicted killer Edgar Smith died in obscurity in 2017 at the age of eighty-three—a miracle, really, as he was meant to be executed nearly six decades earlier. Tried and convicted in the state of New Jersey for the 1957 murder of fifteen-year-old Victoria Zielinski, Smith was once the most famous convict in America. Scoundrel tells the true, almost-too-bizarre story of a man saved from Death Row by way of an unlikely friendship—developed in nearly 2000 pages of prison correspondence—with National Review founder William F. Buckley, Jr., one of the most famous figures in the neo-conservative movement. Buckley wrote articles, fundraised and hired lawyers to fight for a new trial, eventually enlisting the help of Sophie Wilkins, a book editor with whom Smith would have a torrid epistolary affair. As a result of these friends' advocacy, Smith not only gained his freedom, he vaulted to the highest intellectual echelons as a bestselling author, an expert on prison reform, and a minor celebrity—only to fall, spectacularly, back to earth, when his murderous impulses once more prevailed.

Paperbacks

ANDREWS, ALEXANDRA WHO IS MAUD DIXON? (\$22.99) Florence Darrow has always felt she was destined for greatness, but after a disastrous affair with her married boss, she starts to doubt herself. All that changes when she sets off for Morocco with her new boss, the celebrated but reclusive author Maud Dixon. Amidst the colorful streets of Marrakesh and the wind-swept beaches of the coast, Florence begins to feel she's leading the sort of interesting, cosmopolitan life she deserves. But when she wakes up in the hospital after a terrible car accident, with no memory of the previous night—and no sign of Maud—a dangerous idea begins to take form. . .

ATKINS, LUCY MAGPIE LANE (\$15.99) When the eight-year-old daughter of an Oxford College Master vanishes in the middle of the night, police turn to the Scottish nanny, Dee, for answers. As Dee looks back over her time in the Master's Lodging—an eerie and ancient house—a picture of a high achieving but dysfunctional family emerges: Nick, the fiercely intelligent and powerful father; his beautiful Danish wife Mariah, pregnant with their child; and the lost little girl, Felicity, almost mute, seeing ghosts, grieving her dead mother. But is Dee telling the whole story? Is her growing friendship with the eccentric house historian, Linklater, any cause for concern? And most of all, why is Felicity silent?

BALDACCI, DAVID pine DAYLIGHT (#3) (\$12.99) For many long years, 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. With time running out, Atlee and her assistant Carol Blum race to Vincenzo's last known location in Trenton, New Jersey—and unknowingly stumble straight into John Puller's case, blowing his arrest during a drug ring investigation involving a military installation. Stunningly, Pine and Puller's joint investigation uncovers a connection between Vincenzo's family and a breathtaking scheme that strikes at the very heart of global democracy. Peeling back the layers of deceit, lies and cover-ups, Atlee finally discovers the truth about what happened to Mercy. And that truth will shock Pine to her very core.

BARR, LISA WOMAN ON FIRE (\$21) After talking her way into a job with Dan Mansfield, the leading investigative reporter in Chicago, rising young journalist Jules Roth is given an unusual—and very secret—assignment. Dan needs her to locate a painting stolen by the Nazis more than 75 years earlier: legendary Expressionist artist Ernst Engel's most famous work, *Woman on Fire*. World-renowned shoe designer Ellis Baum wants this portrait of a beautiful, mysterious woman for deeply personal reasons, and has enlisted Dan's help to find it. But Jules doesn't have much time; the famous designer is dying.

BAUER, BELINDA EXIT (\$23.95) Felix Pink is retired. Widowed for more than a decade, a painfully literal thinker, he has led a life of routine and is, not unhappily, waiting to die a hopefully boring death. He occupies himself volunteering as an Ex-iteer—someone who sits with terminally ill people as they die by suicide, assisting with logistics and lending moral support, then removing the evidence so that family and friends are not implicated in the death. When Felix lets himself in to Number 3 Black Lane, he's there to perform an act of kindness and charity: to keep a dying man company as he takes his final breath. But just fifteen minutes later Felix is on the run from the police—after making the biggest mistake of his life. Now his routine world is turned upside down as he tries to discover whether what went wrong was a simple mistake—or deliberate. Murder.

BELL, DARCEY ALL I WANT (\$23) When Emma's husband, Ben, falls in love with a large Victorian mansion for sale in upstate New York, he swears to her the fixer-upper will be worth the risk. With a baby on the way, Emma would like to live in a charming, safe community, after all—and in a space larger than a one-bedroom New York City apartment. On impulse, she agrees to Ben's plan and they put in an offer on the house. Sure, the mansion has a somewhat creepy backstory and is a bit dilapidated, but Emma and Ben are in this together, aren't they? When strange things start happening, Emma begins to experience a little buyer's remorse. What's the real history of this house? Is its dark history repeating itself? Why does her husband suddenly seem so distant? Is she in danger? Is her baby?

BELLE, KIMBERLY MY DARLING HUSBAND (\$23.99) Jade and Cam Lasky are by all accounts a happily married couple with two adorable kids, a spacious home and a rapidly growing restaurant business. But their world is tipped upside down when Jade is confronted by a masked home invader. As Cam scrambles to gather the ransom money, Jade starts to wonder if they're as financially secure as their lifestyle suggests, and what other secrets her husband is keeping from her. Cam may be a good father, a celebrity chef and a darling husband, but there's another side he's kept hidden from Jade that has put their family in danger. Unbeknownst to Cam and Jade, the home invader has been watching them and is about to turn their family secrets into a public scandal.

BENJAMIN, TOM leicester QUIET DEATH IN ITALY (#1) (\$17.99) When the body of a radical protestor is found floating in one of Bologna's underground canals, it seems that most of the city is ready to blame the usual suspects: the police. But when private investigator Daniel Leicester, son-in-law to the former chief of police, receives a call from the dead man's lover, he follows a trail that begins in the 1970s and leads all the way to the rotten heart of the present-day political establishment. Beneath the beauty of the city, Bologna has a dark underside, and English detective Daniel must unravel a web of secrets, deceit and corruption—before he is caught in it himself.

BENJAMIN, TOM leicester HUNTING SEASON (#2) (\$17.99) It's truffle season and in the hills around Bologna the hunt is on for the legendary Boscuri White, the golden nugget of Italian gastronomy. But when an American truffle 'supertaster' goes missing, English detective Daniel Leicester discovers not all truffles are created equal. Did the missing supertaster bite off more than he could chew? As he goes on the hunt for Ryan Lee, Daniel discovers the secrets behind 'Food City', from the immigrant kitchen staff to the full scale of a multi-million Euro business. After a key witness is found dead at the foot of one of Bologna's famous towers, the stakes could not be higher. Daniel teams up with a glamorous TV reporter, but the deeper he goes into the disappearance of the supertaster the darker things become. Murder is once again on the menu, but this time Daniel himself stands accused. And the only way he can clear his name is by finding Ryan Lee...

BENNETT, SJ liz ALL THE QUEENS MEN (#2) (\$23.99) At Buckingham Palace, the autumn of 2016 presages uncertain times. The Queen must deal with the fallout from the Brexit referendum, a new female prime minister, and a tumultuous election in the United States—yet these prove to be the least of her worries when a staff member is found dead beside the palace swimming pool. Is it truly the result of a tragic accident, as the police think, or is something more sinister going on? Meanwhile, her assistant private secretary, Rozie Oshodi, is on the trail of a favorite painting that once hung outside the Queen's bedroom and appears to have been misappropriated by the Royal Navy. And a series of disturbing anonymous letters have begun circulating in the palace. The Queen's courtiers think they have it all 'under control', but Her Majesty is not so sure. After all, though the staff and public may not be aware, she is the keenest sleuth among them. Sometimes, it takes a Queen's eye to see connections where no one else can. Sequel to Windsor Knot (#1) (\$21.)

BENTLEY, DON drake OUTSIDE MAN (#2) (\$12.99) Broad daylight on an Austin, Texas, street and DIA operative Matt Drake is fighting for his life against a highly trained team of assassins. Who are they? Why do they want him dead? How will he protect those closest to him? The answers will take him into some of the most dangerous spots in the Middle East and will put him in the clutches of an old foe known simp-

ly as the Devil. It's a world of double crosses, with no boundaries between the guilty and the innocent. It will take all of Drake's wiles to get out alive.

BERKELEY, ANTHONY WINTRINGHAM MYSTERY (\$17.99) Republished for the first time in nearly 95 years, a classic winter country house mystery by the founder of the Detection Club, with a twist that even **Agatha Christie** couldn't solve!

BLACK, JUNEAU shady hollow SHADY HOLLOW (#1) (\$22) The first book in the Shady Hollow series, in which we are introduced to the village of Shady Hollow, a place where woodland creatures live together in harmony—until a curmudgeonly toad turns up dead and the local reporter has to solve the case. Reporter Vera Vixen is a relative newcomer to Shady Hollow. The fox has a nose for news, so when she catches wind that the death might be a murder, she resolves to get to the bottom of the case, no matter where it leads. As she stirs up still waters, the fox exposes more than one mystery, and discovers that additional lives are in jeopardy. Vera finds more to this town than she ever suspected. It seems someone in the Hollow will do anything to keep her from solving the murder, and soon it will take all of Vera's cunning and quickness to crack the case.

BLACK, JUNEAU shady hollow COLD CLAY (#2) (\$22) It's autumn in Shady Hollow, and residents are looking forward to harvest feasts. But then a rabbit discovers a grisly crop: the bones of a moose. Soon, the owner of Joe's Mug is dragged out of the coffeeshop and questioned by the police about the night his wife walked out of his life—and Shady Hollow—forever. It seems like an open-and-shut case, but dogged reporter Vera Vixen doesn't believe gentle Joe is a killer. She'll do anything to prove his innocence ... even if it means digging into secrets her neighbors would rather leave buried.

BOWEN, RHYS VENICE SKETCHBOOK (\$22.50) It's 1938 when art teacher Juliet Browning arrives in romantic Venice. For her students, it's a wealth of history, art, and beauty. For Juliet, it's poignant memories and a chance to reconnect with Leonardo Da Rossi, the man she loves whose future is already determined by his noble family. However star-crossed, nothing can come between them. Until the threat of war closes in on Venice and they're forced to fight, survive, and protect a secret that will bind them forever. Fast forward to today and the conclusion to the story.

CANDLISH, LOUISE HEIGHTS (\$24.99) The Heights is a tall, slender apartment building among warehouses in London. Its roof terrace is so discreet, you wouldn't know it existed if you weren't standing at the window of the flat directly opposite. But you are. And that's when you see a man up there—a man you'd recognize anywhere. He may be older now, but it's definitely him. But that can't be because he's been dead for over two years. You know this for a fact. Because you're the one who killed him.

CASEY, ELIZA manor cat LADY TAKES THE CASE (#1) (\$22) When a dinner party turns deadly, the feisty Lady Cecilia Bates and intuitive cat Jack are on the case, in this new historical-mystery series. England 1912.

CAVANAGH, STEVE flynn DEVIL'S ADVOCATE (#6) (\$25) Ambitious District Attorney Randal Korn lives to watch prisoners executed. Even if they are not guilty. An innocent man, Andy Dubois, faces the death penalty for the murder of young girl. Korn has already fixed things to make sure he wins a fast conviction. The one thing Korn didn't count on was Eddie Flynn. Slick, street smart and cunning, the former con artist turned New York lawyer has only seven days to save an innocent man against a corrupt system and find the real killer. In a week the Judge will read the verdict, but will Eddie be alive to hear it?

CHIEN, VIVIEN noodle shop HOT AND SOUR SUSPECTS (#8) (\$12.99) When Lana Lee's best friend, Megan Riley, asks her to help host a speed dating contest at Ho-Lee Noodle House, she doesn't see the harm in lending a hand. The night goes better than anticipated, and both Lana and Megan are beyond thrilled with the results. But before they can break out the champagne, Rina Su, fellow Asia Village shop owner and speed dating participant, calls to inform Lana that the date she's just matched with has been murdered. Under suspicion of foul play, Rina enlists Lana's help in finding out what really happened that night. Without hesitation, Lana begins to dig into the man in question. To her dismay, she quickly finds that Rina's date has a rather unsavory past. There's a long line of slighted women, angry neighbors, and perturbed co-workers—all of whom seem to have a motive. As Lana continues to spiral down the treacherous path of scorned lovers and mistreated acquaintances, she can't help but dwell on how quickly an innocent evening filled with hope and positivity could turn so sour. When the media gets in on the case, Lana must rush to find the killer before more dates turn deadly.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA marple MURDER AT THE VICARAGE (#1) (\$19.99) Miss Marple encounters a compelling murder mystery in St. Mary Mead, where under the seemingly peaceful exterior of an English country village lurks intrigue, guilt, deception, and death. Colonel Protheroe, local magistrate and overbearing landowner is the most detested man in the village. Everyone—even in the vicar—wishes he were dead. And very soon he is—shot in the head in the vicar's own study. Faced with a surfeit of

suspects, only the inscrutable Miss Marple can unravel the tangled web of clues that will lead to the unmasking of the killer. Published in 1930.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA marple BODY IN THE LIBRARY (#2) (\$19.99) It's seven in the morning. The Bantrys wake to find the body of a young woman in their library. She is wearing an evening dress and heavy makeup, which is now smeared across her cheeks. But who is she? How did she get there? And what is the connection with another dead girl, whose charred remains are later discovered in an abandoned quarry? The respectable Bantrys invite Miss Marple into their home to investigate. Amid rumors of scandal, she baits a clever trap to catch a ruthless killer. Published in 1942.

CLARK, BECKY writers FICTION CAN BE MURDER (#1) (\$20.99) Mystery author Charlemagne "Charlee" Russo thinks the twisty plots and peculiar murders in her books are only the product of her imagination—until her agent is found dead exactly as described in Charlee's new, unpublished manuscript. Suspicion now swirls around her and her critique group, making her confidence drop as severely and unexpectedly as her royalty payments. The police care more about Charlee's feeble alibi and financial problems than they do her panicky claims of innocence. To clear her name and revive her career, she must figure out which of her friends is a murderer. Easier said than done, even for an author who's skilled at creating tidy endings for her mysteries. And as her sleuthing grows dangerous, Charlee's imagination starts working overtime. Is she being targeted, too?

CLARK, BECKY writers FOUL PLAY ON WORDS (#2) (\$20.99) Mystery author Charlee Russo agrees to speak at a Portland writers' conference organized by her friend Viv Lundquist. When Viv picks her up at the airport, she frantically tells Charlee that her daughter Hanna has been kidnapped. Charlee takes over the conference preparation so Viv can search for her daughter, but the situation gets tense when the hotel double-books the event with a dog show. Despite this, Charlee is compelled to investigate after she learns shocking secrets about both Hanna and Viv. Can she find Hanna in time, or will a plot twist lead her to a ruff ending?

CLARK, BECKY writers METAPHOR FOR MURDER (#3) (\$20.99) Charlee Russo's career and bank account will be DOA unless her literary event with bestselling author Rodolfo Lapaglia succeeds. It's her very last chance to revise her life. But when she goes to fetch him from the train station, he has disappeared, much like Charlee's royalty statements. An angry mob wants their refund from the cancelled event, but Lapaglia kept the money and stuck Charlee with the bills. As she searches for him and his checkbook, her neighbor's pug, Peter O'Drool, is dognapped with an ominous demand that Charlee deliver Lapaglia if she ever wants to see the beloved pooch again. Can Charlee solve the mystery of Lapaglia's disappearance and close the book on this fiasco before Peter O'Drool runs out of time?

CLEEVES, ANN shetland COLD EARTH (#7) (\$19.99) The darkest secrets are buried deepest. In the black days of a Shetland winter, torrential rain triggers a landslide that crosses the main road and sweeps down to the sea. At the burial of his old friend Magnus Tait, Jimmy Perez watches the flood of peaty water and mud smash through a croft house in its path. Everyone thinks the croft is uninhabited, but in the wreckage he finds the body of a dark-haired woman wearing a red silk dress. Perez becomes obsessed with finding out her identity and what she was doing there. Then it emerges that she was already dead when the landslide hit the house and Perez finds himself with a murder investigation to solve. Published 2016.

CLEEVES, ANN vera TELLING TALES (#2) (\$25) It has been ten years since Jeanie Long was charged with the murder of fifteen-year-old Abigail Mantel. Now residents of the East Yorkshire village of Elvet are disturbed to hear of new evidence proving Jeanie's innocence. Abigail's killer is still at large. For one young woman, Emma Bennett, the revelation brings back haunting memories of her vibrant best friend--and of that fearful winter's day when she had discovered her body lying cold in a ditch. As Inspector Vera Stanhope makes fresh enquiries on the peninsula and villagers are hauled back to a time they hoped to forget, tensions begin to mount. But are people afraid of the killer or of their own guilty pasts? With each person's story revisited, the Inspector begins to suspect that some deadly secrets are threatening to unfurl...Published 2005.

COOPER, TOM FLORIDA MAN (\$24) Florida, circa 1980. Reed Crowe, the eponymous Florida Man, is a middle-aged beach bum, beleaguered and disenfranchised, living on ill-gotten gains deep in the jungly heart of Florida. When sinkholes start opening on Emerald Island, not only are Reed Crowe's seedy businesses—a moribund motel and a shabby amusement park—endangered, but so are his secrets. Crowe, amateur spelunker, begins uncovering artifacts that change his understanding of the island's history, as well as his understanding of his family's birthright as pioneering homesteaders. And that also annoys some of the bad guys!

CRAIS, ROBERT cole pike L A REQUIEM (#8) (\$12.99) The day starts like any other in L.A. The sun burns hot as the Santa Ana winds blow ash from mountain fires to coat the glittering city. But for private investigator Joe Pike, the city will never be the same again. His ex-lover, Karen Garcia, is dead, brutally murdered with a gun shot to

the head. Now Karen's powerful father calls on Pike (a former cop) and his partner, Elvis Cole, to keep an eye on the LAPD as they search for his daughter's killer--because in the luminous City of Angels, everyone has secrets, and even the mighty blue have something to hide. But what starts as a little procedural hand-holding turns into a deadly game of cat-and-mouse. For a dark web of conspiracy threatens to destroy Pike and Cole's twelve-year friendship—if not their lives. And L.A. just might be singing their dirge. Published 1999.

CRAIS, ROBERT cole pike LAST DETECTIVE (#9) (\$12.99) P.I. Elvis Cole's relationship with attorney Lucy Chenier is strained, but it becomes even more tense when the unthinkable happens: While Lucy is away on business and her ten-year-old son, Ben, is staying with Elvis, the boy vanishes without a trace. When the kidnappers call, it's not for ransom, but for a promise to punish Cole for past sins he claims he didn't commit. With LAPD wrestling over the case and the boy's estranged father attempting to take control of the investigation, Cole vows to find Ben first. But Cole's partner, Joe Pike, knows more about this case than he has said. Pike lives in a world where dangerous men commit crimes beyond all reckoning. Now, one of those men is alive and well in L.A.—and calling Elvis Cole to war. Published 2003.

DAVIS, LINDSEY flavia COMEDY OF TERRORS (#9) (\$17.99) Saturnalia, the Romans' mid-December feast, nominally to celebrate the sun's rebirth but invariably a drunken riot. Flavia Albia needs a case to investigate, but all work is paused. Albia is lumped with her own domestic stress: overexcited children and bilious guests, too many practical jokes, and her magistrate husband Tiberius preoccupied with local strife. He fears a Nut War. Nuts are both the snack and missile of choice of tipsy celebrants, so there is a fortune to be made. This year a hustling gang from the past is horning in on the action. As the deadly menace strikes even close to home, and with law and order paused for partying, Albia and Tiberius must go it alone.

DAVIS, RICHARD HARDING IN THE FOG (\$11.50) The members of an exclusive London club endeavor to solve a baffling murder in this masterpiece from the golden age of detective fiction. Since the time of Shakespeare, there has been no group in London more influential than the Grill Club. A secret society whose members are drawn from the rich and the poor, the Grill is blind to politics, ideology, and wealth. The only demands made of its members are secrecy and an open mind. On a foggy night in 1897, an American diplomat tells three other club members of a recent night when he was lost in the London fog and heard a distant scream. Following the sound, he entered a strange house, where he discovered a man lying dead on a princess's divan. The crime baffled Scotland Yard, but the men of the Grill Club will get to the bottom of it—no matter how long it takes. Published 1901.

DAWSON, MARK milton CLEANER (#1) (\$23.99) John Milton is the man the government call when they want a problem to vanish. But what happens when he's the one that needs to disappear? After a botched job leaves a bloody trail, government assassin John Milton does the one thing he's never done before: he hides. Disappearing into London's bustling East End and holing up in a vacant flat, Milton becomes involved with single mother Sharon and her troubled son Elijah, who are caught in an increasingly bloody turf war between two rival gangs. Unable to ignore the threat, Milton sets about protecting mother and son, meeting violence with violence. But his involvement puts him in the sight of the government's next best killer, and before long Milton is not just fighting to save a family and a home—he's fighting to stay alive...

DAY, MADDIE country store BATTER OFF DEAD (#10) (\$11.99) Pans "N Pancakes" owner and part-time sleuth Robbie Jordan and her new husband Abe O'Neill are enjoying a summer evening in the park with fellow townfolk excited for some Friday night fireworks. In attendance are senior residents from Jupiter Springs Assisted Living including Grant Bird, father to South Lick's very own Police Lieutenant Buck Bird. Despite his blindness, Grant is a member of his group home's knitting circle, spending quality time with some lovely ladies. But when the light show ends, one of the knitters who sat with Grant is found dead, a puncture wound in her neck. The poor woman's death echoes that of Buck's mother and Grant's wife—an unsolved homicide. To help find the killer, Robbie's going to have to untangle the knotty relationships deep in the victim's past...

DELANY, VICKI catskill DEADLY DIRECTOR'S CUT (#2) (\$11.99) Famous director Elias Theropodous has chosen Haggerman's Catskills Resort as a shooting location for his next film. It sounds glamorous to much of the staff, but resort manager Elizabeth Grady is less satisfied. Dealing with the ridiculous demands of the antagonistic director is bad enough, and his attempts to walk all over Elizabeth are making her feel like her position at the resort has been changed into a bit part. But when Elias is poisoned during a dinner at the resort, the future of the film and the resort itself are on the line. Between an aging movie star, a harried producer, and former victims of the deceased director's wrath, Elizabeth has a full cast of suspects to examine, and she'll need to investigate every lead to catch a killer.

DIXON, HELENA underhay MURDER AT THE PLAYHOUSE (#3) (\$21.99) Late summer, 1933. After a quarrel with too-plucky-for-her-own-good amateur sleuth Kitty Underhay, dashing ex-army captain Matthew Bryant is nursing his wounds, and a tumbler of brandy, when there's a heavy knock at the door and he finds himself arrested for murder. The body of aspiring actress Pearl Bright has been found, strangled with one of Matt's own bootlaces, and the evidence seems to be stacked against him. The local constabulary might have locked Matt up, but before they can throw away the key, Kitty hears the news and hies to his aid, determined to prove his innocence. And when her investigations lead her to the home of retired theatre impresario Stanley Davenport, and the local amateur dramatics society, Kitty uncovers a web of deceit that stretches far beyond the stage make-up. But Kitty's digging is bringing her to the attention of the killer. Without her partner in crime-fighting, can Kitty expose them and clear Matt's name? Or will it be curtains for them both?

DIXON, HELENA underhay MURDER AT ENDERLEY HALL (#2) (\$21.99) Summer 1933. Fresh from the discovery that she has family living nearby, Kitty Underhay has packed her carpet bag, commandeered a chambermaid and set off on a visit to stately Enderley Hall. She's looking forward to getting to know her relatives, as well as the assembled group of house guests. But when elderly Nanny Thoms is found dead at the bottom of the stairs after papers of national importance are stolen, Kitty quickly learns that Muffy the dog's muddy paws on her hemline are the least of her problems. Calling on ex-army captain Matthew Bryant for assistance, Kitty begins to puzzle out the mystery

DIXON, HELENA underhay MURDER AT THE DOLPHIN HOTEL (#1) (\$21.99) June 1933. Independent, young Kitty Underhay has been left in charge of her family's hotel, The Dolphin, on the tranquil English coast. She's expecting her days at the bustling resort to be filled with comfortable chatter with chambermaids as they polish the mahogany desks and glittering candelabras of the elegant foyer. Everything must be perfect for the arrival of a glamorous jazz singer from Chicago and a masked ball that will be the cultural highlight of the season. But when several rooms are broken into and searched, including Kitty's own, she quickly realizes that something out of the ordinary is afoot at the hotel. Soon, rumors are flying in the cozy town that someone is on the hunt for a stolen ruby. A ruby that Kitty's mother may well have possessed when she herself went missing during the Great War. And when the break-ins are followed by a series of attacks and murders, including of the town's former mayoress, it seems the perpetrator will stop at nothing to find it.

DOUGLAS, CLAIRE JUST LIKE THE OTHER GIRLS (\$21.99) At loose ends after the devastating death of her mother, Una Richardson responds to an advertisement for a ladies' companion, a position that leads her into the wealthy, secluded world of Mrs. Elspeth McKenzie. But Elspeth's home isn't the comforting haven it seems. Kathryn, her cold and bitter daughter, resents Una's presence. More disturbing is evidence suggesting two girls lived here before her. What happened to the young women? Why won't the McKenzies talk about them? What are they hiding? As the walls begin to close in around her, Una fears she'll end up just like the other girls...

DURIEZ, COLIN DOROTHY L SAYERS: A BIOGRAPHY (\$19.95) Dorothy L Sayers was a woman of contrasts. A strong Christian, she had a baby by a man she did not love—out of wedlock. Possessing a fierce intellect, she translated Dante—and also created one of the most popular fictional detectives ever, in Lord Peter Wimsey. With no new biographies on Sayers having been published for some time, Colin Duriez reassesses her, her life, her writings, her studies and her faith. Drawing on previously unpublished material, particularly her collected letters, he brings to life a fascinating woman.

EDWARDS, MARTIN ed. MUSIC OF THE NIGHT (\$21.95) A new anthology of original short stories contributed by Crime Writers' Association (CWA) members and edited by Martin Edwards, with music as the connecting theme. The aim, as always, is to produce a book which is representative both of the genre and the membership of the world's premier crime writing association.

EHRHART, PEGGY knit nibble DEATH OF A KNIT WIT (#8) (\$11.99) With the help of her friends in the Knit and Nibble Club, crafting magazine editor, widower, and amateur sleuth Pamela Paterson must solve the murder of an adulterous professor during a weekend-long knitting bee and fiber arts conference...

ENGBERG, KATRINE copenhagen HARBOR (#3) (\$22) When fifteen-year-old Oscar Dreyer-Hoff disappears, the police assume he's simply a runaway—a typically overlooked middle child doing what teenagers do all around the world. But his frantic family is certain that something terrible has happened. After all, what runaway would leave behind a note that reads "He looked around and saw the knife that had stabbed Basil Hallward. He had cleaned it many times, till there was no stain left upon it. It was bright and glistened. As it had killed the painter, so it would kill the painter's work, and all that that meant. It would kill the past, and when that was dead, he would be free." It's not much to go on but it's all that detectives Jeppe Kørner and Anette Werner have.

And with every passing hour, as the odds of finding a missing person grow dimmer, it will have to be enough.

FLOWER, AMANDA farm PUT OUT TO PASTURE (#2) (\$12.99) Shiloh Bellamy has saved her family's farm from financial ruin—but now what? She's barely scraping by on the farm's new organic business model and the fall festival she organized to drum up business comes to a screeching halt when the body of a prominent townswoman is discovered underneath a scarecrow in a nearby field. Worst of all, the evidence points to Shiloh's childhood best friend, Kristy, as the prime suspect. Shiloh doesn't have time to wade into a murder investigation. But with a killer on the loose and suspicious activity circling closer and closer to Shiloh and the people she loves, she realizes there's nothing to do but roll up her sleeves and get down to the dirty work of finding the killer and clearing Kristy's name once and for all.

FLOWER, AMANDA magic garden FLOWERS AND FOUL PLAY (#1) (\$21.99) Florist Fiona Knox's life isn't smelling so sweet these days. Her fiancé left her for their cake decorator. Then, her flower shop wilted after a chain florist opened next door. So when her godfather, Ian MacCallister, leaves her a cottage in Scotland, Fiona jumps on the next plane to Edinburgh. Ian, after all, is the one who taught her to love flowers. But when Ian's elderly caretaker Hamish MacGregor shows her to the cottage upon her arrival, she finds the once resplendent grounds of Duncraig in a dreadful shambles—with a dead body in the garden. Minutes into her arrival, Fiona is already being questioned by the handsome Chief Inspector Neil Craig and getting her passport seized. But it's Craig's fixation on Uncle Ian's loyal caretaker, Hamish, as a prime suspect, that really makes her worried. As Fiona strolls the town, she quickly realizes there are a whole bouquet of suspects much more likely to have killed Alastair Croft, the dead lawyer who seems to have had more enemies than friends. Now it's up to Fiona to clear Hamish's name before it's too late.

FOLEY, LUCY PARIS APARTMENT (\$24.99) Jess needs a fresh start. She's broke and alone, and she's just left her job under less than ideal circumstances. Her half-brother Ben didn't sound thrilled when she asked if she could crash with him for a bit, but he didn't say no, and surely everything will look better from Paris. Only when she shows up—to find a very nice apartment, could Ben really have afforded this?—he's not there. The longer Ben stays missing, the more Jess starts to dig into her brother's situation, and the more questions she has. Ben's neighbors are an eclectic bunch, and not particularly friendly. Jess may have come to Paris to escape her past, but it's starting to look like it's Ben's future that's in question. Everyone's a neighbor. Everyone's a suspect. And everyone knows something they're not telling.

FOX, CANDICE crimson GATHERING DARK (#4) (\$12.99) Dr. Blair Harbour, once a wealthy, respected pediatric surgeon, is now an ex-con down on her luck. She's determined to keep her nose clean and win back custody of her son. But when her former cellmate begs for help to find her missing daughter, Blair is compelled to put her new-found freedom on the line. Detective Jessica Sanchez has always had a difficult relationship with the LAPD. And her inheritance of a multi-million dollar mansion as a reward for catching a killer has just made her police enemy number one. It's been ten years since Jessica arrested Blair for cold-blooded murder. So when Jessica opens the door to the disgraced doctor late one night she expects abuse, maybe even violence. What comes next is a plea for help...

GEHRMAN, JODY GIRLS WEEKEND (\$22.99) June Moody, a thirty-something English professor, just wants to get away from her recent breakup and reunite with girlfriends over summer break. Her old friend and longtime nemesis, Sadie MacTavish, a mega-successful author, invites June and her college friends to a baby shower at her sprawling estate in the San Juan Islands. June is less than thrilled to spend time with Sadie—and her husband, June's former crush—but agrees to go. The party gets off to a shaky start when old grudges resurface, but when they wake the next morning, they find something worse: Sadie is missing, the house is in shambles, and bloodstains mar the staircase. None of them has any memory of the night before; they wonder if they were drugged. Everyone's a suspect. Since June had a secret rendezvous with Sadie's husband, she has plenty of reason to suspect herself. Apparently, so do the cops...

GREENWOOD, KERRY DEATH BEFORE WICKET (\$22.95) Phryne Fisher is on holiday. She means to take the train to Sydney (where the harbour bridge is being built), go to a few cricket matches, dine with the Chancellor of the university, and perhaps go to the Arts Ball with that young modernist, Chas Nutall. She has the costume of a lifetime, and she's not afraid to use it. When she arrives there, however, her maid Dot finds that her extremely respectable married sister Joan has vanished, leaving her small children to the neglectful care of a resentful husband. What has become of Joan, who would never leave her babies? Surely, she hasn't run away with a lover, as gossip suggests? So Phryne girds up her loins, loads her pearl-handled .32 Beretta, and sallies forth to find mayhem, murder, black magic, and perhaps a really good cocktail before more crime erupts in Sydney. Published 1999.

GREENWOOD, KERRY MURDER IN MONTPARNASSE (\$22.95) Seven Australian soldiers, carousing in Paris in 1918, unknowingly witness a murder, with devastating consequences. Ten years later, two are dead...under very suspicious circumstances. Phryne Fisher's friends, Bert and Cec (sometimes cabbies and sometimes men for hire), appeal to her for help. They were part of this group of soldiers in 1918 and they fear for their lives and for those of the other three men. It's only as Phryne delves into the investigation that she, too, remembers being in Montparnasse on that very same, and fatal, day. While Phryne is occupied with memories of Montparnasse past and the race to outpace the murderer, she finds troubles of a different kind at home. Her lover, Lin Chung, is about to be married. And the effect this is having on her own usually peaceful household is disastrous...Published 2002.

GREENWOOD, KERRY RAISINS AND ALMONDS (\$22.95) Phryne Fisher's contentment at the Jewish Young People's Society Dance is cut short when her dancing partner's father asks her to investigate the strange death of a devout young student in Miss Sylvia Lee's East Market bookshop. Miss Lee has been arrested for the murder, but Phryne believes that she is a very unlikely killer. The investigation leads her into the exotic world of refugees, rabbis, kosher dinners, Kadimah, strange alchemical symbols, Yiddish, and chicken soup. Picking her way through the mystery, Phryne soon finds herself at the heart of a situation far graver and more political than she expected. And all for the price of a song....Published 1999.

GRISHAM, JOHN SOOLEY (\$24 trade, \$12.99 mass market paperback) The author takes you to a different kind of court in his first basketball novel. Samuel "Sooley" Sooleymon is a raw, young talent from the South Sudan, with big hoop dreams—and even bigger challenges off the court.

HAMILTON, KAREN EX HUSBAND (\$21.99) ...a woman fleeing her past as a concert artist finds herself trapped aboard a cruise ship with someone who not only knows about that past, but will stop at nothing to get revenge.

HART, CAROLYN bailey ruth GHOST BLOWS A KISS (#10) (\$26.99) The late—as in Dearly Departed—Bailey Ruth Raeburn is delighted when she's assigned a new mission by Heaven's Department of Good Intentions, even if she is no good at following the rules for Earthly Visitations. This time she's determined to be the perfect unseen emissary, no matter what it takes. Arriving late in the evening in her old hometown of Adelaide, Oklahoma to find a woman drowning in a pond, Bailey Ruth carries out a daring rescue with textbook invisible effort. But Bailey Ruth soon realizes there's more to Fran's accident than a late-night walk gone wrong. The young widow was running away - but what from? Soon Bailey Ruth finds herself caught up in a complex web of family secrets, loyalties and lies - and if she doesn't act fast, an innocent will be locked up for a very long time . . .

HILLIARD, M E UNKINDNESS OF RAVENS (\$22.99) Greer Hogan is a librarian and an avid reader of murder mysteries. She also has a habit of stumbling upon murdered bodies. The first was her husband's, and the tragic loss led Greer to leave New York behind for a new start in the Village of Raven Hill. But her new home becomes less idyllic when she discovers her best friend sprawled dead on the floor of the library. Was her friend's demise related to two other deaths that the police deemed accidental? Do the residents of this insular village hold dark secrets about another murder, decades ago? Does a serial killer haunt Raven Hill? As the body count rises, Greer's anxious musings take a darker turn when she uncovers unexpected and distressing information about her own husband's death...

HODGSON, ANTONIA hawkins SILVER COLLAR (#4) (\$17.99) London 1718. Tom and Kitty should be happy. Kitty's shop is a successful, even if shady, concern and Tom, having escaped the hangman's noose, is something of a celebrity in the taverns and bagnios of Covent Garden. Then someone tries to murder Tom. This is no mugging, but an organized attack and investigation leads to a fine house in Jermyn Street and the mysterious Lady Vanhook. Now things spiral from bad to worse. Vanhook is none other than Kitty's mother—the mother who tried to sell her as a prostitute and who Kitty thought was dead. She has been in the West Indies, the mistress of a plantation, and now that her husband has died, she has returned—for revenge upon Kitty and to claim every penny of her inheritance.

JAKEMAN, JO WHAT HIS WIFE KNEW (\$18.95) When the body of Oscar Lomas, an experienced hiker, is found at the bottom of a remote cliff in the Peak District of England called Cloud Drop, all the signs—including the "Sorry" note he left behind for his wife, Beth—point to suicide. Plans for the funeral begin, but Beth cannot accept that her husband took his own life. As she sets out to discover what really happened, Beth soon realizes that the safe, protected life she thought she had was nothing of the sort, and that Oscar had kept many secrets from her—secrets that involve even close family and old friends. It turns out that he had enemies—and perhaps she did too, even if she didn't know it. As the troubling revelations keep coming, Beth has to focus on solving one mystery if she is to reclaim her own life: who killed Oscar Lomas?

JAMES, PETER grace LEFT YOU DEAD (#17) (\$19.99) Most Sundays, Niall and Eden Paternoster like to go for a drive and visit country houses. She likes to look at them, he likes to dream that one day...However, most weeks they also end up bickering about something or other. This particular Sunday he wants to get back to catch the start of the French Grand Prix, while she insists they stop somewhere to buy cat litter. Reluctantly, he pulls into the car park of a large supermarket and waits while she dashes in. He waits. And waits. But Eden doesn't come back out—she's gone. When he gets home she's not there either, and none of their friends or family have heard from her. A few days later, and vigorously protesting his innocence, Niall is arrested on suspicion of her murder. When Roy Grace is called in to investigate Eden's disappearance, it soon transpires that nothing is originally as it seemed.

JOHNSTONE, DOUG skelfs GREAT SILENCE (#3) (\$21.95) Keeping on top of the family funeral directors' and private-investigation businesses is no easy task for the Skelf women, and when matriarch Dorothy discovers a human foot while walking the dog, a perplexing case presents itself ... with potentially deadly results. Daughter Jenny and grand-daughter Hannah have their hands full too: The mysterious circumstances of a dying woman lead them into an unexpected family drama, Hannah's new astrophysicist colleague claims he's receiving messages from outer space, and the Skelfs' teenaged lodger has yet another devastating experience. Nothing is clear as the women are immersed ever deeper in their most challenging cases yet. But when the daughter of Jenny's violent and fugitive ex-husband goes missing without trace and a wild animal is spotted roaming Edinburgh's parks, real danger presents itself, and all three Skelfs are in peril. An excellent series.

JONES, DARYNDA sunshine BAD DAY FOR SUNSHINE (#1) (\$24.50) Del Sol, New Mexico is known for three things: its fry-an-egg-on-the-cement summers, strong cups of coffee—and, now, a nationwide manhunt? Del Sol native Sunshine Vicram has returned to town as the elected sheriff—thanks to her adorably meddling parents who nominated her—and she expects her biggest crime wave to involve an elderly flasher named Doug. But a teenage girl is missing, a kidnapper is on the loose, and all of this is reminding Sunshine why she left Del Sol in the first place. Add to that the trouble at her daughter's new school, plus a kidnapped prized rooster named Puff Daddy, and, well, the forecast looks anything but sunny.

KATSU, ALMA RED WIDOW (\$23) Lyndsey Duncan, cast down and restless from a required home leave, has one thing keeping her going—a second chance to prove herself at the agency. So when her former boss—now Chief of the Russia Division, where Lyndsey was once a top handler in the Moscow Field Station -- unexpectedly cuts her break short and recruits her to investigate a potential mole in the department after the exposure of three Russian assets, Lyndsey finds herself entrenched once again in fickle fields. With years of work in question and lives on the line, Lyndsey is thrown back into life at the agency, this time tracing the steps of those closest to her.

KENT, CHRISTOBEL FLORENTINE REVENGE (\$15.99) On a scorching summer afternoon in the suburbs of Florence, a small girl goes missing at a crowded swimming pool and is never seen alive again. For fifteen years a terrible crime lies unsolved, becoming one of the city's darkest and most shameful secrets, until one bitter winter night another body is found, at another swimming pool, and the case is reopened. Celia Donnelly had just arrived in Florence at the time of the girl's disappearance and can remember only too well the face that filled the front pages of every Italian newspaper. When word of the gruesome new discovery breaks, she is in the midst of arranging a weekend of birthday celebrations for a wealthy Englishman's wife. However, as Celia undertakes what ought to be a routine work assignment, she finds herself more closely involved than she could have ever imagined with a tragedy that has haunted her dreams for fifteen years; and it is Celia who is compelled to bear witness when the past returns to exact a brutal and terrifying revenge.

LATIMER, JONATHAN crane HEADED FOR A HEARSE (\$21.95) Robert Westland's date with the executioner is just around the corner when he finally decides to fight the murder rap sending him to the electric chair. Framed for his wife's grisly demise, Westland is in a bind, and his last hope is Bill Crane, a booze-soaked detective who's as ruthless with a quip as he is when trawling the streets for Chicago's most brutal criminal element. Crane's got just six days to suss out the real killer—he sets his sights on a cast of oddball characters, aided by a lime squeezer, a quart of whiskey, a monkey wrench, a taxicab, a stopwatch, and a deep sea diver... but in 1930s Chicago, everyone's got a secret, and the pressure is on for Crane to separate the dangerous from the truly homicidal before it's too late. Published 1936.

LEATHER, STEPHEN standing HUNTING (#2) (\$17.99) British doctor Raj Patel puts his own life on the line to treat the injured in war-torn Syria. His medical skills help casualties survive against all the odds. But Raj needs to rely on a completely different set of skills when he is taken hostage in a treacherous case of mistaken identity. Billionaire big-game hunter Jon van der Sandt is driven by revenge—his family have been killed by jihadist terrorists and he wants his vengeance up close and personal. He

has hired ex Special Forces hard men to snatch the ISIS killers from the desert and transport them halfway across the world to the vast wilderness of his American estate. But they grab Raj by mistake, and once the killing begins it's too late to plead mistaken identity. To survive, he'll have to become as ruthless a killer as the man who is hunting him.

LEGAT, ANNA marsh CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE (#5) (\$17.99) When a body is found in the grounds of a prestigious Wiltshire private school, DI Gillian Marsh takes on the case. The young groundsman, Bradley Watson, has been shot dead, pierced through the heart with an arrow. As the investigation gathers pace, DI Marsh is frustrated to find the Whalehurst staff and students united in silence. This scandal must not taint their reputation. But when Gillian discovers pictures of missing Whalehurst pupil, fifteen-year-old Rachel Snyder, on Bradley's dead body—photos taken on the night she disappeared, and he was murdered—the link between the two is undeniable. But what is Whalehurst refusing to reveal? And does Gillian have what it takes to bring about justice?

LITTELL, ROBERT COMRADE KOPA (\$17.99) Leon Rozental—ten and a half, intellectually precocious, and possessing a disarming candor—is suddenly alone after the death of his nuclear physicist father and the arrest of his mother during the Stalinist purge of Jewish doctors. Now on his own and hiding from the NKVD in the secret rooms of the House on the Embankment, the massive building in Moscow where many Soviet officials and apparatchiks live and work, Leon starts to explore. One day, after following a passageway, Leon meets Koba, an old man whose apartment is protected by several guards. Koba is a high-ranking Soviet official with troubling insight into the thoughts and machinations of Comrade Stalin.

LOUDON, MARGARET open book PERIL ON THE PAGE (#3) (\$11.99) Penelope Parish is ready to close the book on her amateur sleuthing—from now on, The Open Book's writer-in-residence will be sticking to villains of the fictional variety while she puts the final touches on her new novel. But when an author is murdered inside the bookshop, all of Upper Chumley-on-Stoke goes on high alert. Now it's up to Pen and the quirky citizens of Chumley to stop a killer and protect the charming British town she's begun to call home.

MACDONALD, SIOBHAN GUILTY (\$17.99) Doctor Luke Forde has the perfect life. A respected heart surgeon, he has a rewarding job, a successful wife, and a daughter, Nina. From their beautiful house overlooking Carberry Lough in County Clare, they present a portrait of family bliss. But over the course of a weekend, Luke's life spirals into chaos. It begins with the word 'GUILTY' painted on his boathouse one morning. Then he spots a chilling notice in the local newspaper. When this is followed by the delivery of a small coffin-shaped package, Luke is terrified. Someone knows the dark secret he is hiding. And someone is out to get him...

MACE, LORRAINE sterling LOVE ME TENDER (#5) (\$17.99) Responding to a tip-off, newly promoted Detective Chief Inspector Paolo Sterling arrives at an apartment block to find the dismembered body of a young woman. And with no indication of a break-in, all signs suggest the killer was known to her. Then the victim's friend is snatched with no witnesses and the unanswered questions mount up. At the same time, Sterling's team are leading the surveillance of a local club, thought to be involved in a drug operation. But when one of his colleagues ends up in hospital close to death, Paolo begins to lose his grip. With the odds stacked against him, and time running out, can DCI Sterling uncover the truth before it's too late? Or will this case finally tip him over the edge?

MACGILLOWAY/MCGILLOWAY, BRIAN LAST CROSSING (\$17.99) Tony, Hugh and Karen thought they'd seen the last of each other thirty years ago. Half a lifetime has passed and memories have been buried. But when they are asked to reunite—to lay ghosts to rest for the good of the future—they all have their own reasons to agree. As they take the ferry from Northern Ireland to Scotland the past is brought into terrible focus—some things are impossible to leave behind.

MANANSALA, MIA P tita HOMICIDE AND HALO-HALO (#2) (\$22) Things are heating up for Lila Macapagal. Not in her love life, which she insists on keeping non-existent despite the attention of two very eligible bachelors. Or her professional life, since she can't bring herself to open her new café after the unpleasantness that occurred a few months ago at her aunt's Filipino restaurant, Tita Rosie's Kitchen. No, things are heating up quite literally, since summer, her least favorite season, has just started. To add to her feelings of sticky unease, Lila's little town of Shady Palms has resurrected the Miss Teen Shady Palms Beauty Pageant, which she won many years ago—a fact that serves as a wedge between Lila and her cousin slash rival, Bernadette. But when the head judge of the pageant is murdered and Bernadette becomes the main suspect, the two must put aside their differences and solve the case—because it looks like one of them might be next.

MARSTON, EDWARD railway SLAUGHTER IN THE SAPPERTON TUNNEL (#18) (\$16.95) Disaster strikes at the Sapperton Tunnel in Gloucestershire when a

goods train collides with an unusual blockage on the line: seven sheep penned onto the tracks. Specially requested to investigate the carnage, Inspector Colbeck and Sergeant Leeming are confronted with a bizarre case unlike anything they've encountered before. Stephen Rydall, board member of the Great Western Railway that manages the route, is convinced this tragedy is a personal attack on him and fears for the safety of his shepherd, missing since the incident. Rydall has many enemies but, as Colbeck will soon discover, the man also has a closely guarded secret of his own...

MAXWELL, STEVEN ALL WAS LOST (\$19.95) Orla McCabe has found a case of money. She knows that someone dangerous will be after this stash, so she flees her home with her husband and newborn daughter—and the money. Meanwhile, Detectives Lynch and Weston are investigating the carnage of a botched human-trafficking deal at an isolated shooting lodge on the moors. They find two piles of bullet-riddled bodies—the traffickers and the 'product'—but no money. Soon the owners of the money start to hunt, dragging the McCabes and the detectives into a macabre game of cat-and-mouse. For a better life for her family, Orla will never stop running, even if it means sprinting headlong into the void itself. Now it's a matter of who she drags into the dark with her.

MAYSE, ARTHUR PERILOUS PASSAGE (\$14.95) A semi-conscious man looks about a boat's cabin as a woman presses a wet cloth to his forehead. She's young, her nails are short, and her small hands are calloused. When another man tries to enter, she grabs a gun: "If you come down here, Joe, I'll shoot you." For a moment, the intruder doesn't move. "I don't want your damn' old hulk," he tells her. When the woman threatens a second time, he leaves. "You'd better too," he says. "She's near sunk." So begins the story of Clint, a reform school runaway, and Devvy, an orphaned farm girl saddled with a deceitful drunk of a stepmother. Clint and Devvy are pushed together as they struggle against the corrupt, criminal, violent adults trying to exert control over their lives. First published in 1949 as a serial in the Saturday Evening Post.

MENUHIN, KAREN BAUGH Heathcliff lennox MYSTERY OF MONTAGUE MORGAN (#7) (\$28.50) Ladies man, dandy, charming rogue, thief. Montague Morgan has a buccaneering reputation, and he doesn't give a damn—until he falls in love. He has a plan, he needs money and he knows how to get it. He and his lover conspire to escape to exotic lands with stolen gold. But the gold belongs to dangerous people and plans can go awry. Morgan disappears, has he escaped, or has he fallen prey to lethal retribution? Lennox's friend, ex Chief Inspector Swift is embroiled, and Lennox steps in to help, but his wedding is fixed for Christmas Eve and it's only a few days away. As the mystery around Montague Morgan deepens, so the tension rises...

NADEL, BARBARA ikmen FORFEIT (#23) (\$17.99) In the early hours of the morning, Turkish TV star Erol Gencer is found dead at his home on the outskirts of Istanbul. But he is not alone. Beside him lies a Syrian refugee whose stomach has been split open with a cheese knife. Did Gencer kill his guest before committing suicide, or are they victims of a sinister double murder? The dead Syrian is soon identified as Wael Al Hussain, whose wife, Samira, is in prison for attempting to kill Gencer a year ago. At the time, no one believed Samira's story that Gencer's wife had planned the attack, but now Samira's sister begs Çetin Ikmen to re-examine her claim. Meanwhile, Inspector Mehmet Süleyman is on leave with his teenage son, Patrick, who is visiting from Ireland, but when Detective Kerim Gürsel's transsexual ex-lover, Pembe, is also murdered, shortly after confessing that Wael Al Hussain had used her for sexual favours, Süleyman knows he must help Kerim solve this complex case.

PARRIS, S J giordano brun EXECUTION (#6) (\$26.95) Giordano Bruno, a heretic turned spy, arrives in England with shocking information for spymaster Sir Francis Walsingham. A band of Catholic Englishmen are plotting to kill Queen Elizabeth and spring Mary Queen of Scots from prison to take the English throne in her place. Bruno is surprised to find that Walsingham is aware of the plot—led by the young, wealthy noble Anthony Babington—and is allowing it to progress. He hopes that Mary will put her support in writing—and condemn herself to a traitor's death. Bruno is tasked with going undercover to join the conspirators. Can he stop them before he is exposed? Either way a queen will die; Bruno must make sure it is the right one.

PEK, JANE VERIFIERS (\$23) Introducing Claudia Lin: a sharp-witted amateur sleuth for the 21st century. This debut novel follows Claudia as she verifies people's online lives, and lies, for a dating detective agency in New York City. Until a client with an unusual request goes missing. . . .

PERRY, CAROL J BE MY GHOST (#1) (\$21.95) Maureen's career as a sportswear buyer hits a snag just before Halloween, when the department store declares bankruptcy. Meanwhile, Finn's lost his way as a guide dog after flunking his test for being too friendly and easily distracted. Sadly, only one of them can earn unemployment, so Maureen's facing a winter of discontent in Boston—when she realizes she can't afford her apartment. Salvation comes when she receives a mysterious inheritance: an inn in Haven, Florida. A quaint, scenic town on the Gulf of Mexico hidden away from the theme parks, Maureen believes it's a good place to make a fresh start with a new business venture. But she gets more than she bargained for when she finds a dead body on

her property—and meets some of the inn's everlasting tenants in the form of ghosts who offer their otherworldly talents in order to help her solve the mystery...

PINE, ALEX walker KILLER IN THE SNOW (#2) (\$17.99) A family sleeps. A killer awakes. The first fall of snow can be fatal...

PRESTON & CHILD DIABLO MESA (\$24.99) Lucas Tappan, a wealthy and eccentric billionaire and founder of Icarus Space Systems, approaches the Santa Fe Archaeological Institute with an outlandish proposal—to finance a careful, scientific excavation of the Roswell Incident site, where a UFO is alleged to have crashed in 1947. A skeptical Nora Kelly, to her great annoyance, is tasked with the job. Nora's excavation immediately uncovers two murder victims buried at the site, faces and hands obliterated with acid to erase their identities. Special Agent Corrie Swanson is assigned to the case. As Nora's excavation proceeds, uncovering things both bizarre and seemingly inexplicable, Corrie's homicide investigation throws open a Pandora's box of espionage and violence, uncovering bloody traces of a powerful force that will stop at nothing to protect its secrets—and that threatens to engulf them all in an unimaginable fate.

QUEEN, ELLERY AND ON THE EIGHTH DAY (\$29.99) It's 1943, the war is raging, and sleuthing scribe Ellery Queen wants to do his bit. After a tortuous cross-country drive, he takes a job writing scripts for a Hollywood propaganda house—twelve hours a day of hack work that quickly turns his mind to jelly. After a few weeks, he is so worn down that he can type nothing but gibberish, and he decides to drive home. The trouble starts as soon as he reaches the desert. His ancient roadster breaks down on the edge of Death Valley. Wandering in search of help, he is saved by a man known as the Teacher, who takes him to an oasis called Quenan. Here, Queen finds a bizarre, reclusive cult that seems to have come straight out of the ancient past. A murder has been committed in the desert, and the Quenanites plan on delivering some Old Testament justice. Queen is just the detective they've been waiting for.

QUINN, KATE ALICE NETWORK (\$12.99) An immense best-seller and a Marian's Pick... two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947—are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

ROBUCK, ERIKA SISTERS OF NIGHT AND FOG (\$23) 1940. In a world newly burning with war, and in spite of her American family's wishes, Virginia d'Albert-Lake decides to stay in occupied France with her French husband. She's sure that if they keep their heads down, they'll survive. But is surviving enough? Nineteen-year-old Violette Szabo has seen the Nazis' evil up close and is desperate to fight them. But when she meets the man who'll change her life only for tragedy to strike, Violette's adrift. Until she enters the radar of Britain's secret war organization—the Special Operations Executive—and a new fire is lit in her as she decides just how much she's willing to risk to enlist. As Virginia and Violette navigate resistance, their clandestine deeds come to a staggering halt when they are brought together at Ravensbrück concentration camp. The decisions they make will change their lives, and the world, forever.

SAYERS, DOROTHY wimsey UNNATURAL DEATH (#3) (\$15.99) 'No sign of foul play,' says Dr Carr after the post-mortem on Agatha Dawson. The case is closed. But Lord Peter Wimsey is not satisfied... With no clues to work on, he begins his own investigation. No clues, that is, until the sudden, senseless murder of Agatha's maid. What is going on in the mysterious Mrs. Forrest's Mayfair flat? And can Wimsey catch a desperate murderer before he himself becomes one of the victims? Published 1927.

SCARROW, SIMON EMPEROR'S EXILE (\$17.99) Tribune Cato and Centurion Macro, hardened veterans of the Roman army, have faced the Empire's enemies from Britannia to Parthia, from Hispania to Judea. Now once again they are on a mission that will imperil their lives and those of all who serve with them. Loyal to the last to their comrades in battle, fearless in the face of the most brutal or barbaric opponents, they are the finest men the Emperor can call on in the service of Rome.

SCARROW, SIMON BLACKOUT (\$17.99) Berlin, December 1939. As Germany goes to war, the Nazis tighten their terrifying grip. Paranoia in the capital is intensified by a rigidly enforced blackout that plunges the city into oppressive darkness every night, as the bleak winter sun sets. When a young woman is murdered, Criminal Inspector Horst Schenke is under pressure to solve the case, swiftly. Distrusted by his superiors for his failure to join the Nazi Party, Schenke walks a perilous line—for disloyalty is a death sentence. The discovery of a second victim confirms Schenke's worst fears. He must uncover the truth before evil strikes again. As the investigation takes him closer to the sinister heart of the regime, Schenke realises there is danger everywhere—and the warring factions of the Reich can be as deadly as a killer stalking the streets...

SCHNEIDER, HANSJORG hunkeler SILVER PEBBLES (#2) (\$23.50) The second in the series featuring Basel police inspector Peter Hunkeler. An elegant young Lebanese man carrying diamonds in his bag is on the train from Frankfurt to Basel, a drug mule on the return journey. At the Basel train station, Hunkeler is waiting for him after a tipoff from the German police. The courier manages to get to the station toilet and flushes the stones away. Erdogan, a young Turkish sewage worker, finds the diamonds

in the pipes under the station. To him they mean wealth and the small hotel he always wanted to buy near his family village. To his older Swiss girl-friend Erika, employed at a supermarket checkout counter, the stones signify the end of their life together. She knows that Erdogan has a wife and children in Turkey. For the courier, finding the stones is a matter of life and death. His employers are on their way to “tidy things up.” For Hunkeler the stones are the only way to get to the people behind the drug trade. They turn out to include not only the bottom-feeding drug gangs but bankers and politicians very high up the Basel food chain. This is a tale of ordinary people accidentally caught in a vortex of crime...sequel to the excellent [Basel Killings \(#1\)](#) (\$23.95).

SHINDLER, WILL alex finn [KILLING CHOICE \(#2\)](#) (\$17.99) Karl and his daughter Leah are on their weekly evening stroll through Crystal Palace Park. From out of the shadows, a figure wearing a blank mask ambushes them, armed with a large knife. Karl is forced to make an impossible decision: stay and die, or walk away from Leah with a knife at her throat and the promise that they will both survive. Could Karl ever live with himself if he left his daughter? Does he really have a choice?

SMITH, ALEXANDER scotland [LOVE IN THE TIME OF BERTIE \(#15\)](#) (\$22) Life for Bertie seems to be moving at a pace that is rather out of his control. In Drummond Place gardens it seems that Olive has their future together all planned out. Meanwhile, upstairs at 44 Scotland Street, Bertie’s father, Stuart, is powerless to stop over-bearing Irene and her motion for Bertie to travel to Aberdeen on a three-month secondment.

And, further up in the New Town, while Bruce Anderson plots with old-school chums, love blossoms in Big Lou’s Cafe. Warm hearted, humorous and wonderfully wise...

SPANN, SUSAN hiro [FIRES OF EDO \(#8\)](#) (\$19) Edo, February 1566: when a samurai’s corpse is discovered in the ruins of a burned-out bookshop, master ninja Hiro Hatori and Jesuit Father Mateo must determine whether the shopkeeper and his young apprentice are innocent victims or assassins in disguise. The investigation quickly reveals dangerous ties to Hiro’s past, which threaten not only Edo’s fledgling booksellers’ guild, but the very survival of Hiro’s ninja clan. With an arsonist on the loose, and a murderer stalking the narrow streets, Hiro and Father Mateo must save the guild—and themselves—from a conflagration that could destroy them all.

SWALLOW, JAMES [TOM CLANCY’S SPLINTER CELL: FIREWALL](#) (\$22.95)

Veteran Fourth Echelon agent Sam Fisher has a new mission recruiting and training the next generation of Splinter Cell operatives for the NSA’s covert action division, including his daughter Sarah. But when a lethal assassin from Fisher’s past returns from the dead on a mission of murder, father and daughter are thrust into a race against time as a sinister threat to global security is revealed. A dangerous cyberwarfare technology known as Gordian Sword—capable of crashing airliners, destroying computer networks and plunging entire cities into darkness—is being auctioned off to whichever rogue state makes the highest bid. Sam and Sarah must call on their very singular set of skills to neutralize Gordian Sword and stop the weapon falling into the wrong hands—at any cost...

THOMPSON, VICTORIA gaslight [MURDER ON WALL STREET \(#24\)](#) (\$11.99)

Reformed gangster Jack Robinson is working hard to bolster his image in Gilded Age New York City society as he prepares to become a new father. But when Hayden Norcross, the man who nearly ruined his wife, is shot in cold blood, Jack knows the police will soon come knocking on his door. Frank Malloy has to agree—things don’t look good for Jack. But surely a man as unlikeable as Hayden had more than a few enemies. And it’s soon clear that plenty of the upper echelon as well as the denizens of the most squalid areas of the city seem to have hated him. Sarah and Frank have their work cut out for them. As the daughter of the elite Decker family, Sarah has access to the social circles Hayden frequented, and the more she learns about his horrific treatment of women, the more disturbed she becomes. And as Frank investigates, he finds that Hayden had a host of unsavory habits that may have hastened his demise. But who finally killed him? Sarah and Frank must put the pieces together quickly before time runs out and Jack’s hard-won new life and family are ripped apart.

THORNTON, CHRIS HARDING [PICKARD COUNTY ATLAS](#) (\$23) In a dusty town in Nebraska’s rugged sandhills, sheriff’s deputy Harley Jensen patrols the streets at night, on the lookout for something to take his mind off the past, which weighs him down like an anvil. And he’s not the only one—Pickard County is full of restless souls looking for change. Pam bristles against her role as wife and mother, hemmed in by the tragic history of the Reddick family, which is still coping, decades later, with the murder of one of its own. Her husband, Rick, bows beneath the pressures of raising a family while struggling with the wreckage of his youth. And then there’s Paul, the youngest Reddick, town miscreant and flint to Harley’s steel—and in this stark, Shakespearean drama, it’s just a matter of time until their conflict throws the spark that will burn Pickard County to the ground. Unfolding over six tense days, Harley and the Reddicks on a collision course, propelling them toward an incendiary moment that will either redeem or end them.

TRAUBEL, HELEN METROPOLITAN OPERA MURDERS (\$21.99) When the prompter falls dead during the second act of Richard Wagner's *Die Walküre* during a matinee performance at the Metropolitan Opera, as one can imagine, it causes quite a stir, especially when it is discovered that the deceased, a one time world famous Hel-dentenor has been poisoned. The detective assigned to the case, Lt. Quentin, finds him-self immersed in the back stage drama of professional opera. His task is made more dif-ficult when he decides that it had really been the star soprano who had been the intend-ed victim, and not the prompter. Will he be able to solve the case before there is another Metropolitan Opera Murder?

VANCE, LOUIS JOSEPH LONE WOLF (\$21.50) The origin story of the Lone Wolf, master criminal with a conscience... One rainy winter night, an orphan is abandoned to the care of a shabby Parisian inn called Troyon's. For the next eleven years, the boy is up before dawn to clean and fetch and serve, his only respite the closet to which he re-tires at night and the books he pilfers from the hotel's guests. A few francs here and there also find their way into his pockets, but not so much that anyone would notice— anyone, that is, except Bourke, the cultivated Irish thief who regularly hides out at Troyon's. Caught red-handed, the amateur outwits the professional. Turn me over to the innkeepers, he says, and I'll go to the police with everything I know about you. Aston-ished, Bourke takes the boy under his wing and teaches him how to be a master crimi-nal. The most important lesson? Be friendless. Years later, Michael Lanyard—known to the authorities only as the Lone Wolf—is the world's greatest jewel thief. When a ruth-less gang of outlaws threatens to expose him unless he joins their "pack," Lanyard vows to give up crime rather than violate Bourke's code. Only a beautiful American girl and a sinister German spy stand in his way. Published 1914.

VON LEYDEN, JAMES DEATH IN THE MEDINA (\$17.99) Marrakech, August. It is the start of Ramadan, the hottest in memory. Among the few foreigners left in the sweltering city are a riad owner, her French boyfriend and an English girl whose bag has been stolen after a hen weekend. At the local commissariat 24-year old detective Karim Belkacem is struggling to fast while holding down two jobs to pay for his sister's wedding. On the day that the English girl comes to him for help, a Moroccan girl is found dead, her body dumped in a handcart. Investigating, Karim uncovers a world of shadowy predators and ancient secrets hidden behind the high walls of the medina.

WASSMER, JULIE whitstable STRICTLY MURDER (#8) (\$17.99) A new dance school opens in Whitstable run by celebrity tango champions—Tony and Tanya Bal-lard. Pearl Nolan knows herself to be an ace cook and a sharp private eye but has al-ways left the dancing to her mother, Dolly, a former member of the town's infamous Fish Slappers dance troupe. But Pearl becomes intrigued by the Ballards when they vis-it The Whitstable Pearl restaurant, and she realises that dance classes could provide the perfect cover for her clandestine relationship with DCI Mike McGuire...McGuire is the only man Pearl has ever considered partnering—and not just for tango—but the pair soon find themselves with more than steps to master when death joins them on the dance floor and a brutal killer stalks the school.

WHITE, S R HERMIT (\$17.99) After a puzzling death in the wild bushlands of Aus-tralia, detective Dana Russo has just 12 hours to interrogate the prime suspect—a silent, inscrutable man found at the scene of the crime, who disappeared without trace 15 years earlier. But where has he been? Why won't he talk? And exactly how dangerous is he? Without conclusive evidence to prove his guilt, Dana faces a desperate race against time to persuade him to speak. But as each interview spirals with fevered intensity, Da-na must reckon with her own traumatic past to reveal the shocking truth . . .

WILLBERG, T A MARION LANE AND THE MIDNIGHT MURDER (\$21.99) Late one night in April 1958, a filing assistant for Miss Brickett's Investigations & Inquiries receives a letter warning her that a heinous act is about to occur. She goes to investi-gate, but at the stroke of midnight, she is murdered by a killer she can't see—her death the only sign she wasn't alone. Marion Lane, a first-year Inquirer-in-training, finds her-self being drawn ever deeper into the investigation. When her colleague is framed for the crime, she must sort through the hidden alliances at Miss Brickett's and secrets da-ting back to WWII to uncover the real killer.

WITTING, CLIFFORD charlton MURDER IN BLUE (#1) (\$22.50) John Ruther-ford, bookseller and sometimes novelist, discovers the bludgeoned corpse of a police-man one evening while taking a stroll in a rainstorm. The overturned bicycle is what first catches Rutherford's eye before spotting PC Johnson's body sprawled on the sod-den ground of Phantom Coppice. When Inspector Charlton is called in to find the mur-derer, he realises that the perpetrator of this crime may be prepared to go to extreme lengths to cover their tracks...Published 1937.

WITTING, CLIFFORD charlton MEASURE FOR MURDER (#5) (\$22.50) It is 1940 and Mrs Mudge, the cleaning lady is busy tidying the Little Theatre in Lulverton, which is run by the local amateur dramatics' society. But she is in for a surprise when she finds a corpse in the ticket office, stabbed with a dagger—a prop from the society's latest play, *Measure for Measure*. Published 1941

WOODS, STUART barrington DOUBLE JEOPARDY (#57) (\$12.99) Stone Barrington is settling in for a stretch in New York when he receives news that demands immediate action. An old family matter has unexpectedly resurfaced, and Stone must decamp to the craggy shores of Maine to address the issue head-on. There, Stone finds that a dual-pronged threat is hiding in plain sight among the stately houses and exclusive coastal clubs, and the incursion isn't easily rebuffed. These enemies have friends in high places, funds to spare, and a score to settle with Stone . . . and only the cleverest plot will draw them out into the open. From luxuriously renovated homes to the choppy ocean waters, the pursuit can only lead to an explosive end.

YU, OVIDIA crown colony MIMOSA TREE MYSTERY (#4) (\$17.99) Mirza, a secretive neighbour of the Chens in Japanese Occupied Singapore, is a known collaborator and blackmailer. So when he is murdered in his garden, clutching a branch of mimosa, the suspects include local acquaintances, Japanese officials—and his own daughters. Su Lin's Uncle Chen is among those rounded up by the Japanese as reprisal. Hideki Tagawa, a former spy expelled by police officer Le Froy and a power in the new regime, offers Su Lin her uncle's life in exchange for using her fluency in languages and knowledge of locals to find the real killer. Su Lin soon discovers Hideki has an ulterior motive. Friends, enemies and even the victim are not what they seem. There is more at stake here than one man's life. Su Lin must find out who killed Mirza and why, before Le Froy and other former colleagues detained or working with the resistance suffer the consequences of Mirza's last secret.