



# The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

## SLEUTH of Baker Street

1600 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4G 3B7  
416-483-3111/Fax 416-483-3141/e-mail sleuthbooks@sympatico.ca

[sleuthofbakerstreet.com](http://sleuthofbakerstreet.com)

Greetings

January 2010

Not sure where the month has gone, but it sure has. Although this is the January issue it may well be almost February before you receive it. There are just not enough hours in the day to do all that needs doing and then get to the newsletter. But, I keep telling myself that if I was more efficient, or worked smarter, got up earlier, or stayed later I'd get it all done on time. But, I'm too old a dog to be learning new tricks. And too ornery to even want to. So, I'll stumble along and hope that, I don't know, some new technology will come to my rescue. Windows 7, or Word 20xx will be the answer.

Marian wants to know why we got so few Christmas cards this year. Was this where y'all were economizing (that's a good place, actually), or are we no longer in your good books (that's not good)? If the latter, then that will make 2k10, as the Golf Channel calls it, a tough year! Not that it's the cards she covets, it's the love. And, she was missing it this year. Thank you to all who did send us one, especially Kelly and Thomas.

February is just around the corner, which means a few days of golf somewhere warmer, and this year three of us are going to drive down to Alabama to play the Robert Trent Jones Trail. Every golfer that I've mentioned this to expresses an interest, and our plan is to play a lot of them. Ask me at some point after our return and I'll tell you if the effort was worth while.

### Marian's Picks

While I was in Orlando doing my "keep healthy" thing a few weeks ago (a 5km, a ½ marathon and a full marathon all in three days, and

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SLEUTH of Baker Street's bi-monthly newsletter is available by subscription at an annual fee of CDN\$50. Agree to buy at least \$200 of books in any calendar year and we'll waive the fee. Ask for a complimentary copy. All subscriptions are for a calendar year, by the way, so we'll prorate as necessary.

### Suzanne Kingsmill

author of *Innocent Murderer*  
A Cordi O'Callaghan mystery  
(\$11.99)

will be at Sleuth  
Wednesday, February 24  
from 6pm to 7:30pm

to launch her new novel.  
Sequel to *Forever Dead* (\$11.99),  
this time out zoology professor  
Cordi O'Callaghan is in Canada's  
Arctic when murder strikes.

Come meet Suzanne, let her tell  
you about her new novel.

yes, even JD thinks I'm crazy but a lot of people did it), I watched the movie *Ratatouille*, about the little rat chef, and was reminded of the cookbook I wanted for Christmas. Which, I might add, I never got. We had ordered a number of copies of **JULIA CHILD's** *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* (\$109.95 reissued in a two volume boxed set) but they were snapped up by customers pretty quickly and I never did get the chance to score one for me. And that led me to thinking about the two independent movie houses on Mt. Pleasant Ave. (a km or so west of Bayview) that are somehow surviving against all odds. It was there that I has seen *Julie and Julia* and resolved to only use butter. And that led me to wanting to make a ratatouille for dinner (*Smooth, Marian, very smooth*) so I dug out one of the Julia Child cookbooks that I do have, *The Way We Cook* (\$90 hardcover, \$59.95 paperback, I think I was meant to sell cookbooks) and sure enough, there was a recipe for ratatouille that sounded like the one I had in my head—where you cook each of the vegetable separately—and, anyway, I'm off to the St. Lawrence Market in a few minutes (it's 6 am Saturday morning as I write this. We are soooo far behind on this newsletter) with a shopping list for the ratatouille ingredients.

I usually take Percy out for his 6 am walk but it had to be a little earlier this morning, and just like a little boy, he sure didn't want to get up and going. I suspect he was waiting for all his aunties to show up, and without them this just seemed wrong. Normally my girlfriends

### Postage & Handling

Ontario & Quebec: \$10\*  
Rest of Canada: \$12\*

To the United States  
\$15 per book, max. \$20\*

Elsewhere  
Actual postage  
(\*with the odd exception)

### Hours of Business

Tuesday to Saturday  
10 am to 6 pm

Sunday  
Noon - 4pm

Monday &  
Statutory Holidays  
Closed

and I meet every morning for a 6am walk and Percy joins us, but of course, and then we head over to Hollywood Gelato for a coffee—they make the best lattes on the street, and we have both national chains on the block—but, alas, Percy only gets invited in the summer when we can all sit outside on the patio. In any case, his schedule was disrupted this morning and he was not happy about it! But out we went, he did his business, and my leetle ratatouille, here I come.

I didn't get much chance to read over Christmas and New Year's as we were busy in the store and then I was busy cleaning, cooking and doing dishes as I had my family over for a few days over the holidays. I did read a few books while I was away in Orlando. I took a number of cosy mysteries with me (light, both intellectually and physically, as carry-on, which was another story in itself) that all had some sort of craft or cooking themes. I finally read a book by **DANIEL SILVA**, *The English Assassin* (\$10.99) which features Gabriel Allon, former Mossad agent and art restorer. It was excellent, (not at all a cosy), and he has so many others that I'm set for a new series for a while.

I took a copy of *The Parisian Prodigal* (#8) (\$31) by **ALAN GORDON** to read, got part way into it, and then JD absconded with it. It was my fault. I know how much he enjoys humour in his mystery fiction and I wanted him to sample **Alan Gordon's** work, because I knew he'd love it. He did love it, but obviously does not understand the meaning of "sample"; he kept my only copy. I'll get back to it soon as more stock arrives, but for now, rest assured it's every bit as good as his earlier books. Titles still available are *Thirteenth Night* (#1) (\$16.95), *Death in the Venetian Quarter* (#3) (\$15.50), *Lark's Lament* (#6) (\$16.95) and *The Money Lender of Toulouse* (#7) (\$27.95 hardcover). Members of the Fools' Guild in the thirteenth century worked behind the scenes to ensure that the politics of various countries were stable and that wars were prevented where possible, all accomplished behind the façade of the juggling, music, singing and general silliness we would associate with a fool. Theo, his wife Claudia, and their twelve-year-old apprentice Helga, along with their baby daughter, are well ensconced in Toulouse, working to maintain peace. When a man arrives, claiming to be the brother of the current ruler, issues get more complicated. And that's as far as I've gotten. But I love what I've read and can't wait to get back to the story. The period detail, the historical accuracy (I assume) and the writing style that makes me chuckle every few pages makes this series thoroughly enjoyable.

I was at a publisher's event just before Christmas and got to chatting about young adult books with a woman who works for Hachette Book Group. A few days later she sent me a box of the young adult books that Hachette distributes and I "discovered" *Primavera* (\$8.99) by **MARY JANE BEAUFRAND**. The book is a small trade paperback, very snazzy for the low price, and when I read it I thought it would be equally snazzy at twice the price. It was that good. Set in Florence in the late 1400s, I learnt about the powerful Medici family and their rivals the Pazzi, who plotted to overtake the Medici and rule Florence. The character telling the story is Flora Pazzi, the youngest daughter of the Pazzi family, who is engaging, stubborn and who is trying to avoid the life imposed on her by her strong-willed mother, that of becoming a nun. While Botticelli is painting a portrait of her older, more beautiful sister, and her father is conspiring with Count Riorio, Flora is planning to escape Florence because she doesn't want to be sent to the convent. Beautiful. And a lovely little bit of history, acquired in a most pleasant manner, through reading mysteries.

I think one of my all time favourite writers is **JASPER FFORDE**. It's hard to convey how wonderful, and twisted, and unusual and

imaginative he is, if you haven't read him, and totally unnecessary, if you have. If you have not yet tried him, give *The Eyre Affair* (\$14.99) a read. In this one, the bad guys are kidnapping the important characters from great English novels and threatening to destroy them if their demands are not met, altering those novels forever. It's our literary detective Thursday Next's job to rescue them. Bizarre, yes, but in these hands, it all works beautifully. The newest novel, *Shades of Grey* (\$32.50), introduces Eddie Russett and a society that is dominated by colour. Your social hierarchy is based upon the predominant colour you can see. Eddie is on "half-promise" to Constance Ox-blood, whose powerful family want the reddest possible son-in-law to strengthen their hue. But when Eddie is sent to the backwater village of East Carmine to count chairs because of some minor transgression, he meets Jane, a lowly Grey, who opens his eyes to the cruel regime that lies behind the gaily coloured facades. (Examples of weird: Underground feedpipes keep the municipal parks green and the flowers brightly coloured or the rule that 'unicycles are not to be ridden backwards at excessive speed). Strange but brilliant. I'll stop here. Just read him.

I mentioned earlier that I had taken some "light" reading for my marathon marathon trip and here's what I took. Light they are, and just perfect for resting my tired feet. *Dipped, Stripped and Dead* (\$8.50) by **ELISE HYATT** is the first in a series featuring Dyce Dare, a woman who makes her living refinishing furniture she finds in dumpsters, on the curbside or buys cheap at thrift shops. Fun reading and includes tips about refinishing wood.

*Eggs Benedict Arnold* (\$9.99) by **LAURA CHILDS** is the second in her Cackleberry Club series. She also writes the Tea Shop mysteries and the Scrapbooking mysteries, both series that I have quite enjoyed. Suzanne, Toni and Petra cook up delicious meals for the customers in their restaurant and look after *The Book Nook* and *The Knitting Nest*. I don't know how they do it; I have trouble running one bookstore.

I've never tried decoupage so when I saw *Stuck on Murder* (\$8.50) by **LUCY LAWRENCE** I decided to give it a try. It was a light, quick read and, as with a lot of these craft mysteries, you do get some tips on how to do things.

## J.D.'s Picks

You probably know **CHARLIE HUSTON** from his Hank Thompson trilogy or from his five vampire-detective novels featuring Joe Pitt. But I recently read one of his stand-alone novels, *The Mystic Arts of Erasing all Signs of Death* (\$18.95) and it was, as a good friend to whom I suggested it said, an out-and-out hoot. With his teaching career derailed by tragedy and his slacker days numbered, Webster Fillmore Goodhue makes an unlikely move and joins Clean Team, charged with tidying up L.A.'s grisly crime scenes. Whether it's a dog hit by a train (*Why didn't you pick a different example? Marian*) or a suicide who has splattered his cranial contents all over his study, someone has to clean up the nasty mess. And clean it up thoroughly. (Don't want the customer moving the desk a month later and finding bigish chunks of bone fragments! Not good for business.) And that's what Clean Team does. For Web, it's a steady gig, keeps his mind occupied, and he soon finds himself sponging a Malibu suicide's brains from a bathroom mirror and flirting with the man's bereaved and beautiful daughter. And that's when things begin to get really weird. When the daughter asks him for a favour, he knows he should say no. But, not our Web. This is great stuff. The dialogue is clever,

the humour plentiful, the story off-beat and the sum of the parts is a great read. Not to be missed. And in case you need a second opinion, Marilyn Stasio included this one in her Notable Crime Books of 2009 column. By the way, another of her inclusions in that column was The Ghosts of Belfast (\$35) by **STUART NEVILLE**, a novel I told you about last time. She's got it right!

Another great read recently was Beat the Reaper (\$17.99) by **JOSH BAZELL**. A fast, dark, funny, did I mention dark?, funny romp. You know how book blurbs are often fond of telling you clever things like, say, if, **Raymond Chandler** and, I don't know, **Dorothy Parker**, were to produce an offspring this is what he would write? Or something equally meaningless? Well, this book is no different—"...think *House* meets *The Sopranos*"—except, in this case, that's **exactly** what this is. I get it! Our hero, Peter Brown, is a doctor, doing his rounds in Manhattan's worst hospital but he may, just may, also be Pietro Brnwa, a hit man for the mob, now hiding out under a new identity given him by the Federal Witness Protection Program. All is going reasonably well until a patient thinks he recognizes him. And that's like putting the fox in the hen house; all hell breaks loose. There were a couple of spots that were a tad overdone, and one particular scene, where our hero acquires his healthy fear of sharks, that was laughably ridiculous, but you just cut the author a little bit of slack—he has so earned it—and hang on for the ride. And what a pleasure it turns out to be. I loved it. A real page-turner. And the bonus is that the book is educational. You'll learn all sorts of medical facts that you'll be able to put to good use in your daily life. For example, did you know that the two bones of the forearm, the ulna and the radius, move independently of each other, and also rotate? On his way to work one morning, our hero is hero is mugged by a "f\*\*khead". Said "f\*\*khead" is quickly incapacitated and Dr. Peter proceeds to explain: "You can see this by turning your hand from palm up, in which position the ulna and radius are parallel, to palm down, where they're crossed into an "X." They therefore require a complicated anchoring system at the elbow, with the ligaments wrapping the various bone ends in spoolable and unspoolable ribbons that look like the tape on the handle of a tennis racket. It's a shame to tear these ligaments apart." He further explains that "And you can compare this to your lower leg, where the same setup is vestigial. The two bones of the lower leg, the tibia and fibula, are locked in place. The outer one, the fibula, doesn't even support weight. In fact you can take most of it out—to use as a graft or whatever—and as long as you don't f\*\*k up the ankle or the knee, it won't affect the patient's ability to walk." See, it's not just time wasted. Funny, funny, funny in a dark, dark way.

Much, much lighter in tone was Conman (\$14.95) by **RICHARD ASPLIN**. Loved this one as well. Our hero is Neil Martin, a geeky, nerdy, owner of a failing comic bookshop in London's Soho. Not the best manager of his affairs, Neil may have forgotten to pay the insurance bill and now that he's had a huge stock-ruining, poster-sopping basement flood, he's well and truly f\*\*ked. He's going to lose his business, a friend whose very valuable inventory he was storing in the basement wants to be reimbursed, and he's going to lose the house and therefore his wife and daughter whom he loves so much. Worse, very much worse, his very rich father-in-law, who has always thought his daughter married well below her station, will finally have the proof that his son-in-law is a worthless scoundrel who only married his daughter for her money. So, when in comes a smooth talker who wants to rent the bookshop to run a sting, with Neil's share of the proceeds running to six figures, how's poor Neil to resist? Of course, nothing runs as smoothly as one might want. This is a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma. Layer upon layer of subterfuge, legerdemain, con artistry at its finest. Not for a million dollars will you figure out the ending! I loved it because the writing is elegant, clever

and witty. You'll want to read and relish every word otherwise you'll miss the best part of this book.

A favorite author of mine is **JESS WALTER** ("a ridiculously talented writer"—*New York Times*). Over the years I've enthused about every one of his books, all four, and the new one, The Financial Lives of the Poets (\$33.99) is his best yet. And that's knowing that The Zero (\$18.95) was a finalist for the National Book Award, Citizen Vince (\$18.99) won for Best Novel Edgar, and Over Tumbled Graves (#1) (\$18.99) was a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. I'm not sure if Land of the Blind (#2) (\$18.99) was nominated for, or won, any awards, but until the release of Financial Lives, that had been my favourite of his books. If you have not read him yet, then you are surely missing a treat. Start with Over Tumbled Graves and Land of the Blind (\$18.99 each), the two novels featuring Spokane Detective Caroline Mabry, then carry on. In his latest novel, our hero, a family man, a well-established journalist, has a great idea for a new internet startup and gambles everything on it: a web site devoted to financial journalism in the form of blank verse called, well, maybe I won't tell you what it's called. Because when you do find out, you'll marvel at it's sheer brilliance. This is a novel about our times, the demise of newspapers, growing old and taking care of aging parents going senile, about getting to the brink of ruin and making your way back. Told in laugh-out-loud prose. Just brilliant.

Just finished **JOHN LANCHESTER**'s LOU (\$32.95). If you want to understand a little better the causes of the financial collapse of autumn 2008 you might consider reading this. It's an easily digested, sharp, witty analysis of what happened that was an unputdownable read for me. Want to understand what collateralized debt obligations (CDOs) or credit default swaps (CDSs), the weapons of mass destruction of finance, are? What securitization and tranching are? Why did Canada emerge reasonably unscathed? And, perhaps most importantly, when does the cost of bailing out these "Too Big To Fail" enterprises start to hit you in the pocket book? Do consider it.

And, finally, Elisabeth, contributes this: In **M.C. Beaton**'s newest paperback, Death of a Witch (\$8.99) Hamish has just come home to Lochdubh from a vacation in Spain to find a new citizen has moved into town. The woman's name is Catriona Beldame, and the town's people are terrified that she is a witch. In the heat of the moment Hamish said that he would kill her, then she turns up dead and he is a prime suspect. From the moment that I started to read this book I was brought back to the time when I first started to read **M.C. Beaton**'s mysteries, and the fun I had getting to know Hamish and the other interesting characters of Lochdubh.

## Cottage Lady's Picks

Cocktail Update - For those of you who are "Fuzioned out", we did match a feisty red wine for \$8.95 with Cottage Husband's spaghetti sauce. It's name is Farnese, Negroamaro, Puglia 2008 and comments from around the table included: "... continuous medium body with long finish" (from Cottage Daughter-in-Law who has reasonably fine taste buds), "an old world charm but without sophistication", "okay on the nose", and simply "its good and I like it". Yet again, the forever positive Cottage Husband offered, "... if it were a tire, it would not be a Pirelli but more like a reliable Goodyear!" (If you can translate, let me know). Emboldened by this input, we went on to test the "vintage" with Marian's Eggplant Parmesan and again a good match. A friend suggested that we carefully select some specialty wine

glasses so as to maximize the taste of the lower cost reds (for example, breathable vessels). Sounds like an interesting project for input and investigation – please share any ideas/experiences with Marian. The final conclusion, Negroamaro has a secure spot on our under \$10 list for the coming summer. And given the weather over the past weeks, we are definitely looking forward to spring. Although, on the positive side, cold frosty days are good excuses to increase time spent reading - if you need one!

For one reason or another these past months, I have chosen several books that, frankly, I haven't liked. Perhaps just a mood I'm going through. However, the same cannot be said for The Gray Man (\$12.50) a first novel by **MARK GREANEY**. The cover that hailed it as "Bourne for the new millennium" immediately hooked me. Despite the hero's soap opera name, Court Gentry, this is an excellent escapist fiction. Gentry is a former CIA operative known as the gray man because of his ability to blend in. He is an elite contract killer whose mission in life is to hunt and eradicate bad guys. Permanent removal of those who deserve it is a popular theme in many of today's crime novels and I suppose one could moralize that this does not reflect well on our society and its ethics compass. On the other hand, the premise can be entertaining and often equally satisfying and **Greaney** makes it easy to take it in stride. The baseline of the story is straightforward but with ample detours and layers of tension to hold your interest. Gentry works for a private security firm headed by Sir Donald Fitzroy, a retired MI5 boss who, of course, only authorizes the killing of really bad guys. Fitzroy's family is kidnapped and as Gentry searches for them, he becomes the target. Hit squads from multiple countries search for him, taking us around the world, from the Middle East to many parts of Europe and eventually to a French farmhouse where the abducted family is being held. The suspense is pounding right to the very end, as we are never sure just how things will turn out. For those who are into such things, Gentry is also a high-tech fellow and he has a lot of explosive gizmos and gadgets to support his exploits. I didn't pay much attention to them as I was all consumed by the relentless action. Don't be fooled into thinking this is a copycat novel a la 007. **Greaney's** Gentry is an original, genuine character with plenty of potential for further development. This is a fine read for a frigid January evening. However, be forewarned, you may devour this story in one sitting so start early. I am certainly looking forward to future Gentry adventures.

**JAMES D. DOSS** has written 14 books in his Charlie Moon series. My first ever read is his latest, The Widow's Revenge (\$31.99). I have scanned this series many times over the years as I browsed the shelves but always put them aside. No explanation really. At any rate, I recently came across some biographical information on Doss that intrigued me. Writing success came to him rather late in life. He was born in 1939 and was, for most of his life, an electrical engineer. However, he had a goal - to write a book before age fifty. He tried a couple of technical books but his real success came in 1994 with his first fiction publication, Shaman Sings. Interestingly, his settings are on the Southern Ute Reservation in Colorado. His main character, Charlie Moon, is a seven-foot tall rancher and sometime Ute tribal investigator who lives with his Shaman Aunt Daisy and seventeen year old Sarah (she has a large crush on Charlie). His ex-love is an FBI agent, Lila Mae McTeague, and his good friend is the local Sheriff, Scott Parris. The action starts when Charlie gets a call for help from a friend of Aunt Daisy's, Loyola Montoya. She is an elderly widow who finds her goat hanging outside her door with its throat cut. She believes that witches are to blame. Charlie arrives too late to save her. By the time he reaches her remote ten-acre farm, she has died in a kitchen fire. When it is determined that the fire was no accident, Charlie is resolute to track down her killers. Without hesitation,

we follow Charlie, this larger than life hero, in his quest to solve the crime and to bring the criminals to justice. In the process, the story evolves into issues of cannibalism, serial murders, ghosts and witches. All those close to Charlie have their lives put at risk at some point. At times, the narrative comes across as a rather tall tale, chock full of Native American lore, mysticism, humour and cantankerous characters. But the danger and violence are very real and very ugly. Finally, in a superb climax, Charlie Moon gets the villains and makes all right for his friends, his family and the Ute world. A piece of advice - Doss is a fascinating writer, spinning his tale as if you are sitting around a campfire. But the style can be somewhat exasperating, in that the mood and temper of his narrative seem to shift often and sometimes confusingly. But if you stick with it, I am confident you will be more than satisfied. I know that based on this read, I want to delve into some of his earlier works.

As I appear to be into fast action overload, I accepted Marian's recommendation in the last newsletter and recently read **MATT HILTON's** second Joe Hunter thriller, Judgement and Wrath (\$34.95). As advertised, this is a full throttle story. Hunter is hired by a father to find his daughter, Marianne, and to bring her home. Marianne is happy with her millionaire boyfriend, Jorgenson, and she has her own ideas. The story gets complicated when a character called Dentation, a contract killer, is also on the search for the couple. The action takes off and, of course, Hunter saves the day after a horrendous chase in the Florida swamplands. The bad suffer mightily and the good guy wins hands down. From beginning to end, Hilton hits you hard with a fast pace that never stops, although I found the brutal violence of the ending a bit shocking. However, not so shocking to prevent me from reading the first in the series, Dead Men's Dust (\$10.99) (*although it will be another month or so before we get more stock, \$35 US hardcover is available. JD*) and I await more to come.

As a preview, I plan to slow my pulse rate to a more sedate pace over the next round of reads. In support of this, my next pick will be **M.C. BEATON's** latest Hamish Macbeth story, Death of a Valentine (\$28.99). Apparently, our Hamish, the most eligible of highland bachelors, is about to marry at last. Cottage Daughter-in-Law has become captivated by this series. She started after my review of Death of a Witch (\$8.99) and was so taken with the handsome red-headed hero that she received several of the series for Christmas. It can be such fun when family share your reading interests. It's a pleasant way to bond and often results in stimulating conversations.

## Hardbacks

**ALEXANDER, KARL** JACLYN THE RIPPER (#2) (\$31.99) (Forge) H.G. Wells wrote The Time Machine, War of the Worlds and other works but who says that he didn't really make a time machine? That's the premise of Jaclyn The Ripper and of the previous book Time After Time (\$17.99, Due February). Both Wells and Jack/Jaclyn travel to 2010 Los Angeles from 1893 London, and while Wells looks for his wife, Amy Robbins, The Ripper continues his killing spree.

**ATWOOD, MARGARET** YEAR OF THE FLOOD (\$32.99) (McClelland & Stewart) Set in the near future, a long predicted natural disaster has altered the Earth as we know it. Two women have survived as well as Adam One and his followers, who belong to a religion devoted to the melding of science and religion and the preservation of all plant and animal life. Another of the survivors is the CorpSeCorp, the shadowy corrupt policing force of the ruling power.

**BADEN, MICHAEL** SKELETON JUSTICE (\$32)

**BALDACCI, DAVID** TRUE BLUE (\$34.99) (Grand Central) Mason Perry was a Washington D.C. policewoman until she was kidnapped and framed for a crime she didn't commit. She lost her badge, her career and spent two years in prison. Now, back on the outside, she is trying to be a cop again. She meets Roy Kingman, a young lawyer who aided the poor until he took a high paying job at a law firm in Washington. Mason and Roy meet after he discovers the dead body of a female partner at the firm. As they investigate the death, they start uncovering surprising secrets from both the private and public world of the US capital.

**BARBIERI, MAGGIE alison** FINAL EXAM (#4) (\$31.99) (Minotaur) When a resident director goes missing at St. Thomas College where Professor Alison Bergeron teaches, she is asked to fill in for the five remaining weeks of the semester. Alison knows all about living in the dorms and she wants no part of it. Her solution: find the reluctant director and bring him back. Luckily, the drugs he hid in his bathroom gets Detective Bobby Crawford involved. A nice blend of wit, humour and murder. The first three are Murder 101, Extracurricular Activities and Quick Study (\$8.99 each).

**BEAR, GREG** MARIPOSA (\$32.95) (Vanguard) Three FBI agents first encountered in Quantico (\$8.99), are all that stand between Axel Price, CEO of Talos Corporation, and total control of America, a country driven near bankruptcy by crushing debt and susceptible to outside forces. Talos Corp is a major US success story, training soldiers and security forces from around the world and providing logistics and troops for nearly all branches of the government.

**BERRY, STEVE malone** PARIS VENDETTA (#5) (\$32) Did Napoleon go to his grave without telling his British captors what he had done with the uncounted riches he had stolen? Or did he leave the information? Cotton Malone gets involved involuntarily.

**BOLTON, S J** AWAKENING (\$34.95) (Bantam, UK) Clara Benning, veterinary surgeon in charge of a wildlife hospital, is young and intelligent, but practically a recluse. Disfigured by a childhood accident, she lives alone and shies away from human contact whenever possible. But when a man dies following a supposed snake bite, her expertise is needed. She's chilled to learn that the man's postmortem shows a higher concentration of venom that could be found in a single snake. The killer must be human. Sequel to Sacrifice (\$11.99).

**BOYLE, GERRY blake** PORT CITY SHAKEDOWN (#1) (\$31.95) A new series from the author of the Jack McMorro novels.

**BRIGHTWELL, EMILY** MRS. JEFFRIES AND YULETIDE WEDDINGS (#26) (\$30) A quiet, middle-aged spinster has been killed in what her murdered hoped would look like another random crime. But Inspector Witherspoon suspects otherwise. Mrs. Jeffries and her household staff take a break from the Christmas preparations to investigate.

**BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER** PANDAEMONIUM (\$54 UK hardcover, \$26 trade) (Little, Brown, UK) Senior pupils of St. Peter's High School are on retreat coming to terms with the murder of a fellow pupil. There are counseling sessions, contemplation, discussion and prayer and as much partying, drugs and alcohol as they can get away with. Not far away, the commanders of a top-secret military experiment, long-since spiraled out of control, fear they have literally unleashed the forces of Hell. Two very different worlds are on a collision course and will clash in an earthly battle between science and the supernatural, philosophy and faith, civilization and savagery.

**BRUEN, KEN** LONDON BOULEVARD (\$31.99) (Minotaur) After serving three years in prison for a vicious attack Mitchell doesn't remember, he does his best to stay out of trouble. He finds work at the Holland Park mansion of faded movie actress Lillian Palmer, where he has to deal with her mysterious brother. It isn't long before his violent past catches up with him and people start getting hurt.

**CARDIERI, ANTHONY J** LUCK OF THE DRAW (\$31.99) (Minotaur) When Detective Deke Durgess finds himself at the scene

of a brutal murder, he has no idea that it's just the beginning of the most prolific murder spree in New York City history, one in which entire families will be wiped out by a vicious killer dubbed the Daily Killer. A debut novel. If you likes 'em dark...

**CAST, P C** TEMPTED (\$19.99)

**CHALLIS, JOANNA daphne** MURDER ON THE CLIFFS (\$31.99) (Minotaur) Walking on the cliffs in Cornwall just after the Great War, Daphne du Maurier finds the body of a young, beautiful woman. When it's found that the woman, engaged to marry Lord Hartley of Padthaway, was murdered, Daphne is determined to get to the bottom of the mystery, in part to find fresh inspiration for her writing and in part because she is irresistibly drawn to the romance of grand homes and long-buried secrets.

**CHAMBERS, CLEM** ARMAGEDDON TRADE (\$37.95) (No Exit Press, UK) This book is for anyone who has any interest in the world's financial markets. In the post-credit-crunch world, the global economy is hanging by a thread and dark forces are at work aiming to plunge civilization into the abyss. A debut novel.

**CHANEY, ROY** RAGGED END OF NOWHERE (\$31.99) (Minotaur) Bodo Hagen thought his family had left Las Vegas for good. He had joined the CIA and moved to Berlin and his brother joined the French Foreign Legion. When his brother's contract ended he returned to Las Vegas but five days later his body was found on the edge of the desert. Word is that he'd returned from Europe with a valuable, and possibly stolen, ancient relic to sell. Now Bodo must return to Las Vegas to track down the missing relic and find his brother's killer. A debut novel.

**CHIMA, CINDA W** DRAGON HEIR (\$22.99)

**CHRISTIE, AGATHA** CURTAIN POIROTS LAST CASE (\$45) Hardcover reprint.

**CLARE, CASSANDRA** CITY OF GLASS (#3) (\$19.99)

**CLARK, CASSANDRA hildegar** RED VELVET TURNSHOE (#2) (\$31.99) (Minotaur) This is the US edition, the UK edition arrived at Sleuth last April. Sent across Europe at the time of the plague to search for a precious relic, the Cross of Constantine, Hildegard, a nun from the Abbey of Meaux, will need all her skills to survive. The English crown is at stake and there are many who want her mission to fail. The first in the series is the wonderful Hangman's Blind (\$27.95)

**COGGINS, MARK riordan** BIG WAKE UP (#5) (\$33.95) (Bleak House) Was Eva Peron's body really buried in an underground tomb said to be secure enough to withstand a nuclear attack? When San Francisco private eye August Riordan engages in a flirtation with a beautiful university student from Buenos Aires, he witnesses her death in a tragic shooting and is drawn into the mad hunt for the remains of Eva Peron.

**COLE, SAM** CAPE GREED (\$30.50) (Minotaur) Set in Cape Town, South Africa, two private investigators work on two separate cases. Jeffrey Mendes is hired by the wife of an adulterous financial consultant, while Vincent Saldana is contracted to find out who is stealing from an abalone farm. The two cases converge and the mastermind behind them is a mesmerizing international gangster. J.D. liked this one a great deal.

**CORNWELL, BERNARD saxon t** BURNING LAND (#5) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$22.95 trade paperback) Alfred of Wessex is in failing health and the Vikings seize this opportunity to attack. Uhtred, Alfred's unwilling warlord, leads the enemy into a trap and at Farnham inflicts one of the greatest defeats the Vikings would ever suffer. But in the aftermath of the victory, Uhtred is tested by both a personal tragedy and by an attack from Alfred's henchmen so he returns to his homeland in the north. Only Aethelflaed, Alfred's daughter, can convince him to return to the Saxon cause.

**CORNWELL, PATRICIA** SCARPETTA FACTOR (#17) (\$35) (Putnam) Dr. Kay Scarpetta offers her services pro bono to New York City's Office of the Chief Medical Examiner. And then all heck

breaks loose. To top it off her CNN producer wants her to launch a TV show called The Scarpetta Factor.

**COYLE, CLEO clare cosi** HOLIDAY GRIND (#8) (\$30) Coffee shop manager Clare Cosi investigates the murder of a local Santa Claus, who used the coffee shop to keep warm. The police believe it was a random mugging, but Clare isn't so sure. Coffee-making tips and recipes included in this enjoyable series set in New York City.

**CRAIS, ROBERT** FIRST RULE (\$33.50) (Putnam) When Frank Meyer and his entire family are murdered by what appears to be a home invasion gang, the police suspect that Meyer was hiding something bad because the gang had previously only targeted criminals. But Meyer and Joe Pike were mercenaries together, and Joe does not believe that Frank has any criminal connections. Watch out world, here comes Joe Pike. This book has just arrived and Marian has taken it to real so no report back yet from her.

**CUSSLER, CLIVE isaac bell** WRECKER (#2) (\$35) (Putnam) It's 1907 and train wrecks, fires and explosions plague the Southern Pacific Railroad's Cascades express line. They hire the Van Dorn Detective Agency who sends Isaac Bell to investigate. Bell discovers that a mysterious saboteur haunts the hobo jungles of the West, a man known as the Wrecker, who recruits accomplices from the down-and-out and then kills them afterwards. Sequel to The Chase (\$10.99).

**CUTLER, JUDITH burford** STAGING DEATH (\$41.95) (Allison & Busby) Actress Vera Burford works on a part-time basis for her real estate agent brother. She starts to grow suspicious when a number of well dressed couples, who don't fit the usual client profile, start to inspect every nook and cranny of the high end range of country houses for sale. It soon becomes clear that a very modern crime is being played out against the scenic background of Warwickshire's picturesque towns and villages.

**DELANY, VICKI trafalgar** WINTER OF SECRETS (#3) (\$31.95) (Poisoned Pen) It's Christmas Eve and the snowstorm of the decade has settled over the town of Trafalgar, British Columbia. Constables Molly Smith and Dave Evans begin their shift by investigating an accident where a pedestrian is hit by a car but it only gets worse from there. Later in the evening they are summoned to the scene of a car accident: a vehicle has gone off the snowy road and into the river. Police, coroner and medics all agree it was an accident but the autopsy reveals a shocking secret. The first two in the Molly Smith are In the Shadow of the Glacier and Valley of the Lost (\$20 each).

**DOETSCH, RICHARD** 13TH HOUR (\$32) (Atria) Nick Quinn is being held in jail, accused of murdering his beloved wife, Julia. He knows she is dead, he saw her bloody corpse. The police tell him he did it, but he is innocent. A gray-haired man visits Nick in the police interrogation room and gives him a golden talisman that allows Nick to go back in time, one hour at a time, for a total of twelve hours. With each hour that Nick travels back, he finds more clues to the identity of Julia's real killer, but he also discovers that his actions in the past may have unexpected repercussions in the future.

**DOHERTY, PAUL templar** TEMPLAR MAGICIAN (#2) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) 1152 and the Templar Order faces a new threat. When Raymond, Count of Tripoli, is brutally murdered, a ferocious massacre ensues. Robert de Payens and Philip Mayele are sent to negotiate with the Man in the Mountain, whose sect, The Assassins, is believed responsible for the murder. But they discover the assassination is the work of a rogue coven within the Order itself who are now headed to England. The Templar (\$10.99) starts with a vivid description of the First Crusade.

**DOSS, JAMES D moon** WIDOW'S RENEGE (#14) (\$31.99) (Moinotaur) The widow Loyola Montoya starts making a fuss about witches, swearing that there's a whole brood lurking in the woods just off her property, mocking her with lewd songs and harassing her with carcasses of dead animals. When no one takes her seriously, she takes matters into her own hands, with disastrous results. By the time tribal

investigator Charlie Moon arrives, it's too late to save her and even though he knows he can't bring her back he does know he can get revenge for her.

**[DOYLE]MOORE, LEAH** SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$35) A graphic novel.

**[DOYLE]WEXLER, BRUCE** MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$20) The Illustrated Guide to the Famous Cases, Infamous Adversaries, and Ingenious Methods of the Great Detective. Great companion volume, with more than 150 illustrations.

**DRYDEN, ALEX** RED TO BLACK (\$33.99) (Ecco) A beautiful and deadly KGB colonel is ordered to spy on Finn, a veteran MI6 operative stationed in Moscow. He uncovers a plan, hatched in the depths of the Cold War, to control the European continent and shift the balance of power. The two are thrust into a deadly plot in which friend and foe wear the same face. With time running out, the two risk career, reputation and lives, to expose the terrifying truth.

**DUFFY, MARGARET** SOUVENIRS OF MURDER (\$37.50) (Severn House) Ingrid Langley isn't pleased when her husband, Patrick Gillard, late of MI5 and now with the Serious Organized Crime Agency, is sent on assignment just days after the birth of their new son. When she discovers a dead body in the church vestry things get complicated, but when Patrick is suspected of killing one of the world's most dangerous criminals, things get even more difficult.

**DUNNE, DOMINICK** TOO MUCH MONEY (\$31)

**ECCLES, MARJORIE reardon** BROKEN MUSIC (\$41.95) (Allison & Busby) The year is 1919 and England is struggling to get back on its feet. In the quiet village of Broughton Underhill, former police sergeant Herbert Reardon returns to finally find out what happened the night that Marianne Wentworth was found drowned in the lake all those years ago, when the war was just beginning. As he begins to investigate, it becomes clear that secrets still abound and lips are staying sealed.

**ECHLIN, KIM** DISAPPEARED (\$29) A special order.

**ELTON, SARAH** CITY OF WORDS: TORONTO THROUGH HER AUTHORS (\$49) Well illustrated, and signed by both the editor and photographer.

**ESTLEMAN, LOREN valentino** ALONE (#2) (\$31.99) (Forge) Valentino wants to keep his beloved run-down movie palace, The Oracle, from being condemned before it even reopens, but murder keeps intruding into his otherwise quiet life. The first in this new series which mixes movies and mayhem is Frames (\$9.99, scheduled for paperback last September but has not yet been released).

**FFORDE, JASPER color** SHADES OF GREY (#1) (\$32.50) (Viking, US) To quote the dust jacket blurb: Utterly original, bizarre, entertaining and thought-provoking, the world and characters in this new work confirm Fforde's place as one of the most brazen and original literary fantasists of our time. Marian agrees; she just loved it. The characters are defined by the colours they see. If you are a red, you see red. A yellow sees yellow and so on. The story takes place quite far in the future after the "Something That Happened" which has everyone living by a strict set of rules that range from no spoons are ever to be made to all residents must learn a musical instrument. Brilliant, brilliant. See *Marian's Picks*.

**FINCH, CHARLES lenox** FLEET STREET MURDERS (#3) (\$31.99) (Minotaur) It's Christmas, 1866, and amateur sleuth Charles Lenox, recently engaged to his best friend Lady Jane Grey, is happily celebrating the holidays in his Mayfair townhouse. Across London however, two journalists are brutally murdered. Lenox soon involves himself in the strange case, which proves only more complicated as he digs deeper. When he leaves to go to Stirrington, fulfilling a life-long dream to run for a parliamentary seat, he receives a letter from Lady Jane whose contents might threaten their nuptials.

**FLUKE, JOANNE** PLUM PUDDING MURDER (\$29.45) (Kensington) Murder at Christmas time!! And the busiest time of year

at The Cookie Jar! Hannah investigates. Includes 28.

**FLYNN, JOSEPH** PRESIDENT'S HENCHMAN (\$33.95) (Variance) The US has its first female president and her husband, an ex-cop who had solved the murder of her first husband, takes out a license and becomes the first private eye to live in the White House. His first case is to find out who is stalking a member of the White House press corps, before the stalker threatens the president.

**FOWLER, CHRISTOPHER bryan** BRYANT AND MAY ON THE LOOSE (#7) (\$29.95) (Bantam) The Peculiar Crimes unit is no more. After years of defying the odds and infuriating their embarrassed superiors, Bryant takes to his bed and his bathrobe and his esoteric books while the rest of the team look for new careers. When one of them stumbles upon a gruesome murder, it's not the headless corpse that's potentially politically explosive, it's the sightings of a great horned creature carrying off young women that convince Bryant that the case is worth getting dressed for. The PCU will reunite in a rented office with no computer network, no legal authority and a broken toilet. They've got until the end of the week to solve the murder. An hilarious series that's well worth trying.

**GORDON, ALAN** PARISIAN PRODIGAL (\$31) (Minotaur) In 1205, Theophilus is ensconced as the Chief Fool in Toulouse. The ruler of Toulouse, Count Raimon VI, is favoured by the Guild, which hopes he will have a long and enlightened rule. But their plans are threatened when a man arrives claiming to be Baudoin, Raimon's previously unknown full brother. While the count tries to verify the claim, Baudoin awakes one morning in a local bordello, next to a dead whore, killed with Baudoin's dagger. Claiming his innocence, he asks for Theo's help in finding out the truth behind the murders. This is a delightfully witty, well researched series but please start wherever you can in the series as the books are hard to find, out of print, or only available in hardcover. See *Marian's Picks*.

**GORMAN, ED mccain** TICKET TO RIDE (#7) (\$31) (Pegasus) For small-town Iowa lawyer Sam McCain the year 1965 is not a good one. The first young soldier arrives back from a place called Vietnam, in a coffin, and the town becomes split on its pro- vs. anti-Vietnam war lines. When a couple of murders occur, all seem to suspect the killings relate to the death of a young woman who died in a mysterious house fire two years ago.

**GRAFTON, SUE** U IS FOR UNDERTOW (\$35) (Putnam) It's April 1988, and private eye Kinsey Millhone is approached by a young man who claims that a recent newspaper story about the kidnapping of a four-year-old girl twenty years ago, when he was seven, has triggered a flood of memories. He believes he stumbled on the girl's grave and could identify the killers if he saw them again. Kinsey agrees to give him one day of her time.

**GRAVES, SARAH** CRAWLSPACE (#13) (\$29.95) (Bantam) When best-selling crime writer Carolyn Rathbone arrives in Eastport to investigate the infamous Dodd murders, Jake Tiptree has her hands full investigating the secrets of old-house insulation and the person who does not want the Dodd murders resolved.

**GRISHAM, JOHN** FORD COUNTY (\$28.95) (Doubleday) A collection of short stories which take the reader back to the county which was the setting of A Time to Kill (\$11.99).

**HALLINAN, TIMOTHY rafferty** BREATHING WATER (#3) (\$32.99) Travel writer Poke Rafferty. Bangkok, Thailand.

**HARRIS, C S** WHAT REMAINS OF HEAVEN (#5) (\$30) (Obsidian) In 1812 London, the Archbishop of Canterbury asks Sebastian St. Cyr, Viscount Devlin, to investigate the deaths of two men, the bodies found in an ancient crypt. One body is that of the Bishop of London, the other was killed decades earlier.

**HARRIS, ROBERT rome trilo** LUSTRUM (#2) (\$34.95) Sequel to Imperium (#1) (\$11.99)

**HARROD-EAGLES, C dynaty** DYNASTY 32: THE FALLEN KINGS (\$60) A special order

**HARROD-EAGLES, C slider** FELL PURPOSE (\$38.95) (Severn House) Detective Inspector Bill Slider investigates the death of a young woman who is a straight A student at St. Margaret's.

**HART, ELLEN lawless** MIRROR AND THE MASK (#17) (\$32.99) (Minotaur) With the economy in rough shape, plans to open a third restaurant are put on hold and Jane Lawless takes a job at her friend's private detective agency. Her first job is to find the stepfather of Annie Archer. She tracks down a likely match: a man who has made a small fortune in real estate.

**HENRY, SUE maxie mcnabb** END OF THE ROAD (#4) (\$30) Sequel to Refuge (#3) (\$6.99). By the author of the Jessie Arnold, champion dog sled racer, novels.

**HIGGINS, JACK** WOLF AT THE DOOR (\$33.50) (Putnam) Someone is targeting the members of the elite intelligence unit know as "the Prime Minister's private army" and all those who work with them, and whoever is doing it has a lot of resources at hand. Sean Dillon believes it's an old nemesis who has gotten tired of their interference in his schemes.

**HILL, REGINALD dalzielact** MIDNIGHT FUGUE (\$32.95) (Doubleday, Canada) It all starts with a phone call to Superintendent Dalziel from an old friend asking for help. Within twenty-four hours Dalziel and Pascoe have four different mysteries to solve. "Wonderful as usual", says JD.

**HILLIER, RICK** A SOLDIER FIRST: BULLETS, BUREAU-CRATS AND THE POLITICS OF WAR (\$34.99) A special order.

**HILTON, MATT joe hunter** JUDGEMENT AND WRATH (#2) (\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) Joe Hunter doesn't like bullies and he doesn't like bullies who abuse women. So protecting Bradley Jorgenson from a professional hitman is not Joe's dream job. The bad guy is really nasty and Joe is not far behind. Dead Men's Dust (\$10.99 available briefly last year and might become available again in about six weeks, \$30 US hardcover), which introduces us to vigilante Joe Hunter, was a *Marian's Picks* in the November 2009 newsletter. See *Cottage Lady's Picks*.

**HOROWITZ, ANTHONY** CROCODILE TEARS (\$22.50) Alex Rider just wants a normal life, like other teenagers and not the life of a spy. But he's good at it and is needed to save the world yet again. For young adults and the young at heart.

**HUCKABEE, MIKE** SIMPLE CHRISTMAS (\$25) (Sentinel) Twelve stories that celebrate the true holiday spirit. Mike Huckabee was a pastor before going into politics.

**HUNTER, STEPHEN bob swag** I, SNIPER (#6) (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster) Four famed 60s radicals are gunned down and the FBI quickly conclude that Carl Hitchcock, a leading US Vietnam sniper, was the killer. When Hitchcock commits suicide they think the case is closed. But Special Agent Nick Memphis gives his friend, retired Marine sniper Bob Lee Swagger, the file on Hitchcock to examine and Swagger comes up with some very strange anomalies and gradually begins to unravel a very sophisticated conspiracy.

**IRVING, JOHN** LAST NIGHT IN TWISTED RIVER (\$34.95) A special order.

**JAMES, P.D.** TALKING ABOUT DETECTIVE FICTION (\$29.99) (Knopf, Canada) Ms. James examines the mystery genre from top to bottom, beginning with **Charles Dickens** and **Wilkie Collins** all the way to present writers such as **Colin Dexter**, **Sara Paretsky** and **Henning Mankell**. 196 pages.

**JANCE, J A ali reynolds** TRIAL BY FIRE (#5) (\$34) (Touchstone) A woman is pulled from a fire raging in the Arizona desert. She has no idea who she is or why someone would want to kill her. Ali Reynolds, the media relations consultant for the Yavapai County Police Department, is trying to keep reporters at bay while she, and Sister Anslem, try to discover who the woman is. But that brings danger upon all of them as the killer is not going to stop.

**JARDINE, QUINTIN skinner** FATAL LAST WORDS (#19)

(\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) During the Edinburgh International Book Festival Scotland's most successful crime writer is found dead in the author's tent. Natural causes? Suicide? Or Murder?? DCC Bob Skinner doesn't need this in his life right now but the author's phone was tapped and a brother officer has a sinister and threatening visitor.

**JECKS, MICHAEL** BISHOP MUST DIE (#26) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) It's 1326 and Queen Isabella refuses to leave France and further humiliates her husband, King Edward II, by flaunting her adulterous relations with his sworn enemy, the arch-traitor Sir Roger Mortimer. As news of an invasion fleet reaches England, the King's knights, including Sir Baldwin de Furnhill, Keeper of the King's Peace, are commanded to London to protect the King and his realm.

**KINGSOLVER, BARBARA** LACUNA (\$34.99) (Harper Collins, Canada) The story will take you on an epic journey from the Mexico City of artists Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo to the America of Pearl Harbor, FDR, and J. Edgar Hoover. This is the story of a man pulled between the two nations as they try to invent their modern identities.

**KOSTOVA, ELIZABETH** SWAN THIEVES (\$32.99) (Little, Brown) Robert Oliver, a renowned painter, brutally attacks a painting in the National Gallery of Art, but refuses to say why. His only explanation is "I did it for her". Psychiatrist Andrew Marlow, frustrated at not being able to make Robert disclose anything more, decides to pursue it further. His investigation leads to the discovery of a package of old love letters and France of the late 1800s becomes alive with the stories of passions and heartbreaking treachery.

**LANGE, RICHARD** THIS WICKED WORLD (\$26.99) Jimmy Boones.

**LOCHTE, DICK & AL ROKER** MORNING SHOW MURDERS (\$32) The weatherman on NBC's popular "Today Show" shows that he's not just a weatherhead, he's a writer too. Dick Lochte is the author of many novels, including one of my all time faves Laughing Dog (\$19).

**LYON, ANNABEL** GOLDEN MEAN (\$32.95) A special order.

**MCFADYEN, CODY** ABANDONED (#4) (\$29.95) FBI Special Agent Smoky Barrett, in her fourth appearance. A woman is released after eight years of captivity and there's a reason why her captor, a professional psychopath who doesn't take murder personally and never makes a mistake, let her go. A very tough case for Smoky.

**MACINTYRE, LINDEN** BISHOP'S MAN (\$32) (Random House, Canada) The latest Giller Prize winner. Father Duncan MacAskill has spent most of his priesthood as the bishop's clean-up man, the enforcer sent to discipline the wayward priests and tidy away potential scandal. Tidy away the emotions of the victims too, which is something that has been increasingly wearing away at his sense of justice and calling. Relocated to duties in a country parish he is teetering on the brink of despair when a woman he thinks he might love comes into his life along with a young boy who may have been the victim of one of his perverted charges.

**MCLEAN, RUSSEL D** GOOD SON (#1) (\$31.99) (Minotaur) James Robertson, a local farmer, finds his brother's corpse hanging from a tree. The police claim suicide but Scottish private investigator J. McNee is about to uncover the disturbing truth about the death.

Here is what **John Connolly** has to say about the book: The most exciting, and gripping, Scottish crime fiction debut of recent years. Stylish and atmospheric, it marks the arrival of an exceptional talent.

**MCNAB, ANDY** nick stone EXIT WOUND (\$57 UK hardcover, \$25 trade paperback) Three tons of Saddam Hussein's gold in an unguarded warehouse in Dubai and for Nick Stone's closest ex-SAS comrades, it was to have been the perfect, victimless crime. But when they are double crossed and the robbery goes devastatingly wrong, only Stone can identify his friends' killer and track him down.

**MAGNAN, PIERRE** MURDERED HOUSE us edition (\$32) First published in 1999.

**MARSTON, EDWARD rawson** FIRE AND SWORD (#3)

(\$41.99) (Allison & Busby) Returning to camp from a dangerous solo mission behind enemy lines, career soldier Daniel Rawson finds himself stranded on foot, with French soldiers in fierce pursuit. A kindly farmer helps him hide in his barn and then lends him a carthorse on which to escape. Later, when Daniel returns he finds the farmhouse ablaze and the farmer near death, apparently at the hands of the English. All the while the treacherous and scheming French commander, the Duc de Vendome, is becoming hell-bent on capturing Daniel by any means at his disposal.

**MARTIN, LEE** LIPSTICK KILLERS (\$29.95) (No Exit, UK)

Queenie Doyle ruled over south London gangland and her four daughters with an iron fist. When Queenie's death brings the Doyle empire crashing, the four sisters take a different path in life. When Monty, husband to one of the sisters dies under mysterious circumstances, the sisters pull together to find out what really happened.

**MAYLE, PETER** VINTAGE CAPER (\$29.95) (Knopf) A wine scandal sends corporate lawyer, Sam Levitt, to Bordeaux and Provence to meet a billionaire wine collector who might have an interest in stolen wines. The wine and food theme will certainly interest Marian and it's on her TBR pile.

**MINA, DENISE** STILL MIDNIGHT (\$45 UK import, \$24.95 trade paperback) Detective Sergeant Alex Morrow is a cop that knows the difference between good and bad; she's just not sure which she prefers anymore. A home is invaded in the dead of night, deep in the heart of the cozy suburbs but the attackers demand millions that the family doesn't have and they scream for a man nobody has heard of. A big mistake right? DS Morrow can't be depended on and her bosses know it. She insults those she shouldn't and would love nothing more than giving her superiors a good slap to their smug faces.

**MONROE, ALY cotton** WASHINGTON SHADOW (#2) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) September 1945. Bankrupt and desperate, Britain sends John Maynard-Keynes to Washington to beg for a loan. Under cover of the backup team, agent Peter Cotton is sent to investigate the breakup of America's wartime intelligence agency. Sequel to The Maze of Cadiz (\$14.95). Stock is a little iffy at the moment, but hopefully not for too much longer.

**MONTGOMERY, L M** BLYTHES ARE QUOTED (\$25)

**MOORE, CHRISTOPHER G** PAYING BACK JACK (#10) (\$25.99) Ex-New Yorker, Vincent Calvion runs a PI office in Bangkok. Hard to find the novels in this series, but that might be changing. The series debut, Spirit House (\$16.95) is in stock.

**MORTIMER, JOHN** RUMPOLE AT CHRISTMAS (\$29) More stock on the way.

**NIFFENEGGER, AUDREY** HER FEARFUL SYMMETRY

(\$34.95) A special order.

**NIKITAS, DEREK** LONG DIVISION (\$31.99) (Minotaur) The stories of five different people, each dealing with their own broken lives, are intertwined as they each fight to keep from losing the only thing that makes them human: their souls. By the author of Edgar Best First Novel nominee Pyres (\$15.50).

**PARKER, T JEFFERSON hood** IRON RIVER (#3) (\$33.50)

(Dutton) Charlie Hood joins a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms taskforce patrolling the "iron river" where illegal guns flow from the US dealers to the Mexican drug business. Hood is part of a stake-out team when a federal officer's bullet kills an innocent boy. The boy happens to be the son of Benjamin Armenta, head of the Gulf Cartel and one of the most violent men in the world. The first two books featuring Charlie Hood are L.A. Outlaws (\$10.99) and Renegades (\$12.50). This man tells a story like you wouldn't believe.

**PARKS, BRAD** FACES OF THE GONE (\$32.99) (Minotaur)

When four bodies are found each with a gunshot to the back of the head, stacked up in a vacant lot, the Newark, New Jersey police claim it was a retaliation killing for a bar stick-up. Investigative reporter

Carter Ross suspects otherwise. A debut novel.

**PATTERSON, JAMES cross** ALEX CROSS (#15) (\$34.99)  
**PEARCE, MICHAEL seymour** DEAD MAN IN NAPLES (#6) (\$32.99) (Soho) Seymour, from the Foreign Office, is sent to Naples to investigate the stabbing death of a junior British consular official. The first five in the series are now available in trade paperback and are listed in the paperback section.

**PENZLER, OTTO** LINEUP (\$31.99) (Little Brown) **Michael Connelly, Lee Child, Robert Crais, John Connolly, Laura Lippman, Colin Dexter, John Harvey** and others tell us how they created their most beloved characters. Also available in the limited edition, signed by all the writers and the editor (\$200).

**PERRY, ANNE** CHRISTMAS PROMISE (\$22) (Ballantine) Three days before Christmas, in the freezing slums of London's East End, thirteen-year-old Gracie Phipps encounters Minnie Maude Mudway, who is only eight, alone, and determined to find her friend Charlie. Charlie is a donkey who belonged to Minnie Maude's Uncle Alf. Gracie is shocked to learn that the day before someone murdered Uncle Alf and took Charlie and the rag-and-bone cart he was pulling.

**PLAMPIN, MATTHEW** STREET PHILOSOPHER (\$32.95) (Harper Collins, UK) Thomas Kitson arrives on the battlefields of the Crimea as the London Courier's man on the ground. After being witness to brutal atrocities he returns to Manchester and becomes a 'street philosopher', reporting local news. But the past is catching up with him. As Manchester prepares to welcome Queen Victoria, violence flares and Kitson finds himself under threat from old friends and new enemies. A debut novel.

**PRESTON, DOUGLAS** IMPACT (\$31) (Forge) Wyman Ford is tapped for a secret expedition to Cambodia to locate the source of strangely beautiful gemstones that do not appear to be of this world. A brilliant meteor lights up the Maine coast and two young women borrow a boat and set out for a distant island to find the impact crater. A scientist at the National Propulsion Facility discovers an inexplicable source of gamma rays in the outer solar system. He is found decapitated and his data missing. How does all this tie together?

**PURSER, ANN meade** TRAGEDY AT TWO (#9) (\$30) (Berkley) Lois Meade's daughter, Josie, had been considering ditching her partner, Rob, but she never expected him to be beaten to death. Inspector Cowgill engages the assistance of the woman he respects above all other, Lois, as he tries to find the killer. Suspicion for the attack falls on the traveling gypsies who are camped out in a field near Long Farnden.

**RENDELL, RUTH wexford** MONSTER IN THE BOX (#22) (\$32.95) (Doubleday, Canada) As Chief Inspector Wexford investigates a new case we get a glimpse back to the beginning of Wexford's career where he suspected that Eric Targo strangled a number of women, but it could never be proved. Now he's back.

**RICHS, ANTHONY** WOUNDS OF HONOUR (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) A new series starring Marcus Valerius Aquila. Condemned to dishonourable death by power-crazed Emperor Commodus, Marcus hides out in an obscure regiment on Hadrian's Wall and plans to lie low until he can hope for justice.

**ROBBINS, DAVID L** BROKEN JEWEL (\$32.99) (Simon & Schuster) For three years after the fall of Manila, 2,100 Allied civilians have been imprisoned at Los Banos Interment Camp. American Remy Turk, the camp's resident gambler, struggles daily with his Japanese army captors to keep his community of Americans, Brits and Dutch alive, as they stave off starvation and protect one another from vicious punishments.

**ROBERTS, DAVID** SWEET SORROW (#10) (\$35) (Soho, Constable) While honeymooning in their new home in the sleepy Sussex village of Rodmell, Lord Edward Corinth is asked to investigate the murder of local poet, Byron Gates. And then, in the hallowed studios of Broadcasting House, murder again rears its ugly head while Verity

is being interviewed about her interesting life as a war correspondent. War is inevitable in the hot English summer of 1939.

**ROSLUND & HELLSTROM** BOX 21 (\$32.50) (FSG) Three years ago, Lydia and Alena were two hopeful girls from Lithuania. Now, they are sex slaves, lured to Sweden with the promise of better jobs and then trapped in a Stockholm brothel, forced to repay their "debt". Suddenly they are given a chance at freedom, and with it the opportunity to take revenge on their enslavers and reclaim their lives and dignity. What will happen now that the tables are turned and the victims fight back? Translated from the Swedish.

**RUTHERFURD, EDWARD** NEW YORK (\$39.95) A special order.

**SEYMOUR, GERALD** COLLABORATOR (\$34.95) Deadlier than the Mafia, the Camorra never forget and never forgive.

**SHOPSIN, KENNY** EAT ME: THE FOOD AND PHILOSOPHY OF KENNY SHOPSIN (\$27.95) A special order.

**SINNETT, MARK** CARNIVORE (\$29.95) (ECW) In October 1954, Hurricane Hazel rages through Toronto killing 81 people. Ray Townes, a young policeman, is hailed as a hero by the newspapers for saving a number of lives from the rampant Humber River. Mary, his wife, performs her own small miracles that night as a nurse. As the couple try to resume their life together after the disaster, Mary begins to doubt her husband's story. Fifty years later, a reporter comes knocking, wanting to know more about that fateful night and a host of secrets finally surface and threaten to destroy them.

**THEROUX, PAUL** DEAD HAND (\$29.99) (McClelland & Stewart) Travel writer Jerry Delfont leads an aimless life in Calcutta, struggling against the "dead hand" of his writer's block and flitting around the edges of a half-hearted romance. Then he receives a mysterious letter asking for his help. The story it tells is disturbing: a dead boy found on the floor of a cheap hotel, a seemingly innocent man in flight and fearing for his reputation as well as his life. Before long, Delfont finds himself lured into the company of the letter's author, the wealthy and seductive Merrill Unger, an American philanthropist and he is intrigued enough to pursue the mystery and the woman.

**THURLO, AIMEE&DAVID clah** EARTHWAY (#15) (\$31.99) (Forge) Ella Clah, Navajo Police Special Investigator, tracks down a group of activists who nearly killed her friend Reverend "Ford" Tome and wounded a Navajo police officer. They were trying to stop the building of a nuclear power plant on the reservation.

**TODD, CHARLES rutledge** RED DOOR (#12) (\$32.99 hardcover, \$19.99 trade paperback) (Morrow) Lancashire, England, June 1920. A woman is bludgeoned to death in her house where she had painted the front door red to welcome her husband back from the Front. Only he never came home. Meanwhile, in London, a man suffering from a mysterious illness first goes missing and then just as suddenly reappears. Inspector Rutledge, drawn into both cases, and facing a wall of silence, must solve two mysteries before he can bring a killer to justice.

**TWINING, JAMES tom kirk** GENEVA DECEPTION (#4) (\$28.95 hardcover, \$22.95 trade paperback) Former art thief Tom Kirk has agreed to help FBI Special Agent Jennifer Browne handle the recovery of a priceless Caravaggio. When things get nasty Tom travels to Italy to try to get answers, with the FBI and the Italian police on his heels. Marian's Pick in the November 2009 newsletter.

**TYLER, L C** TEN LITTLE HERRINGS (#2) (\$24.95) (Macmillan) A follow-up to The Herring Seller's Apprentice (\$14.99). You might recall that at the end of Apprentice crime writer Ethelred Tressider, having either killed his wife or not, fled to France (I think I'm remembering this correctly) and his agent, Elsie Thirkettle, follows him and tracks him down. More murders follow and it is, once again, up to Elsie to assemble the various suspects in the Dining Room and reveal the killer's true identity. Lovely mock-ups of the traditional mystery.

**TYLER, L C** VERY PERSISTENT ILLUSION (\$24.95)

(Macmillan) Chris Sorensen seems to have a stable life until his girlfriend's father dies suddenly and her mother reveals a long suppressed secret. Switch to the seventeenth century where an irritable French philosopher seems to have some words of guidance for Chris. **WAMBAUGH, JOSEPH** HOLLYWOOD MOON (\$32.99) (Little, Brown) The cops at Hollywood Station face a number of challenging cases, each a little more weird than the previous one. **WEBB, BETTY** lena jones DESERT LOST (#6) (\$35) (Poisoned Pen) Private eye Lena Jones deals with Arizona polygamy and its discarded sons, the deceptively insulated world of Beverly Hills and her own past as she tries to find out who her biological parents were. **WEST, EUGENIA** streat OVERKILL (\$32.99) (Minotaur) Emma Streat is rebuilding her shattered life in Boston (after the stressful action in Without Warning (#1) out of print) when she receives a call to come to Venice to intervene in a disastrous affair between her opera singer niece and a notorious playboy. But the night they return home, Vanessa is struck down by what appears to be the avian flu. Suddenly Emma is forced to cope with the medical world and the case assumes an international aspect, as she finds herself up against a dangerous international network that sells stolen viruses. **WILKINSON, HUTTON** MORE IS MORE: TONY DUQUETTE (\$97.50) Interior decorating. A special order.

## Paperbacks

**ADAMS, WILL** LOST LABYRINTH (\$10.99)  
**ALGUIRE, JUDITH** PLEASANTLY DEAD (\$16.95) The first in a projected series of mayhem and mishaps at The Pleasant Inn, an Ontario cottage-country hotel. Trevor and Margaret Rudley have had their share of misfortunes over the years, but that body in the wine cellar is proving to be a real nuisance...  
**ALLAN, BARBARA** ANTIQUES FLEE MARKET (#3) (\$8.99) Brandy Borne knew her life wouldn't ever be as serene again, now that she has moved back to Serenity to live with her bipolar mother, Vivian. The last time Brandy and Vivian saw Walter Yeager, an old flame of Vivian's, was at a flea market where Vivian saved Walter from selling a valuable first edition of Tarzan and the Apes, for next to nothing. The prospective buyer was furious and the next day Walter ended up dead and the book was missing. Sequel to Antiques Roadkill (\$9.99) and Antiques Maul (\$8.49).  
**ALVTEGEN, KARIN** SHAME (\$10.99) When a tragic car accident throws two strangers together, they have no idea how their lives will be transformed. Violent family secrets at the centre of both of their lives threaten to surface, and slowly they are forced to confront the shame they have carried with them. Translated from the Swedish. Others by this author are Missing and Betrayal (\$10.99 mmpb/\$20 tpb each). Terrific.  
**ARCHER, JEFFREY** PATHS OF GLORY (\$11.99) Did George Mallory conquer Mt. Everest in 1924? A fictional account, although it is thought that Mallory did summit Everest and died on the way down. This, some suggest, does not count.  
**ARMSTRONG, KELLEY** LIVING WITH THE DEAD: WOMEN OF THE OTHERWORLD (\$16.95) This story features Paige Winterbourn. A great series.  
**ASH, MAUREEN** templar MURDER FOR CHRIST'S MASS (#4) (\$9.99) The town of Lincoln is covered in snow—concealing the mortal remains of a clerk who worked in the local mint. The only clue is a pristine coin stamped with the visage of King Stephen. But Templar Bascot de Marins soon discovers that the motive goes beyond money—and beyond mere murder.  
**ASPLIN, RICHARD** CONMAN (\$14.95) Oh boy, what fun.

Poor, young Neil Martin—bit of a geek, really—is in trouble. His failing comic memorabilia store, has suffered a huge flood and his insurance premiums are unpaid. He's about to lose his business, his house and his family. What to do? What to do? Oh, yeah, let's run a con. Hilarious. Set in London. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

**ATKINS, ACE** WHITE SHADOW (\$18.50) Tampa, Florida, 1955: the bludgeoning death of retired kingpin Charlie Wall shocks the city and sends cops, reporters and associates scrambling for the truth. A story of revenge, honour and greed. Based on a true story.  
**BAGLEY, DESMOND** HIGH CITADEL & LANDSLIDE and WYATT'S HURRICANE & BAHAMA CRISIS (\$10.99 each). And then there were eight. Omnibus editions, with two novels each, that is, and that means sixteen Bagley novels to read.  
**BALDACCI, DAVID** WISH YOU WELL (\$16.50) A coming of age novel set in the Virginia mountains. First published in 2000.  
**BARBER, NOEL** TANAMERA (\$16.95) A special order.  
**BARBERY, MURIEL** ELEGANCE OF THE HEDGEHOG (\$18.50) The huge French bestseller, garnering rave reviews in English as well.  
**BARRETT, LORNA** tricia BOOKPLATE SPECIAL (#3) (\$9.99) The third in this delightful series, one of Marian's favourites. Tricia Miles, owner of Haven't a Clue mystery bookstore, has put up with her uninvited college roommate for weeks. When she's found dead in a dumpster, it's another investigation for Tricia.  
**BASS, JEFFERSON** BONES OF BETRAYAL (#4) (\$10.99) Dr. Bill Brockton is investigating a murder that has links to events of 60 years ago. Set in Oak Ridge, the key site for the Manhattan Project, and the development of the atomic bomb during WW2, Bill is looking into the death by radiation poisoning of Dr. Leonard Novak, a renowned physicist who was integral to the development of the bomb.  
**BAXTER, CYNTHIA** jessica MURDER HAD A LITTLE LAMB (#8) (\$10.99) Veterinarian Dr. Jessica Popper, vet-turned-sleuth...  
**BEATON, M C** macbeth DEATH OF A WITCH (#24) (\$8.99) Returning from a foreign holiday, Constable Hamish Macbeth fears there is an evil cloud hanging over the town due to newcomer Ca-triona Beldame. She seems to have cast a spell over the town and word of her magic powers spreads fast. When she is murdered and Hamish is considered a suspect he calls upon the assistance of a pretty female forensic expert. A new love?  
**BENOIT, CHARLES** NOBLE LIES (\$20) *Publishers Weekly* gave this one a starred review and said: "Benoit is at the top of his game... a rough and rollicking story of adventure and romance." Not bad praise indeed. Our hero, Mark Rohr, who worked as a bouncer at a "bar", is hired by an attractive young American to find her brother. In all likelihood the brother drowned in the tsunami disaster but, maybe not. Pictures of someone who looks like him, post-disaster, have surfaced. Why he is not in contact with his family, if he did indeed survive, is not a question that Mark really wants answered. He figures he'll humour the young woman until she runs out of money, then he'll be rid of her and her brother.  
**BERRY, STEVE** malone CHARLEMAGNE PURSUIT (#4) (\$12.99) As a child, former-Justice Department agent now rare book dealer, Cotton Malone was told his father died in a submarine accident in the North Atlantic. Now he wants the full story. As do twin sisters Dorothea Lindauer and Christl Falk, whose father also perished in the accident. The sisters know something that Malone doesn't: inspired by strange clues discovered in Charlemagne's tomb, the Nazis explored Antarctica before the Americans, as long ago as 1938. Now Malone discovers that cryptic journals penned in "the language of heaven", inscrutable conundrums posed by an ancient historian, and the ill-fated voyage of his father are all tied to a revelation of immense consequences for mankind. The other books featuring Cotton Malone are The Templar Legacy, The Alexandria Link (\$12.99 each) and The Venetian Betrayal (\$11.99).  
**BIGGERS, EARL** DERR chan KEEPER OF THE KEYS (#6)

(\$20) The first six Charlie Chan novels are now in print...

**BLAIR, EMMA** ARROWS OF DESIRE (\$10.99) A special order.

**BLISS, MIRANDA** COOKING MURDER HAS A SWEET TOOTH (#5) (\$8.50) Annie Capshaw is asked to, once again, investigate a death. Her intended's cousin, Alex, is accused of murdering a local woman and Jim, her intended, asks her to look into it.

**BODYCOMBE, DAVID** PENGUIN SUDOKU 2010 (\$10)

**BRANDON, JAY** SINCLAIR RUNNING WITH THE DEAD (#5) (\$9.99) Chris Sinclair vows justice for his friend who was murdered less than a week after Chris won his acquittal when accused of sexually abusing a student. Now, four years later, the school's then basketball coach is on trial for murder.

**BROWN, RITA MAE** SANTA CLAWED: A NOVEL (\$10.99) Mrs. Murphy, Pewter and Tee Tucker are back in this Christmas story trying to help "Harry" Hairsteen find the killer of the corpse she found under her Christmas tree. Novella, 237 pages.

**BURCELL, ROBIN** FITZPATRICK BONE CHAMBER (#2) (\$10.99) Sequel to Face of a Killer (\$8.99) and by the author of the SFPD Homicide Insp. Kate Gillespie series. FBI forensic artist Special Agent Sydney Fitzpatrick is summoned to Quantico to help re-create the face of a murdered, mutilated young woman.

**BYRNES, MICHAEL** SACRED BLOOD (#2) (\$10.99) When American geneticist Charlotte Hennesey examined what she believed were the bones of Jesus, the Vatican tried hard to stop word of her discovery from spreading. Now her proof has vanished.

**CAMILLERI, ANDREA** WINGS OF THE SPHINX (#11) (\$17.50) Things are not going well for Inspector Salvo Montalbano. His relationship with Livia is once again on the rocks and acutely aware of his age—he is beginning to grow weary of the endless violence he encounters. Then a young woman is found dead, her face half shot off and only a tattoo of a sphinx moth giving any hint of her identity. The tattoo links her to three similarly marked girls—all victims of the underworld sex trade—who have been rescued from the Mafia night-club circuit by a prominent Catholic charity. The problem is, Montalbano's inquiries elicit an outcry from the Church and the three other girls are all missing.

**CAMPBELL, DUNCAN** IF IT BLEEDS (\$24)

**CANADEO, ANNE** MAGGIE KNIT PURL DIE (#2) (\$18.99) In the second Black Sheep Knitting book, a recently married friend of the fold is found dead in her pool so the circle hurries to unravel the mystery. Sequel to While my Pretty One Knits (#1) (\$18.99).

**CAPPELLANI, OTTAVIO** SICILIAN TRAGEDIE (\$19) Part Tarantino-style operetta, part soap opera Cappellani's hilarious second novel is set in a 21st century Sicily rife with moody aristocrats, vain politicians, inept gangsters, shabby actors, and high-tech killers. "A riotous and affectionate riff on Romeo and Juliet"—*Seattle Times*.

**CHANG, HENRY** JACK YU YEAR OF THE DOG (#2) (\$17) Even though Detective Jack Yu has been transferred to a different precinct, he cannot get away from Chinatown's criminals. A Hong Kong-based triad has hooked up with some of these criminals in an elaborate nationwide credit card fraud and he's looking into it. Sequel to Chinatown Beat (#1) (\$16).

**CHILD, LINCOLN** TERMINAL FREEZE (\$10.99) Two hundred miles north of the Arctic Circle lies Alaska's Federal Wildlife Zone, one of the most inhospitable places on Earth. But for paleoecologist Evan Marshall and a small group of fellow scientists, an expedition to the Zone represents a great opportunity to study the effect of global warming. Everything changes when the group discovers an enormous ancient animal encased in solid ice. The media conglomerate sponsoring the research immediately organizes a TV docudrama where they will thaw the creature on air. But the beast is no regular specimen; it may be an ancient killing machine. And it may not be dead.

**CHILDS, LAURA** CAKLEBERRY EGGS BENEDICT ARNOLD (#2) (\$9.99) The first one in this series, Eggs in Purgatory (#1) (\$7.50)

was a Marian's Pick and she's also been a big fan of the author's "tea shop" mysteries. When of their own discovers funeral director Ozzie Driesden lying on the embalming table, instead of working at it, and is chloroformed, the Crackleberry Club scrambles to crack the case before one of their own ends up six feet under. See *Marian's Picks*.

**CHRISTOPHER, PAUL** TEMPLAR CROSS (#2) (\$12.50) A mystery of a centuries-old warrior society and the shocking truth behind its rise to power...sequel to The Sword of the Templars (#1) (\$9.99). Retired Army ranger John Holliday in his second adventure.

**COGINS, MARK** RIORDAN BIG WAKE UP (#5) (\$20 trade paperback, \$33.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section.

**CONANT & CONANT-PARK** FED UP (#4) (\$9.99) Sequel to Steamed (#1) (\$9.99), Simmer Down (#2) (\$7.99) and Turn Up the Heat (#3) (\$9.99). Chloe Carter's chef boyfriend is competing to star in a new TV series—hijack unsuspecting grocery shoppers and prepare them gourmet meals—and all is going well until one shopper drops dead. It's obviously not the boyfriend—he's been on camera all this time—so who could it be?

**CONSTANTINE, K C** MAN WHO LIKED SLOW TOMATOES (\$14.50) The fifth Mario Balzic novel. Nothing moves in Rocksborg, PA, without Balzic knowing how and why, so when tomatoes show at his bar hangout, out of season, something is up.

**COOKE, DEBORAH** WINTER KISS (\$9.99) A special order.

**CORNWELL, BERNARD** BURNING LAND (#5) (\$22.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section.

**CRISPIN, EDMUND** FEN BURIED FOR PLEASURE (#6) (\$21.95) The first six Gervase Fen novels have been re-issued in this tpb format. First published in the mid-1940, these classics of English detective fiction are still worth a look.

**CROSS, AMANDA** SWEET DEATH KIND DEATH (#7) (\$22), NO WORD FROM WINIFRED (#8) (\$27) and IMPERFECT SPY (#11) (\$22). New editions of three Kate Fansler novels.

**CROSS, NEIL** BURIAL (\$19.99) Old secrets come back to haunt Nathan. Does he know to what lengths he'll go to keep them secret?

**CUSSLER, CLIVE** ARCTIC DRIFT (\$12.50) A potential breakthrough discovery to reverse global warming. A series of unexplained deaths in British Columbia. A rash of international incidents between the US and one of its closest allies that threatens to erupt into an actual shooting war. NUMA director Dirk Pitt and his children, Dirk Jr. and Summer, have reason to believe all these events are connected.

**DELL'EDERA, WERTHER** DARK ENTRIES (\$24.99) Graphic novel, story by Ian Rankin.

**DENNISON, HANNAH** HILL EXPOSE (#3) (\$8.50) It's snail racing season in the small town of Gipping-on-Plym and obituary writer Vicky Hill is racing, too—to solve a mysterious death. Sequel to Vicky Hill Exclusive (#1) (\$6.99) and Scoop (#2) (\$7.50).

**DOBSON, JOANNE** MALTESE MANUSCRIPT (#5) (\$20) The fifth novel featuring English professor Karen Pelletier. This is really a superb series of novels that should be read by all. Start with Quieter Than Sleep (\$10.99), first published in 1997, and see if you do not agree. For those of you who have been reading these, then you'll be pleased to know that Death Without Tenure (#6) (\$32.95 hc and \$20 tpb) will be here soon.

**DOHERTY, PAUL** TEMPLAR MAGICIAN (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section.

**DOOGAN, MIKE** SKELETON LAKE (#3) (\$9.99) Ex-cop Nik Kane. Alaska.

**DORSEY, TIM** SERGE STORMS ATOMIC LOBSTER (#10) (\$8.99) A whole lotta stuff going on in Florida...Is Serge wrong that guns, drugs and strippers don't mix? What sets the Non-Confrontationalists off on a rampage? What finally brings Coleman and Lenny together? Will they succeed in building the biggest bong ever? First released in paperback a year ago, but I somehow missed ordering it...

**DORSEY, TIM** SERGE STORMS NUCLEAR JELLYFISH (#11)

(\$17.99) Crazy Serge sets up his own website highlighting all the great places to visit in Florida along with tips on how to keep from getting killed on vacation. Serge's web presence attracts the attention of his nemesis, Agent Mahoney and the chase is on. Wacky.

**[DOYLE]CAMPBELL, JR** GASLIGHT GROTESQUE: NIGHTMARE TALES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$19.95) Sherlock Holmes and the supernatural. The monsters are out on Baker Street. A baker's dozen of stories and a forward by **Leslie Klinger**.

**[DOYLE]DAVIES, DAVID STUART** SCROLL OF THE DEAD (\$12.95) Holmes attends a séance to unmask an imposter posing as a medium. His foe, Sebastian Melmoth, is a man hell-bent on discovering a mysterious papyrus that may hold the key to immortality.

**[DOYLE]DAVIES, DAVID STUART** VEILED DETECTIVE (\$12.95) It is 1880 and a young Sherlock Holmes arrives in London and attracts the attention of criminal mastermind Professor James Moriarty, who decides that he must control this fledgling genius.

**[DOYLE]FAYE, LYNDASAY** DUST AND SHADOW (\$18.99) An account of the Ripper Killings by Dr. John H. Watson

**[DOYLE]GREENBERG, LELLENBERG** SHERLOCK HOLMES IN AMERICA (\$19.95) Sherlock Holmes and Watson are on their first trip across the Atlantic as they fight crime all over nineteenth-century North America. Previously unpublished stories.

**[DOYLE]STASHOWER, DANIEL** ECTOPLASMIC MAN (#1) (\$12.95) The first Sherlock Holmes and Harry Houdini novel, followed by Elephants in the Distance (#2) (\$20).

**[DOYLE]WELLMAN, MANLY WADE** WAR OF THE WORLDS (\$12.95) At last! The story **H G Wells** never told—the dramatic role of Sherlock Holmes in the Martian invasion of Earth.

**[DOYLE]RENNISON, NICK** SHERLOCK HOLMES THE UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY (\$19) A look into the secret life of Sherlock Holmes: how he solved the Jack The Ripper murders, his addiction to cocaine, his involvement in a plot to assassinate Queen Victoria, and many other things Dr. Watson never spoke of.

**DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple** WINTER GARDEN MYSTERY (#2) (\$8.49) Reprint. Sequel to Death at Wentwater Court (\$9.99). Daffodil bulbs aren't all that's buried in a country estate's flower bed.

**GARDNER, JOHN moriarty** MORIARTY (#3) (\$24) It is the turn of the last century and, having survived the struggle with Sherlock Holmes at the Reichenbach Falls, Professor James Moriarty is planning to establish crime syndicates in the major cities of the US. But suddenly he is called back to London, where his vast criminal society has been overrun by a rival concern led by the shadowy Sir Jack Idell, Idle Jack. Moriarty fights back against the unruly crime families and the forces of law and order.

**ENGLERT, J F** DOG AT SEA (#3) (\$10.99) Randolph and his owner, Harry, are on a canine cruise looking for clues to the whereabouts of the long-lost Imogen. Sequel to Dog About Town (#1) and Dog Among Diplomats (#2) (\$8.99 each).

**EPHRON, HALLIE** NEVER TELL A LIE (\$10.99) With Ivy over eight months pregnant, she and her husband David decide to have a yard sale to get rid of the junk they inherited when they bought their old Victorian house. During the sale, Melinda White, a former high school classmate, shows up and said she used to play in the house and wondered if she could go in and look at the renovations. Melinda and David go into the house but Melinda never comes out. David is now under police suspicion and Ivy finds herself digging deeper into the past to clear his name.

**FAIRSTEIN, LINDA cooper** LETHAL LEGACY (#11) (\$10.99) Two attacks on young women in the same apartment, extremely valuable books missing, and that the apartment belongs to the wealthy Hunt family, longtime benefactors of the New York Public Library, has ADA Alex Cooper and her colleagues lead the reader on a breathtaking ride through the valuable first editions, lost atlases, and secret rooms and tunnels of the great New York Public Library.

**FASMAN, JON** UNPOSSESSED CITY (\$18.50) A novel of Russia, from the author of The Geographer's Library (\$20).

**FATE, ROBERT** BABY SHARK'S JUGGLERS AT THE BORDER (#4) (\$20) Just because Kristin, Baby Shark, is a girl, and twenty-three years old doesn't mean you can push her around. Many have had to learn that lesson the hard way. Read all four.

**FERRIS, MONICA** THAI DIE (#12) (\$9.99) When one of Betsy Devonshire's regular customers returns from Thailand, she is eager to show off her souvenirs: dazzling silk panels and floss. But after she delivers a small stone Buddha to an antiques shop in St. Paul's her apartment is broken into, the antiques dealer is murdered and the Buddha statue is stolen.

**FLYNN, VINCE** SEPARATION OF POWER (\$12.99) The fourth "pulse-pounding political thriller" from this best-selling author.

**FOLLETT, KEN** EYE OF THE NEEDLE (\$17.99) The classic war-time novel. The author's debut novel was published as Storm Island in the UK. Marian just love this novel.

**FORMAN, STEVEN M eddie** BOCA KNIGHTS (#1) (\$9.99) Eddie Perlmutter is an ex-cop, with bad knees, who has moved from the cold and damp of New England to the warmth of Boca Raton. He was a highly decorated hero but now just wants to live the quiet life. But a man is accused of murder, Neo-Nazis are harassing innocent women, and someone has desecrated a house of worship. Eddie is fighting mad and ready to go after the punks who are stirring up the trouble. A debut novel.

**FOWLER, CHRISTOPHER bryan** VICTORIA VANISHES (#6) (\$18.95) This is another terrific series that everyone should read. Arthur Bryant and his partner John May are two slightly offbeat characters who are members of The Peculiar Crimes Unit in London. The Unit is constantly under threat of being disbanded due to the unorthodox procedures followed by the team. After all, they investigate crimes of, well, a peculiar nature and occasionally need to adopt unorthodox means. The first five novels in this series, in order, are Full Dark House, The Water Room, Seventy-Seven Clocks, Ten Second Staircase, and White Corridor (\$15 trade paperback each).

**FRAZER, MARGARET joliffe** PLAY OF TREACHERY (#5) (\$9.99) In agreeing to serve the powerful Bishop Beaufort, Joliffe and his players have made what may be a deal with the devil. It surely seems so in the winter of 1436, when the Bishop sends Joliffe alone to France and into the middle of a war.

**FRENCH, TANA ryan** LIKENESS (#2) (\$10.99) Still traumatised by her brush with a psychopath, (In the Woods (\$10.99)), Detective Cassie Maddox transfers out of the Murder Squad and starts a relationship with fellow detective Sam O'Neill. When he calls her to the scene of his new case, she is shocked to find that the murdered girl is her double. What's more, her ID shows she is Lexie Madison, the identity Cassie used years ago, as an undercover detective. With no leads, no suspects and no clues to Lexie's real identity, Cassie's old boss wants to send Cassie undercover in Lexie's place, to tempt the killer out of hiding to finish the job.

**FUNARO, GREGORY** SCULPTOR (\$8.99) The FBI, a mad artist who shapes his victims' bodies into replicas of Michelangelo's creations, a serial killer...

**GAGE, LEIGHTON silva** BURIED STRANGERS (#2) (\$17) Mario Silva, Chief Inspector for Criminal Matters of the Federal Police of Brazil, in his second investigation, sequel to Blood of the Wicked (\$18). Hundreds of bodies are found in the woods in Sao Paulo, and Silva and his team investigate...

**GALENORN, YASMINE otherw** BONE MAGIC (#7) (\$9.99)

**GODDARD, ROBERT** FOUND WANTING (\$11.99) Civil servant Richard Eusden is on his way to work in London when he is intercepted by his ex-wife, Gemma. She has sad news of his old friend, her other ex-husband, Marty Hewitson. Marty is dying, but needs one last favour. Eusden reluctantly agrees. But what should be

a simple errand soon turns into a race for life, his and Marty's. It takes him across Belgium, Germany and Denmark and on into the Nordic heart of a mystery that somehow connects Marty's long-dead grandfather, an Isle of Wight police officer, with the tragic death of the Russian Royal Family, murdered ninety years earlier.

**GRAVES, SARAH** FACE AT THE WINDOW (#12) (\$10.99)

After more than thirty years eluding justice, the man who murdered the mother of home repair enthusiast Jake Tiptree is about to stand trial, until he vanishes into thin air. Jake has a terrible foreboding where he'll turn up next. And while the local police chief is sure she is overreacting, the truth is far worse than even Jake's worst fears.

**GREEN, JAMES costello** BAD CATHOLICS (#1) (\$20)

**GREEN, SIMON** JUST ANOTHER JUDGEMENT DAY (\$9.99) and UNNATURAL INQUIRER (\$8.99) Special orders.

**GRIFFIN, W E B** BLACK OPS (#5) (\$12.50) Presidential agent Castillo.

**GRIPPANDO, JAMES swytek** BORN TO RUN (#8) (\$10.99)

Miami criminal lawyer Jack Swytek guards his own family secrets closely, after his father's two terms as Florida's governor made some personal rifts public. Now his father, Harry, has been asked to be Vice President of the US when his friend, the former VP, goes hunting for alligators and winds up dead. Harry asks Jack to be his lawyer. But the job turns lethal and Jack finds himself at the heart of a complicated cover-up that spans nearly fifty years.

**HAGBERG, DAVID** EXPEDITER (\$11.99)

**HALE, REBECCA antiques** HOW TO WASH A CAT (#1)

(\$8.50) Our heroine has inherited her late uncle's San Francisco antiques stores and, with her two curious cats, prepares for a new career. But, there's something a little suspicious about her uncle's death. What did it have to do with his collection of SF antiques? Son egret history of San Francisco thrown in.

**HALLIDAY, GEMMA** SCANDAL SHEET (\$8.99) A new series from the author of the Maddie Springer novels, Mayhem in High Heels (\$9.99) and four others, starring a Hollywood gossip columnist. What juicy piece of Hollywood gossip is worth killing her over?

**HAMILTON, LAURELL K** SWALLOWING DARKNESS (#7) (\$10.99) Meredith Gentry.

**HARRIS, CHARLAINE teagarden** FOOL AND HIS HONEY (#6) (\$8.99) Reissue.

**HARRISON, KIM** WHITE WITCH BLACK CURSE (\$10.99)

**HERMANS, WILLEM** DARKROOM OF DAMOCLES (\$17.50) First published in 1958, this novel of WW2, is set during the German occupation of Holland.

**HERREN, GREG chanse** MURDER IN THE GARDEN DIS-TRICT (#5) (\$20) Det. Chance MacLeod investigates the shooting death of a leading candidate for the upcoming senatorial race, scion of a Louisiana political dynasty. The prime suspect? His wife!

**HEWSON, DAVID** CEMETERY OF SECRETS (aka Lucifer's Shadow in the US) (\$14.99) From the author of the Nic Costa series. A great story.

**HEYER, GEORGETTE** MASQUERADERS (\$17.99) A special order.

**HILL, SUSAN** BEACON (\$19.95) By the author of the four Simon Serrailer novels. A slim volume that "examines larger issues of truth, mental health and memory..."—*Guardian*.

**HOLLAND, TOM** PERSIAN FIRE (\$23) A special order.

**HOLT, HAZEL** MRS. MALLORY & ANY MAN'S DEATH (#19) (\$8.50) When Sheila Mallory gets roped into busybody Annie's latest project—a village history—she has a feeling it will lead to trouble. And it does; Annie is found dead of mushroom poisoning. Had the nosy busybody found some dark secrets about her fellow villagers? Secrets someone might kill to keep quiet?

**HUGHES, CHARLOTTE holly** HIGH ANXIETY (#3) (\$9.99) From the author of the Max Holt novels (written with **Janet Evanovich**), the third Kate Holly novel. Kate needs a temporary secretary. What she ends up with, albeit competent, is a psycho...

**HUSTON, CHARLIE** MYSTIC ARTS OF ERASING ALL SIGNS OF DEATH (\$18.95) Web Goodhue has been slacking off for a year or so but now has to get a job. Web joins Clean Team and soon finds himself sponging a Malibu suicide's brains from a bathroom mirror and flirting with the man's bereaved and beautiful daughter. Then the dead man's daughter asks a favour: her brother is in need of somebody who can clean up a mess. Don't do it Web! But can he turn her down? Fabulous. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

**HUSTON, CHARLIE joe pitt** MY DEAD BODY (#5) (\$17.99) Nobody lives forever, not even a vampire. Just ask Joe. He's made a bad mistake and now he's definitely a dead man walking.

**HYZY, JULIE white house** EGGSECUTIVE ORDERS (#3) (\$9.99) With the White House's big Easter celebration right around the corner, chef Olivia Para has too many eggs in one basket. Add the death of a government official and she's starting to feel more like a basket case. Sequel to State of the Onion (\$10.99) and Hail to the Chef (\$8.99). Onion was a Marian's Pick a year or so ago...

**INDRIDASON, ARNALDUR** JAR CITY (#1) (aka tainted blood) (\$21.95) A new UK edition of the first Reykjavik Murder Mystery.

**JAMES, P D** PRIVATE PATIENT (\$11.99) The mass market paperback edition. Commander Adam Dalgliesh and his team are called in to investigate a murder at a very private clinic in Dorset. The victim is the notorious investigative reporter Rhonda Gradwyn. She had been booked into the clinic to have a facial scar removed. A second terrifying death complicates the investigation.

**JAMES, STEVEN** ROOK (\$9.99) A series of baffling fires around San Diego has culminated at a top secret naval research facility. FBI Special Agent Bowers investigates. Sequel to Pawn (\$9.99).

**JECKS, MICHAEL** BISHOP MUST DIE (#26) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section.

**JOHANSEN, IRIS** DEADLOCK (\$9.99)

**JUNGSTEDT, MARI knutas** UNSPOKEN (#2) (\$24) A young girl is found strangled on the island of Gotland, just off the coast of Sweden, and all evidence points to one of her co-workers at the local riding stable. Is it possible her death is related to the murder of alcoholic photographer Henry Dahlstrom? The police found explicit photographs of the girl with a stranger in Dahlstrom's darkroom. While Inspector Anders Knutas waits for the co-worker, who has left the country for a short vacation, to return, he takes a well deserved week-end off. The first in the series is Unseen (\$24).

**KANDEL, SUSAN** DIAL H FOR HITCHCOCK (#5) (\$17.99) Cece Caruso, biographer of mystery writers, is having trouble finishing her latest, that of Hitchcock. So she decides to go see Vertigo, see if that might inspire her. At the theatre, she finds a cell phone and, trying to return it, being a good citizen, she gets involved in the murder of the owner of the cell phone. Now she's going to be really late turning in the finished book.

**KELLOUGH, JANET** ON THE HEAD OF A PIN (\$11.99) A mystery set in Upper Canada in the turbulent days following the doomed Mackenzie rebellion... Great reviews.

**KELNER, TONI where are they now** WHO KILLED THE PINUP QUEEN (#2) (\$8.50) Tilda Harper's second investigation, sequel to Curse of the Kissing Cousins (\$8.50).

**KENNEDY, MARY** DEAD AIR (#1) (\$8.50) The first novel in a series featuring talk radio mystery psychologist Maggie Walsh.

**KENT, REBECCA meredith** MURDER HAS NO CLASS (#3) (\$8.50) Meredith Llewellyn, headmistress of the exclusive finishing school Bellehaven House, is confronted by a very angry ghost who insists he was hanged for a crime he didn't commit. With the help of her reluctant companions, Meredith must prove his innocence and bring the true murderer to justice. The final volume in this series and the final book under this pseudonym for **Kate Kingsbury**.

**KERNICK, SIMON** TARGET (\$11.99) When writer Rob Fallon gets drunk one night and ends up joining his best friend's girlfriend,

Jenny, back at her apartment in London's West End, he's feeling guilty before anything happened. But guilt quickly turns to shock when two men break into the apartment, abduct Jenny, and try to kill Rob. He escapes, miraculously, but cannot interest the police in the incident. Even Jenny's father doesn't believe him, claiming that she's on holidays abroad. Is he going mad?

**KILLIAN, DIANA** DIAL OM FOR MURDER (#2) (\$8.50) Sequel to Corpse Pose (\$6.99). When one of A.J.'s celebrity yoga students is murdered and another is accused of the crime, A.J. has no choice but to sort this out. Her new detective boyfriend helps.

**KINSELLA, SOPHIE** REMEMBER ME (\$16.50) A special order.

**KNIGHT, BERNARD** CROWNER ROYAL (#13) (\$11.99) London, 1196. At the command of King Richard, Sir John de Wolf has left his beloved West Country for Westminster, where he has been appointed Coroner of the Verge. But with the Lionheart overseas, embroiled in a costly war against King Philip of France, Sir John is dismayed to discover that the English court is a hotbed of greed, corruption and petty in-fighting.

**LAMOTHE, LEE** FINGER'S TWIST (\$16.50) Read all the Lee Child novels? Even his brother **Andrew Grant's** Even (\$31.95 hardcover, pb due March \$9.99)? Then give this one a whirl. "Charlie Tate isn't a clone of Jack Reacher. Unlike Jack, Charlie has relationships, kids, community ties. But he's like Reacher in his commitment to truth..." Margaret Cannon, *The Globe and Mail*.

**LASHNER, WILLIAM** BLOOD AND BONE (\$10.99) A stand-alone thriller, not Victor Carl.

**LAWSON, MIKE** HOUSE RULES (#3) (\$10.95) After two attempted terrorist attacks, a US senator proposes a bill which would run extensive background checks on all Muslims and deport any who are not US citizens. John Mahoney, larger-than-life Speaker of the House, knows this is a knee-jerk response and he calls on Joe DeMarco to investigate. Sequel to Inside Ring (\$9.99) and Second Perimeter (\$10.99). Another terrific series we have just discovered.

**LEE, PATRICK** BREACH (\$10.99) Travis Chase, a man putting his life back together after fifteen years in prison, takes a solo hike into the Alaskan Rockies. He's just looking for a quiet place to think about his future, but what he finds is trouble: a 747, downed in remote wilderness, the wreck impossibly undiscovered by authorities. Those aboard are dead, though not because of the crash.

**LEVISON, IAIN** HOW TO ROB AN ARMORED CAR (\$20) In a dying Pennsylvania coal town, three friends—losers all—are looking for a way out. They dabble in petty crime and, hey, that was easy. Now time for something bigger!

**LIPPMAN, LAURA** HARDLY KNEW HER ss (\$17.99) A collection of stories. Set mostly in **Lippman's** beloved Baltimore, and there's Tess in a couple of stories. Witty, charming, devious, and filled with unanticipated twists. The introduction by **George Pelecanos** alone is worth the price of the collection. Great fun.

**LOVESEY, PETER** MURDER ON THE SHORT LIST (\$25) The author's selection of his best short stories. Included is the Crime Writers' Association's best short story of 2007, "Needle Match".

**LOVESEY, PETER** **cribb** TICK OF DEATH (#5) aka Invitation to a Dynamite Party and CASE OF SPIRITS (#6) (\$18 each). Reissues of two more Sgt. Cribb, Victorian policeman, novels.

**LUDLUM, ROBERT** TRISTAN BETRAYAL (\$11.99) Reissue. First published in 2003.

**MCCOY, JUDI** **dog walker** HEIR OF THE DOG (#2) (\$8.50) Professional dog walker Ellie Engleman can not only walk dogs, she can read their minds.

**MCCREA, GRANT** **redman** DRAWING DEAD (#2) (\$19.95) Lawyer Rick Redman loses the substantial cash retainer in a poker game, so has no choice but to try to recoup the lost money at World Series of Poker. Ha! Sequel to Dead Money (#1) (\$19.95)

**MCGARRITY, MICHAEL** DEAD OR ALIVE (#12) (\$18.50)

Living in London while his wife serves as a military attaché at the American Embassy, recently retired Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney gets an early morning phone call that sends him hurrying home to his New Mexico ranch. Riley Burke, his partner in a horse-training enterprise, has been murdered by an escaped prisoner.

**MCKEVETT, G A** **savannah** BODY TO DIE FOR (#14) (\$8.99) PI Savannah Reid helps investigate the death of the nation's hottest weight loss guru. Not that this plus-sized investigator is a big fan of dieting, she needs to be involved.

**MACLEAN, ALISTAIR** FLOODGATE and LONELY SEA (\$10.99 each). Two more reissues.

**MCNAB, ANDY** **nick stone** EXIT WOUND (#12) (\$25) For two of Nick Stone's closest friends, three tons of Saddam Hussein's gold in an unguarded warehouse in Dubai is irresistible. When the heist goes wrong, and his friends are killed, Stone seeks revenge.

**MAGNAN, PIERRE** DEATH IN THE TRUFFLE WOOD and MESSENGERS OF DEATH (\$18 each). Two novels featuring Commissaire Laviolette, both set in Provence.

**MARSH, NGAIO** Omnibus Volumes (\$17.95 each)

#1-Man Lay Dead, Enter Murderer and Nursing Home Murder.

#2-Vintage Murder, Death in Ecstasy and Artists in Crime.

#3-Death in a White Tie, Overture to Death, Death at the Bar.

#4-Surfeit of Lampreys, Death and the Dancing Footman and Colour Scheme.

**MARSTON, EDWARD** **rawson** DRUMS OF WAR (#2) (\$14.99)

When the Duke of Marlborough proposes a dangerous undercover mission to Captain Daniel Rawson, he happily accepts. One of their spies, a Dutch tapestry-maker based at the court of Louis XIV, has gone missing and Daniel is instructed to find him. The first in the series is Soldier of Fortune (\$14.95 mass market).

**MEPHAM, MICHAEL** MURDER ON THE SUDOKU EXPRESS (\$9.99) 150 brand-new puzzles packaged in the classic Penguin "greenback" look. Worth it just for the packaging.

**MITCHELL, GLADYS** DEATH AND THE MAIDEN (\$20) A Dame Beatrice novel, first published in the mid-1940s. A dozen or so of her adventures are now back in print.

**MONROE, ALY** **cotton** WASHINGTON SHADOW (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. By the author of Maze of Cadiz (\$14.95)

**MORGAN, KAYE** **liza kelly** GHOST SUDOKU (#5) (\$8.50)

Liza Kelly Sudoku maven. Sequel to Sinister Sudoku (#3) (\$7.50) and Killer Sudoku (#4) (\$8.50)

**MORRIS, BOB** **zack** DEADLY SILVER SEA (#4) (\$9.99) A Caribbean cruise goes horribly wrong for Zack Chasteen and his eight-month pregnant wife, Barbara. An hour out of Miami, gunmen take control of the ship, kill most of the officers and sequester the passengers. No one knows why.

**MURPHY, SHIRLEY** **ROUSSEAU** CAT PLAYING CUPID (#14) (\$10.99) It takes tomcat Joe Grey to figure out that two murders, five hundred miles apart, are related. And with Clyde and Ryan on their honeymoon, he has time to solve them.

**MYERS, BEVERLE** **GRAVES** INTERRUPTED ARIA (#1) (\$20) Venice, 1731. Opera is the entertainment of the day and the castrati are its reigning divas. Tito Amato, mutilated as a boy to preserve his enchanting soprano voice, returns to the city of his birth with friend Felice, a castrato whose voice has failed. Disaster strikes Tito's opera premiere when the singer loses one beloved friend to poison and another to unjust accusation and arrest. A debut novel. The next four novels in this series are also available: Painted Veil (#2), Cruel Music (#3), Iron Tongue of Midnight (#4) (\$20 ea.) and Her Deadly Mischief (#5) (\$32.95).

**NEVILLE, KATHERINE** FIRE (\$18.95) Twenty years later we finally have a sequel to the phenomenal The Eight (\$16.95 trade paperback, \$9.99 mass market paperback). Cat Velis and Alexander

Solarin thought they had scattered the pieces of the Montglane Service around the world, burying with the chess pieces the secrets of the power that comes with possessing them. Summoned home to Colorado, Alexandra Solarin arrives to find her mother, Cat, is missing and that a series of strategically placed clues, followed swiftly by the unexpected arrival of a mysterious assortment of houseguests, indicates something sinister is afoot.

**NORMAN, DIANA** SPARKS FLY UPWARD (\$20) AKA **Ariana Franklin**. Starved for love, Philippa might find it in the strangest of places: across the Channel, in France, where the Reign of Terror is causing the beheading of thousands of noble heads.

**NOVIK, NAOMI** VICTORY OF EAGLES (#5) (\$9.99) Temeraire.

**ORGAIN, DIANA** BUNDLE OF TROUBLE (#1) (\$8.50) If you are going to be up all night with baby, you might as well solve some crimes. So, new mom Kate Connelly become a P.I.; it's the perfect job for a stay-at-home mom. You can even take baby to stake-outs!

**O'BRIEN, MARTIN** CONFESSION (#5) (\$32.95 trade paperback) (Preface) A young girl, just a few days shy of her sixteenth birthday, goes missing in Paris. With no ransom note forthcoming, the authorities fear the worse. Jaquot is brought back to Marseilles when another young Parisian girl goes missing but is found dead in Marseilles. This is a fabulous series.

**O'SHAUGHNESSY, PERRI** SHOW NO FEAR (#12) (\$10.99) Nina Reilly. A prequel, back to Nina's days of being a single mom, going to law school at night and working as a paralegal. When a woman falls to her death off a bridge near Big Sur and witnesses start disappearing, Nina suspects there is more to the story than the authorities are letting on.

**OUST, GAIL** bunco babes WHACK N ROLL (#1) (\$8.50) The Bunco Babes are not your average retirees. They like to throw themselves into mysteries, when, of course, they are not throwing the dice. When the Babes come across a dismembered arm during a golf game, the rumours—and excitement—are sure to follow.

**PALOV, CHLOE/C.M.** ARK OF FIRE (\$9.99) Photographer Edie Miller witness a murder and the theft of an ancient Hebrew relic known as the Stone of Fire. Little does she know what she has witnessed. For **Dan Brown, Steve Berry** fans...

**PALOV, CHLOE** STONES OF FIRE (\$9.99) Find the Ark of the Covenant or die. Let the hunt begin...

**PATTERSON, JAMES** 7TH HEAVEN (\$9.99) Michael Campton, the teenage son of a recent governor, has disappeared under mysterious circumstances. He was born with an incurable heart defect and grew up under the watchful eye of an adoring Californian public.

The pressure on detective Lindsay Boxer to find Michael is overwhelming. When she finally does get a lead, it's devastating. At the same time Lindsay and her partner, Rich Conklin, also try to catch whoever is setting fire to some of San Francisco's most beautiful homes, leaving their owners to perish in the flames. She enlists her friends in the Woman's Murder Club to help her find the arsonist.

**PEACE, DAVID** red riding NINETEEN EIGHTY (#3) (\$18.95) The third installment in the author's Yorkshire quartet. Nineteen Seventy Four (\$15.95) and Nineteen Seventy Seven (\$17.50) were the first two. To Yorkshire what **James Ellroy** is to LA.

**PEARCE, MICHAEL** DEAD MAN IN: TRIESTE (#1), ISTANBUL (#2), ATHENS (#3), TANGIER (#4) and BARCELONA (#5) (\$18 each). The first five Seymour of Special Branch investigations, set in various British embassies and Consulates of Europe of the early 1900s. From the author of the Mamur Zapt novels.

**PERRY, THOMAS** whitefield RUNNER (#6) (\$18.95) Finally, after a long break, Jane Whitefield is back. Jane helps people disappear, change their identity and get away from the bad guys. Now, even though she had promised her husband she would not go back into this line of work, a young pregnant girl asks her for help.

**PETTERSON, PER** OUT STEALING HORSES (\$20) A special order.

**PHILLIPS, ROD** 500 BEST VALUE WINES IN THE LCBO 2010 (\$19.95) Well, if you've gotten this far into the newsletter, then it must surely be time for a drink. Let this be your guide... Speaking of which, Marian discovered yet another good wine at \$9.95: Argento, a 2009 malbec from Argentina.

**PICKENS, CATHY** CAN'T NEVER TELL (#5) (\$8.99) It's another Fourth of July in Dacus, SC, and the carnival is not impressing Avery Andrews' seven-year-old niece, Emma. That is, until the leg falls off a mannequin posing with a chainsaw. Even Emma recognizes the human leg bone protruding from the wizened limb. The owner of the fright house wants Avery to help them reopen so they don't miss out on the holiday crowd. Sequel to Southern Fried (\$8.99), Done Gone Wrong (\$9.99), Hog Wild (\$8.99) and Hush My Mouth (\$8.99).

**POWELL, JAMES** POCKETFUL OF NOSES (\$25) Stories of one Ganelon or Another. This collection chronicles the adventures of the Ganelon family, four generations of P.I.'s named Ambrose Ganelon who live in the small Riviera principality of San Sebastiano.

**QURESHI, MOBASHAR** OCTOBER FIVE (\$18.50) A series of brutal murders lead Chicago Homicide Detective Karl Whaler on the strangest and most dangerous investigation of his career. How could the death of a promising young man be related to a tragic event that took place during the Vietnam War, decades earlier? And why do a plumber, an electrician, a caretaker, a locksmith and a butcher meet secretly in a downtown room?

**REAVES, SAM** MEAN TOWN BLUES (\$18.50) A veteran of the war in Iraq, where he suffered extreme injury, Tommy McLain heads to Chicago where he has a friend he can count on. What he doesn't count on is Lisa DiPietro, a beautiful young woman who fears she is being stalked. Tommy decides to scare the creep off but his gun does more than settle a score. Tommy is going to need all his infantry and combat training to fend off the mob war that ensues.

**REESE, JAMES** DRACULA DOSSIER (\$18.99) **Michael Connelly** calls this "...a damn good thriller". Bram Stoker manages to become the prime suspect in the murder of a prostitute in Whitechapel. To clear his name he calls on some of his illustrious friends, including Walt Whitman, Lady Jane Wilde (mother of Oscar Wilde), and the million-copy-selling Victorian novelist Sir Thomas Henry Hall Caine. When they discover that the murder weapon is a Gurkha knife owned by Stoker, recently stolen from his home, there can be no doubt that the elusive American doctor, Francis Tumblety, is the very man who is terrorizing London as Jack the Ripper.

**RENDELL, RUTH** PORTOBELLO (\$10.99) Eugene Wren finds a sum of money and posts a note on a lamp post giving a phone number for the person who lost it to call. As you can imagine this note links the lives of a number of very different people.

**ROBERTS, JOHN MADDOX** sqqr ORACLE OF THE DEAD (#12) (\$18.99) Decius Caecilius Metellus thinks he is merely visiting one of the local attractions in southern Italy when he takes a party to visit the Oracle of the Dead, a pre-Roman cult site located at the end of a tunnel dug beneath a temple of Apollo. He quickly learns that there is a bitter rivalry between the priests of Apollo and those of Hecate, who guard the oracle. When all the priests of Apollo are killed, the countryside looks ready to explode.

**ROBERTS, WENDY** sadie DEAD AND KICKING (#3) (\$8.50) A crime scene cleaner-upper who can talk to ghosts. Sequel to Remains of the Dead (\$9.99) and Devil May Ride (\$7.50). One of Marian's favourite series.

**ROBOTHAM, MICHAEL** BOMBPROOF (\$21) Sami Macbeth is not a master criminal. He's not even a minor one. He's not a jewel thief. He's not a safe-cracker. He's not an expert in explosives. Sami plays guitar and wants to be a rock god but keeps getting side-tracked by unforeseen circumstances. An hour ago his train blew up and has turned him into the most wanted terrorist in the country.

**ROWE, ROSEMARY** DEATH AT POMPEIA'S WEDDING

**(#10)** (\$21) The bride-to-be is distraught that she caused her father's death—she did, after all, give him the poisoned wine—but Libertus is convinced that that is not the case. He investigates on behalf of the groom, who needs the substantial dowry.

**ROZAN, S J** TALE ABOUT A TIGER (\$25) A collection of short stories.

**RYAN, CHRIS** WHO DARES WINS (\$25) Another novel of the SAS. Two brothers, SAS through and through. When one of the two is booted out of the service the other must look out for him.

**SANTLOFER, JONATHAN nate** MURDER NOTEBOOK (#2) (\$18.99) The second novel featuring forensic artist Nate Rodriguez, sequel to Anatomy of Fear (\$10.99). When bodies start turning up, only Nate sees the common thread among them. But he has no idea what he has stumbled into.

**SEFTON, MAGGIE kelly flyn** FLEECE NAVIDAD (#6) (\$9.99) The town librarian is in love. But, no sooner than she finds happiness, death finds her. Suspicion falls on a newcomer to the knitting group but Kelly is not convinced of this person's guilt.

**SIMMS, CHRIS jon spicer** HELL'S FIRE (\$12.95) The deliberate torching of a church creates outrage across Manchester. And when a charred corpse and satanic symbols are found in the smoking ruins, Detective Inspector Jon Spicer and the city's Major Incident Team are called in. The three earlier books are Killing the Beast (\$12.99), Shifting Skin (\$14.95) and Savage Moon (\$24.95 trade paperback).

**SJOWALL & WAHLOO beckacti** LOCKED ROOM (#8) (\$17.99) The first eight are now available in North America, with Cop Killer (#9) and Terrorists (#10) due this summer.

**SLADE, MICHAEL** RED SNOW (\$24)

**SMITH, ALEXANDER** LA'S ORCHESTRA SAVES THE WORLD (\$19.95) It's 1939 and in a sleepy town in Suffolk the generous and determined widow, La, forms an amateur orchestra to entertain the locals and soothe her own broken heart. She recruits Felix, a refugee from Poland, to play the flute and a touching friendship emerges. When the war is over and the orchestra disbands, La is left pondering her next move. What role can she play in her community now that the war is over? And can she let herself love again?

**SMITH, ROGER** MIXED BLOOD (\$18) Reluctant bank robber Jack Burns is on the run after a heist in the USA that left three million dollars missing and a cop dead. Hiding out in Cape Town, South Africa, he is determined to start a new life for his pregnant wife and young son. But one night they are the victims of a random gangland assault that changes everything. A gritty debut novel.

**STABENOW, DANA shugak** WHISPER TO THE BLOOD (#16) (\$9.99) Inside Alaska's biggest national park, around the town of Niniltna, a gold mining company has started buying up land. The residents of the Park are uneasy. When an opponent to the mine is murdered, Trooper Jim Chopin and Kate Shugak investigate.

**STACK, JOHN masters sea** SHIP OF ROME (#1) (\$17.95) Atticus, captain of one of the ships of Rome's small, coastal fleet finds himself propelled into the middle of a political struggle that is completely foreign to him. Their enemies are first class, experienced and determine to control the seas. Can Atticus and the fledgling Roman navy, staffed with inexperienced sailors and unwilling legionaries, out-wit and out-fight his opponents?

**STARK, RICHARD parker** HANDLE (#8) aka Run Lethal, SEVENTH (#9) aka Split and RARE COIN SCORE (#11) (\$19 each). Three more Parker novels re-issued.

**STONE, NICK KING OF SWORDS (#2)** (\$18.99) When Detective Max Mingus and his partner, Joe Liston, are called to the scene of a death at Miami's Primate Park, it looks like another, if slightly bizarre, investigation. That is, until two things turn up: the victim's family, slaughtered, and a partly digested tarot card, the King of Swords, in the dead man's stomach. Prequel to Mr. Clarinet (\$17.95).

**SUAREZ, DANIEL** DAEMON (\$12.50) Thousands of simple and autonomous computer programs, or daemons, make the networked

world possible, running constantly in the background. The daemons are pervasive and, for the most part, benign. When the obituary of Matthew Sobol, a legendary computer game designer, is posted online, a previously dormant daemon activates, initiating a chain of events that may unravel the fabric of the hyper-efficient interconnected world Sobol left behind.

**SUMMERS, JORDAN CRIMSON** (\$8.99) A special order.

**TODD, CHARLES rutledge** MATTER OF JUSTICE (#11) (\$18.99) At the turn of the previous century, two soldiers chance upon an opportunity that will change their lives forever. To do this, they have to do the unthinkable and then put their past behind them. Twenty years later, a successful London businessman is found savagely and bizarrely murdered in a medieval tithe barn on his estate in Somerset. Called upon to investigate, Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge soon discovers the victim was universally despised.

**TOPE, REBECCA** BLOOD IN THE COTSWOLDS (#5) (\$10.95) The fifth in the Thea Osborne series. The others in the series, Cotswold Killing, Cotswold Ordeal, Death in the Cotswold and Cotswold Mystery (\$10.99 ea.) are all available and well worth the effort.

**VACHSS, ANDREW** ANOTHER LIFE (#18) (\$18.95) The two-year-old son of a Saudi prince has been kidnapped in a highly professional snatch. Burke's job is to get the kid back no matter what it takes or what it costs.

**VANCE, JACK** PLANET OF ADVENTURE (\$23.99) A special order.

**VARIOUS/MEDIEVAL MURDERER** LOST PROPHECIES (#4) (\$10.99) and KING ARTHUR'S BONES (#5) (\$19.99). Two more collaborative novels, with chapter, or acts, written by six or five, respectively, well known writers of medieval mysteries: **Bernard Knight, Ian Morson, Michael Jecks, Philip Gooden, Susanna Gregory** and in Lost Prophecies only, **C J Sansom**.

**VIDAL, GORE** GOLDEN AGE (\$21) A special order.

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