



# The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

## SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

January 2011

As many of you know from your recent visits to the store or to the website, we are moving. We've been talking about change coming to the store for some time now, and, finally, here it is. After almost three decades of running Sleuth, having become middle-aged—how exactly did that happen?—and the changes to the book as we know it—damn that Kindle, damn that internet—it seems prudent for us to prepare for the landscape that is surely coming. The new store is going to be a little smaller, but the selection will be better. Promise. We're planning on beefing up our large print and audio selections, as you've asked for them. The sections that have never "performed" well—that's the extent of my biz speak—we will downsize or eliminate. Young adult and true crime sections will be eliminated. We'll cut back a little on Sherlockiana, mainly the ephemera, and cut back drastically on reference and anthologies. This will leave, therefore, all our energy, and, square footage, for mysteries. Our hours of business will be curtailed, but we'll be open weekends for sure. What do you think?

The other big change is going to be the way we arrange the stock in the store. What we have decided to do is to have new bookcases made, all the same size, and have only one alpha arrangement. This way, every book we have by a given author, whether hardcover or paperback, new or used, out of print or readily available, will be shelved together, side by side like kippers (with apologies to Dylan Thomas, whom I'm wantonly misquoting), and you'll have the chance to grab a cheap, used paperback if we have one instead of a brand spanking new one. Or not. Whatever works. This way, we are hoping to dispose of the thousands of used copies that have accumulated over the years and save you some cash at the same time. Again, tell us what do you think.

And that brings me to the next thing: bookcases and ladders for sale! The ladders, although attractive, have always been a nuisance. The

### IT'S OFFICIAL

We are moving!

New address: 907 Millwood Rd.  
southeast corner of Millwood Rd. and Sutherland Dr.  
1.1 km south and east of our current location,  
March-ish 2011.

problem actually is that the store was not really wide enough to properly house the ladders. The new store certainly will not be, so to new homes they must go. If you have any interest in acquiring some bookcases or bookcases-and-ladder combination, just give us a shout.

The move will likely take place in March; February for some renovations and then the move. I dread the thought of moving all these books, acquired over the past three decades, which will have to be squeezed into a smaller store, so it might be time to shed a few. I've assembled a few extra tables in the store and will be loading them up with lots of books at deep discounted prices. So think of coming by regularly to check out the bargains. I don't really want to move them!

Both of us are sad to be leaving 1600 Bayview. It was a terrific location for a bookstore, the space is attractive, it was near all the things that we needed to survive—Hollywood Gelato for great coffee and gelato, Alex's for the best selection of cheese, Badali's for fresh veggies and fruit. And it's not like we are going far! It'll be a longer walk to meet the boys to analyze our golf scores, but that's probably a good thing. We haven't decided what we are going to do with 1600—lease it or sell it—but that too will get sorted out in the fullness of time. Anybody want to open a general bookstore here? Talk to us!

## The Merchant of Menace.

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.

### 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

## Marian's Picks

The holidays are lovely times but don't you feel a little relieved when they are over? Lots of activity, too much to eat and not enough exercise and it gets tiring. But I had a lovely Christmas and so did Percy. He got all sorts of goodies from his admirers. In the store, he sported a lovely Christmas bandanna he received from a customer who makes these and he looked quite spiffy ([www.baddogbandana.com](http://www.baddogbandana.com)). He wore his fancy new Christmas collar over Christmas and New Year's that one of his aunties gave him and he just loved looking inside boxes of goodies that others left for him to enjoy. I think he got more presents than J.D. and I combined! He was, however, disappointed when few guests showed up for his birthday party in November but I did tell him that we would do it again next year and that people are busy, so not to take it personally. I'm not sure he understood what I was saying but he will have another birthday party next year. Make sure you put Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 on your calendar.

As J.D. has mentioned we are moving the store. Did he mention that there's lots of parking right in front of the new store? And did he remember to mention that our hours/days of business are going to be curtailed—we're entering semi-retirement, he to the golf course, me to the lake—so be sure to call first or check the website ([SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca](http://SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca)) before venturing forth. Of course, you could always call and see if one or the other of us is around on the closed days, and we'll do what we can to accommodate you. I'm not sure if I will survive this. My mind boggles at the enormity of it. We are finding all sorts of books we forgot we had and I truly don't know where we are going to put everything in the new shop. I've suggested to himself that we have a "let customers go into the basement and buy books so we don't have to pack them sale" but you know J.D., no, that will never do. At least I have planted the seed and as it gets closer to packing up the books—as panic starts to set in—we will see what happens. Stay tuned.

I have never read much **Arthur Conan Doyle** or books Sherlockian; Holmes has not intrigued me the way he has many of you, but I have just finished one book, *The Sherlockian* (\$32) by **GRAHAM MOORE**, and am part way through *Baker Street Irregular* (\$39.95) by **JON LELLENBERG** and these are good. Surprisingly good. Unexpectedly good. I enjoyed every minute of *The Sherlockian*. There are many things Sherlockian that I'm not clear on, but I know who to ask!! So the next time you are in the store Mr. W. I going to pick your brains; I do have a few questions! In *The Sherlockian*, the story alternates between **Doyle** reluctantly solving a crime using the same "deductive reasoning" that Holmes uses and the current day story, of a new inductee into the Baker Street Irregulars who is searching for the murderer of the world's leading Doylean scholar. This scholar had claimed he had found Doyle's missing diary, and that's presumably why he was murdered. This is all stuff that I know nothing about, not having read much Sherlock Holmes, but I was thoroughly entertained and wondered if there really was a missing diary (and yes, there is an afterward which tries to explain what is "true" and what is fiction, but I'm still not totally clear on a couple of points). All in all, a lively and entertaining tale.

I'm rather enjoying **JON LELLENBERG**'s *Baker Street Irregular*. But probably more for the non-Sherlockian aspects. The book is a beautiful look at New York City of the 1930s and New York is one of my favourite cities. The striking photograph of New York of 1931 reproduced at the front of the book makes me wish I could travel back

in time to actually visit the city. I think I would have enjoyed it. I'm not far enough in to be sure of how the story is going to unfold, but the intriguing clues from reading the jacket blurb—the suggestion of the espionage tale to come—is keeping me reading. The descriptions of the characters that meet for lunch on a regular basis to discuss Sherlock Holmes (as well as drink as much as they do!) is brilliant. To paint the detailed, lively picture that the author does must mean that he was present at the discussions! Of course, that would make him near a hundred! (I know he's not that ancient!) I'm waiting for the espionage part to start!

I loved *The Tenth Gift* (\$19.95) (the UK title is *Crossed Bones*) by **JANE JOHNSON**. You might remember that the book tells two stories: one, the historical story, is of a woman named Cat, who was kidnapped by Muslim pirates in 1625 from the south coast of England and taken to Morocco to be auctioned off as a slave. Cat survives by teaching the ladies of the harem how to embroider. The other story, the contemporary one, is of the woman who is made a gift of the embroidery book written by Cat. Of course, the bad guys want to get the book from her as she travels to North Africa to uncover the story of Cat. I had really enjoyed reading *The Tenth Gift*. So, imagine my pleasure when a delivery to the store during the week between Christmas and New Year's, when we typically never get any deliveries, contained her new book, *The Salt Road* (\$29.95). **Ms. Johnson's** new offering is every bit as marvelous as her first. When the estranged father of Isabelle Treslove-Fawcett dies and leaves her a note that reads "My dear Isabelle, in the attic you will find a box with your name on it" you just know that she is going to open a Pandora's box of trouble. And that's exactly what happens. From London to Morocco and the Sahara Desert the action is nonstop. I won't say anything more about the plot because I think it would spoil it. Expect murder, romance, travel, nasty guys and heroes and heroines. Just my kind of book.

*Blacklands* (\$29.99 hardcover, \$16 trade paperback) by **BELINDA BAUER** won the UK Gold Dagger for Best Novel in 2010. And what a read it turned out to be. Be forewarned, however, it is a very unsettling read. It's the story of twelve-year-old Steven who, for the past three years, has been digging up parts of Exmoor looking for the body of his uncle Billy. Billy was presumed murdered by a serial killer who kidnapped and murdered children eighteen years ago. For all this time Steven's nan has been looking out of her front window waiting for Billy to come home. Steven feels that if he can find his uncle's body his nan and his mom (Billy's sister) will be more at peace. The anguish felt by his nan and his mom is palpable and the earnestness of Steven's search makes for a terrific read. The story is heartbreaking but it is so well written that I couldn't put it down. This is a writer to watch out for.

And for something completely different read *Curiosity Thrilled the Cat* (\$8.50) by **SOFIE KELLY**. It's the first in a new series subtitled *Magical Cats* and yes, there is magic. One cat can disappear and the other can walk through doors, so you have to suspend your disbelief. The story is great though, especially if you are a bibliophile. Katherine Paulson leaves her life in Boston to become the new librarian in town (set in Minnesota). She has been hired to help supervise the renovations of the old library and bring it up to twenty-first century standards. A visiting musician is murdered and of course, Katherine, with the help of the two cats, sets about helping Detective Gordon. Much to his chagrin.

And maybe one more...**GREG RUCKA**, the author of the Atticus Kodiak novels has also written, it turns out, three novels featuring Tara Chace. While working on the hardcover section of this newslet-

ter, I came across his latest novel, The Last Run (#3) (\$29.99), and the notation “A Queen & Country Novel” on the cover caught my eye. Intrigued, I picked it up, gave it the first chapter test, and, lo and behold, I was hooked. Starting with the third book in the Tara Chace series didn't do me any harm. She is Minder One for the SIS and is Britain's top covert agent but she is feeling her age. After nine years on the job she wants out but there is one last mission before she can step down. Be ready for non-stop action from start to finish. I devoured every word of it and wanted to read more. Completely impossible situations to get out of, bad guys all over the place and just her wits to help her (her cover is that of a scientist studying sturgeon in Iran so she wasn't given a gun just in case she was stopped and searched). Yes, I know, it's improbable but I do wonder if there are these type of people in the world and we know nothing about them and the missions they are sent on. I have ordered the first two books in the series to read: A Gentleman's Game (\$10.99) and Private Wars (\$9.99). Perfect for fans of **Peter O'Donnell's** Modesty Blaze novels or **Maureen Tan's** novels featuring MI5 agent Jane Nichols, or **Stella Rimington's** Liz Carlyle novels.

## J.D.'s Picks

Erasing Memory (\$29.95) by **SCOTT THORNLEY** is a fine debut novel. Set in the thinly disguised southern Ontario industrial town of Hamilton, called Dundurn here, and features “Mac” MacNeice, a senior police detective. Returning home from one of his regular visits to his wife's grave, he's directed by the dispatcher's call to a murder site. A young woman in evening dress lies gracefully posed on the floor of a pristine summer cottage so that the finger of one hand regularly interrupts the needle arm of a phonograph playing the Schubert Piano Trio. The only visible mark on her is the bruise under her chin, which MacNeice recognizes: it is the mark that distinguishes dedicated violinists, the same mark that once graced his wife. The murder is both ingenious and horrific, and soon entangles MacNeice and his team in Eastern Europe's ancient grievances, which reach out to breach all the walls that have been thrown up to keep the past at bay. MacNiece is an interesting character, as are the two principal member of his team. What makes this book a good read is that you actually start to care for the characters and want to see them succeed and stay safe. They all sound like the kind of people that you would happily waste the afternoon with, shooting the breeze. I liked it very much and look forward to the next one.

A series of novels that has been around for a number of years but I had not gotten around to reading is the one featuring Monty Haaviko, an ordinary decent criminal, written by **MICHEAL VAN ROOY**. The first in the series, Ordinary Decent Criminal (#1) (\$17) sure starts off with a bang. Three hoodlums break into Monty's Winnipeg house and end up, in pretty short order, dead. Having spent most of the previous decade as a guest of Her Majesty's, Monty had decided to go straight. As he points out, being a criminal is a very expensive—his doing the math on the economics of being a criminal is very entertaining—and fraught with peril. He met a woman, fell in love, has a son, and has promised his wife that he is well on his way to being rehabilitated. But that's not what the fates have in mind for him. Rather enjoyable. I'm looking forward to getting to the next two.

**MARK HASKELL SMITH**, the author of three exquisitely funny, totally raunchy novels gives us his new novel, Baked (\$18) and this one is being touted as his best yet. I'm not sure that this is totally correct, but it really matters little, it is a great, fun, romp. Our hero is

Miro Basinas, a botanist—and he has the degree to prove it—whose gentleman-farmer tendencies coupled with his scientific background and approach produce an award-winning marijuana plant. Winning Amsterdam's annual Cannabis Cup competition put him on the map! It also brings him to the attention of some nasties who have a great deal of interest in his product and will do what's necessary to own it. The owner of a chain of stores that legally sells marijuana for medical reasons—nudge, nudge, wink, wink, say no more, say no more—is one such very interested party. Great fun. While waiting for the next **Hiaasen**, you could do much worse than these four.

## Cottage Lady's Picks

Update – I'm back, with a sure cure for insomnia – at least for grandparents - Cottage Grandson. Our little bundle of joy is a happy hand-ful, at that stage in life (six months) where every day literally brings something new. Cottage Husband and I are loving our first grandparenting role – have fun, spoil, more fun, spoil and so on - knowing that we can always retreat to our own quiet and peaceful abode. The little guy had his first trip to the cottage (at Thanksgiving) and Cottage Husband is already planning fishing trips (he needs to be restrained). As for our other baby, old Barney, he finally took a few sniffs and quickly put his heavy head in the little guy's lap – a touching moment we will never forget.

As for reading, I'm back in the saddle, as Cottage Husband would say. During the break, I deliberately stuck to light mysteries - fun ones with romance and comedy in keeping with a joyful holiday spirit.

I was surprised and warmly nostalgic when Marian asked me to read The Huckleberry Murders (#4) (\$32.99) by **PATRICK MCMANUS**. While preteens (fifteen to twenty years ago), our sons were keen fans of this popular American humorist and outdoor writer, celebrated for his witty yarns and his idiosyncratic Idaho characters. As a family, we spent many hours listening to his stories on tape during our yearly road trips down east. Our cottage library has most of his books and short stories just waiting for our next generation of outdoor lovers and anglers. My own favourite is The Night the Bear Ate Goombaw (\$15.50). It appears that recently, **McManus** has switched to mysteries mixed with humour. There are four novels in the series, all featuring Sheriff Bo Tully, chief lawman of Blight County Idaho. Tully is an unconventional but extremely successful Sheriff with a very active and complicated love life. In this fourth Bo Tully tale, an elderly rancher, Orville Poulson, has disappeared. His ex-wife insists the ranch caretaker, Crockett, is the murderer and she also suspects he is cashing Poulson's social security cheques. Tully considers her suspicions but can't do anything without a body and part of him is willing to accept Crockett's version that the rancher is travelling in Mexico. The disappearance appears to take a backseat when, out of the blue, the bodies of three young men are found in a huckleberry patch. All three were shot in the back of the head, execution style. Tully investigates and interesting evidence leads him to believe that there is a fourth victim. **McManus** then adds another layer of intrigue when the FBI assigns agent Angela Phelps to the case because the murders happened on federal land. We observe with delight as Bo 'cooperates' with Agent Phelps in his own unique way. With all this on our plate, the story becomes a light and amusing afternoon read that eventually pulls together. Don't look for a lot of depth but a hard to put down folksy tale of multiple murders without grisly details - plenty of action, some romance, oddball characters, psychics, huckle-

berries, con-men, motorcycle gangs and killers. And finally, several plot twists to keep you guessing until the end. If you are looking to gift a friend or spouse who is not a hardcore reader, I would recommend **McManus** as an easy and simply pleasant way to get started.

Marian graciously gave me an early copy of **M.C. BEATON'S** latest Hamish Macbeth adventure, Death of a Chimney Sweep (\$27.99 tentative, due Feb 1, 11). Beaton does a wonderful job in this cosy mystery. Even though this is the 27<sup>th</sup> Hamish story, I still look forward to the next. I find comfort in knowing that Hamish remains the law in the highland village of Lochdubh and that his love life is still as complicated as ever with both Patricia and Elspeth very much in the picture. Of course Hamish wouldn't be Hamish without the true loves of his life, his peculiar pets, Lugs and Sonsie. And, as usual, Hamish does his slow and bumbling highland constable routine to solve the crime by successfully avoiding and sneaking around his bosses. At first, this mystery seems to be straightforward. A very unpopular Colonel is found dead in his chimney and the police suspect that the chimney sweep, Pete Ray, is the killer. But Hamish doesn't agree and when Ray's body is found on the Scottish moors, the real search begins. Although new to the community, the Colonel was a well known bully to his wife and rather nasty to large numbers of locals. With so many potential suspects, Hamish has his work cut out for him, especially since everyone seems to have an alibi. However, as usual, the loveable constable does a stellar job in eventually solving the crime through a combination of local knowledge, instinctive nosiness and intuition. But get ready, because this time, even Hamish is surprised at the end.

If you are looking for a new author, Revenge of the Lobster Lover (\$22.95 trade paperback) is a lively and humorous mystery and a first for Ameliaburgh, Ontario writer, **HILARY MACLEOD**. The setting is a tiny fishing community called, The Shores, temporarily cut off from Prince Edward Island. A nasty storm closed the causeway and the residents opt for a makeshift ferry. Our forty something heroine, Hy McAllister, is "from away". That is, even though she has lived in the village for twenty years, she is not fully accepted by the community - possibly because she has made several missteps over the years. Early in the story, while researching lobster recipes for a client's newsletter, she inadvertently invites Camilla, a Lobster Rights activist, to a Women's Institute luncheon. During lobster season, the W.I. ladies are subjected to Lobster right-to-life rhetoric from Camilla of the LLL (Lobster Liberation Legion). The main story concerns two outsiders who have purchased some prime real estate, first Parker a wealthy antiques collector and second, his personal chef and lover, Guillaume. The latter is supposedly reformed from his cocaine addiction as he was recently released from rehab'. Parker and Guillaume have a very dysfunctional relationship that deteriorates markedly throughout the mystery. All hell breaks loose when the LLL starts freeing lobsters from their traps, angering not only the villagers but also Parker's corporate CEO. Hy gets involved as she feels a certain sense of responsibility for inviting the LLL in the first place. A further complication arises when Guillaume teams up with the local bad guy and ex con, Jared, in search of a drug dealer. As the story unfolds, the hidden connection between Parker, Guillaume and Camilla is revealed. With her strong descriptive skills, **Macleod** does a fine job of bringing the little fishing community to life. And the various eccentric locals and plot twists keep up a steady stream of humour and suspense. Some of the characters are far-fetched and we learn a little too much about lobsters but the stereotypes are still entertaining. I found the first few pages awkward and the plot is somewhat tortuous at times but don't be turned off - the account is soon righted and the story flows well for the most part. All in all, a fun read with good potential for a series.

## Hardbacks

**AIRD, CATHERINE sloan PAST TENSE (#22)** (\$55) (Allison & Busby) Josephine Short was clearly a very practical woman but it also appears she was a woman with a secret or two. When her great-nephew's wife, Janet Wakefield, gets a call from the Berebury Nursing Home, she's somewhat taken aback. Not only does it come as a surprise to hear that her husband's estranged great aunt has passed away, but more surprising is the fact she had been living locally for some years. Janet is sure that her husband Bill was the last of Josephine's close family, so imagine her surprise when a handsome young man approaches her at the funeral and introduces himself as Josephine's grandson. Janet has never even heard of a child, never mind a grandchild. Detectives Sloan and Crosby find themselves assigned two rather puzzling cases. First, there's the young woman's body which has been discovered in the River Alm. And then there's the mysterious break-in at Berebury Nursing Home. To be precise, it's Josephine Short's room at the Nursing Home that's been entered, although nothing seems to be missing. What could the intruder have been after? It becomes apparent to Sloan and Crosby that the two cases are connected, but who can the killer be?

**ALLEYN, SUSANNE PALACE OF JUSTICE (#4)** (\$31) (Minotaur) Louis XVI is in his grave and Marie-Antoinette is on her way to trial. Paris is hungry, restless and fearful in the autumn of 1793. In the pre-Revolutionary atmosphere of distrust and anxiety, police agent Aristide Ravel must stop a ruthless killer who is terrorizing the city. It seems that the only other title in print is Cavalier of the Apocalypse (\$31.99).

**ARCHER, JEFFREY AND THEREBY HANGS A TALE** (\$29.99) (St. Martin's) A collection of fifteen short stories, some of which are based on true incidents.

**BAKKER, R SCOTT disciple DISCIPLE OF THE DOG** (\$32.99 US hardcover, \$26 Canadian trade paperback) No matter how hard he drinks, gambles or womanizes, Disciple Manning is neurologically incapable of forgetting anything, ever: not a spoken word, not an image glimpsed not a pain suffered and it makes him an unorthodox private investigator. When a New Jersey couple contract him to find their daughter, a young cult member who's vanished in a rural-belt town, Ruddick, Disciple finds himself embroiled in a mystery that pits his unnatural ability to remember against his desperate desire to forget. Ruddick harbours a secret from which the world will not recover.

**BALDACCI, DAVID camel club HELLS CORNER (#5)** (\$31.99) (Grand Central) Oliver Stone, once the most skilled assassin his country ever had, has been asked by the US President to serve his country again on a high-risk covert mission. Though he's fought for decades to leave his past career behind, Stone has no choice but to say yes. But Stone's mission changes drastically before it even begins. It's the night of a State Dinner honouring the British Prime Minister. As he watches the Prime Minister's motorcade leave the White House that evening, a bomb is detonated in Lafayette Park, an apparent terrorist attack against both the President and the Prime Minister. It's in this chaotic aftermath that Stone takes on a new, more urgent assignment: find those responsible for the bombing. British MI-6 agent Mary Chapman becomes Stone's partner in the search for the unknown attackers. But their shadowy opponents are elusive, capable, increasingly lethal, and worst of all, it seems that the park bombing may just have been the opening salvo to their plan. With nowhere else to turn, Stone enlists the help of the only people he knows he can trust: the Camel Club. But that may be a big mistake.

**BARBIERI, MAGGIE alison THIRD DEGREE (#5)** (\$29.99)

(Minotaur) On her way to meet her boyfriend's parents, Alison Bergeron has to stop by a local coffee shop to steel her resolve. It's a big event. Not only is it the first time she's met NYPD Detective Bobby Crawford's entire family, but it's also coming on the heels of a wedding proposal that she has left unanswered so far. Then, as she steps into the shop, a brawl breaks out that ends in the death of Carter Wilmott, a merciless and loathed local blogger. The case couldn't be any simpler and Alison witnessed the whole thing, but when Wilmott's car explodes in the aftermath, what looked to be a crime of passion becomes something far more complicated and premeditated. The others in this lighthearted, academic series are Murder 101, Extracurricular Activities, Quick Study (\$8.99 each) and Final Exam (\$9.99).

**BAUER, BELINDA** BLACKLANDS (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster, US edition) Eighteen years ago, Billy Peters disappeared. Everyone suspected he was the victim of a serial killer, Arnold Avery, who admitted to killing six other children and burying them on the same desolate moor that surrounds their small English village. To this day, Billy's mother still stands at their front window waiting for him to come home. Her twelve-year-old grandson, Steven, is determined to heal her hurt and has spent the past three years digging holes on the moor trying to find his uncle Billy's grave. In a flash of inspiration he decides to send a letter to Avery asking him where he buried Billy. This is a terrific novel but very, very disturbing. It won the Gold Dagger in 2010 from the UK Crimewriters. See *Marian's Picks*.

**BERRY, STEVE malone** EMPEROR'S TOMB (#6) (\$31) (Ballantine) Former US Justice Department operative Cotton Malone, logs onto an email and sees Cassiopeia Vitt, a woman who has saved his life more than once, being tortured at the hands of a mysterious man who has a single demand: Bring me the artefact she's asked you to keep safe. The only problem is, Malone doesn't have a clue what the man is talking about since Cassiopeia has left nothing with him. A series full of action with a little bit of history thrown in to make it entertainingly educational. This time it has to do with the tomb of China's First Emperor which is being guarded by an underground army of terra-cotta warriors and has remained sealed for more than 2,000 years. The other books in this series are The Templar Legacy (\$12.99), The Alexandria Link (\$12.99), The Venetian Betrayal (\$11.99), The Charlemagne Pursuit (\$12.99) and The Paris Vendetta (\$11.99).

**BRANDRETH, GYLES wilde** OSCAR WILDE AND THE NEST OF VIPERS (#4) (\$54) (John Murray) An expensive British import. The story opens in the spring of 1890 at a glamorous reception hosted by the Duke and Duchess of Albemarle. All London's haut monde is there, including the Prince of Wales, who counts the Albemarles as close friends. Although the heir apparent and the prince of aesthetes are friends, Oscar seems far more interested in a young actor, Rex LaSalle, who disarmingly claims to be a vampire. What begins as a diverting evening ends in tragedy. As the guests are about to leave, the Duchess is found murdered in an anteroom, two tiny puncture marks in her throat. Desperate to avoid another scandal, the Prince of Wales asks Oscar and his friend Arthur Conan Doyle to investigate the crime. What they discover threatens to destroy the Royal Family and Oscar Wilde.

**CAIN, TOM sam carver** DICTATOR (#4) (\$45 UK hardcover) (Bantam, UK) Only one copy in stock at the time of writing this so may have to be special orders. Africa has had more than its share of dictators, but Henderson Gushungo may be the worst. Millions starve and opponents are flung in jail, while Gushungo and his cronies get rich on the country's rich natural resources. A powerful consortium of political and business interests offer Samuel Carver the job of enforcing regime change. Can the taking of one life justify saving millions of others? And can Carver trust the men who hired him?

**CARL, JOANNA** CHOCOLATE PIRATE PLOT (#10) (\$27.50)

(Obsidian) Ever since *Young Blackbeard* became the biggest movie of the decade, everyone has caught pirate fever, including the residents of Warner Pier. TenHuis Chocolate is raking in the booty and selling out of chocolate treasure chests, pirate hats and ships. When Lee McKinney Woodyard and her husband Joe take their boat out on Lake Michigan, they're stunned when a mischievous band of pirates hops on board. Costumed and waving obviously fake weapons, the pirates perform an entertaining sea shanty before plunging back into the watery depths. Lee's is the first boat boarded and the town couldn't be more amused by the mysterious buccaneers. But when a body washes up on shore, the pirates' antics stop being so entertaining. Now Lee has to figure out the truth behind the pirates, before someone else winds up walking the plank.

**CAROFGLIO, GIANRICO** PAST IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY (\$29.99) (Minotaur) One hot summer Giorgio, an impressionable young lawyer, is befriended by a man of dubious principles, the dangerously charismatic Francesco, and Giorgio's life is forever changed. Slowly he is lured into a world of beautiful women, casual violence and card sharks in dingy poker dens and luxury villas. Then one night Francesco suggests a way of furthering their adventure. A kind of ritual sacrifice...

**CEDER, CAMILLE tell** FROZEN MOMENT (#1) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$22.99 trade paperback) (Weidenfeld & Nicolson) One cold morning in the wind-lashed Swedish countryside, a man's body is found in an isolated garage. The victim has been shot in the head and run over repeatedly by a car. Inspector Christian Tell has very few clues to go on and no one seems to be telling the truth. Seja, a female reporter and witness, thinks the case is related to one from ten years ago.

**CHARBONNEAU, JOELLE** SKATING AROUND THE LAW (\$28.99) (St. Martin's) Rebecca Robbins is a woman on a mission: to sell the roller rink she inherited from her mother and get back to Chicago. Fast. However, when she discovers the dead body of the town's handyman headfirst in a rink toilet, potential buyers are scared off. Now Rebecca is stuck in a small town where her former neighbours think she doesn't belong, living with her scarily frisky grandfather, Pop, and relying on a police department that's better at gardening than solving crimes. Eager to move forward with her life, Rebecca begins investigating the murder herself, reluctantly accepting help from Pop and his extensive social network, which includes a handsome veterinarian and a former circus camel named Elwood. Nevertheless, someone isn't happy she's looking into the case, and their threats will have her questioning whether playing sleuth was such a good idea after all.

**CHRISTIE, AGATHA** HERCULE POIROT'S CHRISTMAS (\$17.50) (Black Dog) Hercule Poirot. Reissue.

**CLANCY, TOM** DEAD OR ALIVE (\$33.50) (Putnam) It is called the Campus. Secretly created under the administration of President Jack Ryan, its sole purpose is to hunt down, locate, and eliminate terrorists and those who protect them at will. A self-sufficient entity, it has no official connection to the American government. Covert intelligence expert Jack Ryan Jr. and his compatriots at the Campus have waged this silent war in every corner of the world. Now joined by two of his father's closest allies, black ops warriors John Clark and "Ding" Chavez, as well as Brian and Dominic Caruso and Mary Pat Foley, the Campus has come up against its greatest foe: a sadistic killer known as the Emir. The mastermind of countless horrific attacks, the Emir has eluded capture by every law enforcement agency in the world, a fact which the Campus is determined to change. But his greatest devastation is yet to be unleashed, as he plans a monumental single strike that will destroy the heart of America, unless the Campus can take sort out his sorry ass.

**CLEMENT, BLAIZE** CAT SITTER AMONG THE PIGEONS (#6) (\$28.99) Dixie Hemingway, cat sitter and ex-cop, is caring for

the cat of a prickly old man whose granddaughter shows up with baby in tow. The young woman and her child are in desperate trouble: she's irked some unscrupulous real estate manipulators who have made millions in the real estate melt-down and will kill to keep their gains. And they are not the riff raff either; they are among the socially prominent movers and shakers in Dixie's town.

**CLINCH, WENDY ski diva** FADE TO WHITE (#2) (\$28.99)

Heavy snow is falling on Spruce Peak when Stacey Curtis returns in her second skiing mystery, sequel to Double Black (\$29.99). Hollywood has-been Harper Stone arrives in Stacey's little Vermont town to shoot a mouthwash commercial, and he's far from happy about it. When the actor turns up dead, and the last person to see him alive is Brian Russell, Stacey's jealous ex-fiancé, Stacey can't help but become involved.

**CORBY, GARY** PERICLES COMMISSION (\$28.99) (Minotaur)

Athens 461 B.C.. Only days before the politician Ephialtes turned Athens into a democracy but has now been murdered. Pericles, a rising young politician, commissions Nicolaos to expose the assassin. But there are problems at every turn: Pericles is looking over his shoulder criticizing his every move; and his irritating twelve-year-old brother, Socrates, keeps making helpful suggestions.

**CORNWELL, PATRICIA scarpetta** PORT MORTUARY (#18)

(\$32.50) (Putnam) Kay Scarpetta accepted a scholarship from the Air Force to pay off her medical school debt and found herself ensnared in a gruesome case of what seemed to be vicious, racially motivated hate crimes against two Americans in South Africa. Now, more than twenty years and many career successes later, her secret military ties have drawn her to Dover Air Force Base, where she has been immersed in a training fellowship to master the art of CT, assisted virtual autopsy, a procedure the White House has mandated that she introduce in the private sector. As chief of the new Cambridge Forensic Center in Massachusetts, a joint venture of the state and federal governments and MIT and Harvard, Scarpetta is confronted with a case that could shut down her new facility and ruin her personally and professionally. A young man drops dead, apparently from a cardiac arrhythmia, eerily close to Scarpetta's new Cambridge home. But when his body is examined the next morning, there are stunning indications that he may have been alive when he was zipped inside a pouch and locked inside the Center's cooler.

**CRAIS, ROBERT pike act** SENTRY (#3) (\$33.50) Dru Rayne and her uncle fled to L.A. after Hurricane Katrina; now they face a different danger. When Joe Pike witnesses Dru's uncle beaten by a protection gang, he offers his help, but neither of them wants it. Pike and Elvis Cole soon learn that Dru and her uncle are not who they seem.

**CUSSLER, CLIVER** CRESCENT DAWN (\$32.50) (Putnam) In A.D. 327, a Roman galley with an extraordinary cargo barely escapes a pirate attack. In 1916, a British warship mysteriously explodes in the middle of the North Sea. In the present day, a cluster of important mosques in Turkey and Egypt are wracked by explosions. What ties them together? NUMA director Dirk Pitt and his team are about to find out, as Roman artifacts discovered in Turkey and Israel unnervingly connect to the rise of a fundamentalist movement determined to restore the glory of the Ottoman Empire.

**DELANY, VICKI trafalgar** NEGATIVE IMAGE (#4) (\$31.95 hardcover, \$19.95 trade paperback) As the mountain town of Trafalgar, British Columbia, shakes off a long hard winter, famous photographer Rudolph Steiner arrives to do a feature on mountain tourism. Steiner is accompanied by his assistant and sexy young wife, but he has another reason for the visit: to reconnect with the woman who left him twenty-five years ago to marry Trafalgar City Police Sergeant John Winters. When Steiner is found dead in his luxury hotel room, shot once in the back of the head, suspicion falls upon Eliza Winters. John Winters is forced into the most difficult decision of his life: loy-

alty to his job or to his wife. As the RCMP dig into the secrets of Steiner and Eliza, John Winters slowly comes to realize that he doesn't know the woman to whom he has been married for twenty-five years as well as he thought. Meanwhile, Constable Molly Smith has her own troubles. A series of break-ins has the peaceful town in an uproar, her overprotective boyfriend from the Royal Mounted Police is fighting with her colleagues, and a vengeful stalker is watching her every move. When tragedy strikes at the heart of her own family, Molly can't even turn to her mother for help. The other books in this series are In the Shadow of the Glacier, Valley of the Lost and Winter of Secrets (\$19.95 each).

**DESILVA, BRUCE** ROGUE ISLAND (\$28.99) Liam Mulligan is as old school as a newspaper reporter gets. His beat is Providence, Rhode Island and he knows the streets like the back of his hand. He's on a first name basis with cops, mobsters and politicians. The newspaper game has changed, and Mulligan is forced to change along with it. But he won't go down without a fight. With the paper on the cusp of folding, his editors are on his case to find more heart-warming human-interest stories to compete with the rise of online news. After a number of suspicious fires, Mulligan realizes that someone is burning down his old neighbourhood. "Very good, loved it" says Himself.

**DOSS, JAMES D moon** DEAD MANS TALE (#15) (\$28.99) (Minotaur) Charlie Moon, Ute rancher and investigator, is feeling the pinch as hard times have come to Colorado. Investor Samuel Reed has a special intuition when it comes to picking stocks, and he claims to be able to remember the future, which gives him a real leg up on Wall Street. When Reed makes Moon's best friend Granite City Chief of Police Scott Parish a wager that Parish can't keep him alive, Moon wants in on the action in an effort to save his ranch. But Moon's best laid plans go awry when instead of one homicide, he ends up with two.

**DOWNIE, RUTH medicus** CAVEAT EMPTOR (#4) (\$31) Ruso and Tilla, now newlyweds, have moved back to Britannia, where Ruso's old friend and colleague, Valens, has promised to help him find work. Of course, it isn't the kind of work he'd had in mind: his task is to find a missing tax man named Julius Asper. Of course, there is also something else missing: money. And the Council of the town of Verulamium is bickering over what's become of it. Tilla, meanwhile, has connected with Asper's widow, Camma, and anonymous letters start arriving, warning the couple to get away from the case before they get hurt. Despite our hero's best efforts to get himself fired from the job of investigator, he and his bride will once again find themselves at the centre of it all.

**DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN sherl** ADVENTURES AND THE MEMOIRS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$12.95) An illustrated Young Adult version of some of the Holmes's stories.

**[DOYLE]DAVIES, DAVID STUART** BENDING THE WILLOW rev ed (\$39.95) (Calabash) Jeremy Brett's portrayal of the great detective Sherlock Holmes has been hailed as the best ever. This is an in-depth look at the actor who said that he wanted his interpretation of Holmes to bend the willow, not break it. He succeeded in bringing the character to life, all the time battling his own personal demon: the manic depression that haunted him for many years. This revised edition was published in 2010.

**[DOYLE]LELLENBERG, JON L** BAKER STREET IRREGULAR (\$39.95) (Arkham House) In 1930s New York, Christopher Morley's Baker Street Irregulars seem oblivious to the grim realities of the Depression and Hitler's rise to power. And the Sherlockian skylarking the world perceives is exactly what Woody Hazelbaker, a young lawyer, is eager for on the day he encounters Morley and the Irregulars in a Manhattan speakeasy. Then Hitler goes to war, the Irregulars join British Intelligence in a covert campaign to circumvent America's isolation, subvert its neutrality and keep Winston Churchill's embattled Britain afloat. A very detailed look at life in

New York in the 30s with the humour of the Irregulars thrown in for good measure along with a tale of espionage that any "spy lover" will love. See *Marian's Picks*.

**[DOYLE]THOMAS, DONALD** SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE GHOSTS OF BLY (\$31) "Have you ever seen a ghost, Mr. Holmes?" asks Victoria Temple, and Sherlock Holmes, at the height of his powers in 1898, must face a new challenge, one that plunges the great detective into the realm of the supernatural. Miss Temple has been found guilty, but also insane, at her trial for murdering a child under her care. She is locked away in the Broadmoor lunatic asylum and worse still, she believes fully in her own guilt. But were the hauntings at the Elizabethan manor house of Bly a vision of the walking dead, perhaps, rather than delusions of her tormented mind? Or could it be that a criminal conspiracy is to blame for the psychic phenomena, as well as a second murder cunningly concealed in the past?

**DUFFY, MARGARET** BLOOD SUBSTITUTE large print (\$39.95) (Severn House) Patrick Gillard and Ingrid Langley, late of MI5 and now working as consultants for SOCA, are called in to investigate when DC Morley's, horribly mutilated body is found with the initials R.K. carved on his torso. At the same time, DCI James Carrick asks them to make enquiries on a private matter: he has discovered that his father, Robert Kennedy, whom he thought long dead, is not only alive but a criminal. This book was published in 2008 but we have just received this copy which is large print.

**ESTLEMAN, LOREN** amos walk LEFT-HANDED DOLLAR (#20) (\$28.99) Joseph Michael Ballista, "Joey Ballistic" to his mob buddies, knows most of the ways to make an illegal buck, or "a left-handed dollar." That's why he's in trouble again. But his crafty lawyer, Lucille Lettermore, "Lefty Lucy" to just about every prosecutor she's ever humiliated in court, is determined to free him by getting all his previous convictions set aside, beginning with one for attempted murder. She hires Detroit private detective Amos Walker to investigate the old crime. His first problem? The intended victim was investigative reporter Barry Stackpole, Walker's only true friend. Walker's not thrilled to help get his buddy's would-be killer off the hook, but money's money, so he takes the case, though it won't be easy. For starters, the creep's ex-wives grudgingly talk to Walker, but he knows they're not levelling with him. And two new murders tied to the case aren't likely to make them talk more.

**ESTLEMAN, LOREN D** AMOS WALKER: THE COMPLETE STORY COLLECTION (\$39.95) This is a collection of every Amos Walker short story ever published. As a bonus there is a brand new, never published, short story included. Reprints.

**FERRIS, MONICA** BUTTONS AND BONES (#14) (\$31) (Berkley) Owner of the Crewel World needlework shop and part-time sleuth, Betsy Devonshire heads for the Minnesota north woods to renovate an old. Their work comes to a sudden halt when, beneath the awful linoleum they discover a human skeleton. Her investigation yields that there was a former German POW camp nearby and she also discovers a mysterious crocheted rug, and an intricately designed pattern of clues to a decades-old crime.

**FINCH, CHARLES** lenox STRANGER IN MAYFAIR (#4) (\$28.99) (Minotaur) Returning from a continental honeymoon with his lifelong friend and new wife, Lady Jane Grey, Charles Lenox is asked by a colleague in Parliament, Ludovic Starling, to consult in the murder of a footman, bludgeoned to death with a brick. The investigation requires discretion all the more because Starling is up for a title; a scandal would ruin his chances with the royals. Going into the boxing clubs and public houses, the Mayfair mansions and servants' quarter of Victorian London, Lenox gradually realizes that an old friend may be implicated in the footman's death. Soon a suspect is arrested providing a full confession, but Lenox has his doubts. The earlier three books in this excellent series are A Beautiful Blue Death

(\$15.50), The September Society (\$17.99) and The Fleet Street Murders (\$15.99).

**GAGE, LEIGHTON** silva EVERY BITTER THING (#4) (\$30.50) (Soho) The son of the Venezuelan Foreign Minister is found dead in his apartment in Brasilia. Due to the high-profile nature of the crime, Chief Inspector Mario Silva of Brazil's Federal Police is called in to investigate. As he delves deeper into the murder, he discovers that a chain of murders have occurred throughout Brazil, all with the same MO: victims are first shot in the stomach, then brutally beaten to death. What sinister motive connects these killings?

**GAUS, P L** BROKEN ENGLISH (\$33) (Ohio University Press) The peaceful town of Millersburg, Ohio, in the heart of Ohio's Amish country, is rocked by the vicious murder of one of its citizens at the hands of an itinerant ex-convict. When a local reporter covering the story ends up dead as well, with the convict already behind bars, suspicion falls on the father of the first victim, David Hawkins. But Hawkins is nowhere to be found, not even among the protective Amish colony that had taken him in as one of its own regardless of his shadowy past.

**GOLDENBAUM, SALLY** knitter HOLIDAY YARN (#4) (\$30) (Obsidian) Mary Pisano has inherited her grandfather's estate and is sparing no expense to transform it into a bed-and-breakfast. Even the Seaside Knitters help to decorate by creating warm throws for each bedroom. She is putting her family up in the B&B who are all gathering for their annual meeting. She is hoping her gesture will dispel any hard feeling over her inheriting the estate. But when her cousin Pamela is found murdered, she realizes she was wrong. The other three in the series are Death by Cashmere, Patterns in the Sand (\$17.50 each) and Moon Spinners (\$30 hardcover, trade paperback due in May 2011 at \$17.50)

**GRIFFIN, W E B** castillo OUTLAWS (#5) (\$35) Charlie Castillo's secret unit has been disbanded-but that doesn't mean he's out of business. As experience has painfully shown him, there are many things the intelligence community can't do, won't do, or doesn't do well, and he has the men and assets to help set things straight.

**GRISHAM, JOHN** CONFESSION (\$33) (Doubleday) In 1998, in the small East Texas city of Sloan, Travis Boyette abducted, raped, and strangled a popular high school cheerleader. He buried her body so that it would never be found, then watched and waited as police and prosecutors arrested and convicted Donte Drumm, a local football star. Tried, convicted and sentenced, Drumm was sentenced to death. Nine years have passed and Donte Drumm is four days from execution. Travis is out on parole but now has an inoperable brain tumour. For the first time in his life he decides to do what's right. But how can a guilty man convince lawyers, judges and politicians that they are about to execute an innocent man?

**HANDLER, DAVID** berger SHIMMERING BLOND SISTER (#7) (\$28.99) (Minotaur) Film critic Mitch Berger and Constable state trooper Des Mitry are back in another humorous adventure. Des becomes a suspect in the murder of Augie Donatelli, a retired policeman who manages the Captain Chadwick House, a very exclusive condominium development. She had ignored his charges that he had figured out who the infamous Dorset Flasher was and also that one of the residents of the condo complex was a descendant from a long line of professional thieves.

**HARMON, KEN** FAT MAN (\$25) (Dutton) Fired from his long-time job as captain of the Coal Patrol, two-foot-three inch 1,300-year-old elf Gumdrop Coal is angry. He's one of Santa's original elves, but somewhere along the way things went sour for Gumdrop. Maybe it was delivering one too many lumps of coal for the Naughty List. Maybe it's the conspiracy against Christmas that he's starting to sense down every chimney. Either way, North Pole disillusionment is nothing new: Some elves brood with a bottle of nog, trying to forget their own wish list. Some get better. Some get bitter. Gumdrop Coal wants

revenge. Justice is the only thing he knows, and so he decides to give a serious wakeup call to parents who can't keep their vile offspring from landing on the Naughty List. But when one parent winds up dead, his eye shot out with a Red Ryder BB gun, Gumdrop Coal must learn who framed him and why.

**HECHTMAN, BETTY** YOU BETTER KNOT DIE (#5) (\$31) (Berkley) Molly Pink and her crochet group are working overtime for the holidays, but she is having trouble finding time to crochet so much as a snowflake. The bookstore where she works is adding a yarn department, and planning a huge launch party where the mysterious author of a popular series will reveal his or her true identity. But before the author appears, another person disappears. The husband of Molly's neighbor has gone missing. When a suicide note arrives, it appears the husband has jumped off the Catalina Ferry, but Molly smells something fishy.

**HIGGINS, JACK** JUDAS GATE (\$33.50) The US edition. In Helmand Province, Afghanistan, a patrol of U.S. Army Rangers is ambushed and, along with the British medical team which arrives to help, most are killed. Most of the Taliban voices are Afghan, some are English and the voice of the commander bears an Irish accent. Why would he commit such an atrocity? Sean Dillon is put in charge of hunting the traitor down, with all the resources of the "Prime Minister's private army" at his disposal. Dillon will not only be going to war, the war will be coming to him.

**HIGSMITH, PATRICIA** HIGSMITH READER (\$43.50) (Norton) The collection includes two novels, her first Strangers on a Train and The Price of Salt, along with thirteen short stories. Edited with an introduction by **Joan Schenkar**.

**HILL, REGINALD** active WOODCUTTER (\$32.95) (Doubleday, Canada) Wolf Hadda's life has been a fairytale. From humble origins as a woodcutter's son, he has risen to become a hugely successful entrepreneur, happily married to the girl of his dreams. A knock on the door one morning ends it all. Universally reviled, thrown into prison while protesting his innocence, abandoned by friends and family, Wolf retreats into silence. Seven years later prison psychiatrist Alva Ozigbo makes the breakthrough. Wolf begins to talk and under her guidance gets parole, returning to his rundown family home in rural Cumbria. But there is a mysterious period in Wolf's youth when he disappeared from home and was known to his employers as the Woodcutter. And now the Woodcutter is back, looking for the truth and with the truth, revenge. "Terrific, loved it" pipes in Himself.

**HUNTER, STEPHEN** bob swag DEAD ZERO (#7) (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster) Who killed the marine sniper team, Whiskey 2-2, on a mission in tribal territories on the Afghan-Pakistan border? Bob Swagger has to track down the lone survivor of the team who appears to have resurfaced to complete his mission. By now though, their original target has become a "friend" of the USA and the administration does not want him eliminated.

**JAHN, RYAN DAVID** ACTS OF VIOLENCE (\$22.99 hardcover, \$14.99 trade paperback) (Macmillan) This is a story of the last night of Katrina Marino and how her neighbours, those who witnessed her murder, did nothing. This book won the John Creasey Best First Dagger from the British Crime Writers. "Very good" adds Himself.

**JOHANSEN, IRIS** eve duncan CHASING THE NIGHT (#10) (\$31.99) (St. Martin's) A CIA agent's two-year-old child was stolen in the night as a brutal act of vengeance. Now, eight years later, this torment is something Catherine Ling awakens to every day. Her friends, family, and colleagues tell her to let go, move on, to accept that her son is never coming back. But she can't. Catherine needs to find someone as driven and obsessed as she is to help her, and that person is Eve Duncan. She knows that Eve shares her nightmare, since closure is also something that eludes Eve after the disappearance of her daughter Bonnie. Now, Eve must take her talents as a

forensic sculptor to another level, using age progression as a way to unite Catherine with her child. As Eve gets drawn deeper into Catherine's horror, she must face looming demons of her own.

**JOHNSON, JANE** SALT ROAD (\$29.95) From the author of The Tenth Gift (\$19.95) comes another story of exotic, foreign lands, entwining storylines spanning generations, and the quests to overcome love lost. It all start with "My dear Isobel, in the attic you will find a box with your name on it." See *Marian's Picks*.

**KING, STEPHEN** FULL DARK, NO STARS (\$32) (Scribner) Four stories in this volume. According to the Afterward written by **Mr. King**: "The stories in this book are harsh".

**KLAVAN, ANDREW** IDENTITY MAN (\$31.50) (Houghton, Mifflin) John Shannon is a petty thief on the run. A three-time loser framed for a murder he didn't commit, he knows the cops are closing in on him and that he's facing life in prison or death by lethal injection. Out of nowhere, a foreigner who calls himself the Identity Man, offers Shannon an incredible chance to start again: a new face, a new home, a new beginning. Soon, to his amazement, Shannon finds himself living a life he never dreamed possible. In a ruined city that is trying to rebuild, he finds work as a carpenter and a wood carver. He meets the beautiful Teresa Grey and for the first time falls in love with the sort of woman who could make him a better man. It seems too good to be true. Just as he feels within sight of redemption, all hell breaks loose. It turns out this ruined city is crawling with corruption. There are crooked politicians, gangsters, dirty cops everywhere, and, for some reason he doesn't understand, all of them seem to want Shannon dead.

**LEHANE, DENNIS** kenzie MOONLIGHT MILE (#6) (\$29.99) (Morrow) Amanda McCready was four years old when she vanished from a Boston neighbourhood twelve years ago. Desperate pleas for help from the child's aunt led investigators Patrick Kenzie and Angela Gennaro to take on the case. The pair risked everything to find the young girl, only to orchestrate her return to a neglectful mother and a broken home. Now Amanda is sixteen and gone again. A stellar student, brilliant but aloof, she seemed destined to escape her upbringing. Yet Amanda's aunt is once more knocking on Patrick Kenzie's door, fearing the worst for the little girl who has blossomed into a striking, clever young woman, a woman who hasn't been seen in weeks. Haunted by their consciences, Kenzie and Gennaro revisit the case that troubled them the most. Their search leads them into a world of identity thieves, methamphetamine dealers, a mentally unstable crime boss and his equally demented wife, a priceless, thousand-year-old cross, and a happily homicidal Russian gangster. It's a world in which motives and allegiances constantly shift and mistakes are fatal. Great to spend time with these two!

**MCMANUS, PATRICK F** tully HUCKLEBERRY MURDERS (#4) (\$32.99) (Simon & Schuster) Sheriff Bo Tully is following up on one of his famous hunches: he suspects the murder of local retiree Orville Poulson by his ranch caretaker, Ray Crockett, a sociopath with a criminal record. The only problem is, Tully has no evidence or body to prove that a crime has been committed, supposedly Orville is alive and well and cashing his Social Security checks from Spokane. Meanwhile, a far more alarming case emerges. Three young men have been shot, each in the back of the head, execution style, in a huckleberry patch on Scotchman Mountain, leaving behind no identification. With the help of confident and beautiful FBI agent Angela Phelps, Tully tries to connect the dots between Poulson's disappearance, the sudden spate of murders occurring in Blight County, and a big white pickup truck with dual tires causing havoc and crime.

**MELTZER, BRAD** INNER CIRCLE (\$29.99) Beecher White, a young archivist, spends his days working with the most important documents of the U.S. government. He has always been the keeper of other people's stories, never a part of the story himself...until now. Showing off for a girlfriend, he discovers a dictionary that once be-

longed to George Washington. Now his life is on the line. How?

**MOORE, GRAHAM SHERLOCKIAN** (\$32) (Viking, Canada) December 1893. Hungry for the latest Sherlock Holmes installment, Londoners ripped open their Strand magazines, only to reel in horror. Holmes's creator, Arthur Conan Doyle, had killed their hero off. London spiraled into mourning, with crowds sporting black armbands in grief, branding Conan Doyle an assassin. Eight years later, just as abruptly as Conan Doyle had "murdered" Holmes in "The Final Problem," he resurrected him. Though the writer kept detailed diaries of his days and work, Conan Doyle never explained this sudden change of heart. After his death, the diary that would have shed light on his mysterious reasons went missing. In the decades since, it has never been found. Or has it? January 2010. When Harold White is inducted into the preeminent Sherlock Holmes society, The Baker Street Irregulars, he never imagined he's about to be thrust onto the hunt for the holy grail of Holmesophiles: the missing diary. But when the world's leading Doylean scholar turns up dead in his hotel room, it is Harold, using wisdom gleaned from countless detective stories, who takes up the search, both for the diary and for the killer. See *Marian's Picks*.

**MORTON, KATE DISTANT HOURS** (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster) A long lost letter arrives in the post and Edie Burchill finds herself on a journey to Milderhurst Castle, a great but moldering old house, where the Blythe spinsters live and where her mother was billeted 50 years before as a 13 year old child during World War II. The elder Blythe sisters are twins and have spent most of their lives looking after the third and youngest sister, Juniper, who hasn't been the same since her fiancé jilted her in 1941. Inside the decaying castle, Edie begins to unravel her mother's past. But there are other secrets hidden in the stones of Milderhurst, and Edie is about to learn more than she expected. The truth of what happened in 'the distant hours' of the past has been waiting a long time for someone to find it.

**MOSLEY, WALTER LAST DAYS OF PTOLEMY GREY** (\$32.50) (Riverhead) At ninety-one Ptolemy Grey has been forgotten: by his family, by his friends and even by himself. At the funeral of his grandnephew, he meets Robyn and experiences a seismic shift in his head, his heart and his life. Robyn is only seventeen but she will not tolerate the way he has allowed himself to live. With her help he moves from isolation back into the brightness of friendship and desire. With his new life, Ptolemy finds he has to unlock secrets that he has carried for decades.

**PATTERSON, JAMES cross CROSS FIRE (#16)** (\$31.99) (Little, Brown)

Detective Alex Cross and Bree's wedding plans are put on hold when Alex is called to the scene of the perfectly executed assassination of two of Washington D.C.'s most corrupt: a dirty congressman and an underhanded lobbyist. Next, the elusive gunman begins picking off other crooked politicians, sparking a blaze of theories, is the marksman a hero or a vigilante? The case explodes and the FBI assigns agent Max Siegel to the investigation. As Alex and Siegel battle over jurisdiction, the murders continue. It becomes clear that they are the work of a professional who has detailed knowledge of his victims' movements, information that only a Washington insider could possess. As Alex contends with the sniper, Siegel, and the wedding, he receives a call from his deadliest adversary, Kyle Craig. The Mastermind is in D.C. and will not relent until he has eliminated Cross and his family for good.

**PRONZINI, BILL HIDDEN** (\$30) (Bloomsbury) A series of murders along a 50-mile stretch of the rugged northern California coast is being committed by an unknown dubbed the Coastline Killer. Two couples are soon caught in a night of unrelenting terror.

**PURSER, ANN meade THREATS AT THREE (#10)** (\$30) (Berkley) When a dead body is found in a canal, Detective Cowgill believes the murder is connected to a suspicious fire and a heated

dispute over saving the local village hall. Time to turn to the ever reliable Lois Meade to sort out the culprits and pick up the loose ends -before their village hall turns into a funeral hall.

**PYPER, ANDREW GUARDIANS** (\$29.95) (Doubleday, Canada) Trevor, Randy, Ben and Carl grew up together in the small town of Grimshaw as many boys do, playing hockey on the local team and forging friendships that run deep. Twenty-four years later, Trevor, recently diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and faced with his own mortality, learns that his old friend Ben committed suicide. The remaining friends unite again in their hometown. But going home means going back, and that's not always easy. The three men are forced to confront their memories of a sinister crime that happened in an abandoned house in their neighbourhood, a crime that claws its way into the present, leaving its indelible mark on everyone.

**RENDELL, RUTH TIGERLILY'S ORCHIDS** (\$32.95) (Doubleday, Canada) When Stuart Font decides to throw a housewarming party in his new flat he invites all the people in his building. After some deliberation he even invites the unpleasant caretaker and his wife. The party will be one everyone remembers. But not for the right reasons. All the occupants of Lichfield House are about to experience a dramatic change in their lives. Living opposite, in reclusive isolation, is a young, beautiful Asian woman, christened Tigerlily by Stuart. As though from some strange urban fairytale, she emerges to exert a terrible spell.

**ROBB, J D INDULGENCE IN DEATH** (\$31) (Putnam) First it was a limo driver shot through the neck with a crossbow. Then it was a high-priced escort stabbed through the heart with a bayonet. Random hits, thrill kills, murderers with a taste for the finer things in life, and death, are making NYPSD Lieutenant Eve Dallas angry. And an angry Eve can be a just as efficient and dangerous predator as the killer.

**ROKER & LOCHTE, DICK MIDNIGHT SHOW MURDERS** (\$31) (Random House) Professional chef turned amateur sleuth Billy Blessing once again finds himself in hot water, when a brutal killing cancels a TV show, and its host, during its debut. Billy has never liked going to the West Coast, but when he runs into high-energy comic Desmond O'Day, he reluctantly agrees to play second banana on the funnyman's new late-night talk show. Los Angeles holds bad memories for Billy. Twenty years ago, he had suspected obnoxious chef Roger Charbonnet of murdering his ex-starlet girlfriend there, and told the cops. A tricked-up alibi freed Roger, who vowed vengeance. And now Billy might be on the verge of getting burned. After a horrifying explosion during a TV taping kills more than Desmond O'Day's chance at high ratings, Billy believes that he was the intended target and that Roger Charbonnet was somehow involved. The first in the series is Morning Show Murders (\$9.99).

**ROSLUND & HELLSTROM THREE SECONDS** (\$29.95) (Silver Oak) Our friend Liz sent us a review from the *Times* about the book. We have cropped some parts of it as follows: "Three Seconds" spent the better part of a year on Swedish best-seller lists. Its authors won a prize — the Swedish Academy of Crime Writers' Award for Swedish Crime Novel of the Year — that has also been awarded to Stieg Larsson and Henning Mankell. They know how to deliver the kind of stilted, world-weary verbosity that somehow quickens the pulses of this genre's readers. Even better, they are on a first-name basis with the Seven Dwarfs of Scandinavian Noir: Guilty, Moody, Broody, Mopey, Kinky, Dreary and Anything-but-Bashful. Mr. Roslund and Mr. Hellstrom know better than to make "Three Seconds" short, no matter what kind of brevity its title describes. So this is a nearly 500-page book with a many-faceted plot, and the authors are in no hurry to bring their story into focus. They begin with a kind of party exhortation: "Eat, drink, and throw up." Those are the instructions given to drug mules who have ingested small rubber parcels of amphetamines and have successfully transported them into Sweden from Poland.

There's a nugget of social criticism at the heart of this plot idea. The Polish mafia's plan to expand into Sweden involves supplying drugs to Swedish prisons, euphemistically referred to as "the closed market" in this story. A scheme like this necessarily involves two Swedish authorities: the police and the Prison and Probation Service. The book ascribes malfeasance to both sides, saying that "the Police Service has for many years used criminals as covert human intelligence sources," that the police conceal and deny this process, and that prison authorities quietly condone it. "If prisoners were not high on chemical substances," the authors write in an afterword, "the Prison and Probation Service would be forced to improve skills and competence at a cost that we, society, would not be prepared to pay." That brings us to Paula, the mysterious character who appears in the book's violent opening. Paula is one of the drug mules on the Poland-to-Sweden route. Paula is the code name for a man, Piet Hoffman. And Piet is a Swedish police infiltrator whose dealings with top-level Polish gangsters have put him in an exceedingly dangerous situation. He is also a bona fide ex-con, since the police believe that it takes a real criminal to impersonate one. The drug deal turns violent. A second Swedish police informant is killed by the mobsters. Piet escapes and is on the run. To add to his troubles he is saddled with the trumped-up criminal record that the police created for him, so that he appears to be a much more dangerous character than he actually is. And Piet, though a stereotypically devoted family man, knows that he is headed for prison. So he concocts the elaborate scheme that is at the heart of "Three Seconds" and which eventually makes this a nail biter of a book. Most of this plan's particulars are too clever to be given away here. But as a sample, consider Piet's use of tulips. Just before he's scheduled to report to prison, he buys fresh, tightly closed tulips. He warms them until they open. He inserts a packet of amphetamines inside each flower. He then cools the flowers at exactly the temperature that will keep them shut for 24 hours, by which time they will be on the desk of a prison official, ostensibly as a gift from local businessmen. Other books written by **Roslund and Hellstrom** are Box 21 (\$17) and Beast, which at the moment seems to be out of print, although there is one copy of the hardcover on hand (Beast, \$35).

**RUCKA, GREG LAST RUN (#3)** (\$30) (Bantam) For nearly a decade Tara Chace has been Britain's top covert agent. But Chace is past her expiration date. Her body hurts. Her nerves are scrambled and she's ready for a desk job, the quiet role of mentor to a new generation of special operations officers. But before her replacement can be chosen, there's one last job for Queen and country and it may be the last thing she does. Ever. The assignment begins with an enigmatic message from Iran, a message made all the more perplexing not just by its cryptic code but by its apparent dispatcher. But what if the long-dormant cipher is a trap meant to entice Iran's enemies into the open? There's only one way to find out and only one agent who can do it: Tara Chace. Soon Chace is on the ground in Tehran leading an extraction team toward a high-profile defector. But obtaining him is one thing, getting him out of the country will be another. For, with the likelihood of a double cross at every turn, Chace knows that chaos can erupt at any moment. Gentleman's Game (\$10.99) and Private Wars (\$9.99) are the first two in the series. See *Marian's Picks*.

**RUSSELL, SHELDON hook INSANE TRAIN (#2)** (\$29.99) (Minotaur) The Baldwin Insane Asylum in Barstow, California, has recently burned to the ground in an inferno that cost many inmates their lives and injured scores. Now, Yard Dog Hook Runyon has been put in charge of security for a train that is to transport the survivors, alongside the head of the asylum, Dr. Baldwin, the attending doctor, taciturn Dr. Helms, and a self-sacrificing nurse named Andrea, to a new location in Oklahoma. Hook hires a motley crew of World War II veterans to help, and they set out for the new destination. But before long things go awry on the Insane Train, as several inmates and attendants are found dead, and Dr. Baldwin seems in-

creasingly disoriented and incapable of running operations. With Andrea's help, Hook begins investigating the suspicious deaths, and uncovers a trail of revenge that has been a long time in the planning. The first book is The Yard Dog (\$31.99 hardcover, with no sign of a paperback).

**SCARROW, SIMON THE LEGION** (\$34.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) (Headline) When the actions of rebel gladiator, Alex, in Egypt threaten the stability of the Roman Empire, Acting Prefect Cato and Centurion Macro know he must be stopped. Ajax and his crew have been attacking naval bases, merchant vessels and villages along the Egyptian coast, stirring up anti-Roman sentiment by posing as Romans.

**SIEGEL, SHELDON PERFECT ALIBI** (\$31.99) This is the seventh instalment featuring the husband and wife team from the law firm of Fernandez and Daley. This time they are trying to prove that their daughter's boyfriend didn't kill his father, even though he was found with the hammer used as the weapon in his hands.

**STOCKETT, KATHRYN HELP** (\$27.50) (Putnam) We had so many requests for this book we decided to carry it. Twenty-two-year-old Skeeter has just returned home after graduating from Ole Miss. She may have a degree, but it is 1962, Mississippi, and her mother will not be happy till Skeeter has a ring on her finger. Skeeter would normally find solace with her beloved maid Constantine, the woman who raised her, but Constantine has disappeared and no one will tell Skeeter where she has gone. Aibileen is a black maid, a wise, regal woman raising her seventeenth white child. Something has shifted inside her after the loss of her own son, who died while his bosses looked the other way. She is devoted to the little girl she looks after, though she knows both their hearts may be broken. Minny, Aibileen's best friend, is short, fat, and perhaps the sassiest woman in Mississippi. She can cook like nobody's business, but she can't mind her tongue, so she's lost yet another job. Minny finally finds a position working for someone too new to town to know her reputation. But her new boss has secrets of her own. Seemingly as different from one another as can be, these women will nonetheless come together for a clandestine project that will put them all at risk

**TAPPLY, WILLIAM G brady OUTWITTING TROLLS (#25)** (\$28.99) (Minotaur) This is the last completed Brady Coyne novel before the author's death in 2009. Brady Coyne is a Boston attorney who focuses on a few private clients and the legal drudgery of their everyday lives, but then he gets a call from an old friend, Ken Nichols. He was a former neighbor and both were happily married. When both marriages fell apart, Brady moved into Boston while Ken moved to Baltimore. Now a decade later and in Boston for a conference, Ken contacts Brady for a get-together and a drink. It's pleasant evening but the next day Brady gets a call from Nichols' ex-wife. She's standing in her ex's hotel room, Nichols is lying dead on the floor and she is the obvious suspect.

**THORNLEY, SCOTT ERASING MEMORY** (\$29.95) (Random House Canada) MacNeice, a senior police detective in the southern Ontario industrial city of Dundurn, is returning from a pilgrimage to his wife's grave when he's called to a crime scene of singular and disturbing beauty. A young woman in evening dress lies gracefully posed on the floor of a pristine summer cottage so that the finger of one hand regularly interrupts the needle arm of a phonograph playing the Schubert Piano Trio. The only visible mark on her is the bruise under her chin, which MacNeice recognizes: it is the mark that distinguishes dedicated violinists, the same mark that once graced his wife. The murder is both ingenious and horrific, and soon entangles MacNeice and his team in Eastern Europe's ancient grievances, which reach out to breach all the walls that have been thrown up to keep the past at bay. MacNeice must use his splendid but unorthodox powers of observation to stem the tide of events threatening to erase any trace of memory or history, leaving the target of the crime naked in the face

of loss. A debut novel. Terrific. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

**TODD, CHARLES** LONELY DEATH (#13) (\$27.99) (Morrow) Three men have been murdered in a Sussex village, and Scotland Yard has been called in. It's a baffling case. The victims are soldiers who survived the horrors of World War I only to meet a ghastly end in the quiet English countryside two years later. Each had been garroted, with small ID discs left in their mouths. But even Scotland Yard's presence doesn't deter this vicious and clever killer. Shortly after Inspector Ian Rutledge arrives, a fourth soldier is found dead. With few clues to go on and the pressure building, Rutledge must gamble everything, his job, his reputation, and even his life, to find answers.

**VACHSS, ANDREW** WEIGHT (\$29) (Pantheon) Sugar is that rarest of commodities: an old-school professional thief, tough and loyal as a pit bull, packing 255 pounds of muscle. When he's picked out of a photo array in a vicious rape case, the cops find his apartment empty. A stakeout catches Sugar when he returns carrying a loaded pistol. The sex-crime cops get nothing from their interrogation, but a streetwise detective figures out why Sugar offers no alibi: at the time of the rape, a holiday-weekend break-in job was being pulled at a jewellery store. The DA offers Sugar two options: give up his partners in the jewellery heist and walk, or plead to the rape he didn't commit—and he'll toss in the gun charge. For Sugar, that's not two options; he takes the weight. When Sugar finishes his time, his money is waiting for him, held by Solly, the mastermind behind the jewellery heist. But Solly tells Sugar that one of the heist crew was actually sent by another planner and that planner has just died. In Sugar's world, all loose threads must be cut. He suspects that there's more to this job than what Solly is telling him. But nothing he suspects or imagines can prepare him for what he finds.

**VARIOUS/PENZLER, OTTO** GREATEST RUSSIAN STORIES OF CRIME & SUSPENSE (\$31) (Pegasus) Includes stories by **Boris Akunin, Anton Chekhov, Vladimir Nabokov, Alexander Pushkin** and more. The entire volume is devoted to Russian crime fiction.

**WAMBAUGH, JOSEPH** HOLLYWOOD HILLS (\$29.99 hardcover, \$19.99 trade paperback) A circle of teenage burglars that the media has dubbed "The Bling Ring" has taken to pillaging the homes of Hollywood celebuntants like Paris Hilton and Lindsay Lohan, putting the rich and famous on high alert. Enter LAPD "Hollywood Nate" Weiss who would gladly trade the Hollywood Station beat for the Hollywood Walk of Fame and who has recently become friendly with a B-list movie director. Nate agrees to take care of the director's opulent estate while he is away but Nate doesn't know that an art dealer is planning to steal two paintings from the mansion and make off with lots of money. When a pair of drug-addled young copycats stumbles upon the heist, Hollywood Nate, surfer cops Flotsam and Jetsam, and the rest of the team at Hollywood Station have a deadly situation on their hands.

**WRIGHT, EDWARD** FROM BLOOD (\$34.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) Shannon Fairchild, a brilliant but alienated young woman, loses her parents in a horrific double murder, then discovers that they were not her parents. She is the child, she learns, of two of America's most wanted fugitives, anti-war militants who went underground after a fatal bombing in 1968 and never resurfaced. Propelled by the dying words of the woman who reared her, Shannon sets out on a mission to find her birth parents and warn them that someone is after them, someone much more dangerous than the FBI. Her search begins in California and ranges through much of America, from San Francisco to Chicago and from Montana to Seattle. As she unearths long-buried secrets while trying to stay one step ahead of a shadowy killer, she feels the passions of the tumultuous Sixties being reborn, and she now knows that nothing is more dangerous than someone willing to die for a cause.

## Paperbacks

**ALLIN, LOU martin** SHE FELT NO PAIN (#2) (\$16.95) Summer on Vancouver Island gets off to a grim start when a homeless man is found dead near sleepy Fossil Bay by a family geocaching in the surrounding area. Investigating RCMP Corporal Holly Martin, a newcomer to this small detachment in a vacation mecca, gets involved when she and Constable Chipper Knox Singh notice drug paraphernalia nearby. Sequel to And on the Surface Die (#2) (\$15.95).

**ALT, MADELYN maggie oneil** WITCH IN TIME (#6) (\$9.99) Maggie O'Neill is spending some quality time with her boyfriend Marcus Quinn, in her latest outing when she gets a phone call that her sister is giving birth. Marcus and Maggie drop everything and head right over to lend the family moral support and to welcome the newest members of the family. Consistent with a recent run of bad luck in Stony Mills, trouble follows. It is left to the budding witch and her boyfriend to untangle the mess before more people are killed. One of *Elizabeth's Picks* in a previous newsletter

**ARMSTRONG, LORI** NO MERCY (\$9.99) On medical leave from the Army, Mercy Gunderson returns home to South Dakota, which turns out to be not much safer for her than Iraq. Arriving just after the death of her father, it is up to Mercy to decide what to do with the family ranch. Trying to deal with her irresponsible sister and nephew and feeling guilty that she didn't make it home soon enough to see her father one last time, Mercy is suddenly pulled into the local community when the body of a Native American boy is found on her land. But nobody seems to be doing anything about it, especially not the local law enforcement.

**BALDACCI, DAVID shaw** DELIVER US FROM EVIL (#2) (\$11.50) Evan Waller is a monster. He has built a fortune from his willingness to buy and sell anything and anyone. In search of new opportunities, Waller has just begun a new business venture, one that could lead to millions of deaths all over the globe. On Waller's trail is Shaw, the mysterious operative from The Whole Truth (\$11.99) who must prevent Waller from closing his latest deal. Shaw's one chance to bring him down will come in the most unlikely of places: a serene, bucolic village in Provence. But Waller's depravity and ruthlessness go deeper than Shaw knows. And now, there is someone else pursuing Waller in Provence, Reggie Campion, an agent for a secret vigilante group headquartered in a musty old English estate, and she has an agenda of her own.

**BARBIERI, MAGGIE alison** FINAL EXAM (#4) (\$9.99) 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).

**BAUER, BELINDA** BLACKLANDS (\$16 trade paperback, \$29.99 hardcover) A terrific read. See the hardcover section and *Marian's Picks* for more.

**BECK, JESSICA donut** SINISTER SPRINKLES (#3) (\$9.99) Another of Suzanne's and the Donut Hearts' famous treats, in the forensic sense and in the loaded-with-yumminess sense. The third Donut shop mystery, sequel to Glazed Murder (#1), which was a *Marian's Pick* and Fatally Frosted (#2) (\$9.99 each).

**BENTLEY, JENNIE avery** MORTAR AND MURDER (#4)

(\$9.99) Inheriting her aunt's old Maine cottage has led Avery Baker down a new career path: home renovation. Soon a mystery surfaces from behind the walls of a centuries-old house on an island that has more than its share of deadly secrets. Includes renovation and design tips.

**BIGGERS, EARL DERR** AGONY COLUMN (\$18) Written a decade before the Charlie Chan novels, this novel of love and intrigue is set in London, July 1914, when rumours of war are swirling. London is broiling in the heat and a favourite pastime is wasting time with the agony column, the personal notices. Both writing them and reading them...

**BLACKWELL, JULIET** reno IF WALLS COULD TALK (#1) (\$8.50) One half of the **Hailey Lind** team and the debut of the Haunted Home Renovation series...two years after Mel Turner stepped in "temporarily" to help with her father's construction business, she's still renovating high-end historic homes in San Francisco and dreaming of escaping to Paris. But when a colleague is assaulted with power tools, and his ghost starts following her around, Mel finds murderous secrets hidden behind the old mansion's walls.

**BOURNE, SAM** FINAL RECKONING (\$21.99) A harmless old man, shot dead by UN security staff, turns out to exactly that and not a suicide bomber, and Tom Byrne is hired by the UN to go deal with the family. But as Tom investigates, he learns that there may be lots more to the old man than anyone suspects. The truth he's following will get him killed and sets him on the trail of the last great secret of WW2. From the author of Righteous Men (a serial killer killing people all over the globe) and Last Testament (a religious conspiracy theory thriller set in the Middle East...looting of antiquities and the killing of archaeologists and historians) (\$10.99 each).

**BRADLEY, ALAN** WEED THAT STRINGS THE HANGMAN'S BAG (#2) (\$19.95) The delightfully quirky eleven-year-old, Flavia de Luce, returns, this time solving the murder of a puppet master. Upon her trusty bicycle, Gladys, she rides all over Bishop's Lacey looking for clues, inventing new chemistry experiments and thinking up ways to get back at her sisters. Truly a wonderful story. The first is Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie (\$19.95). Both were *Marian's Picks*.

**BRIGHTWELL, EMILY** MRS. JEFFRIES AND YULETIDE WEDDINGS (#26) (\$9.99) A quiet, middle-aged spinster has been killed in what her murder 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.

**BROWN, SANDRA** RAINWATER (\$9.99) 1934 and the country is in the depth of the depression. Ella Barron runs her boardinghouse to make ends meet and care for her son. But times are hard, people have to make tough choices, and the usual niceties are being set aside in an effort to survive. Into this tense atmosphere come a gang of hoodlums, and no one is safe.

**CAIN, TOM** sam carver ASSASSIN (#3) (\$21) When a people-trafficker dies a violent death in Dubai, and a gangland money-launderer has a fatal car accident in San Francisco, both bear the hallmarks of a Sam Carver 'accident'. The only problem is Sam Carver no longer plays that game. He made a promise. He's being set up. From the author of Accident Man (#1) (\$11.99) and No Survivors (#2) (\$13.50).

**CAMILLERI, ANDREA** TRACK OF SAND (#12) (\$17.50) Inspector Montalbano is having his issues, he's getting old, his eyesight is failing, he's in a long-distance relationship with one woman, interested in another, and he's up against the local mafia. So what's new?

**CANADEO, ANNE** maggie STITCH BEFORE DYING (#3) (\$19.99) When Maggie Messina, owner of the Black Sheep Knitting Shop, is invited to give knitting workshops at a Berkshires spa resort, she manages to negotiate a cottage that fits all five of the Black Sheep

for what promises to be a weekend of knitting bliss. But while the friends are expert at counting stitches, they haven't counted on murder. Sequel to While my Pretty One Knits (#1) and Knit Purl Die (#2) (\$18.99).

**CARLISLE, KATE** brooklyn LIES THAT BIND (#3) (\$9.99) Book restoration expert Brooklyn Wainwright returns home to San Francisco to teach a bookbinding class. Unfortunately, the program director Layla Fontaine is a horrendous host who pitches fits and lords over her subordinates. But when Layla is found shot dead, Brooklyn is bound and determined to investigate, even as the killer tries to close the book on her for good. A terrific series that Marian has loved. Sequel to Homicide in Hardcover (\$7.50) and If Books Could Kill (\$8.50).

**CHAPMAN, BRENDA** IN WINTER'S GRIP (\$16.95) Don't be fooled by the young adult look to the cover—the author has written indeed written a series of ya novels—but this is her adult novel debut. The last thing Maja Cleary wanted was to be drawn back to her childhood home in the depths of a snowy Minnesota winter - but news of her father's murder and her brother Jonas's arrest force her from the safe world she has so carefully constructed for herself in Ottawa. A killer is on the prowl in Duved Cove and somewhere in Maja's troubled past lies the trigger.

**CHILDS, LAURA** cackleberry BEDEVILED EGGS (#3) (\$9.99) The ladies at the Cackleberry Club café are busy preparing for Halloween. But someone's jumped the gun on the tricks. As mayoral candidate Chuck Peebler leaves the café, he gets struck with a crossbow arrow and is killed instantly. And when another murder occurs on the historical society's Quilt Trail, the Cackleberry Club needs to sniff out the bad egg-before he strikes again.

**CHRISTOPHER, PAUL** TEMPLAR CONSPIRACY (#4) (\$12.50) In Rome, the assassination of the Pope on Christmas Day sets off a massive investigation that stretches across the globe. But behind the veil of Rex Deus, the Templar cabal that silently wields power in the 21st century, the plot has only just begun.

**CLEMENT, BLAIZE** RAINING CAT SITTERS AND DOGS (#5) (\$9.99) A mysterious young girl is missing. Lieutenant Guidry, the hunky homicide detective with whom Dixie Hemingway has an on-again, off-again relationship, is trying to find the girl because she may be a material witness to a murder. Finally, Dixie must go it alone to confront criminals who will stop at nothing to get what they want.

**COLEMAN, REED** FARREL moe EMPTY EVER AFTER (#5) (\$19) Winner of the 2009 Shamus Award, now available in paperback. This is a terrific series, one that you must begin at the beginning, Walking The Perfect Square (#1) (\$18) and work your way forward. A secret that has been haunting former NYPD officer and PI Moe Prager forever, a lie that he told in kindness, has had some awful repercussions.

**CONNELL, REBECCA** ART OF LOSING (\$20) A debut novel, moving from the past to the present, and told from two different perspectives, has our heroine, Louise, trying to sort out the death of her mother. The man she believes responsible is Nicholas, and she sets out to infiltrate his life and family.

**CONNOLLY, SHEILA** orchard KILLER CROP (#4) (\$9.99) After an English professor, and old friend of her mother, is found dead in a cider house, orchard owner Meg Corey starts to wonder: Could her own mother have committed murder? A series that I remember Marian saying she liked.

**CONNOR, BEVERLY** fallon ONE GRAVE LESS (#9) (\$9.99) A colleague of Diane's at Georgia's River Trail Museum of Natural History whispers something to Diane before losing consciousness. She seemed to say that someone they trust may not be trustworthy. Someone they worked with investigating rights abuses in South America many years ago. And for Lindsay Chamberlain fans, whom you first met in Rumor of Bones (#1) (\$10.99), a surprise!

**COYLE, CLEO clare cosi** HOLIDAY GRIND (#8) (\$9.99) 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 pike act** FIRST RULE (#2) (\$12.50) 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.

**CURZON, CLARE yeadings** DEVIL IN THE DETAIL (#24) (\$21) When the body of a young woman is discovered hanging upside down from a tree, the village reverberates with whispers of tarot, occult practices and pagan rituals. The mystery deepens when the autopsy reveals that the body had already been dead for a year before being put on gruesome display.

**CUSSLER, CLIVE isaac bell** WRECKER (#2) (\$12.50) 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).

**DAVIS, KRISTA domestic di** DIVA COOKS A GOOSE (#4) (\$9.99) A Scrooge steals presents right from under Sophie Winston's family Christmas tree. Then her sister-in-law's father shows up with a diva girlfriend just a month after his separation. More than one person is thinking of committing a merry murder, until it actually happens! With many under suspicion for the deadly deed, can Sophie find the murderer and restore the Christmas spirit before it's too late?

**DEAVER, JEFFERY W** BURNING WIRE (#9) (\$19.99) When an explosion reduces a city bus to a pile of molten, shrapnel-riddled metal, officials fear terrorism. Rhyme, a world-class forensic criminologist known for his successful apprehension of the most devious criminals, is immediately tapped for the investigation. Long a quadriplegic, he assembles NYPD detective Amelia Sachs and officer Ron Pulaski as his eyes, ears and legs on crime sites, and FBI agent Fred Dellray as his undercover man on the street. As the attacks continue across the city at a sickening pace, and terrifying demand letters begin appearing, the team works desperately against time and with maddeningly little forensic evidence to try to find the killer. Or is it killers?

**DEAVER, JEFFERY W** DEVIL'S TEARDROP (\$12.99) Features Parker Kincaid, a retired FBI agent and top forensic document examiner, who is asked to join the manhunt for the Digger. The Digger has threatened to kill thousands of people unless he is given twenty million dollars. There is a cameo appearance by Lincoln Rhyme in the book. This was a *Marian's Pick* a while back. She said she "found the twists and turns wonderful and they kept me guessing, all without some of the graphic scenes of The Bone Collector (\$9.99), which I loved as well!"

**DEMILLE, NELSON sutter** GOLD COAST (#1) (\$16.99) A reissue. And a terrific read.

**DENNISON, HANNAH hill** THIEVES (#4) (\$9.99) After the body of a woman is found in a shallow stream, aspiring investigative journalist Vicky Hill suspects there's a connection between the murder and the string of recent silver thefts plaguing the small town of Gipping-on-Plym.

**DISHER, GARRY** BLOOD MOON (\$14) The beating of a politically connected chaplain, a murdered planning official, a fundamentalist church, racist bloggers, and vacationing teenagers bedevil Inspector Hal Challis and his team as he and Ellen Destry try to keep their new romantic relationship from interfering with their work. A

terrific series.

**DOBBS, MICHAEL jones** RELUCTANT HERO (#3) (\$9.99) Zac Kravitz has upset someone. Someone very important. He has been tortured and cast, barely alive, into an ancient prison deep in the republic of Ta'argistan. Bordering Russia, China and Afghanistan and ringed by high mountains, the country is a land of deep snows and still deeper suspicions, and it's about to swallow Zac. But he has a friend. Harry Jones is a former soldier, now a politician, a man of extraordinary skills and an enduring sense of guilt. He owes Zac. The debt must be repaid, no matter what the cost.

**DOHERTY, PAUL corbett** MYSTERIUM (#17) (\$10.99) A mysterious assassin prowls the narrow alleyways of London. February 1304, and a succession of brutal murders shocks the city as it comes to terms with the fall from power of Walter Evesham, Chief Justice in the Court of King's Bench. Accused of corruption, Evesham has sought sanctuary to atone for his sins. When Evesham's clerk is found cruelly murdered, and then Evesham himself is discovered dead in his cell at the Abbey of Syon, it appears that the Mysterium, a cunning killer brought to justice by Evesham, has returned to wreak havoc. Sir Hugh Corbett is ordered to investigate. Has the Mysterium returned or is another killer imitating his brutal methods?

**DONALDSON, ALLAN** CASE AGAINST OWEN WILLIAMS (\$19.95) Set in the fictional town of Wakefield, New Brunswick, against the backdrop of the Second World War. Following a night at The Silver Dollar dance hall, a teenage girl turns up dead in a gravel pit. The last person reported to have seen her is Owen Williams, an introverted soldier stationed with the local garrison of "Zombies"-conscripted men unwilling to serve overseas. When Lieutenant Bernard Dorkin, a young lawyer from Saint John, volunteers to defend Williams, whom he believes is innocent, he finds himself up against a theatrical local favourite leading the prosecution and a public mostly hell-bent on a foregone conclusion.

**DOSS, JAMES D moon** WIDOWS REVENGE (#14) (\$9.99) Charlie Moon gets a call for help from a friend of his Aunt Daisy, 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 determined to track down her killers.

**[DOYLE] GRANN, DAVID** DEVIL AND SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$17.95) True stories about murder, madness and obsession. Sherlock Holmes said that "life is infinitely stranger than anything which the mind of man could invent". David Grann sets out to solve a dozen real-life mysteries.

**[DOYLE]HANNA, EDWARD B** WHITECHAPEL HORRORS (\$10.95) Grotesque murders are being committed on the streets of Whitechapel. Sherlock Holmes comes to believe they are the skilful work of one man, a man who earns the gruesome epithet of Jack the Ripper. As the investigation proceeds, Holmes realizes that the true identity of the Ripper puts much more at stake than just catching a killer...Reissue.

**DUNNETT, KAITLYN maccrimm** WEE CHRISTMAS HOMICIDE (#3) (\$8.99) It's a tough Christmastime in Moosetookalook, Maine as there is no snow and the skiers and shoppers are not visiting. But Liss MacCrimmon of the Scottish Emporium has a plan. The whole country wants "Tiny Teddies" but shops are sold out. Everywhere, except in Moosetookalook. Getting shoppers to town is now not a problem, but murder is. The first two in the series is Kilt Dead and Scone Cold Dead (\$8.49 each).

**DWYER, LIAM & BRAD HAMMOND** MUSKOKA RAGE AND RETRIBUTION (#6) (\$14.95) Insp. Ian Murdoch has concluded that past sins have stalled his career as an Ontario Provincial Police inspector. There's no way the brass will let him near an inves-

tigation of any importance. However, they can't foresee the far-reaching implications of a lonely senior citizen's death, or that a body could just disappear. Now you see it, now you don't — Murdoch and his colleagues suddenly have their hands full as friends go down for the count and investigations collide. Life would be easier, of course, if the OPP wasn't preparing a billion-dollar photo opportunity. Does someone have it in for visiting G8 leaders in Muskoka?

**DWYER, LIAM omnibus MURDOCH IN MUSKOKA OMNIBUS** (\$19.95) The first three novels in the Insp. Murdoch series: Murder in Muskoka, Gold and Greed, and Muskoka Cross and Double Cross. This is a great buy as, separately, each of the titles sells for \$14.95.

**ELLIS, DAVID HIDDEN MAN** (\$12.50) Jason Kolarich is a young, intelligent and successful attorney. When a long-estranged friend, charged with murder, resurfaces needing Kolarich's help, the lawyer has to put together a competent defense for the accused, despite his private doubts. In Chicago, neighbourhood loyalty goes a long way.

**FLUKE, JOANNE swensen act PLUM PUDDING MURDER (#12)** (\$10.99) The Cookie Jar's busiest time of the year also happens to be the most wonderful time for Christmas cookies, Hannah's own special plum pudding - and romance! Holiday orders are high, and Hannah's slated to provide dessert at the Reverend Knudsen's upcoming nuptials. She gets a kick out of 'Lunatic Larry Jaeger's Crazy Elf Christmas Tree Lot', a kitschy carnival taking place smack-dab in the middle of the village green. Rumour has it that Larry's in the red, an idea that takes a sinister turn when Hannah discovers the man himself dead as a doornail in his own office. It seems quite a few people would have liked to fill Larry's stocking with coal and then bash him with it. With so many suspects to investigate and the twelve days of Christmas ticking away, Hannah's running out of time to nab a murderous Scrooge who doesn't want her to see the New Year.

**FOLSOM, ALLAN HADRIAN MEMORANDUM** (\$11.99)

**FORREST, C B SLOW RECOIL** (\$16.95) Former Toronto Hold-Up Squad Detective Charlie McKelvey is puttering through the first year of his forced retirement. His tedious life is torn wide open when a friend enlists his help in locating a recent Bosnian immigrant named Donia Kruzik. The friend, Tim Fielding, had just begun a relationship with the woman when she suddenly disappeared without a trace and Fielding suspects foul play. McKelvey is quickly drawn into the case as the bodies and clues pile up. When the body of an unidentified woman turns up in Fielding's apartment and Fielding is nowhere to be found McKelvey finds himself the prime suspect in an increasingly obscure murder investigation. From the author of the Ellis short-listed The Weight of Stones (#1) (\$15.95).

**FRADKIN, BARBARA BEAUTIFUL LIE THE DEAD** (#8)

(\$16.95) In the dead of night, the phone rings in the missing persons unit of the Ottawa Police department. A brutal blizzard is howling outside, and wealthy social activist Brandon Longstreet has not heard from his fiancé in over twenty-four hours. Friends, family and police are mobilized to search the snowbound city, but when Ottawa Police Inspector Michael Green and his team trace Meredith's recent movements, they discover she made a secret trip to Montreal just before she disappeared. But who is the mysterious Lise Gravelle she'd gone to visit?

**FRAZER, MARGARET joliffe PLAY OF PIETY** (#6) (\$17.50) With Joliffe's troupe leader in hospital, the players scramble for whatever work they can find while he recovers. Joliffe finds work in a hospital where his cross to bear is Mistress Cisily Thorncoffyn, a widow who suffers from mostly imaginary ailments. When mysterious deaths start occurring, and Mistress Thorncoffyn sure she'll be next, Joliffe has no choice but to investigate.

**FREEMAN, BRIAN bolton BONE HOUSE** (#1) (\$24.99) A year ago, accusations of an affair with a student cost Mark his teaching job

and made the couple into outcasts on their island home. Now another girl has been found dead, and Mark faces a hostile town convinced of his guilt. Hilary Bradley is determined to protect her husband, but digging into the murdered girl's secrets proves lonely and dangerous. Her only ally is a quirky Florida detective named Cab Bolton. The beginning of a new series from the author of the Lieut. Jonathan Stride novels.

**FRENCH, NICCI COMPLICIT** (\$10.99) Who is more dangerous? An enemy? A friend? Or a lover? Bonnie Graham is standing in her friend's flat. She is alone, except for the dead body lying in a pool of blood on the floor. What happened? What will she do? And what role has she played in the murderous events?

**GAGE, LEIGHTON silva DYING GASP** (#3) (\$18) The granddaughter of a prominent politician is missing. Silva and his team find her in Manaus, a jungle hellhole on the Amazon where an evil female doctor is making gory snuff films. Silva must overcome his own department's indifference and the corrupt local cops before he can obtain a semblance of justice for the victims.

**GALENORN, YASMINE otherworld HARVEST HUNTING** (#8) (\$9.99) The D'Artigo sisters continue to do their paranormal duties in the Otherworld Intelligence Agency. And even though the job has its perks, the perils are becoming more and more intense, especially when a grudge-carrying demon general puts a price on their heads.

**GARDNER, LISA warren LIVE TO TELL** (#4) (\$8.99) On a warm summer night in one of Boston's working-class neighborhoods four members of a family have been brutally murdered. The father, and possible suspect, now lies clinging to life in the ICU. Murder-suicide? Or something worse? Veteran police detective D. D. Warren is certain of only one thing: There's more to this case than meets the eye. Danielle Burton is a survivor, a dedicated nurse whose passion is to help children at a locked-down pediatric psych ward. But she remains haunted by a family tragedy that shattered her life nearly twenty-five years ago. The dark anniversary is approaching, and when D. D. Warren and her partner show up at the facility, Danielle immediately realizes: It has started again.

**GAUS, P L CLOUDS WITHOUT RAIN** (\$16) In the wooded Amish hill country, a fatal accident involving an Amish buggy and an 18-wheeler sets Professor Michael Branden on a quest to uncover the links between the crash and a spate of disturbing events.

**GEORGE, ELIZABETH lynley THIS BODY OF DEATH** (#16) (\$13.99) Still on compassionate leave after the murder of his wife, Thomas Lynley is called back to work when a body is found in an isolated London cemetery. Lynley's team is fiercely loyal to him and Isabelle Ardery, his temporary replacement, is not much liked. While Barbara Havers follows the trail to the New Forest, Lynley works in London.

**GIBBINS, DAVID MASK OF TROY** (\$14.99) Greece. 1876. On a secret dig, Heinrich Schliemann raises the golden mask of Agamemnon, King of the Greeks, and uncovers something extraordinary. He dies with his discovery still hidden, seemingly lost forever. Germany. 1945. The liberation of a concentration camp reveals clues to lost antiquities stolen by the Nazis, but the operation is covered up after a deadly secret surfaces. Present day. Marine archaeologist Jack Howard discovers a shipwrecked war galley in the Aegean Sea. It appears the galley belonged to the war fleet of Agamemnon. And this is the beginning of a dangerous treasure hunt.

**GOWDA, SHILPI S SECRET DAUGHTER** (\$19.99) Not a crime novel, but about motherhood, loss, belonging...

**GRAFTON, SUE U IS FOR UNDERTOW** (\$9.99) 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.

**GRAHAM, C S** BABYLONIAN CODEX (\$10.99) When Iraq War vet October "Tobie" Guinness volunteers to remote view a priceless artifact looted from war-ravaged Baghdad, she unwittingly becomes the main target in the midst of a horrific bloodbath. Now a fugitive accused of murder, Tobie turns for help from her sometime partner, rogue CIA agent Jax Alexander.

**GREENWOOD, KERRY fisher** DEAD MAN'S CHEST (\$18.95) Phryne Fisher needs a rest. It's summer. She packs up her family and moves to Queenscliff, a quiet watering place on the coast. Where she meets with smugglers, pirate treasure and some very interesting surrealists, including a parrot called Pussykins. What is the mysterious Madame Selavey hiding? Where are the Johnsons, who were supposed to be in the holiday house?

**HALL, M R jenny cooper** DISAPPEARED (#2) (\$14.99) Two British students vanish without a trace. The police tell their parents that the boys had been under surveillance, that it was likely that they left the country to pursue their dangerous new ideas. Seven years later, Nazim's grief stricken mother is still unconvinced and she asks Jenny Cooper for help. Finally established as the Severn Vale District Coroner, Jenny launches an investigation which reveals secrets from the past that powerful and corrupt figures have worked hard to suppress. But how is the theft of the body of a young woman from the hospital morgue linked to the case? The first in the series is The Coroner (\$9.99), was one of *J.D.'s Picks* in a previous newsletter.

**HARRIS, CHARLAINE connell** GRAVE SECRET (#4) (\$9.99) From the author of the wildly popular Sookie Stackhouse novels, the fourth in the Harper Connelly mystery series.

**HELLER, MANDASUE** DRIVER (\$24.99) When you play with fire, everyone gets burned . . . Joe Weeks is new to the Grange Estate. Tolerant, doesn't mind a bit of weed, doesn't try to pull other men's women. Live and let live is his motto. Eddie Quinn is the hardest man on the estate. Everyone knows that it's a bad idea to cross him, or his pit bull. But everyone also knows he's honest, as drug dealers go. Joe's pleased when Eddie offers him a job. But then he meets Katya. A prostitute. A slave. And desperate to escape from Eddie.

**HENRY, APRIL & LIS WIEHL** FACE OF BETRAYAL (\$9.99) While home on Christmas break, a seventeen-year-old Senate page takes her dog out for a walk and never returns. Reporter Cassidy Shaw is the first to break the story. The resulting media firestorm quickly ensnares Federal Prosecutor Allison Pierce and FBI Special Agent Nicole Hedges. These three unique women, life-long friends, call themselves The Triple Threat--a nickname derived from both their favorite dessert and their uncanny ability to crack cases using their three positions of power.

**HESS, JOAN malloy** TICKLED TO DEATH (#9) (\$9.99) A reissue. First published in 1994 or thereabouts.

**HEWSON, DAVID** DEATH IN SEVILLE aka Semana Santa (\$14.99) It is Holy Week in Seville and the heat is rising. A murderer is on the loose and visiting academic Maria Gutierrez can see something in his ways that the police are missing. But her insight does nothing to help her popularity in the force, and it draws her to the attention of the killer. Reissue.

**HEWSON, DAVID costa** BLUE DEMON (#8) (\$9.99) Twenty years ago, a mysterious group called the Butteri committed a series of bizarre crimes evoking the lost race of the Etruscans, and leaving in their wake a group of dead students, a cryptic message and a kidnapped child. Now, the leaders of the G8 are descending on Rome for a summit at the Quirinale Palace. But when a politician is found ritually murdered, seemingly by a strange young man dressed as an Etruscan god, detective Nic Costa suspects that the old case was never really solved. The Blue Demon have returned and are planning to unleash a devastating sequence of attacks on the city.

**HIAASEN, CARL** SKIN TIGHT (\$18.50) Reissue. First published in 1989.

**HILL, REGINALD active** DREAM OF DARKNESS (\$17.99) Sairey Ellis's father is writing his memoirs. As an ex-security man whose life work has been in Africa, his revelations will be explosive, blowing the lid off British and Kenyan support for Idi Amin, and exposing the degree of unofficial British connivance in Rhodesian sanctions-busting. He must be persuaded not to publish. Originally published under the **Patrick Ruell** pseudonym.

**HILL, REGINALD** THERE ARE NO GHOSTS IN THE SOVIET UNION (\$17.99) A collection of six short stories, including Joe Sixsmith, in his first investigation, and, of course, Dalziel and Pascoe.

**HILL, REGINALD** MIDNIGHT FUGUE (#22) (\$19.95) 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 J.D.

**HOAG, TAMI** DEEPER THAN THE DEAD (\$12.50) California, 1985. Four children and their teacher stumble upon a partially buried female body. A serial killer is at large, and FBI investigator Vine Leone employs a new and controversial technique called profiling to catch the killer.

**HURLEY, GRAHAM faraday** BORROWED LIGHT (#11) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$34.99 hardcover due Feb 1/11. Although the two editions were published simultaneously, the local distributor is a little tardy with importing the hardcover edition, but it should get here.) A car accident during a holiday in the Middle East lands Faraday in a hospital packed with the maimed from Gaza, where he embarks on a wild scheme to adopt a horribly burned Palestinian girl. Back in England crime lord Bazza McKenzie is watching his empire fall apart under the pressures of the biggest recession in 70 years. Desperate times call for desperate measures and soon ex-cop Winter is in the thick of it as Bazza runs out of options.

**HUSTON, CHARLIE** SLEEPLESS (\$17) What former philosophy student Parker Hass wanted was a better world, a world both just and safe for his wife and infant daughter, so he joined the LAPD and tried to make it that way. But the world changed. A plague of sleeplessness has infected him. Park can sleep, but he is wide awake. And as much as he wishes he was dreaming, his eyes are open. He has no choice but to see it all. From the very inventive author of The Mystic Arts of Erasing All Signs of Death (\$18.95), a brilliant read, one of J.D.'s Pick a newsletter ago.

**HUTSON, SHAUN** LAST RITES (\$10.99) Almost beaten to death by a gang of violent teenagers, schoolmaster Peter Mason wants nothing more than to escape the simmering violence of London, his broken marriage and the memories of his daughter's death. The perfect chance comes in the form of a position at a prestigious boarding school in the heart of the Buckinghamshire countryside. But the past is always lurking in the background.

**HYZY, JULIE white house** BUFFALO WEST WING (#4) (\$9.99) With a new First Family, White House executive chef Olivia Paras can't afford to make any mistakes. But when a box of take-out chicken mysteriously shows up for the First Kids, she soon finds herself in a "no-wing" situation. Includes recipes for a complete presidential meal. Should the Prez drop by, you'll be prepared!

**INDRIDASON, ARNALDUR** HYPOTHERMIA (#6) (\$21) A woman, Maria, is found hanging from a beam in her summer cottage by Lake Thingvellir. At first sight it appears to be a suicide, but when Maria's friend gives Erlendur the tape of a séance that Maria had attended, his curiosity is aroused. He embarks on an unofficial investigation.

**INNES, MICHAEL** APPLEBY TALKS ABOUT CRIME (\$25) Eighteen previously uncollected stories, often told by Appleby himself to the six-member Mystery Club.

**JAMES, REBECCA** BEAUTIFUL MALICE (\$20) So. Were you

glad, deep down? Were you glad to be rid of her? Your perfect sister? Were you secretly glad when she was killed? Following a horrific tragedy that leaves her once perfect family devastated, Katherine Patterson moves to a new city, starts at a new school, and looks forward to a new life of quiet anonymity. But when Katherine meets the gregarious and beautiful Alice Parrie her resolution to live a solitary life becomes difficult.

**JANCE, J A ali reynolds** TRIAL BY FIRE (#5) (\$9.99) 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** primaver BLOOD RED (#2) (\$14.99) Primavera Blackstone is enjoying the quiet life in an idyllic village on the Catalan coast of Spain. The attractive single mother and eight-year-old Tom, son of the late and still lamented Oz Blackstone, are popular figures in the tiny community. But soon her close friendship with the parish priest has eyebrows rising and tongues wagging. Then, a dispute explodes with a powerful councillor who refuses to allow the village wine fair to go ahead. When his body is found in his rockery, some ominous questions are asked. Did he fall? Or was he pushed? The first in this series, featuring just Primavera, is Inhuman Remains (\$10.99).

**JERKINS, GRANT** VERY SIMPLE CRIME (\$17.50) There's not a soul you can trust in the story...[a] well-fashioned but extremely nasty study in abnormal psychology, which dares us to solve a mystery in which none of the normal character cues can be taken at face value.--*The New York Times Book Review*.

**KENNEDY, MARY maggie** STAY TUNED FOR MURDER (#3) (\$8.50) Maggie Walsh's radio show has been getting a boost in ratings ever since Madame Chantal, who claims to talk to dead people, started her regular guest appearance. But when two women are killed after a séance, it's up to Maggie to catch the culprit before she winds up on the other side.

**KENNER, JULIE kate connor** DEMON EX MACHINA (#5) (\$9.99) Kate Connor, Demon Hunter. Special order.

**KINGSBURY, KATE pennyfoot** DECKED WITH FOLLY (#17) (\$8.50)

**KINGSBURY, KATE pennyfoot** MISTLETOE AND MAYHEM (#18) (\$17.50) As friends, family, and guests gather at the Pennyfoot Hotel, Cecily Sinclair's friend Madeline adds a kissing bough to the decorations. But after a footman and a new maid are seen kissing under the bough and then turn up dead, the staff is convinced a serial killer is among them.

**KNIGHT, ALANNA faro** MURDER IN PARADISE (#15) (\$10.99) Young Inspector Faro stumbles on a plot involving the stealing of a priceless jewel. His investigation leads him to Kent, and on the trail of his nemesis Macheath. Whilst there, Faro bumps into an old school friend, Erland Flett, who is working alongside the artist William Morris, in a Bohemian community. Not at all Faro's cup of tea. Erland is about to marry a beautiful but mysterious young lady, Lena Hamilton. Faro recognizes her as the famous Madeleine Smith, accused of murdering her lover, but never convicted. Now Faro realises that he must apprehend Macheath and save his friend from certain death at the hands of the ruthless Miss Smith ... and time is running out.

**KORYTA, MICHAEL** SO COLD THE RIVER (\$16.99) As a gift for her husband, Alyssa Bradford approaches Eric Shaw to make a documentary about her father-in-law, Campbell Bradford, a 95-year-old millionaire whose past is wrapped in mystery. Eric grabs the job even though there are few clues to the man's past, just the name of his hometown and an antique water bottle he's kept his entire life. In

Bradford's hometown, Eric discovers an extraordinary history: a glorious domed hotel where movie stars, presidents, athletes, and mobsters once mingled, and hot springs whose miraculous mineral water cured everything from insomnia to malaria. Neglected for years, the resort has been restored to its former grandeur. Just hours after his arrival, Eric experiences a frighteningly vivid vision. As the days pass, the frequency and intensity of his hallucinations increase and draw Eric deeper into the town's dark history.

**LA PLANTE, LYNDA travis** SILENT SCREAM (#5) (\$19.99) DI Anna Travis is ordered to the team assigned to investigate the murder of film star Amanda Delany. Anna is shocked by the truth behind Amanda's public image: her addictions to drugs and starvation diets; her cold, unemotional parents; her elusive film agent; and the former lovers so quick to distance themselves. But Anna has challenges of her own to overcome too. Promotion to Chief Inspector is within her grasp, but when the time comes for her to stand before the board, she faces a shocking accusation of personal misconduct.

**LANDORI, ROBERT** HAVANA HARVEST (\$18.95) Based in part on a true story, Havana Harvest follows the manoeuvres of two adversarial intelligence services in their attempts to inflict maximum damage on each other as they move through a maze of high-tension suspense. Castro's Cuba and the CIA.

**LANSDALE, JOE R** BOTTOMS (\$16.95) Reissue. Terrific. Winner of the 2001 Edgar for Best Novel.

**LAURIE, VICTORIA** ghost hunters GHOULS, GHOULS, GHOULS (#5) (\$9.99) M.J. Holliday and the crew of her cable TV show, "Ghoul Getters," venture to the haunted ruins of Dunlow Castle in Ireland, drawn by the legend of hidden treasure. If they treasure their lives, M.J. and her ghost busters need to get the drop on a menacing phantom.

**LAWTON, JOHN** LITTLE WHITE DEATH (#3) and FLESH WOUNDS (#5) aka blue rondo (\$15.50 each) Two earlier Troy novels, reissued to coincide with the publication of the newest one, Lily of the Field (\$29.50).

**LEONARD, ELMORE** COMFORT TO THE ENEMY AND OTHER CARL WEBSTER STORIES (\$16.99) A collection of three stories featuring Carl Wester's crime-fighting career.

**LESCROART, JOHN T wyatt** TREASURE HUNT (#2) (\$12.50)

**LINDSAY, PAUL fbi** BIG SCAM (\$22.99) Although the book was first published in 2005, this might be its first paperback appearance. In the continuing war against organized crime, this bunch of discipline-challenged FBI agents are proving pretty successful. The author, whose real name is **Noah Boyd** recently published the very successful The Bricklayer (\$12.99) and here's hoping the other novels written under the **Lindsay** pseudonym will be reissued.

**LINK, WILLIAM** COLUMBO COLLECTION (\$25) Twelve new stories in which murderers try to get away with murder but come up against the ruffled but unflappable Lieutenant Columbo.

**LITTELL, ROBERT** SWEET REASON (\$18.50) Originally published in the mid 1970s...really very good.

**LOVELACE, MERLINE** CATCH HER IF YOU CAN (#3) (\$9.99) When USAF Lieutenant Samantha Spade and her team test a dog-like robot for military use, the device leads them to a pick-up truck where they make a gruesome discovery: three human heads in a cooler.

**LYONS, C J** CRITICAL CONDITION (#4) (\$9.99) In the middle of a New Year's Eve blizzard, the staff and patients of Angels of Mercy Hospital are held hostage by armed gunmen. Their target is Dr. Gina Freeman, who is holding vigil over her wounded fiancé, Detective Jerry Boyle. Stranded outside the hospital is ER physician Linda Fiore, whose past holds the secret the hitmen are willing to kill for. With the cold-blooded killers in control, no one may live to see the New Year.

**MACALISTER, KATIE dark ones** IN THE COMPANY OF

**VAMPIRES (#9)** (\$9.99) From the author of Crouching Vampire, Hidden Fang (\$9.99), the newest book in the exciting and sexy Dark Ones vampire series.

**MCCRAY, CHEYENNE** VAMPIRES NOT INVITED (\$9.99) Vampire attacks are on the rise in the city that never sleeps. So why is half-human, half-Drow private eye Nyx tracking down Sprites?

**MCCULLOUGH, COLLEEN** TOO MANY MURDERS (#2) (\$10.99) It's 1967, and the world teeters on the brink of nuclear holocaust as the Cold War goes relentlessly on. On a beautiful spring day in the little city of Holloman, Connecticut, home to prestigious Chubb University and armaments giant Cornucopia, chief of detectives Captain Carmine Delmonico has more pressing concerns than finding a name for his infant son: twelve murders have taken place in one day, and Delmonico is drawn into a gruesome web of secrets and lies. All the murders are different and they all seem unconnected. Are they dealing with one killer, or many? Terrific, terrific says a customer who then went on to acquire the prequel On Off (#1) (\$10.99).

**MACDONALD, ROSS** FERGUSON AFFAIR, MEET ME AT THE MORGUE, BLUE CITY, and THREE ROADS (\$17 each).

Four reissues.

**MCKEVETT, G A savannah** WICKED CRAVING (#15) (\$8.99) Dr. Robert Wellman claims his breakthrough hypnosis techniques can help anyone shed unwanted fat in record time. But while countless weight-challenged folks have flocked to his popular clinic, most have only lighter wallets to show for it. Still, Dr. Wellman seems to have it all, until his wife Maria is found dead at the bottom of a cliff outside the Wellmans' seaside estate, and it's clear she didn't go down without a fight. Savannah is more than happy to help her good friend, Detective Sergeant Dirk Coulter, investigate Maria's untimely death. The clues all seem to point to murder and since Dr. Wellman appears to be the only viable suspect, Savannah is sure it's an open and shut case. But she's about to learn that appearances can be oh-so deceiving.

**MCKINLAY, JENN cupcake** BUTTERCREAM BUMP OFF (#2) (\$8.50) Melanie Cooper and Angie DeLaura's Fairy Tale Cupcakes bakery is gearing up for Valentine's Day. Unfortunately someone has iced Baxter Malloy on his first date with Mel's mother. Now Mom's a suspect, and Mel and Angie need to dig into the man's shady past.

**MACLEOD, HILARY** REVENGE OF THE LOBSTER LOVER (\$22.95) It's lobster season at The Shores, a fishing village on a point of land that's been cut off from The Island in a storm surge. Enter Camilla, the founder of the Lobster Liberation Legion, who spouts crustacean right-to-life rhetoric and "tickles" lobsters—stroking the creatures into insensibility with her bare hands while humming a high-pitched lullaby and thus freeing them from their traps. But what happens when Camilla meets the henchmen working for a fisheries empire in Maine? Why, murder, of course!

**MCNAB, ANDY nick stone** ZERO HOUR (\$25) A terrorist group is on the brink of obtaining a code that will jam every item of military hardware from Washington to Kabul. Jets and helicopters will fall from the sky. Communications and weapons systems will fail. The West will be brought to its knees. Only one man can find and stop the perpetrator -- but for the first time in his life Nick Stone doesn't want to play ball.

**MCPHERSON, CATRIONA dandy** DANDY GILVER AND THE PROPER TREATMENT OF BLOOD STAINS (\$14.99) Dandy is the new maid for Mrs. Balfour and the woman is frightened that her husband is going to kill her. Dandy to the rescue, with the help of her friend Alec. Set in 1926, Edinburgh. The other four in the series are After the Armistice Ball (\$21 expensive British import), The Burry Man's Day (out of print), Bury Her Deep and The Winter Ground (\$14.95 each).

**MANKELL, HENNING** ITALIAN SHOES (\$20) Living on a tiny island entirely surrounded by ice during the long winter months, Fredrik Welin is so lost to the world that he cuts a hole in the ice

every morning and lowers himself into the freezing water to remind himself that he is alive. Haunted by memories of the terrible mistake that drove him to this island and away from a successful career as a surgeon, he lives in a stasis so complete an anthill grows undisturbed in his living room. When an unexpected visitor alters his life completely, thus begins an eccentric, elegiac journey.

**MARSTON, EDWARD rawson** FIRE AND SWORD (#3) (\$14.99) 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.

**MAYOR, ARCHER** Good news. Fourteen of the first sixteen Joe Gunter novels have just been reissued by the author in beautiful new covers and a larger, trade-size, format:

OPEN SEASON (#1) (\$20)

BORDERLINES (#2) (\$20)

SCENT OF EVIL (#3) (\$20)

SKELETON'S KNEE (#4) (\$20)

FRUITS OF THE POISONED TREE (#5) (\$20)

DARK ROOT (#6) (\$20)

RAGMAN'S MEMORY (#7) (\$20)

BELLOWS FALLS (#8) (\$20)

DISPOSABLE MAN (#9) (\$20)

OCCAM'S RAZOR (#10) (\$20)

MARBLE MASK (#11) (\$20)

TUCKER PEAK (#12) (\$20)

GATEKEEPER (#14) (\$20)

ST. ALBANS FIRE (#16) (\$20)

Not quite sure why #13, 15 and 17 are not included, but they are not. Of the four most recent novels, three are still available in mass market paperback (#18, 19, 20) and, finally, the newest story, Red Herring (\$21) (\$28.99) has just been release in hardback. So, there.

**MITCHELL, GLADYS** MERLIN'S FURLONG (\$20) There's more than a hint of witchcraft in this Mrs. Bradley mystery from the 1950s.

**MOFINA, RICK gannon** PANIC ZONE (#2) (\$11.99) A young mother's child is stolen from the burning wreck of her car crash, ten people are killed in a bomb explosion in Rio and doctors are desperately trying to identify the mysterious cause of a cruise ship passenger's agonizing death. Jack Gannon pursues the truth. Sequel to Vengeance Road (#1) (\$8.99).

**MONTROSE, DAVID teed** MURDER OVER DORVAL (#3) (\$12.50) First published in the early 1950s, this series of three novels featuring PI Russell Teed, set in Montreal, is some of the earliest Canadian crime fiction. The other two are Body on Mount Royal (forthcoming) and Crime on Cotes Des Neiges (\$12.50).

**MOORE, DONNA** OLD DOGS (\$20) La Contessa Letizia di Ponzio and her sister Signora Teodora Grisiola are not who they might seem. Now in their seventies, they're actually Letty and Dora, a pair of ex-hookers turned con-artists who've decided to steal a pair of gold, jewel-encrusted Tibetan shih tzu dog statuettes from a Glasgow museum. Unfortunately, it seems everyone wants to get their hands on the expensive pooches. There's the dodgy chauffeur, a pair of delinquents who work in a crematorium, an out-of-work insomniac bent on revenge, and an innocent young islander who's obsessed with returning the dogs to Tibet. And yet the elderly con-artists might just manage to execute their plan and live the rest of their lives in the lap of luxury. That's if they can avoid the Australian hitman with his sights on a very different future for them.

**MORTIMER, JOHN** RUMPOLE AT CHRISTMAS (\$17) Rumpole isn't particularly fond of Christmas—time has a horrible habit of hanging heavily on the hands as the usual rituals are observed: exchanging presents with She Who Must Be Obeyed (a tie for him; lavender water for her) before settling down round the fire at Froxbury Mansions for a traditional turkey with all the trimmings and a bottle of Chateau Thames Embankment, then the Queen's Speech and a glass of port. In these stories, previously published only in magazines, the call of justice leads Rumpole as far afield as a health farm in Norfolk and as near to home as a pantomime at the Tufnell Park Empire.

**MOSSE, KATE** WINTER GHOSTS (\$14.99) The Great War robbed a generation of friends, lovers and their youth. In Freddie Watson's case it took his beloved brother, and at times, his peace of mind. In the winter of 1928, Freddie is traveling through southern France when his car spins off the road during a storm. Shaken, he stumbles into the woods and takes refuge in an isolated village. There he meets Fabrisa, a beautiful young woman also mourning a lost generation. Over the course of a single night, the two share their stories, and by the time dawn breaks, Freddie finds himself holding the key to a heartbreaking mystery.

**MUNNELLY, BILLY** BILLY'S BEST BOTTLES WINES FOR 2011 (\$19.95) This annual wine handbook is an accessible and friendly guide that makes buying wine as easy as going grocery shopping. Munnelly gives advice on purchasing wine by the mood, pairs the wine with food and has written an extensive section of wine tours in Ontario. Have fun with wine without getting too serious or snobby!

**MURPHY, J J** MURDER YOUR DARLINGS (\$8.50) The first novel in the new Algonquin Round Table mystery series, featuring Dorothy Parker as the sleuth. When a charming writer from Mississippi named Billy Faulkner becomes a suspect in a murder, Dorothy enlists her literary cohorts to solve the case.

**MURPHY, SHIRLEY ROUSSEAU** CAT STRIKING BACK (#15) (\$10.99) On a lovely moonlit night, Joe Grey is minding his own business, carrying a gift of mice to a litter of kittens, when he stumbles upon a murder scene. Behind an empty house lies a swimming pool, its bottom covered with mud. There is also blood, the smell of human death, and drag marks. But there is no victim. Without a body, it's a crime that will be hard to prove. With stubborn feline curiosity, Joe Grey sets out to investigate.

**MYERS, TAMAR** pa dutch BUTTER SAFE THAN SORRY (#18) (\$8.50) Mennonite innkeeper Magdalena Yoder is at the bank with her four-year-old son when three armed Amish men burst in and start shooting and, more surprisingly, cursing. Magdalena protects Little Jacob, and the robbers flee at the sound of police sirens. When Jacob wonders why the bandits had moustaches, unlike all the other Amish men he knows, Magdalena springs into action to catch the thieves. They may be armed, but they may not be Amish.

**NAVA, MICHAEL** Most of the Henry Rios novels are available in trade paperback editions now. We recently acquired a number of them, including Little Death (#1), Golden Boy (#2), How Town (#3), Death of Friends (#5), and Burning Plain (#6) (\$17 each) for a customer and can do the same for you. Hidden Law (#4) should be available soon, as well.

**NESBO, JO** SNOWMAN (#7) (\$19.95) The night the first snow falls a young boy wakes to find his mother gone. He walks through the silent house, but finds only wet footprints on the stairs. In the garden looms a solitary figure: a snowman bathed in cold moonlight, its black eyes glaring up at the bedroom windows. Around its neck is his mother's pink scarf. Inspector Harry Hole is convinced there is a link between the disappearance and a menacing letter he received some months earlier. As Harry and his team delve into unsolved case files, they discover that an alarming number of wives and mothers have gone missing over the years. Terrific stuff. One of *J.D.'s Picks* a year or so ago.

**NISBET, JIM** DAMMED DON'T DIE (\$18.50) The author's first novel and it is a gruesome and dark novel set in suburbia.

**NYKANEN, HARRI** RAID AND THE BLACKEST SHEEP (\$18.95) Ice Cold Crime, a small independent publisher founded in 2009, has as its mission to translate, publish and promote Finnish fiction in the United States and other English speaking countries. Their first two books were by the award-winning Finnish author **Jarkko Sipilä**, brother of the publisher Jouko, incidentally, Helsinki Homicide: Against the Wall (#1) (\$17.99) and Helsinki Homicide: Vengeance (#2) (\$18.99). This is their third publication. Raid is a hard-nosed, but compassionate, hit man. In this story Raid travels with an aging criminal Nygren throughout Finland. As they journey northward, Nygren puts his affairs in order, wreaking vengeance on those who have wronged him and paying penance to those he has wronged. Their first stop is at a church, where a sham preacher is fleecing his congregation for money.

**O'BRIEN, MARTIN** BLOOD COUNTS (#6) (\$25) Daniel Jacquot is a cop in Marseilles, and threats of violence and revenge against him go with the territory. Usually they come to nothing, but when friends and colleagues start turning up dead, it soon becomes clear that someone from Jacquot's past has a score to settle. And the killer is targeting people near and dear to Jacquot. He better figure this out soon before someone else near to him gets it in the neck.

**PALOV, C M** TEMPLAR'S CODE (\$12.50) During the Middle Ages a rumour was born about a mysterious and sacred ancient Egyptian text. Known as the Emerald Tablet, it was said to contain the secret of creation. But the greatest secret of all is who wrote it. From the author of Ark of Fire (\$9.99).

**PARKER, T JEFFERSON** hood IRON RIVER (#3) (\$17.50) Charlie Hood joins a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms task-force patrolling the "iron river" where illegal guns flow from the US dealers to the Mexican drug business. Hood is part of a stakeout 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.

**PATTERSON, JAMES** ALEX CROSS'S TRIAL (\$11.50) From his grandmother, Alex Cross has heard the story of his great-uncle Abraham and his struggle for survival in the era of the Ku Klux Klan. Now Alex passes the family tale along to his own children in a novel he has written titled *Trial*.

**PEACOCK, SHANE** boy holmes VANISHING GIRL (#3) (\$11.99) When a wealthy young socialite mysteriously vanishes in Hyde Park, young Sherlock Holmes takes it upon himself to investigate. The first two in this young adult series are Eye of the Crow and Death in the Air (\$11.99 each).

**PELECANOS, GEORGE** WAY HOME (\$16.99) Beneath the floorboards in a house he's remodeling, Christopher Flynn discovers something very tempting and troubling. Summoning every bit of maturity and every lesson he's learned the hard way, Chris leaves what he found where he found it. But when he doesn't come home from work one day, his father suspects that trouble has found Chris. "Way good", says J.D.

**PENZLER, OTTO** LINEUP (\$19.99) **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.

**PRONZINI, BILL** nameless SAVAGES (#32) (\$9.99) The police said it was an accident, the dead woman's sister said it was murder... and that she knew who did it. Nameless isn't certain, but the more he learns about Nancy Mathias's life, the more inclined he is to accept the possibility of foul play. Combine that with the situation Jake Runyon, one of the agency's partners, is facing as he searches for a

young man who is either a murderer or a victim, and life at their San Francisco detective agency has everyone on edge.

**PURSER, ANN meade** TRAGEDY AT TWO (#9) (\$9.99) 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.

**RASKIN, R J** KNIGHT AT SEA (\$22) On the 12th of April, 1955 **Raymond Chandler** boarded the Mauritania in New York setting sail for the England of his youth. This novel is a fictional account of that voyage. Woven like a film noir, this is a Chanderlesque tale of bizarre friendship coupled with intrigue and murder.

**RAYBOURN, DEANNA grey** DARK ROAD TO DARJEELING (#4) (\$17.95) After eight idyllic months in the Mediterranean, Lady Julia Grey and her detective husband are ready to put their investigative talents to work once more. At the urging of Julia's eccentric family, they hurry to India to aid an old friend, the newly widowed Jane Cavendish. Living on the Cavendish tea plantation with the remnants of her husband's family, Jane is consumed with the impending birth of her child, and with discovering the truth about her husband's death. Was he murdered for his estate? And if he was, could Jane and her unborn child be next?

**RENDELL, RUTH wexford** MONSTER IN THE BOX (#22) (\$19.95) 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.

**ROBB, J D** OTHER SIDE (\$9.99)

**ROWLAND, LAURA JOH** CLOUD PAVILION (#14) (\$16.99) Japan, 1701. Samurai detective Sano Ichiro is asked by the uncle who heads the clan that disowned Sano's mother to find cousin Chiyo, who has disappeared. Unable to ignore his cousin's plight, Sano undertakes a desperate search, only to discover that two other women have vanished in similar circumstances.

**SARID, YISHAI** LIMASSOL (\$18.50) A high-ranking official in the Israeli secret service is handed a new assignment: go undercover as an aspiring novelist to befriend Daphna, an Israeli writer, and her friend Hani, a renowned Palestinian poet. The target is Hani's son Yotam, a wanted terrorist leader.

**[SAYERS]WALSH, JILL PATON** ATTENBURY EMERALDS (#3) (\$14.99) The third Peter Wimsey story from the author of the Imogen Quy novels, and this purports to be Wimsey's "first" case. Apparently, Peter begins his hobby of amateur sleuthing in 1921 by becoming involved in the recovery of the Attenbury Emeralds. This case is mentioned by **Sayers** in a number of novels, but never fully told. So it's up to **Walsh** to tell it. Set after World War II, the novel has roots going back to 1921.

**SCARROW, SIMON** OCTOBER SKIES (\$14.99) In the winter of 1856 a group of settlers perishes in Wyoming. The group of Native Americans, also trapped by the winter, is not their enemy; something much, much more evil is. In 2008, Julian Cooke stumbles on the remains. From the author of A Thousand Suns (the Allies surrendered unconditionally to Hitler! (\$12.95)) and Last Light (the end of civilization as we know it because oil has run out, (\$10.99)).

**SCARROW, SIMON cato** LEGION (#10) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$34.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section.

**SCARROW, SIMON wellington** FIELDS OF DEATH (#4) (\$14.99) Viscount Wellington and Napoleon Bonaparte, Emperor of France, have made their mark as outstanding military commanders. While Wellington achieves further success fighting the French in Spain, Napoleon feels the sting of failure after his march on Vienna. With Napoleon's power waning, the newly titled Duke of Wellington

is perfectly placed to crush the tyrant but Napoleon is not ready to quit. They face each other on the bloody battlefield of Waterloo. This is the final installment in the series. The three earlier novels are Young Bloods (\$14.99), The Generals and Fire and Sword (\$10.99 each, but may be reprinting at \$14.99).

**SCHLINK, BERNHARD** GORDIAN KNOT (\$17.95) If it seems too good to be true, then perhaps it is. Georg Polger, eking out a small living as a freelance translator is offered a great opportunity. What luck! And how did he end up with this stunning woman? Was all that a little too easy? When he finds her photographing sensitive military documents that he is translating, he is shocked and heartbroken. But that's only the beginning of his troubles. From the author of The Reader (\$15.95) and the Self novels. Very good.

**SILVERBERG & GARRETT** A LITTLE INTELLIGENCE (\$22) **Randall Garrett** and **Robert Silverberg**, two great writers of science fiction, were also accomplished mystery writers. This book collects their best mystery short stories, all written in the 1950's, mostly under the joint pseudonym of **Robert Randall**.

**SKIBSRUD, JOHANNA** SENTIMENTALISTS (\$19.95) Giller Prize-winner. This is the Douglas and McIntyre edition.

**SMITH, ALEXANDER botswana** NO. 1 LADIES DETECTIVE AGENCY (#1) (\$9.99) The mass market paperback edition.

**SMITH, MARK HASKELL** BAKED (\$18) Loved this writer's previous offerings Moist (\$17.50), Delicious (\$16), Salty (\$17.50). And I quite liked this one. In fact, it's a *J.D.'s Pick*.

**SMITH, ROGER** WAKE UP DEAD (\$18.50) On a hot night in Cape Town, American ex-model Roxy Palmer and her gunrunner husband, Joe, are carjacked, leaving Joe lying in a pool of blood. As the carjackers make their getaway, Roxy makes a fateful choice that changes her life forever. Disco and Godwynn, the ghetto gang bangers who sped away in Joe's convertible, will stop at nothing to track her down. By the author of the terrific Mixed Blood (\$18).

**SOBOL, JOSHUA** CUT THROAT DOG (\$17.50) An Israeli who calls himself Shakespeare, because he's got a way with words, finds himself jolted on a sidewalk in Manhattan and is sure that the jolter is one of the world's premier terrorists. Someone who murdered his partner. Someone he blames for the fog of despair that's overcome him. And most shockingly, someone Shakespeare's mysterious associates in Tel Aviv tell him had been killed in the desert. So is Shakespeare cracking up, or cracking the case of a lifetime?

**STABENOW, DANA shugak** NIGHT TOO DARK (#17) (\$9.99) An abandoned pickup truck, complete with suicide note, leads a search party to find human remains that have clearly served as a snack for a bear. But things get complicated when the dead man stumbles out of the wilderness and onto Kate Shugak's homestead weeks later, Kate and Trooper Jim Chopin must unravel the story of the man and the body, whoever he is, which is wrapped up in the politics of the Suulutag Mine, a gold mine near Niniltna that is proving to be a breeding ground for trouble.

**STANLEY, J B** BLACK BEANS AND VICE (\$18.95) The Flab Five's creative new strategy to slim down? Hypnotherapy! And James has new motivation: his adorable son Eliot and a rekindled romance with his ex-wife. But someone doesn't approve, as evidenced by the gruesome "messages" threatening the happy family.

**STARR, MELVIN R** UNQUIET BONES (#1) (\$20) A medieval whodunit set in Bampton, Oxfordshire, during the plague years and featuring a newly qualified surgeon, Hugh of Singleton. A local lord asks him to track the killer of a young woman whose bones have been found in the castle cess pit. Her young man, whom she had provoked very publicly, looks good for the killing, and is arrested and sentenced at the Oxford assizes.

**STOCKWIN, JULIAN** VICTORY (#11) (\$24.99) Kidd at the battle of Trafalgar, playing his part in thwarting Bonaparte's plans for the invasion of England.

**STROBY, WALLACE** cross GONE 'TIL NOVEMBER (#1) (\$16.99) When Florida sheriff's deputy Sara Cross arrives on the scene of a roadside shooting, she finds another deputy, Billy Flynn, has killed a twenty-two-year-old man. Clearly shaken up, Billy—Sara's former partner and lover—claims the man pulled a gun, and after she takes look at the scene, including the illegal weapons in the trunk, she believes Billy's actions were justified. In New Jersey, Mikey-Mike runs a drug operation that's making a deal with a new supplier. When it hits a snag, Mikey sends Morgan, an enforcer who's been in the life too long, to Florida to check it out. But as details of the shooting emerge and as Morgan follows the trail Mikey lays out for him, the story lines merge into an even more menacing scenario than either Morgan or Sara could've imagined.

**SUAREZ, DANIEL** FREEDOM (\$12.50) In his debut, Daemon (\$12.50), the author introduced a terrifying vision of an unstoppable computer program unleashed on the world by a hi-tech wunderkind. But now, our world is Daemon's world, unless someone stops the program once and for all.

**SULLIVAN, MARK T** TRIPLE CROSS (\$11.99) The Jefferson Club is a remote, private resort for the super-rich – the buildings, the amenities, and the security are state of the art and beyond compare. Many of the world's wealthiest people, business leaders, entrepreneurs, politicians, celebrities, gather for the most exclusive New Year's Eve party in the world. As expensive champagne flows and multibillion dollar deals are arranged, the unimaginable happens – a highly trained, heavily armed paramilitary force calling itself the Third Position Army breaches the world's best security system and takes everybody hostage. Seven of the ten richest men will be on "trial" for their crimes against humanity, live on the internet for the world to see.

**THEROUX, PAUL** DEAD HAND (\$19.99) 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.

**TREMAYNE, PETER** DOVE OF DEATH (#20) (\$14.99) Sister Fidelma and her companion, Brother Eadulf, survive the attack of a pirate ship during the summer of 670AD. Her cousin, Bressal, and the captain of the ship, Murchad, were both murdered after they had surrendered. Fidelma is determined to bring the killers to justice, but her only clue is that the attacking vessel was carrying on its sails the symbol of a dove.

**TURGEON, PIERRE** FIRST PERSON (\$17.95) An embittered computer programmer working for the police has decided to erase his identity. Leaving his old life behind, the man becomes a private detective in Los Angeles under a new, forged identity. He is hired to find a local gangster's unfaithful wife, but after locating the woman, he falls in love with her. The pair plans to reunite after he returns her and collects his fee, but their plans are short-circuited by her husband, who punishes her cruelly for her betrayals. Devastated, the detective exacts his revenge. Winner of the 1980 Governor General's Award for French Language Fictin.

**VACHSS, ANDREW** HAIKU (\$17) From the author of the lengthy Burke series, a searing new novel that follows a band of homeless outcasts on a mission to recover what each has lost.

**VAN ROOY, MICHAEL** monty CRIMINAL TO REMEMBER (#3) (\$16) The third novel in this entertaining series featuring Monty Haaviko, a reformed very bad guy. He's spent a lot of time in jail, but is now trying to go straight as he has a wife and a son. But things

never go as planned, of course. Sequel to Ordinary Decent Criminal (#1) (\$17) and Your Friendly Neighbourhood Criminal (#2) (\$16.50). See *J.D.'s Picks*.

**VARIOUS/STABENOW, DANA** ed UNUSUAL SUSPECTS (\$9.99) Original stories featuring otherworldly investigators trailing uncanny criminals across fantastical realms. By **Charlaine Harris, Carole Nelson Douglas, Simon Green, Laure King** et al.

**VIETS, ELAINE** shopper UPLIGHTING MURDER (#6) (\$9.99) On her latest assignment, Mystery Shopper Josie Marcus discovers that a former teacher is working in a lingerie store. When one of the store's customers is murdered, the teacher is the prime suspect. Josie will need to bust out her sleuthing skills to expose the real killer.

**VONNEGUT, NORB** TOP PRODUCER (\$11.99) For Grove O'Rourke, top producer at an investment firm, his job is his life. When his best friend and colleague, Charlie Keleman, is murdered in front of hundreds of guests at a party, Charlie's wife asks him for help. As Grove investigates, he comes across false statements, forged documents and people whose lives drastically changed when they signed a dishonest deal.

**WAMBAUGH, JOSEPH** HOLLYWOOD HILLS (\$18.99 trade paperback, \$29.99 hardcover) LAPD veteran "Hollywood Nate" Weiss could take or leave the opulence of Hollywood, but he wouldn't say no to onscreen fame. And it looks like he might get his chance when he consents to keep an eye on B-list director Rudy Ressler's estate in the Hollywood Hills while he's away. But things get a little hairy when it turns out that everyone is after two paintings hanging on the mansion's walls which will guarantee them life on easy street.

**WASHBURN, LIVIA** newsom KILLER CRAB CAKES (#4) (\$8.50) Phyllis jumps at the chance to look after a cousin's bed-and-breakfast; mostly because the inn is located close to the annual Rockport, Texas, Just Desserts competition. Phyllis concocts the ultimate sweet treat. But when murder rears its ugly head, Phyllis is drawn into the investigation.

**WASHBURN, LIVIA** newsom PUMPKIN MUFFIN MURDER (#5) (\$17.50) Phyllis hopes to win the baking contest, now that her friendly competitor, Carolyn, is judging and not competing. But when a decorative scarecrow is actually a dead body in disguise, it's Phyllis's sleuthing skills that are needed. The dead body is that of the festival's organizer.

**WEEDMARK, DAVID** TANGLEWOOD MURDERS (\$16.95) All Detective Ben Taylor wants is to get away from the police force where he has been an undercover operative for the past three years and from the intense publicity of his last case. The RCMP has cleared his name in a shooting that took the life of a young child, but that hasn't cleared his conscience. Ben needs time and distance, and arrives anonymously at Tanglewood Farms where he once worked in the summers of his youth. Back then, it was a simple farm, but it is a far different place today. When a missing woman's body is discovered on the edge of the farm, Ben is drawn in.

**WOLFE, INGER** ASH hazel TAKEN (#2) (\$9.99) Det. Insp. Hazel Micallef, acting police chief of Port Dundas, Ontario is miserably ensconced in the basement of her ex-husband's apartment, recuperating from back surgery. But crime waits for no one. A report has come in about a body tangled in a net beneath the waters of a nearby lake, which some anglers have brought up. What first seems to be a prank, turns out to be anything but. Sequel to the fabulous The Calling (\$10.99). Everybody's *Picks*!

**WOODS, STUART** barrington LUCID INTERVALS (#18) (\$12.50) It seems like just another quiet night at Elaine's. Stone Barrington and his former cop partner, Dino, are enjoying their drinks when in walks former client and all around sad sack Herbie Fisher, in need of a lawyer.

**WRIGHT, EDWARD** FROM BLOOD (\$24.99 trade paper, \$34.99 hardcover). See the hardcover section for an annotation.