



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

January 2012

We're doing this issue in a kind of hurry. You remember that part of the reason for the move from Bayview Ave. to Millwood Rd. was to enter a semi-retirement phase. Which, for us, translates into a whole lot less time spent at the store and a whole lot more leisure time. A whole lot less store time is easy to do, just not be open, but, a whole lot more leisure takes work. Leisure takes work! So, in that spirit one of us is off to Australia for the month of January—sunshine, golf, beer...two guesses as to who is going!—and that means the January 2012 issue of the newsletter has got to be done, like, toote suite. Along with all else that December entails! [*He is actually gone for five weeks but he thinks that by saying 'the month of January' it will be easier for me to take! MM*).

A gentle reminder about the hard-copy newsletter subscription. For a number of you getting this copy by mail, this could well be your last hard-copy issue. You remember our deal: support us to the extent of \$200 of books per year and we'll keep mailing you the newsletter. Otherwise, your choices are the electronic version (free, just make sure we have your e-mail address) or purchase a hard-copy subscription for \$50. If you are unsure as to what your 2011 purchases added up to, call or e-mail.

Our first Christmas in the new location has gone reasonably well; the traffic has been good, we're selling books, and most of you have liked the new location and the easy parking has been a real bonus. All in all, the two of us are quite pleased

with the way the whole thing is working out. To some extent, even after thirty years of selling mysteries in the neighbourhood and having relocated less than two kilometers away, there is still a certain feeling of having to re-establish the bookstore in our new location, which surprises us. I guess even a change as small as this can have huge repercussions.

Have you discovered nextbus.com? It's a fabulous tool for those using public transit. In this day and age of the ubiquitous smart phone, it's like having the entire Toronto Transit Commission's schedule and the location of each bus and street car in the palm of your hand. If there was a compelling reason to have a smart phone and to be connected, this may be it. It almost makes the TTC, if not the Better Way, then certainly a pretty good way.

It's very late as I'm working on this, and felt the need for a cold brewski. At hand, well in the fridge, was a cold can of Crazy Canuck brewed by Great Lakes Brewery, 5.2% and a Gold Medal Winner. Nice and bitter, with a great hoppy aroma and malty flavor. I like it. Alas, Marian only bought me one. Not your Budweiser. I'm supposed to be cutting back on my alcohol intake—it is a great misfortune in my life that there seems to be no really good reason to consume alcohol, other than it's such fun, and nothing but great reasons to not—so I'm going to limit myself to one. Actually, as it is now tomorrow, I actually went a whole day without alcohol, and that doesn't happen very often! Although, with that reasoning, I'm getting a really, really early head start to tomorrow's!

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

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Hours of Business

Thursday to Saturday

10 am to 6 pm

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J.D.'s Picks

I had not read **Steve Hamilton** in a while—all that Yooper cold air was starting to bother my lungs—but I grabbed a copy of Misery Bay (\$28.99) recently and whipped through it. Steve had been in the store earlier this summer and there were still a few signed copies around. I'd been meaning to read it, but never did get around to it. Until recently. Although it's winter, and it's cold, and our hero, Alex McNight, an ex-Detroit cop who lives in the Upper Peninsula, doesn't think he can do much for his old boss. The two men never had a good working relationship, but he is asking for a personal favour, and what the heck, Alex can ask a few questions, poke around a bit, and likely let the matter drop at that. Be a really, really short book, if that were to be the way things actually progress, so you can expect that things get complicated, and there's a lot of fast moving water under the metres of ice on Lake Superior, even if it is April. It had been about five years since the previous McNight and it was nice to have him back. If you have not encountered him before, start with the Edgar Award Winner, A Cold Day in Paradise (\$9.99). In that five year gap, there were a couple of standalones, including the wonderful, and another Edgar winner, The Lock Artist (\$16.99). Hey, this guy is good.

COLIN BATEMAN has long been a favourite of mine. I have read most of his Dan Starkey—journalist, investigator, boozier, womanizer—novels and Of Wee Sweetie Mice and Men (#2) (to be reissued June 2012) is pure joy. But it's been seven years between Belfast Confidential (#7) (\$14.99) and the hot-off-the-press, Nine Inches (#8) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) and with my short attention span, I had kinda forgotten about our defective hero. Fortunately, there was no lack of **Batemans**. A couple of years ago he had written Mystery Man (#1) (\$14.99) the first of what quickly became a series of three stories featuring “the Small Bookseller with No Name” who owns the No Alibis mystery bookshop in Belfast. (Now, there is a mystery bookshop in Belfast called “No Alibis”, and I gather, this is meant to be the bookshop of the story!) When the detective agency next door to the bookstore goes bust, the agency's clients start calling into his shop asking him to solve their problems. How hard can it be, after all? He owns a mystery bookstore, reads about all sorts of crime, so their small problems will be truly small potatoes for him. And, thus, it starts. Mystery Man was followed by The Day of the Jack Russell (#2) and then, very recently, Dr. Yes (#3) (\$14.99 each). And, what fun **MM** was! I'm sure I've missed many of the in-jokes, and it would probably help a lot to know Belfast and its history, but, even with that, I enjoyed it a great deal. I'm tempted to take the other two with me on my trek Down Under but I might resist. Perhaps I'll take a **Peter Corris** or an **Arthur Upfield**, or maybe even a **Peter Temple**, get into an Australian frame of mind and then hunt down some other Australian writers that we might not find in North America. Hey, this could be a business trip! Write it all off!!

Cottage Lady's Picks

Christmas and New Years are big family times at our home so I have only had a few spare moments to whip up two reviews. I have baking to do so let me just wish you a very happy Season and I trust we will all be looking forward to great reads in 2012.

In The Drop (\$29.99) **MICHAEL CONNELLY**, the master of US crime fiction has fashioned another effortlessly paced, powerful and convincing crime story featuring the flawed but unforgettable detective, Harry Bosch. Harry, in his fifties and just three years to retirement, has mellowed much over the years especially now that his fifteen-year old daughter, Maddie, is living with him. He has reformed somewhat - reducing his alcohol intake and no longer smoking but still wholly dedicated to putting the bad guys away. He is currently working out of the Open-Unsolved Unit. The story opens with Harry anxiously awaiting assignment to a new case and as fate would have it, he gets two. The first is a cold case where new DNA evidence from a 1989 rape and murder matches a 29-year-old convicted rapist. Harry has to determine whether or not something has gone wrong at the crime lab or was the killer actually only eight at the time of the murder. The second is a special request, a new case; a political hot potato with Harry assigned to investigate the apparent suicide of councilman Irving's son. The councilman is high profile and an ex-cop. He and Harry and the LAPD have had a long and antagonistic relationship. In fact, Irving hates Harry but wants him on the case because of his respect for the detective's determination to find the truth, whatever the cost. Suspense escalates as contrary to orders, Harry runs two parallel investigations. Not surprisingly, **Connelly** comes through with yet another top-notch police procedural with lots of clever plotting and some unexpected slip-ups. And although this is the umpteenth Harry Bosch tale, I still eagerly await the next.

GERALD SEYMOUR began his career in the 60's as a journalist, covering the Middle East and Viet Nam. Author of the 1975 classic Harry's Game (alas, out of print) he is a skilled and knowledgeable writer who clearly knows what he is talking about. This, his 28th novel, A Deniable Death (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$32.99 hardcover reprints) is a modern day spy thriller set in England and the Iran/Iraqi border. The plot centres on IEDS (improvised explosive devices). Alarmed at the large number of military deaths caused by these nasty lethal weapons, the British secret service, MI6, puts together a team to execute the Engineer responsible for designing and building them. It won't be easy because the highly valued bomb maker lives under tight security in the remote southern marshland area of Iran. However, he is vulnerable in that his wife has a brain tumour and must go to the West for treatment. An Israeli assassin is already on alert but two key questions need answering for the execution - the date and location of the hospital where the treatment will take place. To get this vital information, aging and disillusioned MI6 bureaucrats set up a

“deniable” mission with a contract team. Two self-employed specialists are hired to carry out the actual covert surveillance in the marshes bordering the bomb maker’s home - Danny ‘Badger’ Baxter who has spent much of his career in CROPS (Covert Rural Observation Posts) in Northern Ireland and Foxy, an aging overweight operative. Badger starts his usual routine, hiding for hours, sometimes days, immobile, invisible and secretly recording terrorist activity. But the heat, humidity and mosquito-infested marshes of Iran offer exceptional challenges. And to further exacerbate the situation, he has no use for his partner except for Foxy’s fluency in the local language. The two men, cut off from their support team, must lay stationary for days, urinating in bottles and defecating in bags, watching and listening to the Engineer, his guards and family. And if caught, Badger and Foxy will not be rescued or ransomed, as the government would deny that the entire mission ever existed. The intrigue unfolds ever so slowly and in great detail. The reader is kept on edge, desperate to discover what will happen next. **Seymour** is a powerful and first-rate writer who brings life and reality to the courage, endurance and suspense of his tale – to the point where my identification with Badger and Foxy was so complete that, by the last quarter of the book, I almost skipped to the ending. And I never ever do that! One of best thrillers on the market.

then you are going to want to read this one. This is maybe the best book I read in 2011. I started reading **Mr. Seymour** in the mid-80s, by which point he had written seven or eight books and I devoured every one. I even remember my mom and I arguing over the ending of *A Song in the Morning* (out of print) which I read sometime in 1986. She thought one thing and I thought another. All of his books involve some sort of covert operation, MI5, MI6, an undercover agent, the IRA or some other government body (usually British). They take place in different parts of the world so you get to travel all over. He is a terrific writer and I wish more of his books were in print, but, alas, only a few of his more than twenty-five titles are. As there are no continuing or series characters, read whatever you get your hands on without worrying about continuity. His writing is fast paced and his plots are very realistic, so much so that if he needs to pop off a principal character to make his story realistic, he will. There was a time when I would read every book written by a favourite writer, and I started that way with **Mr. Seymour**, but stopped reading him about ten years ago; there were just too many new writers to sample. But after reading *Deniable*, I think I’m going to track down all those unread **Seymour**s. Maybe when what’s his name gets back from Down Under, I’ll “task” him. Maybe read them at the cottage this coming summer!

Marian's Picks

I sometimes wonder why I let Christmas get so hectic. I know it’s on December 25th; I know I have to buy and wrap presents for my family; I know I have to decorate the cottage as that is where, for the past eight years, we celebrate Christmas; I know this is a very busy time at the bookstore. I know all these things and yet I run around at the last minute trying to get things done. This year it was so much more hectic because JD was going away for a five week golf holiday and the newsletter had to be ready and to the printer by December 29th. Talk about being under the gun. It may not be the most annotated newsletter but here it is.

Percy had such a good time on his birthday and by default, so did I. Thanks to everyone who came and celebrated with us. JD and I go crazy everyday playing with Percy and all his new toys. He actually goes through each one of them and wants us to squeak them and throw them and he is in his glory chasing them. Thankfully some customers participate in these games as well, so it gives us a break. He is an amazing companion and I am lucky to have him.

I truly cannot remember the last book I read that left me breathless but *A Deniable Death* (\$32.99 hardcover but not first editions, \$24.99 trade paperback) by **GERALD SEYMOUR** still has me gasping. I can’t stop thinking about it. Cottage Lady has also picked this book so I won’t say anything about the plot, you can read what she has to say. Although I did tell her that I wouldn’t pick it as well, I just can’t help myself. I am going to give you my two cents’ worth. If you love a good spy story,

Cottage Lady also picked *The Drop* (\$29.99) by **MICHAEL CONNELLY** and I told her that I would not pick that title either. So I won’t, officially. I’ll just tell you that this is another terrific Harry Bosch story, what would you expect from this guy, and I loved it.

I picked up a copy of *The Time In Between* (\$29.99) by **MARIA DUENAS** because the dust jacket art caught my eye. It looked interesting so I took the book home but never got around to reading it—probably needed a copy to fill a customer request, and that was that. Fast forward a month or so, and the book comes up in conversation with another passionate fan of spy novels, who insists that I read it as she thought it was fabulous and knew that I would enjoy it. Well Sherry, you are right, the book is stunning. It is not a fast moving story by any means but it is one I savoured. The story starts in Madrid and follows the life of a young girl, born in 1911, who, at the age of twelve, starts working in the same shop where her mother toils as a seamstress. She later transforms herself and becomes a much sought after couturiere in Tetouan, Morocco, and then ends up becoming a spy for the Allies during World War II. Tons of historical detail, so much so that the bibliography at the end of the book is two and half pages long. I learnt about the Spanish Civil War, Morocco of the late 1930s and, of course, WWII. **Mario Vargas Llosa**, recipient of the 2010 Nobel Prize in Literature, has this to say about the book: “A wonderful novel, in the good old tradition, with intrigue, love, mystery, and tender, audacious, and well-drawn characters”. Translated from Spanish; this is an exquisite read.

The Redemption of Alexander Seaton (\$13.50) by **SHONA MACLEAN**, first arrived in the store in mid 2008 but I didn’t get around to reading it; it must have been the cover art. I

know, I know, don't judge a book by its cover. The author even came to visit the store, and there were lots of copies around, but there you are. It wasn't until the paperback edition made it into the store, late last year, that I picked it up. Ignoring it was a huge mistake!!! What a terrific read! Set in Scotland of the 1620s, the body of a very likeable young man is found, poisoned, in the school house of Alexander Seaton. Seaton, a man whose ambitions to become a minister were stymied by an ill-advised love affair with a local aristocrat's daughter which left him very much 'persona-non-grata' in the town. When one of his friends is accused of the murder, Alexander sets out to prove his innocence. The usual set up, but it's how well the author transports you to that Scotland that is the real pleasure of the read. The stench, the rot of the jail, the anger you feel at the virtuousness of the elders of the town, the historical detail which seems very accurate...all involve you in a real way in the story. There are now two more adventures of Mr. Seaton, Game of Sorrows (\$24) and Crucible of Secrets (\$39 expensive British trade paperback) but neither is available in North America. Not that that ever stops us, and, sooner or later, we will import more stock of both of them. Your job is to read the first one, love it, and place your orders for the follow ups.

Hardbacks

AUSTEN, JANE SENSE AND SENSIBILITY: THE BATH BICENTENARY EDITION (\$27.95) The first of Jane Austen's published novels, Sense and Sensibility was originally published in October 1811. The novel tells the tale of sensible Elinor Dashwood, the older of two sisters, who believes in privacy, propriety, and logic, and flighty Marianne, who follows her heart without so much as a second thought for the consequences. Featuring Jane Austen's complete and unabridged text, this is the first of six specially produced editions of her novels published to coincide with the bicentenary of their first publication. Includes a reproduction of the original colour plates. Special orders only.

BALLARD, MIGNON F dimple MISS DIMPLE RALLIES TO THE CAUSE (#2) (\$28.99) It's September 1943, and the town of Elderberry, Georgia, including their beloved first-grade teacher, Miss Dimple Kilpatrick, has exciting plans for the Bond Rally to support the troops fighting the war abroad. But when children discover a skeleton at the edge of a field, and Buddy, one of the rally organisers, disappears along with the war bond money, it's clear that something is amiss in the little town and Miss Dimple, along with her fellow teachers, is soon on the case.

BARBIERI, MAGGIE alison PHYSICAL EDUCATION (#6) (\$28.99) College English professor and sometime sleuth Alison Bergeron would've been thrilled to hear that her husband NYPD Detective Bobby Crawford was leaving homicide if not for the fact that his next assignment is undercover. As if that weren't bad enough, Alison is forced to take over the women's basketball team after the coach dies of a heart attack during a game. She may not know much basketball, but she's no stranger to sleuthing, and it isn't long before she suspects

that the coach's death may be more than unexpected but pre-meditated as well. The first in this fun, academic series is Murder 101 (\$8.99).

BARNARD, ROBERT peace A CHARITABLE BODY (\$27.99) What an honor—to become trustee of an English stately home museum. Yorkshire Detective Inspector Charlie Peace's wife, Felicity, is initially thrilled when she's asked to join the board that oversees Walbrook Manor, an eighteenth-century mansion that's now part of a charitable trust. She's in for some surprises. With its shabby salons and drafty hallways, Walbrook shows signs of the financial burden it caused its recent owners, members of the related Quarles and Fiennes families, known more for feuds than for affectionate familial ties. They are known also for shadowy intrigues. A tentative peace reigns, but when the wreck of a car and the remains of a body turn up in a nearby lake, it soon becomes clear that one of Walbrook's grimmest secrets may date to the years between the two world wars and may involve something much worse than mere malice.

BATEMAN, COLIN starkey NINE INCHES (#9) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$24.99 trade paperback) The four-year-old son of radio shock-jock Jack Caramac is kidnapped for just one hour, and then sent back with a warning note, so Jack suspects he may have finally gone too far. Jack has no choice but to turn to Dan Starkey for help. Recently chucked by his long-suffering wife Patricia, Dan has finally given up on journalism and is now providing a boutique, bespoke service for important people with difficult problems. Dan resolves to catch whoever kidnapped Jack's son but very soon finds himself in the middle of a violent feud between rival drug gangs, pursued by jealous husbands, unscrupulous property developers and vicious killers as the case spirals ever more out of his control. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

BEATON, M C AGATHA RAISIN COMPANION (\$32.95) This is **Beaton's** most endearing creation—the awesome Agatha Raisin. This book is a celebration of all things Agatha. List of contents include a lengthy introduction by and interview with **Beaton**, Agatha's biography, her background, retirement to the Cotswolds, complex love life and village life. There will be brief bios of all the men in her life (there are many), and a section on Agatha's Cotswolds, both real and fictitious. Plot summaries of all twenty titles in the series and Agatha's Appetites: recipes featured in the series. Finally, there will be a section of FAQs from the official Agatha Raisin website.

CHALLIS, JOANNA daphne VILLA OF DEATH (#3) (\$29.99) It's the summer of 1927, and young Daphne du Maurier has traveled to Thornleigh Manor to attend the wedding of her good friend, Ellen, who is set to marry her beau, Teddy. Having met in the midst of the chaos and calamity of wartime, the lovers were brutally separated years before by family objections, but have since reunited. But when Teddy is found murdered just after the wedding, and Ellen is accused of the crime, Daphne and the dashing Major Browning must uncover the truth before all is lost. The first two in the series are Murder on the Cliffs (\$31.99) and Pearls at Somner House (\$29.99) with no sign of paperbacks coming.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL bosch DROP (#17) (\$29.99) DNA from a 1989 rape and murder matches a 29-year-old con-

victed rapist. Was he an eight-year-old killer or has something gone terribly wrong in the new Regional Crime Lab? The latter possibility could compromise all of the lab's DNA cases currently in court. Then Bosch and his partner are called to a death scene fraught with internal politics. Councilman Irvin Irving's son jumped or was pushed from a window at the Chateau Marmont. Irving, Bosch's longtime nemesis, has demanded that Harry handle the investigation. Super terrific. See both *Marian's Picks* and *Cottage Lady's Picks*.

CORBY, GARY nicolaus IONIA SANCTION (#2) (\$29.99) In 5th century B.C., Nicolaus, a young private investigator is again hired by Pericles to help solve the murder of Thorion, Athens' proxenos to Ephesus. It's not long before his mission turns far graver - to stop a plot to invade and destroy Athens. With this added urgency, Nico embarks on a mission to Ephesus. His first stop: meeting with Ephesus' proxenos to Athens, who is found murdered, before Nico can question him. The first in the series is Pericles Commission (a paperback at \$14.99 was scheduled to be released in October 2011 but we have not yet seen it. The hardcover is available at \$28.99).

CORNWELL, PATRICIA scarpetta RED MIST (#19) (\$32.50) Determined to find out what happened to her former deputy chief Jack Fielding, murdered six months earlier, Kay Scarpetta travels to the Georgia Prison for Women, where an inmate has information not only on Fielding, but also on a string of grisly killings. The murder of an Atlanta family years ago, a young woman on death row and the inexplicable deaths of homeless people as far away as California seem unrelated. But Scarpetta discovers connections.

COTTAM, F G BRODMAW BAY (\$34.99) Brodmaw Bay seems to be the perfect refuge for James Greer and his family. When his young son is the victim of a brutal mugging, Greer wants to leave London for the charming old-fashioned fishing port he has just discovered. But was finding Brodmaw Bay more than a happy accident? What is the connection between the village and his beautiful wife? When his friendly new neighbours say they'd welcome some new blood, in a village where the same families seem to have lived for generations, are they telling the whole truth?

COTTERILL, COLIN coroner SLASH AND BURN (#8) (\$28.95) Dr. Siri might finally be allowed to retire (again). Although he loves his two morgue assistants, he's tired of being Laos's national coroner, a job he never wanted in the first place. Plus, he's pushing eighty, and wants to spend some time with his wife before his untimely death (which has been predicted by the local transvestite fortune teller). But retirement is not in the cards for Dr. Siri after all. He's dragged into one last job for the Lao government: supervising an excavation for the remains of U.S. fighter pilot who went down in the remote northern Lao jungle ten years earlier. A terrific series.

DAHEIM, MARY emma lord ALPINE WINTER (#23) (\$28.95) The picturesque town of Alpine in Washington's Cascade Mountains is decked out in holiday finery, but family troubles are brewing at the Alpine Advocate: Editor and publisher Emma Lord is fretting over how her brother and her son, both priests, will react when she confesses her passionate affair with Sheriff Milo Dodge; House & Home editor Vida Runkel realizes that her spoiled grandson has gone off the rails; and

Emma's star reporter goes AWOL after learning that his son has escaped from prison. And yet another Alpine family is singing the Christmas blues when Postmaster Roy Everson shows up with bones that may or not belong to his mother, who's been missing for the last sixteen years. But the most disturbing holiday dilemma is the body found in the cave on Mount Sawyer. The decomposed corpse is that of a mature male, so it can't be Mama Everson. Is there a connection between this long-ago disappearance and the gruesome bones discovered earlier downstream on the Skykomish River?

DISILVERIO, LAURA swift SWIFT EDGE (#2) (\$29.99) A world-class figure skater, Dara Petersen, hires Swift Investigations to find her pairs partner, Dmitri Fane, who has been missing for over a week. The pair are America's best hope for a medal in the upcoming Olympics, just weeks away. Charlie Swift and Gigi Goldman pursue Dmitri, hampered by Gigi's teenage daughter Kendall, who has a mad crush on the missing skater. Then the pair's coach is brutally attacked and a colleague of Dmitri's killed.

DOSS, JAMES D moon COFFIN MAN (#16) (\$29.99) When Colorado rancher and part-time tribal investigator Charlie Moon gets a call from Wanda Naranjo, she's panicked. Not only is her sink leaking, but her daughter Betty has gone missing. She's sixteen and 8 1/2 months pregnant. And that's not all. Betty claimed to be going to see a school counselor on what turned out to be his day off. So was she running away, or was she taken, or is she even missing at all? It's enough to make Moon's blood run cold because the one thing he's convinced of is that if she's alive she isn't holding on by much.

[DOYLE]DIRDA, MICHAEL ON CONAN DOYLE: OR, THE WHOLE ART OF STORYTELLING (\$26) This is a highly engaging personal introduction to Holmes' creator, as well as a rare insider's account of the curiously delightful activities and playful scholarship of The Baker Street Irregulars. Special orders only.

ELLIS, ROBERT lena gamble MURDER SEASON (#3) (\$29.99) When Detective Lena Gamble gets called to the scene of a double murder at Club 3 AM, the A-list hangout for Hollywood celebs, she knows the fun is only beginning. And she's not wrong. It's just much worse than that. As expected, one of the victims is club owner Johnny Bosco, one of the most well-connected men in Hollywood politics. But the shocker comes when Lena sees the other: 25-year-old Jacob Gant, acquitted just days ago of murdering his 16-year-old neighbor.

EVANOVICH, JANET plum EXPLOSIVE EIGHTEEN (#18) (\$29.95) Bounty hunter Stephanie Plum's life is set to blow sky high when international murder hits dangerously close to home. Her dream vacation turned into a nightmare, and she's flying back to New Jersey solo. Worse still, her seatmate never returned to the plane after the L.A. layover. Now he's dead, in a garbage can, waiting for curbside pickup. At the bail bonds agency things are going from bad to worse. The bonds bus serving as Vinnie's temporary HQ goes up in smoke. Stephanie's wheelman, Lula, falls in love with their largest skip yet. Lifetime arch nemesis Joyce Barnhardt moves into Stephanie's apartment. And everyone wants to know what happened in Hawaii? Morelli isn't talking about Hawaii. Ranger, isn't talking about Hawaii. And all Stephanie is willing to say about

her Hawaiian vacation is that it was complicated. The hard-cover edition of Explosive Eighteen contains a tear-out calendar inside!

FERRIS, MONICA THREADBARE (#15) (\$26.50) When an elderly homeless woman is found dead on the shore of Lake Minnetonka, she's wearing something that holds the key to her identity but also opens up a mystery. Embroidered on her blouse is her will, in which she bequeaths everything she owns to her niece--Emily Hame, a member of the Monday Bunch at Betsy Devonshire's Crewel World needlework shop.

FIFFER, SHARON BACKSTAGE STUFF (\$28.99) With a divorce looming, antiques picker and P.I. Jane Wheel has been spinning her wheels, unsure what to do with herself. Her best friend, Tim Lowry, has the perfect answer. Not only does he have a mansion he needs help prepping for an estate sale, but he has unearthed an old play, a murder mystery, that he's dying to put on. The play would be just the thing to get Jane back on track, that is, if it weren't cursed. Thankfully, Tim isn't buying into any curse and pushes forward in spite of the ominous notes that keep showing up in the actors' scripts warning against a performance. It's only when the show's carpenter dies in a suspicious accident that Jane is convinced someone definitely doesn't want the show to go on and might be willing to kill to stop it. Some, (not all!), of her earlier mysteries are available in a Print On Demand format. You order it and they will print it.

FINCH, CHARLES lenox BURIAL AT SEA (#5) (\$28.99) 1873. When a string of English spies is found dead on French soil, the threat of all-out war prompts government officials to ask Charles Lenox to visit the newly-dug Suez Canal on a secret mission. Once he is on board the Lucy, however, Lenox finds himself using not his new skills of diplomacy but his old ones: the ship's second lieutenant is found dead on the voyage's first night, his body cruelly abused. The ship's captain begs the temporarily retired detective to join in the hunt for a criminal. Lenox finds the trail, but in the claustrophobic atmosphere on board, where nobody can come or go and everyone is a suspect. The other titles in the series are Beautiful Blue Death (\$15.50), September Society (\$17.99), Fleet Street Murders (\$15.99) and Stranger in Mayfair (\$16.99). An excellent series.

FREEMANTLE, BRIAN charlie RED STAR RISING (#15) (\$31) The body of a murdered, tortured Russian has been found in Moscow, which isn't unusual in the crime-ridden city. What is different is that this corpse is on the lawn of the British embassy. Eager to prevent an international incident, London dispatches veteran MI5 agent Charlie Muffin to investigate. Charlie is an old hand who recognizes that little has changed in post-Soviet Union, most definitely not the espionage enmity between Russia, Britain, and America. The search for the identity of the murdered man enmeshes Charlie in what might be the biggest attempted espionage coup of his career. Being in Moscow has very personal implications for Charlie, too. It provides the opportunity for a re-union with his Russian wife, Natalia, and their young daughter, whom he had to abandon because of a hurried recall to the UK five years earlier. It's also the chance to persuade the reluctant Natalia, an officer in Russia's FSB intelligence service, to return with him to London. This whole series is fabulous; it's just that its mostly out or print.

GAGE, LEIGHTON silva VINE IN THE BLOOD (#5) (\$27) It is the eve of the FIFA World Cup, the globe's premier sporting event. The host country is Brazil. A victory for the home team is inextricably linked to the skills of the country's principal striker, Tico "The Artist" Santos, the greatest player in the history of the sport. All the politicians in Brasilia, from the President of the Republic on down, have their seats squared-away for the finale, when they hope to see Argentina, Brazil's bitterest rival, humbled by the Brazilian eleven. But then, just three weeks before the first game, Juraci Santos, Tico's mother, is kidnapped. The star is distraught. The public is appalled. The politicians are outraged. And the pressure is on Chief Inspector Mario Silva to get her back. Lots of guilty parties...

HALL, JAMES W thorn DEAD LAST (#12) (\$29.99) April Moss writes obituaries for the Miami Herald. Her son, Sawyer, also a writer, has been scripting a cable TV series called "Miami Ops" and has been using his mother's work as a central element of the show's storyline. In "Miami Ops," a serial killer is using obituaries published in the local paper as a blueprint for selecting his next victims. But midway through the season, a copycat appears off-screen, a real-life killer who is using the same strategy to select victims. When this serial killer crosses paths with the reclusive Thorn, he has no choice but to leave his sanctuary in Key Largo and join forces with a young policewoman from Oklahoma who is investigating the murders.

HANDLER, DAVID berger BLOOD RED INDIAN SUMMER (#8) (\$28.99) When a famously volatile and suspended NFL superstar linebacker and his entourage decide to spend his season in exile in bucolic Dorset--much to the dismay of his early-to-bed, ultra-white neighbors--Des Mitry is put on the spot. And when his 17-year-old sister-in-law washes up on Mitch Berger's beach, bloodied and barely alive, Des is on the case.

HARRIS, CHARLAINE sookie SOOKIE STACKHOUSE COMPANION (\$34.50) Sookie Stackhouse gives readers a look at her family, friends, enemies, adventures, and the lovers who set her world on fire. Readers will: Tour Bon Temps, the small Louisiana town that Sookie calls home and visit the houses of her Gran and her sometime vampire lover, Bill; Prowl around the werewolf and were-panther communities; Browse through her best friend Tara's dress shop; Belly up to the bar in Merlotte's, where Sookie works; Get must-have Bon Temps recipes-including Caroline Bellfleur's famous chocolate cheesecake; Test themselves with trivia questions from the series. What more could you want!!!!

HARROD-EAGLES, C dynasty WINDING ROAD (#34) (\$34.99) 1925. England is prosperous; the nation has put the war behind it, and hope is in the air. The Jazz Age is in full swing in New York, where Polly Morland is the most feted beauty of the day. But a proposal of marriage from the powerful, enigmatic Ren Alexander takes her by surprise. In London, the General Strike gives the country another chance to show its stiff upper lip, as everyone turns to and helps out. Emma drives an ambulance again, while Molly runs a canteen, and each unexpectedly finds love, and a new career. But the good times are almost over. Morland Place is threatened by the worst disaster of its history and the Old World reaches out a hand to pluck

Polly from the New. The Wall Street Crash brings the fabulous decade to a shattering close and nothing will ever be quite the same again. Special order only.

HARROD-EAGLES, C slider KILL MY DARLING (#14) (\$32.95) When Melanie Hunter goes missing, it is completely out of character for the polite, friendly palaeontologist and the men in her life come under suspicion. It soon becomes clear that there are secrets in her past she tried to hide from the world. Detective Inspector Slider investigates.

HARVEY, JOHN grayson FAR CRY (#2) (\$32.99) A hardcover edition of this Grayson title. Originally released in 2009.

HIGGINS, JACK DEVIL IS WAITING (\$28.50) The President of the United States is heading to London, but not to an entirely warm welcome. A fanatical mullah is offering a blessing to anyone who will assassinate the President. Urgently, Sean Dillon, General Charles Ferguson, and the rest of the small band known as the "Prime Minister's private army" are called in, augmented by an extraordinary new recruit, an intelligence captain and Afghan war hero named Sara Gideon.

HILL, SUSAN serrailer THE BETRAYAL OF TRUST (#6) (\$29.95) Freak weather and flash floods are hammering southern England. Lafferton is under water and a landslide on the Moor has closed the bypass. As the rain slowly drains away, a shallow grave—and a skeleton—are exposed; 20 years on, the remains of missing teenager Joanne Lowther have finally been uncovered. The case is re-opened and Simon Serrailer is called in as senior investigating officer. Cold cases are always tough, and, Serrailer is forced to confront a frustrating, distressing and complex situation.

HOAG, TAMI DOWN THE DARKEST ROAD (\$28.50) The author returns once more to Oak Knoll for the third installment of her bestselling series. Through her character, FBI agent Vince Leone, and his pioneering, science-based investigatory skills, the author explores the early days of forensic police work.

HOLT, ANNE wilhelmsen 1222 (\$28.99) From Norway's bestselling female crime writer comes a locked-room mystery set in an isolated hotel in Norway, where guests stranded during a monumental snowstorm start turning up dead. A train on its way to the northern reaches of Norway derails during a massive blizzard, 1,222 meters above sea level. The passengers abandon the train for a nearby hotel, centuries-old and practically empty, except for the staff. With plenty of food and shelter from the storm, the passengers think they are safe, until one of them is found dead the next morning. With no sign of rescue, and the storm continuing to rage, retired police inspector Hanne Wilhelmsen is asked to investigate. Paralysed by a bullet lodged in her spine, Hanne has no desire to get involved. But she is slowly coaxed back into her old habits as her curiosity and natural talent for observation force her to take an interest in the passengers and their secrets. Trapped in her wheelchair, trapped by the storm, and now trapped with a killer, Hanne must fit the pieces of the puzzle together before the killer strikes again.

HUNTER, STEPHEN bob swagger SOFT TARGET (\$29.99) Black Friday America's largest shopping mall Suburban Minneapolis 3:00 P.M. Ten thousand people jam the aisles,

the corridors, the elevators and the escalators of America, the Mall. Of those people, nine thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight have come to shop. The other twelve have come to kill. Ray Cruz, (Dead Zero (\$12.99)) is in the mall with his fiancée and her family. The retired Marine sniper thought he was done with stalking and killing but among the trapped thousands, he's the only one with a plan and the guts to confront the self-proclaimed "Brigade Mumbai." Now all he needs is a gun. FBI Sniper Dave McElroy has a gun. But positioned on the roof of the vast building, looking down through one of its thickly paned Great Lakes he is effectively cut off from his targets and forced into the role of witness to the horror unfolding below.

KHOURY, RAYMOND templar DEVIL'S ELIXIR (#3) (\$28.50) FBI agent Sean Reilly and his girlfriend, archaeologist Tess Chaykin return in another thriller that reaches from present day back to 1700s Mexico-and possibly beyond. What if there was a drug, previously lost to history in the jungles of Central America, capable of inducing an experience so momentous-and so unsettling-that it might shake the very foundations of Western civilization? What if powerful forces on both sides of the law got wind of that drug and launched a vicious, uncompromising pursuit to possess it?

KNIGHT, BERNARD pryor GROUND FOR APPEAL (#3) (\$35) Forensic pathologist Richard Pryor uses his 'golden handshake' to set up in private practice with scientist Angela Bray, and this is their third investigation. Sequel to Where Death Delights (#1) (likely out of print) and According to the Evidence (#2) (\$22). Written by a former Home Office pathologist, the story carries the stamp of forensic authenticity.

KOVACS, ED STORM DAMAGE (\$29.99) When a Cat 5 hurricane devastates New Orleans, the fresh murder of a politically-connected bar owner gets swept under, literally, until in the gritty aftermath of the city's recovery a bare-knuckled ex-cop and mixed-martial artist attacks the case like a hungry dog chasing a meat truck. With no forensic evidence, a destroyed crime scene and no corpse, Cliff St. James uncovers possible CIA involvement and learns that his duplicitous client, as well as each of his other suspects are guilty of, at the very least, multiple felonies.

LAPLANTE, ALICE TURN OF MIND (\$29.95) Dr. Jennifer White, a brilliant former surgeon in the early grips of Alzheimer's, is suspected of murdering her best friend, Amanda. Amanda's body was found brutally disfigured — with four of her fingers cut off in a precise, surgical manner. As the police pursue their investigation and Jennifer searches her own mind for fractured clues to Amanda's death, a portrait emerges of a complex relationship between two uncompromising, unsentimental women, lifelong friends who were at times each other's most formidable adversaries.

LESCROART, JOHN T wyatt HUNTER (#3) (\$28.50) Raised by loving adoptive parents, San Francisco private investigator Wyatt Hunt never had an interest in finding his birth family—until he gets a chilling text message from an unknown number: "How did ur mother die?" The answer is murder, and urged on by curiosity and the mysterious texter, Hunt takes on a case he never knew existed, one that has lain unsolved for decades.

MAGSON, ADRIAN rocco DEATH ON THE RIVE NORD

(#2) (\$34.99) Picardie, France. 1963. A truck drops a group of illegal workers by a deserted stretch of canal in the dead of night near Poissons-les-Marais, desperate travellers in a pipeline, searching for a better life. Days later, one of them surfaces, stabbed to death. For Inspector Lucas Rocco, finding the victim's fellow travellers presents problems loaded with the threat of civil unrest - something which terrifies his bosses in the Ministry. His investigation brings him into the path of Algerian gangster, Samir Farek, who has big plans and a history of disposing of anyone who crosses him.

MARON, MARGARET THREE-DAY TOWN (#16)

(\$28.99) Judge Deborah Knott and Sheriff's Deputy Dwight Bryant are on a train to New York, finally on a honeymoon after a year of marriage. January in New York might not be the perfect time to visit, but they'll take it. While in New York, Deborah has been asked to deliver a package to Lt. Sigrid Harald of the NYPD. Sigrid offers to swing by to pick up the box, but when they reach the apartment, they discover that it is missing and the doorman has been murdered. Despite their best efforts to enjoy a blissful getaway, Deborah and Dwight soon find that they've teamed up with Sigrid and her team to catch the killer before he strikes again.

MARSTON, EDWARD railway RAILWAY DETECTIVE OMNIBUS (\$22.99) This is a really terrific price for this volume which contains The Railway detective, The Excursion Train and The Railway Viaduct, the first three in this series.

MONROE, ALY cotton ICELIGHT (#3) (\$32.99) 1947. Threadbare London endures the bleakest, coldest winter for decades. Food rationing is worse than during the war. Coal supplies run out. The Thames freezes over. Against a background of black ice, blackouts and the black market, agent Peter Cotton is seconded to Operation Sea-snake. MI5 is in the grip of civil war; MI6 is riddled with traitors. Unsure who to trust Cotton, ever the outsider, must protect an atomic scientist caught up in a vicious homophobic witch-hunt, limit the damage caused by a bully-boy MP, rely on a rent-boy informer and, despite the murderous attentions of a couple of Glasgow razor boys, embark on a ruthless hunt of his own. The first two in the series are Maze of Cadiz and Washington Shadow (\$14.99 each).

MORTIMER, JOHN OMNIBUS RUMPOLE FOREVER BEST Short Stories (\$45) Includes fourteen Rumpole stories and a fragment of a new novel. The author died in 2009, leaving a fragment of the next Rumpole novel.

PARETSKY, SARA warshawski BREAKDOWN (#15) (\$28.50) Carmilla, Queen of the Night, is a shape-shifting raven whose fictional exploits thrill girls all over the world. When tweens in Chicago's Carmilla Club hold an initiation ritual in an abandoned cemetery, they stumble on an actual corpse, a man stabbed through the heart in a vampire-style slaying. For V.I. Warshawski, the questions multiply faster than the answers. As V.I. struggles for answers, she finds herself fighting enemies who are all too human.

PEACOCK, CARO active WHEN THE DEVIL DRIVES (#4) (\$32.95) The first three in the series were released in a trade paperback here in North America but, for some reason, "they" decided to release the fourth one in hardcover. If you loved the first three you will love this one. It's terrific. Set in the 1830s, Liberty Lane makes her way in life as a very dis-

creet private investigator. Rumors spread about London about the devil's chariot, which preys on young women walking alone at night. Liberty Lane has no time for such horror stories, so when a poetic young man begs her to find his missing fiancé, she accepts, suspecting there is a more prosaic explanation. The first three in the series are The Foreign Affair (\$14.95), A Dangerous Affair (\$17.99) and A Family Affair (\$15.99). The titles in the UK are all different so don't get confused. See *Marian's Picks*.

PHILLIPS, SCOTT ADJUSTMENT (\$27.95) Against the background violence committed by the returning soldiers trying to make an adjustment back into civilian life, Wayne Ogden attempts to destroy his former mentor and take down Collins Aircraft—the once fabled company that provided planes to Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh, and Wiley Post.

PURSER, ANN meade FOUL PLAT AT FOUR (#11) (\$29) A series of robberies have begun to plague Long Farnden and Lois Meade's own daughter, Josie, is shaken when a thief makes off with a hundred pounds from the till in her grocery shop. But before her policeman fiancé can crack the case, someone cracks Lois's husband on the head when he interrupts a burglary in progress.

ROBINSON, CYNTHIA BARBARY DOGS (#2) (\$28.99) Max Bravo is ready for some rest and relaxation. But when an old friend takes a leap off the Golden Gate Bridge, Max realizes that rest and relaxation simply aren't in the cards. The jumper, Frank Kelly, was a failed writer and an accomplished hothead. Max acquires Frank's journal, and is soon following the dead man through a foggy landscape of artistic manias and romantic intrigues. The first in this delightful series is Dog Park Club (\$14.99), a *Cottage Lady's Pick* in the November 2011 newsletter.

ROKER & LOCHTE, DICK TALK SHOW MURDERS (\$30) Before Billy Blessing had his five-star restaurant in New York, before he was tapped to co-host the morning show *Wake Up, America!* and travel with it for a week in the Windy City, before he even assumed the name Billy Blessing, he lived a totally different life under a very different identity: as wily con man Billy Blanchard. Caught trying to run a scam on a shady Detroit businessman, Billy did time for his crimes, reinvented himself and has successfully kept that part of his past covered up ever since. But when he and Eddie Patton, a nosy ex-cop with a long memory, are guests on a popular Chicago TV talk show, the off-camera chat turns to blackmail. And Billy may have no choice but to pay up or see the embarrassing truth from being blogcast to the world on Patton's true crime website. The first two in the series are The Morning Show Murders (\$9.99) and The Midnight Show Murders (\$9.99).

SCARROW, SIMON cato PRAETORIAN (#11) (\$34.99) The city of Rome in AD 50 is a dangerous place and a shadowy Republican movement, 'the Liberators', has spread its tentacles wide. It is feared that the heart of the latest plot lies in the ranks of the Praetorian Guard. Uncertain of whom he can trust, the Imperial Secretary Narcissus summons to Rome two courageous men guaranteed to be loyal to the grave: army veterans Prefect Cato and Centurion Macro. Tasked with infiltrating the Guard, Cato and Macro face a daunting test to win the trust of their fellow soldiers. No sooner have they begun to unearth the

details of the Liberators' devious plan than disaster strikes: an old enemy who could identify them, with deadly consequences, makes an unexpected appearance. Now they face a race against time to save their own lives before they can unmask the mastermind behind the Liberators.

SHARP, ZOE fox FIFTH VICTIM (#9) (\$32.95) Body-guard and ex-Special Forces soldier Charlie Fox would do anything to take her mind off her partner; shot, left for dead and now lying in a coma. So concentrating on a new assignment seems like the perfect way to escape the pain, and her own empty apartment. The job: to protect the teenage daughter of an investment banker from a gang of kidnappers who prey on the children of the wealthy Long Island set. It all looks simple at first. A round of exclusive boutiques, charity auctions, luxurious parties aboard million-dollar yachts - and few risks for an experienced operative. But Charlie soon finds out that defending a young woman determined to put herself in danger is far from easy.

SMITH, ALEXANDER isabel FORGOTTEN AFFAIRS OF YOUTH (#8) (\$29.95) As the editor of an applied ethics journal, Isabel Dalhousie is usually tucked away in her editorial office, in the comfortable Edinburgh house she shares with her fiancé and their young son, and does not often meet many fellow philosophers. But while helping in the delicatessen owned by her niece, Cat, she meets Jane Cooper, an Australian philosopher who is spending a sabbatical in Scotland. Isabel learns that Jane needs to find out something about her past. Jane was born in Scotland but taken to Australia as a baby by her adoptive parents. She knows who her mother is, but her father's identity is still a mystery. Can Isabel help Jane uncover this important and potentially unsettling information?

STEVENS, TAYLOR monroe INNOCENT (#2) (\$27) Eight years ago, a man walked five-year-old Hannah out the front doors of her school and spirited her over the Mexican border, taking her into the world of a cult known as The Chosen. For eight years, followers of The Prophet have hidden the child, moving her from country to country, shielding the man who stole her. Now, those who've searched the longest know where to find her. They are childhood survivors of The Chosen, and they turn to Vanessa Michael Munroe for help. Sequel to The Informationist (#1) (\$16).

WOODS, STUART barrington D C DEAD (#22) (\$28.50) After a shocking loss, Stone Barrington is at loose ends, unsure if he wants to stay in New York and continue his work as a partner at Woodman & Weld. It comes as a welcome relief when he's summoned to Washington, D.C., by President Will Lee. The president has a special operation that calls for Stone's unique skill set, and it's a mission that will reunite him with his former partner in bed and in crime, Holly Barker.

Paperbacks

ADAMS, ELLERY bay LAST WORD (#3) (\$8.99) Olivia Li-moges and the Bayside Book Writers are excited about Oyster Bay's newest resident: bestselling novelist Nick Plumley, who's come to work on his next book. But when Olivia stops by Plumley's rental she

finds that he's been strangled to death. Sequel to Killer Plot (#1) and Deadly Cliché (#2) (\$9.99 each).

BATEMAN, COLIN starkey DIVORCING JACK (#1) (\$14.99) The book that started it all, Bateman's first novel published in 1995. It introduced the world to the hapless, endlessly wily and witty Belfast journalist Dan Starkey. Dan shares with his wife an appetite for drinking and dancing. But when he meets Margaret, things get seriously out of hand. Terrifyingly, unbelievably, she is murdered. Before long Dan is a target himself, racing against time to crack the mystery. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

BATEMAN, COLIN starkey NINE INCHES (#9) (\$24.99 trade paperback, \$34.99 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

BEASON, PAMELA westin ENDANGERED (#1) (\$8.99) A child has gone missing, and there's a media campaign targeting the cougars that wildlife biologist Sam Westin helped rehabilitate and release. Now she's joining FBI Agent Chase Perez on a search through the high country, hoping to uncover the truth in time to save both the boy and the wild cats.

BECKER, JAMES bronson NOSFERATU SCROLL (#4) (\$18.95) Bohemia, 1741. On the northern banks of the Vltava River, an extraordinary event is taking place. Inside a private chapel, a high-born Hungarian lady is being laid to rest. But not before her heart is removed from her body, and she is buried beneath a layer of heavy stones -- lest she rise again to prey upon her victims. Fast forward to Venice, 2010 and the discovery of a desecrated tomb and a diary dating back hundreds of years. Soon corpses of young women, all killed in the same ritualistic manner, start appearing throughout the city. Coincidence? I think not!

BISHOP, DAVID COMPLETE INSPECTOR MORSE REVISED ED (\$27.95) A companion to the TV series, covering all 33 episodes of the show, as well as the original novels that inspired the series and other fun bumf.

BLACKWELL, JULIET reno DEAD BOLT (#2) (\$8.99) Turner Construction's latest restoration project is a presumably haunted historic Queen Anne Victorian in San Francisco. The ghosts aren't the only ones standing in the way of the renovations. A crotchety neighbor secretly wants this house, and could be behind some of the disturbances. But when the neighbor is found dead, it's Mel Turner who appears guilty.

BLUNT, GILES DELICATE STORM (#2) (\$19.95) Trade paperback reissue of the second in the Insp. Cardinal series. Actually all five are now available in trade paperback.

BRANDON, ALI bookshop DOUBLE BOOKED FOR DEATH (#1) (\$8.99) The first book in a new series featuring a young woman who inherits a bookstore and a crime-solving cat. Cat doesn't really solve the crime, he just paws his mommy along the right path. Set in Brooklyn, and Marian says she liked it.

BRETTON, BARBARA knitting SPELLS AND STITCHES (#4) (\$17.50) Knitting, magic, romance.

BURLEY, W J THE WYCLIFFE NOVELS (\$29.99) An omnibus edition containing the first five Wycliffe novels: Three-Toed Pussy, How to Kill a Cat, Guilt Edged Alibi, Death in a Salubrious Place and Death in Stanley Street.

CAST, P C GODDESS OF THE SEA (#1) (\$16.50) Romance, fantasy...special order.

CASTLE, RICHARD HEAT WAVE (#1) (\$11.99) A new edition of the first in the series, to coincide with the release of the third, Heat Rises (\$29.99 and \$19.99). Also available is the middle entry Naked Heat (\$11.99).

CLEMENT, BLAIZE CAT SITTER AMONG THE PIGEONS (#6) (\$9.99) 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.

CLEVERLY, BARBARA sandila LAST KASHMIRI ROSE (#1) (\$16) A new cheaper paperback edition of the first novel in this fabulous series. Set in India of the 1920s.

COBEN, HARLAN GONE FOR GOOD (\$10.99)

COLE, MARTINA FAITHLESS (\$24.99) To the outside world, Cynthia Tailor is a woman to envy; she has a devoted husband, a lovely home and two gorgeous children. But Cynthia is deeply unhappy with her lot; she has always craved the best things in life, and is determined to see that she gets them.

COLEMAN, REED FARREL moe HURT MACHINE (#7) (\$18.99) At a pre-wedding party for his daughter Sarah, Moe Prager is approached by his ex-wife and former PI partner Carmella Melendez. It seems Carmella's estranged sister Alta has been murdered, but no one in New York City seems to care. Why? Alta, a FDNY EMT, and her partner had months earlier refused to give assistance to a dying man at a fancy downtown eatery. Moe decides to help Carmella as a means to distract himself from his own life-and-death struggle. Making headway on the case is no mean feat as no one, including Alta's partner Maya Watson, wants to cooperate.

COLES, MANNING AMONG THOSE ABSENT (\$20) Tommy Hambleton goes undercover to break up a gang that specializes in helping prisoners escape from jail. First published in 1948.

COOKMAN, LESLEY sarjeant MURDER AT THE LAURELS (#2), MURDER IN MIDWINTER (#3), MURDER BY THE SEA (#4), MURDER IN BLOOM (#5), MURDER IN THE GREEN (#6) and MURDER IMPERFECT (#7) (\$14.95 each) We have obtained the other six in the series featuring retired actress Libby Sarjeant. Set in a small English village these are delightful. The first book is titled Murder in Steeple Martin (\$14.95).

CRAIS, ROBERT SENTRY (\$10.99) 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, CLIVE FLOOD TIDE (\$12.99) A recent re-issue of this title originally published in the late 90s.

DAHEIM, MARY emma lord ALPINE VENGEANCE (#22) (\$9.99) Emma Lord, editor and publisher of The Alpine Advocate, feels her spirits sink as there will be no family and no friends, not even Sheriff Milo Dodge, to share Thanksgiving with. But on the Monday after the holiday, a call from Sheriff Dodge concerning a trio of alarming unsigned letters he has received leaves Emma no time to wallow. The writer asserts the wrongful murder conviction ten years ago of Larry Petersen, a onetime Alpine resident who has recently died in prison. The real culprit, the letters declare, has made a deathbed confession of the crime.

DALTON, SHEILA GIRL IN THE BOX (\$22.99) Caitlin Shaughnessy, a Canadian journalist, discovers that Inez, a traumatized young Mayan woman originally from Guatemala, has killed Caitlin's psychoanalyst partner, Dr. Jerry Simpson. Simpson brought the girl, who may be autistic, back to Canada as an act of mercy and to attempt to treat her obvious trauma. Caitlin desperately needs to find out why this terrible incident occurred so she can find the strength to forgive and move on with her life. Inez, whose sense of wonder and innocence touches all who meet her, becomes a focal point for many of the Canadians who encounter her. As Caitlin struggles to uncover the truth about Inez's relationship with Jerry, Inez struggles to break free of the projections of others.

DEWITT, PATRICK SISTERS BROTHERS (\$22.95) Hermann Kermit Warm is going to die. The enigmatic and powerful man

known only as the Commodore has ordered it, and his henchmen, Eli and Charlie Sisters, will make sure of it. Though Eli doesn't share his brother's appetite for whiskey and killing, he's never known anything else. But their prey isn't an easy mark, and on the road from Oregon City to Warm's gold-mining claim outside Sacramento, Eli begins to question what he does for a living and whom he does it for.

DIBDIN, MICHAEL DIRTY TRICKS (\$17) Another edition of this title.

DOUGLAS, CAROLE NELSON mi CAT IN AN ULTRAMARINE SCHEME (#22) (\$9.99) Temple Barr, publicist extraordinaire, is itching to bring off her most dangerous and exciting assignment, helping to launch an endeavor that many a Vegas showmen have dreamed of: a Las Vegas mob museum/casino. Temple's boss plans to connect two hotels with a 'Chunnel of Crime' featuring an underground speakeasy, a fast 'ride' through Vegas crime history by Gangster-themed limo service, and other fun attractions. During the renovations a buried safe is uncovered and Temple has a grand scheme to do a live media event around the opening of the safe but they only discover a two-day-old body wearing white tie and tails. With Temple's magician-counterterrorist ex-lover, Max, gone missing and her new fiancé, radio shrink Matt Devine, in Chicago for a week-long media gig, Temple must depend on 'the Vegas Strip Irregulars,' a posse of cats, to solve murders old and new that smack of mobs, vintage and all too contemporary.

DOWNIE, RUTH medicus CAVEAT EMPTOR (#4) (\$17.50) 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 OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$16.95) The hit BBC series *Sherlock* offers a fresh, contemporary take on the classic Sir Arthur Conan Doyle stories, and has helped introduce a whole new generation of fans to the legendary detective. In this new edition of Conan Doyle's first collection of short stories, *Sherlock* co-creator Mark Gatiss explains how these gripping tales inspired and influenced the new series.

DOYLE]JACOBSON, RYAN ACD ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES choose your own path (\$12) This is a choose your own path geared to a younger audience.

DOYLE]MOORE, GRAHAM SHERLOCKIAN (\$18) Though Doyle kept detailed diaries of his days and work, he never explained why he first killed, then resuscitated, his most famous creation, Sherlock Holmes. 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. A *Marian's Picks* a year or so ago.

DRYDEN, ALEX MOSCOW STING (#2) (\$11.99) When Finn, a former British spy, is poisoned by a Russian assassin, his ex-boss Adrian, chief of MI6, wants vengeance. He also wants answers, information that only Finn's widow knows. But Anna, the former KGB colonel who betrayed her country for love vanished with her child

shortly after Finn's death. Adrian isn't the only one eager to find Anna. Finn accessed intelligence so sensitive that the KGB killed to protect. Sequel to [Red To Black](#) (\$18.99).

DRYDEN, ALEX [RED TO BLACK \(#1\)](#) (\$11.99) A beautiful and deadly KGB colonel is ordered to spy on Finn, a veteran MI6 operative stationed in Moscow. He uncovers a plan, hatched in the depths of the Cold War, to control the European continent and shift the balance of power. The two are thrust into a deadly plot in which friend and foe wear the same face. With time running out, the two risk career, reputation and lives, to expose the terrifying truth

EBERSOHN, WESSEL gordon [OCTOBER KILLINGS \(#4\)](#) (\$16.99) Abigail Bukula was fifteen years old when her parents were killed in a massacre of antiapartheid activists by white apartheid security forces. Because a young soldier spoke up in her defense, she was spared. Now she's a lawyer with a promising career in the new government, and while she has done her best to put the tragedy behind her, she's never forgotten Leon Lourens, the soldier who saved her life. So when he walks into her office almost twenty years later, needing her help, she vows to do whatever she can. Someone is slowly killing off members of the team who raided the house where her parents were murdered, and now Leon and an imprisoned colonel are the only targets left.

EDMONDSON, JILL jackson [LIES HAVE IT \(#3\)](#) (\$11.99) The third in this fun series, set in Toronto and featuring neophyte private investigator Sasha Jackson. Marian loved the first two, [Blood and Groom](#) (#1) and [Dead Light District](#) (#2) (\$11.99 each).

EDWARDS, MARTIN lake dist [HANGING WOOD \(#5\)](#) (\$20) Twenty years ago, a teenage boy, Callum Hinds, went missing in England's Lake District. His uncle was suspected of having done the boy harm and was interviewed by the police. When he committed suicide close to his cottage in the Hanging Wood, everyone assumed it was a sign of guilt. But the body of the boy was never found. Now his sister, Orla Payne, who never believed in their uncle's guilt, has returned to the Lakes. She wants to find the truth about Callum's disappearance, and tries to interest DCI Hannah Scarlett, head of Cumbria's Cold Case Review Team, in the case. Hannah is reluctant, but when Orla dies in strange and shocking circumstances, she is determined to find the truth about what happened to Callum--and to Orla.

EGELAND, TOM [RELIC](#) (\$14.99) A golden relic, containing an ancient manuscript that could change the course of history, has been hidden in a monastery. But nobody knows where. One determined man sets out to find this sensational artefact and to trace its origins. His quest takes him via a scientific intelligence organization in London, a Middle Eastern outpost and a Crusaders' castle, as layer by layer he reveals the religious mysteries inside the Shrine of Sacred Secrets.

ELLORY, R J [BAD SIGNS](#) (\$24.99) Orphaned by an act of senseless violence that took their mother from them, half-brothers Clarence Luckman and Elliott Danziger have been raised in state institutions, unaware of any world outside. But their lives take a sudden turn when they are seized as hostages by a convicted killer en route to death row. Earl Sheridan is a psychopath of the worst kind, but he has the potential to change the boys' lives forever. As the trio set off on a frenetic escape from the law through California and Texas, the two brothers must come to terms with the ever-growing tide of violence that follows in their wake.

EVANOVICH, JANET plum [SMOKIN' SEVENTEEN \(#17\)](#) (\$10.99) Dead bodies are showing up in shallow graves on the empty construction lot of Vincent Plum Bail Bonds. No one is sure who the killer is, or why the victims have been offed, but what is clear is that Stephanie's name is on the killer's list. Stephanie faces further complications when her family and friends decide that it's time for her to choose between her longtime off-again-on-again boyfriend, Trenton cop Joe Morelli, and the bad boy in her life, security expert Ranger.

Stephanie's mom is encouraging Stephanie to dump them both and choose a former high school football star who's just returned to town. **FERRIS, GORDON brodie** [HANGING SHED \(#1\)](#) (\$24.95) Glasgow, 1946. The last time Douglas Brodie came home it was 1942 and he was a dashing young warrior in a kilt. Now, the war is over and Brodie is back in Scotland to try and save childhood friend Hugh Donovan from the gallows. Everyone thought Hugh was dead, shot down in the war. Perhaps it would have been kinder if he had been killed. The man who returns from the war is unrecognizable: mutilated and horribly burned. Hugh keeps his own company, only venturing out for heroin to deaden the pain of his wounds. When a local boy is found raped and murdered, there is only one suspect. Hugh claims he's innocent but a mountain of evidence says otherwise. Despite the hideousness of the crime, ex-policeman Brodie feels compelled to try and help his one time friend.

FERRIS, MONICA [BUTTONS AND BONES \(#14\)](#) (\$8.99) Owner of the Crewel World needlework shop and part-time sleuth, Betsy Devonshire heads for the Minnesota north woods to renovate an old cabin. 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.

FOX, KATHRYN anya crichto [DEATH MASK \(#4\)](#) (\$14.99) Dr Anya Crichton is a forensic physician with an expertise in helping victims of sexual assault. She becomes involved in a case concerning a woman who has returned from her honeymoon with multiple sexually transmitted diseases even though she claims never to have had sex with anyone other than her husband. When her husband is tested and proves not to be the source of the sexually transmitted diseases it emerges that she has been the unknowing victim of gang rape. Her husband admits to drugging her and participating in her rape with fellow players from his football team.

FRANCOME, JOHN [STORM RIDER](#) (\$14.99) The discovery of a corpse after a violent storm sends shockwaves through a close-knit racing community in Berkshire. Antiques dealer and ladies' man Glyn Cole went missing two years ago and now his skeletal remains have been found in a very unlikely place. So many had reason to want Glyn out of their lives. But who among his enemies was cunning enough to remove him for good?

FRAZER, MARGARET joliffe [PLAY OF HERESY \(#7\)](#) (\$17.50) Joliffe is summoned by Bishop Beaufort to use his skills as a spy to uncover the mysteries of the town's elite. A merchant has gone missing, presumed dead and members of Joliffe's theatrical company are implicated in the crime. To uncover the truth, Joliffe must unravel the devilish machinations of a secret sect of heretics bent on destroying the Church.

GIUTTARI, MICHELE ferrara [DEATH IN CALABRIA \(#4\)](#) (\$24) The fourth in this terrific series that we have brought in from England. I can't tell you about this title because we have sold out but there are more on order.

GLYNN, ALAN [LIMITLESS aka dark fields](#) (\$18) Imagine a drug that makes your brain function in a fantastically efficient way. Imagine a drug that could make you read and remember entire books in a matter of hours, or learn a foreign language in a day. Imagine a drug that could make you process information so fast you can see the patterns on the stock market. Eddie Spinola is on such a drug. It's a pill called MDT-48. It's a Viagra for the brain, a designer drug that's redesigning his life. Eddie's not the only one doing MDT, but with his dealer shot dead and Eddie escaping with a large stash, he's the only one with a supply. And while the drug is helping Eddie make the sort of money he's only dreamed about, he's also beginning to suffer its side-effects. From the author of [Winterland](#) (\$18.50) which was a *J.D.'s Pick* a year or so ago.

GLYNN, ALAN WINTERLAND (\$18.50) The worlds of business, politics and crime collide when two men with the same name, from the same family, die on the same night: one death is a gangland murder, the other, apparently, a road accident. Was it a coincidence? That's the official version of events. But when a family member, Gina Rafferty, starts asking questions, this notion quickly unravels. Devastated by her loss, Gina's grief is tempered and increasingly fuelled, by anger, because the more she's told that it was all a coincidence, that gangland violence is commonplace, that people die on our roads every day of the week, the less she's prepared to accept it.

GOLDBERG, LEE MR. MONK ON THE COUCH (\$8.99) Three strangers, each a murder victim: a security guard, a struggling student, and a beautiful woman. They have something more in common than death, and Monk can't believe what it is: a couch.

GOLDSWORTHY, ADRIAN napol TRUE SOLDIER GENTLEMAN (#1) (\$14.99) The year is 1808, and Hamish Williams is a 'gentlemen volunteer' in the 106th regiment of foot, a man serving with the ranks but living with the officers, and uncomfortable in both worlds: looked down on by those with the money or influence to buy their rank, and distrusted by the common soldiers who know he is not one of them. But Williams is determined to prove by deeds alone that he is a man worthy of advancement, and when the 106th embarks for Portugal to begin what will become known as the Peninsula War against Napoleon, he knows his chance of glory is at hand. Soon he is receiving a sharp lesson in the realities of war, as the 106th undergoes a bloody baptism at the hands of the French - and he realises that his single-minded devotion to honour may not, after all, be the quickest route to promotion.

GRAVES, SARAH KNOCKDOWN (#14) (\$9.99) Jake Tiptree is deep in her latest home improvement project, repainting a porch, when she notices the man repeatedly biking past her house. His face is unsettlingly familiar, but his chilling message seems inexplicable: *Blood shows up again. Murder will out.* If it's a prank, it's an ugly one, and so is the anonymous email warning her to beware the Fourth of July, just two days away. Back in her days as a hotshot financial manager she did business with plenty of shady characters, but she's still baffled as to the identity of her nemesis, until she receives a photo of a murdered man. Now Jake knows what she's up against.

GRAVETT, PAUL MAMMOTH BOOK OF BEST CRIME COMICS (\$19.50)

GREEN, SIMON nightside HARD DAY'S KNIGHT (#11) (\$8.99) John Taylor is a P.I. He's also the reluctant owner of Excalibur, the legendary sword. To find out why he was chosen to wield it, John must consult the Last Defenders of Camelot, a group of knights that dwells in a place that some find more frightening than the Night-side. Special order only.

GRIFFITHS, ELLY galloway HOUSE AT SEA'S END (#3) (\$18.99) In the third novel in the Ruth Galloway series, shoreline erosion at the village of Broughton Sea's End has revealed the skeletons of six men, their arms bound. From the mineral content of their bones, forensic archaeologist Ruth Galloway can tell that they were all Germans. Most likely, DCI Harry Nelson reckons, they were killed by the local Home Guard when they tried to land during the Second World War.

GRINDLE, LUCRETIA LOST DAUGHTER (\$24.95) In Florence, a young American student goes missing. At first neither Alessandro Pallioti, one of the city's most senior policemen, nor Enzo Saenz, his deputy, are too concerned. But soon the men are horrified to discover that the older man Kristen has been spending time with is Antonio Tomaselli, a member of the notorious Red Brigades. Then, before the police can get a handle on the case, Kristen's step-mother, Anna, also vanishes. Before long Enzo finds himself enmeshed in a web of false identities, betrayed loyalties, and revenge. At its centre is Anna, a woman he is increasingly drawn to, but knows he should not

trust; and at stake is the life of an eighteen year old girl.

GRIPPANDO, JAMES swyteck AFRAID OF THE DARK (#9) (\$11.99) Sergeant Vince Paulo held his best friend's daughter, McKenna, bleeding in his arms as she uttered the name of her murderer and ex-boyfriend, Jamal. That was minutes before a blast made everything go black for Vince, forever. Miami criminal defense lawyer Jack Swyteck has been called in to save Jamal from the death penalty for terrorist activity. Despite urgent warnings from his fiancée, undercover FBI agent Andie Henning, to stay away from the case, Jack finds himself inextricably drawn to Jamal's past, even believing his alibi that he was abducted and held in a black site in Prague at the time of McKenna's death. But if Jamal is innocent, then the man who murdered McKenna and took Vince's sight is still out there.

GRISHAM, JOHN CONFESSION (\$11.99) An innocent man is about to be executed. Only a guilty man can save him. 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 in amazement as police and prosecutors arrested and convicted Donté Drumm, a local football star, and marched him off to death row. Now nine years have passed. Travis has just been paroled in Kansas for a different crime; Donté is four days away from his execution. Travis suffers from an inoperable brain tumor. For the first time in his miserable life, he decides to do what's right and confess. But how can a guilty man convince lawyers, judges, and politicians that they're about to execute an innocent man?

HARRIS, ROBERT POMPEII (\$20) A re-issue.

HART, JOHN DOWN RIVER (\$16.99) Terrific. Now available in trade paperback.

HIGGINS, JACK JUDAS GATE (\$11.50) A disturbing tape has made its way to British intelligence: battlefield chatter from an ambush in Afghanistan, in which 12 U.S. Army Rangers and a British medical team died. Most of the Taliban voices are Afghan, but the voice of the commander bears an Irish accent. Sean Dillon is put in charge of hunting down the traitor.

HOUSTON, VICTORIA loon DEAD DECEIVER (#11) (\$20) It's late January at Loon Lake and bodies abound: a woman on snowshoes has been discovered wedged under a wooden bridge on a cross-country ski trail. A day later, Police Chief Lewellyn Ferris interviews a couple who alleges that the wife, a former nun, is being stalked. Meanwhile, Loon Lake is hosting an International Ice Fishing Festival with problems.

JAHN, RYAN DAVID DISPATCHER (\$16) The phone rings. It's your daughter. She's been dead for four months. From the author of the award-winning Acts of Violence aka Good Neighbors (\$14.99).

JAMES, STEVEN bowers BISHOP (#4) (\$8.99) A congressman's daughter is found dead as her killers launch a spree of perfect murders in the Northeast United States. With nothing to link the crimes to each other, FBI Special Agent Patrick Bowers faces his most difficult case yet, even as his personal life begins to crumble around him.

JONGLEZ, THOMAS SECRET VENICE (\$23.95) Special order only. This is a guide to Venice, Italy, showing places and things to do that the normal tourist may not know about.

KALLENTOFT, MONS fors MIDWINTER SACRIFICE (#1) (\$24.99) The snow covered all the tracks, as the killer knew it would. But it couldn't hide the victim, the man who now hung naked from a lonely tree on a frozen plain. Malin Fors is first on the scene. A thirty-one-year-old single mother, Malin is the most talented and ambitious detective on the Linköping police force, but also the most unpredictable. She must lead the investigation while keeping her fractured life on the rails. No one knows the identity of the dead man. Or perhaps no one ever wanted to know. When all the voices of the investigation have fallen silent, Malin can rely only on herself and her own instincts. And as she follows in the frigid wake of the killer, Malin begins to discover just how far the people in this small town are willing

to go to keep their secrets buried. Translated from the Swedish.

KERNICK, SIMON milne PAYBACK (#3) (\$12.99) Dennis Milne is a man with a past, and a past that involves murder. A former cop, he's earned his living killing the bad guys: drug-dealers, corrupt business men, people who, in his opinion, deserve to die. For the past two days, he's been in Manila, waiting for his next target: a young woman who's made herself some poor life-choices, and some even worse enemies. DI Tina Boyd is a woman on a mission. Tough, spiky and determined, she's looking for the man she holds responsible for the death of her lover. She knows he's ruthless. She knows he's dangerous. But he's in Manila, and she's determined to find and kill him, before he kills her. Two cops with pasts that haunt them are about to meet. And when they do, it's payback time.

KNIGHT, ALI WINK MURDER (\$14.99) Late one night, Kate is woken by her husband Paul, drunk, covered in blood, and mumbling that he's killed something - or someone. Afterwards, Paul denies he ever said what he did. But when an attractive young woman who works for him is found murdered, Kate's terrible suspicions about what her husband has really done send her on a desperate search for the truth. Although as the lies multiply, and Kate's carefully constructed life comes under threat, doing the right thing is not as straightforward as it seems.

KNIGHT, BERNARD pryor ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE (#2) (\$22) After starting their risky venture of a private forensic consultancy, Dr. Richard Pryor and Angela Bray have become firmly established. An apparent bizarre suicide in a remote Welsh farm starts them on a new investigation, which is followed by an unusual request from the War Office. The first in the series is Where Death Delight (\$21) but we have been unable to get additional copies of the first one in stock.

LACKBERG, CAMILLA hedstro ICE PRINCESS (#1) (\$10.99) A novel that was both a *Marian's Picks* and a *Cottage Lady's Pick*. The main character is writer Erica Falack but equally important is the policeman, Patrik Hedstrom. The two end up working together to find the killer of Erica's childhood friend, Alex. Absolutely Terrific. Now in a cheaper edition.

LAKE, DERYN MILLS OF GOD (\$21) The sleepy, eccentric Sussex village of Lakehurst suddenly becomes a place of terror and night shadows. After dark, it is hardly safe to go out, to the consternation of the newly arrived Vicar, trendy young Nick Lawrence, and Inspector Dominic Tennant of the Sussex Police Force. For a serial killer is on the loose: one who leaves notes at the scene of his crimes signed 'The Acting Light of the World..

LANDRIGAN/VARIOUS ALFRED HITCHCOCKS MYSTERY MAGAZINE PRESENTS (\$19.50) From Ed McBain to Sara Paretsky: a celebration of over fifty years of mystery masterworks. Includes over thirty short stories by some of the best.

LAURIE, VICTORIA ghost hu GHOUL INTERRUPTED (#6) (\$8.99) M.J. Holliday and her crew interrupt the frantic schedule of their reality TV show and hotfoot it to New Mexico, where a dreadful demon is waging tribal warfare. Sam Whitefeather, M.J.'s spirit guide, urgently needs her help to stop this evil spirit from wiping out the descendants of his tribe.

LAVENE, JOYCE & JIM missi SPIRITED GIFT (#3) (\$8.99) As the mayor of Duck, North Carolina, Dae is playing host to 20 North Carolina elected officials attending her first Mayors' Conference Weekend at the Blue Whale Inn. When the body of Mayor Sandi Foxx is discovered the morning after a severe storm, Dae receives a vision through the mayor's ring that there's a killer among the guests who's as deadly as any hurricane.

LAWRENSON, DEBORAH LANTERN (\$19.99) A modern gothic novel of love, secrets, and murder set against the lush backdrop of Provence. When Eve falls for the secretive, charming Dom in Switzerland, their whirlwind relationship leads them to Les GenÉvri-

ers, an abandoned house set among the fragrant lavender fields of the South of France. Each enchanting day delivers happy discoveries: hidden chambers, secret vaults, a beautiful wrought-iron lantern. Deeply in love and surrounded by music, books, and the heady summer scents of the French countryside, Eve has never felt more alive. But with autumns arrival the days begin to cool, and so, too, does Dom. Special order only.

LEHANE, DENNIS kenzie GONE BABY GONE (#4) (\$16.99) Re-issued in a trade paperback.

LIPPMAN, LAURA monaghan BUTCHERS HILL (#3) (\$11.99) A re-issue.

LITTELL, ROBERT MOTHER RUSSIA (\$17) Robespierre Pravdin is a black marketeer who prowls Moscow's streets and alleys hustling wristwatches. Wishing only to survive in a city suffocated by paranoia and schizophrenia, Robespierre manages to make a tidy profit and stay under the state's radar-until, one day, he meets the woman called "Mother Russia" and becomes ensnared in the Byzantine and profoundly dangerous game of politics.

LOWELL, VIRGINIA greyson COOKIE BEFORE DYING (#2) (\$8.99) On a stormy night, Olivia Greyson and her Yorkie discover the body of a man stabbed to death. He looks suspiciously like the intruder seen fleeing the local health food store: The Vegetable Plate. Charlene Critch, owner of The Vegetable Plate, has a grudge against Olivia's cookie cutter shop, but could Charlene be hiding a secret serious enough to kill for?

MACALISTER, KATIE IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME (\$8.99) Billionaire Greek playboy Lakovos Papaioannou knew his sister hired her favorite band to perform at her birthday party. He's just not sure how their six-foot tall, wild-haired, tempestuous manager has already ended up in his bed and in his heart. Eglantine "Harry" Knight is so not his type. She's as infuriating as she is intriguing, and she can't keep her hands off of him. Special order only.

MCCRUMB, SHARYN SHARYN MCCRUMB'S APPALACHIA (\$10) A collection of essays on the Mountain South by New York Times best-selling author Sharyn McCrumb. Contents include 'Keepers of the Legends, 'A Novelist Looks at the Land, 'The Celts and the Appalachians, 'Magic Realism in Appalachia, 'Nora Bones-steel and the Sight, ' and 'Reflections on Historical Fiction'.

MACLEAN, RUSSEL D macnee GOOD SON (#1) (\$24) Private investigator J. McNee is hired by a Scots farmer to investigate how his estranged brother lived his life in London. The farmer wants to understand why his brother returned to Dundee to commit suicide. A debut novel.

MACLEAN, SHONA REDEMPTION OF ALEXANDER SEATON (\$13.50) Previously listed but Marian has now read it and, hallelujah, loved it. See *Marian's Picks*.

MACMANUS, PATRICK F tully HUCKLEBERRY MURDERS (#4) (\$18.99)

MCCULLOUGH, COLLEEN del NAKED CRUELTY (#3) (\$10.99) America in 1968 is in turmoil and the leafy Holloman suburb of Carew is being silently terrorised by a series of vicious and systematic rapes. When finally one victim finds the courage to speak out and go to the police, the rapist escalates to murder. For Captain Carmine Delmonico, it seems to be a case with no clues. And it comes as the Holloman Police Department is troubled: a lieutenant is out of his depth, a sergeant is out of control, and into this mix comes the beautiful, ruthlessly ambitious new trainee, Helen MacIntosh, daughter of the influential president of Chubb University. As the killer makes his plans, Carmine and his team must use every resource at their disposal.

MANFREDI, VALERIO ANCIENT CURSE (\$10.99) Archeologist Fabrizio Castellani is immersed in his work—research into the famous Etruscan statue known as 'the shade of twilight'. Little does he know that a series of gruesome killings is about to take place and

the victims will all have been involved in the desecration of an unexplored tomb. The very tomb that Fabrizio is in charge of excavating. **MARCH, EMILY** LOVER'S LEAP (\$9.99) Sounds like a romance novel. Probably a mistake...

MARKLUND, LIZA Bengtson BOMBER (#2) (\$19.95) With more than half a million copies sold, this is the most successful book ever published in Sweden. Journalist Annika Bengtson is woken from sleep with the news that a bomb has not only destroyed Stockholm's new Olympic arena just months before the Summer Games, but it has blown someone to pieces. Putting a city on edge with fears of a terrorist on the loose, the Bomber will become Annika's biggest story--or the final nail in her coffin. Re-issued in trade paperback, (we first received copies of this title in 2001), as will the first Paradise aka Vanished (#1) (\$19.95) in March 2012.

MARTINI, STEVE madriani TRADER OF SECRETS (#12) (\$11.99) Defense attorney Paul Madriani is embroiled in a case that involves an angry killer who will stop at nothing short of vengeance, and two missing NASA scientists who are holding secrets that a hostile government desperately wants to purchase in blood if they must. Madriani's daughter, Sarah, has evaded the man known as Liquida, who has stalked her all the way across the country. For her own safety, she is being kept under armed guard on a farm in Ohio. But one morning, itching for a predawn run to shake off the tension that has grown in the hours she's spent waiting for word from her father, Sarah slips from her ring of protection. What she doesn't know is that at the same moment her assailant is outside, waiting patiently in the dark. Meanwhile in California, two men in a parked car argue over millions in cash that could be slipping through their fingers and a scheme involving government technology for sale that could rock the world.

MEDIEVAL MURDERERS SACRED STONE (#6) (\$9.99) A mysterious meteor brings treachery, discord, and violent death to those who seek to possess it in the sixth volume of these interlinked medieval mysteries. The contributors here are **Karen Maitland, Susanna Gregory, Bernard Knight, Philip Gooden, Ian Morson** and **Simon Beaufort**. At first, the mysterious "sky-stone" seems to bring them good luck, but that's followed by 600 years of violence and murder.

MOFINA, RICK gannon BURNING EDGE (#4) (\$9.99) Lisa Palmer has barely recovered from the sudden death of her husband when she is drawn into a new nightmare. On her way home from upstate New York, Lisa stops at a service centre minutes before an armored car heist. Four men are executed before her eyes—one, an off-duty FBI agent she tried to help. Now Lisa is the FBI's secret witness and the key to finding the fugitive killers. Journalist Jack Gannon chases the elusive story.

MUNNELLY, BILLY BILLY'S BEST BOTTLES WINES FOR 2012 (\$19.95) This annual wine handbook is an accessible and friendly guide that makes buying wine as easy as going grocery shopping. The author 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! A perennial favourite.

MURPHY, J J algonquin YOU MIGHT AS WELL DIE (#2) (\$8.99) When second-rate illustrator Ernie MacGuffin's artistic works triple in value following his apparent suicide off the Brooklyn Bridge, Dorothy Parker smells something fishy. Enlisting the help of magician and skeptic Harry Houdini, she goes to a séance held by MacGuffin's mistress, where Ernie's ghostly voice seems hauntingly real. Sequel to Murder Your Darling (#1) (\$8.50) the first Algonquin Round Table mystery, with Dorothy Parker playing sleuth.

MURPHY, SHIRLEY ROUSSEAU CAT COMING HOME (#16) (\$9.50) Escaping Los Angeles and the ugly memories of her son's recent murder, Maudie Toola returns to her childhood home of

Molena Point, bringing her orphaned grandson, whom she must now raise, with her. Mourning for her son, she's not looking forward to the holidays but feels she must make them positive for the child. But Maudie is unaware that the killer has followed her, nor does she know that the small seaside village is dealing with a series of brutal assaults. A team of criminals is stalking single women, hiding their attacks behind spectacular break-ins to divert the cops. And this time there's not even a phone call from the four-footed snitch to give the cops a lead.

O'CONNELL, CAROL mallory JUDAS CHILD (#1) (\$9.99) Reissue.

O'HEHIR, DIANA day DARK AURA (\$20)

PALMER, STUART MURDER ON WHEELS (\$20) First published in 1932, a Hildegard Withers adventure.

PARKER, T JEFFERSON STORM RUNNERS (\$11.99) Reissue.

PATTERSON & LEDWIDGE benn TICK TOCK (#4) (\$16.50) A rash of horrifying crimes tears through the city, throwing it into complete chaos and terrorizing everyone living there. It quickly becomes clear that they are not the work of an amateur. The city calls on Detective Michael Bennett, pulling him away from a seaside retreat with his ten adopted children, his grandfather, and their beloved nanny, Mary Catherine. Not only does it tear apart their vacation, it leaves the entire family open to attack. Bennett enlists the help of a former colleague, FBI Agent Emily Parker.

PATTERSON & MACMAHON TOYS (\$10.99) James Bond and Jason Bourne have just been topped! A battle for the world is set into unstoppable motion and Hays Baker is the only one who can save it.

PENROSE, ANDREA arianna COCOA CONSPIRACY (#2) (\$8.99) Lady Arianna's gift of a rare volume of botanical engravings to her husband, the Earl of Saybrook, has something even more rare hidden inside—sensitive government documents which would mark one they hold dear as a traitor of King and country. To unmask the villain, they must root out a cunning conspiracy—armed only with their wits and expertise in chocolate! The first in the series Sweet Revenge (\$8.50). If you love an historical mystery and chocolate you should try this series.

PETERS, ELIZABETH peabody HE SHALL THUNDER IN THE SKY (#12) (\$12.99) A re-issue.

RENDELL, RUTH wexford VAULT (#23) (\$22.95) The impossible has happened. Chief Inspector Reg Wexford has retired. He and his wife now divide their time between Kingsmarkham and a coach-house in Hampstead belonging to their actress daughter, Sheila. For all the benefits of a more relaxed way of life, Wexford misses being the law. But a chance meeting in a London street, with someone he had known briefly as a very young police constable, changes everything. Tom Ede is now a Detective Superintendent, and is very keen to recruit Wexford as an adviser on a difficult case. Trade paperback original in Canada.

RENDELL, RUTH TIGERLILY'S ORCHIDS (\$19.95) When Stuart Font decides to throw a house-warming 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.

ROBARDS, KAREN JUSTICE (\$9.99) Romance, suspense. A special order.

ROBINSON, PETER banks BAD BOY (#19) (\$9.99) Detective Chief Inspector Banks is on vacation in California when the police raid the home of the Doyles back in Eastvale. Tracy Banks' best friend is Erin Doyle and Erin got herself into major trouble by steal-

ing a gun from bad boy Jaff and hiding it in her parent's house. By the time Banks gets back to Eastvale, Tracy is missing; there's an internal investigation going on; his home is a crime scene. And that's not the worst of it.

ROCHA, LUIS POPE'S ASSASSIN (\$11.50) Upon his coronation as Pope, Benedict XVI is given an ancient document. It is the first thing a pope reads when he is elected, and the document holds the Church's most cherished secret—one that it will do anything to protect. But there may be other versions. And it's up to the Church's agent, Rafael, to uncover the truth.

RUBENFELD, JED DEATH INSTINCT (\$17) New York, 1920. Factories are closing and families are losing their homes. The streets of Manhattan teem with seething resentments. Then Wall Street explodes. Caught in the blast are war veteran Stratham Younger, police detective James Littlemore and beautiful but secretive, Colette Rouseau. A series of inexplicable attacks on Colette and a secret buried in her past lead the three on a harrowing journey from Paris to Prague, from the Vienna, home of Dr Sigmund Freud, to the halls of Congress in Washington, DC. As the frightening, seemingly disjointed pieces of the puzzle come together, Younger and Littlemore unravel Colette's secret and the shocking truth behind the terror on Wall Street.

SALLIS, JAMES DRIVE (\$14.95) Much later, as he sat with his back against an inside wall of a Motel 6 just north of Phoenix, watching the pool of blood lap toward him, Driver would wonder whether he had made a terrible mistake. Later still, of course, there'd be no doubt. But for now Driver is, as they say, in the moment. And the moment includes this blood lapping toward him, the pressure of dawn's late light at windows and door, traffic sounds from the interstate nearby, the sound of someone weeping in the next room . . . Thus begins Drive, the story of a man who works as a stunt driver by day and a getaway driver by night. He drives, that's all—until he's double-crossed. Hailed as the "perfect piece of noir fiction"—*The New York Times Book Review* and now made into a film.

SAYERS & WALSH ATTENBURY EMERALDS (#3) (\$14.99) Reissue.

SCARROW, SIMON GLADIATOR FIGHT FOR FREEDOM (\$12.99) Juvenile fiction. Rome, 61 BC. Recruited as a gladiator, young Marcus Cornelius Primus faces a new life of brutal training, governed by strict rules, as he learns the skills of an elite warrior. But Marcus cannot simply forget his past. His father lies murdered by soldiers and his mother has been kidnapped and forced into slavery. Marcus is determined to find his father's old commander, Pompeius the Great, to seek justice for his family and set his mother free. Yet, unbeknown to him, Marcus is hiding a life-threatening secret. And if the Romans discover it, there will be no escape . . .

SHARP, ZOE fox FOURTH DAY (#8) (\$18.95) The cult calling itself Fourth Day is highly protective of its privacy. Five years ago Thomas Witney went in to get evidence that the cult's leader was responsible for the death of Witney's son. Witney never came out. Now, Charlie Fox and Sean Meyer, are asked to get Witney out.

SHELTON, PAIGE farmer CROPS AND ROBBERS (#3) (\$8.99) Thanks to her delicious farm-made jams and preserves, Becca Robins' business has been booming. But when an unhappy customer turns up dead in Becca's kitchen, she's afraid it will really sour her reputation. Includes recipes.

SILVIS, RANDALL BOY WHO SHOOTS CROWS (\$16) A middle-aged woman moves from New York City to rural Pennsylvania to escape a bad divorce, and there, through her art, finds the serenity and sense of self she has been seeking. But when a young boy comes into her life, all serenity is shattered.

SMYTH, DENIS DEATHLY DECEPTION: THE REAL STORY OF OPERATION MINCEMEAT (\$19.95) Operation Mincemeat retells the story of the classic World War Two intelligence plan to

pass misleading strategic information to Hitler and his Generals that was immortalized in the 1956 Hollywood film *The Man Who Never Was*.

STROBY, WALLACE COLD SHOT TO THE HEART (\$16.99) Crissa Stone is a career criminal. A complete pro, she never works too close to her New York City home, rarely signs on with the same crew, and never rushes a job. These are the rules that have kept her from getting caught, from doing time. They're the rules her mentor and lover taught her, rules he didn't follow as closely as he should have. Now he's up for parole, and Crissa needs to come up with some real money real fast to help grease the wheels. Word is that there's an illegal card game set for less than a week from now. The take? As much as seven figures. Desperate, Crissa slaps a plan and a crew together. It's robbery, not murder. But when one of her crew loses his cool and they have to abandon the plan, she catches the attention of Eddie the Saint. A hit man recently released from prison, Eddie is no less of a pro than Crissa, and he could use the work, not to mention all that money. It's on again.

STURGES, P G dick henry SHORTCUT MAN (#1) (\$17) When people need a problem fixed fast, and discreetly, they call Dick Henry. Henry is known as a "shortcut man," someone who believes that the shortest answer to many problems may not always be legal. As he cuts through the red tape for his clients, who range from an elderly woman ripped off by shady contractors to a landlord with a tenant many months behind on the rent, Henry always gets the job done, no matter what the cost. Henry spends his days hunting down slimy con men and his nights seducing Lynette, an intoxicating, long-legged vixen. But when Henry gets an assignment from porn producer Artie Benjamin, his life suddenly becomes much more complicated. Now Henry must complete the job, avoid being killed, and somehow figure out what to do with Lynette.

TODD, CHARLES rutledge LONELY DEATH (#13) (\$16.99) 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.

[VARIOUS] IN THE SHADOW OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$22) Contains 21 stories published during the earliest days of detective literature, 1862 to 1910. Although not well-known today, how do you compete with Arthur Conan Doyle's master detective in whose shadow they have been relegated, they are worth reading.

[VARIOUS]SIMS, MICHAEL DEAD WITNESS (\$23) Gathering the finest adventures among private and police detectives from the 19th and early 20th centuries—including a wide range of overlooked gems—the author showcases the writers who ever since have inspired the field of detective fiction, including **Mark Twain, Wilkie Collins, Arthur Conan Doyle, and Mary Fortune.**

WARD, J R LOVER MINE (#8) (\$9.99) Paranormal, romance, special order...

WARD, J R LOVER UNLEASHED (\$8.99) Paranormal, romance, special order...

WASHBURN, LIVIA literary KILLER ON A HOT TIN ROOF (#3) (\$8.99) Indomitable Southern sleuth Delilah Dickinson is back. Delilah's Literary Mystery Tour is underway again, and this time Tennessee Williams is the subject—but murder will steal the spotlight. Sequel to Frankly My Dear I'm Dead (#1) and Killer on a Hot Tin Roof (#2) (\$8.99 each).

WEAVER, TIM CHASING THE DEAD (\$16) Mary Towne's

son, Alex, went missing six years ago. Five years later he finally turned up - as a corpse in a car wreck. Missing persons investigator David Raker doesn't want the work: it's clearly a sad but hopeless case of mistaken identity brought to him by a woman unable to let go of her son. But haunted by a loss of his own, Raker reluctantly agrees. Big mistake. For as he digs deeper, he discovers that Alex's life was not the innocent one his mother believed. Buried in his past are secrets that were never meant to be found - and dark, dangerous men willing to kill to protect them.

WEBB, BETTY *lena jones* DESERT LOST (#6) (\$18.95) Private eye Lena Jones deals with Arizona polygamy and its discarded sons, the deceptively insulated world of Beverly Hills and her own past as she tries to find out who her biological parents were.

WHITE, ROGER TIGHT CORNER (\$19.95) Conn Anderson, a former public servant in Ottawa, Canada, has turned a passion for old English sports cars into owning a shop that repairs them. Everything is going well until a mysterious government-leased Jaguar is destroyed on the premises by an arsonist, the shop's resident mouse catcher is kicked nearly to death—the vile bastards—and someone tries to run Anderson off the road.

WILSON, F PAUL REPRISAL (\$18.50) The immortal evil defeated in The Keep (\$18.50) and reincarnated in Reborn (\$18.99) has come of age and begun to settle scores. He targets a few unlucky individuals for destruction now, but soon the whole world will suffer. And he will feed on our tears and our pain.

WISDOM, LINDA *demons* DEMON DOES IT BETTER (#2) (\$8.99) Paranormal, romance, special order...

WOODHEAD, PATRICK *luca* SECRET CHAMBER (\$18.95) People have been disappearing in what the explorer Stanley called the black heart of Africa -- the impenetrable forests of northern Congo. But when a brilliant young English doctor vanishes, alarm bells really start to ring. Intelligence chief Jack Milton sends a message to his godson Luca Matthews, hero of The Forbidden Temple (\$19.95) in the Himalayas asking him to go to Africa and find Joshua. But Joshua is not the man he was...

WOODS, STUART *barrington* BEL AIR DEAD (#20) (\$11.50) A beautiful Bel-Air widow, already one of the wealthiest women in America, needs Stone's help to become even more cash-rich. At stake is the sale of her investment in, and the resulting dissolution of, Hollywood's world-famous Centurion Studios. Stone is no stranger to the stylish and lucrative world of Centurion and he has more than a passing acquaintance with the lady herself. But when he arrives in Bel-Air to finalize the sale, the tranquility of that famous neighborhood turns out to be no more than a façade. One of L.A.'s most rapacious power brokers has Centurion and its unique real estate in his sights, and he will not be denied. Stone finds himself dragged into a surprisingly complex and high-stakes game, the kind only the truly rich and dangerously ambitious can play and survive.