



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

November 2008

What exciting times! With the Canadian and US dollars going through their gyrations, or is it their death throes, yet again, I'm feeling more like a money trader and less like a bookseller. In my unsophisticated, simple-little-clerk-in-a-bookstore kind of way, I try to keep an eye on the exchange rates and the balance in my US\$ bank account and try to keep from getting my brains blown out too badly. Not easy. Watched with some amusement as I lost a few thousand, recovered some of that loss, only to lose it again as the CDN\$ rose and fell, rose and fell, and rose and fell some more... all in a two-month period. I'm feeling a little seasick just describing the dollar's roller coaster ride! I do take some comfort from the knowledge that the pros, whose job it is to know these things, didn't seem to be faring any better, seemed no more in control, than little ole me. Good thing that for us it's small potatoes and, hopefully, it'll sort itself out.

Along with the rest of the world, I watched the final days of the US election with keen interest. Actually, Canadians have been paying lots of attention to what's been going on State-side for the last year or so; it's hard not to, actually. Being such close neighbours and trading partners, and given the huge disparity in the size of our two economies, it is incumbent upon us to pay close, close attention. That old saying, America sneezes, Canada catches a cold, is still very much true. But what historic times! What heady times! Cynical as one might be, it's hard not to get caught up in all the excitement and the promise of these election results! Along with billions all over the planet, I watched, electrified. (Marian was probably watching HGTV and de-cluttering). Watched, and shared in, what, not that long ago, was considered unthinkable. And, although Canadians do not get to vote in the American election, it seemed that the choice of candidate was clear for many. However, and isn't there always a however, where the election result is a portent of the wonderful change to come, I read the next day, with not a little dismay, that, well, plus ça

Come Meet

WEDNESDAY, Nov 19, 6-7 pm

Sean Chercover Trigger City (\$27.95)

The second Ray Dudgeon story, sequel to Big City, Bad Blood (\$8.99), is terrific. Marian had been waiting for this one and consumed it in one go.

THURSDAY, Nov 20, 6:30-8 pm

The Ladies' Killing Circle Going Out With a Bang (\$15.95)

The seventh collection of stories from this collective of Canadian writers. Not exactly sure which Ladies will be in attendance, but it'll be fun anyway. Get them all to sign your copy and give it away as a Christmas present to a mystery fan.

&

Mel Bradshaw Victim Impact (\$16.95)

Mel will be here that night as well to autograph copies of his third novel. This one is set in present day Toronto and features criminologist Ted Boudreau.

&

Jon Redfern Trumpets Sound no More (\$20.95)

Winner of Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel 2008

Please make every effort to attend these events. However, if you cannot but would like a signed or inscribed copy, just call us with the details and we'll make it happen. Check the website for more details.

change, plus c'est la même chose. Where many Americans are looking forward to additional opportunities, and hope, another group, gays and lesbians, seem to be losing many of their hard fought gains. There are battles still to be fought and won.

The Merchant of Menace,

SLEUTH of Baker Street's bi-monthly newsletter is available by subscription at an annual fee of CDN\$35. Agree to buy at least \$100 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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\$13 per book, max. \$20*

Elsewhere

Actual postage

(*with the odd exception)

Hours of Business

Tuesday to Saturday

10 am to 6 pm

Sunday

Noon - 4pm

Monday &

Statutory Holidays

Closed

And then there was the Canadian Federal election. Without any real need to have one. What a difference in the two elections. Somewhere in October, over a three week period, start to finish, there was an election. Good thing it was short; very little changed in the end. Sure, Mr. Dion is looking for a new career, but little changed in the fortunes of the various Federal parties. Three weeks of ads, a quarter of a billion dollars, and we're back to watching the John and Barack show.

Oh, well, back to things I know a little about. We've been enjoying some of the loveliest weather of the summer of 2008, these past few weeks. Where most of the summer was wet and cool, the fall is turning out to be beautiful beyond belief and I'm trying to squeeze in a few more rounds of golf. For a week or so in late October, it looked like it might be all over but the crying for this year, but no, we got a reprieve. The first ten days of November have been glorious, and were it not for this newsletter, I'd be MIA, big time. Plans for a week of golf and sunshine, with the boys in late February, are progressing. For the last eight months, all the boys have talked about is going back to play the stunningly beautiful Punta Espada golf course so it's back to the Dominican Republic that we go. In fact, an even more spectacular course has been created—can that be possible?—and a couple of rounds there are being negotiated for as well. Oh joy.

And, finally, it's that time of the year. With the end of the year comes the end of the newsletter subscription for some of you. If you will not have bought at least \$100 worth of books by the end of December 2008, then this is your last issue. You have two months to fix that. Call if you are unsure as to the status of your subscription.

And that leaves just one more thing to say. Both Marian and I would like to thank all of you who have supported us so well over 2008. We truly, truly value your support and friendship. And, both of us would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours the best of the upcoming holiday season and may you enjoy nothing but good health and prosperity for years and years to come.

Marian's Picks

Judging by the response I got to my comments in the last newsletter, where I was moaning about the CBC Radio 2 changes, it seems that a lot of you feel the same way. Well, thanks to a number of you we now have the CD player full of classical music discs and I've learned about the shuffle feature and all is, almost, right with the world.

Wendy and I went to the Bouchercon, the World Mystery Convention, in Baltimore over the Canadian Thanksgiving weekend and we had a good time. It was nice to catch up. We shared the driving and the hotel room and Wendy helped out at the booth in the dealers' room. We met some great authors and some wonderful customers and we plan to go to Indianapolis next year. JD complained that he has not been able to go, (to either Baltimore or Madison two years ago), he has to stay back and mind the store, but I think he just misses spending time at the bar with his friends.

Both of us forgot to give you an update on Paddington in the September newsletter, and many of you enquired about his well being. Thank you. He is hanging in there, a real trooper, and he is just as wonderful as ever. He has his moments, however. Walking around in circles, getting stuck in corners, falling asleep in his food dish... At times, he seems to have forgotten where he is and then he'll come to. Kind of comical, actually. But pick him up, cuddle him, wrap him in a blan-

ket, and he settles down and goes to sleep. In fact, like the old man that he is, he can go into a deep sleep at the drop of a hat. For which I'm quite grateful. Then I can get some sleep, too.

I can hardly believe that Christmas will be here soon. This year I am absolutely going to get all my shopping done by the middle of December. I say this every year but this year I mean it. In fact for the first time, I have given myself a budget and I intend to keep to the budget. Yes JD, I know I say that every year, but this year it's going to happen.

It has been a strange year business-wise. The fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar have caused a lot of stress and frustration, not to mention work re-pricing books. When the dollar moves two, three cents a day, it makes it very hard to plan. It seems that there is always something to worry about, which I do well as I love the store and I want customers to be happy and keep coming back. On that note, I'd like to say that I appreciate your custom and hope that we are all together in 2009, reading, chatting, writing newsletters and reading newsletters.

Cocktail Update: Cottage Lady and I have certainly had fun this past summer taste-testing the different brands of vodka, whiskey, olives and onions for our cocktails. We've come to like Grey Goose Vodka and Forty Creek Whisky the best. As you know we gave top marks to President's Choice Sweet Pickled Onions. In fact, anytime we have a Vodka cocktail now we have onions instead of olives.

Have a safe and happy holiday season. Thank you again for your continued support.

There are going to be a lot of tough choices for you to make for your holiday wish list as we have **PETER ROBINSON's** All the Colours of Darkness (\$29.99), **MICHAEL CONNELLY's** The Brass Verdict (\$29.99), **P. D. JAMES' The Private Patient** (\$32) and **JOHN LE CARRE's Most Wanted Man** (\$32). Of course there are a ton more listed below, so many that I had a tough time choosing picks.

I have not read **CHRISTOPHER FOWLER** before but David, our part-timer, had really enjoyed The Victoria Vanishes (\$28), so I decided to give it a try as well. It's the sixth in the series and I read it without feeling that I had missed anything by not reading any of the first five: Full Dark House (\$8.99), The Water Room (\$9.99), Seventy-Seven Clocks (\$10.99), Ten Second Staircase (\$8.99) and White Corridor (\$15.00 trade paperback). Arthur Bryant and his partner John May are two slightly offbeat characters who are members of The Peculiar Crimes Unit in London. The Unit is constantly under threat of being disbanded due to the unorthodox procedures followed by the team. They investigate crimes of, well, a peculiar nature. In The Victoria Vanishes they wonder why it is that a number of middle-aged women are dying at some of London's pubs. I loved the writing style, more light and funny than serious; the quirky characters, each member of the team adds to the story; and the two main characters, Bryant and May, are wonderfully ingenious at their job. A good old whodunit without the need for any special DNA or CSI stuff, although the medical examiner, in his own way, is also a delight. Actually, the story starts off with Bryant losing the funeral urn of the previous medical examiner, so I knew this was going to be a story told with a sense of humour.

After twenty years we finally have a sequel to The Eight (\$9.99 paperback, \$16.95 trade paperback) by **KATHERINE NEVILLE**. I have only just started The Fire (\$30), and am so excited. I loved The Eight and it appears that The Fire is written in the same format: a cur-

rent day story about the chess set made for Charlemagne alternating with a story about the chess set, which takes us back to 1822. It seems that the Black Queen has resurfaced (after being hidden in [The Eight](#)) and Alexandra Solarin, daughter of Cat Velis and Alexander Solarin, must start The Game again. I haven't read more than a chapter, so I can't tell you anything about [The Fire](#) but I'm looking forward to it.

The Twilight series that has taken female young adult readers by storm is soon to be a movie. To celebrate, the publisher has just released the first in this vampire series in mass market paperback. [Twilight](#) (\$9.50 mass market or \$11.99 trade paperback) by **STEPHANIE MEYER** introduces you to Bella who has moved to Forks, Washington State, to live with her father, Police Chief Charlie Swan. During lunch period in the high school cafeteria she spies Edward, who turns out to be a vampire. He's one of the good kind, that is, one who doesn't drink human blood. Basically, what happens over the four book series is a romance that every young girl would drool over. Yes, there are vampires and werewolves, good guys and bad guy, lots of killing and make believe, but it's really just a story about one girl and two guys, and which one she picks.

I have watched those TV programs on the HGTV channel where the houses are perfectly decorated, nothing is out of place, and the lady of the house can whip up dinner for twenty in no time flat. I can do the cooking part but I can't do the house part. I have so much stuff that one of these days I am just going to pile all my kitchen things on a table outside the store with a "Free to a good home" sign and let passers-bys help themselves. Some days, I hate this clutter so much, I could just spit. I'm sure de-cluttering will make me feel much better and everything will go to a good home. Reading [The Diva Runs Out of Thyme](#) (\$7.50) by **KRISTA DAVIS**, is probably what did it to me. De-clutter, then make a batch of cookie dough! Couldn't decide in which order to do these two things, so, of course, did neither. Just dithered. As for the story, I loved it, and loved the foodie bits. I did wonder how much pecan pies our heroine, Sophie Winston, could actually store in her fridge. I thought it amusing, as I speak of clutter, that one of the reviews on the back of the book was written by **Mary Jane Maffini** who has written, among other titles, [Organize Your Corpses](#) (\$9.99) and [The Cluttered Corpse](#) (\$6.99), both of which I have quite enjoyed. Maybe I'll go back and study those two books! [Diva](#) is set around the time of the American Thanksgiving and there are entertaining tips and stuffing recipes included.

As I mentioned earlier there are so many new and exciting titles this newsletter that I am having a hard time choosing. The following four faves of mine, all previous *Picks*, have now arrived in paperback and are not-to-be-missed selections. For sure, for sure. [The Garden of Evil](#) (\$9.99) by **DAVID HEWSON** is the sixth in the Nic Costa series. Set in Rome, this one has a kicker of a murder and is worth the upset. The latest **STUART PAWSON**, [Grief Encounters](#) (\$10.95), will get you wondering what the bad guys could do to the insides of your computer if they got their hands on it. I have read every word this man has written and I still want more. The former head of MI5, **STELLA RIMINGTON**, writes of what she knows and [Illegal Action](#) (\$11.99), the third in the series to feature MI5 intelligence officer Liz Carlyle, is as good as the earlier two: [At Risk](#) and [Secret Asset](#) (\$11.99 ea.). A new writer, **DAN WADDELL**, was a treat to find and now [The Blood Detective](#) (\$16) is available in trade paperback. Although set in current day London, the solution to the crime lies in events that happened in 1879. DCI Foster enlists the aid of Nigel Barnes, an expert in compiling family trees, to help him determine what the carved numbers left as clues on the victims' bodies mean. I love the type of police story where you have to go looking at birth and death records to solve the murder.

J.D.'s Picks

Although **CRAIG JOHNSON**'s latest novel, [Another Man's Moccasins](#) (\$27.50), has been in my hands for about six months I've been holding off reading it, knowing that I'd gulp it down in one day and then have a whole year to wait for the next one. Well, I held off as long as I could. I've told you on many, many occasions, here and in person, of how wonderful, gifted, talented a writer this man is, and other than looking for adjectives, all I can do is repeat myself, yada, yada, yada, after reading this novel. Walt Longmire, Henry Standing Bear and Victoria Morretti are back, as they try to solve two murders, linked but separated by forty years. Walt's first homicide case was as a Marine investigator in Vietnam and, here, all these years later, the discovery of the body of a young Vietnamese woman alongside the interstate in Absaroka County, may well be his last. [Moccasins](#) is the fourth in the Longmire saga, sequel to [Cold Dish](#) (\$15.50), [Death Without Company](#) (\$15.50), [Kindness Goes Unpunished](#) (\$14) and I'd urge you to read them all. I have not had the opportunity to meet Craig, yet. When the promotional tour for one of his novels, the third one I think, was announced I noted that one of the stops was going to be in Buffalo. I immediately informed my boss that I was taking that day off and was going to drive to Buffalo to finally meet the writer who writes the books I wish I had written, only to discover that there is a Buffalo in Wyoming and that's where the signing was going to be! A heck of a long drive! I'm not even sure you can get there from Toronto. Maybe soon.

Two more reissues by the Australian writer **PETER TEMPLE**, another favourite and about whom I have oft raved, to tell you about. [Dead Point](#) (\$21 expensive British paperback), the third Jack Irish novel, sequel to [Bad Debts](#) and [Black Tide](#) (\$21 each in trade paperback), is now available. And [Shooting Star](#) (\$30 British hard cover), a stand alone, joins three other stand alones—[Broken Shore](#) (\$19.95), [Iron Rose](#) (\$21 expensive British paperback) and [Identity Theory](#) (\$21). He is consistently excellent, I think he's won the Ned Kelly award five times, and, again, I'd urge you to read them all. Not bad for the author of nine novels.

The latest Dalziel and Pascoe novel, [Cure for All Diseases](#) (\$32.95) is excellent. What would you expect? Fat Andy ends up in a posh convalescent home in Sandytown, a sea-side town that's trying to establish itself as a centre of alternative healing—acupuncture, holistic remedies, posh convalescent homes, bracing sea air—when murder rears its ugly head. Death is, after all, a cure for all diseases! You might remember that in [Death Comes for the Fat Man](#) (\$11.99) a bomb sent Andy into a coma and the prognosis was not good. Survive, of course, he does, hence his recuperation in Sandytown. This series of novels, now numbering twenty-one, is the finest combination of quantity and quality, and the one series that I would take with me to a desert island if I could only take one. If, somehow, you have missed this exquisite pleasure, then start with [A Clubbable Woman](#), carry on through [An Advancement of Learning](#) (\$10.99 ea.), and then see if you can stop yourself from reading the rest.

I have never been a big fan of short stories, but a friend mentioned how much he was enjoying **LAURA LIPPMAN**'s new collection of stories, [Hardly Knew Her](#) (\$25.95) so I just had to sample them. Talk about terrific. The introduction by **George Pelecanos** alone is worth the price of the collection. Set mostly in her beloved Baltimore, and there's Tess in a couple of stories. Witty, charming, devious, and filled with unanticipated twists. Great fun.

And, while I was in the mood to read short stories, I also grabbed The Pyramid (\$29.95), a collection of five Kurt Wallander mysteries by **HENNING MANKELL**. Two of the five are really novellas—each over one hundred pages in length—and they filled in nicely the gaps in my knowledge of Kurt. Well, I'm lying really. If I had ever noted that in the first story, Faceless Killers (\$20) Kurt is "forty-two, going on forty-three" and that the KW era started on Jan. 8, 1990, I had forgotten it. The author kindly reminds me in his introduction. Wallander's first case, in 1969, is chronicled in Wallander's First Case. In the second story, 1975, is the first mention of Linda. Kinda like looking at old family photos. The stories are perfect, and a nice conclusion to the Wallander saga.

Cottage Lady's Picks

Cocktail Update – Our research on Whisky Sours has become more complex than anticipated. The combination of ingredients, ratios and whisky brands is almost endless. Therefore, we are still some way from a fulsome report. However, just to get you started and to titillate your taste buds, **Cottage Husband** seems to visit our bottle of Forty Creek (Kittling Ridge Distillery) more than some of the others. Also, I'm running out of limes faster than lemons. More to come.

The Brass Verdict (\$29.99) is **MICHAEL CONNELLY**'s 20th book and stars the seasoned renegade cop, Harry Bosch, and the equally passionate, Mickey Haller, of The Lincoln Lawyer (\$10.99) fame. Haller inherits a caseload from a murdered lawyer, Jerry Vincent. He focuses on a homicide client, Walter Elliot, a famous Hollywood producer accused of murdering his wife and her lover. As Haller scrambles to build his case, he butts heads with Detective Bosch who is investigating Vincent's murder. However, it soon becomes evident that the Elliot file involves more than a jealous husband killing his wife and Haller and Bosch become unlikely partners in solving what might be the biggest case in both their careers. Enthralled with the spirited sparring between the two main characters, the clever plot, the electric courtroom scenes, plus the numerous twists and turns, I read this tale in only two sittings. Connelly's crisp exciting writing style is very compelling producing a tale with as much drama as mystery. I would definitely recommend this book to both dedicated fans and to novice mystery readers alike. In fact, I am giving this to a young friend for Christmas. She has never been a mystery fan but because of my association with Marian and Sleuth (and frankly our whole cottage dinner/martini routine), she thinks she might be missing something. After this read, I'm sure she will be back for more.

Because I have an interest in English period pieces, Marian asked me to read and review **PATRICIA WENTWORTH**'s Through The Wall (\$10.99). A prolific writer, **Wentworth** wrote her first work in 1928 followed by 31 more classic whodunits featuring Miss Maud Silver. The plot of this particular work is straightforward – in post WWII Britain, a poor young woman, Marian Brand, suddenly inherits a home and a fortune, confounded by a horde of jealous relatives. A murder happens and Miss Silver, a governess turned private detective, solves it to everyone's satisfaction. That's it - I said it was straightforward! But don't be put off by the simplicity. **Wentworth** has a very appealing, clever and clean writing style. She provides mysteries for every occasion, mood and season. For example, Through The Wall is a good read when you are looking to escape or wanting to hide in plain sight. It takes you to another time and world – a less complicated universe where, for retirees like me, derivatives, sub-prime mortgages and talking heads are nowhere to be found. In fact, Barney

and I cuddled up on a rainy autumn day and polished off this little piece along with a pleasant glass of port and a soothing portion of dark chocolate. (The latter I take for "medicinal purposes" as six grams a day is supposed to reduce your blood pressure – or so "they" say. As for the port, you have to wash it down with something!) Try any of the books in the recently re-issued **Wentworth** series. They are a nice light read when rest and relaxation is needed without intense concentration or gruesome murder descriptions. So thank you Marian for a lovely suggestion.

I have saved the best for last. **AMITAV GHOSH** is an Indian-Bengali author known for his work in the English language. He is a prolific writer and has a Ph.D. in social anthropology from Oxford. An accomplished and gifted storyteller, he has been described as one of the world's finest novelists and I wholeheartedly agree. I just finished his latest Sea of Poppies (\$29), the first volume of a trilogy that opens in 1838 India, prior to the Opium Wars. It is wonderful, incredibly enjoyable and powerfully written. I would go so far as to call it a masterpiece. The story is centred around the Ibis, a former slave ship docked in the Bay of Bengal. Without shilly-shallying, **Ghosh** immediately launches into the story with a broad diversity of characters including a son of a freed American slave, a poor woman named Deeti, an anglicized raja, a strong-willed European orphan with an Indian soul mate and a gomusta/agent who believes his life's work is to build a temple to a mother goddess. The characters are thrown together into the Ibis and are being transported as "indentured coolies" to the Mauritius ("Mareech") islands. Their whole world is turned upside down. They must develop a new society and learn to deal with one another in a fresh paradigm where the old rules and casts no longer apply. This is clearly the beginning of a new dynasty. Some of **Ghosh's** characterization is a bit on the weak side with one-dimensional caricatures and stereotyping, particularly in reference to British Colonials. But I am inclined to forgive because of his need to set up the storyline for the trilogy. To make up for it, the tale never lacks action - a rescue from a funeral pyre, mutiny, rapes, floggings, court trials, runaways, vengeful acts, harrowing escapes, murders and heroism. And **Ghosh** demonstrates an uncanny ability to take your mind inside the setting - you can almost taste the opium seeds, touch the luxuriant poppy fields, feel the salt air and smell the hole of the Ibis. A word of warning, this polyglot cast of characters does not communicate in Oxford English. Their Pidgin English takes some getting used to. However, if you hang in for the first few pages, you'll tune in quickly. This wonderful adventure ends abruptly and leaves you hanging in anticipation. While awaiting the second volume of the trilogy, I am going to tackle The Glass Palace (\$19), a saga that revolves around the late 19th century British takeover of Burma.

Wendy's Pick

Hi everyone. It's been a year since I wrote anything for the Merchant of Menace but I had to tell you about the latest **JOHN CONNOLLY** offering, The Reapers. (\$29.99 signed hardcover, \$19.99 trade paper) (Simon & Schuster) I haven't had as much time to read as I'd like since leaving Sleuth but there are certain authors (**Connolly**, **McDermid**, **Child**) for whom I always find the time.

The Reapers is a departure from the author's Charlie Parker series with the detective only appearing as a minor character. The focus is on Louis and Angel, partners in crime and life. We learn about Louis' life, how he and Angel met and how he came to be a reaper, an assassin. The events and people of his past are now coming back for vengeance and he and Angel must find the assassin and stop him before they are stopped, permanently.

Much of the story is told from the perspective of an aging mechanic, Will, and to me, he is the conscience of the story, pulled into events beyond his experience and deeply troubled by what he sees.

This is a terrific thriller, with none of the supernatural elements usually associated with the Charlie Parker series. The writing style is effortless, as always, and the story builds steadily towards its inevitable confrontation and the appearance of Parker, just like the cavalry. The Reapers stands on its own and is a great place to start if you've never read a John Connolly mystery.

I hope you are all well and reading lots of books. Miss ya'.

Hardbacks

ALBERT, SUSAN W beatrice TALE OF BRIAR BANK (#5) (\$26.50) (Berkley) When Mr. Wickstead is found dead under a tree limb in Near Sawrey, the villagers are certain his death had to do with the treasure he dug up last spring. But why was he in the woods on such a frigid night? Pickles, his fox terrier, knows what happened, although Bailey Badger, the animals at the Brockery, and the local dragon know important bits too. Beatrix Potter needs the help of the villagers and her animal friends to make head or tails of it all. The other Cottage Tales are The Tale of: Hill Top Farm, Holly How, Cuckoo Brow Wood (\$9.99 each) and Hawthorn House (\$7.50).

ALLAN, BARBARA ANTIQUES FLEE MARKET (#3) (\$26.95) (Kensington) Brandy Borne knew her life wouldn't ever be as serene again, now that she has moved back to Serenity to live with her bipolar mother, Vivian. The last time Brandy and Vivian saw Walter Yeager, an old flame of Vivian's, was at a flea market where Vivian saved Walter from selling a valuable first edition of Tarzan and the Apes, for next to nothing. The prospective buyer was furious and the next day Walter ended up dead and the book was missing. Sequel to Antiques Roadkill (\$9.99) and Antiques Maul (\$8.49).

ANDERSON, LIN EASY KILL (#5) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Hodder & Stoughton) A young woman has been brutally murdered and left draped across a grave in Glasgow's sprawling cemetery, the Necropolis. Rhona MacLeod, called in to carry out the forensic investigations, has no doubt that the depraved killer's motives were sexual. The removal of the girl's corpse from the city of the dead reveals another woman recently buried underneath and the case takes on a disturbing new dimension. The others in the series are Driftnet, Torch, Deadly Code and Dark Flight (\$10.99 each). A terrific series.

ANDREWS, DONNA SIX GEESE A-SLAYING (#10) (\$25.95) (Thomas Dunne) Meg Langslow gets volunteered to organize the Christmas parade which goes from her and Michael's house to the local campus. As you can imagine, the monumental task of getting everyone in the right place at the right time makes for a lot of chuckles. But when Santa, the local curmudgeon, is murdered, can Christmas be saved? As zany as usual.

BARBER, CHRISTINE REPLACEMENT CHILD (#1) (\$26.95) (Thomas Dunne) Late one night, editor Lucy Newroe answers the phone in the newsroom. The caller is the notorious Scanner Lady, an anonymous elderly tipster whose hobby is to phone the newspaper with gossip from her police scanner. The old woman tells Lucy she heard two Santa Fe cops discussing a dead body. When Lucy checks out the tip, she discovers that it's Scanner Lady who has been killed. She tries to enlist the help of Detective Gil Montoya but he is busy with the murder of Melissa Baca, a seventh-grade teacher whose body was thrown off the Rio Grande Gorge Bridge.

BEATON, M C agatha SPOONFUL OF POISON (#19) (\$27.95) (St. Martin's) Agatha Raisin's detective agency is so successful that she has decided to close it on weekends. With all this extra time on her hands, the vicar persuades her to help publicize the church fete. Agatha brings out record crowds but there is more going on than village fun. Some of the jam in the jam-tasting booth is poisoned and the festive family event becomes the scene of two murders.

BEINHART, LARRY SALVATION BOULEVARD (\$26.95)

BELL, TED TSAR (#5) (\$29.99) (Atria) Alex Hawke, the only counter-terror agent both the Americans and the British can agree on, is the only person likely able to stop the Russian and their new Tsar from bringing the European economy to its knees and murdering Americans on instructions from the Kremlin. Sequel to Hawke (\$12.99), Assassin (\$11.99), Pirate (\$12.99) and Spy (\$12.99).

BLUNT, GILES NO SUCH CREATURE (\$29.95) Old Max is a master thief and he takes his nephew, Owen, with him on a trip through the American southwest, as a sort of apprenticeship in a life of crime. Pulling heists is scary, though satisfying, and they only rob rich Republicans. But ominous signs soon point to the alarming fact that The Subtractors are on their tail, criminals who stop at nothing to steal from other thieves. **Autographed copies available.**

BOYDEN, JOSEPH THROUGH BLACK SPRUCE (\$34) (Viking, Canada) Will Bird is a legendary Cree bush pilot now lying in a coma in a hospital in his hometown of Moose Factory, Ontario. His niece Annie Bird, beautiful and self-reliant, is at his side. Broken in different ways, the two take silent communion in their unspoken kinship, and the story that unfolds is rife with heartbreak, fierce love, ancient blood feuds, mysterious disappearances, plane crashes, murders, and the bonds that hold a family and a people together.

BRANDRETH, GYLES wilde GAME CALLED MURDER (#2) (\$28.00 hardcover, \$16.00 trade paperback) This is the US edition. While celebrating the success of Lady Windemere's Fan at a dinner with some friends, Wilde designs a game called "murder" where you have to say who you would most like to kill. The very next day one of the people on the list turns up dead.

BROWN, RITA MAE foxhunting HOUNDED TO DEATH (#7) (\$28) (Ballantine) Who would have thought that murder would happen at a dog show? Hounded To Death reveals the cutthroat world of competitive hound shows as both humans and animals try to solve a series of bizarre deaths. Ever reliant on her 'horse sense', "Sister" Jane Arnold can't help but connect two deaths and a disappearance.

BRUEN, KEN ONCE WERE COPS (\$25.95) (St. Martin's) When twenty members of the Irish police force go to America and twenty cops from the USA go to Ireland, Michael O'Shea has his lifelong dream come true: he becomes a member of the NYPD. But O'Shea is a sociopath and he is paired with an unstable cop nicknamed Kebar for his liberal use of a short, lethal metal stick called a K-bar. The two unlikely partners become a devastatingly effective force in the war against crime.

BURKE, DECLAN BIG O (\$26.95) (Harcourt) Karen's easy life as a receptionist and armed robber is about to get dicey. Her ex-husband, Rossi, is up for parole and he's going to come looking for the 60G's which he claims is his. But he won't be expecting Ray, the new guy Karen's just met. No stranger to the underworld himself, Ray wants out of the kidnapping game now that some dangerous new bosses are moving in. Meanwhile, Frank, a disgraced surgeon, hires Ray to kidnap his ex-wife for the insurance money. But the ex-wife is Karen's best friend. Can Karen and Ray trust each other enough to work together on one last job? As **John Connolly** says: "Declan Burke's The Big O is one of the sharpest, wittiest, and most unusual Irish crime novels of recent years". A good debut, that JD really enjoyed, not without complaining that the Irish slang made it a bit more of a job than he usually likes.

CAIN, CHELSEA SWEETHEART (#2) (\$27.95) (St. Martins) When the body of a young woman is found in Portland's Forest Park, Det. Archie Sheridan is reminded of the last time the police found a body there. It was the Beauty Killer's first victim, and Archie's first case. But this can't be the work of the Beauty Killer because she's in prison (Heartsick, \$9.99). Archie has trouble focusing on the new case when he gets news that the Beauty Killer has escaped.

CARL, JOANNA CHOCOLATE SNOWMAN MURDERS (#8) (\$22) (Obsidian) With the Warner Pier Winter Arts Festival just days away everyone in the West Michigan town is looking forward to the big art show and the unveiling of TenHuis Chocolate's special holiday chocolates. But one of the jurors is found murdered and Lee McKinney is determined to find the killer. For all you chocolate lovers out there.

CHANCE, ALEX FINAL DAYS (\$24.95) (William Heinemann) Recently qualified San Francisco psychologist, Karen Wiley receives a child's letter with a cry for help. Ella McCullers, the first female police chief of Canaan, Utah, is promoted to senior investigator in the state's most high-profile kidnapping case. How do these incidents tie together? A debut novel.

CHERCOVER, SEAN dudgeon TRIGGER CITY (#2) (\$25.95) (Morrow) What begins as a routine investigation for PI Ray Dudgeon escalates out of control as he finds himself facing assassins and covert intelligence agencies while investigating the death of a woman. He should have known it was too good to be true when retired Army Colonel Isaac Richmond paid him \$50,000 to help him put closure to the murder of his daughter. Action, heartbreak, murder, you name it, and it's here. This man can write. Marian said "It was unputdownable. Fast and furious. This is the kind of book I like. If you're in the mood for a fast moving private eye novel then this is it. And, if you haven't read his first book, Big City Bad Blood (\$8.99), start with that. It is also excellent". Meet **Sean Chcover** at Sleuth on **Wednesday, November 18, 2008 from 6 pm to 7 pm**.

CHILDS, LAURA scrapbook DEATH SWATCH (#6) (\$26.50) I did not realize how big a hobby scrapbooking is. I had heard of the stores dedicated to this hobby but it wasn't until I walked into a Big Lots store in Muncie and saw their selection of scrapbooking supplies that all was revealed! Ginormous! (*I ended up buying a decade's worth of underwear. Louise Penny approved of my choices.--JD*)

CLEMENS, JUDY crowns DIFFERENT PATHS (#5) (\$30) Dairy farmer Stella Crown is concerned that someone is attacking the local business women. When the kind-hearted Dr. Peterson is found murdered in her office, Stella makes it her job to try and find a connection amongst all the victims.

CLEVERLY, BARBARA sandila FOLLY DU JOUR (#7) (\$27.50) (Soho/Constable) This is the US edition. Joe Sandilands has just flown to Paris to attend an Interpol conference, but to his annoyance is diverted to Quai des Orfevres where a fellow Englishman has been arrested. He is shocked to see his old friend Sir Georges Jardine, still in evening dress stained with the blood of the man he is accused of murdering. George has been badly beaten by his interrogators and is in a sorry state, but he still refuses to confide in Joe.

COEL, MARGARET BLOOD MEMORY (\$27.50) (Berkley) Christine McLeod is an investigative reporter for one of Denver's major newspapers. Her recent coverage of the Arapaho and Cheyenne tribes filing to reclaim twenty-seven million acres of their ancestral lands has made her a target for assassination. After narrowly escaping an assailant's bullet in her own home, Catherine is convinced by her ex-husband to stay at his family's ranch in the mountains outside Denver until the gunman is caught. She continues to follow the land claim story only to uncover an unsettling conspiracy. A new series.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL haller BRASS VERDICT (#2) (\$29.99) (Little, Brown) Defense attorney Mickey Haller is back (The Lincoln Lawyer \$10.99) in this brilliant story which also has an ap-

pearance by Harry Bosch. When a former colleague is murdered, Haller inherits the biggest case he's ever had: defending a prominent Hollywood producer of murdering his wife and her lover. Obviously Bosch and Haller don't see the law in quite the same way but it becomes clear that the best way to solve the murders is to work together. Brilliant and more brilliant, yet again. A large print edition is also available at \$31.99. See *Cottage Lady's Picks*.

CORNWELL, BERNARD AZINCOURT (\$29.95 hardcover, \$21.95 trade paperback) I'm going to quote from the dust jacket cover: "Agincourt is one of the epic battles of history. It was fought by two badly matched armies that met in atrocious conditions on St. Crispin's Day in 1415, and resulted in an extraordinary victory that was celebrated in England long before Shakespeare immortalized it in Henry V. It has always been held to be the triumph of the longbow against the armoured knight, and of the common man against the feudal aristocrat, but those are history's myths." Nicholas Hook is an English archer who has been trouble since his birth. His headstrong behaviour takes him from England, across the channel to France, and ultimately to Agincourt.

COX, MICHAEL GLASS OF TIME (\$34.99) (McClelland & Stewart) The subtitle is The Secret Life of Miss Esperanza Gorst Narrated by Herself. In the autumn of 1876, nineteen-year-old orphan Esperanza Gorst arrives at the great country house of Evenwood to be interviewed for the position of lady's-maid by the Baroness Tansor, the former Miss Emily Carteret. But Esperanza is no ordinary servant. She has been sent by her guardian, the mysterious Madame de l'Orme. Her task is to uncover the dark and dangerous secrets her new mistress has sought to conceal, and to set right a past injustice in which Esperanza's own closest interests are bound up. By the author of The Meaning of Night (\$24.99 trade paperback).

COYLE, CLEO clare cosi ESPRESSO SHOT (#7) (\$26.50) (Berkley) Clare Cosi has been hired to create a gourmet coffee and dessert bar for her ex-husband, Matteo's, wedding, to be held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The bride is Trend magazine editor Breanne Summour. When accidents start to happen to Breanne and people close to her, Clare becomes suspicious. As Marian has said before, reading this series has made her search out all sorts of interesting coffee for us to drink. Although, she did say that there is one coffee mentioned in the book that she will not try. I wonder what she means? Better be on the lookout!

CRAWFORD, ISIS CATERED HALLOWEEN (#5) (\$26.95)

CURZON, CLARE yeadings PAYBACK (\$29.95) (Thomas Dunne) The US edition. Sandy Craddock witnesses his detested half-brother deliberately mown down by a hit-and-run driver. Thinking that he himself was the intended victim, Sandy goes on the run. Only to be mistaken for his half brother. Caught in a web of his own making, Sandy realizes he is opening himself up to more danger than he could possibly have imagined. It's up to Superintendent Mike Yeading of the Thames Valley team to sort it all out.

DEAVER, JEFFERY BODIES LEFT BEHIND (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster) An epic cat-and-mouse chase, told nearly in real-time, and filled with **Deaver's** patented twists and turns.

DOHERTY, PAUL corbett NIGHTSHADE (#16) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) January, 1304 and Hugh Corbett, Keeper of the Secret Seal, has been charged by King Edward I with obtaining the Sanguis Christi, a priceless ornate Templar cross, stolen by Scrope, an unscrupulous manor lord, who lives near Mistleham in Essex.

DOUGLAS, CAROLE NELSON mi CAT IN A SAPPHIRE SLIPPER (#20) (\$27.95) (Forge) When Temple Barr's beloved aunt Kit tried to find Mr. Right for Temple, she actually found her Mr. Right. Kit has fallen for one of the Fontana brothers, a silver-tongued reputed ex-mobster with a heart of gold. But the bachelor party goes haywire and the entire party is hijacked and taken to a remote desert

ranch where the women are wild and the sex is legal. Ill at ease at the ranch is Temple's own Matt Devine, ex-priest turned talk show host. When he stumbles over the dead body of a naked woman, well, it's a good job Midnight Louie is along to help out.

[DOYLE] BAYARD, PIERRE SHERLOCK HOLMES WAS WRONG (\$22) (Bloomsbury) Using previously overlooked clues hidden in the text of The Hound of the Baskervilles, Bayard unravels the case, leading the reader to the astonishing conclusion that Holmes, and **Arthur Conan Doyle**, got things all wrong. The killer is not at all who they said it was. Not so elementary?

[DOYLE] MILLER, RUSSELL THE ADVENTURES OF ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE (\$39.95) (Harvill Secker) Another biography of ACD. According to the jacket, Miller was "the first biographer to have been granted unlimited access to Conan Doyle's private correspondence" and his is "the first book to draw fully on Richard Lancelyn Green archive, the world's most comprehensive collection of Conan Doyle material".

DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple BLACK SHIP (#17) (\$27.95) (St. Martin's) In September 1925, Scotland Yard DCI Alec Fletcher inherits a large house in Hamstead, on the outskirts of London, from a recently deceased great-uncle. It's an idyllic setting until a dead body shows up in the communal garden. Rumours of bootleggers, American gangsters and an international liquor smuggling operation via black ships have turned everything in their neighbourhood upside down. While Alec is following the smuggling lead, Daisy is trying to find out who the dead man is.

EBERSHOFF, DAVID 19TH WIFE (\$30)

FLYNN, VINCE EXTREME MEASURES (\$29.99) (Atria, Cdn ed.) The CIA has detected and intercepted two terrorist cells, but a third is feared to let loose in America soon. Mitch Rabb, and his agency colleague Mike Nash, are usually the first line of defense in a situation like this. But the political winds have changed and certain leaders on Capital Hill are pushing to have men like Rapp and Nash put back on a short leash.

FRANCIS, DICK SILKS (\$34) (Michael Joseph) Co-written with **Felix Francis**. When defense barrister Geoffrey Mason hears the lenient sentence that his arrogant young client, Julian Trent, is given, he is shocked. And little did he suspect that he would be looking Trent in the eyes again much sooner than he ever imagined. Putting aside his barrister's wig, Mason heads to Sandown to don his racing silks. An amateur jockey, his true passion is steeplechasing. When a fellow rider is brutally murdered, and one of the other jockeys is suspected, he reluctantly finds himself the centre of everything.

FRANCOME, JOHN FINAL BREATH (\$37.95) (Headline) Eighteen months ago, jockey Danny Clark's fiancée, Kirsty, was murdered. Now he's found happiness with Tara, Kirsty's best friend. Tara is a trainee solicitor from Manchester who knows enough to put her corrupt former employer and his drug baron client in prison for years. Till the case comes to court she needs sanctuary, and she prays her new country refuge is beyond the reach of the inner-city gunmen.

FUNKE, CORNELIA INKDEATH (\$27.50) (Chicken House) Ever since the extraordinary events of Inkspell (\$11.99), when the enchanted book Inkheart (\$10.99) drew Maggie and her father, Mo, into his chapters, life in the Inkworld has been more tragic than magical. This is the last in the trilogy.

GAGE, LEIGHTON BLOOD OF THE WICKED (\$29) (Soho) In the remote Brazilian town of Cascatas do Pontal, where landless peasants are confronting the owners of vast estates, the bishop arrives by helicopter to consecrate a new church and is assassinated. Mario Silva, Chief Inspector for Criminal Matters of the Federal Police of Brazil, is dispatched to the interior to find the killer. Assisted by his nephew, Hector Costa, also a federal policeman, Silva must battle the state police and a corrupt judiciary system to solve the murder and several killings that follow. A debut novel.

GEDDES, DONALD G grant RUINS OF GRANDEUR (\$19.95) The Peter Grant Chronicles.

GERRITSEN, TESS rizzoli KEEPSAKE (\$30) (Ballantine) For many years the perfectly preserved mummy had lain forgotten in the dusty basement of Boston's Crispin Museum. Now its sudden rediscovery by museum staff is an attention grabbing mystery. Dubbed "Madame X", to all appearances an ancient Egyptian artifact seems a ghoulish godsend for the financially struggling institution. But medical examiner Maura Isles soon discovers a macabre message hidden within the corpse, horrifying proof that this centuries old relic is instead a modern-day murder victim. To Maura and Boston homicide detective Jane Rizzoli, the forensic evidence is unmistakable, its implications terrifying. And when the grisly remains of yet another woman are found in the hidden recesses of the museum, it becomes chillingly clear that a maniac is at large.

GHOSH, AMITAV SEA OF POPPIES (\$29) (Viking, Canada) At the heart of this saga is an old slave ship, the Ibis. Its destiny is a tumultuous voyage across the Indian Ocean, its purpose to fight in China's vicious nineteenth-century Opium Wars. As for the crew, they are a motley array of sailors and stowaways, coolies and convicts. This is the first in an expected trilogy. See *Cottage Lady Picks*.

GREGORY, PHILIPPA OTHER QUEEN (\$29.95) (Harper Collins, UK) This is the story of the captive years of Mary Queen of Scots. Mary, in flight from the rebels in Scotland, has trusted her cousin Elizabeth I's promise of sanctuary. She finds herself imprisoned as the enforced guest of George Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, and his dominant wife, Bess of Hardwick. English lords conspire to free Mary from imprisonment, a plot that will be the greatest threat Elizabeth has ever faced. But then the great spy-master Cecil sets the trap to catch them all, setting the Scots queen on the road to her death at Fotheringhay.

HAAS, DEREK SILVER BEAR (\$26.50) (Pegasus) A hitman is hired to assassinate the Speaker of the House. A debut novel.

HART, CAROLYN bailey ruth GHOST AT WORK (\$26.95) (Morrow) Bailey Ruth Rarburn had always been good at solving mysteries, so why should a little thing like her death change that? In fact, being dead gives her more of an opportunity to lend a hand, sometimes seen and sometimes not. As a Member of Heaven's Department of Good Intentions, Bailey Ruth goes back to earth to help Kathleen, a pastor's wife. A dead body had been found on her porch and the pastor is a suspect. The first in a new series. As wonderful as you would expect from **Ms. Hart**.

HELTON, PETER RAINSTONE FALL (#3) (\$35 Soho, \$55 Constable). Sequel to Headcase and Slim Chance (\$35 ea.) Featuring Chris Honeysett, private investigator and painter, set in Bath. Really, a terrific series, just a shame that there are no paperback editions.

HEWSON, DAVID DANTE'S NUMBERS (\$29.95 hardcover, \$19.95 trade paperback) (Macmillan, UK) The death mask of the poet Dante is to be exhibited at the premiere of a controversial film, *Inferno*, based on his epic work. But at the grand unveiling this priceless artifact is replaced by a macabre death mask of the film's star, Allen Prime. Minutes later the leading actress, Maggie Flavier, is threatened before her attacker is shot. Nic Costa and his team follow the movie to its next showing in San Francisco, to safeguard the remaining items in the exhibit and to recover the stolen death mask. The others in this exciting series are Season for the Dead, Villa of Mysteries, Sacred Cut, Lizard's Bite, Seventh Sacrament and The Garden of Evil (\$9.99 each).

HILL, REGINALD dalziel CURE FOR ALL DISEASES (#21) (\$32.95) (Doubleday, Canada) Andy Dalziel is recuperating in the quiet seaside town of Sandytown. But it's not as quiet as it should be with two principal landowners vying to impose their own agendas on the town's development. When one of them is murdered, DCI Peter Pascoe is called in to investigate. But you can't keep the Fat Man

down, and soon Dalziel, aided by feisty young psychologist, Charlotte Heywood, is second-guessing his former protégé. See *J.D. 's Picks*.

HUNTER, STEPHEN NIGHT OF THUNDER (#5) (\$29.99) (Simon & Schuster) God help the people that forced Nikki Swagger off the road that left her in a coma. Bob Lee Swagger's daughter had begun to investigate a Southern conspiracy that included Dixie gangsters and corrupt law enforcers. Bob Lee picks up where Nikki left off, so watch your back. Action, action, and more action.

IGGULDEN, CONN conqueror BONES OF THE HILLS (#3) (\$29.95) (Harper Collins, UK) Genghis Khan embarks on a journey through present day Iran and Iraq, to the edges of India in this, the third in the Conqueror series. His nation faces enemies as powerful and ancient as any they have known, and Khan has chosen a path that will lead to victory or utter destruction. Sequel to Wolf of the Plains (\$10.99) and Lords of the Bow (\$9.99).

JAMES, P D PRIVATE PATIENT (#14) (\$32) (Knopf, Canada) Commander Adam Dalgliesh and his team are called in to investigate a murder at a very private clinic in Dorset. The victim is the notorious investigative reporter Rhonda Gradwyn. She had been booked into the clinic to have a facial scar removed. A second terrifying death complicates the investigation.

KELLERMAN, FAYE decker MERCEDES COFFIN (#17) (\$27.95 hardcover cloth, \$27.95 large print trade paperback) Told you about this one in the September newsletter but now the large print trade paperback edition is also available.

KELLN, BRAD IN TONGUES OF THE DEAD (\$24.95) (ECW) Marian says: "I was hooked by the dust jacket, but what a strange book. You have to suspend disbelief and accept that angels with unusual powers live amongst us. I think I liked the book, certainly read the whole novel in practically one sitting, but I still not sure why I liked it. Here's a recap of the jacket blurb: "His secret mission at the library was simple: watch the Voynich manuscript. The 500-year-old book had been discovered in 1912, and since then no one had been able to translate a single word of its more than 230 pages... The Vatican had long believed it was a book of singular religious importance and kept an agent close at all times." It carries on but what hooked me was the autistic boy. Brought to the library on a class visit, he begins to read the unknown language and tells the priest that it was written in the language of the forsaken, who were half man and half angel. Really interesting!

KENT, ALEXANDER IN GALLANT COMPANY (\$16.95) A re-issue in an inexpensive hardcover format.

KNOWLES, MIKE DARWIN'S NIGHTMARE (\$24.95) (ECW) Thomas Perry says: "An angry charge into a bloody underworld free-for-all where a fighter's survival is earned by what he'll do after the bullet hits him. Mike Knowles is a strong new voice in crime fiction".

KRAY, ROBERTA LOST (\$27.50) (Soho/Constable) Private Investigator Harry Lind doesn't believe in ghosts so he doesn't think twice about the ramblings of a drunken old hack. Little Grace Harper went missing over twenty years ago but reporter Jess Vaughan is convinced Grace is still alive. She's going to need some help to prove it.

KRUEGER, WILLIAM KENT RED KNIFE (#8) (\$28.99) (Atria) When the daughter of a powerful businessman dies as a result of her meth addiction, her father vows revenge. His target is the Red Boyz, a gang of Ojibwe youths accused of supplying the girl's fatal drug dose. When the head of the Red Boyz and his wife are murdered in a way that suggests execution, the Ojibwe gang mobilizes, and the citizens of Tamarack County brace themselves for war, white against red. Both sides look to former sheriff Cork O'Connor, a man of mixed heritage to uncover the truth behind the murders.

LE CARRE, JOHN MOST WANTED MAN (\$32) (Viking Canada) Issa, a half-starved young Russian man with an improbable amount of cash secreted in a purse around his neck, is smuggled into Hamburg in the dead of night. Annabel, an idealistic young German

civil rights lawyer, is determined to save Issa from deportation. In pursuit of Issa's mysterious past, she confronts Tommy Brue, the sixty-year-old scion of Brue Freres, a failing British bank based in Hamburg. The three form an unlikely alliance.

LEHANE, DENNIS GIVEN DAY (\$29.95) (Morrow) Set in Boston at the end of the First World War, this novel tells the story of two families, one white and one black, swept up in a maelstrom of revolutionaries and anarchists, immigrants and ward bosses, Brahmins and ordinary citizens, all engaged in a battle for survival and power. **SIGNED** copies for the moment.

LIPPMAN, LAURA HARDLY KNEW HER (\$25.95) (Morrow) A collection of her short stories. And, excellent. See *J.D. 's Picks*.

LISS, DAVID WHISKEY REBELS (\$30) (Random House) Set in America in the years after the Revolutionary War. Ethan Sanders, once among George Washington's most valued spies, now lives in disgrace, an accusation of treason having cost him his reputation. He is recruited by his old enemy, Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, to find the husband of the woman he loved and lost. Hamilton is in a bitter power struggle with political rival Thomas Jefferson over the creation of the fragile young nation's first real financial institution, The Bank of the United States. Meanwhile, Joan Maycott is a young woman married to another Revolutionary War veteran. They move to the western Pennsylvania frontier and develop a new method for distilling whiskey. Whiskey is more than a drink: it is wealth and power and Hamilton's men threaten to destroy all Joan holds dear. By the author of Conspiracy of Paper (\$22.95).

[LUDLUM] VAN LUSTBADER, ERIC BOURNE SANCTION (\$28.99) (Grand Central) Jason Bourne returns to Georgetown University and the mild world of his alter ego, David Webb, hoping for normalcy. But after so many adrenaline-soaked years of risking his life, Bourne finds himself chafing under the quiet life of a linguistics professor. His academic mentor, Professor Spector, asks for help investigating the murder of a former student by a previously unknown Muslim extremist sect. Bourne's investigation turns into one of the deadliest and most tangled operations of his double life. The others in the Bourne Series are The Bourne Identity (\$11.99), The Bourne Supremacy (\$11.99), The Bourne Ultimatum (\$10.99) The Bourne Legacy (\$10.99) and The Bourne Betrayal (\$11.99).

MACBRIDE, STUART logan FLESH HOUSE (#4) (\$29.95 cloth, \$22.95 trade paperback) Aberdeen is the setting for this fine series. Sequel to Cold Granite, Dying Light, and Broken Skin (\$10.99 each). Unfortunately, the hardcover copies are reprints.

MCCRERY, NIGEL STILL WATERS (\$27.95) (Pantheon) Detective Chief Inspector Mark Lapslie has just returned to duty after a year of relative isolation, trying to avoid his neurological condition that causes him to "taste" sound. When the decayed body of an elderly woman is unearthed, Lapslie and his sergeant Emma Bradbury are called in. This is the beginning of a new series.

MCFADYEN, CODY DARKER SIDE (#3) (\$28) (Bantam) FBI special agent Smoky Barrett and her handpicked team head to Washington, D.C., to search for a killer who murdered his last victim on a commercial airplane, at thirty thousand feet. Sequel to The Shadow Man and The Face of Death (\$8.99 each).

MACNAY, MARK UNDER CONTROL (\$29.95) **MAITLAND, KAREN** COMPANY OF LIARS (\$28) (Delacorte) It's 1348 and the Black Plague is running rampant throughout England. Nine desperate strangers, brought together by chance, attempt to outrun it. Each member of this motley company has a story to tell. From Camelot, the relic-seller, who will become the group's leader, to Cygnus, the one-armed storyteller; from the strange silent child, to the painter and his pregnant wife. Each has a secret and none is what they seem. There might still be some UK firsts lying around at \$39.

MALLINSON, ALLAN hervey WARRIORS (#10) (\$36.95) (Bantam, UK) 1828 and Matthew Hervey of the 6th Light Dragoons

has been urgently recalled to South Africa. Hervey is told by his old friend, Sir Eyre Somerville, that the Zulu warrior king Shaka is about to make war on neighbouring tribes. He and Somerville journey to meet the Zulu king but the sudden death of King Shaka plunges the region into civil war, and Hervey and his men into terrible danger. **MANKELL, HENNING** PYRAMID AND OTHER KURT WALLANDER MYSTERIES (\$29.95) (New Press) This book of five short stories takes the reader back to Wallander's beginnings. It traces his growth from a rookie cop into a young father and then to a divorced middle-aged man. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

MARTINEZ, GUILLERMO BOOK OF MURDER (\$26.50) (Viking) It's been a decade since Luciana has had contact with the young writer, now she needs his help. Nearly all of her family has died in unusual circumstances and Luciana or her sister could be next. She's convinced that her one-time employer, the bestselling mystery writer Kloster, is behind the deaths, punishing her for the breakup of his marriage. The young writer begins to realize that there may be truth in Luciana's tale as fragments of her story mirror the plot of Kloster's new novel. By the author of The Oxford Murders (\$16).

MATHIS, GREG STREET JUDGE (\$28) (Strebtor) A drug dealer promises to reveal details of a terrible murder if he is given privileges and assurances from Detroit's Judge Mathis. Mathis refuses and sets the case back to square one. But Mathis isn't about to give up. He sets out onto the streets, using his savvy and connections to uncover the motives and means that led to the woman's death.

MAYOR, ARCHER CATCH (#18) (\$27.95) Joe Gunther.

MECHLING, LAUREN DREAM GIRL (\$19.99) (Delacorte) This is a Young Adult novel, written for young female readers, but I wanted to include it here so that all you uncles and aunties could buy it for a niece as a Christmas present. And, of course, get to read it first. On her fifteenth birthday, Claire Voyante receives a strange cameo, made of onyx and ivory on a gold chain, from her grandmother. Kiki, former socialite, fashion icon, and now permanent fixture at New York's Waldorf Astoria Hotel usually just gives her cocktail dresses but this time she tells Claire to never remove the cameo. It's not long before Claire's dreams begin to take on more clarity and she is able to help her friend's family avoid disaster. Lovely, says Marian.

MEYERS, MAAN THE ORGAN GRINDER (\$39.95) (Gale) Marian met Annette and Martin Meyers at Bouchercon in Baltimore recently and bought four copies of The Organ Grinder from them, so very limited quantities, but **signed** by both Annette and Marty. Set in 1899, New York City Police detective John "Dutch" Tonneman and his cousin Detective Bo Clancy are investigating a series of brutal stiletto murders, beginning with that of Delia Swann, a young prostitute in Madame Sophie's establishment. Sophie asks about Delia's missing heart-shaped locket and steers Dutch and Bo to photographer Esther Breslau, the woman Dutch wants to marry. Esther was probably the last person to see Delia alive and had taken two photos of her, one of which shows her wearing the locket. After the cop who found Delia's body is murdered, it quickly becomes apparent that the murderer is looking for the locket and Esther's life is in danger.

MONTANARI, RICHARD BADLANDS (\$30) (Ballantine) Philadelphia police detectives Kevin Byrne and Jessica Balzano are working the Special Investigations Unit investigating cold cases. The case involving the murder of a teenage runaway starts to heat up after a confession on the police tip line. It sends the two detectives off to make an arrest but, instead of finding a killer, they find a jar containing human remains and a cryptic clue. Other novels by this writer that are still in print are Merciless (\$9.99), The Skin Gods (\$10.99), and The Rosary Girls (\$10.99).

MORGAN, RICHARD STEEL REMAINS (\$37.95) (Orion) By the author of Altered Carbon (\$9.99), Woken Furies (\$10.99) and

many others. More science fiction than mystery, but excellent. For those who like that kind of stuff! Wendy is a big fan.

MULLER, MARCIA BURN OUT (\$27.99) (Grand Central) Traumatized by a recent life-or-death investigation Sharon McCone heads to her ranch in California's high desert country, for a break. Trying to keep her head in the sand, but unable to, she is drawn into an investigation that takes her to Nevada and a remote and isolated ranch. She becomes part of an investigation involving murder, betrayal and hidden identities.

NEVILLE, KATHERINE FIRE (\$30) (Ballantine) Twenty years later we finally have a sequel to The Eight (\$16.95 trade paperback, \$9.99 mass market paperback). Cat Velis and Alexander Solarin thought they had scattered the pieces of the Montglane Service around the world, burying with the chess pieces the secrets of the power that comes with possessing them. Summoned home to Colorado, Alexandra Solarin arrives to find her mother, Cat, is missing and that a series of strategically placed clues, followed swiftly by the unexpected arrival of a mysterious assortment of houseguests, indicates something sinister is afoot. The Eight is a classic, and one of Marian's all time favourites, and she confesses to a certain amount of trepidation in starting Fire—could it possibly be as good?—but, alas the newsletter reared its ugly head and she had to set it aside. There is a good chance that we will have signed copies around the end of November, so call and reserve a copy now. See *Marian's Picks*.

OPPEL, KENNETH airborn STARCLIMBER (#3) (\$21.99) (Harper Collins) Great for young adults. A chance of a lifetime boosts Matt Cruse's hopes of being airborne once again. Canada wants to reach space first and the Canadian Minister of Air has asked Kate de Vries, a friend of Matt, to join the expedition as an expert on aerial zoology. There is a place for Matt, too, if he can pass the grueling tests to become one of the world's first astralnauts on board the incredible ship Starclimber. Matt is determined to be part of the adventure, but can he outlast the competition? Sequel to Airborn and Sky-breaker (\$9.99 each).

PAOLINI, CHRISTOPHER BRISINGR (#3) (CAN) (\$32) (Knopf, Canada) Can Eragon, a once simple farm boy, unite the rebel forces and defeat the King? With his dragon Saphira at his side anything is possible. Sequel to Eragon (\$13.95) and Eldest (\$16) and, look at that, the author had kindly included a synopsis of the first two books at the beginning of Brisingr. More authors should do the same.

PARKER, BARBARA DARK OF DAY (\$27.95) (Vanguard) Miami defense attorney C.J. Dunn is an expert in spinning her client's image, and is the perfect lawyer to deflect suspicion from Rick Slater, formerly Army Special Forces, now a driver for an influential U.S. congressman. A young model has vanished from a glitzy party on South Beach and the cops want to question Slater.

PARKER, ROBERT B ROUGH WEATHER (#36) (\$28.50) (Putnam) Heidi Bradshaw is wealthy, beautiful, and well connected and she hires Spenser to accompany her to Tashtego Island where her daughter is getting married. Spenser is to play bodyguard but all that goes out the window when Rugar, the Gray Man, kills some wedding guests and abducts the bride. Spenser and Hawk discover a decades-old connection that may explain the abduction.

PATTISON, ELIOT BONE RATTLER (#1) (\$33.95) (Counterpoint) Aboard a British convict ship bound for the New World, exiled clan chief Duncan McCallum witnesses a bizarre series of murders and suicides among his fellow Highland Scot prisoners. He determines that the violence on board is somehow linked to the Natives of the American wilderness. While still a prisoner, he realizes that more Scots will die if he cannot find answers, and embarks on a trail in the New York colony that thrusts him into the bloody maw of the French and Indian War.

PENNY, LOUISE MURDER STONE (#4) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) This is what Marian said in the September

newsletter: I have loved **LOUISE PENNY**'s first three Insp. Gamache novels (Still Life, Dead Cold and Cruellest Month) (\$10.99 each) so much that my expectations for the fourth were sky high. Could she do it again? I was much a-feared (if that's not a word, it should be). I should have had more faith! The Murder Stone is excellent. You have to read it! The novel is set in a beautiful former hunting lodge, built over a century ago on Lac Massawippi, not far from Montreal. Again, I won't give anything away but I loved how she brought Three Pines into the story and I also loved the little details she throws in, like references to singing the alphabet (which I do when I shelve books), which make you savour every word and action. Armand Gamache, and his wife, Reine-Marie, are at their all time best. Just how she manages to make every word of every book so perfect, I just don't know. **SIGNED** copies for the moment.

PEPPER, ANDREW KILL-DEVIL AND WATER (#3) (\$37.95) (Weidenfeld & Nicolson) London, 1840. Pyke has landed in debtors' prison but Fitzroy Tilling, now head of the new Metropolitan Police Force, throws him a lifeline. As the rest of the force has focused its resources on the suspicious death of an influential aristocrat, Pyke is to investigate the murder of a mulatto woman, recently arrived from Jamaica, and apparently working as a prostitute. His investigation takes him from the London docks to the sugar plantations of Jamaica. Sequel to The Last Days of Newgate and The Revenge of Captain Paine (\$14.95 each).

POPE, BARBARA CEZANNE'S QUARRY (\$25) (Pegasus) A mysterious young woman named Solange Vernet arrives in Aix-en-Provence with her lover, a Darwinian scholar named Charles Westbury, and a year later is found strangled in a quarry outside the city. Was it a lover's quarrel? A jealous Cezanne? A betrayed Westbury? **PRONZINI, BILL** OTHER SIDE OF SILENCE (\$26.50) (Walker) Needing to forget his divorce, Rick Fallon drives to Death Valley to spend time completely alone. On his fourth day in the Valley, he comes upon a deserted car and soon thereafter, discovers the almost-dead body of Casey Dunbar. Having rescued her, Fallon soon learns what has driven her to give up on life and he resolves to unravel the twisted and dangerous strands of her life.

RANKIN, IAN DOORS OPEN (\$37.95) We annotated this in the September newsletter but at that time the hardcover had not arrived.

REESE, JAMES DRACULA DOSSIER (\$26.95) (Morrow) **Michael Connelly** calls this "...a damn good thriller". Bram Stoker manages to become the prime suspect in the murder of a prostitute in Whitechapel. To clear his name he calls on some of his illustrious friends, including Walt Whitman, Lady Jane Wilde (mother of Oscar Wilde), and the million-copy-selling Victorian novelist Sir Thomas Henry Hall Caine. When they discover that the murder weapon is a Gurkha knife owned by Stoker, recently stolen from his home, there can be no doubt that the elusive American doctor, Francis Tumblety, is the very man who is terrorizing London as Jack the Ripper.

ROBINSON, PETER ALL THE COLOURS OF DARKNESS (#18) (\$29.99) (McClelland & Stewart) Why would a successful and well-liked man take his own life? That's the question DI Annie Cabbot asks herself when the body of Mark Hardcastle, set and costume designer of the Eastvale Theatre's current production of Othello, is found hanging from a tree. DCI Alan Banks is called back from a weekend in London with his new girlfriend to help investigate. Someone wants the investigation closed but by refusing to accept the obvious about Hardcastle's death, Banks and Cabbot awaken a monster that isn't going to stop at intimidation. **SIGNED** copies for the now.

RUSSELL, CRAIG CARNIVAL MASTER (#4) (\$39) (Hutchinson) Only a couple of copies of the UK edition left. Chief Commissar Jan Fabel is preparing for a new career outside the police when a Cologne detective asks for his help in tracking down the Carnival Cannibal, a terrifying serial killer who has struck each year for

three years at the start of Cologne's world-famous Carnival. The earlier three are Blood Eagle, Brother Grimm and Eternal (\$10.99 each). **SANDFORD, JOHN** HEAT LIGHTNING (#2) (\$29.50) (Putnam) Virgil Flowers, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, is called by Lucas Davenport with the news that a body has been found in Stillwater. With two shots to the head and a lemon in his mouth, it's exactly like the body found a week earlier. As Flowers works on the murders, he's convinced that someone is keeping a list. But he can't figure out the connection between the victims. Sequel to Dark of the Moon (\$10.99).

SEFTON, MAGGIE FLEECE NAVIDAD (#6) (\$26.50) It's nearly Christmas at the House of Lambspin in Fort Connor, Colorado, and the knitters are all working on their Christmas projects. When Juliet, the town librarian, is found murdered, the newest member of their group is the principal suspect. Knitters to the rescue! The other five in the series are Knit One, Kill Two (\$9.99), Needled to Death (\$9.99), A Deadly Yarn (\$9.99), A Killer Stitch (\$7.50) and Dyer Consequences (\$24.00 still in hardcover).

SEYMOUR, GERALD TIMEBOMB (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Bantam, UK) Fired from a top-secret Soviet nuclear base in the chaotic last days of the communist regime, a KGB security man steals a suitcase bomb, smuggles it out and buries it in his backyard. Sixteen year later, he's going to put it on the market. It's as lethal as on the day it was manufactured, capable of wiping out a major city. The Russian will sell to the highest bidder: a Mafia gangster who has no conscience for the consequences. The chance of the transfer being intercepted will depend on the skill and luck of a small MI6 team, who have only the sketchiest idea of what's going on, and on the nerve of an undercover police officer who has infiltrated the criminal gang.

SHARP, ZOE fox THIRD STRIKE (#7) (\$27.95) (Thomas Dunne) The last person Charlie Fox ever expected to self-destruct was her own father, an eminent surgeon. But when Charlie sees him on a New York news show admitting to gross professional misconduct, she can't just stand by and watch his downfall. Trouble is, he doesn't want her help.

SHORTZ, WILL WILL SHORTZ PRESENTS THE LITTLE LUXE BOOK OF SUDOKU (\$16.95) This is a beautiful, small, spiral-bound hardcover book that any lover of Sudoku puzzles would want. It will make a great Christmas present.

SHUMAN, GEORGE moore LOST GIRLS (#3) (\$28.99) (Simon & Schuster) While rumours of slave girls being trafficked around the Caribbean have circulated for years, little credible evidence has been uncovered about these "lost girls". When Detective Inspector Rolly King George recovers the body of a young blond women, he knows that she may hold the key to toppling this criminal underworld. The beautiful, blind psychic, Sherry Moore, known for being able to see the last eighteen seconds of a deceased person's memory, arrives in Kingston, Jamaica, to help with the case. Sequel to 18 Seconds (\$9.99) and Last Breath (\$8.99).

SMITH, ALEXANDER COMFORTS OF A MUDDY SATURDAY (#5) (\$29.95) The fifth in the Isabel Dalhousie series.

SPENCER, SALLY woodend DYING FALL (\$34.99) (Severn House) A charred body is discovered in an abandoned cotton mill, and the crime scene presents DCI Woodend with many questions but few answers. Who would want to murder a harmless old tramp? Why cruelly burn the victim to death?

SPILLANE, MICKEY GOLIATH BONE (\$27.95) (Harcourt) In the midst of a Manhattan snowstorm, Mike Hammer halts the violent robbery of a pair of college sweethearts who have stumbled onto a remarkable archaeological find in the Valley of Elah: the perfectly preserved femur of what may have been the biblical giant Goliath.

STALLWOOD, VERONICA OXFORD MENACE (#13) (\$34.95) (Headline) Under pressure from her editor to finish her latest

novel, Kate Ivory still agrees to keep an eye on Kerri, her friend Sam Dolby's girlfriend. Kerri works in a research lab targeted by animal rights activists. Once again, Kate finds herself entangled in a mystery where all is not what it seems.

STOCKWIN, JULIAN TREACHERY (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Hodder & Stoughton) After offending an Admiral and suffering terrible personal tragedy, Kydd is sent to guard the Channel Islands. When he is brutally betrayed off the Normandy Coast and dismissed from his ship, only his friend, Renzi, is willing to stick by him. Kydd is given the chance to return to the sea as a captain of a privateer. A lone wolf of the seas, Kydd and his men keep fighting their country's battle and hope to capture the wealthy French traders and heavily armed fighting ships returning to Bonaparte.

STOKER, BRAM THE NEW ANNOTATED DRACULA (\$44) (Norton) Edited with a forward and notes by **Leslie S. Klinger**, the author of the best-selling The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes (3 volumes, \$47.50 each). Definitive and visually spectacular edition of the 1897 text of **Stoker's** Dracula.

SWAIN, JAMES carpenter NIGHT STALKER (\$28) (Ballantine) Years ago, Abe Grimes killed eighteen women, some of whose bodies were never found. As head of the Broward County Missing Persons Unit, Jack Carpenter was intimately involved in the Grimes case.

Now, days away from execution, the notorious serial killer reaches out to ex-cop Carpenter with a surprising request. Grimes' young grandson has gone missing and he wants Carpenter to help find him.

TAPPLY, WILLIAM G brady HELL BENT (#25) (\$27.95) (St. Martin's) Boston attorney Brady Coyne is hired by his ex-girlfriend, Alex Shaw, to represent her brother in his divorce. Augustine Shaw, a noted photojournalist, returned from a stint in Iraq, missing a hand and suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. Now he's lost his career, his peace of mind and his family. When he is found dead, an apparent suicide, Coyne suspects the suicide was staged.

THURLO, AIME COYOTE'S WIFE (\$27.95) (Forge) Ervin Benally, son-in-law of a powerful Navajo businesswoman and politician, is determined to bring cell phone service to the Navajo Nation, despite many traditionalists who oppose the building of towers on the Reservation. When Benally is attacked and another man killed, his mother-in-law pulls strings to have Navajo Police Special Investigator Ella Clah assigned to the case.

TOPE, REBECCA thea BLOOD IN THE COTSWOLDS (\$37.50) The fifth, I think, in the Thea Osborne series. The others in the series, Cotswold Killing, Cotswold Ordeal, Death in the Cotswold and Cotswold Mystery (\$10.99 ea.) are all available and well worth the effort.

[VARIOUS]MEDIEVAL MURDERERS LOST PROPHECIES (\$29.99 hardcover, \$19.99 trade paperback) (Simon & Schuster, UK) A mysterious book of prophecies written by a sixth century monk has puzzled scholars through the ages. An historical mystery written by **C.J. Sansom, Michael Jecks, Bernard Knight, Susanna Gregory, Ian Morson** and **Philip Gooden**. The other three books written in this fashion are The Tainted Relic (\$10.99), Sword of Shame (\$11.99) and House of Shadows (\$10.99).

VAUGHAN-HUGHES, PIP PAINTED IN BLOOD (#3) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) It's 1242 and the King of France, Saint Louis, has decided he wants the Cathar Crucifix, an ancient shroud that bears the ghostly image of Christ crucified. Petroc of Auneford and the mysterious Captain de Montalzac, strive to save the shroud. The first two are Relics and Vault of Bones (\$14.95 each).

WALTON, JO HALF A CROWN (\$28.95) (Tor) It is 1960, a global peace conference is convening in London, where Britain, Germany and Japan will oversee the final partition of the world. Hitler is once again on British soil. So is the long-exiled Duke of Windsor. Amid all this, two of the most unlikely persons in the realm will join forces to oppose the fascists: a debutante whose greatest worry until now has been where to find the right string of pearls and the Watch

Commander himself. The first two in this unusual series are Farthing (\$8.99) and Ha' Penny (\$9.99).

WESTERSON, JERI VEIL OF LIES (\$27.95) (St. Martin's) A new series billed as medieval noir. Marian read it and quite enjoyed it although she was worried about the 'noir' label. "It's not particularly dark, or violent, or hopeless, or dreary—what I think of as noir—so do not be put off by that terminology" she said. Set in 14th-century England we are introduced to Crispin Guest, who was once a knight. Convicted of treason, stripped of his rank and his honour for plotting against King Richard II, he now scrapes out a living by using his wits.

Called to the compound of a wealthy but reclusive cloth merchant, Crispin is hired to determine whether the merchant's wife is having an affair. After following the wife and determining that something funny is going on, he returns to inform his client only to find him dead, clearly murdered, in a sealed room, locked from the inside.

WIMBERLEY, DARRYL KALEIDOSCOPE (\$24.95) (Toby) Jack Romaine's addiction to speakeasies and cards has landed him in a tight spot with some very dangerous men. Owing lots of money to a gangster, which he can't pay, he's offered a way to work it off. He has to recover some stolen funds. The search for the funds lands him in Kaleidoscope, near Tampa, the wintering grounds for circus performers. There among the strange and exotic creatures that are circus performers he learns some valuable lessons. Really very good.

WOODS, STUART barrington HOT MAHOGANY (#14) (\$28.50) (Putnam) Stone Barrington finds himself in New England and the genteel but cut-throat world of priceless antiques, historic homes and lavish country estates.

WROBLEWSKI, DAVID STORY OF EDGAR SAWTELLE (\$32.95)

Hardbacks Addendum

Some fairly recent hardback arrivals that I'm just going to list here, with very brief descriptions. At the last minute one of the advertisers did not deliver an ad, so I have a page to fill. Oh woe is me. If I had been feeling really energetic, I would have amalgamated the two hardback sections, but, Marian's at the cottage and I'm working this Sunday, and I've kinda had it with this issue of the newsletter...

ARMSTRONG, KELLEY LIVING WITH THE DEAD (#9) (\$32.00) Paige Winterbourn.

BALDACCI, DAVID DIVINE JUSTICE (#4) (\$29.99) Sequel to Camel Club (\$9.50), Collectors (\$11.99) Stone Cold (\$11.99).

BALLARD, MIGNON F HARK! THE HERALD ANGEL SCREAMED (#6) (\$27.95) Augusta Goodnight's aid is needed when a murderer is casting a not-so-jolly pall on the holiday season in the little town of Stone's Throw, South Carolina.

BARONE, JOE BODY IN THE RECORD ROOM (\$27.95) A mental patient who calls himself Roy Rogers finds a body in the hospital record room, and his investigations leads him to a 20-year old murder. Missouri, 1954. But not until the movie's over.

BENN, JAMES R billy boyle BLOOD ALONE (#3) (\$26.50) Sequel to Billy Boyle and First Wave (\$14.50 ea.). World War II.

BROWN, RITA MAE sneakypie SANTA CLAWED (#17) (\$28) Can Mrs. Murphy, Pewter and Tee Tucker save the season from a killjoy who's decided to gilt the festive little town...with murder?

BUCHANAN, ANDREA POCKET DARING BOOK FOR GIRLS WISDOM AND WONDER and THINGS TO DO (\$16.25 ea.) Two very attractive, pocket-sized hardcover books for girls full of things to do and wisdom and wonder. Just the perfect stocking stuffers.

CARLSON, STEVE FINAL EXPOSURE (#1) (\$28.95) A stranger calmly shoots Rebecca dead. Why? She didn't have an enemy in the world. Is this related to the book of photography, Northern California

Mansions of the 30s, that she was working on? A debut novel..

DEMILLE, NELSON GATE HOUSE (\$30.99) A sequel to Gold Coast (\$9.50) but does stand alone.

DOSS, JAMES D SNAKE DREAMS (#13) (\$27.95) The 13th Charlie Moon mystery. The seven-foot rancher and part-time tribal investigator is wanting to get hitched to FBI Special Agent McTeague. But his aunt and niece have something to say about it.

ELLORY, ROGER JON SIMPLE ACT OF VIOLENCE (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) There have been four victims. As Det. Robert Miller investigates he discovers that the victims do not officially exist; there are no records of them. Washington, D.C.

EWAN, CHRIS GOOD THIEF'S GUIDE TO PARIS (\$26.95) Charlie Howard, mystery writer and professional thief, in his second Guide. Sequel to Good Thief's Guide to Amsterdam (\$26.95).

HARRIS, C S WHERE SERPENTS SLEEP (#4) (\$26.50) Sebastian St. Cyr is asked by Hero Jarvis, reform-minded daughter of the Prince Regent's cousin, to investigate the brutal slaughter of eight young prostitutes. She was the only survivor and witness.

HART, ELLEN lawless SWEET POISON (#16) (\$27.95) Jane Lawless has both her Minneapolis restaurant and her father's campaign for governor to manage. His opponent is fighting hard and the campaign is turning dangerous.

JECKS, MICHAEL PROPHECY OF DEATH (#26) (\$37.95) Sir Baldwin de Furnhill and Simon Puttock return from France with an urgent instruction for the King. It is to be their last mission—they can finally return home to their wives and leave the politics and warfare to others. And if you buy that...

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN BONES (#23) (\$32) When bodies start surfacing in L.A.'s Bird Marsh preserve, Milo Sturgis realizes that there's a killer on the loose and that he needs Alex Delaware.

MICHAELS, JILLIAN WINNING BY LOSING (\$26.95) Health and fitness. A special order.

[DOYLE]PEACOCK, SHANE DEATH IN THE AIR: THE BOY SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$21.99) Sequel to Eye of the Crow (\$21.99). Still reeling from his mother's death brought about by his involvement in solving London's brutal East End murders, young Holmes watches a high-trapeze artist fall to his death. Young Holmes hears his final words, and spots a clue, and the games afoot.

PERRY, ANNE CHRISTMAS GRACE (\$21) The sixth Christmas novella, featuring Thomas Pitt's sister-in-law, Emily Radly.

PURSER, ANN WARNING AT ONE (#8) (\$26.50) She's worked through all the days of the week, is she now planning to work her way through the numbers? Lots of cases left for Lois Meade to solve...

ROBB, J D SALVATION IN DEATH (#27) (\$28.50) In the year 2060, cutting-edge investigative tools can help catch a killer. Det. Lieut. Eve Dallas investigates.

ROWE, ROSEMARY DEATH AT POMPEIA'S WEDDING (#10) (\$37.95) The bride-to-be is distraught that she caused her father's death—she did, after all, give him the poisoned wine—but Libertus is convinced that that is not the case. He investigates on behalf of the groom, who needs the substantial dowry.

ROWLAND, LAURA JOH FIRE KIMONO (#13) (\$27.95) Near a Shinto shrine in the hills, a windstorm knocks down a tree to uncover a long buried human skeleton. Nearby, Sano Ichiro's wife is attacked. Could the two events be possibly related?

TRUMAN, MARGARET MURDER INSIDE THE BELTWAY (\$28) Rosalie Curzon, a DC call girl, is found bludgeoned to death. Was she filming and blackmailing her clients?

[VARIOUS]HAUTMAN, PETE FULL HOUSE (\$21.50) Ten stories about poker. **Bill Fitzhugh, Mary Logue, Gary Phillips...**

WESTBROOK, KATE FINAL FLING (#3) (\$34.95) Jane Money-penny combines forces with 007 to smoke out the mole buried deep in heart of the Office. But Bond is sacked, M forced into retirement, so she's on her own.

Paperbacks

ACEVEDO, MARIO UNDEAD KAMA SUTRA (\$8.99) From the author of Nymphos of Rokey Flats (\$16.50) and X Rated Blood-suckers (\$10.99). If you like your fiction paranormal and erotic...

ADIGA, ARAVIND WHITE TIGER (\$16) Born in the dark heart of India, Balram Halwai gets a break when he is hired as a driver for the village's wealthiest man. From behind the wheel of his Honda City car, Balram's new world is a revelation. While his peers flip through the pages of Murder Weekly, barter for girls, drink liquor and perpetuate the Great Rooster Coop of Indian society, Balram watches his employer bribe foreign ministers, barter for girls, drink single-malt whiskey, and play their own role in the Rooster Coop.

ALBERT, SUSAN W beatrix TALE OF HAWTHORNE HOUSE (#4) (\$7.50) A baby, Flora, is left on Beatrix Potter's doorstep with a note, a sprig of Hawthorn and a scarab ring. All Beatrix knows about Flora's previous guardian is that she was a gray-haired woman, capable of scaling a brick wall in seconds. Beatrix and her animal friends have a mystery on their hands. The others in this delightful series are The Tale of Hill Top Farm, The Tale of Holy How and The Tale of Cuckoo Brow Wood (\$9.99 each).

ALLAIN & SOUVESTRE FANTOMAS CORPSE WHO KILLS (\$21)
ALLAN, BARBARA ANTIQUES MAUL (#2) (\$8.49) More tips on antiques and another murder for Brandy Borne to solve. Sequel to Antiques Roadkill (\$9.99).

ALLINGHAM, MARGERY CARGO OF EAGLES and MIND READER (\$21.95 ea.)

ALT, MADELYN NO REST FOR THE WICCAN (#4) (\$8.99) Maggie O'Neill's fourth adventure, sequel to Trouble With Magic, Charmed Death and Hex Marks the Spot (\$9.99 ea.) A series that Marian has enjoyed a great deal.

ANDERSON, LIN EASY KILL (#5) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. This is a terrific series. If you're wanting more Scottish crime fiction, try the first one Driftnet (\$10.99).

ARMSTRONG, KELLEY PERSONAL DEMON (\$10.99) Tabloid reporter Hope Adams appears to live the life of an ordinary working girl but in reality she has inherited a gift for seeing the past and a hunger for chaos. The head of the powerful Cortez Cabal, a family that makes the mob look like amateurs, has a problem in Miami: a gang of wealthy, bored offspring of supernaturals is getting out of hand, and Hope is needed to infiltrate. These Women of the Other-world series books are great thrillers. They just have a little extra twist added to them. Marian says she started with No Humans Involved (the latest paperback at \$8.99) and then went back to the beginning of the series, Bitten (\$10.99). Each book features a different female lead character, although there is a recurring cast of supporting characters. Great stuff.

ARMSTRONG, LORI G SNOW BLIND (\$8.95)

ATWELL, SARAH dowell PANE OF DEATH (#2) (\$7.50)

BACK TO SCHOOL MURDER and **TRICK OR TREAT MURDER (#3)** (\$8.49 each). Re-issues.

BAILEY, H C BLACK LAND WHITE LAND (\$18) (Rue Morgue) Per the Rue Morgue: "Black land, white land, always at strife". So goes the old saying in Durshire, where the people who once owned the black land were pushed off it ages ago to the white land, the barren chalk hills above the fertile alluvial plains. And history seems to be repeating itself as rich newcomers still continue to usurp the holdings of impoverished black-land owners. Reggie Fortune, who's summoned to Durshire by his eccentric friend General Duddon, is thrust into this age-old conflict when the general's discovery of ancient gi-

ant's bones turns out to include the rather recent bones of a boy who disappeared some ten years ago. Reggie stubbornly searches for the lad's murderer, undeterred by bitter family feuds and the uncooperative and incompetent Superintendent Bubb, who takes over when his chief constable meets with an unfortunate accident. A self-described country doctor with no imagination, Reggie solves his cases by sheer determination and highly developed powers of observation. First published in 1937, this is the second novel following Shadow on the Wall (\$18)

BALDACCI, DAVID camel club STONE COLD (#3) (\$11.99)
The earlier two in the Camel Club series are The Camel Club (\$9.50) and The Collectors (\$11.99).

BANKS, L A crimson moon BITE THE BULLET (#2) (\$8.99)
With rogue wolves savaging both the human and the paranormal worlds, werewolf Sasha Trudeau and her secret government-sanctioned task force, has only one job: destroy the rogues and isolate the deadly toxin that is poisoning their blood. The first in the series is Bad Blood (\$8.99).

BARBIERI, MAGGIE alison EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (#2) (\$8.99) Alison Bergeron, an English professor at a private college near Manhattan, is now off the hook for murder, (Murder 101 (\$8.99)) and concentrating on best friend Max's wedding. When Alison's ex turns up dead she's dragged into another murder investigation. A series that Marian has liked and this one was one of *Marian's Picks* a year or so ago.

BARCLAY, LINWOOD NO TIME FOR GOODBYE (\$9.99)
Fourteen-year old Cynthia Bigge woke up one morning to find herself alone. Her mom, dad and brother had disappeared without a word. Twenty-five years later she is still trying to find out answers. "A terrific read" says Marian. "I couldn't wait to get to the end to see if Cynthia found out what happened to her family".

BAXTER, CYNTHIA travel MURDER PACKS A SUITCASE (#1) (\$8.99)

BEARD, G S LIEUTENANT FURY (\$21.95) Sequel to Mr. Midshipman Fury (\$21.95).

BEATON, M C agatha KISSING CHRISTMAS GOODBYE (#18) (\$8.99) A wealthy widow hires Agatha Raisin because she is convinced a member of her family is trying to kill her. Agatha is intrigued, especially when the widow drops dead after a high tea at the manor house. Who, in this rather sterile house complete with fake family portraits, could have hated the old lady enough to kill her?

BENN, JAMES R FIRST WAVE (#2) (\$14.50) Billy Boyle, a young Irish-American cop from Boston, has become General Dwight Eisenhower's personal investigator. He goes ashore with the first wave of American troops to land on Beer Green invasion beach, sixteen miles from the Algerian capital. Once in Algiers, he encounters SOE Agent Diana Seaton, an English girl with whom he has fallen in love, among a group of French rebels captured by the French fascist militia. While solving a series of murders, he also must rescue Diana from renegade Vichy collaborators. The first in the series is Billy Boyle (\$14.50).

BENTLEY, JENNIE avery FATAL FIXER-UPPER (#1) (\$7.50)

BERENSON, LAURIEN travis HOUNDED TO DEATH (#14) (\$8.49) Aunt Peg suggests that Melanie Travis and her sister-in-law Bertie attend a five-day symposium for dog show judges in Pennsylvania's idyllic Pocono Mountains. When renowned judge Charles Evans delivers a keynote address that irritates many of the attendees, and is later found murdered, Melanie decides to investigate.

BILLINGHAM, MARK IN THE DARK (\$24.95) (McArthur) On a rainy night in London, shots are fired into a car which swerves on to the pavement and ploughs into a bus stop. It seems that an act of casual gang violence has cost an innocent victim their life. But the reality is even more chilling. This is a standalone thriller as only **Mark Billingham** can write. **Autographed copies available.**

BINCHY, MAEVE HEART AND SOUL (\$24.95) A special order.
BOEHRINGER, HEIDI W CROSSING THE DARK (\$18)
BRADLEY, MARION ZIMMER INHERITOR (\$17.95) Special order.
BRADSHAW, KATHLYN FRANKENSTEIN MURDERS (\$21)
BRADSHAW, MEL VICTIM IMPACT (\$16.95) Homicide becomes more than an academic study for criminologist Ted Boudreau when his own suburban home is burglarized, his wife killed. Was his computer targeted because of his interest in a secretive biker gang?

Ted's attempts to deal with the aftermath brings him into conflict with family, police detectives, and the Crown prosecutor assigned to the case...as well as with university colleagues, whose penal philosophy Ted can't square with the real world of crime. What further complicates his pursuit of justice is the necessity of protecting the young source of his dossier on the ruthless Dark Arrows Motorcycle Club.

BRADY, JOHN GOING RATE (\$24.95) (McArthur) Violent crime in Dublin, Ireland, is out of control. Should the fabled Murder Squad really have been disbanded three years ago? Matt Minogue is suddenly in demand, both for his background in that Murder Squad and for his current work in the Garda International Liaison office. Barely a week in Ireland 20 year-old Tadeusz Klos lies in a coma he will not survive. Minogue goes head to head with drug lords and their killers.
BREWER, GIL DEVIL FOR OSHAUGNESSY & THREE WAY SPLIT (\$20) A collection of stories written by **Gil Brewer** who died in 1983.

BRIGHTWELL, EMILY MRS. JEFFRIES AND THE FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN (\$7.50) At a Yuletide dinner in West Brompton the wealthy host, Stephen Whitfield, dies before the second course. Scotland Yard wants Insp. Witherspoon to solve the case before Christmas. Enter his housekeeper, Mrs. Jeffries, and her team of sleuths.

BRONTE, EMILY WUTHERING HEIGHTS (\$6.95) A special order.
BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER SNOWBALL IN HELL (\$24)

BROWN, RITA MAE foxhuntin TELL TALE HORSE (#6) (\$16.50) A woman is found murdered and her naked body is placed atop a horse statue outside a tack shop. The theft of a treasured fox-hunting prize from inside the store may be linked to the grisly scene. Everyone in town is on edge. Jane Arnold, master of the Jefferson Hunt Club, uses her fine-tuned horse sense to solve the crime. It's too bad that humans can't understand the local foxes, horses and hounds because they too have a few theories.

BRUEN, KEN FIFTH OF BRUEN (\$21.50) Early fiction of **Ken Bruen** including four short novels and some short stories.

BRUNONIA BARRY LACE READER (\$19.95) A special order.

BUCKLEY, FIONA TO RUIN A QUEEN (#4) (\$20) Most of this series is now available in trade paperback. Set in Elizabethan England

BUNKER, EDWARD NO BEAST SO FIERCE (\$24)

BURKE, ALAFAIR hatcher DEAD CONNECTION (#1) (\$9.99) Someone is using the lure of the internet and the promise of love to launch a killing spree against the women of New York City. Detective Ellie Hatcher is called up for a special assignment on the homicide task force and she must enter a high-tech world of stolen identities where no one is safe. Marian said: "I moved this one to the top of my "to be read" pile because **Alafair** was coming to Sleuth to do a book launch. And, I really liked it. Ellie reminds me of **Carol O'Connell's** Mallory. Ellie is not quite as hard as Mallory but there is a similar independent nature to the two women".

BUSH, NANCY jane kelly ULTRAVIOLET (#3) (\$8.49) Process server-turned-private eye, Jane Kelly has to prove that very wacky ex-wife #2, Violet, did not kill her former husband, plastic surgery magnate Roland Hachmere. Sequel to the equally witty Candy Apple Red and Electric Blue (\$9.99 each).

CANNELL, STEPHEN J THREE SHIRT DEAL (\$9.99) A small-time crook doing life in California's notoriously brutal Corcoran State Prison for the murder of his mother now claims his confession was

coerced by the police. Detective Shane Scully agrees to help with the investigation when he finds out that the original homicide detective was Brian Devine, a ruthless cop with whom Scully has a bad history. What begins as a routine review quickly turns into something more deadly.

CARPENTER, J D TWELVE TREES (\$21.99)

CARTER, SAMMI abby shaw GOODY GOODY GUNSHOTS (#4) (\$7.50)

CARVER, C J GONE WITHOUT TRACE (\$10.99) Ex-army captain Jay McCaulay now works for TRACE, an international aid agency that helps track and unite families separated by conflict. Her old job with Royal Signals seems far away. Until she spots someone from her past. It is a past that involves Zamira, a beautiful young girl whose life Jay saved in Kosovo, and Milot Dumani, an organized crime boss from Albania, who was seen on the streets of Bristol. Jay's specialist knowledge means she is a perfect candidate for an MI6 mission to trail Dumani, but Detective Inspector Tom Sutton isn't happy. He has just asked Jay to marry him and he doesn't like the fact that she's teaming up with Max Blake from SOCA. Max has a dangerous reputation and Tom doesn't trust him.

CHABON, MICHAEL GENTLEMEN OF THE ROAD (\$17.95)

In the Kingdom of Arran, in the Caucasus Mountains, A.D. 950, two wandering adventurers and unlikely soulmates ply their trades as swords for hire, horse thieves and flim-flam artists, until their fortune entangles them in the myriad schemes and battles following a bloody coup in the medieval Jewish empire of the Khazars. Hired escorts for a fugitive prince, they quickly find themselves half-willing generals in a mad rebellion, struggling to restore the prince's family to the throne.

CHANG, HENRY CHINATOWN BEAT (\$14.50) Detective Jack Yu grew up in New York's Chinatown, where, now, 99% of the cops are white and where he has just been transferred. He is confronted by a serial rapist, the murder of Uncle Four, a respected elderly leader of a benevolent society, who is also a member of the Red Circle Triad, and Uncle Four's missing mistress. To solve these crimes, in addition to using modern police technology, Jack turns to an elderly fortune teller and to an old friend who is now a crook.

CHARNEY, NOAH ART THIEF (\$16) Rome: In the small Baroque church of Santa Giuliana, a magnificent Caravaggio altarpiece disappears without a trace in the middle of the night. Paris: In the basement vault of the Malevich Society, the curator is shocked to discover the disappearance of the Society's greatest treasure, White-on-White by Suprematist painter Kasimir Malevich. London: At the National Gallery of Modern Art, the museum's latest acquisition is stolen just hours after it was purchased for more than six million pounds. How are these thefts related?

CHEKHOV, ANTON NIGHT IN THE CEMETARY ss (\$27.50) A collection of short stories.

CHILDS, LAURA scrapbook FRILL KILL (#5) (\$7.50)

CHURCH, JAMES insp o HIDDEN MOON (#2) (\$15.50) Inspector O returns from a mission abroad to find his new police commander waiting at his office door. There has been a bank robbery, the first ever in Pyongyang, and the commander wants quick action. Somewhere, someone in the North Korean leadership does not want Inspector O to complete his investigation. Sequel to A Corpse in the Koryo (\$16.25). An excellent series.

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS MOONLIGHT BECOMES YOU (lp) and YOU BELONG TO ME (lp) (\$40 ea.) These are the large print (lp) editions, in trade paperback, and, as you can see, expensive. But available.

CLASON, CLYDE B POISON JASMINE (\$18) (Rue Morgue) Per the Rue Morgue: Theocritus Lucius Westborough, the mild-mannered little historian who has made a name for himself solving impossible crimes, is summoned to the estate of Etienne LeDoux, founder of a

world-famous perfumery conceived in the grand style of those in his native France and located in the beautiful Valle de Flores, in California. It appears that somebody has tried to poison LeDoux in his own office and he engages Westborough to unmask the would-be killer. But when the murderer does strike, it's his advertising agent Paul Charmaron, who is poisoned in plain view of several other guests, including Westborough, at his employer's dinner table. It's not until another murder takes place that Westborough is able to penetrate a tangle of old secrets and discover who the real killer is. First published in 1940.

CLEEVES, ANN SLEEPING AND THE DEAD (\$19.95) A Det. Peter Porteous mystery. First published about eight years ago, now reprinted in a trade paperback edition.

CLEMENS, JUDY crown DAY WILL COME (#5) (\$20) If Stella Crown loves anything else as much as her farm, her Harley and her friends it's rock and roll. She jumps at the chance to hear a legend in concert but gets more than she bargained for. A bomb threat empties out the club and when the panic subsides, a member of the band is missing. The body of the singer, Genna, is found later that night. Stella's friend Jordan Granger, sound man for the band, is the main suspect. Sequel to Till the Cows Come Home, Three Can Keep a Secret (\$19.95 each) and To Thine Own Self Be True (\$18).

CLEMENT, BLAIZE hemingway EVEN CAT SITTERS GET THE BLUES (#3) (\$8.99) Pet-sitter Dixie Hemingway discovers the dead body of the gatekeeper of the mansion where she is looking after an iguana. Fed up with homicide investigations, she decides to leave the body to be found by someone else. But someone sees her leaving the scene of the crime, and the bullet that killed him could have come from her gun. A series that Marian has liked a lot. In fact, the first two, Curiosity Killed the Cat Sitter and Duplicity Dogged the Dachshund (\$8.99 each), were *Marian's Picks*.

CLEVERLY, BARBARA BRIGHT HAIR ABOUT THE BONE (\$15) Letty Talbot's joy at snaring a place on the excavation of an ancient church in Burgundy in 1926, is dimmed by the tragedy of her godfather Daniel's violent death. But when Letty receives a posthumous encoded message, she begins to believe Daniel's death was not a random act. Her journey sends her into the orbit of a privileged French family and ancient Celtic mysteries. The first in this series is The Tomb of Zeus (\$17).

COEL, MARGARET GIRL WITH BRAIDED HAIR (#13) (\$8.99) By 1973, the American Indian Movement, AIM, a militant organization, had spread its influence across several reservations. After a standoff against federal authorities on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, AIM's members went into hiding on other reservations. Liz Plenty Horses was there during the Pine Ridge incident. Afterwards, she returned to the Wild River Reservation to help AIM members wanted by the FBI blend in with her people. But when one of them was shot to death by the police, Liz was accused of being an informant, and fled with her baby daughter never to be seen again. Now, the remains of a skeleton with a gunshot wound in the back of the skull have been discovered at the bottom of a remote ravine on the Wild River Reservation. The body is that of an Indian woman who was murdered sometime in 1973. While the police encounter a wall of silence, Vicky Holden and Father John O'Malley unravel the truth.

COHEN, NANCY J KILLER KNOTS (#9) (\$8.49) The ninth Bad Hair Day mystery. Might be tempted to shave it all off, no?

COLES, MANNING THEY TELL NO TALES (\$18) (Rue Morgue) Per the Rue Morgue: Tommy Humbledon is back in England after a long and rather unusual stay in Nazi Germany. He is still trying to decide if he likes being back in his homeland when he's sent to investigate sabotage involving ships sailing from Portsmouth Harbour. But a key informant is killed at the local pub just before Tommy can talk to him, forcing our newly repatriated secret agent to join

forces with the local police inspector to find the murderer whom he suspects will lead him to the saboteur. Originally published in 1941
COLES, MANNING WITHOUT LAWFUL AUTHORITY (\$18) (Rue Morgue) Per the Rue Morgue: After Jim Warnford is found guilty of selling secrets to the enemy and discharged from his regiment, he's very much at loose ends-that is until he meets John Marden, a professional safecracker who is nonetheless a gentleman and a very pleasant one at that, despite the fact that he was trying to break into Warnford's own safe when they met. The two become fast friends and unite in a common purpose to find the fellow who framed Warnford and to round up the German spies who stole his secrets. In the course of their activities they keep nearly crossing paths with Tommy Hambleton. First published in 1943.

COLLINS, MAX CRIMINAL MINDS FINISHING SCHOOL (\$7.50)

COLOMBO, JOHN ROBERT BIG BOOK OF CANADIAN GHOST STORIES (\$29.99)

CONANT, SUSAN dog ALL SHOTS (#18) (\$8.99)

CORDY, MICHAEL SOURCE (\$24.95)

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPES COMPANY 1982 (\$15.95)

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPES EAGLE 1981 (\$15.95)

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPES ENEMY 1984 (\$15.95)

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPES GOLD 1981 (\$15.95)

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPES SWORD 1983 (\$15.95)

CORRIS, PETER cliff hardy APPEAL DENIED: A CLIFF HARDY NOVEL (\$13.95)

CORRIS, PETER cliff hardy BIG SCORE (\$13.95)

COTTERILL, COLIN ANARCHY AND OLD DOGS (#4)

(\$17.95) Dr. Siri Paiboun, reluctant national coroner of Laos, sets out to decipher a letter found in the pocket of a blind dentist who was run down by a logging truck. The letter is written in invisible ink and in code. The dentist's widow explained that the enigmatic letters and numbers describe chess moves in a long-distance game her husband was playing. But to Dr. Siri, the symbols are unlike any chess symbols he has previously encountered. Sequel to The Coroner's Lunch (\$16.95), Thirty-Three Teeth (\$17.95) and Disco for the Departed (\$17.95).

COYLE, HAROLD CAT AND MOUSE (\$9.99) There is a new commander for the 3rd Battalion of the 75th Rangers and Nathan Dixon has to deal with the commander's drive to force the Islamic terrorist out of the Philippines. The commander's plan will ensure his promotion to full bird colonel and beyond but at what cost to the lives of American soldiers.

CRUM, LAURA gail mccarthy MOONBLIND (#9) (\$18) Equine veterinarian Gail McCarthy is drawn into a mystery that seems to have its roots in the past. Someone is stalking her cousin Jenny, a Thoroughbred trainer, and Gail gets involved when Jenny calls her to tell her that her dog has been poisoned as a warning.

CUSSLER, CLIVE CHASE (\$10.99)

DAMS, JEANNE M johansson CRIMSON SNOW (#5) (\$18) Hilda Johansson doesn't want to look into the murder of her brother's sixth-grade teacher, though Erik pleads with her because of her previous successes. Her life as housemaid at the Studebaker mansion in South Bend, Indiana, is as demanding as ever and her Irish sweetheart is pressing her for marriage in the face of both families' opposition.

DAVIDSON, DIANE M SWEET REVENGE (#14) (\$8.99) While setting up the library for a holiday breakfast feast, Goldy Schulz spots a woman lurking in the stacks who bears a striking resemblance to Sandee Brisbane, who killed Goldy's ex-husband. But Sandee is supposed to be dead. Her suspicions mount when the body of Drew Wellington, a former DA, is found in a corner of the library with a map worth thousands of dollars stashed in his clothing.

DAVIDSON, EILEEN DEATH IN DAYTIME (\$7.50) Alexis Peterson is proud of her work on The Yearning Tide, one of the most

successful shows in the history of daytime drama. But the new head writer, Marcy Blanchard, blames Alexis for stealing the love of her life and is sabotaging her at every turn. Afraid that her character will end up in an eternal coma, Alexis confronts Marcy. As you can guess, Marcy ends up dead and Alexis is the prime suspect. This is the first in a new series.

DAVIES, DAVID STUART ed SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE GAMES AFOOT (\$9.99) Twenty adventures featuring Sherlock Holmes written by such authors as Denis Smith, Matthew Booth, and others.

DAVIS, KRISTA DIVA RUNS OUT OF THYME (\$7.50) See *Marian's Picks*.

DIBDIN, MICHAEL ZEN OMNIBUS (\$24) Includes Rating, Vendetta and Cabal, the first three Aurelio Zen stories. Italy.

DOBBS, MICHAEL LORDS DAY (\$10.99)

DOHERTY, PAUL roman MURDER'S IMMORTAL MASK (#5) (\$10.99) September 314 AD and two prostitutes are found murdered.

It is feared a notorious killer, the Nefandus, has returned. Desperate to retain order, the Empress Helena turns to her most trusted agent, Claudia. Helena commands her to uncover the truth behind the Nefandus, before Rome descends further in chaos and confusion.

DOSS, JAMES D moon THREE SISTERS (#12) (\$8.99) Colorado rancher and tribal investigator, Charlie Moon is playing poker with his best friend, Scott Parris, Granite Creek's chief of police, when Scott's dispatcher calls him with an emergency. It seems a man was on the phone with his wife when their call was interrupted by a blood-curdling scream and the most gruesome noises he'd ever heard. Arriving on the scene, they discover that the man's wife had been mauled beyond recognition. A bear attack is suspected but Charlie and his irascible Aunt Daisy, a Ute shaman, suspect otherwise.

[DOYLE]CARRAHER, PHILIP J ALIAS SIMON HAWKES (\$28 trade paperback). Four further adventures of Sherlock Holmes in New York. Includes The Adventure of the Magic Alibi, Captive Forger, Glass Room and Talking Ghost.

[DOYLE]CARRAHER, PHILIP J SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ADVENTURE OF THE DEAD RABBITS SOCIETY (\$26.95 trade paperback) Written by Dr. John Watson in 1908, this story sheds light on those missing years during which Holmes was presumed dead.

[DOYLE]GUY, PATRICIA & KATHERINE KARLSON LADIES LADIES THE WOMEN IN THE LIFE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$18.95) The women who visit 221B are more than storefront mannequins of their era. An examination of the women of the Victorian era, told in the context of the Sherlockian stories. Previously listed.

[DOYLE]WAGNER, E J SCIENCE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$22.99) Using the Great Detective's adventures as a jumping-off point and by examining real cases, the author discusses the art and science of forensic investigations during the Victorian age.

DRENNAN, WILLIAM R DEATH IN A PRAIRIE HOUSE: FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT (\$22) A special order.

DUNN, CAROLA MURDER ON THE FLYING SCOTSMAN (#4), DAMSEL IN DISTRESS (#5) and DEAD IN THE WATER (#6) (\$8.49 ea.) Three early novels in the Dalrymple series.

EDWARDS, MARTIN WATERLOO SUNSET (\$10.95)

EDWARDSON, AKE winter FROZEN TRACKS (#3) (\$16.50) Mysterious assaults on college students in Gothenburg's parks are carried out in the dark of night, while during the day toddlers are abducted from their nursery schools and quickly returned, seemingly unharmed, before anyone even notices they are missing. Detective Chief Inspector Erik Winter tries to find the connection between these two sets of perplexing crimes. Translated from Swedish. By the author of Sun and Shadow (\$14) and Never End (\$17.50), both wonderful.

ELLIS, DAVID EYE OF THE BEHOLDER (\$8.99)

ELLIS, KATE peterson BLOOD PIT (#12) (\$10.95) Detective Inspector Wesley Peterson investigates the murder of two men whose bodies have been drained of blood, and the discovery of a skeleton believed to be that of a sex offender who disappeared twenty years ago. Meanwhile, Wesley's archaeologist friend Neil Watson is alarmed when he starts getting anonymous letters written in gory detail about macabre events at a medieval abbey. Neil fears his letters are being sent by the killer Wesley is looking for. We now have all eleven earlier books in the series in stock at \$10.95 each.

EMERSON, EARL PRIMAL THREAT (\$9.99) On a late August day in the foothills of the Cascades, five cyclists set off on a ride leaving the stress of their workweek behind. But another group has also entered the park. They are in cars and bent on revenge.

EMERSON, KATHY lady apple FACE DOWN O'ER THE BORDER (#10) (\$20) The year is 1577, Mary, the abdicated Queen of Scots, is prisoner in England. Her son, and heir, James, is a boy of just eleven, and the regents keep dying. What does Scotland's political unrest have to do with what seems a purely domestic crime, the murder of Catherine Glenelg's mother-in-law? More than Lady Susanna Appleton would like.

ERSKINE, BARBARA LADY OF HAY (\$15.95) A reprint of the first book she wrote.

ERSKINE, BARBARA WARRIOR'S PRINCESS (\$21.95) Marian loves her books but I don't think she has read this one yet. Come to think of it, I believe we are out of stock and are waiting for more to come in.

EVANOVICH, JANET FOUL PLAY (\$8.99)

EVANOVICH, JANET VISIONS OF SUGAR PLUMS (\$8.99) A Christmas novella featuring our favourite bounty hunter Stephanie Plum. It's four days before Christmas and she doesn't have a tree, hasn't bought any presents, and there's a strange guy in her kitchen. Strange men have shown up at her place before but this one is different. He's mysterious, sexy, and has his own agenda. Can he survive the Plum family holiday dinner? Can he get her a tree? Can he help her find a little old toy maker who has skipped out on his bail right before Christmas?

FALCONER, DUNCAN UNDERSEA PRISON (\$10.99) When Britain's elite Special Boat Service operative John Stratton is given orders to retrieve a missing computer chip, he doesn't realize what he's getting himself into. The chip is embedded beneath the skin of a fearless Taliban terrorist, who has been captured by the Americans and placed inside the Styx penitentiary. The Styx is no ordinary prison. It is located 300 feet beneath the sea. A real thriller!

FLETCHER & BAIN MURDER SHE WROTE: A LITTLE YULETIDE MURDER (\$9.99) Originally published in 1998, we decided to bring in extra copies for Christmas.

FLETCHER & BAIN MURDER SHE WROTE: PANNING FOR MURDER (\$7.50) And the latest entry in the series.

FLINN, ELAINE molly doyle DEADLY VINTAGE (#4) (\$20) Treasures Antiques, the Carmel shop Molly Doyle manages, is doing well. Eager to branch out into interior decoration Molly takes on a lucrative commission to refurbish the wine tasting rooms at Bello Lago, a prestigious family-owned winery in Carmel Valley. But she finds herself in the middle of the dysfunctional family's squabbles when they end in murder, and she becomes the prime suspect.

FLUKE & LEVINE & MEIER CANDY CANE MURDER (\$8.49)

FOLLETT, KEN WORLD WITHOUT END (\$24) 1000 plus pages, is a lot of book. This story takes place in the town of Kingsbridge, two centuries after the townsfolk finished building the Gothic cathedral that was the heart of Pillars of the Earth (\$10.99).

FORBES, ELENA OUR LADY OF PAIN (#2) (\$21.95) The first in this wonderful new British police procedural series is Die With Me (\$10.99). *Marian's Picks* in the September newsletter. Terrific reads.

FOWLER, CHRISTOPHER bryan WHITE CORRIDOR (#5) (\$15) A member of the Peculiar Crimes Unit is killed in a locked autopsy room populated by the dead and to which only four PCU members had a key. And to make matters worse, the Unit has been shut down for a forced "vacation" and Arthur Bryant and John May are stuck in a van miles away in the Dartmoor countryside during a freak snowstorm on their way to a convention of psychics. Now, with Sergeant Janice Longbright in charge at headquarters, Bryant and May must crack the case by cell phone while trying to stop a second murder without freezing to death. The others in this excellent series are Full Dark House (\$8.99), The Water Room (\$9.99), Seventy-seven Clocks (\$10.99) and Ten Second Staircase (\$8.99). See *Marian's Picks*.

FRANCOME, JOHN FINAL BREATH (\$24.95)

FREEMAN, BRIAN stride STALKED (#3) (\$10.99) Lieutenant Jonathan Stride knows his partner Maggie Bei is in trouble when she reports a deadly crime on a bitter winter night. She is obviously hiding a something. "I absolutely love this series" says Marian. Immoral and Stripped are the first two (\$10.99 each).

FREEMAN, GWEN fifi cutter CRAZY FOOL KILLS FIVE (#2) (\$20) The amusingly snarky Fifi Cutter takes a job as Mean Girl Friday to Reginald Wong, legendary Chinatown trial attorney. Wong is bringing a \$60 million wrongful death case against Skyblu Charter Jet Service whose deranged ex-employee hijacked and crashed a plane, killing all four people on board and one on the ground. What begins as a simple worker's compensation fraud ends up in extortion, kidnapping and murder, when Fifi investigates a nefarious scheme involving double crossing attorneys, a drunken judge and insurance companies gone bad. The first in the series is Murder, Suicide, Whatever (\$19.95).

GABALDON, DIANA lord john LORD JOHN (#2) BROTHERHOOD OF THE BLADE (\$16.95) Sequel to Lord John and the Private Matter (\$14.95).

GALLAGHER, STEPHEN KINGDOM OF BONES (\$16.95) Wrongfully accused of the slaughter of pauper children in the wake of the touring theatre company he manages, Tom Sayers is forced to disappear into a twilight world of music halls and traveling boxing booths. Beginning with a chance encounter in a Philadelphia pleasure park one weekend in 1903, this mystery traces Sayers' journey from England's provincial playhouses through London's Lyceum Theatre and on to the high society of the transforming American South, with many a secret to be uncovered in the dark alleyways, backstage areas and houses of ill repute that lie along the way.

GARDAM, JANE PEOPLE ON PRIVILEGE HILL (\$16)

GEDGE, PAULINE SEER OF EGYPT (\$24) A special order.

GIMENEZ, MARK ABDUCTION (\$8.99) Ben Brice lives alone in the New Mexico wilderness, where he battles memories of Vietnam with oceans of bourbon. Miles away in Texas, his estranged son, John, an internet geek-turned-billionaire, half watches his daughter Gracie's soccer game, while conducting business on his cell phone. When her mother, Elizabeth, arrives, the coach reports that her uncle has already collected Gracie. But Gracie has no uncle. She was kidnapped. The family offers a reward of \$25 million. Somehow Ben and John must reunite to save Gracie.

GLAUSER, FRIEDRICH CHINAMAN (#4) (\$18)

GLAZER, MELISSA FATAL SLIP (#3) (\$7.50)

GOODWIN, JASON yashim SNAKE STONE (#2) (\$15.50) When a French archaeologist arrives in 1830s Istanbul determined to track down a lost Byzantine treasure, the local Greek communities are uncertain how to react; the man seems dangerously well informed. Yashim Togalu, the eunuch investigator from The Janissary Tree (\$15.50 trade paperback and one of *J.D.'s Picks* a year or so ago), is once again enlisted to investigate. But when the archaeologist's mutilated body is discovered outside the French embassy, it turns out that the only suspect is Yashim.

GRAHAM, CAROLINE barnaby FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH (#5) (\$12.99) A new edition of a Barnaby novel first published in 1997.

GRIFFIN, NICHOLAS DIZZY CITY (\$16.95) The year is 1916, Europe is at war, and American industrialists are getting rich. Englishman Ben Cramb deserts the trenches in northern France and stows away on an outbound transatlantic ship. When he arrives in New York City, he realizes he can reinvent himself. He soon falls under the sway of the urbane and mysterious Julius McAteer, who sees in Ben his chance to finely hone the tools of someone who can master the art of the con.

GRIMSDALE, PETER PERFECT NIGHT (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

GRYTEN, FRODE SHADOW IN THE RIVER (\$22) One June night, in a small Norwegian town gripped by a sweltering heat wave, a young man is forced off the road and into the river. When local journalist Robert Bell starts to investigate, he soon realizes nothing is what it seems in his home town. And when his wife Irene suddenly disappears, Robert is drawn into a desperate hunt for a murderer, and into the heart of a dark family secret. Translated from Norwegian.

HALL, PATRICIA DEATH IN A FAR COUNTRY (\$21) The most recent Detective Chief Inspector Michael Thackeray investigation.

HAMILTON, LAURELL K gentr LICK OF FROST (#6) (\$9.99) Princess, heir to the throne in the realm of faerie, onetime private investigator in the mortal world, Meredith Gentry must continue the royal bloodline before she can be crowned queen. Despite all her efforts she remains childless. Hoping to outrun the gathering shadows of court intrigue she and her bodyguards have returned to Los Angeles. But even that is not enough to escape the grasp of those with dark designs.

HARRIS, C S WHY MERMAIDS SING (#3) (\$7.50) Sebastian St. Cyr, Viscount Devlin, is back. Set in Regency England. Sequel to What Angels Fear and When Gods Die (\$9.99 each).

HARRIS, CHARLAINE bard SHAKESPEARE'S CHRISTMAS (#3) (\$8.99) A reissue, first published in 1998.

HARRIS, CHARLAINE connell ICE COLD GRAVE (#3) (\$8.99) Harper Connelly heads to Doraville, North Carolina, to find a missing boy, one of several teenage boys who have disappeared over the last five years. And all of them are calling for Harper. She finds them, buried in the frozen ground. All Harper wants is to get out of town before she is caught in the media storm, then she herself is attacked.

HARRIS, CHARLAINE sookie DEAD UNTIL DARK (#1) (\$8.99) The first of seven novels featuring Sookie Stackhouse series, and the inspiration for the recent HBO TV series. First published in 2001.

HARRIS, CHARLAINE teagard DEAD OVER HEELS (#5) (\$8.99) A reprint of the fifth Aurora Teagarden mystery which was originally published in 1996.

HART, ELLEN lawless MORTAL GROOVE (#15) (\$17.95) Minneapolis restaurateur and amateur sleuth Jane Lawless is celebrating the New Year with her family and friends when her father is asked to run for governor. But secrets come out to haunt her father and the men running his campaign, especially those involving the mysterious death of a young woman who died the year the men came home from Vietnam.

HART, JOHN DOWN RIVER (\$9.99) Adam Chase has a violent streak, and not without reason; as a boy in Rowan County, he saw things that no child should see. After being narrowly acquitted of a murder charge, Adam is hounded out of the only home he has known. Now, five years later, he has returned. Within hours of his return he is accosted and beaten, confronted by his family and the woman he still holds dear. When bodies start turning up, the small town rises against him and Adam must again prove his innocence.

HAYDER, MO jack caffery RITUAL (#3) (\$22.95) Nine feet under water, police diver Flea Marley closes her gloved fingers around a human hand. The fact that there is no body attached is disturbing enough, yet more disturbing is the discovery a day later, of the matching hand. Both have been recently amputated and the indications suggest the victim, a boy who has recently disappeared, was still alive when they were removed. DI Jack Caffery, newly assigned to the Major Crime Investigation Unit in Bristol, investigates the darkest recesses of Bristol's underworld. The others in the series are Birdman and The Treatment (\$21.00 trade paperback).

HAYES, JONATHAN PRECIOUS BLOOD (\$8.99) Serial killer. NYC.

HEARN, LIAN HEAVEN'S NET IS WIDE (#0) (\$16.50) This is a prequel to the full story of Lord Otori Shigeru, the figure who has presided in both life and death over the entire series. The other four in the series are Across the Nightingale Floor (\$21), Grass For His Pillow (\$20), Brilliance of the Moon (\$20) and The Harsh Cry of the Heron (\$18.50).

HESS, JOAN malloy DEATH BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON (#7) (\$8.99) A reissue of this 1992 Claire Malloy mystery. Book-seller and amateur sleuth Claire Malloy is reluctant to go to the Malloy family reunion but she feels her daughter, Caron, should visit her deceased father's relatives. When the wheelchair-bound matriarch, Miss Justicia, is found dead, Claire doesn't believe it was a "tragic accident".

HEWSON, DAVID costa GARDEN OF EVIL (#6) (\$9.99) Nic Costa, Gianni Peroni and Leo Falcone are back. Wonderful Rome, a wonderfully written mystery, a fabulous read, and a fabulous series. One of Marian's Picks a year or so ago, although she said she was mad at the author, but she doesn't want me to tell you why. She said it would spoil the plot.

HIGGINS, JACK KILLING GROUND (\$10.99) Intelligence operative Sean Dillon stops a man at Heathrow Airport. He is Caspar Rashid, born and bred in England, but, with family ties to a Bedouin tribe fiercely wedded to the old ways. As Rashid has, regretfully, just found out, his thirteen-year-old daughter has been kidnapped by his father and taken to Iraq to be married to a man known as the Hammer of God, one of the Mideast's most feared terrorists. Dillon has had his own run-ins with that clan so he sees a chance to settle some old scores by helping Rashid.

HIGHSMITH, PATRICIA RIPLEY UNDER GROUND (#2) and RIPLEY UNDER WATER (#5) (\$15.50 ea) All five Ripley novels are now available in these handsome trade paperbacks. A terrific series.

HILL, LAWRENCE BOOK OF NEGROES (\$24.95) A special order. Want one? We can get you one as well.

HIMES, CHESTER j & j BIG GOLD DREAM (#5) (\$15.50). Another classic, re-issued. Gravedigger Jones and Coffin Ed Johnson.

HOEG, PETER QUIET GIRL (\$17) Kasper Krone is a world-renowned circus clown and a man in deep trouble. Drowning in gambling debt and wanted for tax evasion, Krone is drafted into the service of a mysterious order of nuns who promise him reprieve in return for his help safeguarding a group of children with mystical abilities, abilities that Krone also shares. When one of the children goes missing, Krone sets off to find the young girl.

HOLT, ANNE FINAL MURDER (#2) (WHAT NEVER HAPPENS) (\$16) "Anne Holt is the latest crime writer to reveal how truly dark it gets in Scandinavia."—**Val McDermid**. By the author of Punishment (\$10.99). Superintendent Adam Stubo is pulled from his holidays to investigate the murders of a talk-show host and a right-wing party leader. His partner, FBI profiler Johanne Vik, begins to see a patte pattern and knows that this will end badly for Adam. He's on the list.

HOSTETLER, BOB BONE BOX (\$16) Archaeologist and agnos-

tic Randall Bullock has come to Israel to try to resurrect his crumbling career and shattered life. Teaming up with Miri, a beautiful sergeant major in the Israeli police force, he unearths a stone casket marked "Joseph, son of Caiaphas", which contains a fragile scroll that documents the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This discovery launches Randall, Miri, and Randall's estranged nineteen-year-old daughter, Tracy, into a race to validate the monumental find, no matter what the Israeli authorities, media circus, and rival archaeologists want the world to believe.

HOWELL, KATHERINE FRANTIC (\$9.99)

HUMPHREYS, C C LAST CONFESSION (\$24.95)

HUNSICKER, HARRY CROSSHAIRS (#3) (\$8.99) When internationally renowned medical researcher Anita Nazari begs Lee Henry Oswald to find the person threatening her daughter's life, Oswald reluctantly agrees. He returns to the shadowy world he has tried to leave behind to find himself engaged in a high-stakes battle against a man known only as the Professor, a former intelligence operative intent on destroying the results of the doctor's latest research. The first two in the series are Still River (\$9.99) and The Next Time You Die (\$8.99).

HUNT, STEPHEN KINGDOM BEYOND THE WAVES (\$15.95)

HUSTON, CHARLIE joe pitt EVERY LAST DROP (#4) (\$16.50)

IGGULDEN, CONN conqueror LORDS OF THE BOW (#2)

(\$9.99) Temujin of the Wolves has become Genghis Khan, a man who must unite the most fractious, warlike tribes on earth. He intends to forge a new nation out of the wild plains of Mongolia. Sequel to Wolf of the Plains (\$10.99), with Genghis Khan as a young boy.

ILES, GREG THIRD DEGREE (\$12.99) As the blurb on the dust jacket says: an unforgettable plunge into a world of sex, violence, martial betrayal, medical malpractice, and Southern intrigue... all of which takes place in the span of one furious terrifying day.

ISLEIB, ROBERTA butterman ASKING FOR MURDER (#3) (\$7.50)

JACKSON, LISA LEFT TO DIE (\$10.99) One by one, the victims are carefully captured, toyed with, then subjected to a slow and agonizing death. In the lonely woods around Grizzly Falls, Montana, four bodies have been discovered. Detectives Selena Alvarez and Regan Pescoli have been hoping for a career-making case, but this is a nightmare.

JAMES, ALLYSON BLACK DRAGON (\$9.99) A special order.

JAMES, PETER TRUTH (\$10.99) Originally published in 1997, this is a stand alone thriller.

JAMES, RUSSELL UNDERGROUND AND COLLECTED STORIES (\$20) A collection of five stories and Underworld (slightly longer) by this "Godfather of British noir" according to Ian Rankin.

JOHANSEN, IRIS QUICKSAND (\$9.99)

JONES, STAN FROZEN SUN (#3) (\$20) The third novel in the Nathan Active series, sequel to White Sky Black Ice (\$17) and Shaman Pass (\$15).

KALIAN, CADY maggie mars FEW GOOD MURDERS (#2) (\$8.99) Screen writer Maggie Mars is learning some hard truths about the movie making biz. One is, never write a scenario that's too good to pass up, especially by a stone-cold killer who thinks Maggie is too clever to live.

KALLA, DANIEL COLD PLAGUE (\$9.99) The author's note at the beginning of the book explains that there really is a lake buried under the South Pole and that the story he is telling has its basis in reality. Pristine water, hidden for millions of years, untouched by pollution and possessing natural healing powers, is found under the Antarctic ice. A cluster of mad cow disease explodes in a rural French province and Dr. Noah Haldane and his WHO team are urgently summoned. Noah recognizes the microscopic protein responsible for the disease; it kills with the speed and ferocity of a virus. Is this outbreak

natural or man made? Is there a solution in the water? By the author of Pandemic, Resistance, Rage Therapy (\$10.99 ea) and Blood Lies (\$9.99).

KAMINSKY, STUART lieberma DEAD DON'T LIE (#10)

(\$16.95) When three prominent members of the Turkish community are brutally murdered, Chicago detective Abe Liberman must find out what ties the deaths together. It doesn't help that the key to the puzzle might be an event that took place more than a century ago and an ocean away.

KAPLAN, GLENN EVIL, INC. (\$9.99) Ken Olson's world is shattered by a crime his company must cover up at any cost. Stripped of everything but his passion for justice, Olson discovers the dark and dangerous world behind the corporate jets- the hired killers who secretly do the corporation's dirtiest work, the clandestine offshore bank accounts, and the greedy machinations of the lucky few at the top.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN COMPULSION (\$12.99) Disappearances, murders and other bizarre acts of cruelty and psychopathology are linked by the killer's use of luxury vehicles and a baffling lack of motive. LAPD detective Milo Sturgis and psychologist Alex Delaware are on the case.

KELLY, JIM dryden SKELETON MAN (#5) (\$10.99) The 1000-year-old Cambridgeshire hamlet of Jude's Ferry was famous for one thing—never having recorded a single crime. That doesn't necessarily mean that crime never happened. The hamlet, now Ministry of Defense property, does have secrets however. Reporter Philip Dryden is once again on the prowl for the big story.

KENNEDY, DOUGLAS WOMAN IN THE FIFTH (\$19.95)

KENT, ALEXANDER bolitho TO GLORY WE STEER (#5) (\$19.95), COMMAND A KINGS SHIP (#6) (\$19.50) and PASSAGE TO MUTINY (#7) (\$18.95) Three more reissues.

KERLEY, JACK BLOOD BROTHER (#5) (\$21)

KHADRA, YASMINA llob AUTUMN OF THE PHANTOMS (#1), Double Blank (#2) and Morituri (#3) (\$12.95 ea.) The Insp. Llob of Algeria series by the author of the The Swallows of Kabul (\$16).

KING, STEPHEN DUMA KEY (\$12.99) A terrible construction site accident takes Edgar Freemantle's right arm and scrambles his memory and his mind, leaving him with little but rage as he begins his life of rehabilitation. His marriage ends and his psychologist suggests a "geographic cure", a new life somewhere else doing something he always wanted to do. He rents a house on Duma Key in Florida and starts to paint. As this is a **Stephen King** novel, you might well imagine that many of his paintings have a power that cannot be controlled. A big book at over 700 pages.

KINGSBURY, KATE SHROUDS OF HOLLY (#15) (\$7.50) and RINGING IN MURDER (#16) (\$15.50) The two latest Pennyfoot Hotel holiday mysteries.

KIRTON, BILL cairnburgh ROUGH JUSTICE (#2) (\$18) Detective Chief Inspector Carston thinks he knows who killed Floyd Donnelly, one of the squatters in Cairnburgh. David Burchill, consultant engineer and self-made man, doesn't deny sending his so-called "bailiffs" around to the property to frighten the squatters into leaving but Burchill has a cast-iron alibi for that night's activities. Originally published in 1996, this is a reprint by the Bloody Brit Press.

KOONTZ, DEAN DARKEST EVENING OF THE YEAR (\$10.99)

LA PLANTE, LYNDA WIDOWS (\$10.99) Harry Rawlins has been masterminding raids and robberies for almost twenty years. The hijack of a security van will bring the gang thousands, but the job goes disastrously wrong. Harry always said that if anything happened to him Dolly would be all right: Joe and Terry would take over, the team would look after everyone. But Joe and Terry go blown up with Harry. Dolly has three options. She can give up and hand Harry's

ledgers to the police. She can hand them over to a bunch of thugs. Or she, and the other widows, can take the business over and survive.

LA PLANTE, LYNDA travis CLEAN CUT (\$17.50)

LADIES KILLING CIRCLE GOING OUT WITH A BANG

(\$15.95) The latest collection of killer stories and poetry from The Ladies. Stories by **Lou Allin, Joan Boswell, Barbara Fradkin, Mary Jane Maffini**... Don't forget, come and meet some of The Ladies on the **20th of November** and get your copy signed by all authors in attendance.

LAKEMAN, THOMAS yeager CHILLWATER COVE (#2)

(\$9.99) FBI Special Agent Peggy Weaver was ten years old when her best friend was abducted while they were riding their bikes. Peggy ran and escaped but Samantha didn't. Samantha was eventually found but only after something so terrible had happened that she never spoke about it, not even to Peggy. Now, twenty-five years later, pornographic photos of ten-year-old Samantha have turned up as evidence in one of Peggy's cases, a clear message from a man who never paid for what he did and Peggy knows that this time she won't run away. From the author of Shadow Catchers (\$8.99) which was a very good debut indeed

LAKHOUS, AMARA CLASH OF CIVILIZATIONS OVER AN ELEVATOR IN PIAZZA VITTORIO (\$16.50) The title alone...

LAMB, JOHN CLOCKWORK TEDDY (#4) (\$7.50) Retired San

Francisco policeman Brad Lyon and his wife, Ashleigh, have settled into a comfortable life in the Shenandoah Valley, collecting and creating teddy bears. On a return visit to San Francisco to exhibit their teddy bears at a local show, they witness a robbery at the show and, when a cutting-edge robot teddy is found at a murder scene, Brad's former partner enlists the bear-making couple as "fur-ensic" experts. The first three in the series are The Mournful Teddy, The False-Hearted Teddy and The Crafty Teddy (\$9.99 each).

LANGLEY-HAWTHORNE, CLARE SERPENT AND THE SCORPION (#2) (\$15.50)

LARUE, FRANK INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN INDIAN (\$22.)

LAURIE, VICTORIA psychic DEATH PERCEPTION (#6)

(\$7.50) Abby Cooper ends up in Las Vegas while trying to help her boyfriend Dutch Rivers. A great psychic series.

LAVENE, JOYCE & JIM mortn WICKED WEAVES (#1)

(\$7.50)

LILLEY, KATHRYN kate KILLER WORKOUT (#2) (\$7.50)

Marian read it hoping to get some inspiration but I'm not sure it helped. After suffering another setback on her war on fat, plus sized TV reporter Kate Gallagher decides it's time for a full-on offensive. She signs up for a boot-camp style fitness program but discovers that someone is killing off the dieters. The first in the series is Dying to be Thin (\$9.99).

LINDSAY, JEFF DEXTER IN THE DARK (#3) (\$15.95) J.D.

picked this in the September 2007 newsletter saying it was elegant, witty and fun. Others found it, well, less than special; Dexter without his Dark Passenger just didn't cut it for them.. Guess you'll have to read it for yourself and see if watching Dexter flounder without his DP is entertaining or not. Serial killer Dexter, who works as a blood splatter expert for the Miami police department, is about to get married and the respectability of a married man might be the perfect disguise for his serial killings. Sequel to Darkly Dreaming Dexter and Dearly Devoted Dexter (\$16.95 each).

LOHR, ROBERT CHESS MACHINE (\$16.50) A special order.

Marian also has a copy but she hasn't reported back yet.

LOVESEY, PETER DETECTIVE WORE SILK DRAWERS and

WOBBLE TO DEATH (\$17 ea) Two Sgt. Cribb novels. Set in Victorian England and featuring sports themes, in this case bare knuckle boxing and race walking.

LOWE, SHEILA WRITTEN IN BLOOD (#2) (\$7.50) Forensic handwriting expert Claudia Rose is hired to prove that the signature

on a will is forged. The widow of a rich older man, Paige Sorenson, is hated by her step-children and they don't believe it is his signature on his will. The first in the series is Poison Pen (\$8.50).

LUDLUM, ROBERT ARCTIC EVENT (\$9.50) On a remote island in the Canadian Arctic, researchers discover the wreckage of a mysterious WWII-era aircraft. The unmarked plane is a Soviet bomber that disappeared with its crew more than fifty years ago while carrying two metric tons of weaponized anthrax. The US government dispatches a Covert-One team led by Lieutenant Colonel Jon Smith to the crash site. But others have reached the frigid island first

LUDWIG, SIDURA HOLDING MY BREATH (\$22.95)

LUTZ, JOHN frank quinn NIGHT KILLS (#3) (\$8.49)

MACALISTER, KATIE silver UP IN SMOKE (#2) (\$8.99)

MACCARRY, CHARLES CHRISTOPHER'S GHOSTS (\$15.50)

A young Paul Christopher and his family are living in Berlin in the late 1930s. It's there that Paul witnesses an unspeakable atrocity committed by a remorseless S.S. officer, Franz Stutzer. Thirty years later Stutzer emerges from the ruins with a simple goal: to destroy the last living witness to his crime. Paul is pursued by the only man alive who can match his tradecraft and instincts.

MACINTOSH, PAT cunningham HARPER'S QUINE (#1),

NICHOLAS FEAST (#2), MERCHANT'S MARK (#3), and ST.

MUNGO'S ROBIN (#4) (\$17.95 ea). Murder in medieval Scotland,

and featuring Gil Cunningham. The series is starting to get some attention over here, so this would be a great opportunity to start at the beginning and read them all.

MACKEN, JOHN reuben TRIAL BY BLOOD (#2) (\$11.99)

Reuben Maitland has lost everything. Fired from CID's elite forensic investigation unit, he is forced to turn to the other side of the law to find work. From the author of Dirty Little Lies (\$11.99).

MAGSON, ADRIAN NO PEACE FOR THE WICKED (#1), NO

HELP FOR THE DYING (#2), NO SLEEP FOR THE DEAD (#3),

NO TEARS FOR THE LOST (#4) and NO KISS FOR THE DEVIL

(#5) (\$22.95 each). Marian met Mr. Magson at BoucherCon Balti-

more and was introduced to his series of novels featuring Riley Gavin, a young female reporter, and her reluctant sidekick, former military policeman Frank Palmer.

MAITLAND, BARRY SPIDER TRAP (#9) (\$15.50) A terrific

novel and a terrific series. Only a few entries are still in print, so don't worry about it, just read them. No Trace (\$15.50) and Verge Practice (\$35) are also in print. One of J.D.'s favourite London police series.

MARSTON, EDWARD railway IRON HORSE (#4) (\$14.95) A

disembodied head is discovered on a passenger train at Crewe and Det. Insp. Robert Colbeck and his assistant are assigned to the case.

It's Derby Day at Epsom Downs and a hotbed for crime and crooks of all kinds. Sequel to The Railway Detective, The Excursion Train and The Railway Viaduct (\$14.95 ea.).

MARTIN, P D sophie anders BODY COUNT (#1) (\$8.50)

MATETSKY, AMANDA turner DIAL ME FOR MURDER (#5)

(\$7.50) The fifth Paige Turner novel. Set in 1950s New York. In this one she's hired to investigate the murder of a secretary, whose naked body was found in Central Park. The investigation is to be carried out in deepest secrecy, as it soon turns out that the secretary was more, much more, than just a secretary. Lots of reputations on the line...

MATTURRO, CLAIRE lilly SWEETHEART DEAL (#4) (\$8.99)

Sarasota lawyer Lilly Cleary has had her share of odd cases but when her mother is accused of murder she drops everything and returns to Bugfest, Georgia, to sort out the mess. Sequel to Skinny-Dipping, Wildcat Wine and Bone Valley (\$9.99 each).

MAYOR, ARCHER CHAT (#17) (\$8.50) When an unidentified

body is found in the peaceful town of Brattleboro, Vermont, local police and the Vermont Bureau of Investigations both appear at the scene. But before investigator Joe Gunther can begin to gather evidence of murder, a family emergency sends him to his hometown,

where the lives of his mother and brother have suddenly been threatened.

MCPHERSON, CATRIONA BURRY MAN'S DAY (#2) (\$19.50) The second in the Dandy Gilver series set in 1920s Scotland. Sequel to After the Armistice Ball (\$21 expensive British import) and prequel to Bury Her Deep (\$14.95).

MEYER, STEPHENIE TWILIGHT (#1) (\$9.50) See Marian's Picks.

MICHENER, JAMES A TALES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC (\$10.99) A special order.

MILLS, MAGNUS ALL QUIET ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS (\$17.95) and SCHEME FOR FULL EMPLOYMENT (\$17) Two special orders.

MONING, KAREN MARIE BLOODFEVER (\$8.99) When MacKayla Lane learns that her sister was murdered in an alley in Dublin she flies over from Ashford, Georgia, to try and find some answers. While there, she discovered she could see the Fae (Darkfever (\$9.99)). In her fight to stay alive and to prevent the dark powers from overtaking Dublin, she must locate a million-year-old book of the blackest magic imaginable. She finds herself torn between two deadly and irresistible men: V'lane, the insatiable Fae who can turn sensual arousal into an obsession for any woman, and the ever-inscrutable Jericho Barrons, a man as alluring as he is mysterious. (And he owns a bookstore). "Yummy" says Marian.

MONROE, GRACE BLOOD LINES (\$10.99) Unorthodox, young Edinburgh lawyer, Brodei McLennan, is being implicated in a couple of very brutal murders. She was the last person to see one of the victims and both victims show the same mutilations. Dark. For fans of **Mo Hayder**.

MONTEFIORE, SIMON SASHENKA (\$24.95) St. Petersburg, Winter 1916. Beautiful, rich and headstrong Sashenka Zeitlin is just sixteen and is about to begin her role in a dangerous game of conspiracy and seduction. The story remains hidden for half a century, until a young historian goes deep into Stalin's private archives and uncovers a heartbreaking tale of passion and betrayal, savage cruelty and unexpected heroism—and of a woman forced to make an unbearable choice.

MOORE, ANTONY SWAP (\$13)

MOORE, CHRISTOPHER G SPIRIT HOUSE (#1) (\$14.50) The first of nine novels featuring Vincent Calvino, a disbarred American lawyer making rent in the dark and steamy Thai capital as a PI. First published in 1992.

MOSS, JOHN STILL WATERS (#1) (\$11.99) Toronto Homicide cops David Morgan and Miranda Quinn.

MULLER, MARCIA mccone EVER RUNNING MAN (#26) (\$9.50) San Francisco private eye Sharon McCone is hired by her husband's security firm to track down "the ever-running man", a shadowy figure who has been leaving explosive devices at their various offices.

NEWMAN, SHARAN le vandeur STRONG AS DEATH (#4), CURSED IN THE BLOOD (#5), DIFFICULT SAINT (#6), and TO WEAR THE WHITE CLOAK (#7) (\$22) Reissues. Most of this series is now back in print.

OLSON, KAREN SHOT GIRL (\$7.50) On her way home from a party at Juju Voodoo in New Orleans, scrapbooking shop owner Carmela Bertrand finds the body of a beautiful model behind a dumpster and is attacked herself. The others in the scrapbooking series are Keepsake Crimes, Photo Finished, Bound for Murder and Motif for Murder (\$9.99 each). And don't forget all her Tea Shop mysteries.

PARETSKY, SARA BLEEDING KANSAS (\$10.99) This is the story of two families linked by their Midwestern pioneer paths and dark family secrets. Set in the Kaw River Valley, where Ms. Paretsky grew up, the two families have been entwined since the 1850s, when their ancestors settled the valley as antislavery immigrants.

PARKER, ROBERT B spenser NOW AND THEN (#35) (\$10.99) Spenser is asked by a client, Dennis Doherty, to investigate his wife Jordan, whom he suspects is having an affair. Not surprisingly, Spenser catches Jordan with another man, tells Dennis what he's found and considers the case closed. But a couple of days later, all hell breaks loose and three people are dead.

PARSONS, JULIE macloughli I SAW YOU (#2) (\$9.99) For ten years, newly retired policeman Michael McLoughlin has been haunted by the case of a young woman who was brutally murdered, and for the love he felt for Margaret, the victim's mother. A favour for a friend leads him to another woman who has lost a child. Was it an accident, suicide or murder? Margaret too, has been tormented by her daughter Mary's death. She can find no peace so she returns to Dublin to face her demons. Mary, Mary (\$9.99) is the first in the series. The others, The Courtship Glass (\$10.99), Eager To Please, The Guilty Heart and The Hourglass (\$9.99 each) are not part of any series.

PATTERSON, JAMES cross DOUBLE CROSS (#13) (\$11.99) Alex Cross rejoins the Washington, D.C. police force to confront two killers who are out to get their revenge on him.

PAWSON, STUART GRIEF ENCOUNTERS (#12) (\$10.95) The team from Heckley is investigating the brutal beating death of a woman and Charlie recognizes her as a nude model they used to draw when he was in art school. At the same time, Charlie suspects that pornographic images found on his boss's computer were put there by means of a Trojan Horse (he had to have that explained to him as well!) A terrific novel, a terrific series. Read them all.

PEACE, DAVID TOKYO YEAR ZERO (\$16) A terrific read. Part of a proposed trilogy. If you want a look at what life was like for the residents of Tokyo in the years after the end of WWII...as **James Ellroy** did for LA and as **David Peace** did earlier on for Yorkshire of the late '70s and early '80s. Terrific.

PEACOCK, CARO DEATH OF A DANCER (\$24)

PENNY, LOUISE CRUELLEST MONTH (#3) (\$10.99) All four novels in this series featuring Three Pines and Armand Gamache, have been Marian's Picks, so what's there to not like?

PENNY, LOUISE MURDER STONE (#4) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. Signed copies of both editions are available for the now.

PERRY, ANNE CHRISTMAS GUEST & CHRISTMAS SECRET (\$16.50) Two Christmas novellas in one binding, previously published separately.

PETERS, ELIZABETH bliss BORROWER OF THE NIGHT (#1), STREET OF FIVE MOONS (#2), SIHOUETTE IN SCARLET (#3) and TROJAN GOLD (#4) (\$11.50 each) The early few in the Vicki Bliss series are now back in print.

PRONZINI, BILL nameless SAVAGES (#32) (\$16.95)

PRYCE, MALCOLM DON'T CRY FOR ME ABERYSTWYTH (#4) (\$24) It's Christmas in Aberystwyth and a man wearing a red-and-white robe is found brutally murdered in a Chinatown alley. Louie Knight in his fourth adventure. "It takes a particular talent to drag the ghost of Raymond Chandler to the West Wales coast."—*Word*.

RENDELL, RUTH wexford NOT IN THE FLESH (#21) (\$10.99) Searching for truffles in a wood, a man and his dog unearth a human hand. The body, as Chief Inspector Wexford is informed, has lain buried for ten years, wrapped in a purple cotton sheet. Only twenty yards away from the woodland burial site, in the cellar of a disused cottage, another body is found.

RIMINGTON, STELLA carlyle ILLEGAL ACTION (#3) (\$11.99) Liz Carlyle is searching for a Russian assassin believed to be in London. This one was a Marian's Picks a year ago. Sequel to At Risk and Secret Asset (\$11.99 ea.)

RIORDAN, RICK navarre REBEL ISLAND (#7) (\$8.99) Tres

Navarre had given up the private eye life and he and his wife, Maia, have come to Rebel Island to celebrate their honeymoon. But no sooner have they arrived than a corpse shows up. Tres flashes back on the memory of a grim childhood summer on the island that changed everything. When a second corpse turns up, it's clear to Tres that the past is not dead and buried, but stalking Rebel Island with unfinished business of its own.

RIZER, FRAN CASKET CASE (#3) (\$7.50) Mortuary cosmetologist Callie Parrish returns in her third adventure. Someone's making a lot of business for Middleton's mortuary...

ROGERS, SHARON UNPRETTY (\$15)

ROSENHEIM, ANDREW WITHOUT PREJUDICE (\$32.95)

Robert Danziger has recently returned to his native city of Chicago, looking for a new start. But he gets a call from a childhood friend, just released from the pen after serving twenty years for the rape and assault of a nurse. He's claiming innocence. "...spans the troubled waters between **Harlan Coben** and **Anita Shreve**."—*Independent*.

ROTH, PHILIP EVERYMAN (\$16) A special order.

ROUND, JEFFREY P'TOWN MURDERS (\$20)

ROWLAND, LAURA JOH SNOW EMPRESS (#12) (\$8.99)

When the eight-year-old son of Sano Ichiro and Reiko disappears, they discover that Sano's political rival, Lord Matsudaira, has kidnapped him and he's being held on the northernmost island of Japan. So Sano makes a deal: he will solve the murder of the mistress of Lord Matsumae if his son is released.

RUSSE, SAVANNAH UNDER DARKNESS (\$7.50)

RUSSELL, S THOMAS UNDER ENEMY COLORS (\$18.50) A first novel, naval fiction, getting rave reviews and favourable comparisons to Patrick O'Brian.

RYAN, GARRY lane & harper HUMMINGBIRD DANCE (#3) (\$12.50) Sequel to Queen's Park (\$10.95) and Lucky Elephant Restaurant (\$10.95 ea.), winner of the 2007 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Mystery. Set in Calgary.

SALTER, ANNA TRUTH CATCHER (#1) (\$16.50) A new series from the author of the Dr. Michael Stone series. Forensic psychologist Breeze Copens has the ability to see when people are lying, a very rare condition known as synesthesia. (Remember The Fallen (\$10.99) by **T. Jefferson Parker**? (*I loved that book. Marian*) She uses this unique condition to solve the cold case of a missing girl.

SANDFORD, JOHN virgil DARK OF THE MOON (#1) (\$10.99) A new character from the author of the Lucas Davenport series.

SCARBOROUGH, ELIZABETH AN CHANGELINGS: BOOK ONE OF THE TWINS OF PETAYBEE (\$10.99) A special order.

SCAROW, ALEX OCTOBER SKIES (\$24.95) In the winter of 1856 a group of settlers perishes in Wyoming. The group of Native Americans, also trapped by the winter, is not their enemy; something much, much more evil is. In 2008, Julian Cooke stumbles on the remains. From the author of A Thousand Suns (the Allies surrendered unconditionally to Hitler? (\$12.95)) and Last Light (the end of civilization as we know it because oil has run out,(\$10.99)).

SEDLEY, KATE GREEN MAN (\$22) In the summer of 1482, an English army, under the command of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, invades Scotland in order to win back the border town of Berwick-on-Tweed and to put King James III's renegade younger brother, the Duke of Albany, on the Scottish throne. Albany insists that his old acquaintance, Roger Chapman, be a member of his personal bodyguard, so an extremely reluctant Roger finds himself, by royal decree, a part of the invading force.

SERRANO, DANIEL GUNMETAL BLACK (\$16.99) Tired of the street life, ex-con Eddie Santiago has one simple, strictly legit dream: to head for Miami's glittering shores and start his own salsa record label. But Chicago's mean streets aren't letting him go that easy.

SHANNON, JOHN DARK STREETS (#9) (\$13.95) Jack Liffey.

SHARP, ZOE fox SECOND SHOT (#6) (\$8.99) Ex-Special Forces soldier-turned-bodyguard Charlie Fox is helping lottery millionaire, Simone Kerse, find her father. Simone's father has secrets in his past that are about to come back and haunt him, and the arrival of his long-lost daughter may be the catalyst that blows his whole world apart. A terrific series, which, alas, is mostly unavailable.

SHATTUCK, SHARI SPEAK OF THE DEVIL (\$8.99) Greer Sands has a unique talent for seeing glimpses of the future and reading auras, especially those of her friends and neighbours. Why they'd want her too, all she seems to see is dark wings and other portents of doom, is, of course, not to be queried. By the author of Eye of the Beholder (\$8.99).

SHORTZ, WILL WILL SHORTZ PRESENTS SUPER SIMPLE SUDOKU (\$5.99)

SIMMS, CHRIS jon spicer SAVAGE MOON (#3) (\$14.95) The body of a woman with her throat ripped out is found on Saddleworth Moor, near Manchester. Analysis shows that hairs caught under the dead woman's nails are those of a panther. But then a man DI Jon Spicer is investigating as part of another case is murdered in exactly the same way, only this time the body turns up in a secluded car park. Sequel to Killing the Beast (\$12.99) and Shifting Skin (\$14.95).

SMITH, ALEXANDER isabel CAREFUL USE OF COMPLIMENTS (#4) (\$19.95) Isabel Dalhousie attends an auction and finds an irresistible puzzle: two paintings attributed to a now-deceased artist appear on the market at the same time and both exhibit some unusual characteristics. Are these paintings forgeries? Sequel to The Sunday Philosophy Club, Friends, Lovers, Chocolate and The Right Attitude to Rain (\$19.95 each).

SMITH, CAROL TWILIGHT HOUR (\$16)

SMITH, L J NIGHT WORLD #1 (\$10.50) A collection of three vampire stories for young adults: Secret Vampire, Daughters of Darkness and Spellbinder. "Great" says Marian.

SOUTHEY, ROZ BROKEN HARMONY (#1) and CHORDS AND DISCORDS (#2) (\$22.95 each). Newcastle-upon-Thyne, in the 1730s.

STANLEY, J B supper club STIFFS AND SWINE (#4) (\$17.95)

STEGEMOELLER, RUDY DEAD MONEY: A NO LIMIT POKER MYSTERY (\$17)

STEIN, GARTH ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN (\$25.95) A special order.

STOCKWIN, JULIAN TREACHERY (#9) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.98 cloth). The continuing story of Thomas Kidd and life on the high seas. Commander Kydd must take on Napoleon's mighty fleet alone.

STRONG, TERENCE PRESIDENT DOWN (\$18.99) Former intelligence officer and one-time instructor at the British Army School of Sniping, Phil Mason is struggling to make ends meet as a PI when he's contacted by his former MI5 liaison officer. He's needed to hunt down members of the al-Qaeda terror cells in the UK.

SWAIN, JAMES carpenter MIDNIGHT RAMBLER (#1) (\$9.99) Jack Carpenter is infamous in South Florida. He's the cop who busted the notorious serial killer Simon Skell, aka the Midnight Rambler, and sacrificed his badge and marriage in the process. He now works as an abduction specialist in Fort Lauderdale reuniting families with their missing children. But the body of one of the Midnight Rambler's victims has just been uncovered and forensic evidence suggests Carpenter jailed the wrong man. With Skell just days away from release, the tarnished hero must reopen the case that shattered his life and the lives of eight murdered women.

TEMPLE, PETER DEAD POINT (#3) (\$21) The third Jack Irish novel. Sequel to Bad Debts and Black Tide (\$21 ea.) Terrific.

THAYER, TERRI STAMPED OUT (\$7.50) April, a restoration expert who creates intricate rubber-stamp patterns on walls, is back

home, a failed marriage and a sabotaged career in the very recent background. She's going to work with her father restoring the town's landmark mansion, the construction of which he had supervised years earlier. When a skeleton is unearthed during the renovation, all eyes are on her father. Includes instructions for a stamping project.

TRUMAN, MARGARET MURDER ON K STREET (\$9.99)

TWINING, JAMES tom kirk GILDED SEAL (#3) (\$9.99) Reformed art thief Tom Kirk is back and what a read! Tom's friend is murdered, trying to keep concealed a secret that has been hidden for 200 years, and Tom is determined to avenge the death. In New York, Special Agent Jennifer Browne is working a forgery case that threatens to explode into a huge scandal. How do these tie together? Will Jennifer and Tom get together again? Marian loves this series. "I couldn't wait to read the book and it did not disappoint. Just like the first two, Double Eagle and Black Sun (\$10.99 each), there is lots of action, secrets galore, thefts, murder, tons more action, famous paintings both original and fake, all resulting in loads of fun" she says.

VANCE, LEE RESTITUTION (\$9.99) Feeling very disillusioned, Peter Tyler seeks solace in a one night stand. Before he can come to grips with what he's done, his house is broken into and his wife brutally murdered. When the police discover that a mysterious package from his best friend, Andrei, is the only thing missing, they rule our random robbery. Peter becomes their main suspect and to make matters worse, Andrei, who might hold the key to everything, is missing.

[VARIOUS] Three novels in one: **DAN J. MARLOWE's** VENGEANCE MAN, **FLETCHER FLORA's** PARK AVENUE TRAMP and **CHARLES RUNYON's** THE PRETTIEST GIRL I EVER KILLED (\$21) Three writers of the American noir school. Complete with introductions and author bibliographies.

[VARIOUS] **ASHLEY, MIKE** MAMMOTH BOOK OF PERFECT CRIMES AND IMPOSSIBLE MYSTERIES (\$17.50)

[VARIOUS] **JAKUBOWSKI, MAXIM** PARIS NOIR (\$18)

[VARIOUS] **KNIGHTLY, ROBERT** QUEENS NOIR (\$19.50)

[VARIOUS] **SPIEGELMAN, PETER** WALL STREET NOIR (\$22)

[VARIOUS] MEDIEVAL MURDERER HOUSE OF SHADOWS (#3) (\$10.99) **Bernard Knight, Ian Morson, Michael Jecks, Philip Gooden** and **Susanna Gregory** have pooled their historical expertise to create five interlinked mysteries which start in 1114 at the Bermondsey Priory. A young chaplain succumbs to the temptations of the flesh and suffers a gruesome fate. From that moment, the monastery is cursed and over the next five hundred years murder and treachery abound within its hallowed walls.

[VARIOUS] MEDIEVAL MURDERER LOST PROPHECIES (#4) (\$19.99 trade paper \$29.99 hard cover) Six enthralling interlinked mysteries featuring **Jecks, Sansom, Knight, Gregory, Morson** and **Gooden**. As **Agatha Christie** might say, then there were six.

[VARIOUS] **OLSEN, E J** DETROIT NOIR (\$18) Motor City's "finest literary talents" offer stories set in different neighborhoods within the city. **Estleman, Oates, Holden** among others.

[VARIOUS] **PELECANOS/PENZLER, OTTO** BEST AMERICAN MYSTERY STORIES 2008 (\$15.95)

[VARIOUS] **PENZLER, OTTO** UNCERTAIN ENDINGS (\$16.50)

[VARIOUS] **SOLES, CARO ED** BLOOD ON THE HOLLY (\$16.95) (Baskerville Books) A terrific collection of Christmas themed short stories from **Peter Robinson, Maureen Jennings, Dennis Richard Murphy, Madeline Harris-Callway, Jane Burfield, Mary Keenan, Peter Sellers, Lyn Hamilton, Rosemary Aubert, Linwood Barclay, Sylvia Warsh, Ed Hoch, Mary Jane Maffini, D.J. McIntosh** and others. First published 2007.

VAUGHAN-HUGHES, PIP PAINTED IN BLOOD (#3) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section..

VIETS, ELAINE MURDER WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS (\$7.50)

VORHAUS, JOHN UNDER THE GUN (\$8.49) Hal's estranged brother, Guy, calls out of the blue, imploring Hal to come meet him

in Vegas. Hal has a bad feeling about all this. Guy is a pro poker player and it sounds like he's annoyed someone big.

WADDELL, DAN BLOOD DETECTIVE (#1) (\$16) When this was published in hardcover it was a *Marian's Pick* and this is what she had to say: Another new writer is **DAN WADDELL**. His debut novel is a British police procedural, with a twist. The Blood Detective introduces Detective Chief Inspector Grant Foster, Detective Sergeant Heather Jenkins and family historian Nigel Barnes. The clues to a series of murders in the Notting Hill area of London are knife wounds carved into the body of the victims. It turns out that the wounds are reference numbers to files of archives containing notices of births, deaths and marriages. That's where Nigel Barnes comes in. Nigel searches through documents and census lists to discover who his client's ancestors are and I found that part of the story fascinating. In this case he follows the trail of a murder more than a hundred years old. It's almost like two stories are being told: the police and how they are using current day clues to search for the murderer and Nigel with his research into genealogy. An excellent story.

WAMBAUGH, JOSEPH HOLLYWOOD CROWS (\$9.50) Hollywood always deceives you, and love always comes packing heat. Sequel to Hollywood Station (\$9.50).

WASHBURN, LIVIA newsom CHRISTMAS COOKIE KILLER (#3) (\$15.50) By the author of Peach of a Murder and Murder by the Slice (\$9.99 ea.) It's Christmas time in Weatherford, Texas, and retired teacher-cum-amateur sleuth Phyllis Newsom is looking forward to finishing up what has been one unlucky year. Includes recipes.

WELK, MARY SCARECROW MURDERS (\$24.99)

WHITE, RANDY WAYNE EVERGLADES ASSAULT (#6) (\$7.50) First published in the early 1980s under the name Randy Striker, this series of seven novel featuring ex-Navy Seal Dusky MacMorgan are now being reprinted under the author's real name. His "duck and fuck" novels. You'll have to read the intro. to find out why the author calls them that.

WILCOX, JOHN GUNS OF EL KEBIR (#5) (\$14.95)...the latest in the Simon Fonthill series

WILSON, EDWARD ENVOY (\$16.95) and RIVER IN MAY (\$18.95) A couple of special orders.

WILSON, F PAUL BLOODLINE (\$9.99) Repairman Jack.

WILSON, F PAUL KEEP (\$9.99) *Something* is killing the Nazi soldiers stationed in a small castle high in the remote Transylvanian Alps. One a night, the bloodless and mutilated corpses are left behind to terrify future victims. Reissue. First published in 1981.

WINGFIELD, R D TOUCH OF FROST (#2) (\$11.99) All five Insp. Frost novels are now available in paperback, just in time to celebrate the release of the sixth, and last, Killing Frost (\$34.95).

WOOD, SIMON WE ALL FALL DOWN (\$9.99) Hayden Duke has just signed on with an engineering firm to work on a vey high-level government project but his co-workers-to-be keep topping themselves. Is it the pressure of the job? Has Hayden put himself on the fast track to an early death?

WRIGHT, EDWARD wilkes DAMNATION FALLS (#1) (\$14.95) With his big-city journalism career in ruins, Randall Wilkes returns to his home town of Pilgrim's Rest, Tennessee, to ghost write the autobiography of his boyhood friend and former governor, Sonny McMahan. There he finds Sonny's mom Faye, addled with age, imagining her dead husband is alive and worrying that her son might be in danger. Randall finds Faye hideously murdered, hanged by the neck from a bridge over Damnsations Falls. Within days, another person connected to the McMahan clan is killed. And the bones of a third, long buried murder victim, a young woman, have emerged from the earth. By the author of the John Ray Horn novels.

YOKOMIZO, SEISHI INUGAMI CLAN (\$15.50) The first of some eighty-odd novels featuring ace private detective Kosuke Kin-daichi, and the first to be translated into English.