



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

September 2019

This is it, the last newsletter...of Sleuth's 40th year in business. Four decades! And 3.7 decades—that's 37 years for the mathematically challenged—under our care. Did not keep track of how many issues of this newsletter were published...too many to count. But, friends, the writing is on the wall, writ large. I suspect that we'll be here for another year—it'll take that long to settle all our affairs—but NO promises for beyond that. We might well be having this same discussion twenty years from now, but, maybe not.

Do you have any idea how many Earths—or more accurately, exoplanets, Earth-sized planets, orbiting in their star's habitable zone, not too close, not too far, where liquid water could exist--there could be? Just in our galaxy, the Milky Way, alone? Scientists have been discovering these exoplanets by the *thousands*! And, now, according to a new study from Penn State University, based on data from the Kepler Space Telescope, it turns out that one in four "sunlike" stars should have at least one exoplanet. So, that begs the question, how many "sunlike" stars are there in the Milky Way? Well, as there are about some 200 billion—that a "B" not a "M"—stars altogether in our galaxy, and about 10 percent of those are "sunlike" stars., that's 20 billion "sunlike" stars. And if a quarter of them have at least one exoplanets, that's at least 5 billion potential Earths. In our galaxy alone! Given the virtually infinite number of galaxies....the mind boggles. (If you'd like to read the article that this cribbed from, Google "EarthSky earth like exoplanets" and you should find Paul Scott Anderson's article without any problems).

That'd be a lot of mystery readers! Of course, the closets of such planets that has been discovered to date is Proxima Centauri b. That planet orbits its star, Proxima Centauri, and it's about 4.25 light years away. With current technology, it would take over 50,000 years to get there. I checked; UPS has no plans to start deliveries there any time soon.

Meanwhile, on our planet...no doubt you have seen that Pulitzer Prize winning photograph of Jack Ruby shooting Lee Harvey Oswald in the basement of a Dallas police station, on November 24, 1963. That was two days after President Kennedy was shot and killed. The burly man in the Stetson hat, on Oswald's right, was Detective James Leavelle, who died a few days ago. He was 99. Reading the account of Leavelle's death reminded me of exactly where I was when I first heard of Kennedy's assassination. One of those events, like Apollo 11, RFK, 9/11, John Lennon's death...that are indelibly burned into my brain. All of our brains, I would think.

And talking about RFK...read in this morning's Globe that Sirhan Sirhan, who was convicted of the murder and sentenced to life in jail, was attacked by another inmate but survived. My mind boggles at being incarcerated for over half-a-century. Yes, it was murder, but, compare that to the drunk driver—who was three times over the limit—who killed four people and seriously injuring two others, four years ago north of Toronto, who was sentenced to ten years. To make it even more obscene, he became eligible for day parole about a year ago. Not sure which of these two punishments "fit the crime" but...my mind boggles.

JD's Picks

I was recently introduced to ANGELA MARSONS, author of the Detective Kim Stone series. The series debut Silent Scream (#1) (\$25) was published in 2015 and the 11th instalment in the saga, Child's Play (#11) (\$23.95), was released a couple of months ago. I had missed ordering the series as they have only recently become readily available here, I think, but when a customer requested them, I brought them in. Supply is still sporadic, but if you want to start the series, rest assured that we'll keep finding stock.

The Merchant of Menace,

Sleuth's monthly newsletter, is available for download from SleuthOfBakerStreet.ca at no charge. If you'd like the hard copy mailed to you, it's \$50 a year for the bi-monthly edition.

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Here's the plot synopsis: Five figures gather round a shallow grave. They had all taken turns to dig. An adult-sized hole would have taken longer. An innocent life had been taken, but the pact had been made. Their secrets would be buried, bound in blood . . . Years later, a headmistress is found murdered, the first in a spate of gruesome attacks which shock the Black Country. But when human remains are discovered at a former children's home, disturbing secrets are also unearthed. D.I. Kim Stone fast realizes she's on the hunt for a twisted individual whose killing spree spans decades. As the body count rises, Kim needs to stop the murderer before they strike again. But to catch the killer, can Kim confront the demons of her own past before it's too late?

The slug on the cover of [Silent Screams](#) proclaims: The MILLION Copy International Bestseller. I figured I had better have a look. According to the author's website, and from other searches, the author experienced the usual stream of rejections from mainstream publishers—in her case for 25 years—until she found Bookouture, a digital publishing house. The rest, as they say, is history. Within a short period of time she had sold some 3-million copies of her D.I. Kim Stone stories and signed book deals with print publishers.

This debut was very, very good. A few clichés, of course, but it is the character of Stone that will keep me wanting to read more of the installments.

CHARLOTTE PHILBY's first novel, [The Most Difficult Thing](#) (\$21.99) arrived a few days ago and who would not be intrigued, with that last name? And, as it turns out, she is the granddaughter of one Kim Philby. She has also been a columnist, editor, investigative reporter for various news agencies, and, now, a published author. Of an excellent first effort.

In an article in *The Guardian*, the author says: "When I think about what Kim did what I'm always left with – and more so now that I have children of my own – is how do you walk out on your family?", said Philby. "What compels a person to do that? And then I started to wonder what would happen if the person who walked out – regardless of their motivations – was a woman? That's my jumping-off point."

Amazing how a simple idea, a simple realization, a simple jumping-off point results in something this good. This is a remarkably assured, poised, debut novel.

Marian's Picks

I'm living with a cricket! Do you know how nerve wracking it is having a pet cricket bunking with you in your small cottage for over two weeks? Let me tell you, it's not fun. I've tried to catch the wee thing, but he moves fast, is really wee, and can be very quiet when he wants to be and very loud at other times. I hope I catch him soon, as his singing at all times of the day and night is driving me bonkers! I think he is living behind the stove, but he moves around the cottage daily. I'm sure he'd like nothing more than to figure a way to escape! I'm trying to help, you idiot! Actually, there might be two now. Which means, soon there will be a billion of them. I might have to move out.

I didn't get any pickling done this summer. I had all good intentions, the road is well paved, but I've been a bit grumpy due to my frozen shoulder. So, nothing got done, not even much cleaning of the cottage (I'm using my shoulder as an excuse for not cleaning). Thank goodness my brother stacked my winter wood for me when he was there and cut the grass. What a hassle it's been; you don't realize how much you use a body part until that part doesn't work properly.

Pixie is still on her quest to get a frog to be her best friend. She reckons if I have a pet cricket, why can't she have a pet frog? When the odd one doesn't jump away from her in fright, she lies down and just stares at it. I really think she wants froggy to play with her and it's heartwarming to see how careful she is not to touch or scare froggy away.

The breeders that Percy and Pixie came from have a new litter of the cutest little darlings. The runt of the litter is the one I desperately want, but I'm resisting. Maybe in a few years...OMG but they are so gorgeous. Fat little bellies, running around chewing each other's faces, sleeping in the sunshine... I'd take them all.

Lots of great books have been arriving over the past couple of months but the one I've been waiting for with so much anticipation is the new **LOUISE PENNY, [A Better Man](#) (#15)** (\$36.99). And, OMG, **Ms. Penny** outdid herself, yet again. I wanted to race through the book full steam ahead, but I didn't; I took my time savouring each word, living every moment, every joy and angst, with the characters. It was a very subtle and thoughtful book, quite different, in my opinion, than some of her earlier works. Much more introspective and thought provoking. Most of us were wondering what would happen to Gamache and his team at the end of the previous book, [Kingdom of the Blind](#) (#14) (\$12.99), eagerly anticipating the new book. Well, she just blew me out of the water, with this one. I'm suggesting you run, don't walk, to your closest independent bookstore, hopefully Sleuth, and buy it. It is absolutely mind boggling and wonderful, joyful and sad all at the same time. The only thing wrong with the book? I have to wait a whole year for the next one!

I finally got around to reading [The Polish Detective](#) (\$17.99) by **HANIA ALLEN**, and what a read it was. It's always such a pleasure to discover a new, wonderful, writer at the start of their career, with the promise of many more great reads to come! Great plot, interesting characters and good story telling...fans of the classic British police procedural will like this one a lot. A great read! DS Dania Gorska was born in Poland but transferred from The Met in London to Dundee, Scotland's specialist crime division. As she's investigating a series of grotesque killings, where the victims are first brutally murdered and then displayed in a bizarre manner, she finds herself increasingly drawn to the case of two runaway teenage girls who just might be part of a local druid cult. And, despite what the evidence suggests, Dania starts to fear that the girls have not run away but are actually the newest, undiscovered victims of the killer. Did I mention that Dania has a gorgeous brother who she lives with, a journalist, who just happens to be looking into the actions of the same cult? That adds a spicy little bit of extra! The second Gorska thriller, [Clearing the Dark](#) (#2) (\$24.99) is also available.

[Borrowing of Bones](#) (#1) (\$10.99) by **PAULA MUNIER** has just arrived in the store in a paperback edition. It is a terrific read if you love dogs. Actually, it's a terrific read even if you don't love dogs. I was hoping her second book will be in soon, but it seems I have to wait until November to read [Blind Search](#) (#2) (\$36.50). Here is a description of the plot for [Borrowing of Bones](#): After their last deployment, when she got shot, her fiancé Martinez got killed and his bomb-sniffing dog Elvis got depressed, soldier Mercy Carr and Elvis were both sent home, her late lover's last words ringing in her ears: "Take care of my partner."

Together the two former military police, one twenty-nine-year-old two-legged female with wounds deeper than skin and one handsome five-year-old four-legged Malinois with canine PTSD, march off their grief mile after mile in the beautiful remote Vermont wilderness. Even on the Fourth of July weekend, when all of Northshire celebrates with fun and frolic and fireworks, it's just another walk in the

woods for Mercy and Elvis—until the dog alerts to explosives and they find a squalling baby abandoned near a shallow grave filled with what appear to be human bones.

U.S. Game Warden Troy Warner and his search and rescue Newfoundland Susie Bear respond to Mercy's 911 call, and the four must work together to track down a missing mother, solve a cold-case murder, and keep the citizens of Northshire safe on potentially the most incendiary Independence Day since the American Revolution.

Not sure why I picked up the advance reading copy of Roman Count Down (#6) (\$22.99) by **DAVID P. WAGNER**. Maybe because the front cover said it was "...an Italian Mystery", and the first time I went to Italy I fell in love with the country. Although Roman is the sixth in the series, it's actually a prequel to the first book which is titled Cold Tuscan Stone (#1) (\$21.99). It was like reading a guide to Rome. Food, restaurants, drink, tourist places, little back laneways, just a delightful read, with interesting characters and a touch of humour. I've ordered a copy of Cold to add to my "to be read" pile, but you might as well start with the prequel. Here is a summary of the plot: Rick Montoya, eager to experience more of his Italian mother's culture, heads to Rome to start his own translation business. He's armed with curiosity and an appetite for local food and wine. Rick's maternal uncle is a Roman cop with one eye to his nephew's welfare and another to how Rick might be useful, perhaps widen his career choices. So Commissario Piero Fontana pulls Rick into an investigation: the murder of Count Umberto Zimbardi.

The wealthy count enjoyed indulging a circle of convivial friends and a hobby collecting oral histories by interviewing residents in the city's *centro storico*. After heading home from such an afternoon, he was found dead on a bridge over the Tiber.

As a newcomer and an investigator, Rick makes rookie mistakes. He's learning the ropes as an amateur sleuth and that living in Rome is different from visiting. Plus, he's distracted by a woman pressing him into service as a tour guide and the arrival of a college friend on a mission to sell Argentine wine to the Vatican.

Can't wait to sample more of the series.

Hardbacks

ARCHER, JEFFREY warwick NOTHING VENTURED (#1) (\$34.99) A new series! William Warwick has always wanted to be a detective, and decides, much to his father's dismay, that rather than become a lawyer like his father, Sir Julian Warwick QC, and his sister Grace, he will join London's Metropolitan Police Force. After graduating from university, William begins a career that will define his life: from his early months on the beat under the watchful eye of his first mentor, Constable Fred Yates, to his first high-stakes case as a fledgling detective in Scotland Yard's arts and antiquities squad. Investigating the theft of a priceless Rembrandt painting from the Fitzmolean Museum, he meets Beth Rainsford, a research assistant at the gallery who he falls hopelessly in love with, even as Beth guards a secret of her own that she's terrified will come to light. While William follows the trail of the missing masterpiece, he comes up against suave art collector Miles Faulkner and his brilliant lawyer, Booth Watson QC, who are willing to bend the law to breaking point to stay one step ahead of William. Meanwhile, Miles Faulkner's wife, Christina, befriends William, but whose side is she really on?

ARMSTRONG, KELLEY WHEREVER SHE GOES (\$29.95) "Few crimes are reported as quickly as a snatched kid." That's what the officer tells single mother Aubrey Finch after she reports a kid-

napping. So why hasn't anyone reported the little boy missing? Aubrey knows what she saw: a boy being taken against his will from the park. It doesn't matter that the mother can't be found. It doesn't matter if no one reported it. Aubrey knows he's missing. Instead, people question her sanity. And, when the police refuse to believe her, she realizes that rescuing the boy is up to her alone. But after all the secrets, how far is she willing to go? Even to protect a child.

BARRETT, LORNA tricia KILLER EDITION (#13) (\$35) With her assistant, Pixie, picking up more responsibility around the bookstore, Tricia Miles suddenly has a lot more time on her hands. Tricia decides to join the local animal-rescue board and enter the Great Stoneham Bake-Off, but neither pans out as smoothly as she'd hoped. Balancing a bake-off that's heating up with a frosty reception from the board, Tricia stops by Joyce Whitman's romance bookstore looking for a book to get her fired up. She stumbles on something hot, but it's an argument between Joyce and her neighbor Vera Olson instead of a steamy read. When Vera turns up dead in Joyce's garden hours later, Tricia has to wonder—could Joyce be the killer? Or is the culprit still lurking in town?

BENN, JAMES R billy boyle WHEN HELL STRUCK TWELVE (#14) (\$35.95) August, 1944: US Army detective Billy Boyle is assigned to track down a French traitor, code-named Atlantik, who is delivering classified Allied plans to German leaders in occupied Paris. The Resistance is also hot on his trail and out for blood, after Atlantik's previous betrayals led to the death of many of their members. But the plans Atlantik carries were leaked on purpose, a ruse devised to obscure the Allied army's real intentions to bypass Paris in a race to the German border. Now Billy and Kaz are assigned to the Resistance with orders to not let them capture the traitor: the deception campaign is too important. Playing a delicate game, the chase must be close enough to spur the traitor on and visible enough to ensure the Germans trust Atlantik. The outcome of the war may well depend on it.

BERENSON, LAURIEN travis BITE CLUB (#23) (\$35) Thanks to Aunt Peg and her enthusiastic pedigree dog show pals, Melanie's aptly named Bite Club reading group has book lovers all over town burying their noses in thrilling murder mysteries. But another pet project surfaces when Melanie reluctantly agrees to train a Bulldog puppy for elusive member Evan Major. Between the unusual bruise on his face and a bizarre run-in with an unknown dog show attendee, introverted Evan can't dodge trouble. It even sends him to an early grave—while landing Melanie in the hot seat for homicide. Caught at the wrong place at the wrong time, Melanie delves into the victim's shady past to prove her innocence. As she uncovers a juicy scandal that cost Evan his marriage and, possibly, his life, Melanie realizes that booking the real culprit comes down to gathering her pack of suspects together at the next Bite Club meeting.

BOX, C J cassie dewell BITTERROOTS (#4) (\$37.99) Former sheriff's investigator Cassie Dewell is trying to start her life over as in private practice. She's her own boss and answers to no one, and that's just the way she likes it after the past few tumultuous years. All that certainty changes when an old friend calls in a favor: she wants Cassie to help exonerate a man accused of assaulting a young woman from an influential family. Against her own better judgment, Cassie agrees. But out by the Bitterroot Mountains of Montana, twisted family loyalty runs as deep as the ties to the land, and there's always something more to the story. The Kleinsassers have ruled this part of Montana for decades, and the Iron Cross Ranch is their stronghold. They want to see Blake Kleinsasser, the black sheep of the family, put away forever for the assault. As Cassie attempts to uncover the truth, she must fight against a family whose roots are tangled and deadly—as well as the ghosts of her own past that threaten to bring her down.

COONTS, STEPHEN RUSSIA ACCOUNT (\$36.99) It Starts with a Murder . . . Will It End with a Coup? Burglar-turned CIA warrior Tommy Carmellini is pitted against a murderous international financial conspiracy that leaves a trail of death and corruption, extending from a small bank in Estonia to the highest reaches of the Kremlin and the halls of Congress—perhaps even to the CIA itself, putting Admiral Jake Grafton, the head of the CIA, in the crosshairs of an as-

sassin.

COTTERILL, COLIN coroner SECOND BIGGEST NOTHING (#14) (\$35.95) Vientiane, 1980: For a man of his age and in his corner of the world, Dr. Siri, the 76-year-old former national coroner of Laos, is doing remarkably well, especially considering the fact that he is possessed by a thousand-year-old Hmong shaman. That is, until he finds a mysterious note tied to his dog's tail. Upon finding someone to translate the note, Dr. Siri learns it is a death threat addressed not only to him, but to everyone he holds dear. Whoever wrote the note claims the job will be executed in two weeks. Thus, at the urging of his wife and his motley crew of faithful friends, Dr. Siri must figure out who wants him dead, prompting him to recount three incidents over the years: an early meeting with his lifelong pal Civilai in Paris in the early '30s, a particularly disruptive visit to an art museum in Saigon in 1956, and a prisoner of war negotiation in Hanoi at the height of the Vietnam War in the '70s. There will be grave consequences in the present if Dr. Siri can't decipher the clues from his past.

DAVIS, LINDSEY flavia CAPITOL DEATH (#7) (\$34.99) A tragic accident . . . or was it? Emperor Domitian has been awarded (or rather, has demanded) yet another Triumph to celebrate two so-called victories. Preparations are going smoothly until one of the men overseeing arrangements for the celebration accidentally falls to his death from a cliff on the symbolic Capitoline Hill. But Flavia Albia suspects there's more to the incident than meets the eye, as there are plenty of people who would have been delighted to be rid of the over-seer. He was an abusive swine who couldn't organise a booze-up in a winery and was caught up in a number of scams, including one surrounding the supply of imperial purple dye and a family of shellfish-boilers. As Flavia finds herself drawn into a theatrical world of carnival floats, musicians, incense and sacrificial beasts, can she see to the heart of the matter and catch those responsible for the unpopular man's untimely death?

GOLDSWORTHY, ADRIAN vindo BRIGANTIA (#3) (\$39.95) AD 98: The bustling army base at Vindolanda lies on the northern frontier of Britannia and the entire Roman world. In just over 20 years' time, the Emperor Hadrian will build his famous wall. But for now defenses are weak as tribes rebel against Rome, and local druids preach the fiery destruction of the invaders. It falls to Flavius Ferox, Briton and Roman centurion, to keep the peace. But it will take more than just a soldier's courage to survive life in Roman Britain?

GORDON, DAVID bouncer HARD STUFF (#2) (\$38.95) Ex-black-ops-specialist-turned-strip-club-bouncer Joe Brody has a new qualification to add to his resume: an alliance of New York City's mob bosses has deemed him its "sheriff." In the straight world, when you "see something" you "say something" to the law. In the bent world, they call Joe. Still reeling from a particularly difficult operation, and having plummeted back into the drug and alcohol addiction that got him kicked out of the military as a result, Joe has just managed to detox at the clinic of a Chinese herbalist when the mob bosses phone: they need Joe to help them swindle a group of opioid dealers (of all things). But these are no typical drug-ferrying gangsters. Little Maria, the head of the Dominican mob, has discovered that her new heroin suppliers belong to an al Qaeda splinter group, and that they're planning to use their drug funds to back their terrorist agenda. With Joe in command, the mob coalition must pull off an intricate heist that will begin in Manhattan's diamond district. At stake is not only their business, but the state of the world. The first in this excellent series is The Bouncer (\$23.95).

GOULD, HOWARD MICHAEL BELOW THE LINE (#2) (\$35) Former LAPD detective Charlie Waldo was living in solitude deep in the woods, pathologically committed to owning no more than one hundred possessions, until his PI ex-girlfriend Lorena dragged him back to civilization to solve a high-profile Hollywood murder. Now Waldo and Lorena have their hands full with a new client, a wild and privileged L.A. teenager named Stevie Rose who tells lies as easily as she breathes. When the teacher Stevie claims seduced her turns up dead, the LAPD pegs her as the prime suspect. Then Stevie disappears, and her self-involved Hollywood parents turn to Waldo to find

her—a task that draws him down into Orange County's dangerous and complex worlds, both opulent and seedy, where nothing is as it seems. With treachery and deception at every turn, and with Waldo's eco-obsessed rules for living complicating his already complicated relationship with Lorena, Waldo fends off enemies old and new as he races to find Stevie and solve the murder.

GRANGER, ANN ross MURDERER'S APPRENTICE (#7) (\$34.99) It is March 1870. London is in the grip of fog and ice. But Scotland Yard's Inspector Ben Ross has more than the weather to worry about when the body of a young woman is found in a dustbin at the back of a Piccadilly restaurant. Ben must establish who the victim is before he can find out how and why she came to be there. His enquiries lead him first to a bootmaker in Salisbury and then to a landowner in Yorkshire. Meanwhile, Ben's wife, Lizzie, aided by their eagle-eyed maid, Bessie, is investigating the mystery of a girl who is apparently being kept a prisoner in her own home. As Ben pursues an increasingly complex case, Lizzie reveals a vital piece of evidence that brings him one step closer to solving the crime...

JOHNSON, ALEX BOOK TOWNS: FORTY FIVE PARADISES OF THE PRINTED WORD (\$29.99) This is just a delightful book! The so-called "Book Towns" of the world are dedicated havens of literature, and the ultimate dream of book lovers everywhere. *Book Towns* takes readers on a richly illustrated tour of the 40 semi-officially recognized literary towns around the world and outlines the history and development of each community and offers practical travel advice. Many Book Towns have emerged in areas of marked attraction, such as Ureña in Spain or Fjaerland in Norway, where bookshops have been set up in buildings including former ferry waiting rooms and banks. While the UK has the best-known examples at Hay, Wigtown and Sedbergh, the book has a broad international appeal, featuring locations such as Jimbochu in Japan, College Street in Calcutta, and major unofficial "book cities" such as Buenos Aires.

LAGERCRANTZ, DAVID millenium GIRL WHO LIVED TWICE (#6) (\$34) Lisbeth Salander's mentor and protector Holger Palmgren is dead, and she has been gone from Stockholm since his funeral. All summer, Mikael Blomkvist has been plagued by the fear that Salander's enemies will come after her. He should, perhaps, be more concerned for himself. In the pocket of an unidentified homeless man, who died with the name of a Swedish government minister on his lips, the police find a list of telephone numbers. Among them, the contact for *Millennium* magazine and the investigative journalist Mikael Blomkvist. Following the scorched trail of her twin sister Camilla to Moscow, Salander nevertheless continues to watch over her old friend. Soon Blomkvist will need her help. But first, she has an old score to settle; and fresh outrage to avenge.

LEININGER, ROB angel GUMSHOE ROCK (#4) (\$39.95) Early in July, northern Nevada's senior Internal Revenue Service agent, Ronald Soranden—disliked by every agent in the Reno IRS office—vanished without a trace. In September, he makes a dramatic reappearance, of sorts. His skull—stripped clean and white—is dropped through the slashed top of a Mustang convertible. The vehicle belongs to Lucy Landry, PI Mortimer Angel's gorgeous young assistant now working with him on a seemingly unrelated embezzlement case. But Mort is a former IRS field agent in Reno. He'd done his time during the tyrannical reign of Soranden, quitting, he says, "when I discovered I have a soul." Now that his former boss's head has appeared, he and Lucy find them themselves under the annoying surveillance of a pair of IRS enforcement agents. When the FBI are brought in to investigate the murder, Mort and Lucy realize shocking details about their own case—primarily Soranden's involvement. It becomes evident that events and suspects of the embezzlement case and Soranden's murder are heavily entangled with those enmeshed in an ugly case of blackmail.

LOVESTAM, SARA TRUTH BEHIND THE LIE (\$36.50) When a six-year-old girl disappears and calling the police isn't an option, her desperate mother Pernilla turns to an unlikely source for help. She finds a cryptic ad online for a private investigator: "Need help, but can't contact the police?" That's where Kouplan comes in. He's an Iranian refugee living in hiding. He was forced to leave Iran after

news of his and his brother's involvement with a radical newspaper hated by the regime was discovered. Kouplan's brother disappeared, and he hasn't seen him in four years. He makes a living as a P.I. working under the radar, waiting for the day he can legally apply for asylum. Pernilla's daughter has vanished without a trace, and Kouplan is an expert at living and working off the grid. He's the perfect PI to help... but something in Pernilla's story doesn't add up. She might need help that he can't offer...and a little girl's life hangs in the balance.

MACKINLAY/MCKINLAY, JENN library **WORD TO THE WISE (#10)** (\$35) Lindsey Norris is finally getting married to the man of her dreams—but it's not all roses for Briar Creek's beloved library director, as gardening enthusiast and town newcomer Aaron Grady gives the term "book lover" a whole new meaning. Inappropriate looks and unwelcome late-night visits to Lindsey's house have everyone from the crafters to Lindsey's fiancé, Sully, on edge. When Grady's dead body is found staged outside the library and all the clues point to Sully, Lindsey knows it's up to her to dig through the hidden chapters of Grady's previous life to find the real culprit and clear Sully's name. But becoming a thorn in the killer's side is not without its consequences, and the closer Lindsey gets to the truth, the more determined the murderer is to make her just a footnote

OWENS, DELIA **WHERE THE CRAWDADS SING** (\$35) This book is selling like hot cakes across Canada, so we thought we'd try and sell a few copies as well. #1 *New York Times* Bestseller; "I can't even express how much I love this book! I didn't want this story to end!"--Reese Witherspoon; "Painfully beautiful."--*The New York Times Book Review*; "Perfect for fans of Barbara Kingsolver."—*Bustle*. For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life, until the unthinkable happens. This book is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder. Owens reminds us that we are forever shaped by the children we once were, and that we are all subject to the beautiful and violent secrets that nature keeps.

PARKER, T JEFFERSON ford **LAST GOOD GUY (#3)** (\$36) In this new thriller from three-time Edgar Award winner and *New York Times* bestseller T. Jefferson Parker, Private Investigator Roland Ford hunts for a missing teenager and uncovers a dark conspiracy in his most personal case yet. When hired by a beautiful and enigmatic woman to find her missing younger sister, private investigator Roland Ford immediately senses that the case is not what it seems. He is soon swept up in a web of lies and secrets as he searches for the teenager, and even his new client cannot be trusted. His investigation leads him to a secretive charter school, skinhead thugs, a cadre of American Nazis hidden in a desert compound, an arch-conservative celebrity evangelist—and, finally, to the girl herself.

PENNY, LOUISE **BETTER MAN (#15)** (\$36.99) Some reviews: "A Better Man,' with its mix of meteorological suspense, psychological insight and criminal pursuit, is arguably the best book yet in an outstanding, original oeuvre." —Tom Nolan, *The Wall Street Journal*; "Enchanting... one of his most ennobling missions." —Marilyn Stasio, *New York Times Book Review*. "The best book of the year" -- Marian Misters. It's Gamache's first day back as head of the homicide department, a job he temporarily shares with his previous second-in-command, Jean-Guy Beauvoir. Flood waters are rising across the province. In the middle of the turmoil a father approaches Gamache, pleading for help in finding his daughter. As crisis piles upon crisis, Gamache tries to hold off the encroaching chaos, and realizes the search for Vivienne Godin should be abandoned. But with a daughter of his own, he finds himself developing a profound, and perhaps unwise, empathy for her distraught father. Increasingly hounded by the

question, *how would you feel...*, he resumes the search. As the rivers rise, and the social media onslaught against Gamache becomes crueler, a body is discovered. And in the tumult, mistakes are made. Gamache must face a horrific possibility, and a burning question. *What would you do if your child's killer walked free?*

PRESTON & CHILD kelly **OLD BONES (#1)** (\$36.50) The #1 *NYT* bestselling authors Preston & Child bring the true story of the ill-fated Donner Party to new life in this novel of archaeology, history, murder, and suspense. Nora Kelly, a young curator at the Santa Fe Institute of Archaeology, is approached by historian Clive Benton with a once-in-a-lifetime proposal: to lead a team in search of the so-called "Lost Camp" of the tragic Donner Party. This was a group of pioneers who earned a terrible place in American history when they became snow-bound in the California mountains in 1847, their fate unknown until the first skeletonized survivors stumbled out of the wilderness, raving about starvation, murder-and cannibalism. Benton tells Kelly he has stumbled upon an amazing find: the long-sought diary of one of the victims, which has an enigmatic description of the Lost Camp. Nora agrees to lead an expedition to locate and excavate it-to reveal its long-buried secrets. Once in the mountains, however, they learn that discovering the camp is only the first step in a mounting journey of fear. For as they uncover old bones, they expose the real truth of what happened, one that is far more shocking and bizarre than mere cannibalism.

RANKIN, IAN rebus **LONG SHADOWS a play** (\$29.99) This is a play. The stage debut for the legendary detective John Rebus in this brand new, original story by Ian Rankin, written alongside the award-winning playwright Rona Munro. John Rebus is not as young as he was, but his detective instincts have never left him. And after the daughter of a murder victim turns up outside his flat, he's going to need them at their sharpest. Enlisting the help of his old friend DI Sibobhan Clarke, Rebus is determined to solve this cold case once and for all. But Clarke has problems of her own, problems that will put her at odds with her long-time mentor and push him into seeking help from his age-old adversary: 'Big Ger' Cafferty. This haunting story takes Rebus to places he has never been before, sets him and his long-time foe on a collision course and takes us deeper into one of the most satisfying conflicts in modern fiction. Featuring an introduction from Rankin himself, a Q&A between writers Ian and Rona, an interview with the director, and behind-the-scenes production materials, this book is one Rebus fans will not want to miss out on.

RIPLEY, MIKE champion **MR. CAMPION'S VISIT (#6)** (\$39.95) Suffolk, 1970. Albert Campion is back in Black Dudley, once the scene of murder and mayhem but now home to the brand-new University of Suffolk Coastal. Appointed to the role of the university's Visitor, Campion finds he has a curiously vague remit, but his initial visit to the concrete campus takes an unexpected turn when the body of charismatic Chilean professor Pascual Perez-Catalan, a rising star and genius scientist in the field of geochemistry, is fished out of the ornamental lake. It seems Pascual was unpopular among his fellow academics and lecturers, his trail-blazing research taking up most of the university's new computing capacity . . . and he was also a keen ladies man. Drawn into another puzzling murder, Campion must negotiate internal politics, seething jealousy and resentment, blackmail, betrayal and a phantom trumpeter as he searches for a ruthless killer.

ROSLUND-HELLSTROM grens **THREE HOURS (#7)** (\$32.49) Stockholm, Sweden: Seventy-three refugees have been found dead, suffocated in a container at Varta harbor. Niamey, Niger: Ewert Grens arrives in a city he's never heard of, in search of a man he never thought he would see again. Piet Hoffmann has again got himself in too deep, infiltrating a West African trafficking ring. He thinks he has two weeks to extricate himself, but will learn that his life, and that of countless defenseless people, now hangs on his actions during three desperate hours.

ROWE, ROSEMARY **PRISONER OF PRIVILEGE (#18)** (\$39.95) The arrival of a high-ranking spy for the Emperor Severus spells trouble for Libertus in this new historical mystery set in 2nd century Britain. On a misty day in February, CE 194, Libertus, pavement maker by trade and now reluctant councilor, is summoned to meet his patron

at the local public baths. Marcus Septimus is concerned because a distant cousin from Rome has announced his impending arrival and Marcus is convinced, he is a spy for the Emperor Severus, dispatched to Glevum to investigate reports of an 'act of treason.' Meanwhile, Libertus has concerns of his own. The local moneylender has been seeking his counsel, but before they can meet, a violent and untimely death occurs ... and before long Libertus finds himself a prisoner of his new-found rank, fighting for the truth amidst accusations of treason and murder.

SAGER, RILEY LOCK EVERY DOOR (\$35) The instant *New York Times* bestseller. One of...*Parade's* "Most Anticipated Books of Summer 2019" and "Best Beach Reads of Summer 2019" • *Good Housekeeping's* "Best New Books for Summer 2019" • *PureWow's* "The Best Beach Reads of Summer 2019" • *BookBub's* "Books That Will Make the Perfect Addition to Your Beach Bag This Summer". The story follows a young woman whose new job apartment sitting in one of New York's oldest and most glamorous buildings may cost more than it pays. No visitors. No nights spent away from the apartment. No disturbing the other residents, all of whom are rich or famous or both. These are the only rules for Jules Larsen's new job as an apartment sitter at the Bartholomew, one of Manhattan's most high-profile and mysterious buildings. Recently heartbroken and just plain broke, Jules is taken in by the splendor of her surroundings and accepts the terms, ready to leave her past life behind. As she gets to know the residents and staff of the Bartholomew, Jules finds herself drawn to fellow apartment sitter Ingrid, who comfortingly reminds her of the sister she lost eight years ago. When Ingrid confides that the Bartholomew is not what it seems and the dark history hidden beneath its gleaming facade is starting to frighten her, Jules brushes it off as a harmless ghost story...until the next day, when Ingrid disappears. Searching for the truth about Ingrid's disappearance, Jules digs deeper into the Bartholomew's sordid past and into the secrets kept within its walls. What she discovers pits Jules against the clock as she races to unmask a killer, expose the building's hidden past, and escape the Bartholomew before her temporary status becomes permanent.

SHAW, WILLIAM Breen tozer PLAY WITH FIRE (#4) aka sympathy for the devil (\$36.50) Originally published in 2017, make sure you didn't buy the UK edition. In hedonistic 1960s London, a police detective investigates the unexpected connections between two suspicious deaths: a call girl and a rock star. In the summer of '69, the hard-living rockers of the British Invasion still rule London when former Rolling Stone Brian Jones is found floating in the pool of his palatial home. On a quiet residential block that should be far removed from the swinging party scene, Detective Sergeant Cathal Breen investigates the murder of a young woman. But the victim, known professionally as Julie Teenager, was a call girl for the rich and famous. Her client list is long, and thick with suspects—all rich, powerful, and protected. As DS Breen hones in on his prime target, he receives a pointed warning: Watch your back. Fortunately, Breen doesn't have to work alone. His keenly intuitive, deeply moral partner Helen Tozer, despite the pregnancy that's interrupted her policing career, can't help being drawn into the case of a girl used and cast aside.

SLAUGHTER, KARIN trent LAST WIDOW (#9) (\$34.99) On a hot summer night, a scientist from the Centers for Disease Control is grabbed by unknown assailants in a shopping center parking lot. The authorities are desperate to save the doctor who's been vanished into thin air. One month later, the serenity of a sunny Sunday afternoon is shattered by the boom of a ground-shaking blast—followed by another seconds later. One of Atlanta's busiest and most important neighborhoods has been bombed—the location of Emory University, two major hospitals, the FBI headquarters, and the CDC. Medical examiner Sara Linton and her partner Will Trent, an investigator with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, rush to the scene—and into the heart of a deadly conspiracy that threatens to destroy thousands of innocent lives. When the assailants abduct Sara, Will goes undercover to save her and prevent a massacre—putting his own life on the line for the woman and the country he loves.

TOKARCZUK, OLGA DRIVE YOUR PLOW OVER THE BONES OF THE DEAD (\$36) Finalist for the 2019 Man Booker in-

ternational prize. "A brilliant literary murder mystery." -*Chicago Tribune*; "Extraordinary. Tokarczuk's novel is funny, vivid, dangerous, and disturbing, and it raises some fierce questions about human behavior. My sincere admiration for her brilliant work." -Annie Proulx. In a remote Polish village, Janina devotes the dark winter days to studying astrology, translating the poetry of William Blake, and taking care of the summer homes of wealthy Warsaw residents. Her reputation as a crank and a recluse is amplified by her not-so-secret preference for the company of animals over humans. Then a neighbor, Big Foot, turns up dead. Soon other bodies are discovered, in increasingly strange circumstances. As suspicions mount, Janina inserts herself into the investigation, certain that she knows whodunit. **TREGER, LOUISA** DRAGON LADY (\$35) Opening with the shooting of Lady Virginia 'Ginie' Courtauld in her tranquil garden in 1950s Rhodesia, *The Dragon Lady* tells Ginie's extraordinary story, so called for the exotic tattoo snaking up her leg. From the glamorous Italian Riviera before the Great War to the Art Deco glory of Eltham Palace in the thirties, and from the secluded Scottish Highlands to segregated Rhodesia in the fifties, the narrative spans enormous cultural and social change. Lady Virginia Courtauld was a boundary-breaking, colourful and unconventional person who rejected the submissive role women were expected to play. Ostracised by society for being a foreign divorcée at the time of Edward VIII and Mrs. Simpson, Ginie and her second husband, Stephen Courtauld, leave the confines of post-war Britain to forge a new life in Rhodesia, only to find that being progressive liberals during segregation proves mortally dangerous. Many people had reason to dislike Ginie, but who had reason enough to pull the trigger?

Paperbacks

ALLINGHAM, MARGERY BLACKKERCHIEF DICK (\$25.95) First published in 1923, this is Margery Allingham's first novel, written at the age of nineteen. Preceding her much adored Albert Campion series, *Blackkerchief Dick* is a standalone novel that showcases the author's raw and evergreen writing. Centring on a group of smugglers on Mersea Island in the 17th century, Allingham explores how true love and friendship can be found in the darkest of places. With romance, heartbreak and adventure on an even keel, *Blackkerchief Dick* ticks along to the beat of a smuggler's life; murder, rum, and the old call of the sea.

ALLINGHAM/RIPLEY, MIKE champion MR. CAMPIONS FAULT (#3) (\$25.50) Following the death of the senior English master in a tragic road accident, Mr. Champion's son Rupert and daughter-in-law Perdita are helping out at Ash Grange School for Boys, where Perdita's godfather is headmaster. While Perdita is directing the end-of-term play, a musical version of Dr. Faustus, Rupert is tackling the school's rugby football team – and both are finding their allotted tasks more of a challenge than they had anticipated. When the headmaster telephones Albert Campion to inform him that Rupert has been arrested, Mr. Campion heads to Yorkshire to get to the bottom of the matter. There are no secrets in the traditional mining village of Denby Ash, he's told – but on uncovering reports of a disruptive poltergeist, a firebrand trade unionist, a missing conman and a local witch, he finds that's far from being the case. And was the English master, Mr. Browne's, death really an accident...?

ASKEW, CLAIRE birch ALL THE HIDDEN TRUTHS (#1) (\$17.99) Longlisted for the McIlvanney Prize Scottish crime book of the year; shortlisted for the McIlvanney Debut Prize; shortlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger and CWA John Creasey (new blood) awards. In the aftermath of a tragedy, the world needs an explanation. In Edinburgh, after the Three Rivers College shooting, some things are clear. They know who. They know when. No one can say why. For three women the lack of answers is unbearable: DI Helen Birch, the detective charged with solving the case. Ishbel, the mother of the first victim, struggling to cope with her grief. And Moira, mother of the

killer, who needs to understand what happened to her son. But as people search for someone to blame, the truth seems to vanish.

ATKINS, ACE quinn SHAMELESS (#9) (\$39) Large Print Edition. Twenty years ago, Brandon Taylor was thought to be just another teen boy who ended his life too soon. That's what almost everyone in Tibbehah County, Mississippi, said after his body and hunting rifle were found in the Big Woods. Now two New York-based reporters show up asking Sheriff Quinn Colson questions about the Taylor case. *What happened to the evidence? Where are the missing files? Who really killed Brandon?* Quinn wants to help. After all, his wife Maggie was a close friend of Brandon Taylor. But Quinn was just a kid himself in 1997, and these days he's got more on his plate than twenty-year-old suspicious death. He's trying to shut down the criminal syndicate that's had a stranglehold on Tibbehah for years, trafficking drugs, stolen goods, and young women through the MidSouth. Truck stop madam Fannie Hathcock runs most of that action and has her eyes on taking over the whole show.

BARCLAY, LINWOOD NOISE DOWNSTAIRS (\$12.99) Paul Davis is hearing some very strange noises in the night. He hears the clickety-click of a manual typewriter--as if someone is vigorously tapping the keys. The eerie sounds began soon after his wife, Charlotte, bought him a classic antique Underwood. But only Paul can hear the noise coming from downstairs; Charlotte doesn't hear anything unusual. Is Paul losing his mind? Maybe. Or is something really there? Eight months ago, he stumbled upon Connecticut's infamous "Apology Killer"--a psychopath who forced his victims to typewrite personal apologies to him before he cut their throats--disposing of two mutilated bodies on Milford's Post Road. Most shocking of all, the killer was his colleague, someone he thought he knew. Paul's been seeing a therapist for months to recover from the nearly fatal encounter, but his nerves and short-term memory have suffered since the traumatic event. There's only one way to learn if the noises are real or a figment of his hyper-imagination. One night, Paul rolls a sheet of paper into the machine. The next morning, when he checks the page, there is a chilling message: "We typed our apologies like he asked but he killed us anyway." As he desperately searches to find a rational explanation for the note and the noises, Paul slowly begins to consider the unthinkable: The message is authentic, and the women butchered by his colleague are reaching out to him from beyond the grave.

BENGTSDOTTER, LINA lager FOR THE MISSING (#1) (\$17.99) Nora's daughter Annabelle has disappeared, last seen on her way home from a party. Gullspång's inexperienced police are wilting under the national media spotlight - and its residents desperate for answers. Stockholm DI Charlie Lager must return home to find Annabelle, and then get out of town as soon as she can. Before everyone discovers the truth about her . . .

BENN, JAMES R billy boyle DEVOURING (#12) (\$19.95) A murder in wartime Switzerland reveals Swiss complicity with the Nazis in World War II, and US Army detective Billy Boyle is called to investigate. Europe, 1944: Captain Billy Boyle and his friend Lieutenant Piotr "Kaz" Kazimierz are sent to neutral Switzerland to work with the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), investigating Swiss banks that are laundering looted Nazi gold. The US and Swiss governments are about to embark on diplomatic discussions regarding the Safehaven Protocols, aimed at limiting the amount of war materials exported by Switzerland to the Nazis, stemming the tide of looted gold, and preventing postwar use of Nazi wealth by war criminals. With the talks about to begin and the Gestapo ever present, the OSS wants Billy and Kaz to protect the participants, which turns out to be a very deadly task.

BENN, JAMES R billy boyle SOLEMN GRAVES (#13) (\$20.95) US Army detective Billy Boyle is called to investigate a mysterious murder in a Normandy farmhouse that threatens Allied operations. July, 1944, a full month after D-Day. Billy, Kaz, and Big Mike are assigned to investigate a murder close to the front lines in Normandy. An American officer has been found dead in a manor house serving as an advance headquarters outside the town of Trévières. Major Jerome was far from his own unit, arrived unexpectedly, and was murdered in the dark of night. The investigation is shrouded in secrecy,

due to the highly confidential nature of the American unit headquartered nearby in the Norman hedgerow country: the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, aka, the Ghost Army. This vague name covers a thousand-man unit with a unique mission within the US Army: to impersonate other US Army units by creating deceptions using radio traffic, dummy inflatable vehicles, and sound effects, causing the enemy to think they are facing large formations.

BENN, MARLOWE RELATIVE FORTUNES (\$22) In 1924 Manhattan, women's suffrage is old news. For sophisticated booklover Julia Kydd, life's too short for politics. With her cropped hair and penchant for independent living, Julia wants only to launch her own new private press. But as a woman, Julia must fight for what's hers—including the inheritance her estranged half-brother, Philip, has challenged, putting her aspirations in jeopardy. When her friend's sister, Naomi Rankin, dies suddenly of an apparent suicide, Julia is shocked at the wealthy family's indifference toward the ardent suffragist's death. Naomi chose poverty and hardship over a submissive marriage and a husband's control of her money. Now, her death suggests the struggle was more than she could bear. Julia, however, is skeptical. Doubtful of her suspicions, Philip proposes a glib wager: if Julia can prove Naomi was in fact murdered, he'll drop his claims to her wealth.

BENSON, RAYMOND SECRETS ON CHICORY LANE (\$25.50) Sixty-one-year-old Shelby Truman, a romance novelist, has received a request to visit her childhood friend, Eddie, who is on Death Row. Though mentally ill, Eddie is scheduled to be executed for the disturbing, brutal murders of his wife and unborn child. As Shelby travels home to Texas for the unnerving reunion, she steps back into memories of her past, recalling her five-decade-long relationship with Eddie in order to understand what led the beautiful but troubled boy who lived across the street to become a murderer. Shelby and Eddie used to visit an abandoned fallout shelter in his backyard, their "secret hiding place" where they could escape Eddie's abusive father, enjoy innocent playtime, and, later, adolescent explorations. As they grow increasingly close, a tragedy occurs one July fourth, an event that sets in motion a lifelong struggle against an Evil—with a capital "E"—that has corrupted their all-American neighborhood. With only a few days left for Eddie to live, Shelby braces herself for a reunion that promises to shed light on the traumatic events that transpired on her street, changing everything Shelby thought she knew about the boy on Chicory Lane.

BERRY, FLYNN DOUBLE LIFE (\$22) Nearly thirty years ago, while Claire and her brother slept upstairs, a brutal crime was committed in their grand London home. The next morning, her father's car was found abandoned, with bloodstains on the front seat. The first lord accused of murder in more than a century, he has been missing ever since. Now a doctor living under an assumed name, Claire learns the police may have found him, and her carefully calibrated existence begins to fracture. She starts to infiltrate his privileged inner circle, who have never broken their silence about what happened that night. Soon, Claire will learn how far she'll go to finally find the truth."

BILLINGHAM, MARK thorne THEIR LITTLE SECRET (#16) (\$24.99) Sarah thinks of herself as a normal single mum. It's what she wants *others* to think of her. But the truth is, she needs something new, something *thrilling*. Meanwhile, DI Tom Thorne is investigating a woman's suicide, convinced she was driven to do it by a man who preys on vulnerable women. A man who is about to change Sarah's life.

BLAUNER, PETER robes PROVING GROUND (#1) (\$22.50) Nathaniel Dresden never really got along with his father, an infamous civil rights lawyer who defended criminals and spearheaded protest movements. As an act of rebellion, Natty joined the U.S. Army and served in Iraq, coming back with a chest full of commendations and a head full of disturbing memories. But when his father is found murdered near the peaceful confines of Brooklyn's Prospect Park, Natty is forced to deal with the troubled legacy of their unresolved relationship. He also has to fend off the growing suspicions of NYPD Detective Lourdes Robles, a brash Latina cop with something to prove,

who thinks Natty might bear some responsibility for his father's death.

BOLTON, GINGER [donut JEALOUSY FILLED DONUTS \(#3\)](#) (\$21.95) It is a truth universally acknowledged: cops and donuts go together. Exhibit A: Deputy Donut Café, owned and operated by detective's widow Emily Westhill and her father-in-law, the retired police chief of Fallingbrook, Wisconsin. Named after Emily's adored and adorable tabby, the donut shop is a favorite among cops, firemen, and EMTs, as well as tourists and townspeople. So, when Fallingbrook needs donuts for their Fourth of July picnic, Emily's shop gets deputized. But a twisted killer has found another use for Emily's treats. At the picnic, a firecracker is hidden in a stack of raspberry-filled donuts and aimed at the unwitting queen of the festivities. When it explodes, she is killed. Having her jelly donuts involved puts Emily in a sticky situation, and when a shady shutterbug tries to frame her with incriminating photos, she finds herself in quite a jam. To preserve her freedom and her shop's reputation, Emily needs to solve this case—before the fuse-lighting felon goes off again ...

BOOTH, STEPHEN [FALL DOWN DEAD \(#18\)](#) (\$17.99) The mountain of Kinder Scout offers the most incredible views of the Peak District, but when thick fog descends there on a walking party led by enigmatic Darius Roth, this spectacular landscape is turned into a death trap that claims a life. For DI Ben Cooper however, something about the way Faith Matthew fell to her death suggests it was no accident, and he quickly discovers more than one of the hikers may have had reason to murder their companion. To make things worse, his old colleague DS Diane Fry finds herself at centre of an internal investigations storm that threatens to drag Cooper down with it.

BOOTH, STEPHEN [TOP HARD](#) (\$26.95) Originally published in 2012. As he watches criminals target a French lorry in an A1 layby, Stones McClure thinks his plans might actually come together for once. He's looking forward to a life full of everything he could possibly want. Money, cars, a pair of fancy cowboy boots - who could ask for more? But things aren't always what they seem. And Stones should know it better than anyone. It's Nottinghamshire in 1998. Derelict pits, decaying villages, rundown housing estates - all surrounded by vast, historic mansions in country parks known as the Dukeries. And there's no sign of Robin Hood to spread a bit of the wealth around. In a world full of injustice, among people still haunted by memories of the Miners' Strike, Stones is a man trying to put his old life behind him for good. But survival in these coalfield villages depends on the Top Hard Rule - you can't trust anyone these days. Now it's all about to go very wrong for Stones McClure. Someone is out to get him. And most surprising of all, it isn't one of the women in his life

BOYNE, JOHN [LADDER TO THE SKY](#) (\$25) Maurice Swift is handsome, charming, and hungry for fame. The one thing he doesn't have is talent - but he's not about to let a detail like that stand in his way. After all, a would-be writer can find stories anywhere. They don't need to be his own. Working as a waiter in a West Berlin hotel in 1988, Maurice engineers the perfect opportunity: chance encounter with celebrated novelist Erich Ackermann. He quickly ingratiates himself with the powerful - but desperately lonely - older man, teasing out of Erich a terrible, long-held secret about his activities during the war. Perfect material for Maurice's first novel. Once Maurice has had a taste of literary fame, he knows he can stop at nothing in pursuit of that high. Moving from the Amalfi Coast, where he matches wits with Gore Vidal, to Manhattan and London, Maurice hones his talent for deceit and manipulation, preying on the talented and vulnerable in his cold-blooded climb to the top. But the higher he climbs, the further he has to fall.

BRADLEY, ALAN [GOLDEN TRESSES OF THE DEAD \(#10\)](#) (\$19.95) Flavia de Luce, the twelve-year-old chemist and amateur detective, is eager to turn professional. She and her father's valet, Dogger, have founded a detective agency, Arthur Dogger & Associates, and unexpectedly cut into their first case during the revelry at her sister Ophelia's wedding reception. After an eventful ceremony with a missing best man and spontaneous ventriloquist act, spirits are high as Feely and her new husband head for the towering and beautifully iced

wedding cake. But as Feely slices into the first piece, a scream rings out--the bridal cake contains a severed human finger. Delighted, Flavia wraps the finger in a napkin and whisks it away to her chemical laboratory. By studying the embalmed skin, the indentation of a ring and the slope of the fingernail, she'll not only be able to determine the identity of the victim--but also point a finger at a killer.

BROADRIBB, STEPH [DEEP DIRTY TRUTH \(#3\)](#) (\$22) Single-mother bounty-hunter Lori Anderson finally has her family back together, but her new-found happiness is shattered when she's snatched by the Miami Mob - and they want her dead. Rather than a bullet, they offer her a job: find the Mob's 'numbers man' who's in protective custody after being forced to turn federal witness against them. If Lori succeeds, they'll wipe the slate clean and the price on her head - and those of her family - will be removed. If she fails, they die. With North due in court in 48 hours, Lori sets off across Florida, racing against the clock to find him and save her family. Only in this race the prize is more deadly - and the secret she shares with JT more dangerous - than she ever could have imagined. In this race only the winner gets out alive.

BROOKMYRE, CHRIS [FALLEN ANGEL](#) (\$24.99) To new nanny Amanda, the Temple family seem to have it all: the former actress; the famous professor; their three successful grown-up children. But like any family, beneath the smiles and hugs there lurks far darker emotions. Sixteen years earlier, little Niamh Temple died while they were on holiday in Portugal. Now, as Amanda joins the family for a reunion at their seaside villa, she begins to suspect one of them might be hiding something terrible.

BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER [jp WANT YOU GONE \(#8\)](#) (\$17.99) Sam Morpeth is growing up way too fast, left to fend for a younger sister when their mother goes to prison and watching her dreams of university evaporate. But Sam learns what it is to be truly powerless when a stranger begins to blackmail her. Who would you turn to? Meanwhile, reporter Jack Parlabane has finally got his career back on track, but his success has left him indebted to a volatile, criminal source. Now that debt is being called in, and it could cost him everything. What would you be capable of? Thrown together by a vindictive and mysterious mutual enemy, Sam and Jack are about to discover they might be each other's only hope.

BRUCE, LEO [deene BONE AND A HANK OF HAIR](#) (\$20.95) Originally published in 1961. Carolus Deene, history master at Queen's School, Newminster, manages on the side to dabble in the art of gentlemanly detective work. Deene is approached by Mrs. Chalk, who is convinced her heiress cousin has been murdered. The suspect is, of course, Mr. Rathbone, the lady's wily widower. On the way to the truth, Deene encounters a host of friendly characters and oafish constabulary, leading readers in a delightful romp through the English landscape.

BUCHAN, JOHN [SICK HEART RIVER](#) (\$15.99) Originally published in 1941, also titled Mountain Meadow. Sir Edward Leithen travels deep into the Canadian Arctic to investigate the mysterious disappearance of a man. Leithen confronts his fears during this dangerous mission as he draws closer to the deadly secret of the Sick Heart River.

BUCHAN, JOHN [hannay THIRTY-NINE STEPS \(#1\)](#) (\$12.99) Originally published in 1915. John Buchan wrote "The Thirty-Nine Steps" while he was seriously ill at the beginning of World War I. In it, he introduces his most famous hero, Richard Hannay, who, despite claiming to be an "ordinary fellow", is caught up in the dramatic race against a plot to devastate the British war effort. Hannay is hunted across the Scottish moors by police and a pitiless enemy in the corridors of Whitehall and, finally, at the site of the mysterious 39 steps. The best-known of Buchan's thrillers, this novel has been continuously in print since first publication and has been filmed three times.

BUCHAN, JOHN [GREENMANTLE \(#2\)](#) (\$15.99) Originally published in 1916. This novel continues the story of Richard Hannay, taking him from convalescence following the Battle of Loos, back to London for a vital meeting at the Foreign Office, and thence on a top-secret mission across war-torn German-occupied Europe.

BUCHAN, JOHN MR. STANDFAST (#3) (\$15.99) Originally published in 1918. Short excerpt: I spent one-third of my journey looking out of the window of a first-class carriage, the next in a local motor-car following the course of a trout stream in a shallow valley, and the last tramping over a ridge of downland through great beech-woods to my quarters for the night.

BUCHAN, JOHN ISLAND OF SHEEP (#5) (\$15.99) Originally published in 1936. The fifth, last and most unusual of the Hannay books, *The Island of Sheep* is part thriller and part meditation on nature. Having returned once again to a quiet life at Fosse Manor, Hannay's life is shaken a final time when the son of an old acquaintance from Africa asks for his help in finishing a feud that goes back thirty years to a hilltop in Rhodesia. Accompanied by Lombard and Sandy Arbuthnot, Hannay sets out to protect the family - a trip that takes him from the England he knows to the Norlands, the Island of Sheep.

BURSTON, PAUL CLOSER I GET (\$20.95) Tom is a successful author, but he's struggling to finish his novel. His main distraction is an online admirer, Evie, who simply won't leave him alone. Evie is smart, well read and unstable; she lives with her father and her social-media friendships are not only her escape, but everything she has. When she's hit with a restraining order, her world is turned upside down, and Tom is free to live his life again, to concentrate on writing. But things aren't really adding up. For Tom is distracted but also addicted to his online relationships, and when they take a darker, more menacing turn, he feels powerless to change things. Because maybe he needs Evie more than he's letting on.

CAMILLERI, ANDREA montalbano OTHER END OF THE LINE (#24) (\$22) A wave of refugees has arrived on the Sicilian coast, and Inspector Montalbano and his team have been stationed at port, alongside countless volunteers, to receive and assist the newcomers. Meanwhile, Livia has promised their presence at a friend's wedding, and the inspector, agreeing to get a new suit tailored, meets the charming master seamstress Elena Biasini. But while on duty at the dock one late night, tragedy strikes, and Elena is found gruesomely murdered. Between managing the growing crowds at the landing, Montalbano delves into the world of garments, in the company of an orphaned cat, where he works to weave together the loose threads of the unsolved crimes and close the case.

CAPRI, DIANE hunt for JACK AND JOE (#6) (\$30) When FBI Special Agents Kim Otto and Carlos Gaspar are sent to Fort Bird, North Carolina, to find Jack Reacher, powerful enemies with their backs against the wall will stop at nothing to bury the secrets both Jack and Joe Reacher left behind. Reacher's friend Summer has been promoted. She's high up the command chain now. And she knows things about Jack and Joe Reacher she's been ordered to tell. Things someone big wants to keep buried. Things Otto is determined to find out. When Otto meets Joe Reacher's wife, the women around the Reacher brothers come clearly into focus. The Reacher brothers were unforgettable to the women who loved them. But what about the men who hated them?

CAPRI, DIANE hunt for DEEP COVER JACK (#7) (\$30) FBI Special Agents Kim Otto and Carlos Gaspar will wait no longer. They head to Houston to find Susan Duffy, one of Jack Reacher's known associates, determined to get answers. But Duffy's left town, headed for trouble. Otto and Gaspar are right behind her and powerful enemies with their backs against the wall will have everything to lose.

CAPRI, DIANE hunt for JACK THE REAPER (#8) (\$30) FBI Agents Otto and Gaspar pick up with where Lee Child's *The Hard Way* leaves off in Diane Capri's latest Hunt for Jack Reacher series. After Jack Reacher handled things *The Hard Way*, FBI Special Agents Kim Otto and Carlos Gaspar are dispatched to find out whether Reacher is dead or alive. But they aren't the only ones who want to find Reacher this time. A corrupt army general is on the hunt, too, determined to make sure Reacher reaps what he sowed. Reacher's friends Brewer and Pauling are in the crosshairs. When powerful enemies with their backs against the wall will stop at nothing to make Reacher pay, can Otto and Gaspar find the secrets Reacher left behind to keep his friends alive?

CAPRI, DIANE hunt for TEN TWO JACK (#10) (\$30) FBI Special Agent Kim Otto's search for Reacher takes a deadly turn when she's forced to handle the fallout from Lee Child's *The Midnight Line* -- and gets caught in the crossfire. Reacher set out to do a good deed for an Army officer in *The Midnight Line*. The road to hell is paved with good intentions. Now, five people are missing and one is dead. But when Reacher's enemies hunt his friends, someone has to pay. An exciting chase from Detroit to Chicago to Houston and deep into Mexico where FBI Special Agent Kim Otto fights to the death in the gripping conclusion. And Jack Reacher could be there when she needs him.

CAPRI, DIANE hunt for JACK OF SPADES (#11) (\$30) FBI Special Agent Kim Otto finds the perfect bait to lure Jack Reacher to the surface in this gripping new suspense thriller. In Lee Child's twenty-third Jack Reacher novel, *Past Tense*, Reacher found his roots and a heap of trouble in Laconia, New Hampshire. A young Canadian couple took the spoils at the end of the war. Now, the real owner will stop at nothing to get back what belongs to him. Agent Otto bets on Reacher and puts her life on the line. But she's been wrong about Reacher before. Can she count on him now?

CATES, BAILEY bakery COOKIES AND CLAIRVOYANCE (#8) (\$10.99) Hedgewitch Katie Lightfoot is juggling wedding preparations, a visit from her father, and home renovations on top of her long hours at the Honeybee Bakery, where she and her aunt Lucy imbue their yummy cookies and pastries with beneficial magic. But when firefighter Randy Post is accused of murdering a collector of rarities, and his prints are on the statue that was used to kill the man, Katie steps in. Randy is not only Katie's fiancé's coworker, but also the boyfriend of fellow spellbook club member and witch Bianca Devereaux. Bianca and Declan are both sure Randy is innocent, and so is Katie. However, to prove it she'll have to work with ornery detective Peter Quinn again—and this time around he knows she's more than your everyday baker.

CHARTERIS, LESLIE ENTER THE SAINT (\$22) Simon Templar tangles with the notorious "Snake" Ganning, tracks down a stash of stolen jewels, and busts a drug-smuggling racket. He may not always stay on the right side of the law, but with his swashbuckling charm and Robin Hood morality, he is clearly on the side of the angels.

CHARTERIS, LESLIE SAINT IN LONDON (\$22) The Saint is back—these three stories of Saintry adventure show Simon Templar interpreting the law to his own advantage. In "The Simon Templar Foundation," a poisonous legacy from his enemy Rayt Marius gives him the opportunity to make a great deal of money—if he can survive equally great danger. "The Higher Finance" puts him up against the police, a reclusive millionaire, and the wild beast that roams his mansion at night. And in "The Art of Alibi," he faces the most impudent opponent of all: someone who is stealing his symbol and committing crimes in his name.

CHIEN, VIVIEN noodle shop WONTON TERROR (#4) (\$10.99) Lana Lee is all smiles when the first evening of Cleveland's Asian Night Market kicks off the summer. The weekly festival is always good for business, packed with locals and tourists, and this year, some stiff new food-truck competition. Wonton on Wheels, run by old friends of Lana's parents, promises to have customers lining up for their delicately wrapped delights, until the truck blows up at evening's end. Lana's boyfriend, Detective Adam Trudeau, had been planning a birthday getaway for the two of them but, lo and behold, Lana must assume the role of amateur sleuth yet again. With one proprietor of Wonton on Wheels dead, it's beginning to look more like murder and less like an unfortunate accident. Will Lana be able to solve this crime—or has she jumped from the wok right into the fire?

CHILDS, LAURA scrapbook GLITTER BOMB (#15) (\$10.99) It's Mardi Gras in New Orleans, and scrapbook shop owner Carmela Bertrand is excited to be attending the Pluvius parade along with her best friend, Ava. Carmela's ex-husband, Shamus, rides by the duo on his float at the head of the parade, when suddenly the revelry turns to disaster. Shamus's float crashes and explodes, and although Shamus escapes unhurt, a member of his krewe is killed. Carmela and Ava plunge into an investigation of the krewe member's death, but as they

dig deeper, it starts to look less like an accident and more like a murder...and Shamus seems less like a victim and more like a suspect.

CLEEVES, ANN two rivers LONG CALL (#1) (\$25.99) Bestselling author of the Shetland and Vera Stanhope series', Ann Cleaves returns with the first in a brand-new series set in North Devon and featuring Detective Matthew Venn. In North Devon, where the rivers Taw and Torridge converge and run into the sea, Detective Matthew Venn stands outside the church as his father's funeral takes place. The day Matthew turned his back on the strict evangelical community in which he grew up, he lost his family too. Now he's back, not just to mourn his father at a distance, but to take charge of his first major case in the Two Rivers region; a complex place not quite as idyllic as tourists suppose. A body has been found on the beach near to Matthew's new home: a man with the tattoo of an albatross on his neck, stabbed to death. Finding the killer is Venn's only focus, and his team's investigation will take him straight back into the community he left behind, and the deadly secrets that lurk there.

COLGAN, JENNY BOOKSHOP ON THE SHORE (\$19.99) Marian mentioned this title in the August 2019 newsletter. This is the regular print edition as opposed to the Larger Print one from August. A grand baronial house on Loch Ness, a quirky small-town bookseller, and a single mom looking for a fresh start all come together in this witty and warm-hearted novel.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL mccaleb BLOOD WORK (#1) (\$12.99) A new edition of this classic. When Graciella Rivers steps onto his boat, ex-FBI agent Terrell McCaleb has no idea he's about to come out of retirement. He's recuperating from a heart transplant and avoiding anything stressful. But when Graciella tells him the way her sister, Gloria, was murdered, Terry realizes he has no choice. Now the man with the new heart vows to take down a predator without a soul. For Gloria's killer shatters every rule that McCaleb ever learned in his years with the Bureau-as McCaleb gets no more second chances at life...and just one shot at the truth.

COPENHAVER, JOHN DODGING AND BURNING (\$22.95) In a small Virginia town still reeling from World War II, a photograph of a beautiful murdered woman propels three young people into the middle of a far-reaching mystery. *Nominated for 2019 Barry, Lambda Literary, Strand, Macavity, and Anthony Awards* A lurid crime scene photo of a beautiful woman arrives on mystery writer Bunny Prescott's doorstep with no return address—and it's not the first time she's seen it. The reemergence of the photo, taken fifty-five years earlier, sets her on a journey to reconstruct the vicious summer that changed her life. In the summer of 1945, Ceola Bliss is a lonely twelve-year-old tomboy, mourning the loss of her brother, Robbie, who was declared missing in the Pacific. She tries to piece together his life by re-reading his favorite pulp detective story "A Date with Death" and spending time with his best friend, Jay Greenwood, in Royal Oak, VA. One unforgettable August day, Jay leads Ceola and Bunny to a stretch of woods where he found a dead woman, but when they arrive, the body is gone. They soon discover a local woman named Lily Vellum is missing and begin to piece together the threads of her murder, starting with the photograph Jay took of her abandoned body. As Ceola gets swept up playing girl detective, Bunny becomes increasingly skeptical of Jay, and begins her own investigation into the connection between Jay and Lily.

COSSE, LAURENCE NOVEL BOOKSTORE (\$26.95) Translated from the French it's a story about love, deceit, Paris, and books! Ivan and Francesca decide to open a bookstore devoted solely to good literature and their love of books. Frustrated by the glut of mediocre books printed every month and envisioning a true literary paradise, they offer a selection of literary masterpieces chosen by a top-secret committee of like-minded literary connoisseurs. To their amazement, after only a few months, their vision proves popular. Very popular. Tucked away in a corner of Paris, the bookstore quickly becomes a haven for bibliophiles. Indeed, it becomes so successful that the great majority of Parisian readers are now buying their books only at Ivan and Francesca's store, and other stores in the city are starting to change how they order and display books too. Now big publishing's powerful elite are desperately trying to adapt their business model to

the demand for quality above all else. As the store's success grows, venomous comments begin circulating online and the owners, and their selection committee, become the target of vicious editorials and threats.

COYLE, CLEO clare cosi SHOT IN THE DARK (#17) (\$10.99) As Village Blend manager Clare Cosi fixes a date for her wedding, her ex-husband is making dates through smartphone swipes. Clare has mixed feelings about these matchups happening in her coffeehouse. Even her octogenarian employer is selecting suitors by screenshot! But business is booming, and Clare works hard to keep the espresso shots flowing. Then one night, another kind of shot leaves a dead body for her to find. The corpse is an entrepreneur who used dating apps with reckless abandon--breaking hearts along the way. The NYPD quickly arrests one of the heartbreaker's recent conquests. But the suspect's sister tearfully swears her sibling was framed. Clare not only finds reason to believe it, she fears the real killer will strike again.

CRAIS, ROBERT cole pike FORGOTTEN MAN (#9) (\$12.99) A Reissie, originally published in 2005. In an alleyway in Los Angeles, an old man, clutching faded newspaper clippings and gasping his last words to a cop, lies dying of a gunshot wound. The victim claims to be P.I. Elvis Cole's long-lost father—a stranger who has always haunted his son. As a teenager, Cole searched desperately for his father. As a man, he faces the frightening possibility that this murder victim was himself a killer. Caught in limbo between a broken love affair and way too much publicity over his last case, Cole at first resists getting involved with this new case. Then it consumes him. Now a stranger's terrifying secrets—and a hunt for his killer—give Cole a frightening glimpse into his own past. And he can't tell if it's forgiveness or a bullet that's coming next.

CROFTS, FREEMAN WILLS french INSPECTOR FRENCH'S GREATEST CASE (#1) (\$20) Originally published in 1924. At the offices of the Hatton Garden diamond merchant Duke and Peabody, the body of old Mr. Gething is discovered beside a now-empty safe. With multiple suspects, the robbery and murder are clearly the work of a master criminal and requires a master detective to solve it. Meticulous as ever, Inspector Joseph French of Scotland Yard embarks on an investigation that takes him from the streets of London to Holland, France and Spain, and finally to a ship bound for South America.

DAHEIM, MARY bnb CASE OF BIER (#31) (\$10.99) After a busy summer, Judith McMonigle Flynn—owner of Seattle's popular Hillside Manor B&B—needs some R&R. Her husband, Joe, surprises her with a trip to Banff in the Canadian Rockies. Judith's overjoyed that Cousin Renie and Bill are joining them. But while making reservations, Joe and Bill made one tiny mistake. Instead of a gorgeous suite in a hotel modeled after a Scottish castle, they're staying at a small motel farther down the road. Though their accommodations leave something to be desired, the on-site guests are the real prize. Ma and Pa Stokes and their family members have gathered on the mountainside to give a relative a permanent send-off—a nice gesture, until Judith realizes that paying their respects might be a little premature. . . without some sinister assistance. Old man Codger's final wish is for his remains to be sent off down the Bow River. Yet the old coot isn't quite dead—yet.

DAHL, K O frank frolich FOURTH MAN (#1) (\$26.99) In the course of a routine police raid, Detective Inspector Frank Frølich of the Oslo Police saves the life of Elizabeth Faremo, a dark-haired beauty with mysterious eyes who was inadvertently caught in the crossfire. Some weeks later, Frølich coincidentally runs into her again ---but their ensuing affair is no accident. By the time he learns that she is no stranger---but rather the sister of a wanted member of a larceny gang---it is already too late. In the middle of the night, Frølich receives a call that a young guard has been killed in the course of an attempted break-in. Scrambling to respond, he realizes that Elizabeth is no longer in his bed. And all at once, Frølich's life has changed. In a turn of events cryptic, erotic, and complex, he finds himself a prime murder suspect and under the watch of his doubting colleagues.

DAHL, KJELL OLA COURIER (\$20.95) In 1942, Jewish courier Ester is betrayed, narrowly avoiding arrest by the Gestapo. In a great

haste, she escapes to Sweden, saving herself. Her family in Oslo, however, is deported to Auschwitz. In Stockholm, Ester meets the resistance hero, Gerhard Falkum, who has left his little daughter and fled both the Germans and allegations that he murdered his wife, Åse, who helped Ester get to Sweden. Their burgeoning relationship ends abruptly when Falkum dies in a fire. And yet, twenty-five years later, Falkum shows up in Oslo. He wants to reconnect with his daughter. But where has he been, and what is the real reason for his return? Ester stumbles across information that forces her to look closely at her past, and to revisit her war-time training to stay alive.

DALBUONO, NADIA scamarco HIT (#3) (\$23.95) When the family of Micky Proietti, a top television executive, goes missing, Leone Scamarco is called to investigate. Everyone, it seems—from Premier League footballers to jilted starlets and cabinet ministers—has an axe to grind with Proietti. What starts out as an investigation into his countless affairs soon becomes an inquiry into how Proietti does business and the people he has discarded along the way. Finally, Proietti's finances attract Scamarco's attention, and he discovers that the drama commissioner has been granting favours to some very shadowy sponsors. Like a swimmer trying to escape a riptide, Scamarco comes to realise that this new inquiry threatens to bring him head to head with his father's old lieutenant, Piero Piocosta. If he's to survive in the police force, Scamarco knows that he must find a way to get Piocosta off his back, once and for all. And find it quickly.

DAMHAUG, TORKIL oslo crime DEATH BY WATER (#2) (\$17.99) Psychologist Mailin Bjerke is due to appear on the notorious TV show *Taboo*, tackling its most sensational subject yet. But she never arrives at the studio. As the police struggle to find any sign of Mailin, her sister Liss, living on the edge in Amsterdam, takes matters into her own hands. Flying home to Oslo, she discovers a complex backdrop of friends and enemies, where no one can be relied upon to tell the truth. Her battle is made harder by the fractured memories of a childhood where Mailin was always her protector, and by the secrets she must keep hidden. And she has no idea that Mailin's disappearance is somehow connected to a chance meeting more than a decade before.

DAMHAUG, TORKIL oslo crime CERTAIN SIGNS THAT YOU ARE DEAD (#4) (\$17.99) In Akershus University Hospital, a patient disappears into thin air. That evening, his body is found in a basement box-room, his throat cut. When retired forensic pathologist Jennifer Plåterud is called in to examine the dead man, she has no idea of just how closely she is involved in the murder herself. And in the merciless heat of summer, she will be forced to make connections she would have preferred to ignore...

DAVIDSON, CRAIG SATURDAY NIGHT GHOST CLUB (\$21) When neurosurgeon Jake Baker operates, he knows he's handling more than a patient's delicate brain tissue—he's altering the seat of consciousness, the golden vault of memory. And memory, Jake knows well, can be a tricky, quicksilver thing. When growing up in 1980s Niagara Falls, a.k.a. Cataract City—a seedy but magical, slightly haunted place—one of Jake's closest confidantes was his uncle Calvin, a sweet but eccentric misfit enamored of occult artefacts and outlandish conspiracy theories. The summer Jake turned twelve, Calvin invited him to join the "Saturday Night Ghost Club"—a seemingly light-hearted project to investigate some of Cataract City's more macabre urban myths. Over the course of that life-altering summer, Jake not only met his lifelong best friend and began to imagine his own future, he came to realize that his uncle's preoccupation with chilling legends sprang from something so painful, and buried so deep, that Calvin himself was unaware of the source.

DAWSON, JILL LANGUAGE OF BIRDS (\$24.99) Drawing on the infamous Lord Lucan affair... In the summer of 1974, Mandy River arrives in London to make a fresh start and begins working as nanny to the children of one Lady Morven. She quickly finds herself in the midst of a bitter custody battle and the house under siege: Lord Morven is having his wife watched. According to Lady Morven, her estranged husband also has a violent streak, yet she doesn't seem the most reliable witness. Should Mandy believe her? As Mandy tries to shield her young charges from harm, her friend Rosemary watches

from the wings - an odd girl with her own painful past and a rare gift. This time, though, she misreads the signs.

DELANY, VICKI christmas SILENT NIGHT, DEADLY NIGHT (#4) (\$10.99) Residents of Rudolph keep the spirit of Christmas alive year-round—but their joy is threatened when a group of grinch-like vis-its the town. It's the week before Thanksgiving, and Merry Wilkinson, owner of Mrs. Claus's Treasures, is preparing for a weekend reunion of her mother's college friends. But when the group of women comes into Merry's shop, Merry is met with frosty attitudes and cold hearts. The women argue amongst themselves constantly, and the bickering only intensifies after one of the friends is poisoned. With her father's role as Santa in danger due to his proximity to the crime, Merry will need to use all of her investigative gifts to wrap this mystery up and save Santa and her favorite holiday.

DOHERTY, PAUL beaufort DARK QUEEN RISING (#1) (\$20.95) First in a new historical mystery series featuring Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII and matriarch of the Tudor dynasty. May, 1471. The Wars of the Roses are reaching their bitter and bloody climax. Edward of York has claimed the English throne, and his supporters are extracting a savage revenge on all who supported the Lancastrian cause. Surrounded by enemies wherever she turns, the position of Margaret Beaufort, Countess of Richmond and mother to Henry Tudor, the last remaining hope of the House of Lancaster, is precarious to say the least.

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN sherlock STUDY IN SCARLET (\$22) When Dr. John Watson takes lodgings in Baker Street with the quirky consulting detective Sherlock Holmes, they are both quickly drawn into a mysterious case that has left Scotland Yard baffled. A man is found dead in a south London house, his face a mask of horror, but there are no signs of violence. Meanwhile a mysterious word has been written in blood on the wall and through Sherlock Holmes' observations and deductions, they uncover a tragic tale of love and revenge.

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN sherlock SIGN OF FOUR (\$5.99) As a dense yellow fog swirls through the streets of London, a deep melancholy has descended on Sherlock Holmes, who sits in a cocaine-induced haze at 221B Baker Street. His mood is only lifted by a visit from a beautiful but distressed young woman - Mary Morstan, whose father vanished ten years before. Four years later she began to receive an exquisite gift every year: a large, lustrous pearl. Now she has had an intriguing invitation to meet her unknown benefactor and urges Holmes and Watson to accompany her. And in the ensuing investigation - which involves a wronged woman, a stolen hoard of Indian treasure, a wooden-legged ruffian, a helpful dog and a love affair - even the jaded Holmes is moved to exclaim, 'Isn't it gorgeous!'

DOYLE/SACKER, ORMOND SHERLOCK HOLMES ESCAPE BOOK (\$20.95) You are Sherlock Holmes... at home at 221b Baker Street, when a mysterious letter is posted through your door. What is the meaning of the message cut from newsprint? Is there a clue hidden in the letters? Could there be more to discover in the fog-bound alleys of London town? This ingenious new series is a spin on the current urban craze for 'Escape Rooms', in which participants are locked in rooms, and must solve the puzzles they find there to make good their escape. Here, the book becomes the locked room, the pages become the path, and the reader can take on a challenge every bit as brain-teasing from the comfort of their own home. Visual clues are hidden among the intriguing illustrations; fiendish riddles, logic puzzles, and timed challenges unlock hidden doors and reveal the direction of travel; and mathematical problems provide the codes required to follow the correct path. There are maps and mazes to explore; references to the original Sherlock Holmes adventures to unravel; and a code-wheel that holds the key to unlocking the next page. Solve the puzzles correctly to escape. Get them wrong, and you will find yourself further and further along the path to your own demise.

DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple CORPSE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE (#23) (\$22.99) April 1928: Daisy Dalrymple Fletcher is visited in London by her young cousins. On the list of must-see sites is the Crystal Palace. Discovering that her children's nanny, Nanny Gilpin, has never seen the Palace, Daisy decides to make a day of it—

bringing her cousins, her 3-year-old twins, her stepdaughter Belinda, the nursery maid, and Nanny Gilpin. Yet this ordinary outing goes wrong when Mrs. Gilpin goes off to the ladies' room and fails to return. When Daisy goes to look for her, she doesn't find her nanny but instead the body of another woman dressed in a nanny's uniform. Meanwhile, Belinda and the cousins spot Mrs. Gilpin chasing after yet another nanny. Intrigued, they trail the two through the vast Crystal Palace and into the park. After briefly losing sight of their quarry, they stumble across Mrs. Gilpin lying unconscious in a small lake inhabited by huge concrete dinosaurs. When she comes to, Mrs. Gilpin can't remember what happened after leaving the twins in the nursery maid's care. Daisy's husband, Detective Chief Inspector Alec Fletcher of Scotland Yard, finds himself embroiled in the investigation of the murdered nanny.

DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple DAMSEL IN DISTRESS (#5)

(\$22.50) A reissue, originally published in 1997. In the early summer of 1923, love is in bloom as the Honourable Phillip Petrie finds himself totally smitten with Miss Gloria Arbuckle, daughter of an American millionaire. But before the enthusiastic suitor can pop the question, his beloved is abducted by kidnappers. As Gloria's distraught father begins assembling the ransom, Phillip enlists his childhood friend, the Honourable Daisy Dalrymple, to help him recover his missing sweetheart. Strictly forbidden to contact the police, Daisy must resist the temptation to bring her occasional collaborator, Scotland Yard's Detective Chief Inspector Alec Fletcher, into the case. But as she closes in on the abductors' rural hideaway, she begins to suspect that Gloria isn't the only fair damsel whose life hangs in the balance.

DUNNETT, KAITLYN maccrimm OVERKILT (#12) (\$10.99)

While Liss MacCrimmon preps the Scottish Emporium for November's inevitable shopping rush, other local businesses aren't half as lucky. When her father-in-law decides to entice childless couples desperate for a holiday away from family to his rustic hotel, the unusual marketing tactic has everyone in Moosetookalook, Maine, in an uproar. Liss dismisses the bad publicity as being totally "overkilt"—until angry mobs fill the streets, the troublemaker who started it all turns up dead, and her loved ones are suspected of murder. It's up to Liss to digest a slew of unsettling clues and catch the real killer before everything she's ever been thankful for vanishes before her eyes.

EATON, J C sophie MOLDED 4 MURDER (#5) (\$10.99) Sophie "Phee" Kimball enjoys working as a bookkeeper for a private investigator. If only her mother Harriet could enjoy her retirement at Sun City West in Arizona—instead of constantly getting involved with retirees being prematurely put out to pasture. This time Quentin Dussler, a prominent member of the clay sculpting club, was found dead, clutching a piece of paper scrawled with Phee's mother's name. Terrified she's been targeted by assassins, Harriet begs Phee to investigate. What Phee uncovers is a complicated scheme that only the most diabolical of murderers would ever devise. And as she chisels away at confusing clues and potential suspects, Phee unearths something far more precious and valuable than she could imagine.

ELLIOTT, PHILIP angel city NOBODY MOVE (#1) (\$20.95) Eddie Vegas made a terrible mistake. Now he has to pay the price. After a botched debt collection turned double murder, Eddie splits, desperate to avoid his employer, notorious L.A. crime boss Saul Benedict, and his men (and Eddie's ex-partners), Floyd and Sawyer, as well as the police. Soon he becomes entangled with the clever and beautiful Dakota, a Native American woman fresh in the City of Angels to find her missing friend—someone Eddie might know something about. Meanwhile in Texas, ex-assassin Rufus, seeking vengeance for his murdered brother, takes up his beloved daggers one final time and begins the long drive to L.A. When the bodies begin to mount, Detective Alison Lockley's hunt for the killers becomes increasingly urgent.

ELLIS, KATE lincoln BOY WHO LIVED WITH THE DEAD (#2) (\$15.99) 1920. Scotland Yard detective DI Albert Lincoln is still reeling from the disturbing events of the previous year when he's called away from London to a new case in the North West of England. Before the War he led the unsuccessful investigation into the murder of

little Jimmy Rudyard in the village of Mabley Ridge. Now a woman has been murdered there and another child is missing, the sole witness being a traumatised boy who lives in a cemetery lodge. Albert is determined that this time he will find the truth . . . and the missing child. When Albert delves into the lives of the village residents, he uncovers shocking secrets and obsessions. Then, as more bodies are discovered, he realises that his young witness from the cemetery lodge is in grave danger, from somebody he calls 'the Shadow Man'. As Albert discovers more about the victims he finds information that might bring him a step closer not only to Jimmy's killer but to solving a mystery of his own: the whereabouts of his lost son.

ENGER, THOMAS INBORN (\$22) When the high school in the small Norwegian village of Fredheim becomes a murder scene, the finger is soon pointed at seventeen-year-old Even. As the investigation closes in, social media is ablaze with accusations, rumours and even threats, and Even finds himself the subject of an online trial as well as being in the dock . . . for murder? Even pores over his memories of the months leading up to the crime, and it becomes clear that more than one villager was acting suspiciously . . . and secrets are simmering beneath the calm surface of this close-knit community. As events from the past play tag with the present, he's forced to question everything he thought he knew. Was the death of his father in a car crash a decade earlier really accidental? Has a relationship stirred up something that someone is prepared to kill to protect?

ERICKSON, ALEX bookstore DEATH BY CAFE MOCHA (#7)

(\$10.99) Coffee lovers are gathering from far and wide at the hotel, and Krissy, Rita, and Vicki are excited. But some of the attendees may need to switch to decaf, as a public argument breaks out soon after they check in and then a flavor competition leads to bitter feelings. When the winner of the contest is beamed with a carafe full of café mocha, suspicions swirl—along with accusations of bribery. Was the dead man offering perks to the judges—or was something sinister going on in his personal life? This case is going to keep Krissy up all night long.

EVANOVICH, JANET plum LOOK ALIVE TWENTY-FIVE

(#25) (\$12.99) There's nothing like a good deli, and the Red River Deli in Trenton is one of the best. World-famous for its pastrami, cole slaw, and for its disappearing managers. Over the last month, three have vanished from the face of the earth, and the only clue in each case is one shoe that's been left behind. The police are baffled. Lula is convinced that it's a case of alien abduction. Whatever it is, they'd better figure out what's going on before they lose their new manager, Ms. Stephanie Plum.

FALLIS, TERRY ALBATROSS (\$22.95) Adam Coryell is your average high-school student—well, except for that obsession with fountain pens—when his life changes forever. Based on a study by a quirky Swedish professor that claims that every human being, regardless of athletic inclination, has a body that is suited to excel in at least one sport, it turns out that Adam is good—very good, in fact—at golf. Even though he'd never even picked up a golf club. Almost instantly, and with his coach, hard-nosed Bobbie Davenport by his side, Adam and his new-found talent skyrocket to a prodigy-level stardom that includes tournament titles, sponsorship deals, throngs of fans following his every move, and fodder for tabloids. But here's the catch: Adam doesn't really like golf. And as the life he once knew slips away—including the love of his life, the dream of being a writer, and everyday normalcy—he can't help but wonder if all this success and fame is worth it . . . or if it's enough for him.

FARROW, SHARON berry MULBERRY MISCHIEF (#4)

(\$10.99) With the Harvest Health Fair in full swing, Marlee makes sure to stock up on elderberry products for cold and flu season. But this year there's also a run on mulberry when an eccentric customer wants to use the dried berries to ward off evil forces. True, it's almost Halloween, but something else seems to be spooking Leticia the Lake Lady, Oriole Point's oddest resident. She believes someone plans to kill her—and the ghost. Only mulberries can protect them. Marlee doesn't take her fears seriously until a man named Felix Bonaventure arrives in the village, asking questions about a mysterious woman. The next day, Marlee finds Bonaventure dead on Leticia's property—

shot through the heart with an arrow made of mulberry wood. And Leticia has disappeared. Includes Berry Recipes!

FINCH, PAUL clayburn STOLEN (#3) (\$17.99) How do you find the missing when there's no trail to follow? DC Lucy Clayburn is having a tough time of it. Not only is her estranged father one of the North West's toughest gangsters, but she is in the midst of one of the biggest police operations of her life. Members of the public have started to disappear, taken from the streets as they're going about their everyday lives. But no bodies are appearing - it's almost as if the victims never existed. Lucy must chase a trail of dead ends and false starts as the disappearances mount up. But when her father gets caught in the crossfire, the investigation suddenly becomes a whole lot bloodier.

FLINT, SARAH stafford MUMMY'S FAVOURITE (#1) (\$19.95) Buried in a woodland grave are a mother and her child. One is alive. One is dead. It is one of the most harrowing cases to hit D.C. Charlie Stafford's department in years. Then more pairs of mothers and children go missing—and it's Charlie's job to find them. Soon, Charlie is hunting down a brutal serial killer with a twisted mind. But as she closes in on the culprit, she realizes she's in more danger than she thought. He's watching. He's waiting. Who's next?

FLYNN, VINCE/KYLE MILLS mitch rapp RED WAR (#15) (\$12.99) When Russian president Maxim Krupin discovers that he has inoperable brain cancer, he's determined to cling to power. His first task is to kill or imprison any of his countrymen who can threaten him. Soon, though, his illness becomes serious enough to require a more dramatic diversion—war with the West. Upon learning of Krupin's condition, CIA director Irene Kennedy understands that the US is facing an opponent who has nothing to lose. The only way to avoid a confrontation that could leave millions dead is to send Mitch Rapp to Russia under impossibly dangerous orders. With the Kremlin's entire security apparatus hunting him, he must find and kill a man many have deemed the most powerful in the world.

FOLLETT, KEN pillars COLUMN OF FIRE (#3) (\$14.99) In 1558, the ancient stones of Kingsbridge Cathedral look down on a city torn apart by religious conflict. As power in England shifts precariously between Catholics and Protestants, royalty and commoners clash, testing friendship, loyalty, and love. Ned Willard wants nothing more than to marry Margery Fitzgerald. But when the lovers find themselves on opposing sides of the religious conflict dividing the country, Ned goes to work for Princess Elizabeth. When she becomes queen, all Europe turns against England. The shrewd, determined young monarch sets up the country's first secret service to give her early warning of assassination plots, rebellions, and invasion plans. Over a turbulent half century, the love between Ned and Margery seems doomed as extremism sparks violence from Edinburgh to Geneva. Elizabeth clings to her throne and her principles, protected by a small, dedicated group of resourceful spies and courageous secret agents.

FORD, DANIEL M dixon BODY BROKER (#1) (\$20.95) When a teenager disappears from an elite boarding school, local police throw the seemingly innocuous case to their neighborhood PI. Enter Jack Dixon: college dropout, ex-cop, and ex-cook. What should be a simple case quickly turns sour, pushing Jack into the path of Nordic biker cultists and vicious drug dealers. But the houseboat-dwelling PI is determined to find the truth—and the missing kid—even though his persistence leads him into a thorny tangle of drugs and violence that could rip his sleepy waterfront life apart.

FREMANTLE, E C POISON BED (\$19.99) Autumn, 1615. Frances Carr is imprisoned in a cold, lightless room. She is accused of murder. In a cell nearby is her co-accused - her husband Robert. Kept apart, Frances can only tell her side of the story. How did she come to be here? Can she somehow prove her innocence? And what lengths will she go to save herself?

GIBNEY, PATRICIA parker MISSING ONES (#1) (\$10.49) When a woman's body is discovered in a cathedral and hours later a young man is found hanging from a tree outside his home, Detective Lottie Parker is called in to lead the investigation. Both bodies have the same distinctive tattoo clumsily inscribed on their legs. It's clear the pair are connected, but how? The trail leads Lottie to St Angela's, a

former children's home, with a dark connection to her own family history. Suddenly the case just got personal. As Lottie begins to link the current victims to unsolved murders decades old, two teenage boys go missing. She must close in on the killer before they strike again, but in doing so is she putting her own children in terrifying danger?

GRANT, ANDREW mcgrath INVISIBLE (#1) (\$12.99) As a young man, Paul McGrath rebelled against his pacifist father by becoming a standout Army recruit and the star of his military intelligence unit. But lingering regrets about their relationship make him return home, only to find his father dead, seemingly murdered. When the case ends in a mistrial—after a key piece of evidence disappears—something doesn't smell right to McGrath. So he puts his arsenal of skills to work to find out just how corrupt the legal system is. And to keep digging, he gets a job at the courthouse. But not as a lawyer or a clerk...

GREANEY, MARK gray man BALLISTIC (#3) (\$12.99) A reissue, originally published in 2011. After Court Gentry was betrayed by his compatriots and forced to take on a near-suicidal covert mission by the CIA, he thought he could find refuge living in the Amazon rain forest. But his bloody past finds him when a vengeful Russian crime lord forces him to go on the run once again. Court makes his way to one of the only men in the world he can trust—and arrives too late. His friend is dead and buried. Years before, Eddie Gamboa had saved Court's life. Now, Eddie has been murdered by the notorious Mexican drug cartel he fought to take down. And Court soon finds himself drawn into a war he never wanted. But in this war, there are no sides—only survivors.

HAGE, RAWI BEIRUT HELLFIRE SOCIETY (\$21) Longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize; finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction; finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. It is 1978 in Beirut, Lebanon, partway through that country's Civil War. On a torn-up street overlooking a cemetery in the city's Christian enclave, we meet an eccentric young man named Pavlov, the son of a local undertaker. When his father meets a sudden and untimely death, Pavlov is approached by a colourful member of the mysterious Hellfire Society—a secret group to which his father had belonged. The Society's purpose is to arrange burial or cremation for those who for various reasons have been outcast and abandoned by family, clergy and state. Pavlov agrees to take up his father's work for the society, and over the course of the novel he becomes a survivor-chronicler of his embattled and fading community, bearing witness to its enduring rituals as well as its inevitable decline.

HALE, AMANDA MAD HATTER (\$29.95) When British hat manufacturer Christopher Brooke is arrested under Regulation 18B in June 1940 a slow process of personal disintegration begins. Taking us into the pre-war political era of Ishiguro's *Remains of the Day*, *Mad Hatter* delves into the lives of Britons, tracking them through a darkening time. Irish farm girl, Mary Byrne, arrives in England in July 1940 to work as housekeeper for Cynthia Brooke and her three children, bonding with the family. When Mary is shockingly expelled from the house upon Christopher's release, her narration continues through the mouth of 15-month-old Katie.

HAMILTON, STEVE macknight DEAD MAN RUNNING (#11) (\$12.99) On the Mediterranean Sea, a vacationer logs on to the security-camera feed from his home in Scottsdale, Arizona. Something about his living room seems not quite right—the room is bright, when he's certain he'd left the curtains closed. Rewinding through the feed, he sees an intruder. When he shifts to the bedroom camera, he sees the dead body. Martin T. Livermore is the key suspect in the abduction and murder of at least five women, but he's never been this sloppy before. When the FBI finally catches him in Scottsdale, he declares he'll only talk to one person: a retired police officer from Detroit, now a private investigator living in the tiny town of Paradise, Michigan. A man named Alex McKnight. Livermore means nothing to McKnight, but it soon becomes clear McKnight means something to Livermore...and that Livermore's capture was only the beginning of an elaborate, twisted plot with McKnight at the center.

HANDLER, DAVID hoag MAN IN THE WHITE LINEN SUIT (#11) (\$19.99) Washed-up celebrity ghostwriter Stewart "Hoagy"

Hoag has finally rediscovered his voice and is making progress on what he hopes will be his long-awaited second novel. Burrowed up in his less-than-luxurious, sweltering fifth floor walk-up, he tries not to think of the disparities between himself and his ex-wife, celebrity actress Merilee Nash, who is sifting through film offers from her elegant eight-room apartment looking over Central Park. When Merilee offers her home for Hoagy's use while she's shooting on location, hope blossoms that he might finally get some real work done. Then Hoagy receives a call from his literary agent asking if he can meet with publishing's most ruthless and reviled editor, Sylvia James, for a drink at the Algonquin Hotel. After disclosing that aging literary genius Addison James—also Sylvia's father and main client—has not in fact written his last two bestselling historical sagas, Sylvia reveals her suspicions that Addison's assistant Tommy O'Brien—the true author—has run away with their most recent manuscript and is holding it for ransom. Tempted by Sylvia's offer to bid a hefty advance for his novel-in-progress, Hoagy agrees to help unearth Tommy's sudden disappearance.

HARMEL, KRISTIN WINEMAKER'S WIFE (\$24.99) At the dawn of the Second World War, Inès is the young wife of Michel, owner of the House of Chauveau, a small champagne winery nestled among rolling vineyards near Reims, France. Marrying into a storied champagne empire was supposed to be a dream come true, but Inès feels increasingly isolated, purposely left out of the business by her husband; his *chef de cave*, Theo; and Theo's wife, Sarah. But these disappointments pale in comparison to the increasing danger from German forces pouring across the border. At first, it's merely the Nazi *weinführer* coming to demand the choicest champagne for Hitler's cronies, but soon, there are rumors of Jewish townspeople being rounded up and sent east to an unspeakable fate. The war is on their doorstep, and no one in Inès's life is safe—least of all Sarah, whose father is Jewish, or Michel, who has recklessly begun hiding munitions for the *Résistance* in the champagne caves. Inès realizes she has to do something to help.

HARMER, LIZ AMATEURS (\$19.95) In a time and place only slightly removed from now, PINA, the world's largest tech company, has introduced society to a new product called "Port." This irresistible space-time travel device is mysteriously powered by nostalgia and longing: Step inside a Port and find yourself transported any place your heart desires, real or imagined. Earth's population plummets when many who pass through its portal don't come back—either unwilling or unable to return.

HARRIS, OLIVER SHADOW INTELLIGENCE (\$24.99) The intelligence service puts two years and over £100k into the training of new field officers. You're shown how to steal cars, strip weapons, hack bank accounts. There are courses on the use of blackmail and improvised explosives, two workshops solely dedicated to navigating by the stars. No one tells you how to go home. There is a dark side to MI6 that needs men like Elliot Kane - mercurial, inquisitive, free floating. He's spent fifteen years managing events overseas that never make the papers, deniable and deeply effective. Kane is a ghost in his own life, picking up and dropping personalities as each new cover story comes into play. But when a woman he loves, Joanna Lake, vanishes without a trace in Kazakhstan, he is forced centre stage in his own life.

HENRY, JULIA garden squad TILLING THE TRUTH (#2) (\$10.99) It's August in Goosebush, Massachusetts, and go-getter retiree Lilly Jayne and her youthful senior pals show no sign of slowing down during the lazy days of summer. But when murder mows over a pesky local, could a Garden Squad member be nurturing a deadly second act? While Lilly digs into a town beautification project, her friend Tamara O'Connor has greater concerns than well-pruned geraniums. The real-estate firm owner hasn't been shy about blaming perennial grouch Gladys Preston for thwarting her many attempts to sell off a beautiful beachside property. But accusations fly when Gladys is suddenly found dead—and Tamara is caught standing over the body with a bloody weapon in her hand.

HUBER, ANNA LEE kent TREACHEROUS IS THE NIGHT (#2) (\$17.95) In 1919 England, in the shadow of The Great War, many

look to the spirit world for answers. But it will take an all too earth-bound intrigue to draw in our discerning heroine, in her sequel to This Side of Murder (#1) (\$16.95).

IMRIE, CELIA NICE CUP OF TEA (#3) (\$24) The beautiful town of Bellevue-sur-Mer, tucked between glitzy Monte Carlo and the plush red carpets of Cannes, is home to Theresa, Carol, William, Benjamin, and Sally: five retired expats who have pooled their resources to set up La Mosaïque, a divine little restaurant. But there is trouble in paradise: the friends are desperately struggling to make ends meet. It will take every bit of their talent and gumption to save La Mosaïque. With fussy customers, obnoxious cruise parties, and a failing delivery van, it's certainly not going to be easy. On top of this, Theresa and Sally have their own distractions. Theresa's teenage granddaughter has run away, and Theresa herself has been getting mysterious phone calls and the strong sense that someone's watching her. Meanwhile, Sally's run into a nasty couple from her acting days, and their barbed jibes are enough to send her on an ill-advised search for the lime-light.

JAMES, PETER ABSOLUTE PROOF (\$15.99) Investigative reporter Ross Hunter nearly didn't answer the phone call that would change his life - and possibly the world - forever. *I'd just like to assure you I'm not a nutcase, Mr. Hunter. My name is Dr Harry F. Cook. I know this is going to sound strange, but I've recently been given absolute proof of God's existence - and I've been advised there is a writer, a respected journalist called Ross Hunter, who could help me to get taken seriously.* What would it take to prove the existence of God? And what would be the consequences? The false faith of a billionaire evangelist, the life's work of a famous atheist, and the credibility of each of the world's major religions are all under threat. If Ross Hunter can survive long enough to present the evidence.

JAMES, PETER FAITH (\$17.99) How perfect is too perfect? Ross Ransome is at the top of his profession; one of the most successful, and certainly one of the richest, plastic surgeons in the business. Such a man would expect his wife to be perfect - and why not? After all, he has spent enough hours in surgery to get her that way. But when his wife falls ill, she turns her back on conventional medicine, and her arid marriage, and seeks help from the world of alternative medicine and a charismatic therapist who promises not just medical salvation. For Ransome, this is the ultimate betrayal. It defies logic, and Ross Ransome is a profoundly logical man. Logically, he can see no reason why any man should have his wife when he can't. It's all completely rational.

JARDINE, QUINTIN skinner COLD CASE (#30) (\$15.99) When a murder investigation that's been closed for thirty years is suddenly reopened, former Chief Constable Bob Skinner is quickly drawn into the action. The story of the Body in the Quarry was well-known around Edinburgh all those years ago: a popular priest found dead in a frozen quarry; a suspect with a clear motive charged; a guilty verdict. But with a journalist uncovering new evidence, the cold case has come back to haunt Skinner's old mentor Jimmy Proud - and only one man can help him. Skinner is long out of the police force, but he can't say no. Was an innocent man convicted for murder. And is a killer still on the loose?

JOHNSON, CRAIG walt DEPTH OF WINTER (#14) (\$23) Welcome to Walt Longmire's worst nightmare. Winter is creeping closer, but for Sheriff Longmire this one is looking to be harsh in a way to which he is wholly unaccustomed. He has found himself in the remotest parts of the northern Mexican desert, a lawless place where no horse or car can travel, where no one speaks his language or trusts an outsider, far from his friends and his home turf back in Wyoming. But desperate times call for desperate measures. Tomas Bidarte, the head of one of the most vicious drug cartels in Mexico, has kidnapped Walt's beloved daughter, Cady. The American government is of limited help and the Mexican one even less so. Armed with his trusty Colt .45 and a father's intuition, Walt must head into the 110-degree heat of the desert, one man against an army.

JONES, BILL BLACK CAMP 21 (\$16.99) All over Britain, POW camps are filling up with defeated German soldiers. Every day, thousands more pour in on ships from France. But only the most danger-

ous are sent to Camp 21 - 'black' prisoners - SS diehards who've sworn death before surrender. Nothing will stop their war, unless it's a bullet. Inspired by terrifying actual events, *Black Camp 21* takes readers on a journey from the battlefields of France to its shocking climax in a camp which still stands today.

KHAN, ADNAN THERE HAS TO BE A KNIFE (\$18.95) Omar Ali, twenty-seven-year-old line cook and petty criminal, gets a phone call from his ex-girlfriend's father at work, informing Omar that Anna has committed suicide. Unable to process or articulate his grief, and suffering from insomnia, Omar embarks on a quest to obtain her suicide note from her elusive parents. As he unravels, Omar finds himself getting involved in break-ins, online terrorism, dealing with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and losing his best friend as he becomes less recognizable.

KIRWAN, CATHERINE DARKEST TRUTH (\$16.99) When solicitor Finn Fitzpatrick is approached by a man to investigate the death of his daughter, her first instinct is to refuse. The father is grieving, and unable to accept that his daughter committed suicide. And yet something about the man's story chimes with Finn. Why *did* a bright, confident, beautiful young girl suddenly drop out of school? Could the answer lie in her relationship with Ireland's most famous film director? The deeper Finn goes into the case, the more dark, twisted and dangerous the picture becomes. Because these are powerful people she is trying to expose. And they're willing to do anything to keep the truth hidden.

KRENTZ, JAYNE ANN PROMISE NOT TO TELL (\$10.99) Seattle gallery owner Virginia Troy has spent years battling the demons that stem from her childhood time in a cult and the night a fire burned through the compound killing her mother. And now one of her artists has taken her own life, but not before sending Virginia a last picture...a painting that makes Virginia doubt everything about the so-called suicide—and her own past. Like Virginia, PI Cabot Sutter was one of the children in the cult who survived that fire—and only he can help her now. As they struggle to unravel the clues in the picture, it becomes clear that someone thinks Virginia knows more than she does and that she must be stopped. Thrown into an inferno of desire and deception, Virginia and Cabot draw ever closer to the mystery of their shared memories—and the shocking fate of the one man who still wields the power to destroy everything they hold dear.

KRUGLER, DAVID voigt DEAD DON'T BLEED (#1) (\$21.95) Washington D.C., 1945. Victory in the war looms, but a new fear transfixes the wartime capital. Fear of communist spies and the atomic secrets they covet. When the corpse of a Navy Intelligence officer is found on a cobblestone back alley, Lt. Voigt is called in to investigate. It's his first murder, but in the plot that he quickly begins unraveling, it won't be his last. Pursuing crosses and double-crosses, Voigt goes undercover and the fragments he discovers (a defecting German physicist, a top-secret lab in New Mexico, and Uranium-235) suggest something far larger than the usual spy v. spy shenanigans. Soon enough he's in a race to identify the killer, to keep the bomb away from the Russians—and to keep ahead of his own secrets.

LA PLANTE, LYNDA tennison DIRTY DOZEN (#5) (\$22) April 1980 and Jane is the first female detective to be posted to the Met's renowned Flying Squad, commonly known as the 'Sweeney'. Based at Rigg Approach in East London, they investigate armed robberies on banks, cash in transit and other business premises. Jane thinks her transfer is on merit and is surprised to discover she is actually part of a short-term internal experiment, intended to have a calming influence on a team that likes to dub themselves as the 'Dirty Dozen'. The men on the squad don't think a woman is up to the dangers they face when dealing with some of London's most ruthless armed criminals, who think the only 'good cop' is a dead cop. Determined to prove she's as good as the men, Jane discovers from a reliable witness that a gang is going to carry out a massive robbery involving millions of pounds. But she doesn't know who they are, or where and when they will strike.

LA PLANTE, LYNDA widows WIDOW'S REVENGE (#2) (\$22) Against all the odds, Dolly Rawlins and her gangland widows managed the impossible: a heist their husbands had failed to pull off - at

the cost of their lives. But though they may be in the money, they're far from easy street. Shocked by her husband's betrayal, Dolly discovers Harry Rawlins isn't dead. He knows where the four women are, and he wants them to pay. And he doesn't just mean getting his hands on the money. The women can't keep running. They have to get Harry out of their lives for good. But can they outwit a criminal mastermind who won't hesitate to kill? Especially when one of them has a plan of her own ... to kill or be killed.

LAWSON, MIKE joe demarco HOUSE WITNESS (#12) (\$23.95) Minority Leader of the House and Joe DeMarco's long-time employer John Mahoney has kept more than one secret from his wife over the years, but none so explosive as this: He has a son, and that son has just been shot dead in a bar in Manhattan. Mahoney immediately dispatches DeMarco to New York to assist prosecutor Justine Porter, but with five bystanders willing to testify against the killer - rich-boy Toby Rosenthal - the case seems like a slam-dunk. That is, until Porter begins to suspect that someone is interfering with those witnesses, and that this may be connected to a pattern of cases across the country. Is there someone who is getting witnesses out of the way when the fate of a wealthy defendant is on the line? With the help of Porter's intern, as outrageously smart as she is young, DeMarco becomes determined to follow that question through to its violent resolution.

LEATHER, STEPHEN shepherd TALL ORDER (#15) (\$12.99) He is one of the world's most ruthless terrorists, codenamed Saladin. He plans and executes devastating attacks and then, ghost-like, he disappears. Ten years ago, he blew a plane out of the sky above New York - and now he's struck again, killing dozens in a London strike. But one of the latest victims is related to the acting head of MI5, who knows exactly who she wants on the case: Spider Shepherd. Dean Martin, a psychologically damaged former Navy SEAL, is the only person in the world who can identify Saladin. But Martin was killed ten years ago - wasn't he? Shepherd must find Martin and take him back to the killing fields on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Revenge on the world's most wanted terrorist is long overdue, and Shepherd is determined to be the one to deliver it.

LETHEM, JONATHAN FERAL DETECTIVE (\$21) Phoebe Siegler first meets Charles Heist in a shabby trailer on the eastern edge of Los Angeles. She's looking for her friend's missing daughter, Arabella, and hires Heist to help. A laconic loner who keeps his pet opossum in a desk drawer, Heist intrigues the sarcastic and garrulous Phoebe. Reluctantly, he agrees to help. The unlikely pair navigate the enclaves of desert-dwelling vagabonds and find that Arabella is in serious trouble—caught in the middle of a violent standoff that only Heist, mysteriously, can end. Phoebe's trip to the desert was always going to be strange, but it was never supposed to be dangerous.

LORAC, E C R MURDER IN THE MILL-RACE (\$22) aka *Speak Justly of the Dead*. Originally published in 1952. When Dr Raymond Ferens moves to a practice at Milham in the Moor in North Devon, he and his wife are enchanted with the beautiful hilltop village lying so close to moor and sky. At first, they see only its charm, but soon they begin to uncover its secrets—envy, hatred, and malice. Everyone says that Sister Monica, warden of a children's home, is a saint—but is she? A few months after the Ferens' arrival her body is found drowned in the mill-race. Chief Inspector Macdonald faces one of his most difficult cases in a village determined not to betray its dark secrets to a stranger.

LOTEMPIO, T C purr TIME FOR MURDER IS MEOW (#1) (\$22) Crishell "Shell" McMillan sees the cancellation of her TV series as a blessing in disguise. The former actress can now take over her late aunt's pet shop, the Purr N' Bark, and do something she loves. While getting the shop ready for re-opening, Shell is asked to loan her aunt's Cary Grant posters to the local museum for an exhibit. She finds the prospect exciting—until a museum board member, who had a long-standing feud with Shell's aunt, votes against it. When she discovers the board member dead in the museum, Shell becomes suspect number one. Can she, her Siamese cat Kahlua, and her new sidekick—her aunt's Persian Purrday—find the real culprit, or will her latest career go up in kitty litter?

MACGEORGE/MCGEORGE, CHRIS GUESS WHO (\$19.99) The rules are simple. But the game is not. At eleven years old, Morgan Sheppard solved the murder of a teacher at his school. The publicity surrounding the case launched him to fame as a modern-day Sherlock Holmes. Until, that is, Sheppard wakes up handcuffed to a bed in an unfamiliar hotel room. Around him, five strangers are slowly waking up, as well. Soon they discover a corpse in the bathtub. But which one of them is the murderer? Now Sheppard must put his deductive skills to the test—or face certain death.

MACGOWAN/MCGOWAN, CLAIRE maguire BLOOD TIDE (#5) (\$17.99) Called in to investigate the disappearance of a young couple during a violent storm, Paula Maguire, forensic psychologist, has mixed feelings about going back to Bone Island. Her last family holiday as a child was spent on its beautiful, remote beaches and returning brings back haunting memories of her long-lost mother. It soon becomes clear that outsiders aren't welcome on the island, and with no choice but to investigate the local community, Paula soon suspects foul play, realising that the islanders are hiding secrets from her, and each other. With another storm fast approaching, Paula is faced with a choice. Leave alive or risk being trapped with a killer on an inescapable island, as the blood tide rushes in...

MACNEAL, ELIZABETH DOLL FACTORY (\$24.99) The greatest spectacle London has ever seen is being erected in Hyde Park and, among the crowd watching, two people meet. For Iris, an aspiring artist of unique beauty, it is the encounter of a moment—forgotten seconds later—but for Silas, a curiosity collector enchanted by the strange and beautiful, the meeting marks a new beginning. When Iris is asked to model for Pre-Raphaelite artist Louis Frost, she agrees on the condition that he will also teach her to paint, and suddenly her world expands beyond anything she ever dreamed of. But she has no idea that evil stalks her. Silas, it seems, has thought of only one thing since that chance meeting, and his obsession is darkening by the day...

MARSONS, ANGELA FORGOTTEN WOMAN (\$23.95) The unlikely friendship between two very different women fighting their addiction to alcohol. Kit Mason is a hardened ex-prostitute fighting a growing attraction to a caring man while trying to outrun her past of abuse and cruelty. Frances Thornton is a wealthy, privileged lawyer who grew up in a cold, loveless home full of secrets. Her relationships have been unsatisfying until she meets a woman named Martine. The story follows the journey of these two women as they build a friendship while trying to battle their addiction.

MARSONS, ANGELA DEAR MOTHER (\$23.95) The story of three sisters brought together by the death of their cruel and abusive mother. Alex, the youngest, is a bitter, unforgiving woman who refuses to face the events of her childhood. She hides in a bottle and destroys any chance of happiness that comes her way. Her life is spiraling dangerously out of control but she doesn't have the strength to stop it. Catherine, the eldest, has strived to achieve everything her mother said she would not. She has everything she ever wanted but appears to be more like her mother than she thought. One single act brings her carefully constructed world tumbling down around her. And, Beth, the middle child, suffered the worst of them all. She has no memory of the cruelty and remained with their mother until she died. But eventually the memories must return. When they are brought together as strangers, the sisters must embark on a painful journey to the past to discover themselves and each other. But will all of them make it back safe?

MARSONS, ANGELA kim stone SILENT SCREAM (#1) (\$25) The debut of this very successful series featuring DI Kim Stone. The first of eleven.

MAY, PETER china CHINESE WHISPERS (#6) (\$19.49) The North American version of the sixth, and last, installment in this series. His victims are young, beautiful and coldly mutilated. He calls himself the Beijing Ripper. Li Yan, head of Beijing's serious crime squad, must stop him. Just as pathologist Margaret Campbell finds an insight into the killer's cruel signature, Li receives a letter from the killer, betraying his cruel intentions. There's no way Li can misinter-

pret the Ripper's motives: he wants to tear Li and Campbell's lives apart, and write the darkest chapter in Beijing's history.

MEIER, LESLIE lucy stone HALLOWEEN MURDER (#3) and (#16) (\$10.99) An omnibus edition containing Trick or Treat Murder (#3) and Wicked Witch Murder (#16). Just in time for Halloween!

MORGAN, ALEXIS abby DEATH BY JACK-O'-LANTERN (#2) (\$10.99) The small town of Snowberry Creek, Washington, is gearing up for the Halloween Festival, and naturally Abby is on the planning committee. As part of her duties, she's picking up a pumpkin order from ornery farmer Ronald Minter. But what she finds instead is the farmer in the middle of his corn maze with a knife in his back. The police suspect a homeless veteran named Kevin Montgomery, who was seen arguing with Minter when the farmer accused him of trespassing and stealing pumpkins. Abby's tenant Tripp Blackston, a veteran himself who's been helping Kevin, is sure he's innocent. Together, Abby and Tripp follow the twists and turns of the case to corner the corn maze killer—before someone else meets a dead end ...

MUNIER, PAULA BORROWING OF BONES (#1) (\$10.99) Home from their latest deployment, two former military police—Mercy, twenty-nine-year-old two-legged female with wounds deeper than skin and Elvis, a handsome five-year-old four-legged Malinois with canine PTSD—march off their troubles mile after mile in the beautiful remote Vermont wilderness. Even on the Fourth of July weekend, when all of Northshire celebrates with fun and frolic and fireworks, it's just another walk in the woods for Mercy and Elvis—until the dog alerts to explosives and they find a squalling baby abandoned near a shallow grave filled with what appear to be human bones. U.S. Game Warden Troy Warner and his search and rescue Newfoundland Susie Bear respond to Mercy's 911 call, and the four must work together to track down a missing mother, solve a cold-case murder, and keep the citizens of Northshire safe on potentially the most incendiary Independence Day since the American Revolution.

MYERS, BEVERLE tito amato IRON TONGUE OF MIDNIGHT (#4) (\$22.50) In September of 1740, singer Tito Amato receives a curious invitation. The German composer Karl Johann Weber is rehearsing a new opera at an isolated villa nestled in the hills of the Venetian mainland. Would Tito accept the lead role? Puzzled by the air of secrecy that enshrouds the production, but attracted by a generous fee, Tito agrees. Artist Gussie Rumbolt, Titos friend and brother-in-law, has also been summoned to paint scenes of the estates grape harvest. The two men find the countryside awash with the golden hues of autumn, but the bucolic mood quickly turns menacing when a notorious figure from Titos past turns up at the villa. That night, at the stroke of twelve, a soprano stumbles over a stranger who has been beaten to death with the clock pendulum. With the local constable away on a boar hunt, the midnight murderer strikes with impunity, raising terror to a fevered crescendo. Ever faithful to the ideals of truth and justice, Tito pursues his own quest for answers, a quest that leads straight into the painful secrets of his heart and beyond.

MYERS, BEVERLE tito amato HER DEADLY MISCHIEF (#5) (\$22.50) Tito Amato has regained his zest for performing and is once again singing lead roles at the Teatro San Marco. On opening night, the famous soprano has the entire audience entranced—except for one box keeping its scarlet curtains stubbornly drawn. Annoyed at being ignored, Tito aims the full force of his golden throat at the fourth-tier box. He is astounded when the curtains part and a woman tumbles over the railing.

NORTH, ALEX WHISPER MAN (\$24.50) After the sudden death of his wife, Tom Kennedy believes a fresh start will help him and his young son Jake heal. A new beginning, a new house, a new town. Featherbank. But the town has a dark past. Twenty years ago, a serial killer abducted and murdered five residents. Until Frank Carter was finally caught, he was nicknamed "The Whisper Man," for he would lure his victims out by whispering at their windows at night. Just as Tom and Jake settle into their new home, a young boy vanishes. His disappearance bears an unnerving resemblance to Frank Carter's crimes, reigniting old rumors that he preyed with an accomplice. Now, detectives Amanda Beck and Pete Willis must find the boy before it is too late, even if that means Pete has to revisit his great foe in

prison: The Whisper Man. And then Jake begins acting strangely. He hears a whispering at his window...

O'BRIEN, ANNE TAPESTRY OF TREASON (\$24.99) 1399: Constance of York, Lady Despenser, proves herself more than a mere observer in the devious intrigues of her magnificently dysfunctional family, The House of York. Surrounded by power-hungry men, including her aggressively self-centred husband Thomas and ruthless siblings Edward and Richard, Constance places herself at the heart of two treasonous plots against King Henry IV. Will it be possible for this Plantagenet family to safeguard its own political power by restoring either King Richard II to the throne, or the precarious Mortimer claimant? Although the execution of these conspiracies will place them all in jeopardy, Constance is not deterred, even when the cost of her ambition threatens to overwhelm her. Even when it endangers her new-found happiness. With treason, tragedy, heartbreak and betrayal, this is the story of a woman ahead of her time, fighting for herself and what she believes to be right in a world of men.

ONDAATJE, MICHAEL WARLIGHT (\$22) In 1945, just after World War II, fourteen-year-old Nathaniel, and his older sister, Rachel stay behind in London when their parents move to Singapore, leaving them in the care of a mysterious figure named The Moth. They suspect he might be a criminal, and they grow both more convinced and less concerned as they come to know his eccentric crew of friends: men and women joined by a shared history of unspecified service during the war, all of whom seem, in some way, determined now to protect, and educate (in rather unusual ways) Rachel and Nathaniel. But are they really what and who they claim to be? And what does it mean when the siblings' mother returns after months of silence without their father, explaining nothing, excusing nothing? A dozen years later, Nathaniel begins to uncover all that he didn't know and understand in that time, and it is this journey—through facts, recollection, and imagination—that he narrates in this masterwork from one of the great writers of our time.

ORCZY, BARONESS teahouse CASE OF MISS ELLIOTT (#2) (\$19.95) Mysteries! There is no such thing as a mystery in connection with any crime, provided intelligence is brought to bear upon its investigation. So says a rather down-at-heel elderly gentleman to young Polly Burton of the Evening Observer, in the corner of the ABC teashop on Norfolk Street one afternoon. Once she has forgiven him for distracting her from her newspaper and luncheon, Miss Burton discovers that her interlocutor is as brilliantly gifted as he is eccentric—able to solve mysteries that have made headlines and baffled the finest minds of the police without once leaving his seat in the teahouse. A classic collection of mysteries featuring the Teahouse Detective—a contemporary of Sherlock Holmes, with a brilliant mind and waspish temperament to match.

PARKER&COLEMAN stone COLORBLIND (#17) (\$12.99) Jesse Stone is back on the job after a stint in rehab, and the road to recovery is immediately made bumpy by a series of disturbing and apparently racially motivated crimes, beginning with the murder of an African American woman. Then, Jesse's own deputy Alisha--the first black woman hired by the Paradise police force--becomes the target of a sophisticated frame-up. As he and his team work tirelessly to unravel the truth, he has to wonder if this is just one part of an even grander plot, one with an end game more destructive than any of them can imagine.

PARKER, T JEFFERSON ford SWIFT VENGEANCE (#2) (\$12.99) Returning hero and private investigator Roland Ford is on the trail of a mysterious killer who is beheading CIA drone operators and leaving puzzling clues at each crime scene. His troubled friend Lindsay Rakes is afraid for her own life and the life of her son after a fellow flight crew member is killed in brutal fashion. Even more terrifying is the odd note the killer left behind: "Welcome to Caliphornia. This is not the last." Ford strikes an uneasy alliance with San Diego-based FBI agent Joan Taucher, who is tough as nails but haunted by what she sees as the Bureau's failure to catch the 9/11 terrorists, many of whom spent their last days in her city. As the killer strikes again, Ford and Taucher dash into the fray, each desperate for their own rea-

sons—each ready to risk it all to stop the killer from doing far more damage.

PAUL, BART smith UNDER TOWER PEAK (#1) (\$19.95) After two tours as a sniper in Iraq, Tommy Smith has returned to his former life as a cowboy and wilderness guide in California's Sierra Nevada, hoping to reclaim the simplicity of his youth and heal the wounds the world can't see. When, high on a mountain pass, he and his partner find the wrecked plane of a billionaire adventurer who disappeared months earlier, a seemingly innocent act triggers a breathtaking cycle of violence that threatens Tommy's world. Soon he is enmeshed in the struggle between the billionaire's trophy wife and wannabe drug lord son and their allies. Every effort to set things right draws him deeper into a bad situation and closer to needing those deadly skills that he had hoped to leave behind forever. Named one of the "10 Best Mysteries of 2013" by WSJ.

PEACOCK, CARO lane FOOL'S GOLD (#8) (\$26.99) September 1841. A new arrival has taken London society by storm. Lord Byron's handsome illegitimate son, George, recently arrived from the exotic island of Cephalonia in the company of his guardian, the mysterious Mr. Vickery, has been setting female hearts aflutter. But not all the attention George attracts is welcome. Mr. Vickery has been receiving disturbing letters from a woman who calls herself Helena, and he hires Liberty Lane to find out who Helena is and what she wants. As Liberty is to discover, there is more to this case than meets the eye. Is George really Lord Byron's son – or is he an imposter? And who exactly is Mr Vickery? What is his agenda? When Liberty comes across a body shot dead near Mr. Vickery's home in Muswell Hill, the investigation takes a shocking turn.

PEARL, MATTHEW DANTE CHAMBER (\$23) Five years after a series of Dante-inspired killings stunned Boston, a politician is found in a London park with his neck crushed by an enormous stone device etched with a verse from the Divine Comedy. When other shocking deaths erupt across the city, all in the style of the penances Dante memorialized in Purgatory, poet Christina Rossetti fears her missing brother, the artist and writer Dante Gabriel Rossetti, will be the next victim. She enlists poets Robert Browning, Alfred Tennyson, and Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes to decipher the literary clues, and together these unlikely investigators unravel the secrets of Dante's verses to find Gabriel and stop the killings.

PETRIE, NICHOLAS ash TEAR IT DOWN (#4) (\$12.99) Iraq war veteran Peter Ash is restless. Som he's off to Memphis to help a friend Wanda Wyatt, a photographer and war correspondent who's been receiving peculiar threats. But when Peter arrives in Memphis, he finds the situation has gone downhill fast--someone has just driven a dump truck into Wanda's living room. But neither Wanda nor Peter can figure out why. At the same time, a young homeless street musician finds himself roped into a plan to rob a jewelry store. The heist doesn't go as planned, and the young man finds himself holding a sack full of Rolexes and running for his life. When his getaway car breaks down, he steals a new one at gunpoint--Peter's 1968 green Chevrolet pickup truck. Peter likes the skinny kid's smarts and attitude, but he soon discovers that the desperate musician is in far worse trouble than he knows. And Wanda's troubles are only beginning. Peter finds himself stuck between Memphis gangsters--looking for Rolexes and revenge--and a Mississippi ex-con and his hog-butcher brother looking for a valuable piece of family history that goes all the way back to the Civil War. A terrific series.

PHILBY, CHARLOTTE MOST DIFFICULT THING (\$21.99) On the surface, Anna Witherall personifies everything the aspirational magazine she works for represents. Married to her university boyfriend David, she has a beautiful home and gorgeous three-year-old twin daughters, Stella and Rose. But beneath the veneer of success and happiness, Anna is hiding a dark secret, one that threatens to unravel everything she has worked so hard to create. As Anna finds herself drawn into the dark and highly controlled world of secret intelligence, she is forced to question her family's safety, and her own. Only one thing is certain: in order to protect her children, she must leave them, forever. And someone is watching. Someone she thought she could trust. Someone who is determined to make them all pay. By the

granddaughter of Kim Philby, Britain's most famous communist double-agent.

POWELL, E M stanton KING'S JUSTICE (#1) (\$23.95) England, 1176. Aelred Barling, esteemed clerk to the justices of King Henry II, is dispatched from the royal court with his young assistant, Hugo Stanton, to investigate a brutal murder in a village outside York. The case appears straightforward. A suspect is under lock and key in the local prison, and the angry villagers are demanding swift justice. But when more bodies are discovered, certainty turns to doubt—and amid the chaos it becomes clear that nobody is above suspicion. Facing growing unrest in the village and the fury of the lord of the manor, Stanton and Barling find themselves drawn into a mystery that defies logic, pursuing a killer who evades capture at every turn. Can they solve the riddle of who is preying upon the villagers? And can they do it without becoming prey themselves?

RAMSAY, CARO anderson SIDEMAN (#10) (\$26.99) Detective Inspector Costello has resigned. No notice, no goodbyes. Convinced that George Haggerty murdered his wife and son despite his cast-iron alibi, Costello has gone solo, determined to expose a ruthless killer without being hampered by police protocol. But is she right about Haggerty's guilt? And where has she disappeared to? DCI Colin Anderson has no time to ponder the loss of his partner of twenty years. With a badly beaten body found on a remote mountain pass; a woman with a serious head wound who won't communicate in any way; and a substantial pool of blood discovered at the edge of Loch Lomond, Police Scotland have their hands full. Could there be any connection to Costello's disappearance ...?

RAMZIPOOR, E R VENTRILOQUISTS (\$22.99) Inspired by true events, a ragtag gang of journalists and resistance fighters risk everything for an elaborate scheme to undermine the Reich. Brussels, 1943. Twelve-year-old street orphan Helene survives by living as a boy and selling copies of the country's most popular newspaper, *Le Soir*, now turned into Nazi propaganda. Helene's world changes when she befriends a rogue journalist, Marc Aubrion, who draws her into a secret network that publishes dissident underground newspapers. The Nazis track down Aubrion's team and give them an impossible choice: turn the resistance newspapers into a Nazi propaganda bomb that will sway public opinion against the Allies, or be killed. Faced with no decision at all, Aubrion has a brilliant idea. While pretending to do the Nazis' bidding, they will instead publish a fake edition of *Le Soir* that pokes fun at Hitler and Stalin—daring to laugh in the face of their oppressors. The ventriloquists have agreed to die for a joke, and they have only eighteen days to tell it.

RANKIN, IAN rebus IN A HOUSE OF LIES (#22) (\$17.99) Private investigator Stuart Bloom was missing, presumed dead. Until now. His body is discovered in an abandoned car—in an area that had already been searched...Detective Inspector Siobhan Clarke combs through the mistakes of the original investigation. After a decade without answers, it's time for the truth. But it seems everyone involved with the case is hiding something. None more so than Siobhan's own mentor: former detective John Rebus. The only man who knows where the trail may lead—and that it could be the end of him.

ROYAL, PRISCILLA medieval TWICE-HANGED MAN (#15) (\$22.99) Autumn, 1282. As Edward I wages a bloody conflict with Wales, Prioress Eleanor escorts her younger brother, Robert, and his wife, who is in labor, from their Marcher lands to greater safety at a Wynethorpe manor in a village just inside the English border. They are joined by Brother Thomas, the Prioress's trusted friend, and Sister Anne, who helps navigate the difficult birth and delivers a baby girl. Mother and child may be healthy, but Death never wanders far from this beloved Prioress—whether she's home at Tyndal in Norfolk or traveling the realm.

RYAN, CHRIS danny black HEAD HUNTERS (#6) (\$12.99) The Regiment is beset by a mysterious run of suicides. When Danny Black becomes part of an SAS hit squad to seek out and eliminate Taliban leaders, he steels himself for the pressures of a constant round of killing. What he can't prepare himself for is the accusation that he has massacred an entire family, and an old enemy in the Military Police is on his tail, determined to put him away.

SAARI, C W MILE MARKER MURDERS (\$22.95) When Caleb Williamson, a career officer with the CIA, disappears, officials are left wondering whether he is a spy who has defected or the victim of a crime. Meanwhile, Williamson's friend, FBI agent Tyler Bannister, is focused on catching an extortionist who has threatened to unleash a biological poison if a multimillion-dollar demand is not met. When Williamson turns up dead alongside the corpses of two women near a northern Virginia highway, Bannister is assigned to a task force to identify what looks to be a cunning serial killer. While Bannister becomes obsessed with finding the murderer before he strikes again, a fourth body is discovered. The stakes become more personal when the killer targets Bannister's new love interest.

SCARROW, SIMON cato BLOOD OF ROME (#17) (\$17.99) It is AD 55. As trouble brews on the eastern fringes of the Roman Empire, Prefect Cato and Centurion Macro prepare for war... The wily Parthian Empire has invaded Roman-ruled Armenia, ousting King Rhadamistus. The King is ambitious and ruthless, but he is loyal to Rome. General Corbulo must restore him to power, while also readying the troops for war with Parthia. Corbulo welcomes new arrivals Cato and Macro, experienced soldiers who know how to knock into shape an undermanned unit of men ill-equipped for conflict. But Rhadamistus's brutality towards those who ousted him will spark an uprising which will test the bravery of the Roman army to the limit. While the enemy watches from over the border...

SCOTTOLINE, LISA rosato & dinunzio FEARED (#6) (\$22.99) When three men announce that they are suing the Rosato & DiNunzio law firm for reverse sex discrimination—claiming that they were not hired because they were men—Mary DiNunzio and Bennie Rosato are outraged. To make matters worse, their one male employee, John Foxman, intends to resign, claiming that there is some truth to this case.

SIMENON, GEORGES MAIGRET DEFENDS HIMSELF (\$19) For the first time in his career, Inspector Maigret receives written summons to the Chief Commissioner's office. There he learns that he has been accused of a horrible assault by an individual with ties to a high-ranking official. He is forbidden from attempting to investigate the case, but with his career and reputation on the line, Maigret must do everything he can to prove his innocence and uncover the motive behind the accusation.

SLAUGHTER, KARIN trent LAST WIDOW (#9) (\$23.99) The serenity of a sunny Sunday afternoon is shattered by the boom of a ground-shaking blast—followed by another seconds later. One of Atlanta's busiest and most important neighborhoods has been bombed—the location of Emory University, two major hospitals, the FBI headquarters, and the CDC. Medical examiner Sara Linton and her partner Will Trent, an investigator with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, rush to the scene—and into the heart of a deadly conspiracy that threatens to destroy thousands of innocent lives. When the assailants abduct Sara, Will goes undercover to save her and prevent a massacre—putting his own life on the line for the woman and the country he loves.

STABENOW, DANA eye isis DEATH OF AN EYE (#1) (\$22) Alexandria, 47BCE: Cleopatra shares the throne with her brother Ptolemy under the auspices of Julius Caesar, by whom Cleopatra is heavily pregnant with child. A shipment of new coin meant to reset the shaky Egyptian economy has been stolen, the Queen's Eye has been murdered and Queen Cleopatra turns to childhood friend Tetisheri to find the missing shipment and bring the murderer to justice.

STAINCLIFFE, CATH GIRL IN THE GREEN DRESS (\$17.99) Can you really keep your child safe? What if who they are puts them at risk? And what if they have blood on their hands? Teenager Allie Kennaway heads off for prom night, cheered on by her dad Steve and little sister Teagan. But Allie never comes home, beaten to death in an apparent hate crime because of her transgender identity. As police investigate the brutal murder, a crime that has appalled the country, one parent is at her wit's end with her son's behaviour. Are his outbursts and silences hiding something much darker than adolescent mood swings? And if her suspicions are correct, then what does she do?

“This is a wonderful novel, powerful, humane and moving. It's also one of the best police procedurals I've read this year”—Ann Cleeves. **SVEISTRUP, SOREN CHESTNUT MAN** (\$23.99) A psychopath is terrorizing Copenhagen. His calling card is a “chestnut man”—a handmade doll made of matchsticks and two chestnuts—which he leaves at each bloody crime scene. Examining the dolls, forensics makes a shocking discovery—a fingerprint belonging to a young girl, a government minister's daughter who had been kidnapped and murdered a year ago. A tragic coincidence—or something more twisted? To save innocent lives, a pair of detectives must put aside their differences to piece together the Chestnut Man's gruesome clues. Because it's clear that the madman is on a mission that is far from over. And no one is safe.

TAIT, VANESSA PHARMACIST'S WIFE (\$20.95) When Rebecca Palmer's new husband opens a pharmacy in Victorian Edinburgh, she expects to live the life of a well-heeled gentlewoman. But her ideal turns to ashes when she discovers her husband is not what he seems. As Rebecca struggles to maintain her dignity in the face of his infidelity and strange sexual desires, Alexander tries to pacify her so-called hysteria with a magical new chemical creation: a wonder-drug he calls heroin. Rebecca's journey into addiction takes her further into her past, and her first, lost love, while Alexander looks on, curiously observing his wife's descent. Meanwhile, Alexander's desire to profit from his invention leads him down a dangerous path that blurs science, passion, and death. He soon discovers that even the most promising experiments can have unforeseen and deadly consequences.

THORNE, D B PERFECT MATCH (\$20.95) When Solomon's sister is found drugged and in a coma after an online date, Solomon can't believe this was just a terrible accident. Determined to find out what happened to his sister, and with the police unwilling to help, Solomon begins to investigate on his own. He soon uncovers a rash of similar cases of women who have been found brutally murdered or assaulted after an online date. There is a predator out there working the streets of London, preying on young women. Solomon sets out to bring him to justice, putting him on a collision course with a deadly killer who is fiendishly clever and more twisted than anyone could possibly imagine.

TYLER, ANNE CLOCK DANCE (\$21) A bewitching new novel of family and self-discovery from the bestselling, award-winning author of *A Spool of Blue Thread* (\$21). Not sure why we have this but, order away.

VALEN, CHRISTOPHER CITY OF STONES (\$25) American troops are fighting the Communists in Korea. McCarthyism is on the rise. The Kefauver Commission is investigating organized crime. In the midst of this turbulent time, the murder of a MPD police officer and the two young Jewish men accused of killing him sets off an explosive investigation that ultimately encompasses mobsters, police corruption, political blackmail, and the ethnic biases that existed in 1950 Minneapolis. Known as the most anti-Semitic city in the country, the Minneapolis depicted here is a deceitful place, a fact that each character seems intent on using to his or her advantage.

WAGNER, DAVID P. ROMAN COUNT DOWN (#6) (\$22.99) Rick Montoya, eager to experience more of his Italian mother's culture, heads to Rome to start his own translation business. He's armed with curiosity and an appetite for local food and wine. Rick's maternal uncle is a Roman cop with one eye to his nephew's welfare and another to how Rick might be useful, perhaps widen his career choices. So Commissario Piero Fontana pulls Rick into an investigation: the murder of Count Umberto Zimbardi.

WARE, RUTH TURN OF THE KEY (\$24.99) When Rowan stumbles across an ad for a live-in nanny, she's looking for something else completely. But it seems like too good an opportunity to miss—with a staggeringly generous salary. And when she arrives at Heatherbrae House, she is smitten—by the luxurious “smart” house fitted out with all modern conveniences, by the beautiful Scottish Highlands, and by this picture-perfect family. What Rowan doesn't know is that she's stepping into a nightmare—one that will end with a child dead and Rowan in prison awaiting trial for murder.

WARNER, DAVE RIVER OF SALT (\$20.95) In 1963, former hit-man Blake Saunders flees the Philadelphia Mob for a quieter existence in a tiny coastal Australian town. Life in Coral Shoals is perfect, and Blake is a new man—running a club called the Surf Shack, and playing nights there with his surf music band, The Twang. But then a young woman's body is found at a local motel, a matchbook from the Surf Shack on her bedside table. When Blake's friend is arrested for her murder and the local sergeant doesn't want to know, it becomes clear that it is up to Blake—a man who knows about cold-blooded killing—to protect his corner of paradise.

WENTWORTH, PATRICIA silver GREY MASK (#1) (\$17.99) The first novel featuring Maud Silver, retired governess-turned-private detective, published 1928. Furious at being jilted at the altar by his once-fiancé Margaret Langton, Charles Moray left England behind him. Now, four years later, he returns to his family home, only to find it unlocked and with a light burning in one of its abandoned rooms. Eavesdropping, Charles soon discovers that a criminal gang has been using his house to plan a vicious crime. The target is the beautiful Margot Standing, who is due to inherit a considerable fortune. And what's more he recognises the voices of one of the conspirators - his lost love Margaret Langton. How did Margaret come to be involved? And who is the terrifying masked man who has her in his thrall? Charles contacts Miss Silver to unravel the mysteries of the case and, if she can, save Margot Standings life.

WILSON, EDWARD SOUTH ATLANTIC REQUIEM (\$21.95) It is 1982 and the British prime minister and the Argentine president are both clinging to power. Downing Street, having ignored alarm bells coming from the South Atlantic, finds itself in a full-blown crisis when Argentina invades the remote and forgotten British territory of the Falklands Islands. Catesby is dispatched urgently to prevent Argentina from obtaining more lethal Exocet missiles by fair means or foul. From Patagonia to Paris, from Chevening to the White House, Catesby plays a deadly game of diplomatic cat and mouse determined to avert the loss of life. The clock is ticking as diplomats and statesmen race for a last-minute settlement while the weapons of war are primed and aimed.

YU, OVIDIA crown colony PAPER BARK TREE MYSTERY (#3) (\$15.99) Su Lin is doing her dream job: assistant at Singapore's brand-new detective agency. Until Bald Bernie decides a 'local girl' can't be trusted with private investigations, and replaces her with a new secretary—pretty, privileged, and white. So Su Lin's not the only person finding it hard to mourn Bernie after he's found dead in the filing room. And when her best friend's dad is accused, she gets up to some sleuthing work of her own in a bid to clear his name. And, Su Lin soon finds out that Bernie may have been working undercover, trading stolen diamonds for explosives from enemy troops. Was he really the upright English citizen he claimed to be?