



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

April 2018

Spent a couple days recently in Customer Service hell. You know, where whoever you talk to get your problems solved knows less than you do. You know, where you keep getting kicked up to someone who knows more, but still less than you. They all appreciate how important it is to get your problem solved, and how much they appreciate that you are giving them the chance to sort this out, but they know less than you. At some stage, when they tire of trying to help or realize that they know less than you, the phone, which has worked perfectly well up to that point, magically stops. They can't hear you anymore, although you can—"Hello, hello, can you hear me?"—and finally, you hang up in total frustration. The problem is not resolved, so you start thinking outside the box, start thinking of work-arounds, some other way to deal with the issue. The brute force method, as my computer nerd brother would say, or, for those who read this online, text in red.

PHILIP KERR died on the 23rd of March, 2018. Probably best known for his Bernie Gunther novels—thirteen to date and one more next year—he also wrote other novels, some non-fiction, and books for young adults. Gunther is a savvy and cynical Berlin criminal police investigator who hates Hitler and quits his job when the Nazis take over. He becomes a private detective, but, is then pressed into gumshoe jobs for the propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels and Reinhard Heydrich, a principal architect of the Final Solution. The first three Bernie Gunther novels published between 1989 and 1991 were going to be the entire Gunter oeuvre, but, fans kept asking for more. So, to shut them up, he revived Bernie and the fourth in the trilogy appeared in 2006. It was pretty much one a year after that. His fourth book, A Philosophical Investigation (\$24) (1992) was a great success as well. He is survived by his wife, the writer **JANE THYNNE**, whose five novels featuring Clara Vine, an attractive young Anglo-German actress, are also set in Berlin of the 1930s.

JD's Picks

DEREK MILLER author of the brilliant Norwegian by Night (\$22.50) has written an equally brilliant sequel, American by Day (\$37). Norwegian was primarily about Sheldon Horowitz—widowed, impatient, impertinent, old—who has grudgingly agreed to leave New York and move in with his granddaughter, Rhea, and her new husband, Lars, in Norway: a country of blue and ice with one thousand Jews, not one of them a former Marine sniper in the Korean War turned watch repairman, who failed his only son by sending him to Vietnam to die, at least not until Sheldon moved there. Towards the end of that novel, we were introduced to Chief Inspector Sigrid Ødegård. American follows Sigrid as she goes to America, at her father's behest, to find and rescue her older brother. Marcus moved to the US many years ago and now is implicated in the mysterious death of a prominent academic. He seems to have confessed to her murder and, even more guiltily, on the run. Sigrid, on a temporary leave of absence, has the time to go rescue Marcus.

One quote sums up Norwegian very nicely: A luminous novel, a police thriller, and the funniest book about war crimes and dementia you are likely to read. **Richard Russo**, who knows a thing or two about re-arranging the 26 letters of the alphabet, says "Sure Derek Miller's novels are smart and full of heart and savvy and hilarious, but even more than all of this, he's *fun*. He's as dedicated as any writer I know to the proposition that readers should enjoy themselves, should delight in the experience of life and language. If our hearts get broken along the way, so much the better."

These are two witty and intelligent novels. The kind that float my boat. Read them in order. I loved, loved, loved them.

"Mortimer Angel is my new favourite Private Eye" says **John Les-croart** and I agree. When I saw the name **Robert Leininger** in a cat-

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ologue recently, it rang a faint bell. And for good reason. Twenty-five years ago, I had read, and loved, his [Killing Suki Flood](#). And I hadn't forgotten it; just the right combination of sex and violence! Wish someone would reprint that one; I'd sell a skid of them! I had wondered what had happened to the author. So, when I saw [Gumshoe](#) (#1) (\$23.95), the first in a series featuring an ex-IRS agent, now transitioning to a PI, I knew I'd have to read it. And I did. And I loved it.

The story: For nine long days, the mayor and district attorney of Reno, Nevada, have been missing. Vanished without a trace. Their vehicles were found parked side-by-side at Reno-Tahoe International Airport. Did they fly somewhere together? They aren't on any flight manifest. Did the two of them take off with a big pile of the city's money? If so, the city accountants can't find it. Were they murdered? There's no sign of foul play. Their disappearances have finally made national news. Enter Mortimer Angel, who'd just quit a thankless job as an IRS agent. Mort is Reno's newest gumshoe, a private-eye-in-training at his nephew's detective agency. Just four hours into his new career, Mort finds the mayor—make that, the mayor's head—in the trunk of Mort's ex-wife's Mercedes. The news-hungry media speculates: Did Mort kill the mayor? Did Mort's ex? As events begin to spin out of control, Mort realizes things have been out of control since the night before he started his new career, the night he found the unknown naked blonde in his bed.

More witty and intelligent. As [Gumshoe](#) was published in late 2015, two more Mortimer Angel adventures have been published and the second one, [Gumshoe for Two](#) (#2) (\$23.95) is near the top of my TBR pile. What fun.

BRAD SMITH, author of three Virgil Cain novels, published a standalone novel, [The Return of Kid Cooper](#) (\$35.99) a couple of months ago. It's a tale of the American West, at the turn of the 20th century, and our hero is Nate Cooper, freshly released from prison. Everything this guy writes makes its way on to my TBR pile, sooner or later. [Red Means Run](#) (#1) (\$16.99), the first of his three Virgil Cain novels, is one of my all-time favourite novels and, believe me, we have shifted a ton of them in the six years since its publication.

In [Return](#), it's 1910 and Nate Cooper, just out after having spent nearly three decades in a Montana prison, convicted on a charge of murder. Falsely, but convicted nonetheless. Great change has occurred in the country in the years that he was away. Horses are being replaced by cars, the woman he loved married his best friend, his enemy is a Senator and vying for Governor. But not everything has changed. The Blackfoot Indians are still being hunted and killed, their land stolen. Nate returns to his Northern Montana ranching town, and it's not long before, trouble finds him again. Actually, it's unresolved business from way back then. Hard-headed, loyal, moral...he's still wants to right old wrongs. Terrific story. Loved it.

Marian's Picks

Talk about a wind storm. Pixie and I were at the cottage when this massive wind blew through. I know Toronto got it as well, but when you are sitting in a small wooden cottage with lots of windows directly in the path of the wind, surrounded by old, tall trees being bent to impossible strange angles, you begin to worry. Turns out all was well with us, but not everyone was so lucky. A couple of cottages had shingles blown off, trees were down all over, and the power was out for just over three hours. And then came the cold. Minus 11C for most of the day. And this is Spring? But you know what makes it all right? I was safe indoors, the wood stove was crackling, I had good books to read, my Ms. Fabulous Pixie was near, and I had a bottomless glass of nice of wine (or a martini, depending on the time of the evening).

Talking about good books to read...the bigger the stack of them at the cottage, the better. JD complains that I don't need a whole library there, all I'm doing is wasting gas schlepping them back and forth,—he does go on, but I just tune him out. I never know what will strike my fancy when I finally get settled in my reading chair, so I want to be prepared with a lot of books to choose from. Pre Mr. The Fabulous Percy and HRH Princess Pixie Dust, to use her full title, I could sit for hours, books and a pot of coffee nearby, with little else needing my attention. With HRH, though, that loveable mischief maker, ha!, so much for peace and quiet. She is forever on the alert for unwelcome guests in the garden and squirrels are Nuisance Enemy #1. I enjoy feeding the birds in the winter months but that also means that I feed the squirrels as well, and at times there can be 15 or 20 of them, partaking. And she's gotta do her job. Which means, get out there and chase those vexatious varmints back to where they came from! Which means, no peace for me, and out she goes. Which means, even less peace for me, having done her job she wants in. I should rename her In-Out! I know, I know, you're going to tell me that I shouldn't cater to her every whim, but, deny her that pleasure? My heart swells with joy just thinking of her and this is a small sacrifice.

Having trucked all those...I was delighted when [Skyjack](#) (#2) (\$32.49) by **K.J. HOWE** came in last Thursday just in time to be added to my "go to the cottage bag." I got to the cottage Sunday night and Monday morning, walk done, coffee made, ensconced in my chair by the window overlooking the lake, cup in hand, I started reading [Skyjack](#). Other than a few, inevitable, Pixie vs squirrels skirmishes, a little lunch, a substantial martini...I devoured the book. I had thoroughly enjoyed [The Freedom Broker](#) (#1) (\$20.49) so was excited to read the new one.

There are twenty-five elite kidnap and ransom specialists in the world. Only one is a woman, Thea Paris, and she's the best in the business. She prefers to negotiate with the hostage takers but when that doesn't work she leads Quantum Security International's black-ops team on highly sensitive rescue missions and uses any other method available to secure their release. In [Skyjack](#), she is escorting two former child soldiers on a plane from an orphanage in Kanzi, Africa, to adoptive parents in London when the jet is hijacked and forced to land on a deserted airstrip in the Libyan desert. Now, Thea and her fellow travellers are the hostages, so with the shoe on the other foot, Thea must use her skills to get them out of harm's way. And that's not an easy task! On the ground, she comes face-to-face with a former nemesis, a Sicilian don who wants something, or someone, on that plane. Her old foe imprisons her in the hangar and takes to the air with the boys and the passengers still aboard, mysteriously demanding that Thea use the resources of Quantum International to hijack a truckload of Syrian refugees bound for Budapest. He makes it clear he will return the passengers only when the truck and its contents are in his possession. What's a woman to do? Thea is willing to pull out all the stops to get those kids back.

[Skyjack](#), like it's predecessor, is a whirlwind of an adventure; non-stop action from start to finish. Despite all the interruptions, it was too soon done with, and now I have to wait for the third.

SANDRONE DAZIERI has written two books [Kill the Father](#) (#1) (\$11.99) and [Kill the Angel](#) (#2) (\$22). They both blew me away. Translated from the Italian, the books are non-stop action, with lots of killings, twists and turns throughout and extremely interesting characters. Deputy Captain Colomba Caselli is a fierce, warrior-like detective still reeling from a horrific mass killing she survived, and Dante Torre is a man who spent his childhood trapped inside a concrete silo. Fed through the gloved hand of a masked kidnapper who called himself "the Father," Dante emerged from his ordeal not only with crippling claustrophobia but, also, with an unquenchable thirst for

knowledge and amazing powers of observation. In [Kill the Father](#), a woman is beheaded in a park outside Rome and her six-year-old son goes missing. The police arrest the woman's husband and await his confession, but the city's Chief of Major Crimes has his doubts and assigns Colomba to the case. She, in turns, enlists the help of Dante. All evidence suggests that the Father is back at work and wants a reunion with Dante. But when Colomba and Dante begin unraveling the truth, they find themselves wanted for murder. And just when you think you have things all sorted out, there is another twist in the plot. There are so many things happening in the book, that I was glad I had the time to savour it. Just a terrific read.

In the second book, [Kill the Angel](#), a high-speed train from Milan draws into the station in Rome with a carriage full of dead bodies and preliminary investigations are placed in the hands of Colomba Caselli. When the police receive a message claiming responsibility for the killings and announcing more murders to come, they turn their attention to a small group of Islamic extremists. But Dante Torre believes the authorities are being misdirected. For him, the Islamic link is a smokescreen, concealing the actions of a killer who has been committing murders all over the world for years: a woman who calls herself Gilitinè, after the mythological Lithuanian goddess of death. As a child during the final years of the Cold War, Gilitinè was imprisoned in a concentration camp behind the Iron Curtain known as "The Box." Now, she is driven by revenge. After further carnage in Berlin, Gilitinè's murderous plans escalate to macabre heights in Venice, where Dante and Colomba must stop her before the waters of the Venetian Lagoon turn blood red. Again, I couldn't put the book down, lots of killings, lots of "disobeying" orders and not following the law, just one whirlwind of a read. I was especially interested in this second book, as I had, just a few weeks before I read it, pulled into Roma Termini, although, thankfully, there were no dead bodies on my train. Or, at least I don't think so!

Don't want you to think I'm bloodthirsty. I just love books that move along at a good pace, with good plotting and lots of action. And that kind of read, often is tough, violent, with bodies stacked like cords of wood, but, it's all fiction, just entertainment for a few hours. In between, letting Ms. In-Out in and out.

Hardbacks

ALBERT, SUSAN W china [QUEEN ANNE'S LACE \(#26\)](#) (\$36) While helping Ruby Wilcox clean up the loft above their shops, China comes upon a box of antique handcrafted lace and old photographs. Following the discovery, she hears a woman humming an old Scottish ballad and smells the delicate scent of lavender....Soon, strange happenings start to occur in Thyme and Seasons: misplaced items, a ringing bell, and the appearance of lavender sprigs in odd places. When a customer mentions seeing a mysterious woman picking flowers nearby and then suddenly disappearing, China must finally admit what Ruby has always known—their building is haunted. But by whom? As China investigates, the tragic story of a woman in one of the old photographs unfolds.

BERRY, STEVE malone [BISHOPS PAWN \(#13\)](#) (\$36) History notes that the ugly feud between J. Edgar Hoover and Martin Luther King, Jr., marked by years of illegal surveillance and the accumulation of secret files, ended on April 4, 1968 when King was assassinated by James Earl Ray. But that may not have been the case. Now, fifty years later, former Justice Department agent, Cotton Malone, must reckon with the truth of what really happened that fateful day in Memphis.

BOHJALIAN, CHRIS [FLIGHT ATTENDANT](#) (\$35.95) A story about the ways an entire life can change in one night: A flight attendant wakes up in the wrong hotel, in the wrong bed, with a dead man—and no idea what happened. Cassandra Bowden is no stranger

to hungover mornings. She's a binge drinker, her job with the airline making it easy to find adventure, and the occasional blackouts seem to be inevitable. Set amid the captivating world of those whose lives unfold at forty thousand feet...

BOX, C J pickett [DISAPPEARED \(#18\)](#) (\$36) Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett has two lethal cases to contend with. Wyoming's new governor has a job for him that is extremely delicate. A prominent female British executive never came home from the high-end guest ranch she was visiting, and the British Embassy is pressing hard. Pickett knows that happens sometimes—these ranches are stocked with handsome young cowboys, and "ranch romances" aren't uncommon. But no sign of her months after she vanished? That suggests something else. At the same time, his friend Nate Romanowski has asked Joe to intervene with the feds on behalf of falconers who can no longer hunt with eagles even though their permits are in order. Who is blocking the falconers and why? Are the cases somehow connected?

DEAVER, JEFFERY W rhyme [CUTTING EDGE \(#14\)](#) (\$36.50) Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs return to New York City to confront a killer terrorizing couples at their happiest—and most vulnerable. In the early hours of a quiet, weekend morning in Manhattan's Diamond District, a brutal triple murder shocks the city. Lincoln Rhyme and Amelia Sachs quickly take the case. Curiously, the killer has left behind a half-million dollars' worth of gems at the murder scene, a jewelry store on 47th street. As more crimes follow, it becomes clear that the killer's target is not gems, but engaged couples themselves.

DOHERTY, PAUL corbett [DEVILS WOLF \(#19\)](#) (\$34.99) 1296: King Edward I has led his army to Scotland, determined to take the country under his crown. But the fierce Scots have no intention of submitting to their oppressor and violent and bloody war breaks out. Fifteen years later, an anonymous letter is delivered to the new king. It promises information about a fatal incident that could allow England to finally bow out of the war with the Scots. Tasked with finding out the truth about the murder, Corbett is forced to take risks he would rather avoid and put his faith in the words of strangers.

DORSEY, TIM serge storms [POPE OF PALM BEACH \(#21\)](#) (\$33.50) No one worships the Sunshine State as much as Serge A. Storms. Perpetually hunting Floridian arcana and lore, he and his permanently baked sidekick, Coleman, are on the road again. This time they're on a frenzied literary pilgrimage that leads them back to Riviera Beach, the cozy seaside town where the boys spent their formative years. And, mayhem!

DOVALPAGE, TERESA [DEATH COMES IN THROUGH THE KITCHEN](#) (\$31.95) Don't let the title and authentic Cuban recipes fool you: This is no cozy. Set in Havana during the Black Spring of 2003, a charming but poison-laced culinary mystery reveals the darker side of the modern Revolution. Matt, a San Diego journalist, arrives in Havana to marry his girlfriend, Yarmila, a 24-year-old Cuban woman whom he first met through her food blog. But Yarmi isn't there to meet him at the airport, and when he hitches a ride to her apartment, he finds her lying dead in the bathtub. With Yarmi's murder, lovelorn Matt is immediately embroiled in a Cuban adventure he didn't bargain for. The police and secret service have him down as their main suspect, and in an effort to clear his name, he must embark on his own investigation into what really happened. The more Matt learns about his erstwhile fiancée, though, the more he realizes he had no idea who she was at all—but did anyone?

ELLIS, KATE peterson [MECHANICAL DEVIL \(#22\)](#) (\$34.99) When archaeologist Neil Watson unearths a long-buried mechanical figure in a Dartmoor field, he is determined to discover the truth behind the bizarre find. Soon, however, the sleepy village becomes the focus of press attention for another reason when two people with no apparent connection to each other are found shot dead in nearby Manor Field, seemingly victims of an execution-style double murder. DI Wesley Peterson is called in to investigate, but the two murders aren't his only problem. The daughter of a local MP has gone missing and the pressure is on to find her, especially when it's revealed that she has a connection to one of the murder victims. And Wesley's own life

is thrown into turmoil when a woman he helped on a previous investigation finds herself subjected to a campaign of terror . . . Is there a link between the double murder and the accidental death of a young history student in Manor Field twenty years ago? And just what is the true identity of the Mechanical Devil?

ESTLEMAN, LOREN amos walk BLACK AND WHITE BALL (#27) (\$33.99) The author's two characters, PI Amos Walker and hit man Peter Macklin, are together in one story for the first time. Detroit hit man Peter Macklin forces private eye Amos Walker to furnish protection for Laurie, Macklin's estranged wife, while Macklin tracks down the party who has threatened to kill her. Told partly by Walker in first-person and partly by Macklin in third...

GEORGE, ELIZABETH lynley PUNISHMENT SHE DESERVES (#20) (\$37) Detective Sergeant Barbara Havers and Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley confront the past as they try to solve a crime that threatens to tear apart the very fabric of a quiet, historic medieval town in England. The cozy, bucolic town of Ludlow is stunned when one of its most revered and respected citizens—Ian Druitt, the local deacon—is accused of a serious crime. Then, while in police custody, Ian is found dead. Did he kill himself? Or was he murdered? When Barbara Havers is sent to Ludlow to investigate, all the evidence points to suicide. But Barbara can't shake the feeling that she's missing something. She decides to take a closer look at the seemingly ordinary inhabitants of Ludlow—mainly elderly retirees and college students—and discovers that almost everyone in town has something to hide.

GRIMES, MARTHA jury KNOWLEDGE (#24) (\$37.50) This one just arrived, as I was putting the finishing touches on the April issue. From a quick read of the blurb, it doesn't sound like "Knowledge" is a pub, but there figures in the story a pub that only London's black cab drivers who have "the knowledge," can find.

HARRIS, C S WHY KILL THE INNOCENT (#13) (\$35) London, 1814. As a cruel winter holds the city in its icy grip, the bloody body of a beautiful young musician is found half-buried in a snowdrift. Jane Ambrose's ties to Princess Charlotte, the only child of the Prince Regent and heir presumptive to the throne, panic the palace, which moves quickly to shut down any investigation into the death of the talented pianist. But Sebastian St. Cyr, Viscount Devlin, and his wife Hero refuse to allow Jane's murderer to escape justice. Untangling the secrets of Jane's world leads Sebastian into a maze of dangerous treachery where each player has his or her own unsavory agenda and no one can be trusted. As the Thames freezes over and the people of London pour onto the ice for a Frost Fair, Sebastian and Hero find their investigation circling back to the palace...

HENAFF, SOPHIE AWKWARD SQUAD (\$32.49) Suspended from her job as a promising police officer for firing "one bullet too many", Anne Capestan is expecting the worst when she is summoned to H.Q. to learn her fate. Instead, she is surprised to be told that she is to head up a new police squad, working on solving old cold cases. Though relieved to still have a job, Capestan is not overjoyed by the prospect of her new role. Even less so when she meets her new team: a crowd of misfits, troublemakers and problem cases, none of whom are fit for purpose and yet none of whom can be fired. But from this inauspicious start, investigating the cold cases throws up a number a number of strange mysteries for Capestan and her team...

HENDERSON, DONALD MR. BOWLING BUYS A NEWSPAPER (\$18.99) Mr. Bowling buys the newspapers only to find out what the latest is on the murders he's just committed... 'I think it's one of the most fascinating books written in the last ten years. Everyone who read it in my limited circle agrees with me' said **Raymond Chandler**.

HILLERMAN, ANNE CAVE OF BONES (#4) (\$33.50) When Tribal Police Officer Bernadette Manuelito arrives to speak at an outdoor character-building program for at-risk teens, she discovers chaos. Annie, a young participant has just returned and is traumatized. Gently questioning the girl, Bernie learns that Annie stumbled upon a human skeleton on her trek. While everyone is relieved that Annie is back, they're concerned about a beloved instructor who went out into the wilds of the rugged lava wilderness bordering Ramah Navajo Reservation to find the missing girl. The instructor vanished somewhere

in the volcanic landscape known as El Malpais. In Navajo lore, the lava caves and tubes are believed to be the solidified blood of a terrible monster killed by superhuman twin warriors. Solving the twin mysteries will expose Bernie to the chilling face of human evil. The instructor's disappearance mirrors a long-ago search that may be connected to a case in which the legendary Joe Leaphorn played a crucial role. But before Bernie can find the truth, an unexpected blizzard, a suspicious accidental drowning, and the arrival of a new FBI agent complicate the investigation. While Bernie searches for answers in her case, her husband, Sergeant Jim Chee juggles trouble closer to home.

HOWE, K J thea paris SKYJACK (#2) (\$32.49) International kidnap expert Thea Paris is escorting two former child soldiers on a plane from an orphanage in Kanzi, Africa, to adoptive parents in London when the Boeing Business Jet is hijacked and forced to land on a deserted airstrip in the Libyan desert. On the ground, Thea comes face-to-face with a former nemesis, a Sicilian don who wants something, or someone, on that plane. Her old foe imprisons her in the hangar and takes to the air with the boys and the passengers still aboard, mysteriously demanding that Thea use the resources of Quantum International to hijack a truckload of Syrian refugees bound for Budapest. He makes it clear he will return the passengers only when the truck and its contents are in his possession. Sequel to Freedom Broker (#1) (\$20.49).

JANCE, J A ali reynolds DUEL TO THE DEATH (#13) (\$35.99) After taking down the man responsible for his best friend's death, Stuart Ramey thinks the case is finally closed. That is, until Stu finds himself left with a multimillion dollar fortune in Bitcoin in a desperate bid by Frigg, a rogue A.I. program created by the killer, to keep itself from being fully deactivated. To sort out his situation and take Frigg down for good, Stu enlists the help of Ali Reynolds and the rest of his cyber security colleagues at High Noon Enterprises. But they are not the only ones who know about Frigg's existence.

KERR, PHILIP berlin GREEKS BEARING GIFTS (#13) (\$36) *Munich, 1956.* Bernie Gunther has a new name, a chip on his shoulder, and a dead-end career when an old friend arrives to repay a debt and encourages "Christoph Ganz" to take a job as a claims adjuster in a major German insurance company with a client in Athens, Greece. Under the cover of his new identity, Bernie begins to investigate a claim by Siegfried Witzel, a brutish former Wehrmacht soldier who served in Greece during the war. Witzel's claimed losses are large, and, even worse, they may be the stolen spoils of Greek Jews deported to Auschwitz. But when Bernie tries to confront Witzel, he finds that someone else has gotten to him first, leaving a corpse in his place. Enter Lieutenant Leventis, who recognizes in this case the highly grotesque style of a killer he investigated during the height of the war. Back then, a young Leventis suspected an S.S. officer whose connection to the German government made him untouchable. He's kept that man's name in his memory all these years, waiting for his second chance at justice...

KOELB, TADZIO TRENTON MAKES (\$34) 1946: At the apogee of the American Century, the confidence inspired by victory in World War II has spawned a culture of suffocating conformity in thrall to the cult of masculine privilege. In the hardscrabble industrial city of Trenton, New Jersey, a woman made strong by wartime factory work kills her army veteran husband in a domestic brawl, disposes of his body, and assumes his identity. As Abe Kunstler, he secures a job in a wire rope factory, buys a car, and successfully woos Inez, an alcoholic dime dancer. He makes a home with her, but for Abe, this is not enough: to complete his transformation, he needs a son. 1971: A very different war is under way. The certainties of mid-century triumphalism are a distant, bitter memory, and Trenton's heyday as a factory town is long past. As the sign on the famous bridge says, "Trenton Makes, the World Takes." The family life Abe has so carefully constructed is crumbling under the intolerable pressures of his long ruse. Desperate to hold on to what he has left, Abe searches for solutions in the dying city.

LANSDALE, JOE R hap leona JACKRABBIT SMILE (#11) (\$34) Hap and Leonard, that most unlikely pair—Hap, a self-proclaimed

white trash rebel, and Leonard, a tough-as-nails black gay Vietnam vet and Republican—take on a case that only they will. A Pentecostal white supremacist's daughter, Jackrabbit, has been missing for five years. Well, she's been missing from her family for five years, but she's been missing from everybody, including the local no-goods who ran with her, for a few months. Despite their misgivings, Hap and Leonard take the case. It isn't long until they find themselves mixed up in a revivalist cult that believes Jesus will return flanked by an army of lizard-men—solving a murder to boot.

LAWHON, ARIEL I WAS ANASTASIA (\$35.95) The author unravels the extraordinary twists and turns in Anna Anderson's 50-year battle to be recognized as Anastasia Romanov. Is she the Russian Grand Duchess, a beloved daughter and revered icon, or is she an imposter, the thief of another woman's legacy?

LEON, DONNA TEMPTATION OF FORGIVENESS (#27) (\$37.50) Surprised, if not dismayed, to discover from his superior, Vice-Questore Patta, that leaks are emanating from the Questura, Commissario Guido Brunetti is surprised more consequentially by the appearance of a friend of his wife's, fearful that her son is using drugs and hopeful Brunetti can somehow intervene. When Tullio Gasparini, the woman's husband, is found unconscious and with a serious brain injury at the foot of a bridge in Venice after midnight, Brunetti is drawn to pursue a possible connection to the boy's behavior. But the truth, as Brunetti has experienced so often, is not straightforward.

MAY, PETER I'LL KEEP YOU SAFE (\$32.49) Friends since childhood, and lovers and business partners as adults, Niamh and Ruairidh are owners of a small Hebridean company, Ranish Tweed, that weaves its own very special, much sought-after, version of Harris Tweed. But the threads of their relationship are beginning to fray. As they prepare for an important showing at the Première Vision fabric fair, held in Paris every year, Niamh accuses Ruairidh of having an affair with Irina, a Russian fashion designer they work with—a fight that ends with Ruairidh storming off and getting into Irina's car. Moments later, Niamh watches in horror as the car containing her life partner explodes in a ball of flame. Now the prime suspect, and amid the grief and struggles that follow, she begins to suspect that things are not what they seem; and when there is an attempt on her life, she becomes convinced that what looked like a terrorist attack on her lover might be something more personal by far.

MILLER, DEREK B AMERICAN BY DAY (#2) (\$37) Sequel to Norwegian by Night (#1) (\$22.50). Two beautiful reads. See JD' Picks.

PETROCELLI, BILL THROUGH THE BOOKSTORE WINDOW (\$35.95) Gina Perini manages a bookstore in one of San Francisco's most lively neighborhoods. Although she thrives in her world of books, her harrowing escape from the war in the Balkans years earlier remains fresh in her mind. There are still those who are searching for her and who are intent on vengeance. Gina suddenly gets news that someone from her past is still alive—someone she had given up hope of finding. This sets in motion a chain of events that will stretch across the country and push her love and resourcefulness to the limit.

ROSENFELT, DAVID doug FADE TO BLACK (#2) (\$33.99) Sequel to Blackout (#1) (\$10.99) After getting shot in the line of duty, New Jersey state police officer Doug Brock has been busy rebuilding his life. He's reunited with his fiancée and started to get some of his memories back. He hopes he can continue to recover with the help of an amnesia support group and that the damage from his past isn't permanent. It isn't until fellow group member Sean Conner approaches him after a meeting that Doug realizes the trouble is just beginning. Sean has discovered in his attic what can only be called a scrapbook of a murder victim, but he has no recollection of the girl's identity or why he might have gathered this information. Doug agrees to help and convinces his captain to open what had been a cold case. When he discovers that he had a personal connection to this case, suddenly he's questioning everything he thought he knew about the case, about Sean, and about his own past.

ROWE, ROSEMARY PRICE OF FREEDOM (#17) (\$40) Having been inveigled into standing for the local curia, responsible for the submission of all local tax, Libertus discovers that any shortfall must

be made good by the councillors themselves. So, when news arrives that a tax-collector from a nearby outpost has committed suicide, having gambled everything away, Libertus is despatched to make enquiries, in the hope of recovering at least some of the missing revenue.

SCOTT, J TODD cherry HIGH WHITE SUN (#2) (\$35) In the wake of Sheriff Stanford Ross's death, former deputy Chris Cherry—now Sheriff Cherry—is the new "law" in Big Bend County, yet he still struggles to escape the long, dark shadow of that infamous lawman. As Chris tries to remake and modernize his corrupt department, bringing in new deputies, he finds himself constantly staring down a town unwilling to change, friends and enemies unable to let go of the past, and the harsh limits of his badge. Sequel to The Far Empty (#1) (\$13.50).

SMITH, MICHAEL FARRIS FIGHTER (\$34) A blistering novel of violence and deliverance set against the mythic backdrop of the Mississippi Delta.

SPARROW, SARAH GUIDE FOR MURDERED CHILDREN (\$36) We've heard it said that there is no justice in this world. But what if there really was? What if the souls of murdered children were able to briefly return, inhabit adult bodies and wreak revenge on the monstrous killers who stole their lives? Such is the unthinkable mystery confronting ex-NYPD detective Willow Wylde, fresh out of rehab and finally able to find a job running a Cold Case squad in suburban Detroit. When the two rookie cops assigned to him take an obsessive interest in a decades-old disappearance of a brother and sister, Willow begins to suspect something out of the ordinary is afoot. And when he uncovers a series of church basement AA-type meetings made up of the slain innocents, a new way of looking at life, death, murder—and missed opportunities—is revealed to him.

SPILLANE, MICKEY LAST STAND (\$29.99) When the author died in 2006, he left behind the manuscript of one last novel he'd just completed. Now, on the hundredth anniversary of his birth, you get a chance to read it, together with a second never-before-published work, this one from early in his career, a novella, A Bullett for Satisfaction.

SVENSSON, ANTON SONS (#2) (\$32.49) After six years in prison, Leo Duvnjac is free. Unreformed, Leo has spent his imprisonment plotting one final heist, but he only has a brief window following his release to pull it off. The plan is to steal more than 100 million Swedish crowns from Sweden's largest police station—and then disappear forever. It is a decision that will threaten what remains of his relationships with his father and brothers, who also went to prison for the earlier robberies, and set him on a collision course with the aggressive cop who sent them to jail, John Broncks.

WHITE, RANDY WAYNE ford CARIBBEAN RIM (#25) (\$36) Marine biologist Doc Ford has been known to help his friends out of jams occasionally, but he's never faced a situation like this. His old pal Carl Fitzpatrick has been chasing sunken wrecks most of his life, but now he's run afoul of the Florida Division of Historical Resources. Its director, Leonard Nickelby, despises amateur archaeologists, which is bad enough, but now he and his young "assistant" have disappeared—along with Fitzpatrick's impounded cache of rare Spanish coins and the list of uncharted wreck sites Fitz spent decades putting together. Some of Fitz's own explorations have been a little...dicey, so he can't go to the authorities. Doc is his only hope. But greed makes people do terrible things: rob, cheat, even kill. With stakes this high, there's no way the thieves will go quietly—and Doc's just put himself in their crosshairs.

WINSPEAR, JACQUELINE dobb TO DIE BUT ONCE (#14) (\$34.99 hardcover, \$21.99 trade paperback) During the months following Britain's declaration of war on Germany, Maisie Dobbs investigates the disappearance of a young apprentice working on a hush-hush government contract. As news of the plight of thousands of soldiers stranded on the beaches of France is gradually revealed to the general public, and the threat of invasion rises, another young man beloved by Maisie makes a terrible decision that will change his life forever.

Paperbacks

ADLER, REBECCA *texas* CINCO DE MURDER (#3) (\$10.99) It's fiesta time in Broken Boot, Texas, and tourists are pouring into town faster than free beer at a bull roping for the mouth-watering Cinco de Mayo festivities. Tex-Mex waitress Josie Callahan, her feisty abuela, and even her spunky Chihuahua Lenny are polishing their folklórico dances for Saturday's big parade, while Uncle Eddie is adding his own spicy event to the fiesta menu: Broken Boot's First Annual Charity Chili Cook-off. But Uncle Eddie's hopes of impressing the town council go up in smoke when cantankerous chili cook Lucky Straw is found dead in his tent. And when Josie's beloved uncle is accused of fatal negligence, she, Lenny, and the steadfast Detective Lightfoot must uncover who ended the ambitious chilihead's life—before another cook kicks the bucket.

AMES, JONATHAN YOU WERE NEVER REALLY HERE (\$14.95) Joe has witnessed things that cannot be erased. A former FBI agent and Marine, his abusive childhood has left him damaged beyond repair. He has completely withdrawn from the world and earns his living rescuing girls who have been kidnapped into the sex trade. When he's hired to save the daughter of a corrupt New York senator held captive at a Manhattan brothel, he stumbles into a dangerous web of conspiracy, and he pays the price. As Joe's small web of associates are picked off one by one, he realizes that he has no choice but to take the fight to the men who want him dead. Brutal and redemptive in equal measure, laced with corruption, revenge and the darkest of inner demons.

ARCHER, K C *psychics* SCHOOL FOR PSYCHICS (#1) (\$22) Teddy Cannon isn't your typical twenty-something woman. She's resourceful. She's bright. She's scrappy. She can also read people with uncanny precision. What she doesn't realize: she's actually psychic. When a series of bad decisions leads Teddy to a run-in with the police, a mysterious stranger intervenes. He invites her to apply to the School for Psychics, a facility hidden off the coast of San Francisco where students are trained like Delta Force operatives: it's competitive, cutthroat, and highly secretive. They'll learn telepathy, telekinesis, investigative skills, and SWAT tactics. And if students survive their training, they go on to serve at the highest levels of government, using their skills to protect America, and the world.

BEAUFORT, SIMON *mappeston* KING'S SPIES (#4) (\$26.99) March 1102, and Robert de Belleme, the Black Earl of Shrewsbury, is summoned to appear before King Henry's Easter Court, to answer for siding with the King's older brother, the Duke of Normandy, in an attempt to steal the King's throne. Meanwhile, in the crowded and dangerous streets of Southwark, south of the river Thames, Crusader Knights Sir Geoffrey Mappestone and the hearty Sir Roger of Durham witness the hanging of Robert's illegitimate son. It turns out that there are plans afoot to obtain a terrible weapon to use against the King, one that the Crusader Knights remember with a terrible fear from the Siege of Jerusalem Greek Fire. Originally published in 2003.

BILLINGHAM, MARK *thorne* FROM THE DEAD (#9) (\$15.99) It has been a decade since Alan Langford's charred remains were discovered in his burnt-out car. His wife Donna was found guilty of conspiracy to murder her husband and served ten years in prison. But just before she is released, Donna receives a nasty shock: an anonymous letter containing a photo of her husband. The man she hates with every fibre of her being—the man she paid to have murdered—seems very much alive and well. How is it possible that her husband is still alive? Where is he? Who sent the photo, and why? DI Tom Thorne becomes involved in a case where nothing and no one are what they seem. It will take him much further from his London beat than he has ever been before—and closer to a killer who will do anything to protect his new life.

BLACKWELL, JULIET *witcher* MAGICAL MATCH (#9) (\$10.99) Witch and vintage store owner Lily Ivory and her friends are planning a 1950s-themed brunch to benefit the local women's shelter. When a figure from her past shows up unannounced, threatening her

unless she returns something that belonged to him, Lily's fiancé, Sailor, steps in to defend her. After the same man is found dead later that day, Sailor is the primary suspect. He swears he's innocent, but multiple witnesses ID him as the perpetrator of the assault. Lily vows to clear his name...only she's not sure where to start with the mounting evidence against him. When she sees Sailor in the neighborhood despite knowing he's in jail, Lily starts to wonder if there could be a doppelganger in San Francisco.

BOWEN, RHYS *TUSCAN CHILD* (\$22.95) In 1944, British bomber pilot Hugo Langley parachuted from his stricken plane into German-occupied Tuscany. Badly wounded, he found refuge in a ruined monastery and in the arms of Sofia Bartoli. But the love that kindled between them was shaken by an irreversible betrayal. Nearly thirty years later, Hugo's estranged daughter, Joanna, has returned home to the English countryside to arrange her father's funeral. Among his personal effects is an unopened letter addressed to Sofia. In it is a startling revelation. Still dealing with the emotional wounds of her own personal trauma, Joanna embarks on a healing journey to Tuscany to understand her father's history—and maybe come to understand herself as well. Joanna soon discovers that some would prefer the past be left undisturbed, but she has come too far to let go of her father's secrets now...

BOX, C J *pickett* OPEN SEASON (#1) and SAVAGE RUN (#2) (\$13.50 each) The first two novels in this excellent series featuring Game Warden Joe Pickett. The series debuted in 2001 and the eighteenth entry The Disappeared (#18) (\$36), has just been published.

BRUCE, ALISON *goodhew* CAMBRIDGE BLACK (#7) (\$15.99) Amy was seven years old when her father was arrested for murder. His subsequent trial and conviction scarred her childhood and cast a shadow over her life until, twenty-two years later, new evidence suggests he was innocent and Amy sets out to clear his name. But Amy is not the only person troubled by the past. DC Gary Goodhew is haunted by the day his grandfather was murdered and is still searching for answers, determined to uncover the truth about his grandfather's death and find his killer. But, right now, someone is about to die. Someone who has secrets and who once kept quiet but is now living on borrowed time. Someone who will be murdered because disturbing the past has woken a killer.

BRYNARD, KARIN *beeslaar* WEEPING WATERS (#1) (\$25.95) Inspector Albertus Beeslaar is a traumatized cop who has abandoned tough city policing and a broken relationship in Johannesburg for a backwater post on the edge of the Kalahari Desert. But his dream of rural peace is soon shattered by the repeated attacks of a brutally efficient crime syndicate, as he struggles to train and connect with rookie local cops, Ghaap and Pyl, who resent his brusqueness and his old-school ways. A beautiful and eccentric artist and her four-year-old adopted daughter are murdered on a local farm, and angry white farmers point to her enigmatic Bushman farm manager as a key suspect. Along with Ghaap and Pyl, Beeslaar is plunged into the intrigue and racial tensions of the community and finds that violence knows no geographical or ethnic boundaries.

BUCKLEY, FIONA *blanchard* RESCUE FOR A QUEEN (#11) (\$26.99) February, 1571. Ursula is once more plunged into affairs of the state when she escorts her foster daughter Margaret to the Netherlands to meet her suitor. The queen's spymaster, Sir William Cecil, learns that the wealthy Italian banker Roberto Ridolfi will be hosting their forthcoming wedding – a man who he fears may once again be plotting to put Mary Queen of Scots on the English throne. But Ursula is also about to come face-to-face with her greatest enemy – and the exiled Countess of Northumberland is not the only figure from Ursula's past to put in a surprising appearance.

CAMPBELL, ALASTAIR *SATURDAY BLOODY SATURDAY* (\$24.99) Football manager Charlie Gordon is struggling with one defeat after another at the club he loves. Only a decent Cup run is keeping him in work, but tensions are running close to the surface ahead of the next round: Chelsea away. Meanwhile, as the country prepares for a general election, one of the most dangerous political assassinations in the IRA's history is being planned in London. An active service unit await the critical signal to proceed...Both sides will con-

verge on the capital for a result that will shake everyone's lives, with consequences far beyond football.

CAMPBELL, RICK BLACKMAIL (\$12.99) The American aircraft carrier patrolling the Western Pacific is severely damaged by a surprise salvo of cruise missiles. The Russian government officially apologizes, but what it claims was an accident during training was actually a calculated attack. And now it's time for Russia's real mission to begin.

CARTMEL, ANDREW vinyl WRITTEN IN DEAD WAX (#1) (\$10.99) He is a record collector—a connoisseur of vinyl, hunting out rare and elusive LPs. His business card describes him as the “Vinyl Detective” and some people take this more literally than others. Like the beautiful, mysterious woman who wants to pay him a large sum of money to find a priceless lost recording—on behalf of an extremely wealthy (and rather sinister) shadowy client. Given that he's just about to run out of cat biscuits, this gets our hero's full attention. So begins a painful and dangerous odyssey in search of the rarest jazz record of them all...

CHIEN, VIVIEN noodle shop DEATH BY DUMPLING (#1) (\$10.50) The last place Lana Lee thought she would ever end up is back at her family's restaurant, but there she is, having to put up with her mother, who is dead-set on finding her a husband. Lana's love life soon becomes yesterday's news once the restaurant's property manager, Mr. Feng, turns up dead—after a delivery of shrimp dumplings from Ho-Lee. But how could this have happened when everyone on staff knew about Mr. Feng's severe, life-threatening shellfish allergy? Now, with the whole restaurant under suspicion for murder and the local media in a feeding frenzy—to say nothing of the gorgeous police detective who keeps turning up for take-out—it's up to Lana to find out who is behind Feng's killer order. . . before her own number is up.

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS ALL BY MYSELF, ALONE (\$11.99) Fleeing the disastrous and humiliating last-minute arrest of her fiancé on the eve of their wedding, Celia, an expert on gems and jewelry, is hoping to escape from reality on a glamorous cruise ship. But it is not to be. On board in the most luxurious suite is the elderly and world-famous Lady Emily Harworth. Immensely wealthy, Lady Em is the owner of a priceless emerald necklace that she intends to leave to the Smithsonian on her death. Three days later Lady Em is found dead—and the necklace is missing. Is it the work of her apparently devoted secretary, or her lawyer-executor, both of whom she had invited on board for the cruise? Celia, with the help of her new friends Willy and Alvirah Meehan—who are splurging on their wedding anniversary—sets out to find who the killer is, not realizing that she may have put a target on her back.

CLARK, MICHAEL J CLEAN SWEEP (\$18.95) Pastor Tommy Bosco runs a Winnipeg skid row mission that caters to ex-criminals and ex-addicts trying to make a better life. Sometimes that better life means leaving the city—and the good and bad guys—completely behind. A former smuggler, Bosco can make anyone disappear, faking deaths and extracting people across the Canada-U.S. border. But then his ex shows up, fresh from the murder of a biker-gang boss. She's got plenty of baggage, including the biker's cryptic ledger that everyone in Winnipeg's underworld wants to get their hands on. Bosco finds himself a fugitive at the center of a conspiracy that has him staying far away from the cops, the hired hitmen, and even his dear old dad. Navigating through a harsh Prairie winter, Bosco must help his ex escape without having to make an escape himself. A debut novel.

CLEELAND, ANNE MURDER IN SHADOW (#6) (\$27.95) It seemed a little strange, that Detective Sergeant Kathleen Doyle wound up being the ranking officer on this particular homicide scene. It was true that DCI Acton was off somewhere, testifying, and DI Williams was chasing down witnesses on the latest Santeria murder, but Doyle couldn't shake the feeling that she was being manipulated, by one or both of them. But to what end? The unidentified victim was a wealthy man, who shouldn't have been mucking about in a Lambeth alley, in the first place. Who was he? And why were Acton and Williams staying well-away, with only Doyle left to sort it out? It was al-

most as though they didn't want the case to be resolved too quickly. .

CLEELAND, ANNE MURDER IN MISDIRECTION (#7) (\$23.95) It was a bit puzzling, that Chief Inspector Acton hadn't mentioned the body they'd discovered in the burnt-out church, even though he must have known that Doyle would find it of great interest. Was the arsonist caught up in her own fire, or was there a deeper, more sinister tale told by the blackened rubble? Although she was sidelined on maternity leave, Detective Sergeant Kathleen Doyle was fast coming to the realization that her husband hadn't told her, because he was masterminding some scheme—a scheme that may-or-may-not involve arson, blood money, and the ducks of St. Petersburg.

CRAIG, JAMES carlyle THIS IS WHERE I SAY GOODBYE (#12) (\$15.99) Work goes on the backburner for Inspector Carlyle as he tries to manage his father's final days. But when the drug dealer providing the old man's pain relief ends up dead, London's least conventional copper finds himself in the middle of a vicious East London turf war. Meantime, he is supposed to be dealing with the case of a young woman found badly beaten in an alleyway. With no idea who she is, and no clues as to her attacker, he has to get help from some unlikely sources.

CROSS, MASON blake DONT LOOK FOR ME (#4) (\$15.99) “Don't look for me.” It was a simple instruction. And for six long years Carter Blake kept his word and didn't search for the woman he once loved. But now someone else is looking for her. Trenton Gage is a hitman with a talent for finding people—dead or alive. His next job is to track down a woman who's on the run, who is harbouring a secret many will kill for. Both men are hunting the same person. The question is, who will find her first?

CROUCH, BLAKE DARK MATTER (\$12.99) The last words Jason Dessen hears before the masked abductor knocks him unconscious are if he's happy with his life. Before he awakens to find himself strapped to a gurney, surrounded by strangers in hazmat suits. Before a man Jason's never met smiles down at him and says, “Welcome back, my friend.” In this world he's woken up to, Jason's life is not the one he knows. His wife is not his wife. His son was never born. And Jason is not an ordinary college physics professor, but a celebrated genius who has achieved something remarkable. Something impossible. Is it this world or the other that's the dream? And even if the home he remembers is real, how can Jason possibly make it back to the family he loves?

DE JAGER, ANJA meerman COLD CASE IN AMSTERDAM CENTRAL (#2) (\$15.99) Detective Lotte Meerman is convinced the death of Frank Stapel, a painter and decorator, isn't an accident after she and his widow Tessa find a skeleton in a sports bag in his left luggage locker at Amsterdam Central train station. The remains date from the Second World War and Lotte's colleagues consider it of minor importance . . . until forensic tests show that amongst the bones is the arm bone of a crime boss who recently went missing. Sequel to...

DE JAGER, ANJA meerman COLD DEATH IN AMSTERDAM (#1) (\$15.99) Set in Amsterdam, the novel introduces Lotte Meerman, a Cold Case detective still recovering from the emotional devastation of her previous investigation. A tip-off leads Lotte to an unresolved ten-year-old murder case in which her father was the lead detective. When she discovers irregularities surrounding the original investigation that make him a suspect, she decides to cover for him. She doesn't tell her boss about the family connection and jeopardises her career by hiding evidence. Now she has to find the real murderer before her acts are discovered, otherwise her father will go to jail and she will lose her job, the one thing in life she still takes pride in . . .

DE MARIA, FIORELLA gabrie VANISHING WOMAN (#2) (\$24.99) Fr Gabriel has been sent by his Abbot to assist at a church in a small town where the parish priest, Fr Foley, is recovering from a heart attack. Enid Jennings is the most hated woman in town, a retired headmistress and embittered war widow, who has a talent for causing conflict and distress wherever she goes. When Enid's downtrodden daughter, Agnes, sees her mother vanish into thin air virtually in front of her, she is widely assumed to have been mistaken or to have lost her mind—her story is simply too far-fetched to be believed. Enter Fr

Gabriel, working on the principle that some stories are too strange to have been made up, who sets out to discover the whereabouts of Enid Jennings, the cause of her seemingly miraculous disappearance and the person or persons responsible. With help from the town's physician and hostility from the irascible Inspector Applegate, Fr. Gabriel delves into the mystery... Sequel to *Sleeping Witness* (#1) (\$24)

DE MARIAFFI, ELISABETH HYSTERIA (\$22.99) Heike Lerner's life looks perfect from the outside: she's settled into an easy routine of caring for her young son, Daniel, and spends her days wandering the woods near their summer house, while her nights are filled with clinking glasses and charming conversation. But lately, Heike's noticed there are some things out of place: a mysterious cabin set back in the trees and a strange little girl who surfaces alone at the pond one day, then disappears—while at home Eric is becoming increasingly more controlling. Something sinister that Heike cannot quite put her finger on is lingering just beneath the surface of this idyllic life. It's possible Heike's worries are all in her head, but when the unthinkable happens—Daniel vanishes while she and Eric are at a party one night—she can no longer deny that something is very wrong.

DOWNING, DAVID mcoll LENIN'S ROLLER COASTER (#3) (\$19.95) In Russia the Bolshevik revolution is in full-swing while the supposed Great War is destroying Europe in ways never before imagined. Fulltime lovers and part-time enemies, British spy Jack McColl and progressive American journalist Caitlin Hanley, have seen their relationship survive this far but, in a world defined by "win at all cost" attitudes, how much longer can they hold out?

DOYLE/LATHAM, MARK A RED TOWER (\$19.95) Dr. Watson has been invited to Crain Manor, where his old friend James Crain is to hold a spiritualist gathering. During a séance a ghostly figure is seen, supposedly the spirit of Sybille, the first Lady Crain, who murdered her husband in the tower room, and whose appearance is said to be a sign of disaster. In an attempt to debunk the séance, James's sister Esther declares that she will sleep in the tower room—but at midnight there is a bloodcurdling scream and Esther is found dead, a look of horror on her face, and the room locked from the inside. Watson sends for Sherlock Holmes to investigate the tragic death. But it will be anything but straightforward, as there are those who do not want him to succeed...

DUNPHY, S A AFTER SHE VANISHED (\$15.99) Five people living on Dublin's streets have gone missing and criminologist David Dunnigan has been tasked with finding them. His search leads him to ten-year-old Harry, living alone in an abandoned warehouse, who has been waiting days for his parents' return...Dunnigan knows more than he would wish to about unexplained disappearances. Almost twenty years ago, his young niece Beth vanished during their annual Christmas shopping trip. No trace of her was ever discovered. And the tragic mystery has loomed over Dunnigan's life ever since. As his current investigation draws him deeper into the city's dark underbelly, Dunnigan's resolve to help Harry and unravel *this* mystery grows stronger. And could it lead him one step closer to finding out what became of Beth?

DYER-SEELEY, KATE NATURAL THORN KILLER (\$8.99) Britta Johnston might be a late bloomer, but after leaving her dead-beat husband and dead-end job, she's finally pursuing her artistic passion at her aunt Elin's floral boutique, Blooma, in Portland, Oregon. It's on the banks of the Willamette, in a quaint district of cobblestone paths and cherry trees. The wine bar featuring Pacific Northwest vintages is a tasty bonus, offering another kind of bouquet to enjoy. But things aren't as peaceful as they look. For one thing, someone's been leaving dead roses around—and a sleazy real estate developer who wants the waterfront property has put a big-money offer on the table. Then, after a contentious meeting of local business owners, he's found on the floor of the shop, with Elin's garden shears planted in his chest. And before the police decide to pin the crime on her beloved aunt, Britta will have to find out who arranged this murder . . .

EHRHART, PEGGY knit nibble MURDER SHE KNIT (#1) (\$8.99) Pamela is hosting the next Knit and Nibble meeting and can't wait to liven up her otherwise empty home with colorful yarn, baking,

and a little harmless gossip. She even recruits Amy Morgan, an old friend who recently moved to town, as the group's newest member. But on the night of the gathering, Amy doesn't show. Not until Pamela finds the woman dead outside—a knitting needle stabbed through the front of her handmade sweater... Someone committed murder before taking off with Amy's knitting bag, and Pamela realizes that only she can spot the deadly details hidden in mysterious skeins. But when another murder occurs, naming the culprit—and living to spin the tale—will be more difficult than Pamela ever imagined . . .

FALCONER, DUNCAN strattton STRATTON (#1) aka hostage (\$15.99) When an undercover operation monitoring the Real IRA goes horrifically wrong, British Intelligence turn to the one man who can get their agent out: Stratton, SBS operative with a lethal reputation. It's a dangerous race against time: if the Real IRA get to the Republic before Stratton gets to the Real IRA, his colleague is as good as dead. But the battle in the Northern Ireland borders is just the beginning.

FEENEY, ALICE SOMETIMES I LIE (\$24.99) Amber wakes up in a hospital. She can't move. She can't speak. She can't open her eyes. She can hear everyone around her, but they have no idea. Amber doesn't remember what happened, but she has a suspicion her husband had something to do with it. Alternating between her paralyzed present, the week before her accident, and a series of childhood diaries from twenty years ago, this brilliant psychological thriller asks: Is something really a lie if you believe it's the truth?

FOSSUM, KARIN sejer MURDER OF HARRIET KROHN (#10) (\$18.99) Charlo Torp has problems. He's grieving for his late wife, he's lost his job, and gambling debts have alienated him from his teenage daughter. Desperate, his solution is to rob an elderly woman of her money and silverware. But Harriet Krohn fights back, and Charlo loses control. Wracked with guilt, Charlo attempts to rebuild his life. But the police are catching up with him, and Inspector Konrad Sejer has never lost a case yet. Told through the eyes of a killer, this novel poses the question: how far would you go to turn your life around, and could you live with yourself afterwards?

FRANCIS, FELIX TRIPLE CROWN (\$24.99) Although the UK paperback was published some months ago, it never made it to Canada. So, we've found a few copies of the US paperback. Jeff Hinkley, investigator for the British Horseracing Authority, has been seconded to the US Federal Anti-Corruption in Sports Agency (FACSA) where he has been asked to find a mole in their organization—an informant who is passing on confidential information to those under suspicion in American racing. At the Kentucky Derby, Jeff joins the FACSA team in a raid on a horse trainer's barn at Churchill Downs, but the bust is a disaster, and someone ends up dead. Then, on the morning of the Derby itself, three of the most favored horses in the field fall sick. These suspicious events can be no coincidence. In search of answers, Jeff goes undercover as a groom on the backstretch at Belmont Park racetrack in New York. But he discovers far more than he was bargaining for: corrupt individuals who will stop at nothing—including murder—to capture the most elusive prize in world sport, the Triple Crown.

FREEMAN, BRIAN stride MARATHON (#8) (\$20.49) On a rainy June morning, tens of thousands of people crowd into Duluth for the city's biggest annual event: the Duluth Marathon. Exhausted runners push to reach the finish line and spectators line the streets to cheer them on. Then, in a terrifying echo of the Boston bombing, there is an explosion along the race course, leaving many people dead and injured. Within minutes, Jonathan Stride, Serena Dial, and Maggie Bei are at work with the FBI to find the terrorists behind the tragedy. As social media feeds a flood of rumors and misinformation, one spectator remembers being jostled by a young man with a backpack not far from the bomb site. He spots a Muslim man in a tourist's photo of the event and is convinced that this was the man who bumped into him in the crowd—but now the man's backpack is missing. When he tweets the photo to the public, the young man, Khan Rashid, becomes the most wanted man in the city. And the manhunt is on. But are the answers behind the Duluth bombing more complex than anyone realizes? And can Stride, Serena, and Maggie find the truth before more in-

nocent people are killed.

FREMLIN, CELIA JEALOUS ONE (\$18.99) Rosamund and Geoffrey's new neighbor, Lindy, is smart, good-looking, friendly, and delightful in every way. The problem is Geoffrey's a little too delighted with her, and his wife is not happy about it. While Rosamund is in a feverish state from a bout of the flu, she dreams of murdering Lindy — and upon waking is horrified to discover that she has inexplicably disappeared. What could possibly have happened? Was it more than just a terrible nightmare? First published in 1965.

FREMLIN, CELIA TROUBLE MAKERS (\$18.99) Poor Mary. Her husband is so stingy and critical that he makes the other neighborhood spouses look princely by comparison. All of the housewives on the block complain about their domineering husbands, their noisy children, and their dreary chores. The women's only consolation lies in getting together to vent their frustrations and share the latest gossip. But when Mary spies a man in a raincoat, lurking about the neighbourhood, she develops a panicky obsession with the stranger that her friends can't soothe—and the frustrations of everyday life suddenly take a sinister turn. First published on 1963.

GERRITSEN, TESS rizzoli I KNOW A SECRET (#12) (\$13.50) Two separate homicides, at different locations, with unrelated victims, have more in common than just being investigated by Boston PD detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles. In both cases, the bodies bear startling wounds—yet the actual cause of death is unknown. It's a doubly challenging case for the cop and the coroner to be taking on, at a fraught time for both of them. As Jane struggles to save her mother from the crumbling marriage that threatens to bury her, Maura grapples with the imminent death of her own mother—infamous serial killer Amalthea Lank.

GIORDANO, MARIO poldi AUNTIE POLDI AND THE SICILIAN LIONS (#1) (\$15.99) Auntie Poldi can think of no finer place to wait for death than Sicily. All she asks is a sea view, fine wine (and plenty of it), and her family close around. When death instead takes her handsome young friend Valentino—and under mysterious circumstances at that—Poldi will not take it lying down. Perhaps it's in her blood (her father was a detective chief inspector); perhaps it's a diverting excuse to spend more time with men in uniform; or perhaps it's just the promise she makes to Valentino while holding his poor dead hand. But Auntie Poldi's hunting instincts have never felt more alive. Justice must be served—if it's the last thing she does.

GOODMAN, CAROL OTHER MOTHER (\$19.99) From the author of the best-selling The Lake of Dead Languages (\$21) comes a gripping novel about madness, motherhood, love, and trust. When Daphne Marist and her infant daughter, Chloe, pull up the gravel drive to the home of Daphne's new employer, it feels like they've entered a whole new world. Tucked in the Catskills, the stone mansion looks like something out of a fairy tale, its lush landscaping hiding the view of the mental asylum just beyond its border. Daphne secured the live-in position using an assumed name and fake credentials, telling no one that she's on the run from a controlling husband who has threatened to take her daughter away.

GRANT, RICHARD CAVE DWELLERS (\$23) In late 1937, a young German lieutenant, Oskar Langweil, is recruited to help overthrow Adolf Hitler. An exiled childhood friend introduces him to Lena, another expat and an avowed Socialist, and they contrive to pose as husband and wife to cross the Atlantic aboard a cruise ship crowded with Nazis. But once at sea they become entangled with the feckless son of a U.S. senator, as well as the mysterious SS officer assigned to watch over him, and after docking in Bremerhaven their luck lurches from bad to worse. Now, along with these unexpected companions, they become prey in a manhunt that drives them through the Third Reich—Oskar cut off from his circle of resistance and constantly re-evaluating whom he can trust.

GREENAWAY, RM bc blues CREEP (#3) (\$17.99) It seems the October rains have brought death and disaster to North Vancouver. A missing hiker is found by his son and daughter, a foul smell leads to a mauled body in a crawl space, and a small boy is attacked by a man in wolf form. Once an up-and-coming Serious Crimes investigator, these days Constable Cal Dion is back on general duties, feeling out-of-the-

loop and rebellious. On a routine canvassing task, he finds himself questioning an attractive witness, one he feels is peripheral enough to the crawl space case that he would be safe in asking her out. Of course, it's the worst decision... Constable David Leith is in the thick of the same investigation, a case complicated by rumours running wild and a most elusive suspect. Halloween has brought out the ghouls for Leith and his team...and possibly a shapeshifter as well, with murder on its mind.

HAMILTON, GLEN ERIK shaw EVERY DAY ABOVE GROUND (#3) (\$12.50) It sounds like a thief's dream to Van Shaw: A terminally ill ex-con tells him of an easy fortune in gold, abandoned and nearly forgotten after its original owner died in prison. For the dying man, the money is a legacy to ensure his preteen daughter's future. For Van, the gold is cash he desperately needs to rebuild his destroyed family home. Van suspects that nothing is ever that easy, and, sure enough, the safe holding the fortune is a trap—set by a mysterious player armed with tremendous resources and a lifetime of hatred. Sequel to Past Crimes (#1) and Hard Cold Winter (#2) (\$12.50 each).

HARRINGTON, KENT LAST FERRY HOME (\$22.95) Since his wife's death at sea, San Francisco Police Detective Michael O'Higgins has been paralyzed by grief and shame—unable to care for their teen-aged daughter, who saw her mother swept away, and unable to deal with the daily requirements of his job. Almost a year after his wife's death, O'Higgins takes a ferry ride as part of his therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder. On the boat, he meets a charming Indian family: successful young husband, two lovely daughters, and a kind, beautiful wife and mother. He has no idea that he will meet this woman again on his first day back after bereavement leave, when he and his partner are called to a Nob Hill mansion to investigate a homicide. The victim is the handsome man O'Higgins met on the ferry, and his wife, Asha Chaundhry, is the obvious suspect.

HARRIS, TESSA SIXTH VICTIM (\$17.95) The foggy streets of London's Whitechapel district have become a nocturnal hunting ground for Jack the Ripper, and no woman is safe. Flower girl Constance Piper is not immune to dread, but she is more preoccupied with her own strange experiences of late. Clairvoyants seem to be everywhere these days. Constance's mother has found comfort in contacting her late father in a séance. But are such powers real? And could Constance really be possessed of second sight? Following the latest grisly discovery, Constance is contacted by a high-born lady of means who fears the victim may be her missing sister. She implores Constance to use her clairvoyance to help solve the crime, which the press is calling "the Whitechapel Mystery," attributing the murder to the Ripper. As Constance becomes embroiled in intrigue far more sinister than she could have imagined, assistance comes in a startling manner that profoundly challenges her assumptions about the nature of reality. She'll need all the help she can get—because there may be more than one depraved killer out there.

HENEAGE, JAMES BY BLOOD DIVIDED (\$15.99) Siward, scion of a great dynasty, commands the Varangian Guard and has vowed to defend the Roman Empire to the last. Makkim, renowned general to Ottoman rule, has vowed to destroy it. They are enemies in war, but unknown to them, they are also rivals to inherit one of Europe's greatest fortunes. Even worse, they are competing for the love of the same woman. Their vast inheritance lies in Venice, as does the famous courtesan they both love. She is the reason they will find themselves fighting on the walls of Constantinople, in one of the most dramatic sieges in history.

HILL, MARK TWO O'CLOCK BOY (\$15.99) Connor Laird frightens people: he's intense, he's fearless, and he seems to be willing to do anything to protect himself and those he loves. He arrives in the Longacre Children's Home seemingly from nowhere, and instantly becomes hero and villain to every other child there. Thirty years later, someone is killing all of those who grew up in the Longacre, one by one. Each of them has secrets, not least investigating cop DI Ray Drake. One by one the mysteries of the past are revealed as Drake finds himself in a race against time before the killer gets to him.

HIRAHARA, NAOMI HIROSHIMA BOY (\$22.95) LA gardener

Mas Arai returns to Hiroshima to bring his best friend's ashes to a relative on the tiny offshore island of Ino, only to become embroiled in the mysterious death of a teenage boy who was about the same age Mas was when he survived the atomic bomb in 1945. The boy's death affects the elderly, often-curmudgeonly, always-reluctant sleuth, who cannot return home to Los Angeles until he finds a way to see justice served.

HOROWITZ, ANTHONY MAGPIE MURDERS (\$18.99) When editor Susan Ryeland is given the manuscript of Alan Conway's latest novel, she has no reason to think it will be much different from any of his others. Having worked with the bestselling crime writer for years, she's intimately familiar with his detective, Atticus Pünd, who solves mysteries disturbing sleepy English villages. Conway's latest tale has Atticus investigating a murder at Pye Hall, a local manor house. Yes, there are dead bodies and a host of intriguing suspects, but the more Susan reads, the more she's convinced that there is another story hidden in the pages of the manuscript: one of real-life jealousy, greed, ruthless ambition and murder.

HOROWITZ, ANTHONY TRIGGER MORTIS (\$19.99) James Bond won his battle with criminal mastermind Auric Goldfinger, but a whole new war is about to begin. With glamorous Pussy Galore by his side—and in his bed—Bond arrives home from America to the news that SMERSH, the deadly Soviet counterintelligence agency, plans to sabotage an international Grand Prix. He must play a high-speed game of cat and mouse on the track to stop them, but a chance encounter with a mysterious Korean millionaire, Jason Sin, warns him that the scheme is only the Soviets' opening move. Incorporating never-before-published material from 007's creator, **Ian Fleming**...

HOROWITZ, ANTHONY sh MORIARTY (\$12.50) Days after Holmes and his arch-enemy Professor James Moriarty fall to their doom at the Reichenbach Falls, Pinkerton agent Frederick Chase arrives from New York. The death of Moriarty has created a poisonous vacuum that has been swiftly filled by a fiendish new criminal mastermind. Aably assisted by Inspector Athelney Jones, a devoted student of Holmes's methods of investigation and deduction, Chase must hunt down this shadowy figure, a man much feared but seldom seen, a man determined to engulf London in a tide of murder and menace. The game is afoot...

IRBY, LEE UNRELIABLE (\$23) Edwin Stith, a failed novelist and college writing instructor in upstate New York, is returning home for the weekend to Richmond, Virginia, to celebrate his mother's wedding—to a much younger man. Edwin has a peculiar relationship with the truth. He is a liar who is brutally honest. He may or may not be sleeping with his students, he may or may not be getting fired, and he may or may not have killed his ex-wife, a lover, and his brand-new stepsister. Stith's dysfunctional homecoming leads him deep into a morass of long-gestating secrets and dangers, of old-flames still burning strong and new passions ready to consume everything he holds dear. But family dysfunction is only eclipsed by Edwin's own, leading to profound suspense and utter hilarity.

JANCE, J A beaumont PROOF OF LIFE (#23) (\$12.50) Before he retired, J. P. Beaumont had looked forward to having his days all to himself. But too much free time doesn't suit a man used to brushing close to danger. When his long-time nemesis, retired Seattle crime reporter Maxwell Cole, dies in what's officially deemed to be an accidental fire, Beau is astonished to be dragged into the investigation at the request of none other than the deceased victim himself. In the process Beau learns that just because a long-ago case was solved doesn't mean it's over.

KALLENTOFT, MONS fors EARTH STORM (#8) (\$24.99) In the early hours of the morning, the naked body of a young man is discovered in a ditch next to Gota Kanal. The cause of death is mysterious; the body bears no visible traces of violence. The man is soon identified as Peder Akerlund, a former Swedish politician, excluded from his party for racism but since reformed. Then sixteen-year-old Nadja Lundin is reported missing, possibly abducted, the same evening, and there are signs that suggest the two cases might be connected. But what do the victims have in common? And why were they chosen? Gradually, Malin Fors realises that they are dealing with someone

who is playing a game with them, who speaks through murders and who will not be silenced. What is he or she trying to say? Desperate to find Nadja alive, the team race against the clock to find an answer before it's too late.

KERR, PHILIP berlin PRUSSIAN BLUE (#12) (\$22) The French Riviera, 1956: Bernie's old and dangerous adversary Erich Mielke, deputy head of the East German Stasi, has turned up in Nice—and he's not on holiday. Mielke is calling in a debt and wants Bernie to travel to London to poison a female agent they've both had dealings with. But Bernie isn't keen on assassinating anyone. In an attempt to dodge his Stasi handler—former Kripo comrade Friedrich Korsch—Bernie bolts for the German border. Traveling by night and hiding by day, he has plenty of time to recall the last case he and Korsch worked together...

LAKE, DERYN DEATH AT THE BOSTON TEA PARTY (\$26) 1773. Following a long and perilous journey, John Rawlings has arrived in Boston, Massachusetts, to pursue a new business venture. He finds the place riven with tension and unrest. There are many who feel it's time the colonies sought freedom from British rule, and the seething resentment erupts into outright rebellion during the notorious Boston Tea Party. But has someone taken advantage of the chaos to commit cold-blooded murder? Called in to examine a body fished out of Boston Harbour, Rawlings recognizes one of his fellow travellers from England. If he could unearth the truth about the victim's past and the reason why they'd come to Boston, he would be one step closer to catching the killer. But has Rawlings become a pawn in an altogether bigger game?

LEATHER, STEPHEN shepherd LIGHT TOUCH (#14) (\$10.99) Working undercover is all about trust—getting the target to trust you and then betraying them in order to bring them to justice. But what do you do when you believe an undercover cop has crossed the line and aligned herself with the international drugs smuggler she was supposed to be targeting? When Lisa Wilson stops passing on intelligence about her target, MI5 sends in Dan 'Spider' Shepherd to check that she's on the straight and narrow. Now the lives of two undercover operatives are on the line.

LEININGER, ROB angel GUMSHOE (#1) and GUMSHOE FOR TWO (#2) (\$23.95 each). See JD's Picks.

LEON, DONNA EARTHLY REMAINS (#26) (\$22.95) Commissario Guido Brunetti, confronted once more by someone of privilege avoiding censure, loses patience at work, and in the aftermath realizes that he needs a break and is granted leave from the Questura. His wife, Paola, urges him to spend time at a villa owned by a wealthy relative on Sant'Erasmo, one of the largest islands in the laguna. There he passes his nights reading Pliny's Natural History and his days rowing with the villa's caretaker, Davide Casati, who is seeking the reason his bee colonies in the laguna are suffering. The recuperative stay goes according to plan until Casati goes missing following a sudden storm. Compelled to investigate, Brunetti sets aside his leave of absence to understand what happened to the man who has become his friend, in the process dredging up dark memories of an accident and cover-up years before.

LONGWORTH, M L SECRETS OF THE BASTIDE BLANCHE (#7) (\$22) One hot summer night, Aix-en-Provence is aflutter with news that controversial author Valère Barbier, who once shared dinners with French presidents and all-night drinking bouts with rock stars, has moved into La Bastide Blanche, a grand house left empty for decades. But Valère's retirement is anything but peaceful. Why was the estate abandoned in the first place?

MACBETH/MCBETH, COLETTE ACT OF SILENCE (\$15.99) Politician Linda Moscow sacrificed everything to protect her son: her beliefs, her career, her marriage. All she wanted was to keep him safe. When the voices she silenced come back to haunt her, Linda is faced with another impossible choice. Only this time, it's her life on the line...the abuse of power, the devastating effects of keeping the truth buried, and the lengths a mother will go to save her child...

MACBRIDE, STUART DARK SO DEADLY (\$11.99) A detective no one believes in. A killer with nothing to lose...a standalone thriller from the Sunday Times No.1 bestselling author of the Logan McRae

series.

MACBRIDE, STUART ash SONG FOR THE DYING (#2) (\$16.99) Eight years ago, "The Inside Man" murdered four women and left three more in critical condition—all of them with their stomachs slit open and a plastic doll stitched inside. And then the killer just ... disappeared. Ash Henderson was a Detective Inspector on the initial investigation, but a lot can change in eight years. His family has been destroyed, his career is in tatters, and one of Oldcastle's most vicious criminals is making sure he spends the rest of his life in prison. Now a nurse has turned up dead on a patch of waste ground, a plastic doll buried beneath her skin, and it looks as if Ash might finally get a shot at redemption. At earning his freedom. At revenge. Sequel to Birthdays for the Dead (#1) (\$15.99).

MACBRIDE, STUART Logan CLOSE TO THE BONE (#8) (\$15.99), MISSING AND THE DEAD (#9) (\$16.99) and IN THE COLD DARK GROUND (#10) (\$16.99). New editions of the last three installments of the Logan McRae series.

MACKINLAY/MCKINLAY, JENN cupcake WEDDING CAKE CRUMBLE (#10) (\$10.99) With Angie and Tate's wedding just around the corner, it's a happy time for Melanie Cooper and the bakery crew. Not only are they finessing the last minute details of the big day, but their bakery, Fairy Tale Cupcakes, has just been hired to bake cupcakes for the blockbuster book signing of a controversial author who wrote a steamy bestseller filled with juicy local gossip. But one by one, the people Angie has hired to work at the wedding begin turning up dead. As the body count rises, the bestselling author is the next to bite the dust. Mel quickly realizes she needs to figure out how the murders are connected and why—before the killer brings the entire cupcake crew crumbling down. After all, Angie and Tate deserve their sweet happily ever after. Includes scrumptious recipes!

MACKINTOSH, CLARE LET ME LIE (\$24) Two years ago, Tom and Caroline Johnson committed suicide, one seemingly unable to live without the other. Their adult daughter, Anna, is struggling to come to terms with her parents' deaths, unable to comprehend why they chose to end their lives. Now with a young baby herself, she feels her mother's presence keenly and is determined to find out what really happened to her parents. But as Anna digs up the past, someone is trying to stop her. She soon learns that nothing is as it seemed.

MACNAMARA/MCNAMARA, MICHELLE I'LL BE GONE IN THE DARK (\$24.99) For more than ten years, a mysterious and violent predator committed fifty sexual assaults in Northern California before moving south, where he perpetrated ten sadistic murders. Then he disappeared, eluding capture by multiple police forces and some of the best detectives in the area. Three decades later, the author, a true crime journalist who created the popular website TrueCrimeDiary.com, was determined to find the violent psychopath she called "the Golden State Killer." Michelle pored over police reports, interviewed victims, and embedded herself in the online communities that were as obsessed with the case as she was.

MARON, MARGARET harald TAKE OUT (#9) (\$10.49) NYPD Detective Sigrid Harald is still reeling from the untimely death of her lover, acclaimed painter Oscar Nauman, when she is called to investigate the poisoning of two homeless men in the West Village. As she examines the mysterious deaths, Sigrid uncovers a grim neighborhood scandal surrounding two influential women: one a haughty mafia widow, the other a retired opera prima donna, both with dark secrets they've kept under wraps for decades. Was the poison really meant for the homeless men, or were they merely unintended victims as the decades-long feud between the two women comes to a head? And still, Sigrid can't stop wondering what brought her late lover so urgently across the country to the winding mountain road that took his life—until she meets a man who may hold the answers she seeks.

MENDELSON, PAUL APOSTLE LODGE (\$15.99) Apostle Lodge looks out over the ocean, an award-winning mansion built by a renowned architect. Stark and minimal, its black opaque windows hide a terrible secret. As Colonel Vaughn de Vries investigates the depraved crime committed within its walls, he believes there may be more than one killer on the loose, all with connections to a charismatic man who, as a child, drowned his sister and shattered his fami-

ly. And his work is not over yet.

MEREDITH, ANNE PORTRAIT OF A MURDERER (\$20) Each December, Adrian Gray invites his extended family to stay at his lonely house, Kings Poplars. None of Gray's six surviving children is fond of him; several have cause to wish him dead. The family gathers on Christmas Eve - and by the following morning, their wish has been granted. First published in 1933, and long neglected.

MILLAR, MARGARET STRANGER IN MY GRAVE (\$18.95) Jim and Daisy Harker are a young, well-to-do couple in San Felice, California, and though childless they maintain the sort of domestic happiness that others can only aspire to. But a darkness exists at the outer edges of Daisy's mind and she has no idea why it's there. In a series of reoccurring nightmares, she wanders a cemetery, eventually finding her own gravestone. According to the dream, December 2nd, 1955 is the day she died. What unfolds is a masterpiece of suspense and one of the books that forever changed the domestic thriller. The author's razor sharp prose cuts a masterful plot and slashes at the racism, sexism, and entitlement endemic to an era otherwise celebrated for its prosperity.

MORFOOT, PETER darac BOX OF BONES (#3) (\$19.95) It is carnival time in Nice, and for three weeks the boulevards are alive with dancers, jugglers and musicians. Amid the colour and pageantry, a man suffers a fatal fall—the first in a series of suspicious deaths. Captain Paul Darac of the Brigade Criminelle is sure the answer lies in the mystery surrounding a daring bank heist, supposedly resolved years ago. But the reopening of the case awakens powerful enemies, and soon the safety of his friends, his colleagues and his family is at stake.

MORFOOT, PETER darac FATAL MUSIC (#2) (\$19.95) Captain Paul Darac of the Brigade Criminelle arrives at a crime scene to find a woman's mutilated corpse. Initially routine, the case deepens and darkens into a complex enquiry that threatens to close in on Darac himself. But allegiances past and present must be set aside to unravel a tale of greed, deception and treachery that spans the social spectrum. It is among the winding streets of his own neighbourhood in Nice's old town, the Babazouk, that Darac faces his severest test yet.

MORFOOT, PETER darac IMPURE BLOOD (#1) (\$10.99) In the heat of a French summer, Captain Paul Darac of the Nice Brigade Criminelle is called to a highly sensitive crime scene. A man has been murdered in the midst of a prayer group, but no one saw how it was done. And the more Darac and his team learn about the victim, the longer their list of suspects grows. Darac's hunt for the murderer will uncover vengeance years in the making, and put the life of one of his own at risk...

NALLY, JAMES lynch GAMES WITH THE DEAD (#3) (\$18.99) Irish runaway. Insomniac. Functioning alcoholic. Life is about to get complicated for DC Donal Lynch.

NEATE, PATRICK CITY OF TINY LIGHTS (\$19.99) Meet Tommy Akhtar, Ugandan Asian cricket fan, devoted son, and not very successful private investigator with offices over his brother Gundappa's mini-cab firm in deepest West London. He's just woken up from his hangover when his next case comes through the door. It looks like just another investigation when hooker Melody comes into his office asking him to find her co-worker, Natasha, last seen meeting new client at a bar in Shepherd's Market. But as the search for Natasha intensifies, Tommy's world becomes increasingly sinister. He is drawn into a murder investigation, the criminal underworld, the world of fundamentalist religion and maybe even terrorist activities. The author neatly explores the oddball underbelly and weird cultural mix of London—The City of Tiny Lights—today and questions just what it really means to be British now. . .

NELL HAMPTON kensington KALE TO THE QUEEN (#1) (\$22.95) Chef Carrie Ann Cole is about to embark on the adventure of a lifetime—an assignment as the new Personal Chef to the Royal Family at Kensington Palace. But no sooner has Carrie Ann touched down across the pond and donned her apron than a dead body crops up beneath the royal kale beds. With one assistant dead and the other soon under suspicion for his murder, Carrie Ann is scrambling to keep her kitchen up and running. Not to mention she gets off to an

immediate bad start with the tempestuous Royal Chef Butterbottom, who has a bitter taste in his mouth since the prestigious position in the Royal Family's kitchen was given to an "over-privileged, under-educated American chef."

NESBO, JO hole DEVIL'S STAR (#5) (\$16.99) A young woman is murdered in her flat and a tiny red diamond in the shape of a five-pointed star is found behind her eyelid. Detective Harry Hole is assigned to the case, alongside his long-time adversary Tom Waaler and initially wants no part in it. But Harry is already on his final warning and has little alternative but to drag himself out of his alcoholic stupor when it becomes apparent that Oslo has a serial killer on its hands.

O'BRIEN, KEVIN KILLING SPREE (\$10.99) Years ago, the Seattle police were baffled by the Schoolgirl Murders. The killer staged the scenes, dressing his female victims in school girl uniforms and saddle shoes. No woman in Seattle felt safe, until they caught the man responsible, and the case was forgotten . . . But, across another serial killer is at work and no one would think to connect them. Except, Seattle writer Gillian McBride, who sees the disturbing coincidences between all the murders—and it's hitting too close to home. Somehow, she is the link between past and present—and to a twisted serial killer who shows no signs of stopping

PARSONS, TONY wolfe DIE LAST (#4) (\$16.99) As dawn breaks on a snowy February morning, a refrigerated lorry is found parked in the heart of London's Chinatown. Inside, twelve women, apparently illegal immigrants, are dead from hypothermia. But in the cab of the abandoned death truck, DC Max Wolfe of West End Central finds thirteen passports. The hunt for the missing woman will take Max Wolfe into the dark heart of the world of human smuggling, mass migration and 21st-century slave markets, as he is forced to ask the question that haunts our time. What would you do for a home?

PATAKI, ALLISON WHERE THE LIGHT FALLS (\$23) Three years after the storming of the Bastille, the streets of Paris are roiling with revolution. The citizens of France are enlivened by the ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. The monarchy of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette has been dismantled—with the help of the guillotine—and a new nation is rising in its place. Jean-Luc, an idealistic young lawyer, moves his wife and their infant son from a comfortable life in Marseille to Paris, in the hopes of joining the cause. André, the son of a denounced nobleman, has evaded execution by joining the new French army. Sophie, a young aristocratic widow, embarks on her own fight for independence against her powerful, vindictive uncle. As chaos threatens to undo the progress of the Revolution and the demand for justice breeds instability and paranoia, the lives of these compatriots become inextricably linked. Jean-Luc, André, and Sophie find themselves in a world where survival seems increasingly less likely—for themselves and, indeed, for the nation.

PATRICK, RENEE frost DANGEROUS TO KNOW (#2) (\$22.50) A Seattle Times Best of 2017 Book! Los Angeles, 1938. Former aspiring actress Lillian Frost is adjusting to a new life of boldfaced names as social secretary to a movie-mad millionaire. Costume designer Edith Head is running Paramount Pictures' wardrobe department, but only until a suitable replacement comes along. The two friends again become partners thanks to an international scandal, a real-life incident in which the war clouds gathering over Europe cast a shadow on Hollywood. Lillian attended the Manhattan dinner party at which well-heeled guests insulted Adolf Hitler within earshot of a maid with Nazi sympathies. Now, secrets the maid vengefully spilled have all New York society running for cover – and two Paramount stars, Jack Benny and George Burns, facing smuggling charges. Edith also seeks Lillian's help on a related matter. The emigre pianist in Marlene Dietrich's budding nightclub act has vanished. Lillian reluctantly agrees to look for him. When Lillian finds him dead, Dietrich blames agents of the Reich. As Lillian and Edith unravel intrigue extending from Paramount's Bronson Gate to FDR's Oval Office, only one thing is certain: they'll do it in style. The first in the series is Design for Dying (\$22.99).

PATTERSON, JAMES with Peter De Jonge MIRACLE AT AUGUSTA (\$20.99) A year ago, Travis McKinley, an unknown golfing amateur, shocked the world by winning the PGA Senior Open at Peb-

ble Beach. Now he's famous, he makes his living playing the game he loves, and everything should be perfect. Still Travis can't shake the feeling that he's a fraud, an imposter who doesn't deserve his success—and after a series of disappointments and, to be honest, personal screw-ups, he might just prove himself right. A shot at redemption arrives in an unexpected form: a teenage outcast with troubles of his own—and a natural golf swing. As this unlikely duo sets out to achieve the impossible on the world's most revered golf course, Travis is about to learn that sometimes the greatest miracles of all take place when no one is watching.

PATTERSON, JAMES with James O. Born bennett HAUNTED (#10) (\$20.99) Detective Michael Bennett and his family are about to be haunted by a father's worst nightmare—the signs he should have seen and a son's desperate cry for help. Reeling from a crisis that would destroy lesser families, the Bennetts escape New York for a much-needed vacation. An idyllic country town in the Maine woods is haunted by an epidemic emptying its streets and preying on its youth. Turns out the vacation brochures don't tell the full story, the seemingly perfect community has a deadly vice. When local cops uncover a grisly crime scene buried deep in the woods, they consult the vacationing Bennett, who jumps at the chance to atone for his own sins. You can take Michael Bennett out of New York City, but you can't take the cop out of Michael Bennett. But far from the city streets he knows so well, no one will talk to the big-city detective, and the bodies keep piling up. A young, hardscrabble, and forgotten girl is haunted by a traumatic history. Homeless and destitute, she represents the closest thing Bennett has to a partner in his frantic hunt for the ghostlike perpetrator behind the violence. Will Bennett and his unlikely ally unmask the culprit before anyone else winds up haunted?

PATTERSON, JAMES cross PEOPLE VS ALEX CROSS (#25) (\$20.99) Alex Cross is on the wrong side of the law. Serving a suspension from the force while he awaits trial for murder, Cross has been branded as a trigger-happy cop, another bad apple walking the streets with a gun, an accusation that Cross will do anything to refute. To make himself feel useful again, Cross opens a counseling office in the basement of his home. When his former partner Sampson shows up needing his help, Cross jumps at the chance, even if it may end up costing him what's left of his career. When a string of young, blonde women go missing, the investigation leads Cross and Sampson to the most depraved, darkest corners of the internet. Struggling to prove his own innocence and uncover the truth lurking online, Cross must risk everything to save his most at-risk patient of all...himself.

PATTERSON, JAMES with Maxine Paetro women 16TH SEDUCTION (#16) (\$12.99) Fifteen months ago, Detective Lindsay Boxer's life was perfect—she had a beautiful child and a doting husband, Joe, who helped her catch a criminal who'd brazenly detonated a bomb in downtown San Francisco, killing twenty-five people. But Joe wasn't everything that Lindsay thought he was, and she's still reeling from his betrayal as a wave of mysterious, and possibly unnatural, heart attacks claims seemingly unrelated victims across San Francisco. As if that weren't enough, the bomber she and Joe captured is about to go on trial, and his defense raises damning questions about Lindsay and Joe's investigation. Not knowing whom to trust and struggling to accept the truth about the man she thought she knew, Lindsay must connect the dots of a deadly conspiracy before a brilliant criminal puts *her* on trial.

PERRY, ANNE pitt MURDER ON THE SERPENTINE (#32) (\$23) It is not the custom for the commander of Special Branch to receive a royal summons—so Thomas Pitt knows it must be for a matter of the gravest importance. The body of Sir John Halberd, the Queen's confidant, has been found in the shallow water of the Serpentine in Hyde Park, bearing the evidence of a fatal blow to the head. At Her Majesty's request, Sir John had been surreptitiously investigating Alan Kendrick, a horse-racing enthusiast who seems to have had an undue amount of influence on her son, the Prince of Wales. Now Commander Pitt must navigate the corridors of power with the utmost discretion and stealth, for it seems certain that Sir John's killer is a member of the upper classes. Aided by his wife, Charlotte, and her social contacts, Pitt seeks out the hidden motives behind the polite façade of

those to the manner born—and uncovers a threat to the throne that could topple the monarchy.

PHILLIPS, MELANIE LEGACY (\$21.99) Does the mystery behind a recently discovered medieval manuscript hold the secret to the survival of the Jewish people? Russell Woolfe, a faded TV producer, is struggling with his father's death. Deeply uncomfortable with his own Jewish identity, he is torn between anger with his father—estranged over Russell's marrying a non-Jewish woman—and grief over their failure to reconcile. At his father's memorial Russell meets Joe Kuchinsky, a Polish survivor who unaccountably latches on to him. Kuchinsky claims to possess an ancient Hebrew manuscript that has been in his family for generations and which he wants to have translated before he dies. Kuchinsky believes fervently that the manuscript contains some important ancient wisdom—perhaps, even, the key to the survival of the Jewish people. Despite his doubts, Russell agrees to inspect the manuscript and tell Kuchinsky what it contains. Thus begins an international mystery that stretches a thousand years in the past, is wrapped in the tragedy of the Holocaust, and which comes to a startling conclusion that has dire personal consequences for everyone caught up in the saga.

QUEEN, ELLERY FACE TO FACE (\$22.50) When a popular singer goes from retired to dead the day before New Year's Eve, Ellery Queen is certain it's murder. Luckily, just before she died, the victim managed to scribble out a single mysterious word: F A C E. Unfortunately, no one knows what it means. With the help of a new acquaintance, Inspector Harry Burke from Scotland, Queen uncovers even more baffling clues written in invisible ink. Enter the beautiful, discarded conquests of the dead singer's playboy husband, who prove a dangerous distraction for both Queen and Burke. Will erotic temptation derail the investigation? If it does, hearts will be broken, and what's worse -- someone will get away with murder.

RHODE, JOHN dr priestly INVISIBLE WEAPONS (#28) (\$14.99) Originally published in 1938. The murder of old Mr. Fransham while washing his hands in his niece's cloakroom was one of the most astounding problems that ever-confronted Scotland Yard. Not only was there a policeman in the house at the time, but there was an ugly wound in the victim's forehead and nothing in the locked room that could have inflicted it. The combined efforts of Superintendent Hanslet and Inspector Waghorn brought no answer and the case was dropped. It was only after another equally baffling murder had been committed that Dr. Lancelot Priestley's orderly and imaginative deductions began to make the connections that would solve this extraordinary case.

RIPLEY, NATHAN FIND YOU IN THE DARK (\$24.99) Martin Reese is obsessed with murder. For years, he has been illegally buying police files on serial killers and studying them in depth, using them as guides to find missing bodies. He doesn't take any souvenirs, just photos that he stores in an old laptop, and then he turns in the results to the police anonymously. Martin sees his work as a public service, a righting of wrongs that cops have continuously failed to do. Detective Sandra Whittal sees it differently. On a meteoric rise in police ranks due to her case-closing efficiency, Whittal is suspicious of the mysterious caller—the Finder, she names him—leading the police to the bodies. Even if the Finder isn't the one leaving bodies behind, who's to say that he won't start soon? On his latest dig, Martin searches for the first kill of Jason Shurn, the early 1990s murderer who may have been responsible for the disappearance of his sister-in-law, whom he never met. But when he arrives at the site, he finds a freshly killed body—a young and recently disappeared Seattle woman—lying among remains that were left there decades ago. Someone else knew where Jason Shurn buried his victims . . . and that someone isn't happy that Martin has been going around digging up his work. When a crooked cop with a tenuous tie to Martin vanishes, Whittal begins to zero in on the Finder. Hunted by a real killer and by Whittal, Martin realizes that in order to escape the killer's trap, he may have to go deeper into the world of murder than he ever thought.

ROBARDS, KAREN guardian ULTIMATUM (#1) (\$19.99) Growing up, Bianca St. Ives knew she was different from all her friends. Instead of playing hopscotch or combing her dolls' hair, she covertly

studied martial arts with sensei masters and dismantled explosives with special-ops retirees. Her father prepped her well to carry on the family business. Now she makes a living swindling con men out of money they stole. But her latest gig goes horribly wrong. Not only do two hundred million dollars and top-secret government documents go missing, but her father is killed during the heist. The thing is, the US government doesn't believe he's really dead. They'll stop at nothing to capture Richard St. Ives, a high-value target and someone who has been on most-wanted lists all over the world for over two decades—and they mean to use Bianca as bait. With only a fellow criminal for backup and her life on the line, it's up to Bianca to uncover the terrifying truth behind what really happened...and set it right, before it's too late.

ROBERTS, DAVID corinth GRAVE MAN (#6) (\$15.99) Verity Browne and Lord Edward Corinth are attending a memorial in Westminster when the service is interrupted by a young woman's desperate cry for help. Too late, they find Maude Pitt-Messenger's father slumped in his seat, stabbed to death with an ancient Assyrian dagger. Verity travels to Swifts Hill, Sir Simon Castlewood's Kent estate, to investigate the murder, where she begins to discover more about Maud's father: the old man was selfish and cruel and had prevented Maude from marrying the man she loved, making his daughter's life miserable. When Maud herself is stabbed to death with a dagger from Sir Castlewood archaeological collection, Edward and Verity join forces to unmask the killer. However, Verity's growing attraction to young German aristocrat Adam von Trott drives a wedge between the two friends - bringing them both unhappiness and endangering the outcome of their investigation.

ROBERTSON, L F TWO LOST BOYS (\$10.99) Janet Moodie has spent years as a death row appeals attorney. Overworked and recently widowed, she's had her fill of hopeless cases, and is determined that this will be her last. Her client is Marion 'Andy' Hardy, convicted along with his brother Emory of the rape and murder of two women. But Emory received a life sentence while Andy got the death penalty, labeled the ringleader despite his low IQ and Emory's dominant personality. Convinced that Andy's previous lawyers missed mitigating evidence that would have kept him off death row, Janet investigates Andy's past. She discovers a sordid and damaged upbringing, a series of errors on the part of his previous counsel, and most worrying of all, the possibility that there is far more to the murders than was first thought. Andy may be guilty, but does he deserve to die?

SANDFORD, JOHN davenport GOLDEN PREY (#27) (\$12.99) Thanks to some very influential people whose lives he saved, Lucas Davenport is no longer working for the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, but for the U.S. Marshals Service, and with unusual scope. He gets to pick his own cases, whatever they are, wherever they lead him. And where they've led him this time is into real trouble. A Biloxi, Mississippi, drug-cartel counting house gets robbed, and suitcases full of cash disappear, leaving behind five bodies, including that of a six-year-old girl. Davenport takes the case, which quickly spirals out of control, as cartel assassins, including a torturer known as the "Queen of home-improvement tools" compete with Davenport to find the Dixie Hicks shooters who knocked over the counting house. Things get ugly real fast, and neither the cartel killers nor the holdup men give a damn about whose lives Davenport might have saved; to them, he's just another large target.

SCHUTT, BILL maccready HELL'S GATE (#1) (\$12.50) 1944. As war rages across Europe and the Pacific, Army intel makes a shocking discovery: a three-hundred-foot Japanese submarine marooned and empty, deep in the Brazilian interior. A team of Army Rangers sent to investigate has gone missing and the military sends Captain R. J. MacCready to learn why the Japanese are there—and what they're planning. Parachuting into a mist-shrouded valley beneath a two-thousand-foot plateau, Mac is unexpectedly reunited with fellow scientist and friend Bob Thorne, presumed dead for years. Thorne, a botanist, lives with Yanni, an indigenous woman who possesses mysterious, invaluable skills. Their wisdom and expertise will prove lifesaving for Mac as he sets out into the unknown. Soon, Mac learns of a diabolical Axis plot to destroy the United States and its allies. But

there's an even darker force on the prowl, attacking at night and targeting both man and beast. Mac must uncover the source of this emerging biological crisis and foil the enemy's plans, but will he be in time to save humanity from itself?

SENNEFELDER, DEBRA **blogge** UNINVITED CORPSE (#1) (\$8.99) Leaving behind a failed career as a magazine editor and an embarrassing stint on a reality baking show, newly divorced lifestyle entrepreneur Hope Early thought things were finally on the up-swing—until she comes face-to-face with a murderer. Hope's schedule is already jam packed with recipe testing and shameless plugs for her food blog as she rushes off to attend a spring garden tour in the charming town of Jefferson, Connecticut. Unfortunately, it isn't the perfectly arranged potted plants that grab her attention—it's the bloody body of reviled real estate agent Peaches McCoy. One of the tour guests committed murder, and all eyes are on Hope's older sister, Claire Dixon—who, at best, saw Peaches as a professional rival. And suspicions really heat up when another murder occurs the following night. Now, with two messy murders shaking Jefferson and all evidence pointing to Claire, Hope must set aside her burgeoning brand to prove her sister's innocence. But the closer she gets to the truth, the closer she gets to a killer intent on making sure her life goes permanently out of style. Includes Recipes from Hope's Kitchen!

SEYMOUR, E V **thane** FINAL TARGET (#2) (\$15.99) Ex-assassin Josh Thane has given up his life of murder and bloodshed and gone to ground in London. But when glamorous MI5 agent, McCallan, needs his help with a dangerous operation in Berlin, Josh can't resist being pulled back into the game. Soon he realises that a deadly organization is out not just to get him but those closest to him. As crime bosses and intelligence officers are picked off one by one, McCallan disappears and Josh is faced with a choice that could make this mission his last: either he walks into the trap set for him, or McCallan dies. The first in the series is Deadly Trade (\$15.99).

SEYMOUR, GERALD DAMNED SERIOUS BUSINESS (\$26.99) Nicknamed 'Boot' because of his obsession with the Duke of Wellington and the battle of Waterloo, Edwin Coker is a case officer at the Vauxhall headquarters of MI6. When a young hacker falls into his hands and reveals details of a secret meeting, Boot conceives a daring plan to strike back - not with a computer virus of his own, but with a bomb that will seriously damage the Russian operation, spreading fear and distrust. Now Boot and his little team need a 'deniable' handler to deliver the explosives across the border from Estonia into Russia and bring the hacker back out. They turn to Merc, an ex-soldier fighting in Iraq, a gun-for-hire who knows how to get out of a tight spot. They hope. From the moment Merc sets out to cross the River Narva things do not go to plan and when the hacker's sister becomes involved, his mission turns from tough to almost impossible. The scene is set for a classic story of pursuit and evasion and an epic battle for survival.

SHEREZ, STAV **carrigan** INTRUSIONS (#3) (\$16.99) When a distressed young woman arrives at their station claiming her friend has been abducted, and that the man threatened to come back and 'claim her next', Detectives Carrigan and Miller are thrust into a terrifying new world of stalking and obsession. Taking them from a Bayswater hostel, where backpackers and foreign students share dorms and failing dreams, to the emerging threat of online intimidation, hacking, and control. Under scrutiny themselves, and with old foes and enmities re-surfacing, how long will Carrigan and Miller have to find out the truth behind what these two women have been subjected to? The first two in the series are Dark Redemption (\$16.00) and Eleven Days (\$15.00).

SIGURDARDOTTIR, YRSA **huld** LEGACY (#1) (\$15.99) The first in a new series. Detective Huldur is out of his depth. His first murder case is like nothing he's seen before - a bizarre attack on a seemingly blameless woman. The only evidence is a list of numbers found at the scene, and the testimony of the victim's eleven-year-old daughter, who isn't talking. While his team attempt to crack the code, Huldur turns to child psychologist Freyja for her expertise with traumatised young people. Because time is running out...and the one thing they know for certain is that the murderer will strike again.

SMITH, MICHAEL NO MAN DIES TWICE (\$22.50) Inspector Peter Ritter, one of the few honest detectives left in wartime Germany, is losing his grip on reality. The word on the street in the small Bavarian city of Rosenheim is that Ritter is not long for this world. He's made too many enemies with his rants against the regime and his obsession with solving crime, even when the villains are Nazi officials. The Gestapo are tracking his every move, and his marriage is falling apart. His only refuge is in drunken conversations with the specter of his dead father-in-law. When the killing of a Jew is followed by the bloody and brutal stabbing of the local Gestapo chief, Ritter realizes there is far more going on than just homicide. He uncovers a plot to assassinate Hitler, with British spies fighting a turf war on his patch. Ritter is left with a stark choice: call in the Gestapo or let the assassins succeed, in the hope that killing the Führer will save the Germany he loves.

STEVENS, CHEVY THOSE GIRLS (\$12.99) Life has never been easy for the three Campbell sisters. Jess, Courtney, and Dani live on a remote ranch in western Canada where they work hard and try to stay out of the way of their father's temper. One night, a fight gets out of hand and the sisters are forced to go on the run—only to get caught in an even worse nightmare when their truck breaks down in a small town. As events spiral out of control, they find themselves in a horrifying situation and are left with no choice but to change their names and create new lives. Eighteen years later, they are still trying to forget what happened that summer. But when one of the sisters goes missing, followed closely by her niece, they are pulled back into the past. And this time, in a world full of secrets in which nothing is as it seems, there's nowhere left to run

SWANSON, DENISE **chef** TART OF DARKNESS (#1) (\$10.99) Right when Dani thinks she's hit a dead-end in her career, she unexpectedly inherits an enormous old house in a quaint college town. This gives her the perfect opportunity to pursue her true passion—cooking! So, Dani opens Chef-to-Go, preparing delicious, ready-made meals for hungry students attending the nearby university, as well as providing personal chef services and catering events for the local community. To help support her new business, she opens her home to a few students, renting them rooms and becoming almost like a big sister figure in their lives. But just as Dani is relishing her sweet new life, the friend of one of her boarders is murdered, and Dani becomes one of the primary suspects! She'll have to scramble to clear her name and save her business before the killer reappears—perhaps to silence the new chef forever.

SYLVAIN, DOMINIQUE **lola** DIRTY WAR (\$15.99) A young Parisian lawyer is found murdered, burned alive with a flaming tyre around his neck. For Lola Jost, retired police commissioner, the killer's methods are all too familiar. Her beloved assistant Toussaint Kidjo was dispatched in the same way five years before. Convinced of a connection, and aided by her loyal sidekick Ingrid Diesel, Lola reopens the Kidjo investigation on the sly. But the murdered lawyer turns out to be the protégé of a shadowy fixer known as "Mister Africa", who is heavily involved in the arms trade. And the official investigation becomes mired in a power struggle between the Paris police and a newly formed national intelligence agency.

TANENBAUM, ROBERT **karp** WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR (#29) (\$12.99) Tensions have been building between the police force and the black rights activists in Harlem, and they reach a boiling point when a cop shoots down a seemingly unarmed teenager. The community, believing the teen had no weapon, rises up in anger and demands to have the officer prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. But there's something more than a call for justice at work here: a plot to bring down the city's police force through a conspiracy so vast and malicious only N.Y.D.A Roger "Butch" Karp and his band of truth-seekers can untangle it. Karp, along with Marlene and an eclectic cast of characters, seek to unravel the murder mystery without fear or favor. The prosecution of this heinous crime will be Karp's greatest confrontation with the forces of evil yet.

TAYLOR, ANDREW FIRE COURT (\$22.99) The Great Fire has ravaged London, wreaking destruction and devastation wherever its flames spread. Now, guided by the incorruptible Fire Court, the city is

slowly rebuilding, but times are volatile, and danger is only ever a heartbeat away. James Marwood, son of a traitor, is thrust into this treacherous environment when his ailing father claims to have stumbled upon a murdered woman in the very place where the Fire Court sits. Then his father is run down and killed. Accident? Or another murder? Determined to uncover the truth, Marwood turns to the one person he can trust - Cat Lovett, the daughter of a despised regicide. Marwood has helped her in the past. Now it's her turn to help him. But then comes a third death...and Marwood and Cat are forced to confront a vicious and increasingly desperate killer whose actions threaten the future of the city itself. The first in the series is The Ashes of London (\$16.99).

TEMPLETON, ALINE Fleming CRADLE TO GRAVE (#6) (\$15) Who can you trust? Accused of murdering the baby in her care, seemingly cold and measured nanny Lisa Stewart maintains her innocence. But when she changes her name and tries to flee, terrifying threats continue to follow her. Is she an innocent victim of public anger—or a calculating murderer on the run? Can Detective Marjory Fleming, dogged by her own past, uncover the truth?

THOMPSON, VICTORIA MURDER IN THE BOWERY (#20) (\$10.99) Frank Malloy's latest client is the well-dressed Will Bert. He's searching for his brother, a newsboy named Freddie, so he can share his new financial good fortune. Frank makes quick work of the case and locates Freddie, but a happy reunion between brothers is not in the cards. When Will's name is mentioned, Freddie runs off—only to be found dead a short time later. Suspicious, Frank tracks down Will who spins a tale of lust and deceit involving a young society woman, Estelle Longacre, also recently deceased. Frank can't be sure if Estelle's risky behaviour and the company she kept was to blame, or if her own ruthless family had a hand in her death. Frank will need Sarah's help to unearth the dark secrets of the wealthy Longacres and to discover if there is a connection between Estelle and Freddie's death. Together they must navigate a perilous underground web of treachery to find the truth.

TOGAWA, MASAKO MASTER KEY (\$18.95) The prizewinning debut mystery from one of Japan's best-loved crime writers. The K Apartments for Ladies are occupied by over a hundred unmarried women, once young and lively, now grown and old - and in some cases, evil. Their residence conceals a secret, a secret connecting the unsolved kidnapping in 1951 of four-year-old George Kraft to the clandestine burial of a child's body in the basement bath-house. So, when news comes that the building must be moved to make way for a road-building project, more than one tenant waits with apprehension for the grisly revelation that will follow. Then the master key is lost, stolen and re-stolen, and suddenly no-one feels safe.

VIDICH, PAUL mueller GOOD ASSASSIN (#2) (\$22) Former CIA Agent George Mueller arrives in Havana in August 1958, during the last months of dictator Fulgencio Batista's reign, to investigate the activities of Toby Graham—an in-country CIA officer suspected of harboring sympathies for the rebels fighting the unpopular Batista regime. Specifically, Mueller's old friend Graham may be putting weapons into the hands of Castro's forces, in bold defiance of the United States arms embargo on the island. But when Mueller uncovers a world of deceit as the FBI, CIA, and State Department compete to influence the outcome of the revolution in the face of the brutal dictatorship's imminent collapse, he realizes that nothing and no one is what they seem.

WATKINS, EILEEN groomer BENGAL IDENTITY (#2) (\$17.95) With no ID for his pet, an agitated young man shows up at Cassie's Comfy Cats claiming his house has burned down and he needs to board his big, brown cat, Ayesha. But after a bath washes dye out of the cat's coat and reveals beautiful spots, Cassie suspects the exotic-looking feline may in fact be a valuable Bengal show cat, possibly stolen. At the same time, there are rumoured sightings of a "wild cat" in the hills of Chadwick, New Jersey. Could there be a connection? When Ayesha's alleged owner turns up dead, it looks like whoever wants the beautiful Bengal is not pussyfooting around. Working with the police, Cassie and her staff need to be careful not to reveal the purloined purebred's whereabouts while they discreetly make inquiries

to cat breeders to find her real owners. But after a break-in attempt and a second body is found, it's up to Cassie to spot the killer. The first in the series is The Persian Always Meows Twice (\$16.95). **WEBB, KATHERINE** HIDING PLACES (\$15.99) One hot summer in 1922. A house at the heart of the village. A crime that will shock the community. A man accused and two women with everything to lose. When Donny Cartwright is accused of murder, his sister Pudding is determined to discover the identity of the real killer. Together with newcomer, Irene, she begins to uncover the truth - a secret that has been buried for years. But when they happen upon a strange object, hidden in the past, they realise it will change everything. **WIEHL, LIS newsmakers** SEPARATISTS (#3) (\$21) After getting the green light from her network to launch an investigative news show, Erica flies to Bismarck, North Dakota, to investigate Take Back Our Homeland, the largest secessionist group. What she finds is profoundly disturbing—a growing threat to the future of our union. Back home, her husband Greg is drinking more and talking less—and taking an unusual interest in the glamorous author Leslie Burke Wilson. Erica's teenage daughter has also begun acting out in troubling ways. Then she discovers a potential informant murdered in her Bismarck hotel. Take Back Our Homeland might be even more dangerous than she had thought—and she's unwittingly become one of the key players in the story. Her fear and anxiety escalate—for her marriage, her daughter, and her own life.

WILSON, ANDREW christie DIFFERENT KIND OF EVIL (#2) (\$22) Two months after the events of A Talent for Murder (\$22.00), during which Agatha Christie “disappeared,” the famed mystery writer's remarkable talent for detection has captured the attention of British Special Agent Davison. Now, at his behest, she is traveling to the beautiful Canary Islands to investigate the strange and gruesome death of Douglas Greene, an agent of the British Secret Intelligence Service. As she embarks on a glamorous cruise ship to her destination, she suddenly hears a scream. Rushing over to the stern of the liner, she witnesses a woman fling herself over the side of the ship to her death. After this shocking experience, she makes it to the Grand Hotel in a lush valley on the islands. There, she meets a diverse and fascinating cast of characters, including two men who are suspected to be involved in the murder of Douglas Greene: an occultist similar to Aleister Crowley; and the secretary to a prominent scholar, who may also be a Communist spy. But Agatha soon realizes that nothing is what it seems, and she is surprised to learn that the apparent suicide of the young woman on the ocean liner is related to the murder of Douglas Greene.

WINSPEAR, JACQUELINE dobb TO DIE BUT ONCE (#14) (\$21.99 trade paperback, \$34.99 hardcover) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

WODEHOUSE, P G MULLINERS BUCK-U-UPPO (\$10.99) “You don't analyse such sunlit perfection, you just bask in its warmth and splendour.” Says Stephen Fry

WODEHOUSE, P G SMILE THAT WINS (\$10.99) “Mr. Wodehouse's idyllic world can never stale. He has made a world for us to live in and delight in.” says Evelyn Waugh.

YOKOYAMA, HIDEO SEVENTEEN (\$24.99) From the author of the bestselling Six Four (\$15.99), a tense investigation in the aftermath of an air disaster.