



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

January 2006

Another January, another new year. Full of possibilities and challenges, no doubt. For some years now I've been telling you that I intended to get Sleuth a website and go online. That's been done, but more about that a little later on. I'd like to start by thanking all of you for all your support and custom during 2005. We hope to do even better for you in 2006. Thanks to all of you who sent good wishes, kind words, boxes of chocolate, over the Christmas season. We all take great pleasure in knowing that we must be doing enough things right to generate this level of goodwill and friendship. Paddington would like to thank all of you who brought him treats; he truly appreciates it. He told me the other day that his life would be perfect if someone (*someone?*) were to take that silly picture of him wearing a Santa Claus hat off the website! And, finally, dear Larry, thank you for the bottle of fine scotch. I'm looking forward to cracking that sucker open, just as soon as this newsletter is put to bed.

About Sleuth Online. Our entire new book inventory is now online. Not only our entire inventory, but, essentially, all books in print, some four million titles, can be searched and ordered. And it's so easy. Go to our site, sleuthofbakerstreet.com, select "Search our entire inventory" and there you are. Take two minutes to activate an account for yourself—even though you have an account at Sleuth you do need to do this—and search to your heart's content. Setting up an online account protects both you and Sleuth, and it's so quick and simple that even Marian managed. Once you've done that, fill up your shopping basket. "Checking out" is not placing an order but an expression of interest. We'll get back to you with delivery times, correct prices where necessary, and then you can firm up the order. Oh, yes, about those four million other titles. Do not just think of us as your source for only mysteries but as your source for ALL

books. We can and will order any book for you.

On a far more distressing note, there are no golf trips in my near future! My younger brother is away on business in South Asia for most of January, and my other regular golf-trip partner is going to be in Hawaii for a few weeks and that leaves me, literally, in the cold. So anyone needing a fourth for a week or so in California? I don't need much notice!

You'll see an ad for a signing with **JOSE LATOUR** on Wednesday, February 22, 2006 below. **Jose Latour** is a renowned Cuban writer of crime novels who has recently moved to Toronto. With any luck that'll mean that his new Canadian publisher, McClelland and Stewart, will reprint all of his backlist. Although Sleuth is not involved in a formal way we can, of course, arrange to get you signed copies if you cannot attend. But, do try to attend; you'll enjoy meeting Mr. Latour, and, besides, **PETER ROBINSON** will be there. Please note that the signing is not going to be at Sleuth.

And, finally, it only took us twenty-six years to get Sleuth book bags, but better late than never. (Can you believe that Sleuth has been in business for over twenty-six years? I can't! I have trouble believing that Marian and I have owned it for twenty-three and I was there for all that time!). The bags are made of twelve ounce cotton, natural colour, with twenty-seven inch straps. Big enough for lots of books, or one Paddington (you have to go to the website to see that picture) or a dozen of your most favourite cold ones. (You know what I'm planning on using mine for!)

A couple of reference books have just arrived and this seems as good a place to stick them as any. Detective Fiction (\$42, polity trade paperback) by **CHARLES J. RZEPKA** is "...a clear and highly readable look at some of the best known, yet least-understood, characters and texts of the modern day. [The author]

The Merchant of Menace,

SLEUTH of Baker Street's bi-monthly newsletter is available by subscription at an annual fee of CDN\$35. Agree to buy at least \$100 of books in any calendar year and we'll waive the fee. Ask for a complimentary copy. All subscriptions are for a calendar year, by the way, so we'll prorate as necessary.

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traces the history of the genre from its modern beginnings in the eighteenth century... to the present state... in a manner that students and scholars alike will find readable and provocative.” **Charles Rzepka** is Professor of English at Boston University.

Twentieth-Century Crime Fiction (\$150, Oxford University Press hardcover) by **LEE HORSLEY** “...aims to enhance the understanding of one of the most popular forms of genre fiction by examining a wide variety of the detective and crime fiction produced in Britain and America during the twentieth century.” **Lee Horsley** is Senior Lecturer in English Literature at Lancaster University. I don’t think he’s also the actor, but I could be wrong.

Wendy's Picks

I hope that everyone had a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year. During my time off, I tackled my pile of ‘to-be-read’ books. The pile just seems to grow and grow and I’m not making much of a dent in it. I guess that’s better than having nothing to read. Frustrating but better.

I read three wonderful UK titles that I want to tell you about. The first is Now You See Me by **MARGARET MURPHY** (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback), the follow-up to The Dispossessed (\$10.99), one of my favourites from last year. Alan Rickman is back, investigating the disappearance of Megan Ward. Megan had complained of a stalker and her landlady is convinced that she has come to a bad end. In the course of their investigation, the police discover that Megan does not exist. There are no documents, photos nor family history. Then the landlady is murdered and Megan reappears, offering to help the police track down the killer.

My second pick is Shadows of Sounds by **ALEX GRAY** (\$39.95), the third title in the Lorimer and Brightman series set in Glasgow—I’ve been there! Sequel to Never Somewhere Else (\$21) and A Small Weeping (\$26.95 trade paperback). DCI Lorimer is investigating the death of the leader of the City of Glasgow Orchestra. He’s hoping to wrap up the investigation in time to take a Christmas trip to Florida to visit his wife who has taken a teaching job there. But the murder is much more complicated than first thought and that’s when psychologist Solomon Brightman is brought on board to help. Lovely writing.

The third book I read over the break is Road Kill by **ZOE SHARP** (\$39.95), her fifth Charlie Fox mystery. The first four are Killer Instinct (out of print), Riot Act (\$10.99), Hard Knocks (\$10.99) and First Drop (\$21.00 expensive UK import). Charlie is a woman who knows her way around motorcycles. When one of her best friends is involved in a fatal motorcycle crash, Charlie wants to know the details. The police ask her to infiltrate a group of motorcyclists to report back on their activities, specifically road racing. At first she refuses but then reconsiders when she is chased and forced off the road. She joins the group on their ride to and around Ireland to discover who tried to kill one of her best friends by driving her off the road and why. Of course, Sean, her off-and-on boss/boyfriend, is along to try to keep her in one piece. They are also trying to rebuild their relationship after the disastrous events in First Drop. This is a great series with a strong independent (headstrong some might say) but vulnerable female character.

I’d like to write about some of my favourites from 2005 as a reminder of the great books that you might have missed. Most of them were hardcover when I read them but some are now out in

paperback or due soon. There is no particular order but **JOHN CONNOLLY** is one of my very favourite writers so he’s at the top of the list. The Black Angel (\$34.50) is the fifth Charlie Parker mystery. This was a fascinating read that I could not put down. Charlie and his friends Louis and Angel are searching in New York for those responsible for Louis’ cousin’s death. They uncover a mystery involving medieval times, WWII, murders in Juarez, fallen angels, The Believers, a monster named Brightwell, a statue known as the Black Angel and a chapel ossuary in Sedlec, Czech Republic, fashioned in human bones. That part is real and oh so fascinating! This is a complex book that I can’t even begin to explain in such a short space, with a high body count (*don’t they always?—JD*), dark, violent but unputdownable. If you’ve never read **CONNOLLY**, I would recommend starting with Every Dead Thing (\$11.99) to enter the dark and challenging world of PI Charlie Parker. Granted the books can be violent but that is secondary to terrific writing and story-telling, in my opinion. The paperback is due in April 2006, (\$10.99). (*“This was a good book. I liked it. Buy it!” (Mary)*). She comes right to the point.

Perception of Death by **LOUISE ANDERSON** (\$11.99) is a debut, introducing Erin Patterson, a successful lawyer, now running her retired father’s firm in Glasgow—did I tell you I’ve been there? An old school friend of her sister’s tries to contact Erin but before they can connect, the friend is murdered. Erin’s life begins to unravel and family secrets, long buried, come to the surface. A terrific debut and I can’t wait for the second one Death’s Sister (\$27.95 hardcover) due out in February 2006.

Strange Affair by **PETER ROBINSON** (\$10.99) is another superb read from this wonderful writer. Det. Insp. Alan Banks is recovering from the fire in the last book, Playing With Fire (\$10.99), when he receives an urgent phone message from his younger brother, Roy. Banks travels to London to find out what is wrong; when he arrives, he finds Roy’s house unlocked and Roy nowhere to be found. Banks fears that he’s been kidnapped and begins his own informal investigation. Meanwhile, the murder of a young woman on the road near Eastvale could have a connection to Banks as she had his name and number with her when she was discovered.

Blood Memory by **GREG ILES** (\$13.95) is a book that I put into as many hands as possible at Christmas and (fortunately for me) several people have come back to tell me how much they enjoyed it. A book of family secrets, forensics and serial murder set in Natchez, New Orleans and the Mississippi delta.

Immoral by **BRIAN FREEMAN** (\$34.95 hardcover reprints, \$24.95 trade paperback) is another terrific debut, set in Duluth Minnesota. Marian and I both loved this book and had quite a discussion about the actions (morals) of the characters. Lieutenant Jonathan Stride is investigating the disappearance of a teenage girl and all that that entails, investigating the family and friends. He must sort through all their stories to uncover the truth. Once I started this book, I could not put it down and the twists kept a comin’. The paperback is due in April 2006 (\$10.99 estimate).

The Death Collectors by **JACK KERLEY** (\$35.00) is his second mystery, the first being one of my past favourites, The Hundredth Man (\$10.99). Set in Alabama, Detective Carson Ryder and his partner are investigating the murder of a prostitute. Is there a connection between her death and the murder of serial killer Marsden Hexcamp in a 1972 courtroom? Detective Ryder is thinking so and his investigation leads him to a group of collectors who covet the trophies of serial killers. The paperback should be out in May.

Cutting Blades by **VICTORIA BLAKE** (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) is her second book; the first is Bloodless Shadow (\$10.99). PI Sam Falconer investigates the disappearance of a rower for Oxford. She is also coping with the fact that her father, long thought to be dead, has re-surfaced. He's a target because of his past participation in the Irish conflict. The paperback is due in March 2006 (\$10.99 estimate).

A Good Day to Die by **SIMON KERNICK** (\$34.95 hardcover, \$27.95 trade paperback) marks the return of Dennis Milne after he fled England in The Business of Dying (\$11.99). Ex-cop Milne has been living a low-key life (sort of) in the Phillippines but decides it's time to return to London upon hearing that his former colleague has been shot and killed. He has retribution on his mind. The paperback is due in July 2006.

Cold Granite by **STUART MACBRIDE** (\$10.99): In this terrific debut, DCI Logan returns to work in Aberdeen after a year-long recuperation from wounds received in the line of duty. He's immediately pressed into service, investigating a serial killer case.

In A Dark House by **DEBORAH CROMBIE** (\$9.99) is the tenth in the Gemma James and Duncan Kincaid series. I've read them all and I think they get better with each book. Gemma and Duncan are working two separate cases – a charred female corpse found in the burned out wreckage of a Southwark warehouse and the abduction of a young child. Duncan is also dealing with some personal problems with his son Kit. If you've never read **CROMBIE**, start at the beginning with A Share in Death (\$9.99) and enjoy.

Tainted Blood (also titled Jar City) and Silence of the Grave by **ARNALDUR INDRIDASON** are terrific police procedurals, translated from the Icelandic. In Tainted Blood (\$19.95), we meet Detective Erlendur and his team. They are investigating the murder of an elderly man and in the course of their investigations, they discover that the victim was accused of a horrible crime forty years earlier. Did his past come back to bite him? In Silence of the Grave (\$27.95), a shallow grave is uncovered by construction workers. Erlendur hopes that this is a typical Icelandic missing persons case, i.e. someone lost in the snow. But things are never that simple. Very atmospheric books.

Blood Eagle by **CRAIG RUSSELL** (\$34.95 signed hardcover) is a debut police procedural set in Hamburg; a dark and violent mystery that introduces Hauptkommissar Jan Fabel. The book starts with the discovery of a gruesome ritualistic killing, followed by an e-mail to Faber promising more deaths. Faber not only has to find a serial killer, he must contend with the potential warfare between Turkish and Ukrainian gangs. A compelling and atmospheric page-turner.

Sympathy Between Humans by **JODI COMPTON** (\$30.00) is another book that Marian and I both loved. I don't think Marian read the first book, The 37th Hour (\$10.99) but she had no problem with the back story. Detective Sarah Pribek is still protecting the identity of a killer six months after the crime. As a murder suspect, Sarah keeps busy with two cases – a missing young man and an unlicensed doctor providing care to those who can't afford to pay. Then the DA's assistant arrives, wanting to make an arrest in the six month old case and Sarah must escape his attention. The paperback due in March 2006 (\$10.99 estimate).

Killer Swell by **JEFF SHELBY** (\$33.00) is another debut. Set in San Diego, we meet Noah Braddock, surfer and private investigator. Noah is asked to investigate the disappearance of his ex-girlfriend whom he's not seen for more than ten years. Along the

way, he runs into Mexican drug lords, the feds, the cops and thugs who keep trying to beat him up. A fast and fun read. The paperback is due in June.

Double Eagle by **JAMES TWINING** (\$10.99) was another big seller at Christmas as the paperback became available in December. Both Marian and I made sure that almost everybody who came into the store looking for a book bought this one. It, again, is a first mystery in which Tom Kirk, art thief, is the prime suspect in a daring theft from Fort Knox. Tom, though, is innocent and desperate to get out of the game but his partner is insisting that he do one last job for Cassius, criminal mastermind. A thrilling race from the US to Europe as Tom tries to clear his name.

And what about Trace Evidence (\$29.95) by **ELIZABETH BECKA** and Dead Run (\$35) by **P J TRACY** and, and, and...

Marian's Picks

Thanks to everyone who sent cards and good wishes over the Christmas season. Kelly and Thomas, I wish I lived closer to you as I would love some of your home grown potatoes. If I were to be stranded on a desert island and could only take one food with me, it would be the potato. Of course, regular shipments of salt, fresh butter and milk (1% please), a pot, maybe a deep fryer and vinegar would also need to be available just in case I wanted french fries.

Paddington would also like to thank his aunties and uncles who brought treats over the holidays. I am going to have to put him on a diet if the treats keep coming. He's starting to look old, just seemed to happen overnight, and might be developing cataracts, so maybe I'll not worry too much about the diet.

2005 was a great year for mystery books. So many new writers. Wendy has mentioned many of her favourites above and some of them: **BRIAN FREEMAN, VICTORIA BLAKE, SIMON KERNICK, JODI COMPTON, JAMES TWINING** would quite happily appear on my list as well.

In addition to those listed above I also loved Still Life by **LOUISE PENNY** (\$34.95 first edition signed). Set in Three Pines, Quebec, we are introduced to Armand Gamache of the Quebec Surete (sorry I don't know how to do accents on the computer). He is investigating the death of a woman shot with an arrow. Was it an accident? I loved the small town atmosphere, the little shops, the quirky characters, an all around good read for me. And I particularly loved all the background into the art of archery.

During 2005 most of the **STUART PAWSON** mysteries came back into print. We are still waiting for numbers 5 and 6 in the series, Deadly Friends and Some by Fire, but the other eight are now all in paperback, and I have enjoyed every one of them. Set in Yorkshire we meet Charlie Priest and his gang of fellow policemen and women. I loved the plots, the writing style and the characters, and I have never read four books by the same author in a row, until now. For those of you that like the British police procedural you should try one of the **PAWSON'S**. Picasso Scam (#1) (\$12.95), Mushroom Man (#2) (\$12.95), Judas Sheep (#3) (\$10.95), Last Reminder (#4) (\$10.95), Chill Factor (#7) (\$10.95), Laughing Boy (#8) (\$10.95), Limestone Cowboy (#9) (\$12.95), and Over the Edge (#10) (\$10.95).

On the lighter side I loved the coffee shop mystery series set in Soho, New York, written by **CLEO COYLE**: On What Grounds

(\$8.99), Through the Grinder (\$9.99), and Latte Trouble (\$9.99). I didn't know there was so much to know about coffee. The different kinds, the different growing conditions, and how large an "industry" it really is. And I've also learned recently about fair trade coffee.

I also enjoyed the new series about psychic Abby Cooper, written by **VICTORIA LAURIE**. I was reluctant to read them at first, after all, do I believe in the psychic world?, but when I read the author's bio. and learned that she actually has helped the police with their investigations, I was less apprehensive. There are three in the series: Abby Cooper, Psychic Eye (\$8.99), Better Read Than Dead (\$9.99), and A Vision of Murder (\$9.99).

Another fun series is by **LORI AVOCATO**. She introduced us to former nurse-turned-insurance fraud investigator Pauline Sokol in A Dose of Murder (\$9.99). The other two in the series are The Stiff and the Dead (\$9.99) and One Dead Under the Cuckoo's Nest (\$9.99), where Pauline goes undercover at a mental institution. This series is for those fans of **JANET EVANOVICH** who enjoy a light-hearted read with a touch of romance. I just loved these.

I have almost finished reading Feint of Art by **HAILEY LIND** (\$9.99) as I type this. In fact, I really don't want to be typing, I want to finish this book. At the age of ten, Annie Kincaid was declared a prodigy when she painted a perfect Mona Lisa. A similar copy at age seventeen made her a criminal. Now she is thirty-one and has her own studio in faux finishing. Ex-boyfriend, Ernst Pettigrew, curator at a San Francisco museum, wants Annie to tell him whether the fifteen-million-dollar Caravaggio painting the museum has acquired is a fake. It is. Ernst disappears and Annie gets into a ton of trouble as she tries to sort out why there are two fake Caravaggio paintings. Added to the mix is an art thief posing as a private eye, and a hunky new landlord who wants to raise the rent on Annie's studio space. Lots of information about fraud in the art world. Very interesting. Very much fun,

J.D.'s Picks

Let me see what I've read and loved over the holidays. First, just in case you've been hiding in a cave and missed it all, **MICHAEL CONNELLY**'s The Lincoln Lawyer (\$36.95) is superb. If ever there was a book for which the word unputdownable was appropriate, this is it. We still have some signed copies. Blood Work (\$10.99) has been my favourite of his books to date, but I'm no longer sure. OK, how about, I have two favourites now?

Mostly, the last month or two was a period of discovery for me. I had never read anything by **STEVEN COOPER**—aware of him enough to order his books but that was it—but the opening line on the blurb of With You in Spirit (\$19.95) caught my attention and I was hooked. "My father's body was found floating facedown in the waters off Chappaquiddick. Naturally, everyone eyed the bridge and assumed that a Kennedy did it." If that doesn't tickle your funny bone, or perhaps offend your political sensibilities enough, our protagonist Greydone Hoffenstein, half Native-American, half Jew, all gay, heir to a parking meter empire, certainly will. Why is it that just about every novel with a gay or lesbian theme that I have read is on the upper end of the erotic scale? Sure seems like gay people have all the sexual fun. Uninhibited and randy. Well, this one is no different. This was a quick, delightful, sexy romp, that had me laughing all the way through. The seeing-eye cat suffering from

intestinal distress is pretty funny as well. I'm going to put the other two on my reading list.

A good friend brought **MICHAEL KORYTA** to my attention the other day. He had very much enjoyed his debut novel, Tonight I Said Goodbye (\$9.99) and was looking forward to more. This very young writer's debut novel was good enough to be short listed for the Edgar for Best First Novel and a number of customers have talked it up. Enough of them, I guess, for it to finally sink in that I might want to read it. And read it I did. It was terrific. It reminded me of the early **ROBERT B. PARKER** Spenser novels, with the good-humoured banter between the two main characters, Cleveland Pls Lincoln Perry and Joe Prichard. Now I can't wait for the sequel, Sorrow's Anthem (\$30.95, due February).

You might remember how enthusiastically I had recommended **JEFFREY MILLER**'s first Amicus Curiae mystery, Murder at Osgoode Hall (\$19.95). Finally the second adventure has been published and it's even more fun. Murder's Out of Tune (\$19.95) is set in the dark, smoky world of jazz and small clubs and only Amicus, Q.C. (Questing Cat) and his companion human, appeal judge Ted Mariner, can help star sax player Des Cheshire beat the murder rap that the local plods seem so intent on pinning on him. Now don't be put off because the cat's the narrator—you're not usually aware of his voice but there were a couple of spots where, dare I say it, the cat was one cat too many—as it works really, really well and I'm delighted to tell you that it was a delight. Read both.

Finally got around to reading **REGINALD HILL**'s The Stranger House (\$34.95) and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Unlike his Dalziel and Pascoe novels which are chock full of humour, this one is darker, and the sinister, creepy feel of this small village lost in a corner of Cumbria is palpable. Most readers of Mr. Hill's books tend to want only the Dalziel novels, and I think that's a shame. I, for one, read them all. And so should you. And talking about reissues as Marian was a page or two back, Who Guards a Prince (\$19.95) and The Collaborators (\$10.99) are back in print. Neither is a Dalziel and Pascoe, but both are terrific reads.

And finally, a quick mention of some novels that I had picked in hardcover that are now in paper and I'd like to remind you: **CHUCK HOGAN**'s Prince of Thieves (\$13.95) is terrific and will remind you of **DENNIS LEHANE**. **MICHAEL CHABON**'s wonderful Sherlockian novel, The Final Solution (\$16.95) is now available in a very elegant trade paperback. The Coroner's Lunch (\$15.95) by **COLIN COTTERILL** is "wonderfully fresh and exotic"—*NYT Book Review*. Read this one and you won't want to wait for the Coroner's second adventure, Thirty Three Teeth (\$35.95), to come out in paperback. And, finally, California Girl (\$10.99) by **T. JEFFERSON PARKER** which did win the Edgar for Best Novel is just as much fun in paperback.

David's Picks

JOHN HARVEY's Flesh and Blood (\$10.99) is a nice chunky novel that is best described as a police procedural / thinking person's thriller. Before diving into my recommendation of Flesh and Blood, a few words about **John Harvey** seem like a good idea. **Harvey** has always been a master storyteller and has the rare ability to make the most complex of plots seem fluid. There's never any turning back the pages to see who's who, nor is there a need to re-read sections because of wordy or cumbersome prose. The chiseled and compelling writing that marked the Charlie Resnick series

has been carried over to what looks like a sure winner here. Let's face it, there were a great many folks disappointed and perplexed when **Harvey** decided to retire Resnick. But Frank Elder, the main character in Flesh and Blood, is every bit as interesting, flawed and likeable as Resnick.

Now, back to Flesh and Blood. Former DI Frank Edler is a somewhat lonely, semi-retired cop living in Cornwall and satisfying his need to stay in touch with detection by doing some part time work with a cold case unit. Elder frequently revisits what he considers his failings while on the job full time. In particular, a case involving the disappearance of a young woman named Susan Blacklock. Elder's guilt and misgivings intensify when Shane Donald—a psychopath convicted of murdering a young girl around the same time that Susan vanished—is released from prison. Elder re-opens the Blacklock case. Another girl is murdered shortly after Shane Donald's release. Have you read this plot somewhere before? Well, **Harvey** makes this storyline something very fresh and exciting. He engineers a wickedly suspenseful read and does wonders to draw Shane Donald as a very human and injured character as well.

Ash and Bone (\$33.95 US hardcover, \$27.95 UK trade paperback), the second Frank Elder novel is now out and I have to admit that at this point I'm only forty pages in. Ash and Bone is just as good and opens with a bang and immediate suspense. **Harvey** has done what I would have thought impossible. He's taken the best of the Resnick series, the intensity of character, the geography, the snapping and realistic dialogue, and he's created an equally interesting new character in Frank Elder. This series will be a hit with fans of smart police procedurals that pull no punches and pay equal attention to plot and CHARACTER.

Steel Rain (\$10.99) by **TOM NEALE** is a fast-moving novel that will leave you reeling, it clips along so quickly. The twists and turns and unexpected jolts are plentiful in this book featuring a London-based FBI Agent named Vince Piper. Piper is an interesting and sometimes amusing character who admits that he dislikes London and has agreed to the posting only because his estranged wife and daughter have moved 'across the pond'. The book begins with Piper eagerly anticipating a meeting with his daughter Martha at a home near the U.S. Embassy. On his way to see Martha he is delayed by a chance meeting with Monroe, an old FBI partner of his father. Monroe warns Piper to get out of the area ASAP. Within minutes Piper witnesses the explosion of a terrorist's bomb. The blast claims many lives, including Martha's. The plot shifts into high gear at this point. Piper vows to find those responsible. He is also convinced that Monroe is connected to the deadly blast. This suspicion sends Piper back to the U.S. to visit his dying father (a former FBI agent known as 'The Wolf') to dig up some dirt and establish how, if at all, this act of terror connects with his father's past. A great book for fans of true page-turners and well researched novels.

Hardcover

BATEMAN, COLIN BELFAST CONFIDENTIAL (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) Journalist of ill repute and international man of inaction, Dan Starkey returns as he looks for the murderer of his friend Mouse. To liven things up he has moved into a new house in Belfast and has become the editor of the obscenely successful scandal magazine, Belfast Confidential, and must compile the much-coveted Power List edition.

BLAND, ELEANOR TAYLOR DARK AND DEADLY DECEPTION (#13) (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) Suburban Chicago detective Marti MacAlister investigates the death of an actress

killed during the filming of a Hollywood movie. When the skeletal remains of another gunshot victim are uncovered during the renovation of a hundred-year-old building she has to figure out how the two cases are related.

BRAUN, LILIAN JACKSON CAT WHO DROPPED A BOMBSHELL (\$33.00) (Putnam) Can you believe this is number twenty-eight in the series featuring newspaper columnist James Qwilleran and his two Siamese cats, Koko and Yum Yum? When architect Harvey Ledfield arrives in Pickax for the 150th anniversary of its founding, strange things begin to happen.

CARVER, CAROLINE BENEATH THE SNOW (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) Lisa McCall, a young brilliant research scientist, has disappeared out in the Alaskan wilderness in the middle of a snowstorm. Lisa's sister, Abby, flies out from England to join the rescue team. Abby and Lisa have been estranged for years, but as soon as she arrives at the freezing outpost Abby knows there's something wrong. Lisa's cabin has been ransacked and her research material is nowhere to be found.

CHANCELLOR, HENRY JAMES BOND: THE MAN AND HIS WORLD (\$39.95 hardcover, \$29.95 trade paperback) (John Murray, UK) The 007 novels and stories, Fleming's non-fiction writing, rare research notes, letters, annotated manuscripts are all used to give us an insight into James Bond. Non-fiction?

CHARLES, KATE EVIL INTENT (\$33.95) (Poisoned Pen) Knowing full well that women in the clergy are still disapproved of in certain quarters, Callie Anson is nonetheless taken by surprise by the spiteful attack made by Father Jonah Adimola, a hard-line conservative Nigerian priest. Luckily, her good friend and mentor Frances Cherry is on hand to jump to her defense. When Father Adimola is found strangled to death and Frances is suspected, Callie must help prove her friend's innocence.

CHURCHILL, JILL WHO'S SORRY NOW? (#6) (\$32.50) (Morrow) Sister and brother duo Lily and Robert Brewster don't have a penny to their name but neither do most of the others living in the Hudson River Valley during the Great Depression. When a train porter is found dead and a red Swastika is found painted on a shop window, the two investigate as they try to keep possession of their beautiful Grace and Favor mansion.

CLEMENT, BLAIZE CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT SITTER (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Three years ago Dixie Hemingway was a deputy with the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. Now she is a pet sitter on Siesta Key, a lush, exotic barrier island where people tend to be rich and tolerant of one another's quirks. When Dixie finds a man bizarrely drowned in a cat's water bowl, she is drawn into the murder. The first in the series.

COLLINS, MAX A ROAD TO PARADISE (#3) (\$32.95) (Morrow) It's 1973 and Michael Satariano now runs a casino for the mob in Lake Tahoe. When ordered by godfather Sam Giancana to hit a notoriously violent and vulnerable gangster, Michael refuses. But when the hit goes down anyway, Michael is framed for the murder. To protect his family, he must turn state's witness under the fledgling Witness Protection Program. The first two in the series are Road to Perdition (\$9.99) and Road to Purgatory (\$10.99).

CORCORAN, TOM AIR DANCE IGUANA (#5) (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Photographer Alex Rutledge wants out of the crime-scene business but his lover, Detective Bobbi Lewis, wants him to photograph just one more crime scene. With yet another murder following quickly, Alex suspects that shoddy police work may be linked to a long-forgotten cover-up.

CORK, VENA ART OF DYING (#2) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) At an exhibition of her late husband's paintings, Rosa Thorn is delighted to meet some old friends, but she is shocked by some of the antics of certain artists. When one of them is found dead, the police conclude suicide. Rosa suspects otherwise. Sequel to Thorn (\$10.99 due March).

CRAIG, DAVID TIP TOP (\$36.99) (Severn House) AKA **BILL JAMES**. Detective Constable Sally Bithron is assigned to help Assistant Chief Constable Esther Davidson investigate malpractice and corruption in senior officers.

CRUMMEY, MICHAEL WRECKAGE (\$34.95) (Doubleday, Canada) Sixteen-year-old Sadie Parsons leaves her remote Newfoundland village and travels to St. John's to wait for her lover, Wish Furey, who has enlisted in the British Army and gone to fight in WWII. Word reaches her that he died in a Japanese POW camp. Fifty years later, Sadie returns home for the first time since leaving Newfoundland to face a past that will come to meet her in a way she never imagined.

CURZON, CLARE LAST TO LEAVE (\$35.95) (Thomas Dunne) The American edition of this novel first published in England in 2004. Superintendent Yeadings of the Thames Valley CID investigates arson and murder when Larchmoor Place burns to the ground and a charred corpse is found.

CUTLER, JUDITH LIFE SENTENCE (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Chief Superintendent Frances Harman has been assigned to investigate the case of Elise, a woman who was beaten and raped over two years ago and is still in a coma. Frances verges on overload as she takes on more cases as well as the responsibility of her aging parents.

DAVIES, FREDA FLAWED SCALES (\$33.95) (Carroll & Graf) Detective Inspector Keith Tyrell, along with his wife Jenny, is seconded to a Cotswold village he knows well, at the request of the American Embassy. He is needed to confirm the identity of a resident suspected of arranging terrorism for profit in the U.S. All is going well until a murder occurs and the chief suspect has a perfect alibi. He was with Tyrell at a concert.

DEUTERMANN, P T CAT DANCERS (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) A stubborn judge throws out the case of two lowlifes who robbed a gas station, killed the attendant, and incinerated bystanders buying gas. Sheriff Bobby Lee Baggett and Lieutenant Cam Richter had not read them their rights. Vigilantes take matters into their own hands and Cam is assigned to head the search for them.

DOBBS, MICHAEL CHURCHILL'S TRIUMPH (#4) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin meet in Yalta to sort out the details of peace. Meanwhile, a Polish soldier tries to make his way back home to search for his daughter who is missing in Warsaw. It falls to Churchill to stand by his conscience and fight for justice and the principles of civilization.

DOYLE & KLINGER NEW ANNOTATED SHERLOCK HOLMES vol 3 (\$70.00) (Norton) Includes A Study in Scarlet, The Sign of Four, The Hound of the Baskervilles and The Valley of Fear. Edited with notes by Leslie Klinger, in one slip-cased volume.

[DOYLE] ARDAGH, PHILIP SILLY SIDE OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$17.99) (Faber & Faber) Hard to describe this one. Each page has an illustration from the Strand magazine and a short quotation/sentence telling a very short and silly story about Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson (59 pages of silliness).

[DOYLE] RENNISON, NICK SHERLOCK HOLMES THE UNAUTHORIZED BIOGRAPHY (\$45.00) (Atlantic, UK) A look into the secret life of Sherlock Holmes: how he solved the Jack the Ripper murders, his addiction to cocaine, his involvement in a plot to assassinate Queen Victoria, and many other things Dr. Watson never spoke of.

[DOYLE]ROBERTS, BARRIE SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE KINGS GOVERNESS (\$38.95) (Severn) Sold out but fear not, more are on the way. Reserve your copy today.

DUNHAM, TRACY YES, THE RIVER KNOWS (#2) (\$33.00) (Berkley) Tal Jefferson left the big city in disgrace after losing a headline-making capital case, (Wishful Sinful (\$9.99)) and returned to South Carolina, finally giving up booze and letting the tranquility of her hometown heal her wounds. When her secretary, June At-

kins, is suspected of murdering her estranged husband, racial tensions rise, and Tal must help her friend.

DUNLAP, SUSAN FAST FRIENDS (\$39.95) More stock on the way. Reserve your copy now.

DYMMOCH, MICHAEL ALLEN WHITE TIGER (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Detective John Thinnies, a detective on the Chicago police force, is taken off the murder investigation of a Vietnamese woman when it is discovered that he knew her during his time serving in the Vietnam War. His unlikely friend, psychiatrist Jack Caleb, was also in Vietnam, and is troubled by the killing.

FINNIS, JANE BITTER CHILL (\$34.95) A special order.

FRANCOME, JOHN COVER UP (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) Rob Harding's three-year-old colt Goldeneye has won at Newmarket but the thrill is short lived when his head stable girl, Ivana, learns that her sadistic ex-lover has reappeared. First printings for the moment.

FRAZER, MARGARET THE SEMPSTER'S TALE (#15) (\$35) (Berkley) Summer 1450. Dame Frevisse comes into contact with Anne Blakhall, a tailor and embroiderer in the heart of London, because she needs funeral vestments for her cousin's murdered husband. Anne, rather than remarry, has taken a lover—Daved Wier, a foreign merchant who must keep his Jewish faith hidden as Jews have been banned from England for over a hundred years—and somehow the three are connected.

GABBAY, TOM THE BERLIN CONSPIRACY (\$32.95) Berlin, June 1963. Jack teller shouldn't be there but is a CIA agent ever really out of the game? A debut spy novel.

GEARY, NANCY BEING MRS. ALCOTT (\$33.95) (Warner) The story of a longtime wife and mother who embarks on a journey to discover who she is, where she's been, and where she is going.

GRABENSTEIN, CHRIS TILT A WHIRL (\$32.50) (Carroll and Graf) John Ceepak, a former MP just back from Iraq, has joined the Sea Haven police department in the hopes of forgetting the horrors of war. But a billionaire real estate tycoon is found murdered on the tilt-a-whirl and John must investigate.

GRAFTON, SUE S IS FOR SILENCE (\$38.00) (Putnam) The Sth in the Kinsey Millhone series.

GRAVES, SARAH NAIL BITER (#9) (\$30.00) Jake Tiptree figures she can make a quick profit on repairing a broken-down rental home. She hadn't figured on the witches who'd taken up residence there.

GRAY, ALEX SHADOWS OF SOUNDS (#3) (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Detective Chief Inspector Lorimer and psychologist Solomon Brightman investigate the murder of the leader of the City of Glasgow Orchestra. Up until his death George Millar had been involved in homosexual relationships with several orchestra members and was well known for playing his lovers off against one another. Never Somewhere Else (\$21) and A Small Weeping (\$26.95) are the first two. See *Wendy's Picks*.

GRAY, JOHN MACLACHLAN WHITE STONE DAY (\$34.95) (Random House, Canada) Muck-raking scourge Edmund Whitty is worse than broke. In Victorian London he seems to be scooped at every turn by a hated rival. Undercover at a séance in hopes of a big story, he is blindsided by a scandal involving his long lost brother. He must return to Oxford to confront his brother's disgrace and his own. Sequel to The Fiend in Human (\$10.99).

GRIFFIN, W E B THE HOSTAGE (\$38.00) (Putnam) Delta Force major Charley Castillo returns in the second Presidential Agent series, sequel to By Order of the President (\$10.99). Castillo works for the Department of Homeland Security, but is the man the US president turns to when he needs an investigation done discreetly. An American diplomat's wife has been kidnapped and her husband murdered before her eyes. Her children will be next, she is told, if she doesn't tell them where her brother is. He knows quite a bit about the UN/Iraq oil-for-food scandal.

GROSS, CLAUDIA SCHOLARIUM (\$29.95) (Toby) Konrad Steiner, a Master in the Arts faculty of a Scholarium in Cologne, Germany, must discover who murdered Frederico Casall. The murderer is leaving riddles for him to solve. Set in 141 AD. Translated from German.

HAGBERG, DAVID SOLDIER OF GOD (\$34.95) (Forge) The Director of the CIA, Kirk McGarvey, believes that a Saudi prince is a terrorist who has come to the USA to wreak havoc. But since Saudi Arabia supplies the US with a ton of oil, the US president does not believe what Kirk has to say.

HARPER, KAREN FATAL FASHIONE (#8) (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Tobacco, chocolate and starch are recently introduced to England and Elizabeth I is in the eighth year of her reign. When the royal starchy is drowned and a young witness to the crime is so shocked she loses her memory, the queen and her coterie set out to solve the tale.

HARR, JONATHAN LOST PAINTING (\$34.95) (Random House) A young graduate student, Francesca Cappelletti, makes a discovery that inspires a search for a work of art of incalculable value, a painting by Caravaggio, lost for almost two centuries. She tracks the painting across a continent and hundreds of years of history, but it is not until she meets Sergio Beneditti, an art restorer working in Ireland, that she finally manages to assemble all the pieces of the puzzle.

HARRIS, C S WHAT ANGELS FEAR (\$33.00)

HARRISON, JANIS BINDWEED (#6) (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) In River City Missouri, florist Bretta Solomon, investigates the death of her occasional helper, Toby, a slow-witted young man whose mother died from a terminal illness. Toby was killed by a swarm of bees deliberately planted in his home, and Bretta wants to find out why.

HARROD, EAGLES CYNTHIA WHITE ROAD (#28) (\$39.00) (Time Warner, UK) 1914, England and the Morland dynasty continues.

HARVEY, JOHN ASH AND BONE (#2) (\$33.95) (Harcourt) The American edition of the second Frank Elder novel. Retired Detective Inspector Elder's solitary life is disturbed by a call from his estranged wife, telling him his seventeen-year-old daughter is running wild, unbalanced by the abduction and rape he feels he should have prevented. Meanwhile, in London, the takedown of a violent criminal goes badly and Detective Maddy Birch is uneasy about the reasons why. The first in the series is Flesh and Blood (\$10.99). See *David's Picks*.

HELLER, MANDASUE CHARMER (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Hodder & Stoughton) When Maria Price hears that she has inherited a large house in the best part of Manchester and more money than she ever dreamed of, she thinks it's too good to be true. Then she meets Joel Parry, who also seems too good to be true. Turns out he's deep in Manchester's drug scene and his terrifying past is about to catch up with him and the naïve Maria who trusts him.

HESS, JOAN MALPRACTICE IN MAGGODY (#15) (\$31.75) (Simon & Schuster) The local old folks home has been sold to a mysterious outsider, and overnight it has been changed into an exclusive rehabilitation centre. When the receptionist is found drowned in the garden pool, Arly Hanks investigates.

HOLLAND, DAVID DEVIL'S GAME (#3) (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) It is 1834 and the town of Bellminster is having a by-election for Parliament. Reverend Tuckworth tries to stay away from it all, but when a political rally turns deadly, the town turns to him for help.

HORTON, LESLEY DEVILS IN THE MIRROR (#3) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) As DI John Handford and DS Khalid Ali begin their investigation into the murder of a

young black girl, they discover that her past is anything but straightforward. Wendy enjoyed this one.

ILES, GREG TURNING ANGEL (#2) (\$34.95) (Scribner) Penn Cage returns (The Quiet Game (\$10.99) and excellent) to defend Drew Elliott, the highly respected doctor who saved Penn's life in a hiking accident when they were boys. Drew is accused of murdering a young woman who was a star student and athlete, and had just been accepted to Harvard. This guy is good.

JAMES, P D LIGHTHOUSE (#13) (\$54.00) (Faber & Faber) We smuggled in some copies of the UK first editions. Very limited supply. The Canadian edition is available at \$35.95.

JECKS, MICHAEL FRIAR'S BLOODFEUD (#20) (\$34.95) (Headline) Bailiff Simon Puttock's servant, Hugh, has been granted leave to go home to look after his wife and son, but a gang of men break into their home and attack the family. When Simon and Sir Baldwin, Keeper of the King's Peace, arrive they find the cottage burnt to the ground, the bodies from within already buried.

KELLERMAN, JESSE SUNSTROKE (\$35.00) (Putnam) Gloria Mendez is thirty-six, single, and hopelessly in love with her oblivious boss who is twenty years her senior. When he disappears while on holiday in Mexico, Gloria goes in search of him. As she follows his trail, she discovers he is not the man she thought he was. A debut novel and getting good reviews.

KENT, ALEXANDER BAND OF BROTHERS (\$34.95) (William Heineman) At 129 pages, this is a tiny book. Set in 1774, Richard Bolitho and his friend Martyn Dancer have both been recommended for promotion, although they have not yet gained the coveted lieutenant's commission. A routine passage from Plymouth to Guernsey for Bolitho takes him from a midshipman to King's Officer.

KNIGHT, ALANNA prince STUART SAPPHIRE (\$39.95) Sold out but more on the way. A debut with this character?

KNIGHT, AMY HOW THE COLD WAR BEGAN (\$36.99) (McClelland & Stewart) Just weeks after World War II ended, a young Russian cipher clerk named Igor Gouzenko walked out of the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa with secret papers stuffed under his shirt and headed straight for the offices of a city newspaper. His unprecedented action sent shock waves far beyond Ottawa and launched an international witch-hunt for spies. This is non-fiction.

KOONTZ, DEAN FOREVER ODD (\$35.00) (Bantam) Odd Thomas lives between two worlds in the small desert town of Pico Mundo. He has the gift of communicating with the dead. A childhood friend of Odd's has disappeared and the worst is feared. But as Odd applies his unique talents to the task of finding his missing friend, he discovers an enemy of exceptional cunning and spirals into a vortex of terror.

LAKE, DERYN GOVERNOR'S LADIES (\$39.95) This is not one of her apothecary John Rawlings novels but we have sold out of this title at the moment and I can't remember what it's about. More stock on the way.

LATOUR, JOSE COMRADES IN MIAMI (\$30.95) (Grove) In Havana, spymaster Victoria Valiente, head of the Cuban Intelligence's vital Miami Desk, and her husband, Manuel Pardo, a computer expert, are tired of their sacrifices in Cuba and successfully execute an electronic heist. With Victoria at the peak of the intelligence world, they hope to not only steal millions, but to pull the wool over the Chief's eyes and escape to freedom through Miami. See the ad below for the signing and attend if you possibly can.

LEWIS, ROY GRAVE ERROR (\$34.95) (Carroll & Graf) The US edition of this Arnold Landon novel. Landon heads off to Rome where he encounters the world of Roman grave robbers known as the tombaroli. While visiting an ancient tomb in the Etruscan city of the dead, he stumbles upon a revenge killing.

LONG, JEFF WALL (\$33.00) (Atria) Thirty-five years ago Hugh and Lewis were Yosemite legends, El Capitan was their holy grail.

Now they reunite to climb El Cap one last time. But “the Captain” seems cursed this time around, and disaster strikes.

MCCARRY, CHARLES MIERNIK DOSSIER (\$35) Classic US espionage writing. About time he was back in print.

MCCLURE, KEN EYE OF THE RAVEN (\$39.95) Sold out but more on the way.

MCCRUMB, SHARYN ST. DALE (\$35.00) A special order.

MCDOWALL, IAIN KILLING FOR ENGLAND (#4) (\$39.95) (Piatkus) Chief Inspector Jacobson isn’t convinced that Darren McGee, a young black man fished out of the River Crow, was murdered. But when Darren’s cousin, top-notch investigative journalist Paul Shaw, claims otherwise and is subsequently murdered, Jacobson reconsiders. A fine series. Sequel to Study in Death (out of print for the moment but perhaps this spring?), Making a Killing (\$9.99) and Perfectly Dead (\$10.95).

MCGARRITY, MICHAEL NOTHING BUT TROUBLE (\$35) (Dutton) Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney is back for his tenth adventure. Terrific series, this one.

MCLYNN, PAULINE SUMMER IN THE CITY (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Review) Lucy White ends up homeless and husbandless, and is in for a shock when she arrives in Farewell Square, a quiet street in South London. As she is drawn into the lives of the residents on the street, she realizes that life can be kind as well as cruel.

MARTIN, DAVID FACING RUSHMORE (\$31.75) (Simon & Schuster) The St. Louis Memorial Arch is damaged and turned black overnight with no apparent cause. The four stone presidents on Mount Rushmore come under attack that a hundred armed agents and a dozen assault helicopters are powerless to stop. FBI agent Charlie Hart wonders if the USA will be brought down by a superior spiritual force.

MCCALL SMITH, ALEXANDER ESPRESSO TALES (#2) (\$45.00) The second of his serialized novel from The Scotsman newspaper. Sequel to 44 Scotland Street (\$21.00).

MISCIONE, LISA SMOKE (#4) (\$31.95) (St. Martin’s) True-crime writer Lydia Strong and her husband P.I. Jeffrey Mark follow the trail of Lily Samuels, a former student of Lydia’s, who disappeared shortly after her brother committed suicide.

MOORE, CHRISTOPHER STUPIDEST ANGEL (\$19.95) Don’t know why this appears again in this newsletter as it was originally published last year but I suspect the Archangel Raziel has to grant another small child’s wish as this book is subtitled Version 2.0.

MOSLEY, WALTER WAVE (\$29.95) (Warner) Errol Porter is awakened by a prank phone caller claiming to be his father. But his dad has been dead for years. Late one night, curious and a little unnerved, Errol sneaks into the graveyard where his father is buried. The man he finds there will change his life. Soon he’s on the run from mad scientists and homeland security death squads, and befriended by creatures that are the stuff of nightmares.

MURPHY, MARGARET NOW YOU SEE ME (#2) (\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) Chief Inspector Rickman returns with his Liverpool team of Sergeant Foster and Constable Hart. Megan Ward goes missing, but who is she? A story of secret lives, organized crime and murder. The first in the series is The Dispossessed (\$10.99). See *Wendy’s Picks*.

MURPHY, SHIRLEY ROUSSEAU CAT BREAKING FREE (#11) (\$32.95) Cat Joe Gray.

NEATE, PATRICK CITY OF TINY LIGHTS (\$32.00) (Penguin) Private eye Tommy Akhtar has been hired by Exoticmelody to find her fellow hooker, sexyrussian.co.uk, last seen meeting a client in a Mayfair dive. He is drawn into a murder investigation and the dark side of both the establishment and those who plan to overthrow it.

NEEL, JANET TICKET TO RIDE (#1) (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) A dog discovers the shallow graves of eight young men. All suffocated to death and all identifying papers removed. An unfortunate fate for the asylum seekers, identified by their clothing as being from the former Yugoslavia. Jules Carlisle, the youngest and most recently qualified member of Paul Jenkins Solicitors, knows very little about illegal immigration and asylum and would like to keep it that way. But when she takes on the case of Mirko Dragunovic, an illegal immigrant who arrives in great distress claiming his brother is one of the eight found dead, she finds herself intrigued by his plight and concerned for his welfare. This is a new character for Ms. Neel.

O’BRIAN, PATRICK RICHARD TEMPLE (\$39.95) (Harper Collins, UK) Captive in a brutal German prison toward the end of World War II, Richard Temple has been stripped of everything that once defined him. Huddled in his cell, too badly beaten to move, the action of the novel takes place in his mind as he retraces a convoluted course from an unhappy childhood, through a vague and uncertain adolescence to a complex, compromised adulthood. Originally published in 1962.

PATTERSON, JAMES MARY MARY (#11) (\$37.95) Alex Cross.

PEARCE, MICHAEL POINT IN THE MARKET (#15) (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) As the clouds of World War I gather in Egypt, the head of the Secret Police, the Mamur Zapt, must deal with a commotion that starts in the Camel market as well as the fallout of his marriage to the Pasha’s daughter, Zeinab.

PEREZ-REVERTE PURITY OF BLOOD (\$33.00) (Putnam) This is the second featuring swordsman-for-hire Captain Alatraste. A desperate father hires Alatraste to rescue his daughter from a convent where a powerful priest is said to be using the girl as a concubine. And he can’t complain, because the priest has threatened to reveal the man’s family to be “not of pure blood”, of Jewish descent. A rescue is attempted but things go badly. The first in the series is Captain Alatraste (\$20.00 trade paperback).

PITMAN, JENNY INHERITANCE (#5) (\$34.95) (Macmillan) Jan Hardy’s joy in winning at Cheltenham turns to horror after evidence of doping emerges. She fights to clear her name, protect her family and sort out the inheritance.

REUBEN, SHELLY TABULA RASA (\$33.95) (Harcourt) Arson investigator Billy Nightingale and his brother-in-law, Officer Sebastian Bly, are called to investigate a house fire that killed two young children. Suspicious details at the fire scene and the discovery of a baby under the porch put the two on the trail of a murderous mother. Sebastian and his wife raise the baby, who grows up to be a promising ballerina, without telling her anything about her biological mother. Who has returned to finish what she started...

ROBERTS, DAVID GRAVE MAN (\$33.95) (Carroll & Graf) At a memorial service in Westminster Abbey for Lord Benyon, killed a few months earlier when the Hindenburg airship burst into flames in New Jersey, archaeologist Professor Pitt-Messenger is stabbed to death. Later, his daughter is also stabbed, while she was recovering from the shock, at the ultra-modern house in Kent belonging to millionaire Sir Simon Castlewood. Verity Browne and Lord Edward Corinth investigate.

ROWLING, J K HARRY POTTER (#6) HALF BLOOD PRINCE (\$65.00) The “gift” version.

ROWLING, J K & HUWS HARRI POTTER A MAEN YR ATHRONYDD (\$29.95) This is the Welsh edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone. Special order only.

RUSSELL, KIRK DEAD GAME (#3) (\$32.95) (Chronicle) Ex-DEA agent John Marquez, now head of the undercover unit of the California Department of Fish and Game, is closing in on Sturgeon poachers when his key confidential informant disappears. The trail leads him into the middle of a deadly FBI operation.

[SPENCER, SALLY] RUSTAGE, ALAN BLACKSTONE AND THE FIRE BUG (\$36.99) (Severn House) Inspector Sam Blackstone's problems are only just beginning with the arrival in London of the Maharajah of Chandrapore.

SERANELLA, BARBARA UNACCEPTABLE DEATH (#8) (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Munch is finally living the ordinary life she wants, engaged to police detective Rico Chacon, surrogate mother of a friend's little girl, and the best car mechanic there is. But all that comes to a crashing end when Rico is shot dead by a fellow officer. Rico was suspected of working with drug dealers and to prove his innocence, Munch goes undercover to clear his name.

SHARP, ZOE ROAD KILL (#5) (\$39.95) (Piatkus) Charlie Fox is caught up in the aftermath of a fatal bike crash involving one of her closest friends. The more she probes, the more she suspects that the accident was far from accidental. See *Wendy's Picks*.

SMILEY, PATRICIA COVER YOUR ASSETS (#2) (\$32.95) (Mysterious) Tucker Sinclair leaves her fast-track career at Aames and Associates (False Profits (\$9.99)) and opens her own management consulting firm. She is shocked when the once love of her life, who dumped her and married her best friend, is murdered and his wife is the prime suspect.

STABENOW, DANA BLINDFOLD GAME (\$31.95) The first stand-alone novel from this Edgar Award-winning writer of fourteen Kate Shugak and three Liam Campbell mysteries is international in scope and "chillingly real". It's getting rave reviews already and we'll give you our opinion next issue.

STAINCLIFFE, CATH HIT AND RUN (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Starting back at work after her maternity leave, DCI Janine Lewis finds herself in the thick of two major investigations. The badly battered body of a woman is recovered from the River Mersey and a schoolgirl is killed in a hit and run. Sequel to Blue Murder (\$12.95) and author of the six Sal Kilkenny mysteries.

STRIEBER, ANNE LITTLE TOWN LIES (\$31.95) (Forge) Burned-out Houston social worker Sally Hopkins has returned to her hometown, the sleepy East Texas town of Maryvale. Her Uncle Ed, the town sheriff, wants her to talk to the townspeople to see if she can identify the culprit of some arsons and animal mutilations. But when a young woman is murdered Sally enlists the help of a handsome but reserved young state trooper.

TELUSHKIN, JOSEPH HEAVEN'S WITNESS (\$29.95) (Toby) Attempting to help Robin Norris with a simple voice problem, Dr. Jordan Geller hypnotizes her, but when he does so, somehow she chillingly assumes the identity of Beverly Casper, a teenager murdered seven years before Robin was born. Reprints.

[VARIOUS]BRETT, SIMON DETECTION COLLECTION (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) The Detection Club was founded in 1932 with G.K. Chesterton as its first president. It now meets three times a year to dine, to plot and to exchange ideas. This is a collection of stories from its members and includes stories by **P.D. James, Colin Dexter, Lindsay Davis, H.R.F. Keating, John Harvey, Reginald Hill** and others.

[VARIOUS]JAKUBOWSKI, MAXIM BEST BRITISH MYSTERIES 2006 (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Featuring stories by **Barbara Cleverly, Peter Robinson, Mark Billingham, Val McDermid** and a ton of other great writers.

[VARIOUS]PENZLER, OTTO MURDER AT THE FOUL LINE (\$33.95) (Mysterious) Basketball mysteries by **Lawrence Block, Jeffery Deaver, Robert B. Parker, S.J. Rozan** and others.

[VARIOUS]ANDISI, ROBERT J GREATEST HITS (\$33.95) (Carroll & Graf) Original stories of assassins, hit men and hired guns by, among others, **Lawrence Block, James W. Hall, John Harvey, Lee Child**.

WAIWAI, LONO WILEY'S REFRAIN (#3) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Wiley, a professional poker player, heads to the land of

his ancestors, Hawaii, in the hopes of finding justice in the murder of a young musician.

WALTERS, GUY COLDTIZ LEGACY (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) In 1941 British POWs Hugh Hartley and Malcolm Royce are transferred to the infamous Colditz Castle after a failed escape from their camp. Mounting another escape, Malcolm is shot but Hugh manages to get free. It is now 1973 and Hugh is a senior officer with MI6 running agents in East Germany. A scrap of intelligence crosses his desk that Malcolm is still alive and being held in Colditz, now a lunatic asylum, as a mental patient. As Hugh sets out on his perilous mission, he wonders if it would be better if his friend had "died" a hero.

WOOD, LEE KINGDOM OF LIES (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Two Met officials send Leeds sergeant Keen Dunliffe undercover to befriend a colleague of a woman who was found drowned on the grounds of a royal estate. The woman was an expert on English royalty and politics in the eighteenth century. The debut of a new series that Marian enjoyed.

Paperbacks

ABERCROMBIE, LYNN BODY BOX (\$9.99) aka **Walter Sorrells**. Bad choices have landed Det. Mechelle Deakes on the Atlanta Police Department's lowest rung, the Cold Case Unit. Worse, her partner is a racist misogynist.

ADAM, PAUL SLEEPER (\$10.99) Who would want to kill Tomaso Rainaldi, an elderly, unassuming violin-maker in the quiet Italian city of Cremona? No one can fathom a reason for the murder, especially his friend Gianni Castiglione. Tomaso has few possessions, no enemies, and little money. All he had was an obsessive love of violins. And an encyclopedic knowledge of them; the famous ones and the missing ones. Gianni starts to investigate his dead friend's affairs. One of *Marian's Picks* a while back.

ADAM, PAUL ENEMY WITHIN (\$25.00 trade paperback, \$44 hardcover). The new novel from the author of the brilliant Sleeper but I have no stock to annotate from. Next time.

ADAMS, ALINA AXEL OF EVIL (#3) (\$9.99) Figure skating is a cutthroat business and having survived Murder on Ice and On Thin Ice (\$8.99 ea), Rebecca "Bex" Levy is now investigating the death of Russian skating phenom, Igor, on his first visit back to Russia since defecting. Coincidence?

AKLER, HOWARD CITY MAN (\$18.95) A special order.
ALLIO, KIRSTIN GARNER (\$19.95) A small New Hampshire town, looking for a new source of economic survival at the turn of the 20th century, courts an influx of outsiders: young New Yorkers. And that can only mean trouble. "Exceptional"—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review).

ALT, MADELYN TROUBLE WITH MAGIC (\$9.99) First in a new series about antiques and spellbinding. Shop clerk Maggie O'Neill is surprised to hear her boss, Fiona, describe herself as a witch, but what the heck. If she wants to play with broomsticks and cauldrons...When murder strikes and Felicity looks guilty, Maggie conjures up her own spiritual side to solve the case. "I really liked this" says Marian.

ALTMAN, JOHN WATCHMEN (#4) (\$10.99) An Al Qaeda prisoner named Ali Zattout is moved from Pakistan to a CIA safe house for observation and interrogation. The man who must question him is Dr. Louis Finney who still has nightmares of the experiments performed, designed to develop multiple personalities in unsuspecting patients. An assassin schooled in ancient arts of meditation and murder is sent by the Al Qaeda organization to assassinate Zattout.

AMBLER, ERIC LEVANTER (\$14.95) A classic from one of the masters of the thriller novel. First published in 1972. Set in Syria, 1970, three years after the Six Day War. . .

ANDERSON, LIN DRIFNET (#1) (\$23.95) Introducing forensic scientist Rhona Macleod. Leaving her bed in the middle of the night to take samples from the body of a teenager found strangled, Rhona recognizes the likeness between herself and the dead boy and is horrified to think that he might be the son she gave up for adoption seventeen years before. She sets out to find both the boy's killer and her own son. Set in Glasgow.

ANDREWS, DONNA ACCESS DENIED (#3) (\$9.99) Turing Hopper, the Artificial Intelligence Personality we were introduced to in You've Got Murder and Click Here For Murder (\$9.99 each) has been monitoring criminal-at-large Nestor Garcia's credit card. So when thousands of dollars of purchases are made and delivered to a vacant house, Turing and her friends (of both kinds) investigate. Good fun.

APODACA, JENNIFER BATTERIES REQUIRED (#4) (\$8.99) When her best friend Angel disappears, dating service owner Samantha Shaw is on the case. Sequel to Dating Can Be Murder, Dying to Meet You and Ninja Soccer Moms (\$7.99 each).

ARCHER, GEOFFREY DARK ANGEL (\$11.99) The murder of Tom Sedley's sister drives a wedge in his relationship with his best friend, although a tramp was arrested for the crime.

ARCHER, JEFFREY COLLECTED SHORT STORIES (\$10.99) Thirty-six stories originally published in Quiver Full of Arrows, A Twist in the Tale and Twelve Red Herrings.

ASIMOV, ISAAC RETURN OF THE BLACK WIDOWERS (\$20.50) The ten best Black Widowers cases, six cases not previously collected, a foreword by **Harlan Ellison**, and more.

BANKS, L A AWAKENING (#2) (\$9.99), HUNTED (#3) and BITTEN (#4) (\$10.99 each). Read them all, but start with Minion (\$9.99). The Vampire Huntress stories.

BARNARD, ROBERT MISTRESS OF ALDERLEY (\$19.95) Well-known actress Caroline Fawley has given up a successful career for love and life in the country. International business titan Marius Fleetwood can't marry her as he already has a wife so he "buys" her Alderley, an elegant country home and visits her when he can. When a murder occurs, detectives Mike Oddie and Charlie Peace must probe the lives of numerous suspects.

BARNES, LINDA carlyle COLD CASE #7 (\$9.99) Reprint. First published in 1997.

BARRETT, DEAN SKYTRAIN TO MURDER (\$16.95) Running low on funds, ex-CIA agent Scott Sterling moves into an apartment over a Bangkok bar. He teaches scuba diving and does occasional investigative work usually involving bargirls or wayward spouses.

BATEMAN, COLIN BELFAST CONFIDENTIAL (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

BATEMAN, COLIN MURPHY'S REVENGE (#2) (\$10.99) Someone has started killing the killers and Detective Martin Murphy goes undercover and joins the group Confront, a support group for relatives of murder victims.

BEATON, M C AGATHA RAISAN AND THE DEADLY DANCE (#14) (\$9.99) Running her own detective agency in the Cotswolds is not quite what Agatha Raisin expected, especially when she is outclassed by her sixty-seven-year-old secretary, Emma Comfrey.

BEATON, M C macbeth DEATH OF A BORE (#20) (\$9.99)) The poster in the general store announced: "Do you want to be a famous writer? Famous writer John Heppel will help you become one." Hamish Macbeth doesn't think anyone will sign up but at least a dozen people do and show up at the village hall. Heppel mocks their writing and butchers their dreams—he did lack a little

tact—and every single one of them wants to kill him. And someone does.

BERTON, PIERRE SECRET WORLD OF OG (\$24.95) The classic children's fable, first published in 1961. The author's favourite of all the books he's written. Possibly because the characters bear suspicious resemblances to his own kids.

BISELL, SALLIE mary crow LEGACY OF MASKS (#4) (\$9.99) Ex-prosecutor Mary Crow returns home to Pisgah County, North Carolina, to set up her own law firm. Her first case is defending a young mystical Ani Zaguhi Cherokee named Ridge Standing-deer, accused of murdering a young girl. Others in the series are In the Forest of Harm (\$9.99), A Darker Justice (\$10.99), and Call the Devil By His Oldest Name (\$10.99).

BLAKE, JENNIFER DAWN ENCOUNTER (\$6.99) A special order.

BLUNT, GILES BLACK FLY SEASON (#3) (\$19.95) A woman walks out of the bush and can't remember a thing. She also has a small-calibre bullet lodged in her brain. A body is found in a cave in the woods, with no hands, feet or head. How are these related? Algonquin Bay detectives John Cardinal and Lise Delorme investigate. The first two in the series are Forty Words for Sorrow and The Delicate Storm (\$10.99 each) and excellent they are.

BONANNO/PISTONE/FISHER GOOD GUYS (\$10.50) The authors of this novel are a former Mafia guy, a former FBI undercover agent, and a writer. The story involves a missing university professor with both the Mafia and the FBI hot on his trail. How authentic can it get!

BORDEN, KATE DEATH OF A TURKEY (#3) (\$9.99) It's Thanksgiving at Cobb's Landing and it's not just the turkey who's in danger. . . Featuring Mayor and single mom Peggy Jean Turner.

BOWEN, RHYS molly murphy IN LIKE FLYNN (#4) (\$9.99) New York police detective Daniel Sullivan hires Molly Murphy to go undercover inside the country house of Senator Barney Flynn. The senator's frail wife has hired spiritualists to contact their infant son who was kidnapped five years ago and never found. The police are sure the spiritualists are frauds. Set in the summer of 1902.

BOWERS, DOROTHY pardoe FEAR AND MISS BETONY (#4) (\$19.95) First published in 1941 and the final appearance of Insp. Dan Pardoe. But it's Miss Emma Betony who solves the case. A classic.

BRANCH, PAMELA WOODEN OVERCOAT (\$19.95) A classic. Originally published in the UK in 1951 this is the first US edition of this witty tale of misadventure sure to appeal to fans of **Robert Barnard**, **Ruth Dudley Edwards** and **Sarah Caudwell**.

BRAUN, LILIAN JACKSON CAT WHO WENT BANANAS (#27) (\$10.99) WOW, or should we say MEOW. Number twenty-seven in the series. The theft of a rare book and the death of an out-of-town actor keep Jim, Koko and Yum Yum busy.

BREWER, STEVE BOOST (\$20.00) Sam Hill steals cars but he knows he's been set up when he finds the body of a junkie, who was a DEA informant, in the boot of his latest heist.

BROADBENT, TONY jethro SMOKE (\$19.95) Set in 1947 post-war, black market riddled England. Jethro, a cat burglar and jewel thief burgles the embassy of a Soviet satellite country and steals jewelry belonging to the ambassador's wife and daughter. Try as Jethro might to keep his larcenous activities quiet, his exploits bring him to the attention of His Majesty's Secret Service. They also want him to burgle for them and they will not take no for an answer.

BROCKMANN, SUZANNE HOT TARGET (\$10.99) Unwillingly facing a month's leave from the Navy SEALs, Cosmo Richter offers his services to Troubleshooters Incorporated, a private-sector security firm. His first case deals with a maverick movie producer whose portrayal of a real-life hero's homosexuality rouses the fury of an extremist group.

BUCKLEY, FIONA SIREN QUEEN (#8) (\$17.95) When an invitation to visit arrives from the powerful Duke of Norfolk, Ursula Blanchard, illegitimate half sister to Queen Elizabeth I, sees it as a chance for her fourteen-year-old daughter Meg to meet an apparently worthy young man of the Duke's household. But two suspicious deaths, the threat of a plot to put Mary Queen of Scots on the English throne, and a letter written in code, keep Ursula busy.

BURLEY, W J WYCLIFFE AND THE DEAD FLAUTIST (#17) and WYCLIFFE'S WILD GOOSE CHASE (#10) (\$10.99 each) Reprint. First published a long, long time ago.

CAIN, PAUL FAST ONE (\$21.00) A classic now available again.

CAMILLERI, ANDREA SMELL OF THE NIGHT (#6) (\$17.00) The earthy and urbane Insp. Montalbano is investigating a labyrinthine financial scam. Read these novels as much for the sense of place and the sense of humour as for the plot.

CARLOTTO, MASSIMO GOODBYE KISS (\$19.95) Giorgio Pellegrini is wanted in Italy for a series of crimes linked to political extremism. He's been hiding out in South America lending a hand to a group of leftwing militants engaged in a bloody civil war. When things there get a little too hot, Giorgio decides it might be best to head back home. Arguably "the best living Italian crime writer" —*Il Manifesto*.

CAROFIGLIO, GIANRICO INVOLUNTARY WITNESS (\$18.95) A nine-year-old boy is found murdered at the bottom of a well near a popular beach resort in southern Italy and a Senegalese peddler is accused of the crime. In what looks like a hopeless case, Guido Guerrieri, counsel for the defense, faces small-town racism fuelled by the recent immigration from Africa.

CARSON, PAUL BETRAYAL (\$27.95)

CARVER, CAROLINE india BLACK TIDE (#2) (\$10.99) The second novel featuring India Kane, sequel to Blood Junction (\$10.99) and her third overall. Another fast-paced and thrilling read. Eight crewmembers of a Greenpeace ship are killed when their ship is rammed by a huge tanker, including Ned, one of India's closest friends, and it's clear that this was no accident. India is determined to bring the ship's owners to justice. One of *Wendy's Picks* a year or so ago.

CHABON, MICHAEL FINAL SOLUTION (\$16.95) In deep retirement in the English countryside, an eighty-nine-year-old man is more concerned with his beekeeping than with his fellow man. Into his life wanders Linus Steinman, nine years old and mute, who has escaped from Nazi Germany with his African Gray parrot. What is the meaning of the mysterious string of German numbers the bird spews out? This novella (131 pages) is the winner of the 2004 Aga Khan Prize for fiction.

CHANCELLOR, HENRY JAMES BOND THE MAN AND HIS WORLD (\$29.95) See the hardcover annotation.

CLEMENT, PETER INQUISITOR (\$9.99) SARS, severe acute respiratory syndrome, has hit America hard and the staff at St. Paul's hospital in Buffalo, New York, are desperately trying to protect its patients. No one notices the spike in the death rate of patients in the palliative care ward. When ER chief Dr. Earl Garnet gets blamed for the unexpected death of a patient, he starts his own investigation and discovers something more sinister than disease is killing the patients.

COHEN, JEFFREY AS DOG IS MY WITNESS (\$24.50) The third Aaron Tucker mystery. Very funny from all accounts but I do not think anyone here has read one. I'll get on it.

COLE, MARTINA TAKE (\$24.95) Another "Blinding good read" —*Ray Winstone*; "Set to be another winner" —*Woman's Weekly*; "Her gripping plots pack a mean emotional punch" —*Mail on Sunday*.

COLLEY, BARBARA WIPED OUT (#4) (\$8.99) When one of Charlotte LaRue's regulars moves, she takes on gardening enthusi-

ast Mimi Adams as a new client. Mimi is president of the local gardening club and when she is found dead Charlotte investigates.

COLLINS, MAX A ROAD TO PURGATORY (#2) (\$10.99) Michael O'Sullivan returns from fighting the Japanese, a battle-scarred veteran of twenty-two ready to pick up his old war against the Chicago Mob. Set in 1942.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL bosch LAST COYOTE (#4) (\$10.99) Reprint. First published in 1995. An excellent thriller.

CONNOR, BEVERLY fallon DEAD SECRET (#3) (\$10.99) A mystery that goes back seventy years is what forensic anthropologist Diane Fallon is uncovering.

SAVING VALENCIA (\$19.95) Valencia and Rico Brandywine, heirs to a hotel empire, were kidnapped many times as children and huge sums of money were drained from the company. Valencia's been kidnapped again...

COOPER, STEVEN WITH YOU IN SPIRIT (\$19.95) "My father's body was found floating facedown in the waters off Chappaquiddick. Naturally everyone eyed the bridge and assumed a Kennedy did it." Well, perhaps not. Arrested for the death is the wife and it's up to Graydove Hoffenstein, the Native American-Jewish heir to a parking meter empire to clear his mother's name and solve the death of his father. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

CORDY, MICHAEL MESSIAH CODE (\$11.99) Originally published as The Miracle Strain. The only thing that can save the life of Dr. Tom Carter's dying daughter is the blood of salvation shed almost twenty centuries ago.

CORK, VENA ART OF DYING (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

CORNWELL, PATRICIA scarpetta CRUEL AND UNUSUAL (#4) (\$13.95) Reprint. First published in 1993.

CROMBIE, DEBORAH IN A DARK HOUSE (#10) (\$9.99) Scotland Yard detectives Duncan Kincaid and Gemma James return in a tale of murder, kidnapping, madness and the frightening ordeal of a helpless child. One of *Wendy's Picks* a year ago and again here.

DAVIDSON, MARY JANICE UNDEAD AND UNAPPRECIATED (\$9.99) More vampire novels. Others in this series are Undead and Unwed (\$8.99), Undead and Unreturnable (\$31).

DELELIS, PHILIPPE LAST CANTATA (\$22.95) Translated from the French. A contemporary novel that delves into the mysteries of Bach and Mozart.

DIMERCURIO, MICHAEL VERTICAL DIVE (\$10.99) From the writer who has redefined the modern submarine thriller.

DOBBS, MICHAEL churchill CHURCHILL'S TRIUMPH (#4) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

DOHERTY, PAUL mahu SEASON OF THE HYAENA (#2) (\$10.99) The second to feature Mahu, former Chief of Police and Keeper of the Secrets. A mysterious stranger appears on the Nile Delta; has the Emperor Akenhaten returned to Egypt? Mahu investigates. Evil Spirit Out of the West (\$10.99) is the first of what we are told is going to be a trilogy.

DOOLITTLE, SEAN RAIN DOGS (\$9.99) "As long as there are writers like Sean Doolittle out there, American crime fiction has got a sterling future ahead of it." —*Dennis Lehane*.

[DOYLE]BOOTH, MATTHEW SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE GIANTS HAND & SS (\$25.00)

[DOYLE]HALL, JOHN SH AND THE ABBEY SCHOOL MYSTERY (\$25.00) Set at the Abbey School, this case commences when a young schoolmaster apparently commits suicide and his sister, suspecting foul play, calls in Sherlock Holmes.

[DOYLE]HALL, JOHN SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE ADLER PAPERS (\$25.00) When Holmes recovered a compromising photograph and saved the reputation of the King of Bohemia he

thought the case was closed. Not so. Irene Adler has summoned Holmes again, a year later, as the King is being threatened by even more determined enemies.

[DOYLE]HALL, JOHN SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE TELEPHONE MURDER MYSTERY (\$25.00) Dr. Watson welcomed the arrival of the telephone at 221b Baker Street but Holmes is sure that the ring of the phone will bode no good. Sure enough...

[DOYLE]MAGUIRE, EDDIE SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SECRET MISSION (\$25.00) In the spring of 1912, newly retired from practice, Watson travels to Sussex for a short holiday. His arrival coincides with a series of interrelated terrible events. To be continued in SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE BOLSHEVICK PLOT (due fall 2006).

[DOYLE]MONAHAN, ERIC FROM CORNWALL TO TIBET (\$14.95) Five Holmesian essays, illustrated, including the award-winning Redruth Revisted. (24 pp).

[DOYLE]MONAHAN, ERIC SHERLOCK HOLMES IN TO ERR IS HUMAN (\$19.95) Or, All's Well That Ends Well. Five cases. (48 pp).

DUNCAN, GLEN DEATH OF AN ORDINARY MAN (\$20.00)

DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple MOURNING WEDDING (#13) (\$8.99) Daisy Dalrymple and her husband DCI Alec Fletcher are invited to the wedding of their friend Lucy Fotheringay. But a great-aunt is found strangled in her bed and an uncle dies in the conservatory and Daisy investigates.

EGLIN, ANTHONY kingston BLUE ROSE (#1) (\$9.99) Soon after Alex and Kate Sheppard move into the Parsonage, their new home nestled deep in the Wiltshire countryside, they find a rose bush bearing flowers of a beautiful blue. Word of their discovery leaks out and the Sheppards' peaceful existence is abruptly shattered. Soon they find themselves plunged into a world of coded journals, genetic experiments, cold-blooded greed, and murder. They trust no one except gardening expert Lawrence Kingston. The first in a new series.

EVANOVICH, JANET MANHUNT (\$9.99) Originally published in a slightly altered format as a Loveswept paperback.

FARMER, JERRILYN FLAMING LUAU OF DEATH (#7) (\$9.99) Madeline Bean plans a fabulous bachelorette party in Hawaii for her cherished employee Holly Nichols. What she didn't know was that Holly was married previously and never got around to divorcing her husband. Bigamy is fun, murder less so. Marian said she enjoyed reading this novel but it didn't have as much food talk in it as her six previous novels.

FARRIS, JOHN PHANTOM NIGHTS (\$9.99) "America's premier novelist of terror...nobody does it better" says Stephen King. The year is 1952 and fourteen-year-old Alex Gambier finds himself in the care of a young black nurse named Mally Shaw after one of his hair raising stunts goes wrong. When Mally is murdered, mute Alex recklessly pursues the murderer.

FIELDING, JOY PUPPET (\$10.99) Florida transplant, successful twenty-eight-year-old criminal attorney, Amanda Travis returns to Toronto when she learns her mother shot a man at point-blank range in the lobby of the Four Seasons Hotel. Her mother claims she did not know the man so why did she kill him?

FORSTER, REBECCA SILENT WITNESS (\$9.99) From the author of Hostile Witness (\$9.99) and the forthcoming Privileged Witness (\$10.99).

FORSYTH, FREDERICK ODESSA FILE (\$11.99)

FOWLER, CHRISTOPHER bryan SEVENTY-SEVEN CLOCKS (#3) (\$10.99) Unlike the first two in this series, this one is published as a paperback original. Bryant and May of London's Peculiar Crimes Unit are at it again. A terrific series. Full Dark House (\$10.99) and Water Room (\$32) are the first two adventures.

FOX, KATHRYN MALICIOUS INTENT (\$10.99) While investigating the fatal overdose of a young woman, freelance pathologist

and forensic physician Dr. Anya Crichton discovers a striking similarity between the case and a number of other apparent suicides. All the victims went missing for a period of time before taking their own lives in desperate circumstances. For fans of **Patricia Cornwell** and **Kathy Reichs**.

FRANCOME, JOHN BACK HANDER (\$10.99) Amateur jockey Alan Morrell has a 100,000 pound debt and an untested racehorse as his only asset. Fellow-jockey Max Ashwood has his own gambling problems and the "convenient" death of a man to whom Max owed money. Max is looking pretty guilty. The life of a jockey!

FRANCOME, JOHN COVER UP (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

FREY, STEPHEN W CHAIRMAN (\$10.99) In order to forge alliances necessary to achieve his goal of taking New York private equity partnership, Everest Capital, to multibillion dollar heights, Christian Gillette must dodge assassination attempts and can trust no one.

GALENORN, YASMINE HARVEST OF BONES (#4) (\$9.99) The fourth in the Chintz 'n China Mystery series. When Em and her sweetie, Joe, stumble over a bramble-covered foundation that has remained hidden for fifty years in the lot next door, strange things begin to happen: a ghosts takes up residence in the backyard complete with a calico cat.

GARDNER, ASHLEY BODY IN BERKLEY SQUARE (#5) (\$10.99) Murder is hardly what one would expect at a ball in the opulent Berkeley Square mansion, but there it is. Captain Gabriel Lacey investigates. Regency England.

GARDNER, LISA ALONE (\$10.99) State Trooper Bobby Dodge watches a tense hostage standoff through the scope of his sniper rifle. He has a split second to act. Someone will die.

GASH, JONATHAN YEAR OF THE WOMAN (\$10.95) Set in Hong Kong just before the Handover. KwayFay, a "Cockroach Child" talks to ghosts and this might get her some protection from the head of a Triad.

GAYLIN, ALISON YOU KILL ME (\$9.99) By the author of Hide Your Eyes (\$8.99) about which *The Chicago Tribune* said "Full of suspense and trendy sex."

GILDINER, CATHERINE SEDUCTION (\$21.00) Kate Fitzgerald has served nearly a decade of a life sentence for murdering her husband. While incarcerated she has put her brain to use by reading all of Freud's works and has become known in academic circles as an expert. Her psychiatrist offers her parole if she agrees to investigate the director of the Freud academy, a man who plans to upset the entire psychoanalytical apple cart. Mary says: Gildiner wrote the delightful memoir Too Close to the Falls (\$18.95 special order) about her childhood in Lewiston, New York. Her new book starts with the same engaging humour: It's really embarrassing to admit, but I forget why I killed my husband.

GLASS, ISABEL DAUGHTER OF EXILE (\$10.99)

GLAUSER, FRIEDRICH IN MATTO'S REALM (\$19.95) Originally published in 1936, this is the second Sergeant Studer novel to be reissued, (Thumbprint (\$20) is the other.) A child murderer escapes from an insane asylum in Berne, having killed the director to effect his escape. The intuitive Studer is drawn into the workings of an institution that darkly mirrors the world outside.

GODDARD, ROBERT SIGHT UNSEEN (\$11.99) More than twenty years after the abduction of a two-year-old and the murder of her sister, retired Chief Inspector George Sharp wants to re-open the case. He recently received a letter accusing him of botching the investigation and he was never convinced that the man who admitted to the crime was guilty.

GOODMAN, CAROL LAKE OF DEAD LANGUAGES (\$10.99) Twenty years ago, Jane Hudson left the Heart Lake School

for Girls in the Adirondacks after a terrible tragedy. Now she has returned as a Latin teacher. An excellent debut novel.

GRANGER, ANN fran varady MIXING WITH MURDER (#6) (\$10.99) Club owner Mickey Allerton has lost his best dancer, Lisa, and he wants her back. Fran Varady agrees to look for her or her dog will be toast. Fran's discovery of a corpse puts her in trouble with the Thames Valley police, and when she finally finds Lisa she realizes more has been happening than meets the eye. The earlier five novels in this series, which Marian and Wendy like better than the author's Mitchell and Markby series, are Asking for Trouble, Keeping Bad Company, Running Scared, Risking It All, and Watching Out (\$9.99 each).

GREGORY, PHILIPPA CONSTANT PRINCESS (\$24.95)

GRIFFIN, W E B castillo BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT (#1) (\$10.99) A plane is hijacked in Angola and the US President turns to an outsider to investigate. Delta Force major Carlos Guillermo Castillo, known as Charley, travels undercover to Africa, and there helped, and hindered by unexpected allies and determined enemies, begins to untangle a story of frightening dimensions. This looks to be the start of a new series.

GRISHAM, JOHN BROKER (\$11.99) After receiving enormous pressure from the CIA the US president grants a pardon to Joel Backman, a notorious Washington power broker, who has spent six years hidden away in federal prison. Backman may have obtained secrets that compromise the world's most sophisticated satellite surveillance system. He is smuggled out of the USA, given a new identity, and a new home in Italy. Eventually the CIA will leak his whereabouts to the Israelis, the Russians, the Chinese, and the Saudis, and see who comes to kill him.

GUEST, JUDITH TARNISHED EYE (\$9.50) A novel inspired by a baffling true-life crime. Six members of one family are murdered and the shattering clue might be right in Sheriff DeWitt's line of sight.

HAIG, BRIAN PRESIDENT'S ASSASSIN (#5) (\$10.99) Six people are shot and killed in a Virginia mansion, one of them the White House Chief of Staff. But that's not why Sean Drummond is called in; he knows that the bodies are just a warning and the President is next.

HALL, JAMES W FORESTS OF THE NIGHT (\$9.99) Police-woman Charlotte Monroe has a gift that borders on psychic, an ability to read people's faces and body language, to size up their intentions and act before they do. Then a stranger shows up on her doorstep with a chilling warning.

HAMILTON, PATRICK HANGOVER SQUARE (\$19.95) First published in 1941. Set in the years immediately prior to the outbreak of WW2. Shy, withdrawn George Harvey Bone suffers from an unusual medical illness. He is subject to frequent blackouts. His girlfriend behaves appallingly badly towards him, and one part of George just wants to done with her. During one of the blackouts...

HARDWICK, GARY EXECUTIONER'S GAME (\$9.99) Luther Green learned his survival skills on the meanest streets of the inner city. When the CIA needs an international problem covertly eliminated, they look to Green, the very best at cold, surgically efficient assassination. But this time they're sending him back to Detroit to face his toughest, most dangerous assignment: the execution of his best friend and mentor.

HARROD-EAGLES, C dynaty RESTLESS SEA (#27) (\$10.99) Not a Bill Slider, of course.

HART, ELLEN lawless KILLING CURE (#4) (\$18.95) Members of the prestigious and long-revered Amelia Gower Women's Club are suddenly dropping like flies. Minneapolis restaurateur-sleuth Jane Lawless in one of her early adventures, as this was first published in 1993.

HASSAN, MARWAN LOST PATENT (#1) (\$18.99) and AS THE CROW DIES (#2) (\$20.95) Two adventures featuring Alec

Knight, of Lajoie-Chang Associates, investigating crimes in the Ottawa area.

HELLER, MANDASUE CHARMER (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

HERREN, GREG BOURBON STREET BLUES (\$20.00)

HEYER, GEORGETTE APRIL LADY (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE ARABELLA (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE BATH TANGLE (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE BLACK SHEEP (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE CHARITY GIRL (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE CIVIL CONTRACT (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE CORINTHIAN (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE COTILLION (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE COUSIN KATE (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE FALSE COLOURS (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE FAROS DAUGHTER (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE FOUNDLING (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE FRIDAYS CHILD (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE GRAND SOPHY (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE LADY OF QUALITY (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE MASQUERADORS (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE NONESUCH (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE PISTOLS FOR TWO (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE POWDER AND PATCH (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE QUIET AMERICAN (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE RELUCTANT WIDOW (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE ROYAL ESCAPE (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE SPANISH BRIDE (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE SPRIG MUSLIN (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE TALISMAN RING (\$19.95)

HEYER, GEORGETTE TOLL GATE (\$19.95)

As you can see, a number of the regency romance novels written by the author of the Insp. Hannasyde (Death in the Stocks, Behold, Here's Poison) and Insp. Hemingway (No Wind of Blame, Envious Casca) mysteries are now back in print. We are happy to order these, and the others as and when they become available, on a special order basis. Just say the word. Unfortunately, none of the crime novels are currently in print! John, a long-time friend and occasional employee wanted to replace his mother's ageing and disintegrating collection so we found them for him. Besides, the type is larger, making it easier on his mom's eyes. What a good son he is.

HIGHSMITH, PATRICIA SELECTED STORIES OF PATRICIA HIGHSMITH (\$25.00) A collection of stories, not all mysteries, from this great lady of crime writing.

HILL, REGINALD COLLABORATORS (\$10.99) First published in 1987 and set in Paris, 1945. Janine Simonian stands accused of supplying information to the Nazi occupying forces that led to the arrest and torture of several members of the French resistance—and the brutal murder of her own husband. Terrific.

HJORTSBERG, WILLIAM FALLING ANGEL (\$14.95) A classic now re-issued in a trade paperback. Set in New York of the late 1950s, this is "A near-perfect book..." – *Los Angeles Times*. PI Harry Angel, it's just another job for the missing person file. An enigmatic client wants him to track down famous 40s crooner Johnny Favorite, who was last seen about fifteen years earlier. Black magic, voodoo, seamy carnival sideshows...

HUNTER, MADDY HULA DONE IT (#4) (\$9.50) A fun, fun series. If you have not yet discovered this favourite of Marian's, waste no time and start with Alpine For You (\$9.50). You'll want all four. Travel the globe with this bunch of lunatics, this time to Hawaii.

HURD, JIMMY TURNAROUND (\$17.95) A young Cajun girl, a high-powered Atlanta judge, and a deranged killer become entangled in this debut novel that "will knock your socks off". I guess, that means you'll be reading barefoot.

HUSTON, CHARLIE ALREADY DEAD (\$17.95) A novel of the undead in Manhattan. The city's been divided up into areas controlled by different clans and Joe's got to find the poor little rich girl who's gone missing in Alphabet City.

ILES, GREG BLOOD MEMORY (\$13.95) Catherine Ferry is a forensic odontologist, a specialist in bite marks and the clues they provide. As the pressures of her work take their toll she is suspended from the FBI task force investigating a series of gruesome murders. She retreats to her hometown of Natchez, Mississippi. When some of her forensic chemicals are spilled in her childhood bedroom, two bloody footprints are revealed. Cat's father was murdered when she was eight, but she always believed the crime had occurred in the garden. Now she wonders what really happened. Terrific. One of *Wendy's Picks* a year or so ago and again here.

ISENBERG, JANE HOT WIRED (#8) (\$9.99) Academic Bel Barrett, "Stephanie Plum twenty-five years later--sassy and brassy" - *Baldwin City Ledger*.

IZZO, JEAN-CLAUDE TOTAL CHAOS (\$19.95) "Just as Raymond Chandler and James Ellroy made Los Angeles their very own, so Mr. Izzo has made Marseilles so much more than just another geographical setting."—The Economist. The first book in the trilogy, featuring Detective Fabio Montale.

JACKSON, LEE webb WELFARE OF THE DEAD (#2) (\$19.95) Decimus Webb, recently promoted to Detective Branch at Scotland Yard, begins to suspect a connection between the terrible murders in "houses of accommodation" of 1870s London, a mysterious theft at the Abby Park Cemetery, and a long-forgotten suicide. The first in the series is A Metropolitan Murder (\$19.95).

JACQ, CHRISTIAN queen FLAMING SWORD (#3) (\$19.00) The people and passions of ancient Egypt come to life in this enthralling epic novel. Sequel to Empire of the Darkness (\$22) and War of the Crowns (\$20).

JAKEMAN, JANE IN THE KINGDOM OF MISTS (\$20.00) London, 1900, and while Monet paints wintry mists over the Thames, the bodies of two young women are dragged from its depths, arousing fears of a return of Jack the Ripper. Oliver Craston, a fledgling diplomat, must be careful of his new acquaintance with Mr. Monet as the Foreign Office is nervous over French sympathies with the Boers. This is the US trade paperback without the beautiful full colour illustrations of Monet's painting. Shame that.

JANCE, J A EDGE OF EVIL (\$10.99) A paperback original from the author of the J P Beaumont and Joanna Brady series. Set in Sedona, Arizona.

JONAS, GEORGE VENGEANCE (\$22.95) Probably should be in the non-fiction section. The story of the kidnapping and murder of Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics and the Israeli Government response. Basis of the current Steven Spielberg movie, Munich. Originally published in the 1980s.

JONES, LUANNE HEATHEN GIRLS (\$15.95)

JORDAN, ROBERT PATH OF DAGGERS. BOOK EIGHT OF THE WHEEL (\$10.99)

KAHN, SHARON WHICH BIG GIVER STOLE THE CHOPPED LIVER (\$9.99) The latest Ruby, the Rabbi's Wife mystery. It isn't easy being a rabbi's wife in Eternal, Texas. It's even harder being a rabbi's widow.

KAMINSKY, STUART lieberman LAST DARK PLACE (#8) (\$9.99) Lieberman goes to Arizona to pick up a mob enforcer. But the man is gunned down at the airport and Lieberman is determined to find out who arranged the hit. And there's the small matter of his grandson's bar mitzvah, which threatens to bankrupt him.

KANE, STEPHANIE flowers SEEDS OF DOUBT (#3) (\$10.99) Denver defense attorney Jackie Flowers takes on the case of Rachel Boyd who is accused of murdering a child. Rachel has spent thirty years locked up because, as a child herself, she was found guilty of killing her little playmate Freddie Gant. Now, another

child is dead. The earlier novels featuring this dyslexic lawyer are Blind Spot (\$8.99) and Extreme Indifference (\$10.50).

KEATING, H R F martens DETECTIVE AT DEATH'S DOOR (#5) (\$9.99) Someone is out to kill Detective Superintendent Harriet Martens and almost succeeds. As she makes a slow recovery from the attempted poisoning she faces the knowledge that she must find the person responsible. No sooner has she mustered the strength to start the enquiries, the poisoner strikes again.

KENT, DAVID BLACK JACK CONSPIRACY (#3) (\$10.99) The elusive government agency that erases criminal identities in exchange for lethal secrets is called Department 30. This one is the third in that series, sequel to Department Thirty and Mesa Conspiracy (\$10.50 each).

KETTENBACH, HANS WERNER BLACK ICE (\$19.95) Award-winning writer of numerous books, five of which, including this one, have been made into movies. First published in Germany in 1982, this is the first of his novels to be translated into English. Scholten, a long time employee of Erica's, is not convinced that her death is the accident or the suicide that her husband would have you believe.

KHADRA, YASMIN MORITURI (\$19.95) Not only a riveting roman policier, but a haunting picture of the tragedy of present-day Algeria. Called in to investigate the kidnapping of the daughter of one of Algiers's top power-brokers, Supt. Llob's hunt takes him through some terrifying landscape.

KING, STEPHEN DARK TOWER (#7) THE DARK TOWER (\$26.00) Large format paperback with full-colour illustrations by **Michael Whelan**.

KINGSBURY, KATE WEDDING ROWS (#8) (\$9.99) Elizabeth Hartleigh Compton, the house-rich, money-poor keeper of the manor in the quiet village of Sitting Marsh, is the person everyone depends on to make sure things go smoothly. The threat of a German invasion makes that a tad more difficult.

KNIGHT, ALANNA mcquinn INSPECTOR'S DAUGHTER (#1) (\$10.95) In a desperate attempt to recover from the loss of her husband and her baby son, Rose McQuinn has returned home to Edinburgh from the American Wild West. But Rose has little time to ponder her loneliness before she unwittingly steps into the shoes of her father, the legendary Detective Inspector Faro, by agreeing to investigate the strange behaviour of Matthew Bolton, husband to Rose's childhood friend Alice.

KOKORIS, JIM RICH PART OF LIFE (\$19.95) From the author of the excellent Sister North (\$19.95), neither of which is a murder mystery, but both are fine reads. How would your life change if you were to win \$190 million?

LADIES KILLING CIRCLE WHEN BOOMERS GO BAD (#6) (\$14.95) Another collection of stories from this writers' collective, featuring baby boomers going bad.

LAPID, HAIM BREZNITZ (\$22.95) "Looking for murderers?" a pleasant voice asked... "I don't catch murderers. I clear innocent people. Every killer I catch enables me to exonerate all the others. Including you."

LATOUR, JOSE HAVANA BEST FRIENDS (\$22.99) Due February, although there was a UK edition in 2004.

LAURIE, VICTORIA psychic VISION OF MURDER (#3) (\$9.99) Sequel to Abby Cooper, Psychic Eye (\$8.99) and Better Read Than Dead (\$9.99). You'd think being clairvoyant would give Abigail Cooper the ability to avoid danger... One of Marian's faves. See *Marian's Picks*.

LE CARRE, JOHN SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD (\$11.99) The author was recently awarded the Dagger of Daggers by the Crime Writers Association of Britain as the author of its top book of the last 50 years, The Spy Who Came in From the Cold, first published in 1963. I have always thought that this was exactly what an espionage novel should be.

LEE, TANITH WOLF QUEEN (\$9.99) Special order.

LESCROART, JOHN T MOTIVE (#6) (\$10.99) Number six featuring Abe Glitsky with a guest appearance by Dismas Hardy.

LEWIN, PATRICIA OUT OF REACH (\$9.99) A star in the CIA, agent Erin Baker is driven by a tragedy from her past: the kidnapping of her young sister Claire. Though Claire was found, she was not the same. Now, years later, Erin sees the man who abducted her sister and wants to bring him to justice.

LITTLE, CONSTANCE & GWENY BLACK DREAM (\$18.95) Bickering ex-lovers and a disappearing corpse highlight this 1952 comedy by the queens of screwball. A Rue Morgue reprint.

MCBAIN, ED 87TH precinct HARK (#54) (\$10.99) A master criminal haunts New York with cryptic passages from Shakespeare and is driving the detectives of the 87th Precinct nuts. Can they figure out the clues and prevent him from carrying out his crimes?

MACBRIDE, STUART logan COLD GRANITE (#1) (\$10.99) A terrific debut novel and as the belly band on the hard cover edition said "A must for all fans of RANKIN and REBUS." One of *Wendy's Picks* a little while ago and again here.

MCDERMID, VAL STRANDED (\$21.95) A collection of stories from one of Wendy's favourite writers.

MCGOWN, JILL Lloyd UNLUCKY FOR SOME (#13) (\$9.99) A man the media call the Anonymous Assassin publicly announces he will kill again, and challenges TV personality Tony Baker to catch him before he does. In the full glare of national media Chief Inspectors Lloyd and Hill and their hastily constituted team spearhead the hunt.

MCKINTY, ADRIAN HIDDEN RIVER (\$10.99) Forced to resign in disgrace from Northern Ireland's police anti-drug squad after becoming hooked on heroin, Alex Lawson is asked by the family of his high school love to look into her murder. He flies to Denver, Colorado to investigate. Dead I well May Be (\$10.50) is his first novel.

MCLYNN, PAULINE SUMMER IN THE CITY (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

MCNAB, ANDY AGGRESSOR (\$27.95)

MCNAB, CLAIRE kylie QUOKKA QUESTION (#3) (\$18.95) The third Aussie sleuth Kylie Kendall mystery, sequel to Wombat Strategy (\$20) and Kookaburra Gambit (#2) (\$19.95). This time Kylie goes undercover at UCLA to prevent an academic rival from disrupting Dr. Oscar Braithwaite's keynote address at the Global Marsupial symposium. Sounds like a piece of cake, but when Dr. B. is murdered, his sister, the sexually voracious and irresistibly attractive Dr. Penelope Braithwaite, hires Kylie to investigate.

MCMAMARA, EVAN SUPERIOR POSITION (\$10.99) When a reporter investigating "mountain sprawl" is shot dead, a small-town Colorado deputy must catch the ruthless sniper who is locked, loaded, and ready to kill again.

MAFFINI, MARY JANE DEAD DON'T GET OUT MUCH (#5) (\$13.95) Camilla's friend Mrs. Violet Parnell, one of five thousand Canadian women to go overseas during WW2, disappears the day after Remembrance Day. With not much to go on, Camilla follows her friend's trail to Tuscany, hoping to find her before some real harm befalls her.

MAGDALEN, I. I. EMMA H (\$22.95) Emma H. was shot for collaboration in Belgium in 1945, at the tender age of nineteen. Nearly forty years later, Henning Forsell is invited to Belgium by Emma's aunt, who wants the truth. What threat could a nineteen-year-old girl have posed to deserve such summary justice?

MAGDALEN, I. I. LENNIE AND VANCE AND BENJI (\$22.95) Loosely based on a true case of homosexual rape in a small Southwest town. Lennie and Vance, drifters and grifters, hairdressers by avocation, lovers perhaps, employ the thirteen-year-old Benji to help out in their Salon and slowly, systematically, fatally seduce him. Two years after the event Henning Forsell unravels the events.

MANN, PAUL sansi SEASON OF THE MONSOON (\$19.95) Originally published in 1992, a terrific police procedural set in Bombay. The mutilated corpse set in Bollywood taxes even Insp. George Sansi's formidable skills.

MARTIN, MARY E CONDUCT IN QUESTION (\$25) Toronto is haunted by the spectre of The Florist, a sadistic murderer with an artistic flair, who believes he is called to judge the worthiness of his victims. Lawyer Harry Jenkins finds himself in his crosshairs. The first in a trilogy. "A fast paced legal thriller written by an insider."—Rosemary Aubert, author of the *Ellis Portal* mysteries.

MARTINEZ, MICHELE vargas MOST WANTED (#1) (\$9.99) Melanie Vargas is a hardworking, hotshot federal prosecutor in New York City with a rising career in the law and a marriage that's on the rocks. During an evening stroll with her baby girl she comes upon the horrific crime scene where a wealthy former prosecutor from her office has been tortured and murdered. Melanie wants to handle the case but that will put her close to a hard-to-resist FBI agent who has secrets of his own. A debut novel.

MARTINI, STEVE DOUBLE TAP (\$10.99) The victim was involved in a controversial US government contract to combat terrorism by combing through the private computer records of millions of American citizens. Paul Madriani defends the decorated soldier accused of murdering her.

MASTERS, PRISCILLA roget PLEA OF INSANITY (#1) (\$10.95) Dr. Claire Roget takes up her new post of clinical psychiatrist at Greatbach Secure Psychiatrist Unit in Stoke on Trent six months after her predecessor was murdered by one of the inmates. She suspects another inmate was involved as well and when the charred remains of a nurse at the Unit are found, her suspicions are confirmed.

MATTURRO, CLAIRE lilly WILDCAT WINE (#2) (\$9.99) Obsessive health nut and tough-as-nails attorney, Lilly Cleary, has her hands full with a psychic client and a Nazi next-door neighbour who keeps reporting her to the police. When an obnoxious partner in her firm is murdered she investigates. The first in the series is Skinny Dip (\$9.99), both are "delightful" says Marian.

MEIER, LESLIE STAR SPANGLED MURDER (#11) (\$8.99) Tinker's Cove is full of suspects, but none with so personal a motive as Lucy Stone and her family, in the hit and run accident of crabby Mrs. Prudence Pratt. Lucy had better sort all this out or she risks losing her freedom on this Independence Day.

MICHAELS, KASEY HIGH HEELS AND HOMICIDE (#4) (\$20.00)

MILLER, JEFFREY MURDERS OUT OF TUNE (\$19.95) The delightful sequel to the delightful Murder at Osgood Hall (\$19.95). For 25 years, Des Cheshire has been the star sax player in the Billy Wonder Quartet. But he still plays second fiddle to pianist and leader Billy Wonder. When Wonder turns up dead, Cheshire is the main suspect. Amicus, with his companion human appeal judge Ted Mariner, narrates again. See *J. D.'s Picks*.

MITCHELL, DREDA SAY RUNNING HOT (\$27.00) A debut novel and short-listed for the CWA John Creasey Award for debut crime, 2005. What's the best thing about Hackney? The bus outta here! And that's exactly where Elijah "Schoolboy" Campbell needs to be in a week's time, heading out of London's underworld.

MONSOUR, THERESA DARK HOUSE (#3) (\$10.99) St. Paul, Minnesota, homicide sergeant Paris Murphy searches for a young bartender who, egged on by Serene Ransom, a sexually driven university professor, killed a snowmobiler. They are hiding out together. The first two in the series are: Clean Cut and Cold Blood (\$10.99 each).

MURPHY, MARGARET rickman NOW YOU SEE ME (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. See *Wendy's Picks*.

MURPHY, WARREN GRANDMASTER (\$19.95) Reissue. Winner of the Edgar for Best Paperback Original in 1985. One in a series of reissues of Edgar winners. Two men, one American, the other Russian, meet as ten-year-old chess prodigies. But only one can be grandmaster.

MYERS, TAMAR ASSAULT AND PEPPER (\$9.99) Lucky number thirteen in the series. Mennonite innkeeper Magdalena Yoder and the rest of the congregation get ready for the annual chili supper cook-off. But just when the devout diners sit down to eat, beloved Reverend Schrock falls facedown into a pot of chili. Someone slipped peanuts into the chili, knowing that the Reverend was deathly allergic to them.

NADEL, BARBARA LAST RIGHTS (\$24.95) It is October 1940 and Francis Hancock, a veteran of WWI, is forced by the nightly air raids in London to relive the trauma of the trenches. When he sees a man lurching through the rubble screaming about being stabbed, but with no visible wound, Francis dismisses it as the ravages of another lost mind, until the man's body turns up at his funeral parlour two days later.

NEALE, TOM STEEL RAIN (\$10.99) I'm going to let David tell you all about this one. See *David's Picks*.

NELSCOTT, KRIS WAR AT HOME (#5) (\$19.95) This is the fifth Smokey Dalton private eye novel. Summertime 1969 and America's at war with itself; the antiwar movement is raging and Smokey Dalton is searching for a missing college student, Daniel Kirkland, who did not show up for his spring semester at Yale.

NOYER, ALBERT SECUNDUS PAPYRUS and CYBELINE CONSPIRACY (\$22.95 each). Two novels featuring Surgeon Gotorius Asterius and his wife, Arcadia, set in 5th century Ravenna, Italy.

O'BRIEN, MAUREEN bright EVERY STEP YOU TAKE (#6) (\$10.99) Detective Inspector John Bright becomes concerned about his childhood friend George Fletcher as he begins to look more and more ill. Worry turns to alarm when the body of a young girl is found in a park nearby.

O'CALLAGHAN, THOMAS BONE THIEF (\$9.99) NYPD Lieutenant John Driscoll is badly needed to hunt and catch the most cunning predator he's ever faced—a serial killer who is the very soul of evil. He's fighting his own demons.

ORCZY, BARONESS OLD MAN IN THE CORNER (\$13.50) Another edition of the classic collection of stories featuring the Old Man in the Corner.

PARKER, T JEFFERSON CALIFORNIA GIRL (\$10.99) One is a cop, one a minister, and the other a reporter. The three Becker brothers try, in their own way, to find the killer of the lovely and mysterious Janelle Vonn. Set in Orange County, California in 1968. Winner of the Edgar for Best Novel and rightly so. It's terrific. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

PARKINSON, C. NORTHCOTE DEAD RECKONING (\$21.95)

PAWSON, STUART OVER THE EDGE (#10) (\$10.95) Finally, the latest Charlie Priest in paperback. If you have not tried this author before and want a classic British police procedural you can try any on the eight available now in paperback. Really very good. See *Marian's Picks*.

PENMAN, SHARON KAY justin DRAGON'S LAIR (#3) (\$10.99) July 1193 and Richard Lionheart languishes in a German dungeon while his mom, Queen Eleanor, tries to raise the ransom required to get him released. When one of the ransom payments disappears the queen sends her trusted man, Justin de Quincy to Wales to search for it. "Excellent story with delightful historical

tidbits mixed in", says Marian. The first two in the series, which Marian also liked, are The Queen's Man and Cruel as the Grave (\$9.99 each)

PEREZ-REVERTE, ARTURO ala CAPTAIN ALATRISTE (#1) (\$20.00) Set in seventeenth-century Spain. Captain Alatrisme, retired from the army, is now a sword for hire. His latest job requires him to scare off some strangers who have arrived in Madrid. But it soon becomes clear that these aren't ordinary travelers, and that someone is out for their blood. Translated from Spanish.

PERLMAN, ELLIOT SEVEN TYPES OF AMBIGUITY (\$23.00) A special order.

PITMAN & MACNALLY BET YOUR LIFE (#7) (\$10.99) In his role as racing security advisor Frankie Houlihan is charged with the safety of Eddie Malloy, a former champion jockey who lost his arm in a terrible accident on Mount Everest.

PORTER, HENRY THREE GREAT NOVELS (\$24.95) Remembrance Day, A Spy's Life and Empire State in a large trade paperback.

PRESTON & CHILD DANCE OF DEATH (\$10.99) Features Agent Pendergast. Two brothers. One a top FBI agent, the other a brilliant, twisted criminal. Who hate each other. Now, a perfect crime.

PRONZINI, BILL nameless NIGHTCRAWLERS (#30) (\$9.99) It's been quiet at the San Francisco agency Nameless founded. But soon both he and Jake are searching for their partner, Tamara, who has been kidnapped and taken to a trailer in the woods. They are in a race against time.

PYPER, ANDREW WILDFIRE SEASON (\$19.95) Mike McEwan is a hard-drinking, fist-fighting, fire chief for the town of Ross River in the Yukon. A hunting party seeking out one of the last giant grizzlies runs into trouble and a fire, set by human hands, causes Mike a ton of grief. From the author of Lost Girls (\$10.99).

RANKIN, IAN OMNIBUS COMPLETE SHORT STORIES (\$24.95) Two collections previously collected as A Good Hanging and Beggar's Banquet and a brand new Rebus story, Atonement is what you'll find in this tome.

REICHS, KATHY CROSS BONES (#8) (\$19.95) When an Orthodox Jewish man is found shot to death in Montreal, Temperance Brennan is called in to investigate. Unexpectedly, a stranger slips her a photo of a skeleton. With detective Andrew Ryan and biblical archaeologist Jake Drum, Tempe travels to Israel to probe the origins of the skeleton and the ancient crypt in which it was found. A startling discovery raises questions about Christ's death.

RHOADES, J D jack keller DEVIL'S RIGHT HAND (#1) (\$9.99) Jack Keller, a man tormented by nightmares he's had ever since a disastrous tour in Desert Storm, makes his living tracking bail jumpers for a firm in North Carolina. He has no idea how his latest case, tracking down a lifelong loser for jumping bail on a burglary collar, will spiral out of control. A debut novel.

RICHARDS, EMILIE BLESSED IS THE BUSYBODY (\$9.99) First in a new series, featuring the unconventional Aggie Sloan-Wilcox, a minister's wife with her own calling: helping troubled souls in need of justice. When Aggie's husband is the likely suspect in the death of a woman, a woman he had been counseling, it's up to Aggie to clear his name.

ROBERTS, JENNY DEAD RECKONING (\$20.00) PI Cameron McGill follows yet another cheating husband who comes home smelling of cheap perfume—but this one turns out to be cross-dressing instead. When he is killed outside a Manchester gay bar, McGill faces the police—and the possibility that this is the first in a series of hate-killings. The third in this series, sequel to Needlepoint and Breaking Point (\$22.95 each).

ROBINSON, PETER STRANGE AFFAIR (#15) (\$10.99) ...amply demonstrates why he's counted among the top crime fiction writers in the world... See *Wendy's Picks*.

ROE, CAROLINE CONSOLATION FOR AN EXILE (#8) (\$10.99) It's spring in Girona of 1355 and Isaac the physician bids farewell to his student Yusuf, who is returning to his family who thought him dead for years. Isaac also investigates the murder of one of his patients. Number eight in this wonderful series featuring a blind physician set in Spain. The research is impeccable.

RUSSELL, KIRK NIGHT GAME (#2) (\$17.95) Former DEA agent John Marquez is now the head of the special operations unit of the California Department of Fish and Game. As he takes his team in pursuit of ruthless bear poachers they encounter murder, missing game wardens, international traffickers and local thugs.

RYAN, ROBERT AFTER MIDNIGHT (#4) (\$14.95) Sequel to Early One Morning (#1), Blue Moon (#2) and Night Crossing (#3) (\$14.95 each).

SEFTON, MAGGIE kelly flynn NEEDED TO DEATH (#2) (\$9.99) Sequel to Knit One, Kill Two (9.99) A knitting mystery. Delicious recipe and knitting pattern included! A murderer is lurking in Fort Connor, Colorado, and Kelly is going to sort him out. Even if it means taking a break from the sweater she's been knitting in the round.

SHAN, DARREN ALLIES OF THE NIGHT (#8) (\$10.99)

SHARP, ZOE fox FIRST DROP (#4) (\$21.00) Charlie Fox's new career as a bodyguard takes her to Fort Lauderdale to mind the gawky fifteen-year-old son of a rich computer programmer. But someone is determined to snatch the boy. Sequel to Killer Instinct (seems to be out of print), Riot Acts and Hard Knocks (\$10.99 each). Wendy really likes this series. See *Wendy's Picks*.

SHEEHAN, JAMES MAYOR OF LEXINGTON AVENUE (\$20.95) A debut novel that reads "like it was written by a master of the genre." says **Nelson DeMille**. Jack Tobin is a trial lawyer with a searing-hot reputation in Miami, far removed from his scrappy youth on the streets of New York. But when a Florida man is convicted of murder, and he turns out to be the son of his childhood friend, Mikey, he puts his own life on the line to try and save him.

SIMS, ELIZABETH EASY STREET (\$19.99)

SMITH, MARTIN CRUZ WOLVES EAT DOGS (#5) (\$19.00) There is no evidence of foul play when Arkady Renko investigates the death of one of Russia's new billionaires but he does discover a mountain of salt in the victim's bedroom closet. Why? The search for answers leads him to Chernobyl and its environs.

STARK, RICHARD POINT BLANK (#1) (\$21.00) The first Parker novel, published in 1962. Various published under the titles Payback and Hunter. Smuggled in from the UK, just for you, dear reader.

STANLEY, J B A KILLER COLLECTION (\$9.99) Introducing amateur sleuth Molly Appleby, a sharp-witted woman with a keen knowledge of antiques, a special fondness for collectibles and a canny acquaintance with the criminal mind. And lots of pottery.

STARLING, BORIS VODKA (\$10.99) Alice Liddell, an American banker has come to Moscow in December of 1991, to oversee the privatisation of Red October, Russia's most famous vodka. She is faced with the charismatic, ruthless Lev, distillery director and head of one of the warring Mafia gangs, and a very difficult job is starting to look impossible especially when three children have been murdered and it looks like someone has it out for Lev.

SULLIVAN, EUGENE MAJORITY RULES (\$10.99) Tim Quinn, a D.C. lawyer, is recommended by his friend Harry Winston to a vacancy on the bench caused by the unsavoury death of one of the judges. It seems too good to be true until Tim realizes that Chief Judge Winston's influence and favours come at a price.

SWIFT, VIRGINIA BYE BYE LOVE (#3) (\$9.99) College professor and sometime-sleuth Sally Alder can't say no to Thomas "Stone" Jackson, a singer that she has had a crush on for ages, when he asks her for help. Jackson is worried about his ex-wife, folk-singer Nina Cruz. When Nina is found shot in the forest behind her

house the police rule it a hunting accident, but Sally is not convinced. Sequel to Brown Eyed Girl and Bad Company (\$9.99 each).

TAMMUZ, BENJAMIN MINOTAUR (\$19.95) First published in 1989 and translated from the Hebrew. "The best book of the year."—*Graham Greene*. Terrific reviews with comparisons to Faulkner, Lawrence Durrell, Chekhov...

TARTT, DONNA SECRET HISTORY (\$22.95) A new edition of the modern classic, first published to considerable acclaim in 1992.

TIMLIN, MARK ALL THE EMPTY PLACES (\$14.95) A Nick Sharman novel. "It is possible that South London contains some law abiding citizens in conventional relationships but they make no appearance in Timlin's immoral, wildly enjoyable books."—*The Times*.

TROW, M J MAXWELL'S GRAVE (#9) (\$21.00)

TWINING, JAMES tom kirk DOUBLE EAGLE (#1) (\$10.99) By one of the **TWININGs**, of tea fame. The two main characters are Tom Kirk, a young art thief who wants out of the thieving life and Jennifer Browne, an ambitious FBI agent trying to redeem herself after making a tragic error three years earlier. She is investigating a theft from Fort Knox and Tom is the prime suspect. Tom races against time and killers to find the real thieves and the 1933 U.S. Double Eagle which "officially" never existed. So how come everybody wants it? Action packed excitement! FYI, a couple of recent newspaper articles mentioned court battles that are about to begin pitting "owners" of this coin and the US government that confiscated them on the theory that they had all been stolen from the US Mint. Both Marian and Wendy picked this when it was first published in hardcover. See *Wendy's Picks*.

[VARIOUS]BRETT, SIMON THE DETECTION COLLECTION (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

VERMILLION, MARY mara DEATH BY DISCOUNT (\$17.95) Nothing short of homicide is going to drag headstrong Mara Gilgannon back to her dinky hometown. So, when her aunt Glad dies, Mara does go home. She soon begins to suspect that Glad's vocal opposition to the opening of a local Wal-Mart may have led to her murder.

WALKER, ROBERT W ABSOLUTE INSTINCT (#11) (\$10.99) Featuring Dr. Jessica Coran.

WALKER, ROBERT W historic CITY FOR RANSOM (#1) (\$9.99) Welcome to Chicago 1893. Thousands are flocking to this bustling metropolis for the great Exposition of 1893 and to ride Mr. Ferris's remarkable wheel. But this city has caught the attention not only of the world but of a maniacal killer who has made it his hunting ground.

WALKER, SUE RECKONING (\$25.00) It's been thirty years since Miller's father was arrested for the murder of three young girls on the Scottish island of Fidra. Miller has always believed that his father was guilty. Now that his father has died and the file comes into his hands, he's not so sure.

WALTERS, GUY COLDTIZ LEGACY (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

WENTWORTH, PATRICIA THE CASE OF WILLIAM SMITH, THE CASE IS CLOSED and CHINESE SHAWL (\$10.99 each). Recent reissues with delightful covers. Due to be reissued in February are: FINGERPRINT, GAZEBO, KEY and THROUGH THE WALL (\$10.99 each tentatively).

WILCOX, JOHN HORNS OF THE BUFFALO (#1) (\$10.99)

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