



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

January 2007

What strange weather we have been having this past month. There was a Sunday in late December when it was 13C/55F. That's golfing weather, my friends! We have had no snow yet and no cold temperatures to speak of. Other parts of the continent, the west in particular have never seen so much rain and snow. Is this the Global Warming that we need to come to grips with? Surely this can't be all good. Even I, selfish golfer that I am, wonder if this is just the natural order of things or have we so screwed up the eco-system that the time has come to pay the piper. Assuming that we were going to have a "normal" winter I went ahead and booked a golf trip to Florida. Don't I look kind of silly now. Oh well. Winter will arrive, we won't be that lucky, I'm just keeping my fingers crossed that it won't be snowing in June. December is always busy, although I try to pace myself, at my age that's important, and I am looking forward to a few days off. The week between Christmas and New Year was quite busy what with many having that week off and the exchanges and the gift certificates. I hope that everyone finally has the books they wanted. A great big thanks to everyone who brought us Christmas treats and Paddington wants me to be sure to thank all his uncles and aunts—he had no idea he was so blessed—for all his treats. He is particularly delighted with his stash of his dairy flavoured Temptations. You must have searched high and low because there seems to be a worldwide shortage of the dairy flavour. He's going to ration himself.

We have always stocked a few non-mystery titles for your convenience. This past December we upped that selection to about fifty. Selection was based on customer special orders and suggestions but we did stock the Governor General and Giller shortlisted titles—no surprise that we sold quite a few copies of Giller Award winner VINCENT LAM's Bloodletting and Miraculous Cures (\$17.95)—and we will do this again. Perhaps start with the shortlists of various award, the Man Booker, National Book Awards, GG, Giller, and see where we get. Also popular were TONY ASPLER's Wine Atlas of Canada (\$60 signed) and the Oxford Companion to Wine (\$75)—we have a few well-heeled wine enthusiasts it would seem. Your response to the selection of non-mysteries has encouraged us to devote a small section of the bookstore to these books. What do you think? Of course, you know that we'd be only too happy to special order ANY book for you.

Come meet SEAN CHERCOVER on Friday the 26th of January (6 to 7:30 pm) and let him tell you all about his debut mystery Big City, Bad Blood (\$29.95 Morrow). Sean lives in Toronto now but has lived and worked, as a PI, in Chicago which is the setting for

the book. The book is one of *Wendy's Picks* so I'll say no more here other than to say that the book is getting very good reviews everywhere and a signed first edition would make an excellent addition to your collection. Sean tells me that the further adventures of PI Ray Dudgeon are forthcoming.

Wendy's Picks

My reading time has decreased considerably due to circumstances beyond my control so I only just got to a book that was in the newsletter back in November: Corn Dolls (\$34.95) by PATRICK LENNON. This is a debut mystery set in Cambridge, a setting that is very appealing to me as Cambridge is one of my favourite places to visit in the UK. We are introduced to Detective Inspector Tom Fletcher and his team as they investigate what appears to be a very bloody accident involving a young man and a shredding machine in a farming machinery showroom. Then the company's security guard dies in a car accident. Two accidents or something more sinister? Fletcher's investigation leads him to events from the past, police corruption, corn dolls, some nasty Russians and a present day killer. There is a second storyline involving Fletcher and events from his past. Seemingly unrelated to his investigation but.... This is a book of surprises, flawed characters and an unexpected twist. Hopefully, this is the start of a new series.

His book is yet to be published but Toronto-based writer SEAN CHERCOVER's debut mystery Big City, Bad Blood (\$29.95) is a winner. Ray Dudgeon, a former Chicago reporter turned PI, is hired to protect Bob Lonski, a locations manager for Hollywood films, who saw something he shouldn't have and is now a witness against an alleged member of the Chicago Outfit. The bodyguard job rapidly turns into a bloody mess. Ray uncovers blackmail at a high level, corruption, and secrets that people are willing to protect at all cost. There is action aplenty as Ray has to find answers without getting himself killed. Chercover's experience as a PI gives the story real tension and credibility. As I was reading the advanced reading copy, I had to stop often and wonder if what was happening to Ray had actually happened to the author. (He won't tell me.) Ray is a fascinating character, tough and loyal and I look forward to many more (I hope) mysteries featuring him. This debut is due out the 20th of January and I highly recommend it. If you can, come to the launch on **Friday, January 26th** to meet this author and get your signed copy.

GREG ILES' newest book, True Evil (\$32.99) is a page turner. I loved Blood Memory (\$13.95), set in Natchez, Mississippi and full

of evil and family secrets so was intrigued by this new book. The dust jacket summary of True Evil caught my attention and I took this book home the day I unpacked it and read it over two evenings (it's more than 500 pages long!). On the surface, this book appears to be very straightforward – an FBI agent is tracking down an extremely evil serial killer. But there is so much more going on. The central character is FBI agent Alexandra Morse, a hostage negotiator but a bad choice on the job left her partner dead and Alexandra scarred, physically and emotionally. Then there's her turbulent personal life – her father shot dead during a robbery, her mother dying of cancer and her sister dead from a stroke. Before dying, Alexandra's sister tells her that her husband has murdered her and makes her promise to protect her ten-year-old nephew from his father. The FBI won't listen to Alex as there is no forensic evidence of foul play so she risks her life and career to keep her promise. After months of investigation on her own, Alex believes that lawyer Andrew Rusk has found a way to provide a service to his clients – getting rid of their spouses in a way that doesn't seem to be murder. What she doesn't know is how or who else is involved. When Alex approaches Dr. Chris Shepard and tells him that his new wife is plotting his murder, he does not believe her. As Alex lays out the evidence of his wife's deceptions, Chris slowly begins to accept that his wife wants him dead and agrees to help Alex. Their dilemma is how to find the madman before Chris becomes his next victim and how to stop a disease when its source is unknown. This is a fast-paced, action-packed thriller with a showdown at the end involving SWAT teams, helicopters, and a child in danger. The really scary thing about this book is that the premise seems all too real.

VICTORIA BLAKE's third Sam Falconer mystery, Skin and Blister (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) is a terrific addition to the series. Sam is in Oxford for annual May Day celebrations when festivities are marred by the apparent suicide of a student. Upon her return to London, Sam is approached by Irishman Rick McGann who is looking for her father. Wanting absolutely nothing to do with the man who ruined her childhood, Sam refuses Rick's request but is disconcerted by her attraction to him and things happen to change her mind. Meanwhile, in Oxford, Mark, her brother disappears. Is his disappearance connected to the student's death or to her father? Sam's investigation begins. I really like the Sam Falconer character; she comes across as tough and independent but when her brother is kidnapped, her vulnerability shows through. It is this contradiction that makes her very human to me. Start with Bloodless Shadow (\$10.99) if you've not read this author yet.

I have enjoyed all of **LESLEY HORTON**'s mysteries as they tackle very difficult, topical themes - racism, abuse, teenage prostitution, among others. Her latest The Hollow Core (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) is no exception. As the dustjacket says, "Behind closed doors, every family has its secrets." And it's those secrets that DI John Handford and DS Khalid Ali must unravel to discover why Diane Ingleby was gunned down in a car parking lot. As their investigation deepens, it seems that Diane could have been an accidental victim and her husband the actual target. But Diane was also a volunteer, working with a victim of a violent attack and maybe her death was linked to that victim. Unfortunately, Handford is frustrated by victim confidentiality laws and is unable to get information that could help his investigation in a timely fashion. A second storyline involves Muslim trainee DC Parvez Miah and his wife who is found badly beaten. The Muslim community feels this is an issue to be dealt with internally, by the family, not by the police, causing more tension. This is a mystery of

divided loyalties, family honour, bad decisions, revenge and misguided silences.

I've written many times about being a dog person and I look forward to new dog-related mysteries. **DONNA BALL**'s mystery Smoky Mountain Tracks (\$9.99) introduced Raine Stockton, her kennel business and her golden retriever, Cisco. In the latest mystery, Rapid Fire (\$9.99), Raine is very busy, her kennel and obedience classes are full. It's summer and tourists are flocking to the Smoky Mountains. The FBI arrives at her home, believing that her college boyfriend Andy Fontana, has returned to the area and will try to contact Raine. Andy became involved with a radical environmental group during college and disappeared with some of the group's money after (allegedly) bombing a chemical plant and killing four people. After nearly fifteen years on the run, the FBI believes that he has returned to retrieve the money/diamonds from the mountains. Meanwhile, an immigrant worker is found dead, a bear is spotted in town, a construction project is sabotaged, and her relationship with Buck, her twice married, currently estranged husband and Deputy Sheriff, is strained by the possibility of Andy being in the neighbourhood. Plus she's trying to get Cisco ready for the upcoming obedience trials. What's a gal to do but find Andy, investigate the worker's death, protect the bear, find out what's going on at the construction site, put up with Buck and keep Cisco on a short leash! Raine is a funny and stubborn character, loyal to those she cares about, respectful of the mountains she grew up in and crazy about her dogs. I think that Marian has enjoyed these as well.

For those who enjoyed **Caleb Carr**'s The Alienist (\$10.99), give The Interpretation of Murder, (\$33.95), a debut mystery by **JED RUBENFELD**, a try. Set in 1909 New York City, Sigmund Freud's only visit to America is the backdrop for this compelling mystery. A young socialite is murdered and a second lady attacked but she escapes, memory gone and mute. Dr. Stratham Younger, a follower of Freud's, attempts to unlock her mind and Freud offers insight into the case. There is much going on in this book - psychological insights, political intrigues, a possible serial killer, old money and sexual perversion. (After all, we are talking about Freud!) One of the most interesting aspects for me is New York City itself – the mansions, the rivalries, the building of a bridge, the turn-of-the-century details of a fascinating city. I can't wait to go back and visit some of the places that the author talks about. A fascinating book.

Marian always talks about a story that she listens to at Christmas, so when a new paperback edition of The Shepherd (\$11.99) by **FREDERICK FORSYTH** arrived, I had to read it. This is a novella, a quick read but I thank Marian for telling me about it as it is a delight. Written in the 70s, this is the story of an RAF pilot flying home from Germany to Britain on Christmas Eve 1957. Over the North Sea, his instruments fail, the fog rolls in and crashing into the sea seems inevitable. With radio contact gone and fuel running low, he performs a maneuver that he hopes someone on the ground will see on their screens and send out help. He waits. This is a suspenseful, magical tale that I'm sure most of you already know about. Where have I been? If, like me, you have missed this novella, buy a copy now and reread it every Christmas Eve.

And now for something completely different – Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West (\$21.50) by **GREGORY MAGUIRE**. This is a book that a customer special ordered and I was intrigued. I haven't quite finished it but I'm thoroughly enjoying **Maguire**'s Oz and the story of Elphaba, better

known as the Wicked Witch of the West. This is an incredibly imaginative tale of Oz and the life of a misunderstood girl. She does not start out wicked but rather insecure, green, moral and courageous. She tries to do the right thing but ultimately fails every time. We all know what happens in L. Frank Baum's book after the arrival of Dorothy. At times funny, at other times, tragic, this is a clever book full of the characters and places that we are so familiar with. Now I have to see the play based on this book – another reason to go to New York City as its run here in Toronto is over.

Happy New Year! Health and happiness to everyone in 2007!

Marian's Picks

So, did you make any New Year's Resolution? I think all of us want to be healthy and so we decide that if we could just lose some weight then we would be healthier and thus happier. Unfortunately, true as that is, as we get older it gets harder to shed those kilos, and we get frustrated and end up drinking more to feel better, and putting on the kilos is just so darn easy. So, how about, we just stay active and eat some more veggies each day and maybe a bit more fruit and sign up for the New York City Marathon this year and see if we get picked through the balloting system that they have? How about that? Okay, okay, **I'll** eat the fruit and veggies and **I'll** sign up for the NYC Marathon. And **I'll** keep quiet.

I didn't get a chance to read much over the holidays as it was VERY busy at the store and way too busy on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, what with all my family at the cottage. I have a whole pile of books I want to read but I haven't managed yet. I hope to have them read for the next issue.

One of the best books that I read in 2006 was The Fallen (\$10.99) by **T. JEFFERSON PARKER** and I won the arm wrestle with Wendy to choose this as my pick. Robbie Brownlaw is a San Diego policeman who is thrown from a sixth floor window and survives. But he is left with a rare neurological condition that allows him to see people's words as colours. If the bad guy is lying to him, he can tell. A good trick to have in an interview situation. The plot moved along nicely, there was a touch of humour but still gritty enough for Wendy. I loved the Brownlaw character and I eagerly wait for his continuing (hopefully) adventures. This is a standalone novel and if you have never read **T. Jefferson Parker** before, and you like American police procedurals, then you owe it to yourself to try him. Also excellent, so you need to try, are his two recent Edgar winning novels Silent Joe and California Girl (\$10.99 each).

The Last Templar (\$13.50) by **RAYMOND KHOURY** has just arrived in paperback and, if you like stories that deal with the Knights Templar, you will enjoy this. It is set in the present day but makes reference to a young Templar Knight who fled the Holy Land in 1291 with a mysterious chest entrusted to him by the Order's dying grand master. The ship he boarded vanishes without a trace. That's all in the prologue. The next thing you know, four horsemen are riding up the steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and create havoc at an exhibit of Vatican treasures. An archaeologist and an FBI agent try to figure out why the horsemen stole a strange geared device from the exhibition. I loved all the action and the reference to things past. I will certainly read the next book he writes.

Restless (\$32.95) by **WILLIAM BOYD** was listed in the last newsletter but I was only part way through it then. I've decided to mention it now because I really enjoyed it and if you like spy novels then you should try this. It's the story of how Sally Gilmartin, known at the time as Eva Delectorskaya, used her work in New York City during the very early part of the Second World War for the British Secret Service to manipulate public sentiment toward US involvement in the war. That story alternates with the current story, set in 1976, where Sally believes someone from that time period is still out to kill her and the only person she can trust is her daughter Ruth. Excellent.

I just loved Silent in the Grave (\$26.95) by **DEANNA RAYBOURN**. On December 22, 2006, someone from her publishing house was in the bookstore buying books for Christmas and happened to mention that this book was being released in January. I really can't remember how we got talking about it but I said I had not heard of it and we had not received an advance reading copy. The next day a copy of the book arrived, and this was the only book I had time to read over the holidays. Set in upper-class Victorian England, Lady Julia Grey believes her husband's death was due to a long standing illness and she is quite upset when dark and dashing handsome private inquiry agent Nicholas Brisbane suggests that Sir Edward was murdered. The book evokes images of very posh houses and high society and I quite enjoyed reading it.

Guest Picks

*(Helen N. has been a great friend of the bookstore for more years than I can remember. We always talk books, and somehow got around to **ROBERT FATE's** Baby Shark. I had met him at Magna cum Murder and, more importantly, had been enthusiastically introduced to his book by **Troy Cook**, author of 47 Rules of Highly Effective Bank Robbers (\$19.95). Helen was equally enthusiastic about the book and offered to review it. I jumped at the offer!)*

My approach to reading is to read the books I buy in roughly the order I buy them. With each month of amassing more and more books, I get further and further behind, so I don't often get to comment on the current crop. However on the airplane on my way home from Bouchercon in Madison, I met Robert Fate, author of **Baby Shark** (Capital Crime Press \$19.95). He convinced me to read this, his first book, right away. And was I ever glad I did. I thoroughly enjoyed this book set in rural Texas in 1952.

The Baby Shark of the title is Kristen Van Dijk, a young, female, pool shark. In the opening pages she witnesses the brutal murder of her father and the son of a family friend. She herself is brutally raped and the building set on fire. Initially Kristen meets nothing but legal roadblocks, even the files on the case go missing. On the physical side, she has a lot of injuries to recover from. Henry Chin, father of the other murder victim hires help for Kristen, help in training in firearms and martial arts and help in the form of a private detective to help track down the killers and rapists. The book is the story of Baby Shark's recovery and her revenge. It's not a book for the squeamish. But in spite of Baby Shark's toughness, she is still vulnerable enough to be likeable. Add in a memorable supporting cast and you have a really great read.

I liked the book so much that I twisted a few arms and convinced the book club I'm part of to read it for our January read. By the time you read this, our January meeting will be done, but if you'd like to join us at 6:30 on February 6 at the Fox and Fiddle at 190 Laird Avenue (that's the first light south of Eglinton), we'll be discussing **Turning Angel** by Greg Iles.

(Hans K. has been another great friend of the bookstore for many, many years. His involvement with the store might actually predate ours! With him it's mostly PI novels that we discuss, as he must have one of the most extensive collections of PI novels anywhere, and he offers the following. Thanks to both Helen and Hans--JD)

Just dropping you a line about the **ROBERT BAILEY** novels featuring PI Art Hardin. Have read the first two which you now have in large format paperback and I thought both were great. Well above the average PI novel. The first two titles were Private Heat and Dying Embers (\$16.95 ea). The new title coming late in January from Evans is Dead Bang (\$30). Was impressed enough by the first two that I will be reading the third as soon as you have my copy. Art Hardin is the main character, but he is aided by his wife, who is also a PI, and by his children (who are in their late teens and older). The books received favourable reviews from Publishers Weekly and Booklist.

David's Picks

In this installment of Dave's picks I've selected some books that are all relatively new and, I think, are shining examples of a *simple story, well told*. You won't need a note pad and pen to keep track of the characters, plotlines and double crosses in these books, but what you will get is great entertainment and you'll spend some time with authors who know how to put you in the thick of their stories.

Winter's Bone (\$29.99) by **DANIEL WOODRELL** is a slim and beautifully written story. **Woodrell** is the author of the Rene Shade series and I had hoped that he would deliver another gritty and hilarious Shade story. We got Winter's Bone instead and my initial disappointment fell away by about page ten. Ree Dolly is a seventeen-year-old girl mucking out an existence in the hills of the Ozarks. Her mother is ill and losing her mind, her brothers are a handful and her father Jessup – a local criminal and meth-head – has gone missing and the cops are about to seize the family home because Jess has skipped his bond. Ree is resourceful, tough and left with no choice but to search among the backwoods underworld for her old man. **Woodrell** writes about this territory like no one else and brings to mind the early stories of **James Lee Burke**. Check out any of **Woodrell's** past efforts for both his unique style and dark sense of humour.

MATTHEW F. JONES wrote a critically acclaimed crime novel called Deepwater (\$25, *two left and now out of print*) a few years ago. It was a strange and creepy book that was recently adapted to film. **Jones** seemed to disappear for a while, but he's back with Boot Tracks (\$20), the deceptively simple tale of Charlie Rankin, a man just out of prison and on a collision course with trouble that will see him land back behind bars. Rankin received both protection and, oddly enough, spiritual advice from cellmate Buddha while he was imprisoned. Buddha is a lifer, a master manipulator and has rewired Rankin's head to settle this one last score on his behalf. Boot Tracks, like the novels of **Ken Bruen**, is psychologically

complex and once again demonstrates **Jones's** ability to write a crime story that gives the reader the weird and chilling feeling usually associated with horror novels.

The Memory Keeper's Daughter (\$18.50) by **KIM EDWARDS** is an episodic page-turner and I'm running out of space here so I'll set up the main plot of this engrossing story and promise those who take the bait that they are in for something very different yet highly readable. Dr David Henry is an upstanding surgeon in Lexington Kentucky. It's 1964 and a freak snowstorm immobilizes the city. Dr. Henry's wife Norah goes into labour as the storm bears down. With the assistance of a local nurse, Dr. Henry (an orthopedic surgeon) delivers twins and observes that one of them appears to have Downs Syndrome. He instructs the nurse to take that baby to her home and remain there until further notice. Dr. Henry then tells his wife that one child was stillborn, setting in motion a story of deceit and quiet suspense...

Lecanne's Picks

few more assorted creatures of the night...

ROSEMARY EDGHILL's Bell Book and Murder (\$24.95 omnibus edition containing the three novels listed below) is terrific. Finally, a writer who comes close to the real world of witchcraft today! With all of its quirks and eclectic characters, New York's contemporary pagan scene is the backdrop for the Bast Novels: Speak Daggers to Her, Book of Moons, and The Bowl of Night. I had only read the first in the series, and I am so grateful to the Sleuth for connecting me with the rest. These are terrific.

JEWELL PARKER RHODES Voodoo Dreams (\$19). If **Anne Rice** had **Ann Marie Macdonald** over for tea they might have come up with something like this. The story doesn't get overwhelmed by the iconic character of Marie Laveau. Voodoo is an often misinterpreted but beautiful religion and Rhodes handles it with respect. Although fictional, the Laveau of Voodoo Dreams is an easy fit for the legendary Voodooienne.

Rhodes uses Voodoo Dreams as the foundation for Voodoo Season (\$19). In the second novel, the reader is brought to present day to follow the latest descendant of Laveau as Marie learns of her heritage and finds her true calling. Doctor Marie Levant finds herself in New Orleans trying to catch a murderer who seems to leave his victims as the living dead. Everyone seems to know more about Marie than herself. Including the murderer who may be using his victims to taunt Marie into joining forces with him. Both books were a pleasure to read and I look forward to Voodoo Jazz, which has no release date as of yet.

PHIL RICKMAN's Merrily Watkins series, of which The Smile of a Ghost (\$9.99) is the seventh, is one of my favourites. In this novel, Merrily Watkins is settling into her position as vicar near the Welsh border, but not without challenges. Chosen Exorcist despite herself, and all the doubting Thomases around her, Merrily tried to be supportive of Detective Sergeant Andy Mumford as he tried to prove that his nephew didn't commit suicide. Teenagers are jumping to their deaths from atop an old castle. Are the kids being manipulated for someone's sick obsession or being possessed by ghosts from the past to share the same fate? Start with Wine of Angels (\$9.99), the first in the series and I hope you'll like them as much as I have. These lovely novels became a major addiction last

winter, and, they, as well as listening to Nick Drake, whose music features heavily throughout the series, helped me get through the winter.

J.D.'s Picks

I've been a fan of **CARL HIAASEN** since his first book, [Tourist Season](#) (\$10.99), published some twenty years ago, so I glommed on to his new one, [Nature Girl](#) (\$32.95) soon after its arrival. Ever fantasized about tracking down one of these telemarketing creeps and turning the tables on them -- phoning their house every night at dinner and see how they like it? **Carl Hiaasen** obviously has, as that's what he does in this novel. His heroine, the lovely Honey Santana, is going to teach Boyd Shreave, the telemarketer in our story, a lesson. She tricks him into signing up for a bogus "eco-tour" in Florida, and then proceeds to teach him some manners. Another hot button topic for the author, and frequent theme in his novels, is the over development of Florida, due mostly to tourism. Indeed, he says he tried to scare off tourists from ever going to Florida in his first book, the aforementioned [Tourist Season](#), but doesn't think it worked. So, he sets this story in the Ten Thousand Islands, one of the few remaining places in Florida that haven't been developed, mostly because it's pretty remote and because it's also a mangrove jungle where the mosquitoes are so thick that you literally inhale them. And this is where Honey takes Boyd. Throw in Honey's obsessed former employer, whose roving hands got him a quick and very painful lesson in the dangers of sexual harassment in the workplace, her ex-husband who is still smitten with her, her wise-beyond-his-years twelve-year-old son, and a half white/half Seminole failed alligator wrestler who is trying to flush the white out of his body, and well, you have all the ingredients for a perfect waste of a few hours. As only this writer can.

In a recent unauthorized biography of Dick Francis, [Dick Francis. A Racing Life](#) (\$9.99) by **GRAHAM LORD**, it was suggested that the Dick Francis novels had not in fact been written by **Dick Francis** but, instead, by his wife Mary. Whether this is true or not, it is certainly true that there has not been a new **Dick Francis** novel since her death, five years ago. Until now, that is, [Under Orders](#) (\$34 reprints, C\$125 first editions), by the way, is a racing term for when the horses are at the start and subject to the starter's orders. Regardless of who actually wrote the novels—and to some extent does it really matter? many novels are after all collaborative efforts (editors, researchers, assistants all can have a hand in it)—they are either entertaining or they are not. And **Francis** has never failed to be entertaining—well, perhaps, not counting [The Edge](#), the only book he set in Canada, which was pretty lame. But by and large, his books are well researched, move along at a good pace (more than a canter) and he has this very entertaining way of weaving into his racing stories some background colour, (which can be more or less related to horses and racing, the Olympics, Scotch, banking) that adds an extra dimension to the stories and to the enjoyment. In this book the background is internet gambling and a little bit about DNA research. This novel feels a little less substantial than some of the earlier ones but it was still fun. I start many books that I put down after 50 pages or so as they fail to catch my interest, but not this one, I read it in a couple of sittings.

BRIAN FREEMAN is an award winning writer (the Macavity for Best First Novel and short listed for most of the mystery world's major awards) of two novels featuring police detective Lt. Jonathan

Stride. Both Marian and Wendy have liked these a great deal and have told you about them so I won't go into plot details. Where I found his first book, [Immoral](#) (\$10.99), to be interesting but not extraordinary, not bad for a first-timer, it's the second one, [Stripped](#) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paper), that has me champing at the bit for the next one. It's detailed, a little overindulgent, a little over written (for my taste, some of the prose made me wince) and overly long (again for my taste) (*obviously our taste is far superior as we disagree wholeheartedly. Marian & Wendy*) but it kept me glued to my chair. This is an old-school thriller, lots of sex and violence, that is better than most of its kind and he's one to keep an eye on.

My favourite book of the season, however, has got to be [The Dangerous Book for Boys](#) (\$39.95) by **CONN** and **HAL IGGULDEN**. (**Conn**, by the way, is the author of two novels of Ancient Rome and Julius Caesar, [Gates of Rome](#) and [Death of Kings](#) (\$10.99 each)). This is the perfect bathroom read. In this age of cell phones and video games there is still a need for a book that teaches you the six basic knots that every kid, regardless of age, should know. Ever wanted to make a tree house, learn the rules of poker, or cricket or chess? Want to learn all about famous battles, say Caesar's invasion of Britain, or Waterloo and the Somme? What exactly is marbled paper and how does one make it? Everyone knows that B is for Bravo and T is for Tango, but what about F (Foxtrot) and O (Oscar) and V (Victor)? Want to make a paper water bomb, the absolute best paper airplane, learn to juggle? Why is the sky blue, why indeed. Why can't you see the dark side of the moon, and very, very important, there's a section on girls. What exactly are the seven wonders of the ancient world? Of the modern world? Does your budding little anarchist need to know about timers or tripwires, or codes? Want to learn how you can make cloth fireproof and ink invisible. And if you get lost, could you navigate with just a needle, a stick or a watch? Well it's all here.

Now, lest you think that the book is all fun and games, oh no, there is a section on grammar (yuck), fun stuff like transitive and intransitive verbs, the subjunctive (who knew, I thought the subjunctive only existed in French grammar), modal auxiliary verbs (whatever the heck they are). There's a list of Latin phrases that you just can't live without. You've probably forgotten some of the Ten Commandments, well, they are listed here and you can bone up on them. I've taken a copy home and I'm going to work on my modal auxiliary verbs and maybe, even, the subjunctive.

Hardcover

ABBOTT, MEGAN [SONG IS YOU](#) (\$27.99) (Simon & Schuster) On October 7, 1949, Hollywood starlet Jean Spangler disappeared and was never seen again. The only clues left behind: a purse with a broken strap found in a nearby park, a cryptic note, and rumours about mobster boyfriends and ill-fated romances with movie stars. Drawing on this true-life missing persons case, Ms. Abbott has created the character of Gil "Hop" Hopkins, a smooth talking Hollywood publicist, who is drawn into the unsolved mystery by a friend of Jean, who blames Hop for concealing details from the police the night she disappeared.

ADAIR, GILBERT [ACT OF ROGER MURGATROYD](#) (\$23.00) (Faber & Faber) Boxing Day 1935. A snowed-in manor on the very edge of Dartmoor. A Christmas house-party. And overhead in the attic, the dead body of gossip columnist and blackmailer Raymond Gentry, shot through the heart. But the attic door is locked from the

inside, its sole window is traversed by thick iron bars, and naturally, there is no sign of a murderer nor murder weapon. But one of the guests is Evadne Mount, best-selling author of countless whodunits.

ANGSTEN, DAVID DARK GOLD (\$33.95)

ARSENAULT, MARK GRAVEWRITER (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Billy Povich used to be a journalist but he lost his wife due to his gambling habit and then she died in a car crash. He now writes obituaries and lives with his elderly father and seven-year-old son, Bo. Billy plans to kill the man behind the wheel the night of his wife's death but a summons to jury duty delays his plans.

ATKINSON, KATE CASE HISTORIES (#1) US hardcover (\$31.95) This is a great read and we can get you an American hardcover if you wish. It is available in trade paperback at \$19.95. The second one in the series is One Good Turn

ATWOOD, MARGARET MORAL DISORDER (\$32.99) (McClelland & Stewart) A series of interconnected stories that trace the course of a life, and those intertwined with it. Not a mystery.

BARRON, STEPHANIE JANE AND THE BARQUE OF FRAILTY (#9) (\$32.00) (Bantam) Jane Austin investigates.

BENSON, ANN PHYSICIAN'S TALE (\$32.00) (Delacorte) In the near future, in the hills of the American Northwest, a group of men, women and children band together for survival against nature, human enemies and the second coming of the plague. Among these is Janie Crowe, a physician whose son is her greatest hope and deepest secret. Etched into Janie's memory is the ancient journal of a Jewish man of medicine, a man who fought for survival in his own age of plague. Two story-lines, six hundred years apart, how do they intersect? The first two in the series are The Plague Tales (\$10.99) and Burning Road (\$9.99).

BLAKE, VICTORIA SKIN AND BLISTER (#3) (\$37.95) (Orion) PI Sam Falconer is in Oxford looking into some sinister goings on at St. Barnabas College where her brother Mark teaches. When Mark vanishes and Sam's mother receives a card announcing a funeral mass for him, Sam fears her family's brutal family history has come back to haunt them. The first two in the series are Bloodless Shadow and Cutting Blades (\$10.99). Excellent series say both Marian and Wendy. See *Wendy's Picks*.

BLUNT, GILES FIELDS OF GRIEF (#4) (\$75 signed) (Harper Collins, UK) We snuck in a few copies of the UK edition of By The Time You Read This. The British felt the need to change the title.

BRAUN, LILIAN JACKSON CAT WHO HAD 60 WHISKERS (#29) (\$30.00) (Putnam) The conversion of the late Nathan Ledfield's mansion into a charitable museum is going along swimmingly until there is a mysterious death from a bee sting that leaves everyone but Koko in a state of confusion.

CAWTHORNE, NIGEL AMOROUS ANTICS OF OLD ENGLAND (\$19.95) (Portrait) A journey through the hidden sexual history of England. For example, did you know that if a widow remarried in the nude, her husband would not have to inherit her debts. Also available are The Strange Laws of Old England (\$19.95) and The Curious Cures of Old England (\$24.95).

CHANDRA, VIKRAM SACRED GAMES (\$37.95) (Harper Collins, Canada) This is a long book at 900 pages, with its table of contents and its glossary extra. Inspector Sartaj, one of the few Sikhs on the Mumbai police force, is finding his career prospects are on the slide. When he gets a tip-off as to the hiding place of Ganesh Gaitonde, the most wanted criminal in India, he's determined that he'll be the one to collect the prize.

CHANG, HENRY CHINATOWN BEAT (\$27.95) (Soho) Detective Jack Yu grew up in New York's Chinatown, where, now, 99% of the cops are white and where he has just been transferred. He is confronted by a serial rapist, the murder of Uncle Four, a respected elderly leader of a benevolent society, who is also a member of the

Red Circle Triad, and Uncle Four's missing mistress. To solve these crimes, in addition to using modern police technology, Jack turns to an elderly fortune teller and to an old friend who is now a crook.

CHERCOVER, SEAN BIG CITY BAD BLOOD (\$29.95) (Morrow) A debut novel by this Toronto resident. See *Wendy's Picks* and don't forget the launch on Friday, **January 26, 6 – 7:30 pm**.

CHURCH, JAMES CORPSE IN THE KORYO (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Sit on a quiet hillside at dawn and take a picture of a car coming up from the South. Simple orders for Inspector O, until he realizes they have led him far off his department's turf and into a maelstrom of betrayal and death. North Korea's leaders are desperate to hunt down and eliminate anyone who knows too much about a series of decades-old kidnappings and murders. Inspector O discovers too late he has been sent into the chaos. This book has garnered some wonderful reviews.

CLARE, ALYS HEART OF ICE (#9) (\$39.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) It is February 1194. A very sick man is making for Hawkenlye Abbey in hope of a miracle cure. In his delirium he sees the Virgin Mary, the same miraculous vision that led to the foundation of the Abbey. It is the last thing he sees. When the thaw sets in, a man is found in the lake with nothing to identify him except for an apothecary's remedy. Abbess Helewise asks her trusted friend Sir Josse d'Acquin to help find out who he is. As he sets out on his mission, a group of sick people arrive seeking help. Their sickness looks like the plague.

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS & CAROL SANTA CRUISE (\$27.99) (Scribner) A whole cast of characters set sail on the Santa Cruise the day after Christmas. There is Alvirah Meehan, the lottery winner turned amateur sleuth, and her husband Willy; recently married PI Regan Reilly and her husband Jack, head of the NYPD Major Case Squad; and Regan's parents Nora and Luke. As you can imagine, all is not well aboard ship in this short Christmas mystery.

CONANT, SUSAN GAITS OF HEAVEN (#17) (\$28.50) (Berkeley) It wasn't the golden Aussie huskypoo's fault that he wasn't housebroken, it was his owners', Ted and Eumie, a New Age couple who didn't believe in obedience training, collars or leashes. Holly Winter has been enlisted to do it for them. When Eumie dies from an 'accidental' overdose of mixed meds, her daughter, and Holly, suspect it is murder.

COOK, THOMAS H MURMUR OF STONES (\$45.00) (Quercus) In the US edition, which will be released in the next month or so, this book is titled Cloud of Unknowing (\$30.00). Brilliant and intense Diana Sears grew up caring for her schizophrenic father, and when her own son, Jason, is diagnosed as suffering from the same affliction, she devotes herself to caring for a child that will never be ordinary, a fact her husband, Mark, finds hard to accept. When Jason is drowned, Diana cannot believe the coroner's conclusion that her son's death was accidental. Suspecting her husband, she throws herself into building a case against him.

CORK, VENA GREEN EYE (\$34.95) (Headline) Danny Thorn, enrolled at Billings College Cambridge, is worried about getting a date for the May Ball. But with a rapist running loose, the academics in a battle over departmental closures and a case of jealousy about to rear its ugly head, Danny has his hands full. Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

CRAWFORD, ISIS CATERED VALENTINE'S DAY (#4) (\$31.00) Bernie and Libby, owners of A Taste of Heaven, have plans to partner up with the Just Chocolate store for a taste-tempting Valentine's Day fundraiser featuring pairings of exotic chocolates, food and wine. When the body of Ted Gorman, one of the owners of Just Chocolate, is found in someone else's grave, things get interesting. Ted was supposed to have died in a fiery crash weeks earlier, leaving his body nearly unrecognizable.

CRICHTON, MICHAEL NEXT (\$32.95)

CURZON, CLARE GLASS WALL (\$30.95) (Thomas Dunne) Superintendent Mike Yeadings and Sergeant Rosemary Zycynski investigate the death of an elderly woman who plunged from the seventh floor of a luxury penthouse. She could not get out of bed by herself, so who helped her? Originally published in 2005 in the UK.

CUSSLER, CLIVE TREASURE OF KHAN (\$35.00) (Putnam) When Dirk Pitt is nearly killed rescuing an oil survey team from a freak wave on Russia's Lake Baikal, it appears a simple act of nature. But it isn't and all trails lead to Mongolia, and a mysterious mogul who is conducting covert deals for supplying oil to the Chinese. The Mongolian harbours a dream of restoring the conquests of his ancestors and holds a dark secret about Genghis Khan.

DANIEL, JOHN M VANITY FIRE (\$29.95) (Poisoned Pen) Publisher Guy Mallon learns that his book warehouse has burned to the ground and he is now facing bankruptcy. To complicate matters, a burned body is found.

DEAVER, JEFFERY MORE TWISTED COLLECTED STORIES VOL II (\$32.00) (Simon & Schuster) Another collection of short stories. The first collection is Twisted (\$11.99).

DEMILLE, NELSON WILD FIRE (\$32.99) (Warner) The Custer Hill Club is a men's club set in a luxurious Adirondack hunting lodge whose members include some of America's most powerful business leaders, military men, and government officials. One fall weekend, the club's executive board gathers to finalize a retaliation plan for what happened on 9/11. That same weekend, a member of the Federal Anti-Terrorist Task Force is found dead. It's up to detective John Corey and his wife, FBI Agent Kate Mayfield, to unravel a terrifying plot that starts with the Custer Hill Club and ends with American cities locked in the crosshairs of a nuclear device.

DOHERTY, PAUL WAXMAN MURDERS (#15) (\$34.95) (Headline) Hugh Corbett is sent to Canterbury to negotiate for the ownership of The Cloister Map, which allegedly charts the whereabouts of a legendary treasure. The representatives of the Hanseatic League, the current owners of the map, are all murdered twenty-four hours after their arrival but the map was not stolen. Why? Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

DOIG, IVAN WHISTLING SEASON (\$31.00) (Harcourt) Not a mystery, just a book JD wanted to read. Set in 1909 in Montana, a young man becomes a teacher in a one-room school house and teaches "several kinds of education", none of them of the textbook variety. Someone must have recommend it,

DONOVAN, GERARD JULIUS WINSOME (\$30.00) (Overlook) Living alone in a remote cabin in the Maine woods, Julius Winsome is remote, vacant and inscrutable. But when his dog is killed by a careless hunter, it is revenge that drives him.

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN BEYOND THE CITY (\$37) Issued without dust jacket.

[DOYLE] KEANE, DAVID MISSING MONKEY EYE
DIAMOND and NEIGHBORHOOD STINK (\$19.99 each) Two cases for Joe Sherlock, Kid Detective, also available in paperback.

[DOYLE] LINDSEY, CHRISTOPHER SHERLOCK HOLMES AND A QUESTION OF SCIENCE (\$37.50) (Hadley Pager Info) An account of the wide range of scientific knowledge and observation that Holmes could bring to bear in solving the mysteries developed by Doyle. The book provides a time picture of the earliest developments of forensic science in the late Victorian period and is a reference book of all scientific aspects of the Holmes stories.

[DOYLE] PETERSON, DOUG SHEERLUCK HOLMES AND THE HOUNDS OF BAKER STREET (\$12.99) This kid's picture book is based on the VeggieTales video, whatever those are. A mysterious disappearance has the Veggies worried until Sheerluck Holmes and Dr. Bob Watson take the case.

[DOYLE] PIRIE, DAVID DARK WATER (#3) (\$33.99) Imprisoned in a dark cottage deep in the English countryside, Arthur Conan Doyle lies half-unconscious and at the mercy of his nemesis, Thomas Neill Cream. Gathering all his strength, he smashes a window and crawls to safety. Securing the help of his mentor, the pioneering criminal investigator Dr. Joseph Bell, Doyle returns to the cottage, only to find that Cream has fled. Also available in trade paperback at \$19.95.

[DOYLE]SIMMONS & MCCAY SHERLOCK HOLMES IS MISSING (\$14.50 small hard cover, young adult) The first adventure for the Raven League. When Archie Wiggins is kicked out of the Baker Street Irregulars, he has no idea what to do with himself. Then Holmes disappears—and it seems the Irregulars might have had something to do with it!

[DOYLE]THOENE, JAKE & LUKE BAKER STREET DETECTIVES Even famous detectives need help. When Sherlock Holmes is stumped by London's greatest crimes, he turns to the Baker Street Brigade. Here are four of their adventures: The Mystery of the Yellow Hands, The Giant Rat of Sumatra, The Jeweled Peacock of Persia and The Thundering Underground (\$13 ea., small hard covers, young adult).

FOLSOM, ALLAN MACHIARELLI COVENANT (\$31.95)
FRANCOME, JOHN FREE FALL (\$34.95) Jockey Pat Vincent had ambitions to win big races and become a wealthy sporting hero. But when he realizes his career isn't going anywhere, he devises a scam to help fulfil his dreams. The problem is, if he's found out, he will be "warned-off" for life. Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

FRAZIER, CHARLES THIRTEEN MOONS (\$34.95) Special orders only. By the author of Cold Mountain.

FREDRICKSON, JACK SAFE PLACE FOR DYING (#1) (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) An extortion letter arrives at Crystal Waters, one of Chicago's wealthiest gated communities. It makes no specific threats, gives no instructions, demands only that \$50,000 be gotten ready. The homeowners ignore the letter. When a mansion explodes the homeowners hire Dek Elstrom, who used to live with his multimillionaire wife at Crystal Waters before she threw him out, to investigate. He doesn't think he's the right guy for the job, but being broke who can question the motives of a gift-horse client. He needs the money and the chance to reconnect with his ex-wife.

GADZIOLA, RICK DRAWING DEAD (#3) (\$28.95) (ECW) If it's not one femme fatale, it's another for ex-cop, now Las Vegas poker dealer, Jake Morgan. Cleared of the murder of a beautiful high roller, he falls into the clutches of Vice Squad cop Laura Bulloch. Caught in the crossfire between dirty cops, Jake does his best to keep both Laura and himself alive. **Autographed copies available.** The first two in this series are Raw Deal and Freezeout (\$19.95 each, trade paperback).

GRABENSTEIN, CHRIS SLAY RIDE (\$34.50)

GRAVES, SARAH TRAP DOOR (#10) (\$28.00) (Bantam) Summer is slowly coming to Eastport and Jake has a new project: building a dock at her lakeside cottage. When Jake and her friend Ellie are on their way to start building Jake's new dock they run into Jemmy Wechsler, an old friend of Jake's. There is a hit out on him and the man on his tail is the East Coast's most feared professional and he lives in Eastport.

GREGORIO, MICHAEL CRITIQUE OF CRIMINAL REASON (\$34.95) (Thomas Dunne) Hanno Stiffeniis, a young magistrate, has been called to Konigsberg to assist in the investigation of an enigmatic string of murders. Is it part of a plot formed by Napoleon's spies to undermine the Prussian king or the work of a solitary, unknown killer? The case would seem unsolvable, were it not for the assistance and unmatched intellect of his mentor, Immanuel Kant.

GRIFFIN, W E B HUNTERS (#3) (\$33.50) (Putnam) Charley Castillo returns and picks up right where The Hunter (\$13.50) left off. Two brutal murders and millions of missing dollars in the growing UN/Iraq oil-for-food scandal have led Castillo and his team to an estancia in Uruguay, where the man they seek is murdered right before their eyes. By Order of the President (\$10.99) is the first in the series.

HAIG, BRIAN MAN IN THE MIDDLE (#6) (\$32.99) The latest Sean Drummond adventure.

HALL, PARNELL YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN PUZZLED (#8) (\$32.00) The puzzle lady is back.

HANSEN, MATTHEW SCOTT SHADOWKILLER (\$32.00) (Simon & Schuster) When careless campers unleash a raging forest fire, they inadvertently set in motion a blood-drenched spree of revenge. Motivated by the immolation of his family, a nearly eleven-foot tall, preternaturally strong super-primate begins stalking the mountains northeast of Seattle leaving a trail of missing people. Former software magnate Ty Greenwood risks everything to find out why. A debut novel.

HARRIS, C S WHEN GODS DIE (\$30.00) The second in the Sebastian St. Cyr series. Marian quite liked the first one set in England in the 1800s, What Angels Fear (\$9.99).

HARRIS, THOMAS HANNIBAL RISING (\$34.95) (Delacorte) This is the story of the young Hannibal Lecter: how he was found in a Soviet orphanage by his uncle who raised him; how he was the youngest person ever admitted into medical school in France. And then how his demons overtook him.

HARROD-EAGLES, C BURNING ROSES (#29) (\$38.00) The latest in her Dynasty series. Special order only.

HART, ELLEN NIGHT VISION (#14) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Joanna Kasimir, an old friend of Jane Lawless, calls on her help and that of former homicide detective A.J. Nolan, when a former lover starts stalking her again, after he is released from prison.

HEALY, THOMAS I HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING IN THE NIGHT (\$29.95) (Harcourt) Thomas Healy was a drunk, a fighter, sometimes a writer, often unemployed, no stranger to the police. His life was spiraling downwards until the day he bought a pup, a Doberman. He called him Martin. Gradually man and dog became unshakable allies, the best of friends. Martin, in many ways, saved his life. A memoir.

HELEY, VERONICA MURDER BY BICYCLE (\$36.95) (Severn House) A mysterious bout of sickness hits the parish after a lunch at church, and Ellie Quicke is horrified to discover that her home-baked quiches are considered to be the problem. Worse still, someone dies. So who is to blame? Ellie investigates. The only Ellie Quicke stories that *might* be available are Murder at the Alter (\$9.99) (doubtful), and Murder by Committee (\$19.95 trade paperback), (more likely).

HELLER, MANDASUE CLUB (\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) A story about the dark side of the clubbing scene in Manchester. Can Jenna Lorde make a success of her nightclub, Zenith?

HIAASEN, CARL NATURE GIRL (\$32.95) (Knopf) An outrageous novel that makes you wonder whether the Everglades will survive against a bunch of wild and weird humans. Brilliant, classic Hiaasen. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

HIGHLAND, FREDERICK NIGHT FALLS ON DAMASCUS (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Set in the turbulent world of Syria in the 1930s, French-Syrian police inspector Nikolai Faroun investigates the murder of a beautiful and controversial woman from a prominent Damascus family.

HILLERMAN, TONY SHAPE SHIFTER (\$33.95) (Harper Collins) With Jim Chee and Bernie Manuelito just back from their honeymoon, retired Navajo Tribal policeman Joe Leaphorn is pretty

much on his own solving an old case. The original case involved a priceless, one-of-a-kind Navajo rug supposedly destroyed in a fire. Suddenly, what looks like the same rug turns up in a magazine spread. And the man who brings the photo to the attention of Leaphorn has gone missing.

HOCH, EDWARD D MORE THINGS IMPOSSIBLE (\$70.00) (Crippen & Landru) The second casebook of Dr. Sam Hawthorne. A signed and numbered edition that includes a separately printed pamphlet titled The Bad Samaritan. Also available, unsigned and unnumbered, in trade paperback at \$23.50. The first casebook is Diagnosis Impossible (\$25.00 trade paperback), of which we have two left.

HOGAN, CHUCK KILLING MOON (\$32.00) (Scribner) Donald Maddox, a man with no law enforcement background, indeed a man with no background at all, returns to his hometown after fifteen years to find himself employed as an auxiliary patrolman on a local police force known to inspire more fear than trust in its citizenry. When a brutal murder shatters the isolation of this forgotten place, triggering the arrival of state homicide detectives and a town-wide manhunt, both the local police and Maddox appear to have something to hide.

HORTON, LESLEY HOLLOW CORE (#4) (\$37.95) (Orion) When housewife Diane Ingleby is shot dead in a car park in front of her husband and daughter, DI John Handford and DS Kahlid Ali are called in to investigate. It's a baffling case: was Diane the intended victim? Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95. The other three in the series are Snares of Guilt, On Dangerous Ground and Devils in the Mirror (\$10.99 each). See *Wendy's Picks*.

IGGULDEN, CONN & HAL THE DANGEROUS BOOK FOR BOYS (\$39.95) (Harper Collins, UK) If you ever wanted to know the laws of cricket or how to make a periscope or even how to talk to girls, this is your book. Filled with all sorts of really useful tidbits, this book is touted as being for boys eight to eighty but Marian said she loved it too. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

ILES, GREG TRUE EVIL (\$32.99) (Scribner) Dr. Chris Shepard is newly married and well on his way to a perfect life. Or so he believes. But that future is cast in doubt the day Special Agent Alexandra Morse walks into his office and tells him his new wife is plotting to murder him. Chris agrees to act as bait to help her unravel the divorce lawyer's scheme, which may have already cost nine unsuspecting spouses their lives. See *Wendy's Picks*.

JACKSON, STEVE MENTOR (\$39.95) (Harper Collins, UK) London is the victim of an explosive and horrifying attack and Paul Austin, a young MI6 agent, is sent to investigate. As he tears away at layers of corruption, betrayal and murder he reveals someone who will not stop until his enemies are brought to their knees.

KAMINSKY, STUART ALWAYS SAY GOODBYE (#5) (\$31.95) The latest to feature Lew Fonesca.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN & FAY CAPITAL CRIMES (\$30.00) (Ballantine) Two novellas with appearances by LAPD lieutenant Pete Decker and psychologist Dr. Alex Delaware.

KING, STEPHEN LISEYS STORY (\$34.00)

KLAVAN, ANDREW DAMNATION STREET (#3) (\$30.00) Harcourt edition and \$60.00 Quercus edition [expensive British import] Please specify which edition you want. They are two sworn enemies with a single obsession: a woman on the run from them both. Scott Weiss is a private detective. John Foy is a professional killer known as the Shadowman. The woman is Julie Wyant, an ex-prostitute with a hidden past. Matching each other move for move, Foy and Weiss pursue Julie from San Francisco across the badlands of Arizona.

KNOX, TYLER KOCKROACH (\$29.95) (Morrow) It is the mid 1950s, and in a fleabag hotel off Times Square, Kockroach, per-

fectly content with life as an insect, awakens to discover that somehow he's become, of all things, a human. As Kockroach, led by his primitive desires and insective amorality, navigates through the bizarre human realms of crime, business, politics and sex, he meets with great triumphs and great disasters.

KOONTZ, DEAN BROTHER ODD (#3) (\$35.00) (Bantam) Trouble has a way of finding Brother Odd at St. Bartholomew's Abbey in the wild peaks of California's High Sierra. Odd Thomas (\$11.99) and Forever Odd (\$10.99) are the first two.

LANGFORD, DAVID END OF HARRY POTTER? (\$24.95) (Gollanz) An unauthorized guide to the mysteries that remain unsolved in the Harry Potter novels. Is Dumbledore really dead? Whose side is Severus Snape really on? And many other unanswered questions. This book is a good way to refresh your memory of the first six books in readiness for the seventh, and supposedly last, installment of Harry Potter, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. No release date yet.

MCCARRY, CHARLES SECRET LOVERS (\$31) (Overlook) A nervous courier delivers the handwritten manuscript of a dissident Russian novel to Paul Christopher. Minutes after, the courier's spine is snapped by an impact with a passing car. Meanwhile in Rome, Paul's wife Cathy takes a lover to stir her husband out of his complacent attitude. These two seemingly unrelated events set in motion a spiral of operational and personal intrigue that leads Christopher to the front lines of the Cold War in the Congo.

MANKELL, HENNING DEPTHS (\$32.95) (Knopf, Canada) October 1914: the destroyer Svea emerges from the Stockholm archipelago as it fulfils its mission of finding a navigable channel for the Swedish navy. On board is naval engineer Lars Tobiasson-Svartman who, when he alights on a barren skerry, presumed uninhabited, discovers a young woman. Despite her almost feral appearance, something about her strikes him to the core.

MAYOR, ARCHER SECOND MOUSE (#16) (\$32.99) (Mysterious Press) On the edge of the blue-collar town of Bennington, Joe Gunther encounters the lifeless body of Michelle Fisher. There are no clues as to why she died and although suicide is suspected, Gunther feels that foul play is more likely.

MEIER, LESLIE BAKE SALE MURDER (#13) (\$31.00) (Kensington) When Mimi doesn't show up for her shift at The Hat and Mitten Fund bake sale, Lucy Stone goes looking and finds Mimi face down on her kitchen floor with a knife in her back.

NAVARRO, JULIA BROTHERHOOD OF THE HOLY SHROUD (\$34.95) (Doubleday, Canada) A fire at the Cathedral of Turin and the discovery of a strangely mutilated body attract the attention of Italy's Art Crime Department. The fire is only the latest in a troubling series of arsons and break-ins at the cathedral, which houses what millions believe to be the authentic burial shroud of Jesus Christ. A cop as well as an art historian, department chief Marco Valoni leads a crack team of investigators in a race to solve a crime he is certain is about to shock the world. Two stories run parallel throughout the book: the historical description of the shroud and the current-day story. Translated from Spanish.

O'HEHIR, DIANA ERASED FROM MEMORY (#2) (\$30.00) (Berkley) Now an elderly Alzheimer's patient, Dr. Day was once famous for his discovery of an ancient Egyptian coffin lid. While visiting the museum on a day trip with his daughter Carla, a museumgoer falls to the ground, apparently choking. Dr. Day rushes to his side, trying to pry off the man's tie. But instead of being praised for helping, he is charged with murder. Is there a connection between a millennia-old death and one in present day California?

PATTERSON, JAMES CROSS (#12) (\$35.00) Alex Cross in his latest adventure.

PERRY, ANNE CHRISTMAS SECRET (\$22.95) This year's Christmas novella.

PUZO & WINEGARDNER, MARK GODFATHER'S REVENGE (\$32.50) (Putnam) This is the conclusion of the Godfather saga conceived by Mario Puzo. The Corleone family moves into national politics in a big way. The other two novels are The Godfather by **Mario Puzo** and The Godfather Returns by **Mark Winegardner**, \$10.99 each.

RANKIN, IAN NAMING OF THE DEAD (#16) (\$37.95) (Orion) The assorted leaders of the G8 countries are meeting in Edinburgh. With the night-time plunge of a young politician from the walls of Edinburgh Castle, Rebus is dragged back into centre stage. Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

RAYBOURN, DEANNA SILENT IN THE GRAVE (\$26.95) (Mira) "To say that I met Nicholas Brisbane over my husband's dead body is not entirely accurate. Edward, it should be noted, was still twitching upon the floor" This is the opening line from the book. See *Marian's Picks*.

RENDELL, RUTH WATER'S LOVELY (\$34.95) (Doubleday, Canada) Nine years after her stepfather was found dead in the bathroom, Heather and her sister still live in the same house, the two of them on the main floor, their mother and aunt upstairs. But Ms. Rendell has a way of intertwining lives as private as these, where secrets hang in the air, with other worlds and other lives.

RICKMAN, PHIL REMAINS OF AN ALTAR (\$32.50) (Quercus) Merrily Watkins, parish priest, single mom and Deliverance Consultant to the Diocese of Hereford, heads for the Malvern Hills to investigate an alleged paranormal dimension to a spate of road accidents in the village of Wychehill.

RIPLEY, ANN DEATH IN THE ORCHID GARDEN (#10) (\$31.00) (Kensington) Louise Eldridge is taking her public television garden show on the road to Hawaii. But the tropical paradise isn't so idyllic once murder makes an unexpected appearance.

ROBB, J D BORN IN DEATH (#23) (\$31.00) (Putnam) Lieutenant Eve Dallas promises her friend Mavis to look for a friend who was supposed to attend her baby shower but never showed up. AKA Nora Roberts.

ROWLAND, LAURA JOH RED CHRYSANTHEMUM (#11) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) July 1698. Sano Ichiro, the samurai detective who has risen to become the shogun's second-in-command, is investigating rumours of a plot to overthrow the ruling regime. But if Sano can't convince the shogun that he and his pregnant wife, Reiko, are not part of the plot, they will both be executed.

ROZAN, S J IN THIS RAIN (\$30.00) (Delacorte) Three years ago, a child's death blew open a vortex of corruption inside Manhattan's lucrative construction industry. And it sent one innocent man to jail. Joe Cole, a former city investigator, now lives in isolation, cut off from the world. A woman's murder and a teenager's rooftop freefall rip open old wounds but Joe, along with investigator Ann Montgomery, delve into the cover-ups and secret relationships that allow the powerful to hide their crimes.

RUBENFELD, JED INTERPRETATION OF MURDER (\$34) In 1909 Sigmund Freud travels to America and is consulted by Dr. Younger on the case of a young woman who is attacked by a killer but escapes. She is in a state of hysteria and cannot remember the terrifying incident or her attacker. See *Wendy's Picks*.

SINGTON, PHILIP ZOIAS GOLDL (\$34.99) (Scribner) Stockholm, December 1999. Madam Zoia, the enigmatic "painter on gold" is dead. The last surviving member of the Romanov court, she leaves behind a house full of paintings, a collection of private papers and a mystery. Marcus Elliot travels to Sweden to write the catalog that will accompany the sale of her work. But something feels wrong. Behind the gilded serenity of Zoia's art lie the shadows

of a secret life: a dramatic escape from the Bolshevik torturers of the Lubyanka prison, an artistic journey that embraced the excesses of Bohemian Paris, and the unearthly ability to command the devotion of desirable men.

SIVERLING, MICHAEL SORCERER'S CIRCLE (#2)

(\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Jason Wilder is just about to close up the PI office owned by his mom, Victoria, for the night when he is approached by Elijah Messenger who says someone is trying to kill him. Jason gives him the polite brush-off, but the next morning he learns the old man had indeed been murdered. Next, the mayor arrives asking Victoria to help get his daughter out of the hands of a group of devil worshipers. Victoria learns the group was from the same church as Messenger. The first in the series is The Sterling Inheritance which is out of print.

SPEDDING, SALLY PREY SILENCE (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) When the Wardle-Smith family moves to the St. Sauveur region of France, they expect to lead a quiet life. Veal farmer, Samson Bonneau, their new neighbour, is not pleased to be sharing his village with les anglais, and he will stop at nothing to scare them from their home.

SPRING, MICHELLE NIGHT LAWYER (\$32.95) (Ballantine) Three years ago, after the violent death of her father and the abandonment by her married lover, Eleanor Porter fell apart. But with determination and courage, and with the newfound discipline of karate, she shed some pounds, reshaped her appearance, bought herself a modest home and now has herself a job as "night lawyer" for the London tabloid, Chronicle. Eleanor has to protect her employer from lawsuits. But one by one, problems emerge and she finds herself being stalked.

STARK, RICHARD ASK THE PARROT (#23) (\$31.99) (Mysterious Press) Tom Lindahl is carrying a big-time grudge against the racetrack that fired him. He knows from the moment he sees Parker that he is a professional thief, and he hopes helping Parker escape from the police will be his ticket to ripping off his former employer. But he doesn't know Parker.

SWIERCZYNSKI, DUANE BLONDE (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) The night before a big meeting, Jack Eisley is sitting in an airport bar in Philadelphia, chatting up a pretty young blonde when she leans forward and says, "I poisoned your drink". She tells Jack that unless she can keep someone within ten feet of her at all times, she'll die. And if he wants the antidote, he'll have to take her back to his hotel room and promise to stay by her side. Jack thinks she's psycho until he encounters a relentless government assassin, a threatening voice on a cell phone, a deadly waitress, dirty cops and shady cabdrivers.

SWIERCZYNSKI, DUANE SECRET DEAD MEN (\$50.00) (PointBlank) Special orders only. Del Farmer isn't your ordinary hard-boiled private eye. Instead of collecting fingerprints or clues, he collects souls of the recently dead. His latest dead guy, Brad Larsen, might just be the key to destroying Farmer's long time nemesis, The Association. This will be released in trade paperback sometime soon at \$17.95. We think.

TAYLOR, ANDREW NAKED TO THE HANGMAN (#8)

(\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) When a retired colleague is found dead in the ruins of Lydmouth Castle, the past comes back to haunt Detective Chief Inspector Thornhill. He finds himself under suspicion of murder. Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

TEMPLE, PETER BROKEN SHORE (\$60.00) (Quercus) Expensive British import. Broken by his last case, homicide detective Joe Cashin has returned to his wet and wintry home in South Eastern Australia to run a one-man police station. His recovery is interrupted when a local man is brutally attacked and left for dead.

TEMPLE, PETER IN THE EVIL DAY (\$60.00) (Quercus) Expensive British import. In Hamburg, John Anslem spends his days working for a surveillance firm whose business is just this side of legal. In London, Caroline Wishart calls herself an expose journalist. Her specialty is the sex lives of British politicians. Into both their lives comes ex-mercenary Con Niemand, bearing a deadly secret that could topple governments and destroy them all.

THURLO, DAVID SURROGATE EVIL (#5) (\$33.95) Lee Nez, a Navajo state police officer, and Diane Lopez, an FBI agent, go undercover in the trailer park where Newton Glover lives. Glover is a nasty piece of work and the police have not been able to prove any of the crimes he is suspected of committing. Glover's neighbours tried to take the law into their own hands by dragging him from his home and beating him to death but to everyone's shock, a few days later, Glover reappeared. But this doesn't surprise Lee, who is a Navajo vampire or Diane, whose last FBI partner was killed by a werewolf.

TRUMAN, MARGARET MURDER AT THE OPERA (\$32.95) The latest one in hardcover.

TURNBULL, PETER FALSE KNIGHT (#8) (\$35.95) (Severn House) Even though their marriage was not a happy one, did Mary Golightly's husband kill her? Hennessey and Yellich investigate.

UNGER, LISA SLIVER OF TRUTH (\$30) (Shane Areheart) Ridley Jones is just trying to get on with her life when she picks up a few envelopes of prints at a photo lab. She has discovered a shadowy figure of a man in almost every picture she has taken in the past year, lurking just far enough away to make identification impossible. Now the FBI is at her door, some bad guys are following her, and the family she once relied on is more distant than ever.

VARGAS, FRED WASH THIS BLOOD CLEAN FROM MY HAND (#3) (\$29.95) (Knopf, Canada) Has a serial killer followed Commissaire Adamsberg to Canada? Temporarily based in Quebec for a training mission, Adamsberg is accused of murdering a young woman. In order to prove his innocence he must go on the run from the police and find the terrifying Judge Fulgence, the man Adamsberg feels is the real killer. Sequel to Have Mercy On Us All (\$10.99) and Seeking Whom He May Devour (\$19.95).

WAMBAUGH, JOSEPH HOLLYWOOD STATION (\$32.99) The robbery of a jewelry store, complete with masks and a hand grenade, quickly connects to a Russian nightclub and an undercover operation gone bloodily wrong. Putting the pieces together are the sergeant they call the Oracle and his squad of street cops.

XIAOLONG, QIU CASE OF TWO CITIES (#4) (\$29.95) (St. Martin's) When a major new anti-corruption campaign is announced, Chief Inspector Chen Cao is charged with investigating Xing Xing, a principal figure, his connections and partners. He travels to the USA and is reunited with his colleague and counterpart from the U.S. Marshall's Service, Inspector Catherine Rhon. The first three in the series are Death of Red Heroine (\$20.95), A Loyal Character Dancer (\$18.95), and When Red is Black (\$17.95).

Paperbacks

ABERCROMBIE, LYNN BLIND FEAR (#2) (\$9.99)
ALLINGHAM, MARGERY MARGERY ALLINGHAM OMNIBUS (\$34.95) Omnibus edition containing Sweet Danger, TCOT Late Pig and Tiger in the Smoke. Available individually at \$19.95 each as well.

ALT, MADELYN maggie o'neil CHARMED DEATH (#2) (\$9.99) Delightful, says Marian. The first in the series is The Trouble With Magic (\$9.99).

ANDERSON, LIN DRIFTNET (#1) (\$10.99) 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.

APODACA, JENNIFER SEX ON THE BEACH BOOK CLUB (\$20) PI Holly Hillbay is going undercover in a book club to expose and bring in the pond scum bookstore owner who's cheating on his wife. But he is one seriously sexy hunk...

APPIGNANESI, LISA UNHOLY LOVES (\$10.99) Paris 1900. Marguerite has been ordered from Paris to be at her husband's side in the Loire valley. The long journey is interrupted by a dead man on the railway tracks, an abandoned baby that her husband wants to adopt and a missing person. Chief Inspector Durand helps Marguerite unravel a tangled world of small town secrets, sacred ends, and unholy loves. Sequel to Paris Requiem (\$10.99)?

ARCHER, JEFFREY FALSE IMPRESSION (\$12.99)

ARRUDA, SUZANNE MARK OF THE LION (#1) (\$18.00) In 1919, when most young women only dream of adventure, Jade del Cameron lives it. After growing up tough on a New Mexico ranch and driving an ambulance on the front lines in World War I, she can fire a rifle with deadly precision. Fulfilling the dying wish of her beloved David, Jade travels to the East African city of Nairobi, to search for the brother he never knew he had. While there it becomes apparent that David's father had been murdered and Jade must find his killer. A debut novel.

ARTHUR, KERI FULL MOON RISING (\$8.99)

ARVIN, NICK ARTICLES OF WAR (\$17.95)

AUEL, JEAN MAMMOTH HUNTERS, PLAINS OF PASSAGE (\$11.99 ea) and SHELTERS OF STONE (\$12.99) Special orders.

AUSTEN, JANE Four handsome reissues in trade paperback size, at \$10.99 each:

-EMMA

-MANSFIELD PARK

-NORTHANGER ABBEY

-SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

AVOCATO, LORI NIP TUCK DEAD (#5) (\$9.99) Pauline Sokol, once a nurse now an insurance fraud investigator, in her fifth adventure. Marian has loved this series and suggests it for all **Janet Evanovich** fans.

BAANTJER, ALBERT CORNELIS DEKOK AND VARIATIONS ON MURDER (\$19.00)

BAER, ROBERT BLOW THE HOUSE DOWN (\$19.95) Blends hard facts and terrifying possibilities into an unnervingly plausible alternative history of 9/11. The author spent twenty years running agents from inside the CIA.

BAILEY, ROBERT PRIVATE HEAT and DYING EMBERS (\$16.95 ea.) The first two novels featuring PI Art Hardin. See Hans's review in *Guest Picks*.

BALL, DONNA RAPID FIRE (#2) (\$9.99) By the author of Smoky Mountain Tracks (\$9.99). Raine Stockton's kennel business is booming and her part-time job with the Forest Service is taking up all her free time. Then the FBI drops in to see her and ask questions about the man she almost married. Both Marian and Wendy loved the first one. See *Wendy's Picks*.

BASS, JEFFERSON CARVED IN BONE (#1) (\$10.99) A woman's corpse lies undiscovered for thirty years in a cave in the mountains of East Tennessee. Her body has been transformed by the cave's chemistry into a near-perfect mummy, one that discloses an explosive secret to renowned anthropologist Bill Brockton. He has spent his career surrounded by death and decay at the Body

Farm, but even he is baffled by this case. Jefferson Bass is the pseudonym of Jon Jefferson and Dr. Bill Bass. Dr. Bass is the real life, world-renowned forensic anthropologist who founded the University of Tennessee's Anthropology Research Facility, the Body Farm, twenty-five years ago.

BEATON, M C DEATH OF A DREAMER (#21) (\$9.99) With two of his old girlfriends showing up in the village of Lochdubh and his superior calling the death of Effie Garrard a suicide, Hamish Macbeth's intuition tells him trouble is in the air.

BIDULKA, ANTHONY quant STAIN OF THE BERRY (#4) (\$21.95) Everyone has their Boogeyman. But who—or what—is scaring Saskatoon locals to death? PI Russell Quant investigates.

BLAKE, VICTORIA SKIN AND BLISTER (#3) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. See *Wendy's Picks*.

BLISS, MIRANDA COOKING UP MURDER (#1) (\$9.99) Annie and Eve are life-long friends who have absolutely nothing in common—except a lack of skill in the kitchen. So when they sign up for a cooking class at the local gourmet shop, they figure the only things at risk are a few innocent fruits and vegetables. But when murder spices up the stew, they find out just how dangerous good food can be. Includes recipes for a full-course gourmet meal.

BLOCK, LAWRENCE GIRL WITH THE LONG GREEN HEART (\$8.99) A reissue.

BLOOM, ELIZABETH SEE ISABELLE RUN (\$9.99) AKA **Beth Saulnier** who writes the Alex Bernier mysteries. Dumped by her fiancé for her maid of honour twenty minutes before her wedding, Isabelle Leonard tries to make the best of a bad situation. Taking a new job at Becky Belden Multi-media, America's favourite homemaking guru, she appears to have a dream job. But bodies of her fellow employees start piling up.

BONNER, HILARY meadows WHEN THE DEAD CRY OUT (#2?) (\$8.99) Journalist John Kelly and Detective Superintendent Karen Meadows have been only too aware of the disappearance of Clara Marshall and her two children almost three decades ago. Many have suspected the husband, Richard, of having murdered the three but nothing was ever proven. Then extraordinary events reawaken the case and John and Karen are determined to discover what did happen and get justice.

BOOTH, STEPHEN SCARED TO LIVE (#7) (\$10.99) A house fire that leaves a wife and two children dead and the assassination of an elderly woman living alone in a quiet Peak District village. What is the connection? DS Dianne Fry and DC Ben Cooper find the answer on the other side of Europe. Wendy really liked this.

BRAUN, LILIAN JACKSON CAT WHO DROPPED A BOMBHELL (#28) (\$10.99) When architect Harvey Ledfield arrives in Pickax for the 150th anniversary of its founding, strange things begin to happen.

BRENNAN, ALLISON PREY, HUNT and KILL (\$9.99 ea.) These were special orders.

BRIGHT, ELIZABETH shane MURDER AND SALUTATIONS (#3) (\$9.99)

BRITE, POPPY DRAWING BLOOD (\$11.99) The author “reimagines the haunted house novel for the 1990s, creating a fresh, sensual, and totally original reading experience.”

BRITE, POPPY WORMWOOD: A COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES (\$11.99)

BROADBENT, TONY SPECTRES IN THE SMOKE (#2) (\$18.50) Jethro, the cat burglar, is forced back into business by Colonel Walsingham of MI5, in the austere 1948 world of post-war black-market riddled England. You even get a glossary of London underworld slang to help you along. Sequel to The Smoke (\$19.95), a Felony and Mayhem reprint.

BROWN, FREDRIC HERE COMES A CANDLE (\$19) Originally published in 1950, one of the author's most "unconventional and audacious" novels. Includes an extra short story, *The Joke* and a long-unavailable short essay by the author, *It's Only Everything*.

Introduced by **Bill Pronzini**.

BROWN, P A LA HEAT (\$20.99) In the dark world of leather bars and in the West Hollywood club scene, a serial killer stalks his prey. David Lane, cop, finds himself very attracted to Chris, the handsome playboy, who also happens to be the main suspect.

BROWN, SANDRA ALIBI (\$9.99) Ambitious prosecutor Hammond Cross has his big case and it looks good for his political ambitions. But when the prime suspect holds a secret that can shatter his career and ambitions, he wonders if he is being set up to be the perfect alibi.

BROWN, SANDRA RICOCHET (\$19.95) When Detective Sergeant Duncan Hatcher is summoned to the home of Judge Cato Laird to investigate a fatal shooting, he knows to treat him with kid gloves. The judge's trophy wife allegedly shot and killed an intruder. Seems plausible...

BRUCE, MAGGIE GOURDMOTHER (#1) (\$9.99) Brooklyn girl Lili Marino has found herself starting over in the tiny village of Walden Corners, NY, where she has the time and space to cultivate her first love: taking gourds from the garden and transforming them into birdhouses, bowls, and other beautiful works of art. But when a new friend's husband dies on the first day of the hunting season, she knows that she has something more dangerous on her hands than a moldy gourd. Includes gourd crafting facts and tips!

BUCKLEY, FIONA DOUBLET AFFAIR (#2) (\$16.99) The US editions of this series of Elizabethan mysteries are now becoming available. Sequel to To Shield a Queen (\$18) (titled *The Robsart Mystery* in the UK).

BURKE, JAN KIDNAPPED (#10) (\$19.99) When Irene Kelly's articles profiling missing children run in the *Las Piernas Express*, she doesn't expect the murderous chain reaction. One of the more tragic disappearances was that of four-year-old Jenny Fletcher. Her father was found bludgeoned to death and Jenny had disappeared. Hours later Jenny's stepbrother Mason was found with the murder weapon and bloody clothes. Caleb, a graduate student studying with forensic anthropologist Ben Sheridan, works on cases for the *Las Piernas* police department, doesn't believe she is dead or that Mason killed their father.

BURLEY, W J WYCLIFFE AND THE THREE TOED PUSSY (#1) (\$10.99) Pussy Welles and her deformed foot are the focus of Wycliffe's first case, published in 1968.

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO (\$19.95) Special order.

CARLOTTO, MASSIMO DEATH'S DARK ABYSS (\$19.99) Dark, brutal, but honest, no sugar coating here. "A nasty, explosive little tome warmly recommended to fans of James M. Cain for its casual amorality and astonishing speed."—*Kirkus Reviews*.

CAROFILIO, GIANRICO WALK IN THE DARK (\$19.99)

CARPENTER, J D 74 MILES AWAY (#3) (\$11.99) The third investigation for retired homicide detective Campbell Young's new enterprise, A-1 Investigative Consultants. A young Caribbean jazz musician has been found dead in a Toronto hotel, his body surrounded by voodoo paraphernalia.

CARR, CALEB ALIENIST (\$21.00) A new trade paperback edition of this very popular novel, first published in 1994. One of Wendy's all-time favourites.

CARR, GLYN YOUTH HOSTEL MURDERS (\$18.95)

CARROLL, TERRY BODY CONTACT (\$16.95) When Tracy Hewitt goes missing, police officer and amateur goalie Carl North

won't believe that teammate Rick Hewitt might be guilty of murdering his wife. He follows the trail through small town Ontario.

CECIL, HENRY TELL YOU WHAT I'LL DO (\$12) One of a series of amusing legal novels written by a County Court Judge, highlighting the often absurd contradictions of the legal system. First published in 1969.

CERASINI, MARC PINK PANTHER'S JUST DESSERTS (\$9.99) Sacre bleu! Someone's killing the great chefs of France and who better to head up the investigation than the indomitable Insp. Clouseau. Although, he's much better at sampling the evidence than at hard detecting!

CHANCE, JACKIE DEATH ON THE FLOP (#1) (\$9.99) The first in a poker mystery series. Belinda Cooley's in Las Vegas looking for love and all she's finding are card sharks. She's got to learn the game and win or her bad-boy twin brother might be retired from tournament play—permanently.

CHARLES, NORA KENNEDY HURRICANE HOMICIDE (#4) (\$9.99) Uncle Weatherwise has just moved into the condo but he has not made any real friends. Especially when the hurricane that he predicted would bypass them, doesn't. Not too surprising, then, that he's found with a sharpened weather vane in his chest. Ouch!

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS TWO LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (\$19.95) Three-year-old twins, Kelly and Kathy, are kidnapped and a note demanding eight million dollars is left behind. The money is delivered but only Kelly is found in a car, with the driver shot dead. At a memorial for Kathy, Kelly tells her mom "Mommy, Kathy is very scared of that lady. She wants to come home now". The FBI start a search for Kathy.

CLARK, RICHARD SCORPION'S GATE (\$13.50) A coup has finally toppled the sheiks of Saudi Arabia and put a determined but shaky Islamic government in their place. Everywhere, the scent of oil has started to attract the scorpions and people are willing to make any deals in order to get oil.

CLEMENS, JUDY THREE CAN KEEP A SECRET (#2) (\$18.50) A series of novels featuring Stella Crown, Pennsylvania dairy farmer and biker, that both Marian and Wendy have liked a great deal. The series debut is Till the Cows Come Home (\$19.95) and the current novel is To Thine Own Self be True (\$29.95).

CLEMENT, BLAIZE CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT SITTER (\$8.99) 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. Both Wendy and Marian loved this.

CLEVERLY, BARBARA LAST KASHMIRI ROSE and RAGTIME IN SIMLA (\$17 ea.) The first two in the Sandilands series are now available in trade paperback. An excellent series.

COBEN, HARLAN ED DEATH DO US PART (\$18.99)

COLE, MARTINA CLOSE (\$24.95) The latest...

COLLETT, CHRIS BLOOD OF THE INNOCENTS (#2) (\$21) The follow-up to the wonderful Worm in the Bud (\$10.95). Equally wonderful. DI Tom Mariner is investigating the separate disappearances of two teenagers: Ricky Skeet, a young black lad who ran off after an argument with his mother's latest boyfriend, and Yasmin Akram, the seventeen year old daughter of devout Muslims. One of *Wendy's Picks* a while ago. Another expensive British paperback...

COLLEY, BARBARA MARRIED TO THE MOP (#5) (\$9.99) Adventure #5 for fifty-nine-year-old Charlotte LaRue and her New Orleans housecleaning service, Maid-for-a-Day.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL CONCRETE BLONDE and LAST COYOTE (\$21 ea.) Two Harry Bosch novels that have gone out of print in North America. British imports.

CORK, VENA GREEN EYE (#3) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPE'S TRAFALGAR and SHARPE'S DEVIL (\$10.99 ea.) New editions.

COVILLE, BRUCE JEREMY THATCHER, DRAGON HATCHER (\$7.50) A fun kids' book.

CRISPIN, EDMUND SWAN SONG (#4) (\$18.50) Hurrah! With the Nazis routed, the British can sing Wagner again. First published in 1947. A classic.

DALMEIDA, SARAH DEATH OF A MUSKETEER (#1) (\$9.99) Alexandre Dumas's four Musketeers now add crime solving to their duties as swashbuckling sleuths in the court of King Louis XIII.

DAVIS, PATRICK A DECEPTION PLAN (\$9.99)

DI FULVIO, LUCA MANNEQUIN MAN (\$20.00)

DOHERTY, PAUL corbett WAXMAN MURDERS (#15) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

DONNELLY, DEBORAH BRIDE AND DOOM (#6) (\$8.99)

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN

-ADVENTURE OF WISTERIA LODGE (\$17)

-BEYOND THE CITY (\$16)

-COMING OF THE FAIRIES (\$13)

-MYSTERY OF CLOOMBER (\$38)

-PARASITE (\$20.95)

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN EL PERRO DE LOS BASKERVILLE (\$8.50), ESTUDIO EN ESCARLATA (\$18.95) and LAS AVENTURAS DE SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$7.95). The Spanish language editions of Hound, Study in Scarlet and Adventures, respectively.

[DOYLE]ANDREWS, VAL SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE GHOST OF BAKER STREET (\$25.00) Can you imagine what it would be like to be an American émigré, fleeing the unwelcome attentions of Senator Joseph McCarty, and taking rooms in Baker Street, only to find them haunted by the ghost of Sherlock Holmes?

[DOYLE]BARNES, ALAN SHERLOCK HOLMES ON SCREEN: THE COMPLETE FILM & TV HISTORY (\$54) Over a century's worth of Holmes' exploits in film and television, from the silent era to the present day. No other fictional character has appeared on screen more times than our master detective.

[DOYLE]BURTON, R JEREMY WATSON AND A STUDY IN SHERLOCK (\$34) It's the year 2163, the fourth year for the direct descendent of the famous Doctor Watson, Jeremy Watson, to attend the Institute of Advanced Robotics. Jeremy's android, Holmes, has been secretly programmed by Professor Beekeeper to act as the great detective, Sherlock Holmes. There are many hidden secrets at the Institute...

[DOYLE]CAMMARATA, J R FLAT AT 221B BAKER STREET (\$34.50) Holmes meets Watson. Again. Geoffrey Holmes, descendent of the great Sherlock Holmes, moves to London to begin his career as a private investigator. As fate would have it, he finds an apartment at 221B Baker Street and meets the beautiful Bridget Watson-Burns. Together they investigate.

[DOYLE]DELL, TOBY ASSASSINS OF BAKER STREET (\$27.95) A "fantastic but true" story of intrigue and murder dealing with the KGB, Chechnyan rebels, Armenian hit men, and maybe Sherlock Holmes. Or maybe not. A quick scan reveals no mention of the master detective but if it's good enough to be included in The Toronto Reference Library's Doyle collection...

[DOYLE]DUNLOP, ED SHERLOCK JONES THE PHANTOM AIRPLANE (\$9.99 young adult, Christian) The fourth adventure for Sherlock Jones and Penny Gordon.

[DOYLE]HEUSINGER, PAUL E SECRET ADVENTURES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (\$20.00) Ten cases for the master detec-

tive that Watson was forbidden from publishing for a century.

[DOYLE]JAMES, L FRANK AN OPENED GRAVE (\$19.50) Sherlock Holmes investigates his ultimate case. In his attempt to prove or disprove the devout Miss Hackberry's belief that God had saved his life, Holmes reaches the conclusion that he must personally investigate the most controversial, ancient mystery of all time—the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

[DOYLE]JAYNES, ROGER SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE CHILFORD RIPPER (\$25.00) A new Jack the Ripper is on the loose in the quiet Essex town of Chilford and Insp. Lestrade is on the scene and baffled. One of the master detective's greatest cases.

[DOYLE]KEANE, DAVID Three cases for Joe Sherlock, Kid Detective: The Haunted Toolshed, The Neighborhood Stink and The Missing Monkey-Eye Diamond (\$4.99 each, young adult)

[DOYLE]KENDRICK, STEPHEN NIGHT WATCH HOLMES MEETS FATHER BROWN (\$9.99) A long lost adventure in which Holmes meets Father Brown. It is Christmas Day 1902 and a priest's body has been found in a London church that is hosting a secret high-level interfaith meeting. Unbroken snow surrounds the holy structure suggesting that the murderer remains within.

[DOYLE]NEWMAN, KIM MAN FROM THE DIOGENES CLUB (\$19.95) There are copies around here somewhere...

[DOYLE]SEITZ, STEPHEN SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE PLAGUE OF DRACULA (\$21.95) When Mina Murray visits Holmes at 221B Baker Street to help her locate her fiancé who has traveled to Transylvania to help a Count Dracula secure an English estate, the adventure begins. Holmes finds himself engaged in a confrontation that unsettles his opinions about the occult and threatens his health, his sanity and his life.

[DOYLE]SEMPER jr., JOHN SINGULAR AFFAIR OF THE MISSING BALL (\$31.95) The first adventure of the world-famous canine detective, Sherlock Whippet. This is a lovely, full color picture-book. In this humorous tale, Sherlock Whippet is called to action by a hound who has lost his ball while playing a game of "fetch". The consulting detective quickly embarks upon solving the puzzling mystery with the aid of his companion and biographer, Dr. Dogson. Together, they follow the clues which lead them to one inescapable fact: the ball's disappearance must be the nefarious scheme of the evil Professor Murray R. Catty, the notorious cat burglar of London! Created by Emmy-nominated TV writer-producer John Semper Jr. ("Spider-Man: The Animated Series," "Jay Jay the Jet Plane" and "Jim Henson's Fraggle Rock"), this humorous parody of Victorian "penny-dreadful" dime novels is a treat for children of all ages as well as for adults who enjoy mysteries, Sherlock Holmes, dogs, cats, whippets and seriously absurd humor. From the blurb.

[DOYLE]STIRLING, S M DIES THE FIRE and ROTECTOR'S WAR (\$10.99 ea.) Two science fiction titles that were of interest to the Toronto Reference Library's Doyle collection...

[DOYLE]XIAOQING & WONG SHERLOCK IN SHANGHAI (\$45 trade paperback) Shanghai of the 20s and 30s—the Paris of the Orient—was home to Huo Sang and Bao Lang, Chinese counterparts to Holmes and Watson. Written by Cheng Xiaoping, who played a major role in translating the Cannon into Chinese, in the early years of the 20th century, these stories became immensely popular. Collection of eight stories, translated by Timothy Wong.

DREYER, EILEEN SINNERS AND SAINTS (\$9.99)

DUNHAM, TRACY YES THE RIVER KNOWS (#2) (\$9.99) 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 Atkins, is

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

DUNN, CAROLA dalrymple FALL OF A PHILANDERER (#14) (\$9.99) It is the summer of 1924 and Daisy Dalrymple Fletcher is off on a relaxing holiday with her stepdaughter Belinda to the small coastal town of Westcombe. But the holiday is spoiled by murder.

DUNN, JANE ELIZABETH AND MARY (\$24.95)

DWYER, LIAM D MUSKOKA CROSS AND DOUBLE CROSS (#3) (\$14.95) The third mystery featuring Ian Murdoch, set in Muskoka. Demolition crews at the once gracious Oakland Resort near Port Carling discover a human skeleton clutching a mysterious relic that seems to have a connection to Murdoch's OPP boss. The first two in the series are Murder in Muskoka and Gold & Greed (\$14.95 each, trade paperback).

ELLIS, KATE peterson MARRIAGE HEARSE (#10) (\$11.95 from the Canadian distributor or \$21 if an expensive British import) Another title we have had trouble getting in, we'll send the \$11.95 version while it is still available. When Kirsten Harbourn is found strangled on her wedding day, DI Wesley Peterson makes some alarming discoveries. Kirsten was being pursued by an obsessed stalker, and she had dark secrets her fiancé knew nothing about. Meanwhile the skeleton of a young girl is found buried in a farmer's field in South Devon, a field that once belonged to the family of Ralph Strong, an Elizabethan playwright whose play, The Fair Wife of Padua, is to be performed for the first time in four hundred years. Is this bloodthirsty play a confession to murder committed during the reign of Elizabeth I?

ELLIS, KATE peterson PAINTED DOOM (#6) (\$21) An earlier DI Wesley Peterson mystery smuggled in from the UK.

ELLROY, JAMES BLACK DAHLIA (\$9.50) Part 1 of the LA Quartet, first published in 1998.

ELTON, BEN CHART THROB (\$24.95) What I suspect many of us would love to see happen to American Idol and other modern television talent shows. And the people behind them...

ENOCH, SUZANNE BILLIONAIRES PREFER BLONDES (\$9.99) Billionaires, blondes, breaking and entering...

ESTLEMAN, LOREN LITTLE BLACK DRESS (\$8.99) Peter Macklin was a hit man for a long time, but has taken steps to distance himself from his past. With some difficulty. He has moved away from Detroit and married the gorgeous, intelligent Laurie. While visiting with his new mother-in-law, he learns that mom-in-law's boyfriend is Benjamin Grinnell, the spotter for a gang of armed robbers who failed to spot a shotgun-toting shop owner in their latest heist. The shop owner ended up being mist and Macklin's mom-in-law is now in harm's way.

EVANOVICH, JANET THANKSGIVING (\$10.99) The sixth of nine romance novels, first published in the late 1980s, is now reprinted in "almost original form".

EVANS, JIMMIE RUTH BEST SERVED COLD (#3) (\$9.99)

FAIRBANKS, NANCY FRENCH FRIED (#9) (\$9.99) Food writer Carolyn Blue is back in her ninth outing.

FATE, ROBERT BABY SHARK (\$19.95) A first novel that's getting a lot of buzz. See Helen's review in *Guest Picks*.

FIELDING, JOY MAD RIVER ROAD (\$10.99) After spending a year in prison, Ralph Fisher has explicit plans for his ex-wife, the woman he blames for his fate and he has sworn vengeance.

FLEMING, IAN Striking new editions of the original James Bond novels in colourful, racy covers. All fourteen have been reprinted, at \$10.99 each. Casino Royale, Live and Let Die, Moonraker, Diamonds are Forever, From Russia With Love, Doctor No, Goldfinger, For Your Eyes Only, Thunderball, Spy Who Loved Me, On

Her Majesty's Secret Service, You Only Live Twice, Man With The Golden Gun, and Octopussy and Living Daylights.

FORESTER, C S Back in print, at \$10.99 each:

-COMMODORE

-FLYING COLOURS

-HAPPY RETURN

-HORNBLOWER AND THE ATROPOS

-HORNBLOWER AND THE CRISIS

-HORNBLOWER AND THE HOTSPUR

-LIEUTENANT HORNBLOWER

-LORD HORNBLOWER

-MR. MIDSHIPMAN HORNBLOWER

-SHIP

-SHIP OF THE LINE

and, one more, DEATH TO THE FRENCH (\$37 trade paperback)

FRANCOME, JOHN COVER UP (\$10.99) Rob Harding's three-year-old colt Goldeneye has won at Newmarket but the thrill is shortlived when his head stable girl, Ivana, learns that her sadistic ex-lover has reappeared.

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

FRASER, ANTHEA FAMILY CONCERN (\$19.50 trade paper, C\$40 hardcover) A chance meeting with an old friend gives Rona Parish an idea for a new series on long-established family firms in the town. But her friend also needs Rona's help with her sister-in-law who has suffered a severe reaction to the tune from a music box. Buried childhood memories?

FRASER, ANTONIA QUIET AS A NUN, TARTAN TRAGEDY/WILD ISLAND and SPLASH OF RED (\$12.99 ea.)

These three are also available in an omnibus edition at \$29.95.

FRAZER, MARGARET frevisse SEMPSTER'S TALE (#15) (\$10.99) 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.

FREI, PIERRE BERLIN (\$24.95) Set in Berlin 1945. See the ad in the centre pages of the November 2006 newsletter.

FREY, STEPHEN POWER BROKER (\$10.99) Big bucks, big politics, big power and the Vegas mob. "Stephen Frey enlivens finance the way Patricia Cornwell does forensic science."—*Forbes*.

GABBAY, TOM BERLIN CONSPIRACY (\$10.99) Jack Teller left the CIA after the Bay of Pigs fiasco, hoping to lead a quiet life in Florida. Days before John F. Kennedy is scheduled to give a speech at the Berlin Wall, a mysterious message is sent to the Berlin station of the CIA from a Colonel in the East German Stasi. He claims to have important information, but will deal only with Jack.

GADNEY, REG IMMACULATE DECEPTION (\$25.00) The demonic Klaas-Pieter Terajima—who terrorized you in The Scholar of Extortion (\$17)—is back. He's hell-bent on the destruction of his arch-rival, the one man who knows him intimately and the only one who stands a chance of defeating him—P.I. Alan Rosslyn.

GANNASCOLI, JOSEPH MEAL TO DIE FOR (\$9.99) The story of the food fence and the description of the food was great, says Marian, but she felt the rest of the storyline was weak. Food fence Benny Lacoco is also a gourmet chef and he has been summoned to cook a special meal for some of his associates on the occasion of 'the big man being sent up the river'. This gives Benny the chance to prepare the meal of his life, but word has it that someone in their midst is a rat, and that this will be his last meal.

GARDNER, ERLE STANLEY CASEBOOK OF SIDNEY ZOOM (\$25) Before he created Perry Mason, Gardner wrote about Sidney Zoom, wealthy yacht-owner who prowled at night to help the downtrodden in the days of the Great Depression.

GARDNER, LISA GONE (\$10.99) For ex-FBI profiler Pierce Quincy, it's the beginning of a nightmare: a car abandoned on a desolate stretch of Oregon highway, engine running, purse on the driver's seat. And his estranged wife, Rainie Conner, gone, leaving no clue to her fate. With his daughter, FBI agent Kimberly Quincy, the two battle the local authorities in a race against time. Marian says: "I discovered this writer by accident and if you want a fast moving, suspense filled read, this is it. Although I have not read every book, I can certainly tell you that The Next Accident (\$11.99) and The Killing Hours (\$11.99), both featuring Rainie Conner and Pierce Quincy, were excellent".

GLATZER, HAL LAST FULL MEASURE (#3) (\$18.50)

GLAUSER, FRIEDRICH FEVER (#3) (\$19.99) The third Sergeant Studer investigation. First published in 1936, set in Bern and Basel. The author, a morphine and opium addict much of his life, began writing crime novels while an inmate at the Swiss insane asylum Waldau. The German language prize for detective fiction is named after him.

GODDARD, ROBERT NEVER GO BACK (\$11.99) Harry Barnett (Out of the Sun (\$11.99, but may be out of print)), back in England to clear his recently deceased mother's home, bumps into an old acquaintance from his National Service days. As RAF conscripts in 1955, they had all been guinea pigs in a psychological experiment at a Scottish castle. Convinced to join him at a fiftieth anniversary reunion, the two find themselves in a struggle for survival as their numbers dwindle due to suspicious deaths.

GOLDBERG, LEE DIAGNOSIS MURDER DOUBLE LIFE (\$9.99) Based on the TV series.

GRAFTON, SUE S IS FOR SILENCE (\$10.99) The Sth in the Kinsey Millhone series.

GREENE, GRAHAM OUR MAN IN HAVANA (\$19.95) and TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT (\$21.95). Two more lovely trade paperback reissues.

GRIFFIN, H TERRELL LONGBOAT BLUES (\$20.00)

GRIFFIN, W E B castillo HOSTAGE (#2) (\$13.50) 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.

GRIMWOOD, JON 9TAIL FOX (\$12.95) A special order for David, science fiction.

HAGBERG, DAVID mcgarvey SOLDIER OF GOD (\$10.99) 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.

HAMILTON, DONALD NIGHT WALKER (\$8.99) Best-selling creator of the Matt Helm novels. This one—they were on the run, from a dead man!—was first published in 1954.

HAMILTON, LAURELL K STROKE OF MIDNIGHT (#4) (\$10.99) Meredith Gentry, private investigator, also Princess Meredith, heir to the darkest throne faerie has to offer, is always on her guard against assassination attempts.

HARPER, KAREN FATAL FASHIONE (#8) (\$9.99) Tobacco, chocolate and starch are recently introduced to England and Eliza-

beth I is in the eighth year of her reign. When the royal starcher 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.

HARPER, KAREN INFERNO (\$8.50) Bush pilot Lauren Taylor lost her husband to a bush fire. She's not about to let it take her son.

HARR, JONATHAN LOST PAINTING (\$18.95) 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, JOANNE GENTLEMEN AND PLAYERS (\$18.95) For generations, privileged young men have attended St. Oswald's Grammar School for Boys, groomed for success by the likes of Roy Straitley, the eccentric Classics teacher who has been a fixture there for more than thirty years. As the new term gets underway, a number of incidents befall students and faculty alike, and with St. Oswald unraveling, only Roy stands in the way of its ruin.

HARROD-EAGLES, C WHITE ROAD (#28) (\$10.99) 1914, England and the Morland dynasty continues.

HARVEY, JOHN IN A TRUE LIGHT (\$10.99)) When Sloane, an unsuccessful painter but a successful forger, is released from prison after taking part in a high-profile art scam, he finds a letter from a woman with whom he had had a passionate affair in his youth. On her death bed, she tells him that years ago she gave birth to his daughter, Connie, and now she wants him to find her.

HESS, JOAN hanks MALPRACTICE IN MAGGODY (#15) (\$8.99) 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.

HEYER, GEORGETTE NO WIND OF BLAME (#1), ENVOIOUS CASCA (#2), DUPLICATE DEATH (#3) and DETECTION UNLIMITED (#4) (\$19.95 ea.) And finally the Insp. Hemingway novels have been reprinted.

HILL, REGINALD STRANGER HOUSE (\$10.99) An estimated 150,000 child migrants were shipped from Britain to the furthest corners of the Empire. That little shameful part of British history is the backdrop to this novel. Excellent.

HILL, REGINALD dalziel RULING PASSION (#3) (\$21) Currently out of print here so we have smuggled in the UK paperback.

HOCH, EDWARD D MORE THINGS IMPOSSIBLE (\$23.50 trade paperback, \$70 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

HOLLON, FRANK TURNER POINT OF FRACTURE (\$21) The story of a troubled woman who—bent on revenge—implicates her husband, his family, and an entire Southern community in an unsolvable murder.

HORTON, LESLEY HOLLOW CORE (#4) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation. See *Wendy's Picks*.

HOUGAN, CAROLYN SHOOTING IN THE DARK (\$18.50)

HUANG, JIM & AUSTIN LUGAR MYSTERY MUSES 100 CLASSICS THAT INSPIRE TODAY'S MYSTERY WRITERS (\$18.95) These are the answers that the 100 published mystery writers gave when the questions "Did a mystery set you on your path to being a writer? Is there a classic mystery that remains important to you today?" were put to them.

HUNT, ARLENE FALSE INTENTIONS (\$10.99) Drugs, dead bodies, Dublin... "fast paced thriller that twists and turns to its startling conclusion"—per the blurb.

HUNTER, CATHERINE QUEEN OF DIAMONDS (\$12.99)

I'm always amused when I read about psychics getting into fixes. Could they not have foreseen them? Psychic Lorelei is trying to trap a millionaire philanthropist into setting her and her sister up in their own centre for psychic research. But things are not going well.

HURLEY, GRAHAM faraday BLOOD AND HONEY (#6)

(\$10.99) The discovery of a headless body in the sea beneath cliffs on the Isle of Wight leads DI Joe Faraday and DC Winter on a terrifying chase. All six Faraday novels are excellent.

HUSTON, CHARLIE joe pitt NO DOMINION (#2) (\$17.95)

Sequel to Already Dead (\$17.95). Two novels of the undead in Manhattan.

ILES, GREG penn cage TURNING ANGEL (#2) (\$11.99) 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.

INDRIDASON, ARNALDUR JAR CITY (#1) (\$19.95) Also published as Tainted Blood. Excellent.

INK, INDIA bath and body GLOSSED AND FOUND (#3) (\$9.99)

IZZO, JEAN-CLAUDE CHOURMO (#2) (\$20.00)

JAFFARIAN, SUE ANN TOO BIG TO MISS (\$18.95)

JAMES, P D dalglish Lighthouse (#13) (\$11.99) Combe Island off the Cornish coast offers respite to over-stressed men and women. Adam Dalglish is called in to investigate a murder on the island. When a second murder occurs, the whole investigation is jeopardized.

JECKS, MICHAEL DEATH SHIP OF DARTMOUTH (#21)

(\$10.99) Sir Baldwin de Furnhill has been told by Bishop Stapledon of spies being sent to the great traitor Roger Mortimer. If it's true, civil war in England is inevitable. Baldwin, along with Bailiff Simon Puttock, investigates.

JOHANSEN, IRIS grace arch ON THE RUN (#1) (\$10.99) A woman with a highly classified past, Grace has never run from anything. But as a mother, she'd do anything to keep her eight-year-old daughter safe. Eight years ago she fled to a remote part of Alabama but that safe world has now been shattered. He's found them.

KANON, JOSEPH GOOD GERMAN (\$10.99) This man is brilliant. If you have not read him, try any one; there is no series character so it does not matter where you begin. Los Alamos (\$10.99) and Prodigal Spy (\$9.99) are the first two. This one is set in Berlin after the defeat of the Germans and the city had been divided into the four zones of occupation. Movie tie-in edition.

KAUFFMAN, SCOTT IN DEEPEST CONSEQUENCES

(\$10.99) Calvin Samuels is a public defender who does not think he did enough to protect John Rogers, recently found dead. So he put all his energies into defending an accused murderer who may not be what he says he is. Is Calvin blind to the clues?

KELBY, N M WHALE SEASON (\$17) One Christmas Eve, Whale Harbor is visited by a man who thinks he's Jesus and claims to be looking for a game of poker. You take your miracles where you can get them. Great fun, in a Hiasenesque manner. Could have easily been a *J.D.'s Pick*.

KELLERMAN, JESSE SUNSTROKE (\$10.99) 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 Four Richard Bolitho novels reissued in trade paperback at \$19.95 each:

-COLOURS ALOFT

-CROSS OF ST. GEORGE

-HONOUR THIS DAY

-ONLY VICTOR

KENT, DAVID TRIANGLE CONSPIRACY (#4) (\$9.99) It's case officer Faith Kelly's job to protect criminals in exchange for information. When one of her charges gets killed, and there's a connection to Faith's brother, an Immigration and Customs agent, the case becomes one of the most dangerous of her career.

KHOURY, RAYMOND LAST TEMPLAR (\$13.50) During the opening of a Treasures of the Vatican exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, four masked horsemen ride up the steps into the museum and proceed to ransack and steal the valuable artifacts. But why is a strange geared device also stolen? Archeologist Tess Chaykin, along with FBI anti terrorist specialist Sean Reilly, join forces and delve into the dark and hidden history of the Knights Templar. See *Marian's Picks*.

KIDD, SUE MONK MERMAID CHAIR (\$20.00)

KINDELLAN-SHEEHAN, SHEILA AN EASY MARK (\$11.95)

KING, STEPHEN CELL (\$11.99) He's got your number...

KINGSBURY, KATE pennyfoot SLAY BELLS (#14) (\$16.00)

KLEIN, MATTHEW SWITCHBACK (\$24.95) Timothy lives a charmed life: his business mints money, he has a beautiful and charming wife and a young sexy secretary. Then it all starts to go bad. His company starts to hemorrhage money, his wife commits suicide and his secretary tells him she's really his wife. What gives? **KNIGHT, BERNARD** ELIXIR OF DEATH (#10) (\$10.99) 1195. Prince John still plots to seize the throne from his brother, Richard the Lionheart—and in his wicked schemes he is supported by Philip of France. The French king offers to send him a man who claims to be able to turn base metals into gold. But he's murdered en route and, sooner or later, Crown John is involved.

KORYTA, MICHAEL SORROW'S ANTHEM (#2) (\$10.50) PI Lincoln Perry meets with Ed Gradduk, an old friend that he hadn't seen in years. But Gradduk is killed in a violent police confrontation and Perry can't walk away from it until he finds out what brought his friend down. The first in the series, Tonight I Said Goodbye (\$9.99), won Best First PI Novel from the Private Eye Writers of America. Both are excellent. One of *J.D.'s Picks* a year ago. Marian also loved it.

LAMBDIN, DEWEY adam lewri CAPTAIN'S VENGEANCE (#12) (\$19.95)

LANGE, JOHN GRAVE DESCEND (\$8.99) Diver James McGregor is used to exploring sunken ships, but there is something strange about the wreck of the luxury yacht Grave Descent. No one who was aboard tells quite the same story. Another Hard Case Crime offering.

LARSSON, ASA SUN STORM (\$15.00) Winner of Sweden's Best First Crime Novel Award. Translated from Swedish. Stockholm attorney Rebekka Martinsson is heading home to Kiruna, the town she left in disgrace years before. Her friend Sanna, whose brother had been horribly murdered, needs her support.

LATOURE, JOSE COMRADES IN MIAMI (\$16.50) Victoria Valiente, the head of Cuban Intelligence's Miami Desk is tired of all the sacrifices that she has made in the forty-five years of Castro's rule. She wants out. But that's not easily done.

LAWTON, JOHN BLACK OUT (#1) (\$9.99) and OLD FLAMES (#2) (\$10.99). These are the US paperback editions as the UK ones are not available at the moment.

LESCROART, JOHN T wyatt HUNT CLUB (#1) (\$13.50) A federal judge is murdered, found shot to death in his home, together with the body of his mistress. San Francisco homicide detective Devin Juhle's investigation reveals that the judge had many ene-

mies. Juhle's friend, PI Wyatt Hunt, has become smitten with lawyer Andrea Parisi who also had a connection to the judge.

LIMON, MARTIN DOOR TO BITTERNESS (#4) (\$16) Sergeants Sueno and Bascom are back in 1970s Seoul, policing back alleys, keeping American soldiers safe from themselves and the natives with criminal intent.

LUST, ARTHUR COMA CONSPIRACY (\$20.95) It is 2020 and the US is in the grip of the worst inflation in its history. A young and idealistic president decides that the way out of this mess is to create a new currency. But the plan has to stay secret until Devaluation Day. Can it?

LUTZ, JOHN CHILL OF NIGHT (\$9.99) Jurors in New York's most infamous cases are being picked off, one by one, by a twisted serial killer who leaves his calling card—a red “J”—on the bodies.

MACALISTER, KATIE LIGHT MY FIRE (\$9.99)

MCCREA, GRANT DEAD MONEY (\$19.95) Introducing Rick Redman, lawyer, drinker, rookie investigator, father, and poker hound. When his infuriating boss puts him on the Fitzgibbon case, Rick suspects he's being set up to lose.

MCGARRITY, MICHAEL NOTHING BUT TROUBLE (#10) (\$10.99) Santa Fe Police Chief Kevin Kerney is back for his tenth adventure. Terrific series, this one.

MCINTYRE, HOPE HOW TO SEDUCE A GHOST (#1) (\$9.99) Ghostwriter Lee Bartholomew lives alone in Notting Hill, London, and loves it. Although her boyfriend, Tommy, has been asking her for years to marry him, she wants her space. Landing a fab ghostwriting job for a soap opera star, Lee is over the moon with excitement, especially after meeting the star's good-looking manager, Buzz. Leaping before she looks, she jeopardizes her relationship with Tommy and gets into something very dangerous.

MCKINTY, ADRIAN DEAD YARD (#2) (\$9.99) Mercenary bad guy Michael Forsythe makes a deal with a British intelligence agent. If he will infiltrate an IRA sleeper cell in the USA, she will keep him out of both a Mexican and a Spanish jail. Sequel to Dead I Well May Be (\$10.50).

MCNAB, ANDY RECOIL (\$28.95) Recuperating in Switzerland after a job that cost the life of one of his closest friends, ex-special forces soldier and deniable operator Nick Stone has only one thing on his mind: his honeymoon is over before it even started. Testosterone-charged and adrenaline-pumping...

MAGUIRE, GREGORY WICKED: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST (\$21.50) Terrific says Leeanne. So much happened before Dorothy dropped in... This is the novel on which the theatrical production currently playing in New York and London is based. See *Wendy's Picks*.

MARON, MARGARET harald CORPUS CHRISTMAS (#6) (\$9.99)

MARSTON, EDWARD MURDER ANCIENT AND MODERN (\$23.50) A collection of stories spanning two thousand years of murder. From a severed head in Samaria to stealing the statue of Nelson from the top of his column in London.

MASELLO, ROBERT BESTIARY (\$10.99) Release the beasts of Eden and you open the Gates of Hell. I don't know what that means, but if you read the book, please tell me.

MATETSKY, AMANDA MURDER ON A HOT TIN ROOF (#4) (\$9.99) It's New York of the 1950s and it's hot, baby. One place to go to get cool is the theatre and that's where Paige Turner is with her friend Abby. The tickets are free and Abby's handsome friend is the lead in a production of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. When he's found dead, things really heat up.

MEIER, LESLIE lucy stone NEW YEAR'S EVE MURDER (#12) (\$9.99)

MEYER, VIVIAN BOTTOM BRACKET (\$16.95)

MICHAELS, BARBARA Reissues...

-BLACK RAINBOW

-SOMEONE IN THE HOUSE

-WINGS OF THE FALCON (\$9.99 ea.)

MITCHELL, GLADYS MYSTERY OF A BUTCHER'S SHOP (\$19.50) What does a stuffed trout, a piece of luggage, an ancient religious site, and a traveling skull have to do with the body in the butcher's shop? Mrs. Bradley investigates.

MONSARRAT, NICHOLAS CRUEL SEA (\$17.99) A tie-in edition.

MONTALBAN, MANUEL VAZQUEZ BUENOS AIRES QUINTET (\$18.50)

MYERS, TAMAR GRAPE EXPECTATIONS (#14) (\$9.99) Alcohol is a no-no in the Mennonite community of Hernia, Pennsylvania, but a couple of outsiders have bought an old farm at the edge of town where they plan to grow grapes and open a winery. When one of the vineyard owners is found entombed in cement, Magdalena Yoder helps investigate.

NABB, MAGDALEN DEATH OF A DUTCHMAN (#2) (\$21) The UK paperback edition, not in print in North America.

O'BRIEN, KEVIN KILLING SPREE (\$9.99) Only Seattle writer Gillian McBride sees the disturbing coincidences between the deaths taking place all across the country. And it's hitting too close to home. Somehow she's the link.

O'HEHIR, DIANA day MURDER NEVER FORGETS (#1) (\$9.99)

O'NEILL, HEATHER LULLABIES FOR LITTLE CRIMINALS (\$17.50)

O'SHAUGHNESSY, PERRI SINISTER SHORTS (\$15) A collection of nineteen stories, many appearing in print for the first time, including one Nina Reilly.

PALMER, JEAN AGONY COLUMN CODES & CIPHERS (\$30.00)

PARKER, I J BLACK ARROW (#4) (\$17.50) Fabulous reviews in the *Globe and Mail* newspaper recently.

PARKER, T JEFFERSON FALLEN (\$10.99) Robbie Brownlaw, homicide detective for the city of San Diego, suffers from synesthesia, a neurological condition where his senses get mixed up. When people talk to him, he sees their voices as coloured shapes, provoked by the emotions of the speakers not by their words. In other words, he has a built-in lie detector. When a former colleague is found dead, Robbie and his partner, McKenzie Cortez, are called on the case. Excellent. See *Marians' Picks*.

PATTERSON, JAMES THOMAS BERRYMAN NUMBER (\$10.99) A reissue.

PATTERSON, JAMES & HOWARD ROUGHAN HONEYMOON (\$10.99) Why is the FBI so interested in Nora Sinclair? Mysterious things keep happening to people around her, especially men.

PEARS, IAIN INSTANCE OF THE FINGERPOST (\$21.95)

PEREZ-REVERTE, ARTURO ala PURITY OF BLOOD (#2) (\$17.50) 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).

PERRY, ANNE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY & CHRISTMAS VISITOR (\$18.95) Two together in one volume.

PERRY, ANNE ww1 ANGELS IN THE GLOOM (#3) (\$18.95) From the hell of the trenches in France to a London nightclub where a beautiful Irish spy plies her trade, to the murder of a weapons sci-

entist in the English countryside The first two are No Graves As Yet (\$10.99) and Shoulder the Sky (\$21.00 trade paperback).

PICOULT, JODI TENTH CIRCLE (\$15) A single act of violence and fourteen-year-old Trixie Stone's life is turned upside down. How far would her loving father, a mild-mannered comic book artist, go to make things right for his child? Illustrated.

PITMAN, JENNY INHERITANCE (#5) (\$9.99) 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.

PORTER, ROSS THE ESSENTIAL JAZZ RECORDINGS: 101 CDs (\$24.99) Obviously not fiction, but a book we stocked over the holidays.

PERDUE, LEWIS PERFECT KILLER (\$9.99) For over seventy years, Project Enduring Valor, (it's a US publication so the wrong spelling!), has been experimenting with a drug that could turn ordinary soldiers into ruthlessly efficient killers. Now, the project is ready to be implemented on a massive scale, despite devastating side effects. Neurosurgeon Brad Stone has to stop it.

QUEEN, ELLERY ADVENTURE OF THE MURDERED MOTH (\$26) Fourteen previously unpublished radio scripts.

QUIGLEY, SHEILA LIVING ON A PRAYER (\$10.99) A week before Christmas, a teenage boy is found hanging from a tree. The official line on Richard's death is suicide. But his four friends know more than they are telling about his death. Detective Lorraine Hunt can feel it. The teenagers are clearly terrified about something, something that scares them more than the police.

QURESHI, MOBASHAR R.A.C.E. (\$16.95) After several veteran detectives are sidelined by corruption charges, mind-mannered parking enforcement officer Jon Rupert finds himself pressed into service on an elite drug squad. Is Jon in way over his head? You bet. Set in Toronto.

REICHS, KATHY BREAK NO BONES (\$19.95) Summoned to South Carolina to fill in for a negligent colleague, Temperance Brennan is stuck teaching a lackluster archaeology field school in the ruins of a Native American burial ground on the Charleston shore. But when Tempe stumbles upon a fresh skeleton among the ancient bones, her old friend Emma Rousseau, the local coroner, persuades her to stay on and help with the investigation.

REILLY, MATTHEW J SEVEN DEADLY WONDERS (\$9.99)

RICHARDS, EMILIE aggie LET THERE BE SUSPECTS (#2) (\$9.99)

RIGOSI, GIAMPIERO NIGHT BUS (\$19.99)

ROBB, J D INTERLUDE IN DEATH (\$4.99)

ROTENBERG, DAVID GOLDEN MOUNTAIN MURDERS (#5) (\$10.99) Zhong Fong, of Shanghai's Office of Special Investigations, awakes one night to an anonymous caller claiming that there is an AIDS epidemic in far off Anhui province. He alleges that Chinese blood collectors, paid by a firm in the West, are spreading the deadly contagion and that Chinese governmental officials are growing rich by turning a blind eye to the trade. Fong starts his journey in Anhui and ends up on the streets of Vancouver, Canada, his every move noted by the head of the Guild of the Assassins.

ROYAL, PRISCILLA FAVAS CAN BE FATAL (\$18.99)

RUSCH, SHELDON hewitt FOR EDGAR (#1) (\$10.99) State Police Special Agent Elizabeth Hewitt seeks help from Professor Scott Gregory, her former lover and an Edgar Allan Poe expert, when a series of murders duplicate the tales of Poe.

RUSSELL, DAVID DEADLY LESSONS (\$13.95) Winston Patrick left the legal profession for a high school classroom but his past meets his present when a student accuses a fellow colleague of a teacher-student love affair. Reluctantly Winston agrees to provide

legal defense but the case takes an even uglier turn: murder. Set in Vancouver, BC.

SABATINI, RAFAEL EVIDENCE OF THE SWORD (\$25.00)
SANSOM, C J WINTER IN MADRID (\$16.99) 1940, the Spanish Civil war is over, and General Franco is considering whether to abandon neutrality and enter the war. Into this uncertain world comes Harry Brett, ex-public schoolboy, traumatized veteran of Dunkirk and now a reluctant spy for the British Secret Service. Marian says: "I wish this had been another one of his historical novels featuring hunch-backed lawyer Matthew Shardlake." Disso-
lution, Dark Fire (\$9.99 each) and Sovereign (\$22.95 trade paperback and \$32.95 hardcover).

SANTANGELO, ELENA POISON TO PURGE MELANCHOLY (\$16.95)

SANTLOFER, JONATHAN KILLING ART (#3) (\$10.99) Ex-Queens, New York cop Kate McKinnon is trying to rebuild her life after the death of her husband. She is writing a book about New York and its artistic era of the 1940s and 50s. But when a lunatic starts slashing the paintings and the owners of the very works she is writing about, the NYPD once again seeks her help. The first two in the series are The Death Artist (\$9.99) and Color Blind (\$10.99).

SCHERF, MARGARET DIPLOMAT AND THE GOLD PIANO (\$18.50) Another classic from Rue Morgue.

SCOTT, MICHELE SADDLED WITH TROUBLE (#1) (\$9.99)

SEDLEY, KATE PRODIGAL SON (#15) (\$19.95 trade paperback) When Roger the Chapman discovers he has a half-brother, he has mixed feelings about the matter. But when John Wedmore is accused of robbing his mistress and murdering a fellow servant, Roger feels obliged to investigate.

SEWELL, KITTY ICE TRAP (\$21.00)

SIDOR, STEVEN BONE FACTORY (\$9.99) Homicide cops Ike Horner and Eliza Ochoa are investigating the murder of a prostitute in Booth City. It seems though, the girl is really a boy. His debut novel is Skin River (\$9.99).

SIMENON, GEORGES A few more reprints. Some Maigret, and some not, some in French and some not:

-BAR ON THE SEINE (\$15.00)

-HOTEL MAJESTIC (\$15.00)

-LA COLERE DE MAIGRET (\$22)

-LA PATIENCE DE MAIGRET (\$22)

-MAIGRET A NEW-YORK (\$22)

-MAIGRET AND THE GHOST (\$21)

-MAIGRET AND THE IDLE BURGLAR (\$27)

-MAIGRET ET L'HOMME DU BANC (\$22)

-MAIGRET IN COURT (\$21)

-MAIGRET SE TROMPE (\$22)

-MAIGRET TEND UN PIEGE (\$22)

-LE VOLEUR DE MAIGRET (\$22)

-LITTLE MAN FROM ARCHANGEL (\$24)

-MY FRIEND MAIGRET (\$24)

-STRANGERS IN THE HOUSE (\$18)

SPANOGLE, JOSHUA ISOLATION WARD (\$8.99) In Baltimore's St. Raphael's Hospital, three patients from Baltimore's group homes for the mentally impaired are admitted. Their bodies are racked with a virus the likes of which no one at the hospital has seen before. Dr. Nathaniel McCormick is a young investigator from the Centre for Disease Control who is paid to explore the bizarre, the exotic and the baffling, from super viruses to bioterrorism.

SPRINKLE, PATRICIA DEATH ON THE FAMILY TREE (#1) (\$9.99) If you dig around the roots of your family tree, you might find a few bodies. When Katharine Murray's Aunt Lucy dies, her worldly belongings are left for Katharine to sort through. What she finds leads to a fifty-year old death. And a very fresh one.

STABENOW, DANA BLINDFOLD GAME (\$9.99) 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.

STROHMEYER, SARAH BUBBLES ALL THE WAY (#6) (\$10.99)

SUSKIND, PATRICK PERFUME (\$18.95) A re-issue.

SWEENEY, LEANN SHOOT FROM THE LIP (#3) (\$9.99)

SWIERCZYNSKI, DUANE WHEELMAN (\$17.95)

SYMONS, JULIAN DETECTIONS OF FRANCIS QUARLES (\$25.00)

TAIBO, PACO IGNACIO UNCOMFORTABLE DEAD (\$21.99)

TANYA fitzroy SMOKE AND SHADOWS (#1) (\$9.99) and SMOKE AND MIRRORS (#2) (\$10.99) Featuring the vampire Fitzroy from her earlier 'Blood' series.

TEMPLE, LOU JANE **spice** DEATH DU JOUR (#2) (\$9.99) Sequel to Spice Box (\$9.99). Culinary mysteries with authentic recipes of eighteenth-century Paris.

TEMPLE, PETER **jack irish** BLACK TIDE (#2) (\$21.00)

THEMERSON, STEFAN MYSTERY OF THE SARDINE (\$16.00)

THOMAS, WILL LIMEHOUSE TEXT (#3) (\$19.00) Victorian enquiry agent Cyrus Barker and his assistant Thomas Llewelyn return in this third adventure, sequel to Some Danger Involved (\$15.99) and To Kingdom Come (\$13.95).

TODD, MARILYN SOUR GRAPES (#12) (\$19.50) Visiting her stepmother on the family estate in Tuscany, Claudia is concerned by the gaggle of hangers-on surrounding the old lady. When a series of local murders befall a number of people, Claudia investigates.

TOLSTOY, LEO ANNA KARENINA (\$24.00) Special order.

TUROW, SCOTT LIMITATIONS (\$16.95) Life has gone well for George Mason. At fifty-nine, he sits as a judge on the Court of Appeals in Kindle County. Yet, when a disturbing rape case is brought before him, he begins to question the very nature of the law and his role within it.

TWINING, JAMES tom kirk BLACK SUN (#2) (\$10.99) What a great read. Former art thief Tom Kirk is back, (Double Eagle (\$10.99)) investigating the theft of a painting from a synagogue in Prague. It somehow links to the death of an Auschwitz survivor who was murdered in his hospital bed. One of *Marian's Picks* a year ago and a novel that Wendy also raved about.

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WILSON, LAURA THOUSAND LIES (\$10.99) In 1987, 36-year-old Sheila Shand was given a suspended sentence for killing her father. Years later, journalist Amy Vaughan discovers a newspaper clipping about the Shand case while clearing out her dead mother's flat. Concluding that they are related, she decides to visit Sheila's mother, Iris, who is in a care home. When she begins to investigate the Shand case, she realizes that there is more to the murder than the police ever unearthed.

WITCOVER, PAUL DRACULA: ASYLUM (\$9.50)

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WRIGHT, EDWARD horn RED SKY LAMENT (#3) (\$14.95) John Ray is hired to find the murderer of Owen Bruder, a talented but difficult screenwriter, accused of being a Communist Party member. Set during the House Un-American Activities Committee days. Excellent. One of *Wendy's Picks* a year ago.

The Merchant of Menace.

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