



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

July 2006

Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Two announcements, one important and one very important. First, the important one:

Meet and Greet...

Endless Knot (\$32.99), the tenth Joanne Kilbourn novel, is going to be published in early September and **GAIL BOWEN** will be at Sleuth, likely on the 5th of September, 6 to 7 pm, to sign copies. Add your name to the list to be notified and as soon as the details are worked out we will let you know. You could also keep an eye on the website as all details will be posted there.

And, then, the very important one. Here it is briefly, but do read on for an explanation:

Changes to our Hours of Business

Please note that as of **August 1, 2006**
Sleuth of Baker Street will be

CLOSED Mondays

We're getting old. Nothing else changes.
We'll still look after you. Promise.

Happy 139th to all of our Canadian customer and Happy 4th of July to all our American customers. I celebrated both occasions sitting on the deck at Marian's cottage for four days, drinking lots of cold ones—hot, thirsty work that, sitting on the deck—reading lots, and turning browner than I already am. My feet were looking a kinda pasty whitish, especially compared to my legs, thanks to all the golf, so finally got things evened out. Boy, do I feel better now. The boss lets me have the cottage for a weekend here and there and it's turning out to be a pretty special place to be. I'm going to talk Marian into moving the store to Havelock for the summers!! Wouldn't that be fun?

Actually, while I'm on this topic... It has been almost twenty-four years since Marian and I bought Sleuth of Baker Street. It's hard to believe that almost a quarter century has gone by. Had anyone asked us back in 1982 whether we would still be selling books in 2006, we likely would have told you that you're out of your mind.

Ask us today whether we'd still like to be selling books in 2030, well, both of us would answer, yes. Unhesitatingly. Resoundingly. But for all that, the time has come to make a few changes. Both of us would like a bit more time off. Marian wants to lounge around the cottage a lot more; I want to saunter around golf courses a lot more. Not particularly lofty or worthwhile ambitions, and certainly selfish, but those new aches and pains remind us that we're getting on in years, rapidly, and if not now, then when? We've tossed around all sorts of potential scenarios: closing a day or two, selling the store to younger booksellers, shutting it down entirely and retiring. The decision that we have taken, the only one that makes sense, is to start off by closing one day a week. So, starting August 1, 2006, we will be closed every Monday. No doubt this will inconvenience some of you—you'd probably like us to be open 24/7—but we'll do all we can to mitigate the inconvenience. We'll still provide you with the same selection and service, the same attention and care; it'll just be six days a week. And if it must be a Monday, well, then call, we'll work something out.

A big thank you to all who contributed so very generously to the Sunnybrook Run for Research. It's not too early to start saving for your 2007 contribution, you know, cause I'll be back, begging...

Have you been watching the FIFA World Cup? I haven't paid that much attention to it but judging by the noisy crowds at the local watering hole, this is indeed big stuff. I'm always curious about things that others are passionate about, so I did waste a lunch watching. Heavily-favoured England was playing Trinidad and Tobago, and as a lark, I asked one of the waitresses if it would be asking too much to turn one of the dozen or so televisions to the Golf Channel. The second round of the US Open Golf Championship was being played and Tiger was in serious danger of missing the cut for the first time in years, and, well, that's important stuff that. There are, as I mentioned, only a dozen or so TVs in the joint—but no, that could not be countenanced. (That wasn't exactly what she said, I'm paraphrasing). One England fan, at a nearby table, suggested, not very kindly, that I go elsewhere to watch the golf, boy was he unfriendly, but I understood and forgave him. It was heavy going for England and he was wearing his heart, well, if not on his sleeve, all over his England jersey. But, England prevailed, and there was great rejoicing in the bar. I decided to keep quiet and quit while I still had both my knees intact. My lunch partners, a Greek and a Guyanese, were, of course, not too impressed with my sense of humour. And after I gave them the best seats at the table! All that aside, congratulations to all the competitors and may the France vs. Italy final game be a good one.

Wendy's Picks

As you all know by now, I was away in April as I had some family business to tend to and then had to reward myself with a trip to Italy. My first time there and I just had the best time. Can't wait to go back. The two months since my return were spent on a very special and important project – planning a party for my parents 60th Wedding Anniversary. I can't tell you how proud and happy my sister, brother and I are to have been able to celebrate such an amazing achievement with them, our extended family and friends. My parents, who shy away from the spotlight and don't like a fuss, handled the attention with their usual calm and dignity. I think that we, the offspring, were more excited than our parents by the occasion but Mom and Dad were quite pleased. To have parents in relatively good health at this stage of their lives and to be able to celebrate this special day with them is a great gift. I'm feeling rather joyful and grateful these days.

Now that life is more or less back to normal, I can seriously get to the stack of books waiting to be read. I did manage to get in a little reading between family meetings and party planning and these are some of the wonderful books that I read:

CODY McFADYEN has written an intense debut thriller, Shadow Man (\$32.00), introducing FBI agent Smoky Barrett. Smoky has been scarred, physically and emotionally, by the murders of her husband and young daughter. She is on a leave of absence to recover but a serial killer, Jack Jr., commits a crime that forces Smoky back to work. Then he goes after her team members. I was hooked from the first page. This is one thrilling book with horrifying murders, wonderful characters, scary moments, tender moments, a shocking twist, and hopefully, this is the first of many with Smoky and her team. Be prepared to stay up late reading this one.

Another terrific debut is The King of Lies (\$29.95) by **JOHN HART**. Work Pickens is a North Carolina lawyer. His father, wealthy attorney Ezra Pickens, disappeared the same day his mother died. More than a year later, Ezra's body is discovered and Work becomes a suspect in his death. In his efforts to uncover the truth, Work exposes his family's tragic past and in doing so causes his carefully constructed life to fall apart. The cast of characters—a troubled sister, her hostile girlfriend, his manipulative, socialite wife, and his high school love—all force Work to examine his life. This is one suspenseful mystery with some of the most beautiful prose I've read in a long time. There were times when I had to re-read sentences to fully appreciate their impact. A compelling, character-driven mystery about which I can't say enough good things.

I loved **CRAIG RUSSELL**'s first mystery set in Hamburg, Blood Eagle (\$10.99). It was dark, violent and wonderful. His second, Brother Grimm (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$39.00 hardcover) is equally as good. As the title indicates, there is a connection to childhood folk/fairy tales. I won't elaborate other than to say the killer leaves a reference to a folk story by the Brothers Grimm at each crime scene. Jan Fabel, of the Hamburg Murder Squad, must interpret the clues to uncover a monstrous killer. Again, a dark and violent mystery and everyone knows how much I enjoy them.

ELIZABETH CORLEY ALERT!!! Allison and Busby is publishing this wonderful author's third mystery in August. Her first two, Requiem Mass and Fatal Legacy (out-of-print, alas), are two of my favourite mysteries. We've not seen an advanced copy of the new book, Grave Doubts, but this is what the catalogue says: "Sergeant

Louise Nightingale is the model police officer, calm, composed and always in control. When her colleagues discover a connection between a series of sexual attacks and an online contest called The Game, she becomes involved in tracking down the perpetrator." Now the **ALERT** part: as we will be importing the UK edition, this means that supply will be limited and expensive, \$55. If you want a copy, please let us know soon and we'll hold one.

I am a big fan of **MARK BILLINGHAM**'s Tom Thorne mystery series and his latest, Buried (\$25 hardcover - *yes that's the correct hardcover price*), is a terrific addition to the series. DI Thorne is working the case of a teenage boy who has disappeared. The boy's father is a retired high-ranking police officer, named Mullen. Thorne asks the father to provide a list of names of all those who may hold a grudge. In the course of the investigation, Thorne discovers that there is a name missing from the list, the name of a man who made threats against the Mullen family. Now Thorne has to find out why the father lied while trying to solve the mystery of the boy's disappearance. The mystery unfolds at a steady pace and there's lots of guesswork along the way. Tom Thorne is a very likeable character, clever and messed up. But finally, his personal life seems to be on the upswing. Start at the beginning with Sleepyhead (\$9.99) if you've never read **Billingham** and get caught up in Thorne's investigations and life.

The paperback of Killer Swell (\$9.99) by **JEFF SHELBY**, one of my *Picks* last year in hardcover, is now available. This is a debut introducing Noah Braddock, a surfing San Diego PI. The mother of his high school sweetheart comes to see him to ask him to find her daughter Kate who is missing. It's been ten years or more since Noah has seen Kate and he is reluctant to take the case but does so. He finds Kate but not quickly enough. Now he has to find out what happened to her and why. Noah is a funny, strong, loyal character. I especially like his friend Carter. The next mystery in the series, Wicked Break, (\$32.95 tentatively priced) is due this month. It's in the stack of books to be read.

I'm pretty sure that I picked **JACK KERLEY**'s first two books, The Hundredth Man and The Death Collectors (\$10.99 each), featuring Mobile police investigators Carson Ryder and Harry Nautilus, as *Picks* when they came out in hardcover. The third installment in the series, A Garden of Vipers (\$32.50), is now available and it's a *Pick* as well. It's a terrific summer read. Ryder and Nautilus are members of a special unit known as the Psychopathological and Sociopathological Investigative Team. They are investigating the torture and murder of a young radio reporter who turns out to be a protégé of TV reporter Dani Danbury, Ryder's girlfriend. Their investigation leads them to the wealthy Kincannon family whose philanthropic work is greatly admired by Mobile society ('a garden of vipers', perhaps?). **Kerley** has written an engrossing mystery with likeable characters, personal betrayals, family secrets, cover-ups, twists and turns, and a satisfying conclusion. A very compelling read.

David's Picks

Canadian journalist **STEPHEN KIMBER**'s debut novel, Reparations (\$19.95) is a hard-hitting and complex affair. This is a novel that pulls no punches and effectively weaves a tale with not only a crime at its core, but also a clever and fluid history of Africville, Nova Scotia, and the expropriation of African-Nova Scotian's waterfront land. Kimber pulls this off by following the lives of two characters from boyhood friends to men passionately fighting very

different political battles. Ward Justice is an ostracized fisherman who rose to political prominence in the 1970s and went on to become a provincial court judge. His boyhood friend Raymond Carter (who changed his name to Uhuru Melesse) is a former black activist and has gone on to become a lawyer. Here's one of the twists: In their youth, Ward Justice and Raymond Carter fell in love with the same woman - the mother of a child found dead in the projects now inhabited by displaced Africville settlers.

Reparations is a unique read. Along with the history and brilliant character studies of its two primary players, it's also a courtroom drama that pits Ward Justice and Ray Carter against each other. And the intricacies and outcome of the trial will, of course, not be revealed in this review. Pick up a copy of Reparations and see how it all plays out in this lively and detailed first novel.

The literary world suffered a great loss when **FREDERICK BUSCH** passed away suddenly a few months back. **Busch** was one of those writers who made it look easy. He authored numerous novels and a memoir-type project called Letters to a Fiction Writer and in all of his work he displayed a knack for putting the best words in the best order. He was both a prose stylist and an engaging storyteller. His final novel is North (\$18.95), an intense morality play that also manages to be a page turner. Jack is a troubled man, a former policeman who has been sliding in both his personal and professional life for years. From cop to campus security guard to unemployed, he leaves upstate New York to follow his thumb and winds up as a bouncer in a South Carolina beach resort. It's there he meets the striking and persuasive Merle Davidoff, an enigmatic woman with a potential case: find my wayward cousin who was last seen in a small New York State town in the company of some nasty characters. Jack signs on and heads right back to his old stomping ground and headlong into the demons of his past. The hunt and the outcome are both very satisfying and the structure is superb. North can be read as a stand alone novel. But to better understand Jack, I would suggest reading **Busch's** fine novel Girls (\$21) which also featured Jack and gives the reader his full back story. It ain't pretty (there's a dead wife and daughter in Jack's past) but it is very compelling. Think **Giles Blunt** in a bad mood, or a more wordy **Ken Bruen** in a good mood. What **Busch** has managed in Girls and North (when read together) is impressive. The two books form a gripping and intelligent look at a decent man solving crimes and stumbling toward redemption, and a final secret that, again, will not be revealed here. **Busch** was a fine writer who flew under the radar in terms of popularity. Closing Arguments (\$21), a great courtroom drama, and The Night Inspector (\$21), a chilling historical crime novel, are among his other works. He, in my opinion, never wrote a bad word. (*I'm part-way through Girls and it is every bit as compelling, the writing as marvelous, and the topic as "ain't pretty" as David says.—J.D.*)

J.D.'s Picks

JAMES SALLIS is a writer that I have much admired for many years. He does not get the same attention and accolades that **James Lee Burke** does but he should. As the jacket copy says, he's the author of more than two dozen volumes of fiction, poetry, biography, translations, essays and criticism and he writes a regular column for the *Boston Globe* book section. I, of course, got to know him first with his Lew Griffin novels. Set in New Orleans, the six novels featuring African-American Griffin, a PI, invite comparisons to the likes of **Burke**, **Walter Mosley** and **Chester Himes**. Preferring shorter, leaner books as I do, **Sallis'** novels go down real well

with me. Unfortunately, the Griffin novels are available only sporadically, so I'm going to suggest that you start with Cypress Grove (\$18.95 trade paperback, \$32 hard cover). We are introduced to Turner, ex-cop, ex-con, ex-therapist, looking for the perfect hide-away, a place to sit and listen to crickets and not be bothered by humanity. He's found that place, "halfway between Memphis and nowhere" and it's working fine until the local Sheriff arrives on Turner's porch with a bottle of hooch and a problem. The experience and expertise of a big-city cop would be very useful in solving the brutal murder case that's landed in the Sheriff's lap. This type of thing just doesn't happen on his watch and when it does, he's at a loss. Read this one and see if you do not agree that the author richly deserves all the accolades that he has garnered.

Many, many, many moons ago, in 1991 actually, I read **ROBERT LEININGER's** Killing Suki Flood (\$14.95). And I loved it. The book was hard-boiled enough and, more pleasantly, salacious enough to keep me hooked. I managed to sell a few copies in hard-cover but once they sold out, that was that, as there was no paperback edition. I probably could have sold a thousand in paperback. And, on top of all that, Leininger disappeared. (I think there was a science fiction novel that followed). Well, it was with a whoop of joy that I discovered a while back that this novel, that I had been so lamenting the disappearance of, had been in print in the UK, and in paperback, for many, many of those moons. So with much excitement and even more trepidation, I ordered some copies and reread it. Would it have stood the test of time? Would this be another A Stone For Danny Fisher? the dog that I thoroughly enjoyed the first time around, but should, never, NEVER, have reread? Would I be embarrassed for remembering, mostly, the luscious Suki? Well I need not have worried. The book was a pleasure to reread and what fun it'll be to put it in your hands. The book was actually darker and more violent than I remembered, and, interestingly, not nearly as erotic. Suki, on the run from the sadistic Monk and his even more frightening mother, and Frank, on the run from the law, run into each other in the middle of nowhere. Frank would just as soon not bother with Suki, but his conscience won't let him, so he takes her with him, thus putting himself squarely in Monk's sights. So, read, and enjoy. **Jeremiah Healey** and **Mark Timlin**, also exhort you to get it. This is going to be my next A Cool Breeze on the Underground (\$8.50), or Cold Dish (\$20), tremendous reads that I'm going to want everyone to buy.

You know that I have never been a big fan of historical novels, but after reading The Janissary Tree (\$33.75) by **JASON GOODWIN** the novel that introduces Investigator Yashim, I'm champing at the bit waiting for the promised sequels. The year is 1836. Europe is modernizing and the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire feels he has to as well. So out with the old. The Janissaries, who for four hundred years were the empire's feared soldiers, who had practically taken the empire to the edges of the known universe, had been getting out of hand and were becoming a threat to law and order, and the decision was made to destroy them. And destroyed they were. Now, a decade later, the Sultan's elite soldiers are being picked off by unknown assassins. Are the Janissaries staging a comeback? Get Yashim the Eunuch, cries the Sultan. This is a good story, a great puzzle, set in a very interesting time and place, and Yashim is a fascinating character. (The author comes by his knowledge of the time and place honestly; in 1998 he published Lords of the Horizon (\$23.95), a history of the Ottoman Empire). And, while I'm in Istanbul, or Stamboul as it was also known, I'll take the opportunity to remind you of **Barbara Nadel's** excellent series, set in contemporary Istanbul, featuring the irrepressible Insp. Ikmen. Belshazzar's Daughter (\$9.99) is the series debut.

ARTHUR WENK's The Quarter Note Tales (\$23.95 signed trade paperbacks) is a delightful collection of three novellas, featuring Axel Crochet, professor of music history. At a hundred or so pages each, but with the small type and slim margins, these are plenty long enough to give the author space to flesh out the characters, throw in lots of stuff about composers and music history, develop intricate plots and throw in enough academic small-mindedness and bureaucratic nonsense to keep you hooked and laughing all the way. The academic trials and tribulations reminded me of **Eric Wright's** excellent Kidnapping of Rosie Dawn (\$20), one of my all time favourite novels. Space out reading the novellas, they are not linked, as I found myself getting a little overwhelmed by the detail. But, great fun all around. The author was here a little while ago and there are a few signed copies around.

47 Rules of Highly Effective Bank Robbers (19.95) by **TROY COOK** is a fast and funny romp through the criminal world. I promised the author, a splendid fellow indeed, that I would give his novel the forty-page test, and I did, only to find myself at page 240 before I knew it. While waiting for the next **Hiaasen** to surface (pretty soon, actually, Nature Girl (\$32.95 November)), amuse yourself with this one. As in other aspects of life, it's wise for successful criminals to have a few good rules. And keep a tape recorder handy just in case inspiration strikes you.

The Joining of Dingo Radish (\$19.95) by **ROB HARASYMCHUK** is a delightful debut novel. An accomplished thief and a skilled con man, Dingo Radish, is a good man who does bad things. After the death of his alcoholic, abusive father and his clinically depressed mother, looking after his mentally handicapped brother and promiscuous sister in a small-minded, mean-spirited little town in Saskatchewan is his responsibility. And he's going to get them out of that hell-hole if it's the last thing he does. At first his extracurricular activities go well—the scores are small but they are adding up, he's got a little nest egg saved up—but he needs one big score to finally make the break. As the story is set in Saskatchewan where wheat is king, herbicides are a lot like ready cash. So, it's bound to happen, he steals a semi-trailer loaded with genetically modified herbicide and sets off a chain of events that he could not have imagined. The manufacturer, a billion dollar company, will do anything to get its product back and the rag tag band of eco-warriors that he inadvertently gets mixed up with only gets him into more trouble. Yet, one of the eco-warriors is kinda cute...Great fun. Funny and dark.

Marian's Picks

Okay, okay, I said I wasn't going to run another marathon, but I didn't say I wouldn't walk one! I had put my name into the lottery for the New York City Marathon, but didn't get picked. I was very disappointed, so on the rebound, I signed up again for the Chicago Marathon. I am trying to learn to walk really fast, but it's tough. I find it much harder to walk fast than to run my slow shuffle. We'll see how it goes.

Paddington is an absolute delight, but it's impossible to get any paperwork done when he's around. If you've ever been lucky enough to be owned by a cat, then you know that they NEED to sit right in the middle of whatever it is you are doing. Paddy is no exception, and everything ends up full of cat hair. The joys of Paddington. I have not been doing much cooking lately. I'd like to blame that on old Paddo as well, but, I'm just not focused. I like it when I have a mission, a goal, a series of courses to take, perhaps, or some new cuisine to experiment with. At the moment I'm just

waiting for the tomatoes to come into season so I can buy a bushel and make chili sauce. My mom had a great recipe for chili sauce, don't know where she got it from, which I've used for over twenty years. I put chili sauce in everything, from soup to curries. My Irish granny used to make a type of raisin bread that she cooked in her cast iron frying pan on top of the stove but the recipe went to the grave with her. She most likely didn't have a recipe, just a bit of this and a handful of that. You know what I mean. Don't you just love those hand me down family recipes?

To the books. Wendy loved her holiday in Italy so much that as soon as Venetian Holiday (\$31.95) by **DAVID CAMPBELL** arrived in the store, I grabbed it. Not the best book you'll read this year, perhaps, but it will transport you to the wonderful city of Venice. And it certainly told me which art gallery to not visit if I ever get to Venice. Our heroine is a cat burglar, who learned everything she knew from her cat-burglar husband, Paul. Her husband has retired from burglarizing but Kate still loves the adrenaline rush of the break-and-enter. Unfortunately, Paul has also retired from their marriage. So there's Kate, trying to steal a fake Mona Lisa and she meets a tall, dark, and handsome Venetian. Too bad he's a cop.

The new **JANET EVANOVICH**, Twelve Sharp (\$36.95), has some yummy parts about Ranger in it. Can you guess that I'm a Ranger girl? Joe is cute and reliable, for sure, but I like the mysterious Ranger. In this twelfth adventure, Ranger's wife shows up and tries to kill Stephanie, Granny causes her usual scene at the funeral home, which is under new management, and Bob the dog provides his share of the laughs. All in all a great, quick, thoroughly enjoyable read. A real good one.

Much in the same vein is Love You Madly (\$9.99) by **LINDA PALMER**, the third in this delightful series featuring soap opera writer Morgan Tyler. Loved it. I have never watched soap operas so what made me pick up the first book, Love is Murder (\$8.99), I don't know, but I'm glad I did. It was just the right balance of fun, murder, and romance that I like and the second one, Love Her to Death (\$9.99) was just as much fun. Great light summer reading, serious fun.

I mentioned Consigned To Death (\$31.95) by **JANE CLELAND**, in the May newsletter. I gave it a very warm review there but I want to mention it again, as I met the author at Bloody Words, the Toronto mystery convention, and she was such fun that I just have to sell more copies of her book. It's nice to learn something when you read a book, and I learned a great deal about antique furniture and the auction business as I read about Josie Prescott and her antiques auction house business on the coast of New Hampshire. A couple of reviews on the back of the dust jacket said that if you are a fan of the TV show Antiques Roadhouse, you would like this book. I agree. And, bonus, I got the author to sign a few copies!

Last, and certainly not least, I want to tell you that one of my favourite novels of last year, Still Life (\$24.95 trade paper back, \$10.99 paperback due September) by **LOUISE PENNY**, recently won both the Canadian (Ellis) and the UK (Dagger) awards for Best First Novel. Congratulations, Louise, well done. The sequel, Dead Cold (\$34.95) is due this October and it is equally wonderful.

One final thing. We'd like to welcome to our list of advertisers NeWest Press, an Edmonton-based Canadian publishing house with a growing list of mysteries. Their ad, listing many of their mysteries, appears on the next page. All of those titles are available in paperback, at prices ranging from \$8 to \$15.

Hardcover

ABRAHAMS, PETER END OF STORY (\$32.95)

AKUNIN, BORIS PELAGIA AND THE WHITE BULLDOG (\$39.00) (Weidenfeld & Nicolson) Sister Pelagia, bespectacled, freckled, woefully clumsy but very resourceful, is summoned by the Bishop of Zavolzhsk to investigate the poisoning of a bulldog. The dog belonged to a cantankerous old widow who has taken to her bed, while many of the potential beneficiaries of her will are waiting to see whether or not she will recover. The beginning of a new series recently translated from Russian. These will be special order only from England. A trade paperback edition will be released in North America in early 2007.

ANDREWS, LORI SEQUENCE (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) What caught our interest with this debut novel were the reviews printed on the back of the jacket. "...a cutting-edge forensic thriller with a smart, edgy female protagonist." "...a great combination of interesting science and likable characters". "...a marvelous, whip-smart thriller with a twist." Dr. Alexandra Blake, a geneticist at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington, D.C., has to put her research into the genetics of viruses on hold and cover the forensics on a case which involves a killer who murders women near military bases across the US and then tattoos their corpses.

ATKINS, ACE WHITE SHADOW (\$32.50) (Putnam) Tampa, Florida, 1955: the bludgeoning death of retired kingpin Charlie Wall shocks the city and sends cops, reporters and associates scrambling for the truth. A story of revenge, honour and greed emerges. Based on a true story.

BARNES, LINDA HEART OF THE WORLD (#11) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) PI Carlotta Carlyle follows a trail from New England to Miami to Bogotá, searching for her "little sister" Paolina, the child with whom she was paired years ago by a local mentoring program. She probes the connection between Paolina's disappearance and the corresponding disappearance of the Columbian drug lord father Paolina has never met.

BAYARD, LOUIS PALE BLUE EYE (#2) (\$32.50) (Harper Collins) At West Point Academy in 1830, a young cadet is found swinging from a rope just off the parade grounds. Later someone breaks into the room where the body of the cadet lies and removes the heart. The Academy calls on local civilian Augustus Landor, a former police detective from New York City. As he questions the young man's acquaintances, he finds an eager assistant in a moody, intriguing young cadet with a penchant for drink, two volumes of poetry to his name, and a murky past, named Edgar Allan Poe.

BERENSON, ALEX FAITHFUL SPY (\$32.95) (Random House) John Wells is the only American CIA agent ever to penetrate al Qaeda. Since before 9/11, Wells has been hiding in the mountains of Pakistan, biding his time, building his cover. Now on the orders of Omar Khadri, the malicious mastermind plotting more al Qaeda strikes on America, Wells is coming home. Neither Khadri nor Jennifer Exley, Wells' superior at Langley, knows quite what to expect. Wells has become a Muslim and he finds the US decadent and shallow. Yet he hates al Qaeda and the way it uses Islam to justify its murderous assaults on innocents. But the agency freezes Wells out and he must somehow find a way to stop Khadri, with or without the government's consent.

BILLINGHAM, MARK BURIED (#6) (\$25.00) (Little Brown, UK) Detective Inspector Tom Thorne, on special assignment to the Kidnap Unit, is searching for the son of ex-policeman DCI Tony Mullen. When Mullen is asked to draw up a list of those who may have an axe to grind, he leaves off the name of the main suspect in a murder. A man who threatened him years ago and did time for it.

See *Wendy's Picks*.

BIRMINGHAM, RUTH FEET OF CLAY (#6) (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) For Sunny Childs, lead detective at Atlanta's Peachtree Investigations, time is running out as she investigates the six-year-old murder of two girls. The murderer is scheduled for execution soon and Sunny fears a cover-up.

BLOCK, LAWRENCE HIT PARADE (\$32.50) The third Keller novel. Keller may be a hit man, a real pro, cool and dispassionate, and very good at what he does, but, like the rest of us, he's thinking that the time to retire may have come. But retirement takes money, and to get money...

BOND, MICHAEL M PAMPLEMOUSSE AND THE MILITANT MIDWIVES (#16) (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Summoned to the headquarters of Le Guide, France's oldest and best loved gastronomic bible, Monsieur Pamplemousse is informed that a serious threat has been made to national security. It seems that a wicked plot is underway to inject poison into the French food chain. Monsieur Pamplemousse and his beloved bloodhound, Pommes Frites, are on the case.

BOX, C J IN PLAIN SIGHT (#6) (\$32.50) (Putnam) J.W. Keeley is a man with a score to settle. He's tracked down the one person he blames for his brother's death: game warden Joe Pickett. With spring finally arriving in Saddlestring, Wyoming, Joe is glad the harsh winter is over, but the disappearance of Opal Scarlett and his fear that someone is out to get him, keep him occupied.

BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER TALE ETCHED IN BLOOD AND HARD BLACK PENCIL (\$32.00) (Little, Brown, UK) As the jacket says: Only once you've been through school with this painfully believable cast of characters will you be equipped to work out what really happened decades later. Even then, you'll probably guess wrong and be made to stand in the corner." Also available in trade paperback at \$24.00.

BURKE, JAMES LEE PEGASUS DESCENDING (\$34.95 hardcover, \$19.95 trade paperback). Hold the phone, this 15th Dave Robicheaux novel has just arrived. It promises to be the "most painful and dangerous case of his career" according to the jacket copy.

CAMPBELL, DAVID VENETIAN HOLIDAY (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Kate Fujimori is a cat burglar who has set her sights on a famed, fake, Mona Lisa painting showing in a gallery in Venice, Italy. She ignores her astrologer's warning to beware a dark haired stranger who lives on water. Turns out she's falling for a handsome, dark-haired man who just happens to be a Venetian police detective. Terrific sense of place, says Marian. See *Marian's Picks*.

CARRINGTON, TORI DIRTY LAUNDRY (\$31.95) (Forge) Private detective Sophie Metropolis is kept busy searching for her missing ferret, a missing dry cleaner, and keeping an eye on her dad. Her mom thinks that after thirty years of marriage he's having an affair. The first in the series is Sophie Metropolis (\$9.99).

CLAUDEL, PHILIPPE BY A SLOW RIVER (\$30) (Knopf) Translated from French with some editorial changes made (not sure why they had to make the editorial changes; the translator's note said they were deemed appropriate). As the First World War rages on, the daily life of a small town near the front is hardly disturbed, until three deaths shatter its peace. A young woman commits suicide, an eight-year-old girl is found murdered, and the wife of the local policeman dies in labour while her husband is hunting the little girl's murderer. Twenty years later, the policeman still struggles to make sense of these mysteries that torment and sustain him.

CLEEVES, ANN RAVEN BLACK (\$19.95) (McMillan) While the Shetland police wait for the arrival of the murder squad from the Scottish mainland, the news of a teenage girl's death filters quickly through the quiet islands. The locals are stubbornly focusing their gaze on one man, loner and simpleton, Magnus Tait. However, detective Jimmy Perez is determined to keep the investigation, and the rumours, at bay.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL CRIME BEAT SELECTED JOURNALISM 1984-1992 (\$34.95) (Little, Brown) Originally published by Steven C. Vascik Publications in 2004. This is a collection of newspaper articles written by Michael Connelly when he was a crime reporter. Read them and see where his characters and plots came from. Absolutely fantastic. Excellent.

CONWAY, SIMON RAGE (\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) Jonah Said is not a model soldier, that's why the British Army has shipped him to the lawless strip of desert sandwiched between Iraq and Kuwait. It's 2003 and Jonah has been sent as an official observer, impartial, unarmed and safely out of harm's way. Big mistake. Also available in trade paperback for \$24.95.

COOK, GARY BLOOD TRAIL (\$43.95) (Dennis Mcmillan) Ben Tails's world comes to an end when his lover and soul mate dies unexpectedly. A former Vietnam sniper, he returns to Asia posing as a businessman on the payroll of a multinational organization which is dedicated to fighting terrorism. He has to revert to his killer alto-ego, Mr. Slide, to fight one last good fight and then try to find a new life for himself again.

CORNWELL, PATRICIA AT RISK (\$29) (Putnam) A fairly short novel originally created as a fifteen-part serial for the New York Times Magazine. A Massachusetts state investigator is called home from Knoxville, Tennessee, where he is completing a course at the Forensic Academy. His boss, the district attorney, is planning on running for governor; as a showcase she is planning to use a new crime initiative called At Risk, its motto "Any crime, any time".

CRAIG, PHILIP R Jackson DEAD IN VINEYARD SAND (#17) (\$33.00)

CUSSLER, CLIVE ADVENTURES OF VIN FIZ (\$22.50) (Philomel) Ten-year-old twins Lacey and Casey have always wanted to fly. But kids can't fly, can they? They can if they know the mysterious Sucoh Sucop, a man who claims to have an enchanted box that can transform any toy into the real thing. A delightful kids book that we just had to have.

DEAVER, JEFFERY W COLD MOON (#7) (\$34.95) (Simon & Schuster) Quadriplegic Lincoln Rhyme, along with his trusted partner and long time lover, Amelia Sachs, investigate a series of murders committed by the elusive Watchmaker.

DOHERTY, PAUL DEATH OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT (\$35.00) (Carroll & Graf) What or who really killed Alexander the Great? Was it alcohol poisoning or a bout of malaria? Or were more sinister factors involved? A non-fictional account by this master storyteller.

[DOYLE] KEATING, H R F SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE MAN AND HIS WORLD (\$13.99) (Castle Books) A biography of Sherlock Holmes. And yes, it is really only \$13.99 for a hardcover.

DUMAS, MARGARET HOW TO SUCCEED IN MURDER (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Jack is hired to investigate a suspicious death at a San Francisco software company, and the only way Charley knows how to help him is for her to get a job. The fact that Charley and her band of irregulars from the repertory theatre learned everything they know about the workplace from a production of "How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" may be a problem. The first in the series is Speak Now (\$9.99).

EARLEY, PETE APOCALYPSE STONE (\$34.95) (Forge) Aberlone County judge Evan Spencer graduated from law school, married into wealth, and now has his eye on a US Supreme Court seat. All is going well until he receives a package from an old friend containing a cryptic message and a small stone. He discovers he now has control of an object whose power is beyond anything he could possibly imagine, an object whose very existence has been kept secret by the Vatican for decades. Throughout history, the stone has stricken its holders with visions of their sinful lives, and it also inflicts them with stigmatic wounds.

EISLER, BARRY LAST ASSASSIN (#5) (\$32.50) (Putnam) When John Rain, the Japanese-American "contract killer with a conscience" learns that his former lover Midori has been raising their child in New York, he senses a chance for reconciliation. But Midori is being watched by his enemies, and his sudden appearance puts mother and child in danger. With the help of Tatsu, his friend and nemesis in the Japanese FBI, Dox, the ex-Marine sniper, and Delilah, an Israeli intelligence agent, the search is on to eliminate the bad guys.

ELKINS, AARON UNNATURAL SELECTION (#13) (\$31.50) (Berkley) Gideon Oliver and his wife travel to the Isles of Scilly, which lie thirty miles off the coast of Cornwall. The islands are fabled to be the ancient realm of King Arthur. While there, Gideon finds a tibia, not more than a couple of years old. And then a second murder occurs.

ELLIS, KATE MARRIAGE HEARSE (#10) (\$39.95) (Piatkus) 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?

EMERSON, EARL FIRETRAP (\$32.95) (Ballantine) Captain Trey Brown is a black man in the Seattle fire department and very much a loner. When the Z-Club goes up in flames, killing more than a dozen people, all of them black, the city's African-American community demands to know if these people died because of their skin colour. Jamie Estevez, the beautiful, ambitious reporter who becomes Trey's partner in the investigation, tries to bring the lone-wolf fireman back into the world.

EMERY, ANNE SIGN OF THE CROSS (\$28.95) (ECW) A first novel by this Canadian writer who lives in Halifax. A legal thriller.

EVANOVICH, JANET TWELVE SHARP (\$36.95) (St. Martin's) Ranger needs Stephanie Plum to help him for reasons we won't reveal here. Marian told me to tell you: "Yummy". See

Marian's Picks.

FIFFER, SHARON HOLLYWOOD STUFF (#5) (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) Soon after a TV magazine profiles antiques collector Jane Wheel for her role as an amateur sleuth, a Hollywood film company convinces her to visit so they can buy the rights to her story. But collecting Hollywood memorabilia can be murder!

FINDER, JOSEPH KILLER INSTINCT (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Jason Steadman, a sales exec for a major electronics firm, lacks ambition which keeps him from reaching the top. But that changes when he meets Kurt Semko, a former Special Forces officer just back from Iraq. Looking for a decent pitcher for the company softball team, Jason gets Kurt, who was once drafted by the majors, a job in corporate security. Soon, good things start to happen for Jason, and bad things start to happen to his rivals. His career takes off but only too late does he discover that Kurt has secretly been paving his path to the top by the most "efficient" means.

FOWLER, CHRISTOPHER TEN SECOND STAIRCASE (\$32.00) (Bantam) Arthur Bryant and John May, of London's Peculiar Crimes Unit, are relying on the eyewitness account of a twelve-year-old boy who said the killer was a cape-clad highwayman riding a black stallion. The first three in this excellent series are Full Dark House (\$10.99), Water Room (\$9.99) and Seventy-Seven Clocks (\$10.99).

FOWLER, EARLENE SADDLEMAKER'S WIFE (\$31.50) (Berkley) After the death of her husband, Ruby McGavin is shocked to learn from his will that she had inherited part of a cattle

ranch in the rustic grasslands of Tokopah County, California. But she is even more surprised to find out that the family he claimed died years ago is very much alive.

FURST, ALAN FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT (\$32.95) (Random House) By 1938, hundreds of Italian intellectuals, lawyers, journalist, university professors and scientists had escaped Mussolini's fascist government and taken refuge in Paris. There, they founded an Italian resistance, with an underground press that smuggled news and encouragement back to Italy. This is their story.

GALE, IAIN FOUR DAYS IN JUNE (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Harper Collins, UK) Four days in June 1815 on the fields of Waterloo, told from the perspective of four men.

GODDARD, ROBERT NEVER GO BACK (\$34.95) (Bantam, UK) 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. Also available in trade paperback at \$24.95.

GOODMAN, JASON JANISSARY TREE (\$33.75) (FSG) A debut novel featuring Yashim Togalu, set in Istanbul in 1836. Yashim is a eunuch, who has the ear of the Sultan and his mother. With a deadline to find the reason why four young army officers were kidnapped and murdered, Yashim takes us on a history lesson through the Ottoman Empire. (He likes to cook as well, say Marian). See *J.D.'s Picks*.

GRABENSTEIN, CHRIS MAD MOUSE (#2) (\$30.95) Sorry, out of stock at the moment so I can't annotate it. The first in the series is Tilt-a-Whirl at \$19.50, trade paperback.

GRANGER, ANN RARE INTEREST IN CORPSES (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) The first in a new series featuring Lizzie Martin who arrives in London in 1864 to become a lady's companion only to find that her predecessor disappeared and was never heard from again. "I loved it", says Marian.

GREGORY, SUSANNA CONSPIRACY OF VIOLENCE (#1) (\$41.00) (Time Warner, UK) The first in a new series featuring Thomas Chaloner, who has just returned to England from ten years abroad where he worked as a government spy. Set in London, 1662.

GREGSON, J M WITCH'S SABBATH (\$34.95) (Severn House) Chief Inspector Peach and his team are hindered, as usual, by Chief Superintendent Thomas Bulstrode Tucker while investigating the death of a young woman who was a member of a witch's coven.

GRIFFIN, W E B SABOTEURS (\$34.00) (Putnam) As the Battle of the Atlantic heats up, "Wild Bill" Donovan's agents: Dick Canidy, Eric Fulmar, Stan Fine, and the rest of the crew, answerable only to Donovan and the president of the USA, find themselves battling on two fronts at once. A new Men at War novel featuring the OSS during World War II.

GUNNING, SALLY WIDOW'S WAR (\$32.95) (Morrow) This is historical fiction.

HAMILTON, LAURELL K DANSE MACABRE (\$34.00) (Berkley) Vampire hunter Anita Blake may have a more pressing problem than chasing vampires. She may be pregnant and she's not sure if the father is Jean-Claude, Master Vampire of the City, Richard, the volatile werewolf, or someone else.

HAMMOND, GERALD COLD RELATIONS (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Detective Sergeant Honey Laird looks into the disappearance of Springer Spaniel pups owned by a former SAS officer and the murder of a wealthy supermarket mogul.

HARRIS, CHARLAINE DEFINITELY DEAD (#6) (\$31.50) (Ace) Louisiana cocktail waitress Sookie Stackhouse never guessed that her cousin Hadley, a consort of the vampire queen of New Orleans, would die, since he was already dead. But as unexpected heir

to Hadley's estate, she finds it comes with a risk. Someone doesn't want her looking too closely into Hadley's past or his possessions. **HARRISON, MIKE** WILD THING (#2) (\$28.95) (ECW) Eddie Dancer flies to England to rescue his friend Dr. Peter Maurice, a renowned psychologist on a book tour, who has been accused of multiple murders. **Autographed** copies available. The first Eddie Dancer mystery, All Shook Up (\$19.95) was nominated for an Arthur Ellis Award.

HART, JOHN KING OF LIES (\$29.95) (Thomas Dunne) A year after his mother's death and his father's mysterious disappearance, Jackson Workman Pickens, known as "Work", is still fighting the fallout from his past. His law practice is in a shambles, but when his father is found murdered, and a vast fortune left in his wake, the police suspect Work and his sister, Jean, of the murder. A debut novel. See *Wendy's Picks*.

HARVEY, JOHN DARKNESS AND LIGHT (#3) (\$34.95) (William Heinemann) The first case for Detective Inspector Frank Elder with the Serious Crimes Unit was the murder of a woman, found laid out on her bed with not a wrinkle nor a fold of her dress out of place. The case was never solved. Eight years later, Elder's estranged wife contacts him when her friend's sister Claire, a quiet and withdrawn widow in her fifties, disappears. She is found dead, arranged with meticulous detail on her bed and it doesn't take long for Elder to make the connection. Excellent.

HILL, SUSAN RISK OF DARKNESS (\$35.00) (Knopf, Canada) The crazed grief of a widowed husband turns to obsession, threats, violence and terror. Meanwhile, Detective Chief Inspector Simon Serrailer and his team have been investigating the disappearance of school kids. The first two in the series are Various Haunts of Men and Pure in Heart (\$10.99 each).

HOAG, TAMI PRIOR BAD ACTS (\$36.00) (Bantam) Sorry, sold out of this at the moment so I can't annotate it.

HOSP, DAVID BETRAYED (\$33.99) (Warner) Elizabeth Creay, a young mother and a Washington Post reporter, is tortured and killed in her Washington, D. C. townhouse. Sydney Chapin, her younger sister, returns to her wealthy, politically influential family from nine years of self-imposed exile determined to discover the truth behind her sister's murder.

HOUSEWRIGHT, DAVID PRETTY GIRL GONE (#3) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Rushmore "Mac" McKenzie is asked by an old girlfriend, now wife of the governor of Minnesota, to help her. She shows him an anonymous e-mail that contains the makings of an ugly rumour about her husband, who is about to run for higher office. Mac's got time on his hands so he investigates.

HYDE, ELIZABETH ABORTIONIST'S DAUGHTER (\$31.95) (Knopf) Diana Duprey, an outspoken abortion doctor, is found murdered in her small Colorado town. The police look at everyone close to her, especially her husband who quarreled with her the day of the murder. But it is Megan, her daughter, who holds the clue to the murder.

IRBY, LEE UP AND UP (\$26.95) (Doubleday) Set in roaring twenties Miami, Frank Hearn is ready to leave behind his high-stakes lifestyle. With suckers aplenty looking for land, Frank and his partner, the well connected son of a former mayor, plan to make a killing in the real estate business. But when a close acquaintance is found murdered, Frank is accused of the crime. 7000 Clams (\$12.95) is his first novel.

JACKSON, LEE LAST PLEASURE GARDEN (#3) (\$34.95) (William Heinemann) A sinister figure stalks the gas-lit groves of Cremorne Gardens, the last pleasure-ground on the banks of the Thames. His weapon, a sharp pair of scissors. His victims, young women. His crime, merely to remove a lock of their hair. But obsession turns to murder and Inspector Decimus Webb investigates. The first two are Metropolitan Murder and Welfare of the Dead (\$19.95 each, trade paperback).

JAMES, PETER LOOKING GOOD DEAD (#2) (\$29.95 hardcover, \$22.95 trade paperback) (Macmillan) When Tom Bryce did his good deed of returning a CD which had been left on the seat of a train, he also witnessed a murder. Even threatened with the death of his family, he still makes a statement to the murder enquiry team headed by Detective Superintendent Roy Grace. But a short time later, the Bryce family is dead. **Autographed copies** available.

JECKS, MICHAEL DEATH SHIP OF DARTMOUTH (#21) (\$34.95) (Headline) 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.

JEFFERSON, ROLAND S ONE NIGHT STAND (\$33.00) (Atria) Myra Cross, a thirty-one-year-old beauty with a take-no-prisoners reputation as a public defender, also poses for Playboy spreads in her spare time. But she wins acquittal after acquittal for her clients and her latest assignment is Napoleon T. Booker, aka Little Dog Nine, who's charged with another homicide.

JOHANSEN, IRIS KILLER DREAMS (\$35.00) (Bantam) Sophie Dunston is one of the top US sleep therapists but someone is trying to kill her. Matt Royd is a wild card who is hard, cool and merciless. But will putting him into play against the man stalking her change the game completely? And to whose advantage?

JUDSON, DANIEL DARKEST PLACE (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) Deacon Kane, a local college professor, is implicated in a series of drownings in a small Hamptons community. Trouble is, he is still recovering from the drowning death of his son years ago by drowning himself in alcohol. So now he doesn't remember much of what's happening.

KANDEL, SUSAN SHAMUS IN THE GREEN ROOM (#3) (\$31.00) (Morrow) Los Angeles writer Cece Caruso is thrilled that her biography of Dashiell Hammett is headed for the big screen. Even better, she's been hired to tutor Rafe Simic, the actor cast as the lead. But in the midst of her teaching him, the body of a woman is discovered and Rafe's picture is found among her effects. The woman was an old flame and the facts, and Rafe's alibi, just don't add up. The first two are I Dreamed I Married Perry Mason and Not a Girl Detective (\$9.99 each).

KARP, MARSHALL RABBIT FACTORY (\$33.00) (MacAdan Cage) Once a small Southern California animation house, Lamaar Studios has grown into a huge conglomerate encompassing movie, TV, video games, and a sprawling theme park called Familyland. But it seems someone has a vendetta against Lamaar that starts with the murder of its beloved mascot, Rambunctious Rabbit. LAPD detectives Mike Lomax and Terry Biggs investigate. A debut novel.

KENT, BILL STREET LEGAL (#4) (\$34.95) (Thomas Dunne) Obit writer, Shep Ladderback, and Mr. Action, Andrea Cosicki, team up again to discover who killed a couple of lawyers. The other "street" novels are Street Money (out of print), Street Hungry (\$34.95) and Street Fighter (\$33.95). No paperbacks, I'm afraid.

KERLY, JACK GARDEN OF VIPERS (\$32.50) (Dutton) The third case for Homicide detectives Carson Ryder and Harry Nautilus. "Terrific series" says Wendy. See *Wendy's Picks*.

KIMBER, STEPHEN REPARATIONS (\$19.95) (Harper Collins, Canada) One is black, one is white, and they were the best of boyhood friends. Twenty-five-years later they face each other in a courtroom, one a lawyer, the other a judge. A debut novel from this Canadian writer. See *David's Picks*.

KING, JONATHON EYE OF VENGEANCE (\$32.50) (Dutton) Veteran crime reporter Nick Mullins is dispatched by his newspaper to cover the story of a convicted murderer who is gunned down in front of a county jailhouse. He is soon one step ahead of the cops, on the trail of a sniper who has a talent for targeting criminals.

KING, LAURIE R ART OF DETECTION (#5) (\$32.00) (Bantam) Kate Martinelli has seen her share of weird things as a San Francisco cop but never anything quite like this: an ornate Victorian sitting room straight out of a Sherlock Holmes story, complete with all the props. Philip Gilbert was a true Holmes fanatic with a collection of priceless memorabilia. A collection someone would kill for. In his collection is a century-old manuscript purportedly written by Holmes himself, a manuscript that eerily echoes details of Gilbert's own murder.

LARSSON, ASA SUN STORM (\$30.00) (Delacorte) 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.

LASHNER, WILLIAM MARKED MAN (#7) (\$32.50) (Morrow) All Victor Carl knows is that he's just woken up with his clothes in tatters and a tattoo on his chest he doesn't remember getting. Who is Chantal Adair anyway? But he has a client who needs to come in out of the cold, and he's got a stolen painting for Victor to use as leverage. But someone is not happy that the painting has surfaced, or that Victor is looking for Chantal.

LIPPMAN, LAURA monaghan NO GOOD DEEDS (#9)(\$32.50) (Morrow) Tess Monaghan is involved in an investigation that will make her question her loyalties and threaten those she holds most dear. She finds out just how far the authorities will go to get what they want.

LOCK, JOAN DEAD LOSS (\$37.95) (Severn House) Victorian London is in the grip of Irish fever after bombs explode in Whitehall and on the underground railway. Detective Inspector Best is sent to Paris where Irish Americans are plotting their next 'outrage' and obtaining arms for an uprising.

LYNDS, GAYLE LAST SPYMASTER (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Jay Tice was the chief of the entire Clandestine Services and a legend throughout the world of international intelligence. But secretly he was also a traitor. He was being kept in a maximum security prison but one day his cell is found empty. Elaine Cunningham is a CIA hunter operatives who specializes in finding people. Young, gifted, and a maverick, she is assigned to track down Tice.

LYNN, JACKIE DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE (#1) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) When her husband leaves her for a younger woman, Rose Franklin buys a travel trailer and sets off in an attempt to leave her heartache behind. When her engine stalls, she is forced to spend a couple of days at a campground in West Memphis, Arkansas, and witnesses the recovery of a body from the Mississippi River. Why would a respected and well-liked man commit suicide?

MCBAIN, ED LEARNING TO KILL (\$32.95) (Harcourt) A collection of stories all written between 1952 and 1957 by Ed McBain.

MACBRIDE, STUART DYING LIGHT (#2) (Harper Collins, UK) (\$34.95) Unfortunately these came in as reprints. Due to a screw up on a previous job, DS Logan McRae has been reassigned to DI Steel, who everyone knows is jinxed, and is waiting to fall with the other rejects in the "Screw-up Squad". Logan's not going to take it lying down, but the murder of a prostitute and the arson deaths of six people, are just the tip of the iceberg.

MCCARTHY, KEITH WORLD FULL OF WEEPING (#4) (\$32.50) (Carroll & Graf) Helena Flemming is spending some time at a friend's castle, after her cancer treatments, but things turn nasty when a man is found burned to death in his car at the edge of the castle estate. Ex-pathologist Dr. John Eisenmenger and his partner, Helena, investigate.

MCEVOY, JOHN RIDERS DOWN (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Was the death of 92-year-old Bernard Glockner, Chicago's oldest active bookmaker, suicide or murder? Chicago-based columnist for a national racing newspaper, Matt O'Connor, investigates.

MCFADYEN, CODY SHADOW MAN (\$32.00) (Bantam) Once, Special Agent Smoky Barrett hunted serial killers for the FBI, until a madman killed her husband and daughter, and left her face scarred and her soul brutalized. A killer has videotaped his latest crime, an act of horror that left a child motherless, and sent it to Smoky. It was enough to shock her back to work, and to her FBI team. A debut novel. See *Wendy's Picks*.

MCFETRIDGE, JOHN DIRTY SWEET (\$28.95) (ECW) Roxanne Keyes, a real estate agent trying desperately to lease out unwanted office space is witness to the shooting death of a man shot in the head while behind the wheel of his SUV. **Autographed copies** available. A debut novel.

MCGOVERN, CAMMIE EYE CONTACT (\$32.50) (Viking) Two children go missing, but only one is found alive. Adam, a nine-year-old boy with autism, witnessed the killing. Barely verbal on the best of days, Adam has retreated into a silent world that his mother, Cara, knows only too well. When another child goes missing, Cara realizes that only she can unlock her son's silence and interpret the changes in Adam's behaviour, not only to help him through the trauma, but also to help the police catch a killer.

MALMONT, PAUL CHINATOWN DEATH CLOUD PERIL (\$29.95) (Simon & Shuster) Walter Gibson and Lester Dent, creators of The Shadow and Doc Savage, find themselves in a dangerous race to stop a madman destined to create a new empire of pure evil. Together with the young pulp writer L. Ron Hubbard, a mysterious stranger and a sexy psychic with a chicken, the two step out from behind their creations to catch the bad guy.

MARSTON, EDWARD PARLIAMENT HOUSE (#3) (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) In London of 1670, the completion of his latest project could not have run more smoothly for Christopher Redmayne. The building of the house for merchant Francis Polegate was on time and within budget. But at the party to celebrate the success of the venture, one of the guests is murdered. With the help of his good friend, the Puritan Constable Jonathan Bale, and his dissolute brother Henry, Christopher vows to find the killer.

MASTERTON, GRAHAM TOUCHY AND FEELY (#1) (\$34.95) (Severn House) Connecticut fortune-teller Sissy Sawyer's psychic intuition leads police to the hiding place of the killers.

MATTHEWS, ALEX BLOODS BURDEN (#8) (\$32.50) Sorry, we have sold out of this at the moment so I can't annotate it.

NESSER, HAKAN BORKMANN'S POINT (\$29.95) (Double-day, Canada) An ex-con is brutally murdered in Kaalbringen. Then the body of a wealthy real estate mogul is found, also the victim of a violent attack. There appears to be a serial killer on the loose and Chief Inspector Van Veeteren is called in to help the local police. Translated from Swedish, this novel won the Best Novel Award from The Swedish Crime Writers' Academy in 1994.

NISBET, JIM DARK COMPANION (\$37.50) (Dennis McMillan) A hostile takeover of the pharmaceutical company that he had devoted his life to for over a dozen years has left Banerjee Rolf on the brink. A limited number of **autographed copies** available.

O'MARIE, SISTER CAROL ANNE MURDER AT THE MONK'S TABLE (#11) (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Sister Mary Helen and Sister Eileen are in Ireland to attend the weeklong Oyster Festival in the little village of Ballyclarin. But a murder happens, and, against the wishes of the Irish police, the two investigate.

PARKER, ROBERT B BLUE SCREEN (#5) (\$32.50) (Putnam) Sunny Randall, the Boston PI with a personal life as tangled as that of her clients, is hired on as bodyguard to an up-and-coming starlet, and discovers some ugly truths behind her glossy façade.

PATTERSON & DE JONGE BEACH ROAD (\$37.95) (Little, Brown) Tom Dunleavy has a one-man, one-dog law firm in the richest resort town in America, the East Hamptons. But his client base comes from the people who service the rich. An old friend of Tom's is arrested for a triple murder on the beach near a movie

star's mansion. Tom knows that Dante Halleyville is innocent so he gets Manhattan super lawyer Kate Costello to help fight this case.

PEARL, MATTHEW THE POE SHADOW (\$32.95) (Random House) In 1849 Baltimore, lawyer Quentin Clark, an ardent admirer of Edgar Allan Poe, puts his career on the line to salvage Poe's. It is widely believed that Poe met a disgraceful end as a drunkard. He discovers that the writer's last days are riddled with unanswered questions the police are ignoring. Quentin soon finds himself enmeshed in sinister machinations involving international political agents, a female assassin, the corrupt Baltimore slave trade, and the lost secrets of Poe's final hours.

PIRNIE, AMY LET HEAVEN FALL (\$33.95) (Carroll & Graf) This was originally published in 1994. The judge ruled accidental death and journalist Sue Bennett agreed, until their flat was burgled. But she couldn't imagine why anyone would want to murder her husband. Deciding to track her husband's movements and contacts in the months leading up to his death, she comes up with some surprising results.

POVEY, JEFF SERIAL KILLERS CLUB (\$33.95) (Warner) Our hero stumbles into the path of a serial killer and ends up killing him. He goes through the dead man's wallet and finds an ad inviting the killer to join a party hosted by Errol Flynn. He flies to Chicago to join the party and meets eighteen serial killers who, taking the monikers of old Hollywood stars, share with each other the thrill of the hunt and to ensure no two members target the same victim. With a government agent on his tail, he devises a plan to knock off the members of the club.

PRESTON & CHILD BOOK OF THE DEAD (\$34.95) (Warner) An FBI agent is rotting away in a high-security prison for a murder he did not commit, while his brilliant psychotic brother is about to perpetrate a horrific crime. An ancient Egyptian tomb with an enigmatic curse is about to be unveiled at a celebrity-studded New York gala.

READ, CORNELIA FIELD OF DARKNESS (\$29.95) (Mysterious) Two fires in two nights in the same house: "Unusual" thinks Madeline Dare as she falls back to sleep. A writer of lightweight features for a local Syracuse newspaper, she is shown a set of dog tags found at the site of an unsolved double murder. Turns out they belong to her cousin, the golden boy of a rich, vindictive and powerful branch of her family.

RIGGS, CYNTHIA INDIAN PIPES (#6) (\$29.95) (Thomas Dunne), Ninety-two-year-old native of Martha's Vineyard, and a deputy police officer, Victoria Trumbull spots a man who seems in trouble near the top of a cliff. She sends her granddaughter Elizabeth to help him but it's too late, the man dies before he can be rescued. The man had been hired as a consultant to see whether a site's soil could support a sewage system for a possible casino. The police call his death an accident, but it's just the first in what becomes a series of baffling mysteries.

ROBERTS, JOHN MADDOX POINT IN LAW (#10) (\$31.95) **SPQR #10 losw** (Paddington) (Thomas Dunne) Senator Decius Caecilus Matellus is at an outdoor rally where he is campaigning for election to the praetorship. He looks like a shoo-in until Fulvius arrives with a small army of hoodlums and begins to shout that Decius is a thief and worse. The next morning Fluvius is found dead, and it doesn't look good for Decius.

REICHS, KATHY BREAK NO BONES (#9) (\$34.95) Hold the phone, this just in... Tempe Brennan in her most difficult case yet.

RUSSELL, CRAIG BROTHER GRIMM (#2) (\$39.00 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Hutchinson) A series of murders, each with a grisly reference to folk stories collected almost two hundred years ago by the Brothers Grimm, keep Jan Fabel, of the Hamburg Murder Squad, busy. Wendy loved it. Limited stock. Sequel to Blood Eagle (\$10.99). See *Wendy's Picks*.

SALLIS, JAMES CRIPPLE CREEK (\$29.95) (Walker) Ex-policeman, ex-con, former therapist, Turner is now deputy sheriff in the small town near Memphis, Tennessee. When a young man arrested on a routine traffic stop with more than \$200,000 in his trunk, is forcibly sprung from jail after Sheriff Don Lee is brutally assaulted, Turner goes in pursuit.

SALLIS, JAMES CYPRESS GROVE (\$32.00) (Walker) This is a first edition published in 2003. Sheriff Lonnie Bates arrives on Turner's porch with a bottle of Wild Turkey and a problem: the body of a drifter has been found, brutally and ritualistically murdered. Bates and his deputy need help from someone with big-city experience. Terrific. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

SANDFORD, JOHN DEAD WATCH (\$35.50) (Putnam) Jacob Winter, a US Army Intelligence veteran, is called on when something goes wrong at the CIA, the FBI, Congress, or other US institutions. Lincoln Bowe, a former US senator, is missing and his wife is on the run. The White House Chief of Staff tells him to find Bowe before all hell breaks loose. A political thriller.

SCARROW, ALEX THOUSAND SUNS (\$37.95) (Orion) On April 29th 1945, the Allies surrendered unconditionally to Nazi Germany. The world never knew until a trawler tangles its nets on wreckage from sixty years ago, a B17 flying fortress, perfectly preserved and containing the final and most terrifying secret of WWII. When freelance photographer Chris Roland enters the sunken plane, he discovers how close it came to being the end of everything.

SCARROW, SIMON YOUNG BLOODS (#1) (\$34.95) (Headline) A new series featuring Lord Wellington and Napoleon Bonaparte. This story covers the time period 1769 to 1795.

SCOPPETTONE, SANDRA TOO DARN HOT (#2) (\$32.95) (Ballantine) In a sweltering New York City summer, during the middle of World War II, scrappy steno-turned-sleuth Faye Quick is looking for Private Charlie Ladd. He has gone missing while on leave from the army and his beau is heartbroken.

SHEPARD, KAREN DON'T I KNOW YOU? (\$31.00) (Morrow) The story is told in three separate narratives by people who believe they have a connection to the murder of Gina Engel. As long as the murderer's identity remains a mystery, all three must forever call into question the nature of the people close to them.

STANSBERRY, DOMENIC BIG BOOM (#2) (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) San Francisco private eye, Dante Mancuso, investigates the case of a missing woman which leads him into the heart of the financial district and the dot-com revolution. The first in the series is Chasing the Dragon (\$18.95 trade paperback).

STONE, JONATHAN PARTING SHOT (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) A serial killer is on the loose and TV reporter Sam Stevens feels his coverage of this once-in-a-lifetime story will provide him with a vehicle to solve his personal problems with his wife and son. But another player is thrust into the national spotlight with Sam. It's Sheriff Billy Wyatt, who, with the FBI breathing down his neck, is in way over his head.

TEMPLETON, ALINE DARKNESS AND THE DEEP (#2) (\$34.95) (Hodder & Stoughton) The wreck of the Knockhaven lifeboat with the loss of all three of its crew is a hard blow for the small Scottish town. But it's harder still when DS Tam MacNee discovers it isn't just an accident. DI Marjory Fleming and her team investigate. With a whole community hungry for justice, the pressure is on. Also available in trade paperback for \$24.95. The first in the series is Cold in the Earth (\$10.99).

THOMAS, EDWIN TREASON'S RIVER (#3) (\$37.95) (Bantam, UK) Lieutenant Jerrold sets sail to America in August 1806 with orders to infiltrate the conspirators and stop them at all cost. The stakes are high; the entire future of Britain's war against Napoleon Bonaparte rests in his not-so-capable hands.

THOMAS, WILL LIMEHOUSE TEXT (#3) (\$33) (Touchstone) Victorian enquiry agent Cyrus Barker and his assistant Thomas

Llewelyn return in this third adventure, sequel to Some Danger Involved (\$14.50) and To Kingdom Come (\$13.95).

THOMPSON, VICTORIA MURDER IN LITTLE ITALY (#8) (\$31.50) (Berkley) Called to attend a birth in Little Italy, New York, midwife Sarah Brandt finds an anxious family. Young Nainsi Ruocco's baby is being born too early. But the baby is a plump, lusty lad, and the family's concern turns to fury. The baby was obviously conceived before the girl and her husband met. The next morning, Nainsi is found dead in her bed. The Irish accuse the Italians, and visa versa, and Sarah has to step in to stop a bloodbath. Set at the turn of the last century.

THOR, BRAD TAKEDOWN (\$34.50)

THURLO, AIMEE PREY FOR A MIRACLE (#3) (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Sister Agatha is charged with keeping the eight-year-old niece of Father Mahoney safe. She claims to have a guardian angel that only she can see, one who tells her things, and some of the locals have been connecting her with supposed miracles.

TONKIN, PETER RESOLUTION BURNING (\$38.95) (Severn House) Richard Mariner battles across the stormy Atlantic Ocean to reach the great French supertanker, Lady Mary, drifting helplessly aflame towards the volcanic outcrop of Kerguelen Island. He has 100 hours to rescue the vessel before she sets off a catastrophic explosion.

TROUP, GARY BAD TWIN (\$29.95) (Hyperion) AKA Laurence Shames. Private detective Paul Artisan is hired by Clifford Widmore, an adult scion to the vast Widmore fortune, to find his twin brother Alexander. As Artisan sets off across the globe, he discovers the Widmore family is full of dangerous secrets. For all you fans of the TV show *Lost*, the dust jacket says this is his final book before the disappearance of Oceanic Flight 815.

TURNBULL, PETER SWEET HUMPHREY (\$34.95) (Severn House) Humphrey Sweet murdered three schoolgirls before he was caught and locked away in the secure psychiatric unit of Kempton Hospital. When Dr. Maurice Simnal and his team assess Sweet, they suspect he may be an entirely new breed of madman. Or maybe he is just dangerously sane!

VARIOUS/PATTERSON THRILLER (\$29.95) A collection of short stories by international thriller writers.

[VARIOUS]PENZLER, OTTO ed. MURDER IN THE ROUGH (\$33.95 hardcover, \$18.95 trade paperback) (Mysterious) Golf stories by **Block, Brett, Rankin, Sandford** and others.

YARBROUGH, STEVE END OF CALIFORNIA (\$31.95) (Knopf) A story of small town life in California where people turn to booze, gossip and feckless sex in their daily struggles.

ZERRIES, A J LOST VAN GOGH (\$33.95) (Forge) A \$50 million painting, shipped from Argentina via UPS, arrives at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. The case goes to Clay Rider, the NYPD Major Case Squad detective assigned to art theft. The painting is traced back to Paris 1944 and to a German officer who stole the painting from a Jewish family. Is that officer now dead? Who is the current heir to the painting? A debut novel.

Paperbacks

ABLOW, KEITH ARCHITECT (\$10.99) Forensic psychiatrist Frank Clevenger is hunting an outrageous serial killer whose victims seem to have only wealth in common. With his own life in shambles and the murderer two steps ahead of him, Clevenger can't know that the next killing ground is the White House.

AIRTH, RENNIE BLOOD DIMMED TIDE (\$9.99) The long awaited sequel to River of Darkness (\$10.99). It's 1932 and John Madden, former Scotland Yard inspector, is retired. His quiet life is

shattered when he discovers the body of a young girl and he is convinced the killer has struck before.

ALLIN, LOU MURDER EH (#4) (\$14.95) Northern realtor, Belle Palmer is showing the lakefront mansion of a prominent businesswoman when she discovers the woman strangled in her bathtub. Could this third break-and-enter death reveal a serial killer at large?

ANDERSON, SHERYL J KILLER COCKTAIL (#2) (\$9.99) Advice columnist Molly Forrester and her best friends, Tricia and Cassidy, are headed for the Hamptons for a weekend of fun to celebrate Tricia's brother's engagement. But the bride-to-be is murdered and Molly follows the trail of clues back to Manhattan. Sequel to Killer Heels (\$9.99).

ARMSTRONG, KELLEY BROKEN (#3) (\$10.99) Pregnant werewolf Elena Michaels is needed to retrieve a stolen letter allegedly written by Jack the Ripper. The job is simple enough but the letter contains a portal to Victorian London's underworld, which Elena inadvertently triggers. Has she unleashed Jack the Ripper on twenty-first century Toronto?

ARNOTT, JAKE JOHNNY COME HOME (\$24.95) It's 1972 and the charismatic anarchist Declan O'Connell commits suicide, leaving his boyfriend Pearson and fellow squatter Nina to try to make sense of what has happened.

ARVIN, REED dennehy BLOOD OF ANGELS (#2) (\$10.99) Thomas Dennehy, senior prosecutor in Davidson County, Tennessee, is prosecuting Moses Bol, a Sudanese refugee who faces the death penalty for killing a white woman. Bol's conviction seems certain until a university professor claims Thomas sent the wrong man to the death chamber in a previous case. Sequel to The Last Goodbye (\$9.99).

BARCLAY, LINWOOD BAD GUYS (#2) (\$9.99) Stay-at-home science fiction writer Zack Walker has taken a job as a features writer for a city newspaper. While researching his first article, he stumbles upon a real-life crime scene, but what seems like an ordinary hit-and-run may actually be linked to a gang homicide. Sequel to Bad Move (\$10.99).

BARTON, ANNE SWITCH IN TIME (\$15.95) Dr. Erica Merrill, a young veterinarian trying to establish her veterinary practice in a small Northern Idaho town, gets involved in a murder investigation when a drug she has dispensed for a family dog is used to poison a wealthy widow. Maybe the first in a series by this Canadian writer.

BATEMAN, COLIN starkey BELFAST CONFIDENTIAL (\$10.99) Journalist of ill repute and international man of inaction, Dan Starkey returns as he looks for the murderer of his friend Mouse. To liven things up, he has moved into a new house in Belfast and has become the editor of the obscenely successful scandal magazine, Belfast Confidential, and must compile the much-coveted Power List edition.

BAXTER, CYNTHIA HARE TODAY DEAD TOMORROW (#4) (\$9.99) Veterinarian and amateur sleuth Jessica Popper is trying to catch a killer who left behind a stuffed bunny rabbit.

BELL, TED PIRATE (#3) (\$12.99) Intelligence operative Alex Hawke must thwart a secret, deadly alliance between China and France before they annihilate everything and everyone in their rush toward world domination. The first two in the series are Hawke and Assassin (\$11.99 each)

BENACQUISTA, TONINO FRAMED (\$18.95)

BERGEN, DAVID THE TIME IN BETWEEN (\$21.00) We had so many requests for this Giller Prize winner that we brought in some extra copies. In search of love, absolution or forgiveness, Charles Boatman leaves the Fraser Valley of British Columbia and returns mysteriously to Vietnam, where he fought twenty-nine years earlier as a young, reluctant soldier. But what he finds there seems irreconcilable with his memories.

BIDULKA, ANTHONY quant FLIGHT OF AQUAVIT (#2) (\$9.95) By the author of Tapas on The Ramblas (#3) (\$21.95) and

Amuse Bouche (#1) (\$9.95). All three Quant novels are delightful—as is the author, by the way—and for the moment we have some signed copies on hand.

BILLINGHAM, MARK thorne LIFELESS (#5) (\$10.99) Thorne goes undercover as a homeless man on the streets of London to find the killer who kicks the homeless to death. “Terrific”, says Wendy.

BINDING, TIM MAN OVERBOARD (\$17.99) In 1956 Commander Crabb, one of Britain's most famous war heroes, disappeared while diving under the warship that brought Nikita Khrushchev on his first visit to the West. Was he killed? Was he captured? Did he drown? Fifty years later his disappearance is still not solved. Here's a likely scenario.

BLACK, ETHAN AT HELL'S GATE (#5) (\$10.99) Detective Voort and his fiancée are kayaking New York City's Hell's Gate when they spot a body floating in the river. The death seems related to a tragedy that happened in Hell's Gate over two hundred years ago. But to get to the bottom of the mystery, Voort must ignore his fellow police officers and go it alone.

BLANC, NERO DEATH ON THE DIAGONAL (#12) (\$18.50) A fire at the stables of the very rich Collins family is good gossip. And that's all that's being talked about as Belle Graham arrives at the Evening Crier. Her PI husband, Rosco, is investigating the blaze for the insurance company, which is being blamed on the barn manager, a hard drinker who was sober enough to get the horses out to safety before falling debris, or something else, knocked him into a coma. Includes six crossword puzzles.

BRACE, ROBERT BLACK TIGER (\$9.99)

BRANCH, PAMELA MURDER'S LITTLE SISTER (\$17.95) Short-tempered Enid Marley has a foolproof system for answering queries from the many fans of her advice column in *You* magazine, but she can't solve her own problems. When her latest husband strays, she decides to get his attention with a fake suicide attempt. But while she is teetering on a ledge outside her office window waiting to be noticed, hands reach out for her, causing her to lose her balance. She falls, but survives. In her absence, an unemployed ballet dancer named Rex is hired to fill in for her and makes a hopeless mess of her system, sending alarmingly wrong advice to her readers.

BRANDT, KATHY UNDER PRESSURE (\$9.99)

BRETT, SIMON PENULTIMATE CHANCE SALOON (\$19.95)

BRIGHT, ELIZABETH shane DEADLY GREETINGS (#2) (\$9.99) Jennifer is struggling to keep Custom Card Creations open for business but a tragic accident kills Maggie, one of her beloved customers. Then Jennifer gets a handcrafted card from Maggie written before she died, warning her that someone was trying to kill her. The first in the series is Invitation to Murder (\$9.99).

BRIGHTWELL, EMILY MRS. JEFFRIES APPEALS THE VERDICT (#21) (\$9.99) Mrs. Jeffries and her downstairs cohorts have three weeks to save the life of a convicted murderer who is scheduled to be hanged.

BRIGHTWELL, EMILY MRS JEFFRIES LEARNS THE TRADE (#1, 2, 3) (\$20.00) An omnibus which includes the first three stories: The Inspector and Mrs. Jeffries, Mrs. Jeffries Dusts for Clues and The Ghost and Mrs. Jeffries.

BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER TALE ETCHED IN BLOOD AND HARD BLACK PENCIL (\$24 trade paperback, \$32 hardcover). See Hardcover section for an annotation.

BROWN, DAN DECEPTION POINT (\$12.99) A new edition at a higher price.

BROWN, DAN ANGELS AND DEMONS (#1) (\$12.99). The first Robert Langdon adventure, available in a new paperback edition and an illustrated edition (\$30 trade paperback).

BROWN, DAN langdon DA VINCI CODE screenplay (\$32.95 trade paperback). Oh, for God's sake...

BRUEN, KEN BUST (\$8.99) Co-written with Jason Starr. The back of the book says: "5 important lessons you can learn by reading Bust: 1) When you hire a hit man to kill your wife, don't pick a psychopath. 2) Drano is not one of the best tools for getting rid of a dead body. 3) Those locks on hotel room doors? Not very secure. 4) A curly blond wig isn't much of a disguise. 5) Secrets can kill."

BURKE, ALAFAIR CLOSE CASE (#3) (\$9.99) Deputy District Attorney Samantha Kincaid is called to a crime scene in the elite Hillside neighbourhood in Portland, Oregon, where investigative reporter Percy Crenshaw has been bludgeoned to death. The first two in the series are Judgment Calls (\$9.99) and Missing Justice (\$10.99).

BURKE, JAMES LEE PEGASUS DESCENDING (\$19.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) A troubled young woman breezes into Detective Dave Robicheaux's hometown of New Iberia and starts passing marked hundred-dollar bills. She is the daughter of Robicheaux's onetime best friend, a friend he witnessed gunned down in a bank robbery.

BUSCH, FREDERICK NORTH (\$18.95) A Manhattan lawyer has hired Jack to find her missing nephew, last seen in upstate New York. So he drives away from the shelter of the home he has made for himself on the Carolina coast, trying to escape from the loss of his family and the fact that he couldn't save a girl from a murderer when he was a campus cop. See *David's Picks*.

CHILD, LEE KILLING FLOOR (#1) (\$10.99) A re-issue of the first Jack Reacher novel. Great stuff.

CLARK, MARY JANE DANCING IN THE DARK (\$10.99) KEY News correspondent Diane Mayfield is taping an interview with a woman who claims to have been held against her will for three terrifying days but the police discredited her claims. And now another woman has disappeared.

COGGINS, MARK IMMORTAL GAME (\$20.95) Edwin Bishop, a multi-millionaire, has developed a software program to play chess against human opponents that he claims is the most advanced ever written but before it is released, he finds that the software has been stolen. He hires August Riordan, a jazz bass-playing private eye who is cynical, irreverent and given to speaking his mind. Riordan careens through Silicon Valley in his quest for the chess program. Very good. Re-issue.

COLLINS, KATE flower shop SNIPPED IN THE BUD (#4) (\$9.99) Someone orders a black rose from Bloomers, Abby Knight's flower shop. It's to be delivered to her old law school nemesis, Professor "Snapdragon" Puffer. But the professor ends up dead and Abby is the prime suspect. Sequel to Mums the Word, Slay it with Flowers and Dearly Depotted (\$9.99 each)

COLT, JENNIFER MANGLER OF MALIBU CANYON (#2) (\$16.95) Twin sisters Kerry and Terry McAfee are well on their way to becoming Los Angeles's most notorious private investigators. Resting up after their first case, The Butcher of Beverly Hills (\$16.95), they had hoped to lie low for a while. But their Aunt Reba calls saying she has discovered a decapitated body in her Malibu beach house.

CONNORS, ROSE FALSE TESTIMONY (#4) (\$9.50) What does a lawyer do when she discovers that her client may be a liar or worse? Marty Nickerson is defending two men in two separate cases and neither story checks out. The first three are Absolute Certainty, Temporary Sanity, and Maximum Security (\$10.50 each).

CONWAY, SIMON RAGE (\$24.95 trade back, \$34.95 cloth.) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

COOK, THOMAS H RED LEAVES (\$17.95) Eric Moore's teenage son, Keith, is asked to baby-sit Amy, the eight-year-old daughter of a neighbour. The next morning Amy is missing and the police investigation increasingly focuses on Keith.

COOK, TROY 47 RULES OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE BANK ROBBERS (\$19.95) High-octane romp through the world of bank robbers and dysfunctional families. Great fun. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

CRAIG, PHILIP R jackson VINEYARD PREY (#16) (\$9.99) It's winter and the Vineyard is pretty much cut off from civilization this time of year. When J.W.'s old Vietnam buddy Joe Begay asks to be smuggled onto the island, J.W. suspects that something from Begay's past is catching up with him. When the only other person left alive from Begay's five person Vietnam team shows up on the island with a killer on her trail, things heat up.

CUSSLER, CLIVE BLACK WIND (\$13.50) With Dirk Cussler. In the waning days of WWII two Japanese submarines, carrying a revolutionary new strain of biological virus, were sent to the West Coast of the USA. They never made their designated target but today, someone has a plan for the lost virus. A marine biologist named Summer, a marine engineer named Dirk and their father, Dirk Pitt, the new head of NUMA, must stop him.

DAENINCKX, DIDIER MURDER IN MEMORIAM (\$20.00) This novel created an uproar in France in 1984. It is set against the backdrop of a demonstration in Paris in 1961, which resulted in the deaths of hundreds of Algerians at the hands of the police. In this novel, Roger Thiraud, a young teacher, is also killed during the demonstration. Twenty years later, his son, Bernard, is murdered in Toulouse. To find the connection between the two murders, Inspector Cadin must delve into the past. Translated from French.

DAMATO, BARBARA DEATH OF A THOUSAND CUTS (\$10.99) The Hawthorne House School for the Treatment of Autistic Children was once known for its pioneering educational approach and remarkable success rate. Now, fifteen years after it closed its doors, staff and former residents have returned for its first ever reunion. The gala turns bloody when the school's revered founder is found tortured to death in the mansion's basement.

DANIELS, CASEY pepper DON OF THE DEAD (#1) (\$9.99) "Light and silly" says Marian, "but I liked it and will read the next one". Pepper Martin never had to work a day in her life until her surgeon daddy was convicted of fraud. Now she has a job as a tour guide in a cemetery. But a head-on collision with a headstone has left her with the ability to communicate with the disgruntled deceased.

DAVIES, MURRAY DOGS IN THE STREETS (\$9.99) A terrorist bomb in a Salisbury, UK shopping mall a couple of days before Christmas kills a number of people. As the police investigation wanes, the relatives of the victims become more frustrated. When the names of the bombers are discovered, the relatives prepare to take the law into their own hands.

DAVIS, LINDSEY SEE DELPHI AND DIE (#17) (\$11.99) Falco and Helena hear that a young girl and a newly-wed woman, Roman visitors to Greece, have been murdered at the Olympia. The authorities will not investigate properly so Falco steps in.

DELANY, VICKI SCARE THE LIGHT AWAY (\$14.95) Recently widowed Rebecca McKenzie, a successful Vancouver businesswoman, returns home to small town Hope River after an absence of 30 years to attend her mother's funeral. She finds some diaries written by her mother who came to Canada as a young war bride to join a husband she barely knew. Rebecca finds her heart wrung by her mother's story. ("The writing in the diaries was truly beautiful" says Marian). Meanwhile, a young girl goes missing and suspicion falls on Rebecca's charming brother.

DERESKE, JO miss zukas BOOKMARKED TO DIE (#9) (\$9.99) Librarian Miss Zukas' championing of a collection of local authors' works ignites a dangerous firestorm of jealousy and anger in tiny Bellehaven. An obnoxiously bubbly new librarian is turning the head of the police chief and Boy Cat Zukas has disappeared.

DOETSCH, RICHARD THIEVES OF HEAVEN (\$9.99) In a small, heavily fortified room just north of the Sistine Chapel, a mas-

year. She and her seven friends, known as the Basic Eight, have suffered through tyrants, perverts, tragic crushes, gossip, cruel jokes and the hallucinatory effects of absinthe. But now, on tabloid TV, they are calling Flannery a murderer. She wants you to know she is not a murderer at all, she's a murderess.

HARASYMCHUK, ROB JOINING OF DINGO RADISH (\$19.95) The boy named Sue got nothing on Dingo Radish. Named Dingtonaslav Marion Radashonovich by his father, proud of his Slavic heritage, now known as Dingo Radish, he's had his share of trials and tribulations. Left to fend for his family, Dingo does what he has to. Terrific. Set in Saskatchewan. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

HARPER, STEVEN DEAD MAN ON THE MOON (#1) (\$21.50) Originally established as an international moonbase in 2101, Luna City is now home to over three thousand people. Luna City Special Investigations is a small but highly efficient team dedicated to solving whatever homicide threatens the city. In a time and a place where human cloning, genetic engineering, nanotechnology, and microgravity can complicate a crime scene, even old-fashioned murder is seldom simple.

HART, ELLEN IRON GIRL (#13) (\$19.95) After years spent mourning the death of her partner, real estate agent Christine Kane, Minneapolis restaurateur Jane Lawless is ready to move on. But the discovery of a gun among Christine's things is a shock. The night before Christine died of her illness, three members of a family she was selling a house for were murdered. What did Christine know?

HAWKS, JOHN TWELVE TRAVELER (#1) (\$10.99) Maya lives in London and is a Harlequin, a member of a fierce group of warriors willing to sacrifice their lives to protect a select few known as Travelers. Travelers are a band of prophets who have vastly influenced the course of history. She is sent by her ailing father to protect two American brothers who are Travelers. They are in danger of being assassinated by the Tabula. The first in a planned trilogy. Quite good. Worried about Big Brother? Then read this.

HAYDER, MO DEVIL OF NANKING (\$10.99) Published in the UK as Tokyo and one of *Wendy's Picks* in an earlier newsletter. A young Englishwoman, obsessed with the past, comes to Tokyo seeking a rare piece of film footage to corroborate Japanese atrocities of the notorious 1937 Nanking Massacre. Believed lost for decades, she is convinced the film exists and the person who might have some answers is in Tokyo. Excellent.

HECKMAN, VICTORIA KO'D IN THE RIFT (#3) (\$20.95) Hawaiian police officer Katrina Ogden and her boyfriend find themselves on opposite sides when a man is murdered after speaking about Hawaiian Sovereignty.

HEYER, GEORGETTE DEATH IN THE STOCKS, BEHOLD HERE'S POISON, THEY FOUND HIM DEAD, and BLUNT INSTRUMENT, (\$19.95 each) The four novels in the Insp. Hannasyde series were back in print for about three minutes, it seems, and now they are gone again! But, worry not, we'll smuggle some from the UK. So, go ahead and reserve them and we'll supply them as soon as we can. Great to see these back in print.

HIAASEN, CARL SKINNY DIP (\$10.99) When Chaz Perrone throws his beautiful wife, Joey, off a cruise liner, he must have forgotten she was an excellent swimmer. She makes her way to a floating bale of Jamaican pot and then to an island inhabited by ex-cop Mick Stranahan. Now Joey wants revenge on Chaz and Mick is only too glad to help.

HIGHSMITH, PATRICIA PRICE OF SALT (\$19.50) First published in 1952 and touted as "the novel of a love society forbids", the book soon became a lesbian classic. Therese Belivet, a stage designer working in a department store, begins to stalk an alluring suburban housewife, trapped in a dull marriage.

HIRAHARA, NAOMI SNAKESKIN SHAMISEN (#3) (\$16.00)

HOOPER, KAY LADY THIEF (\$10.99) Her first novel, originally published in 1981. Jennifer Courtenay is hiding a dangerous secret both Society and the Duke of Spencer are determined to uncover. A secret that could cost her life. Set in Regency England.

HORTON, LESLEY DEVILS IN THE MIRROR (#3) (\$10.99)

DI John Handford and DS Khalid Ali investigate the murder of a young black girl whose death looks like a ritualistic killing.

HOSP, DAVID DARK HARBOR (\$9.99)

INDRIDASON, ARNALDUR SILENCE OF THE GRAVE (#2) (\$10.99) is the second mystery translated from the Icelandic. The first was Jar City, now re-titled Tainted Blood (\$19.95) (Interestingly enough, the US edition, coming in October, will retain the original title!) Detective Erlendur is investigating the discovery of a skeleton in a shallow grave. Is the skeleton connected to the military base that was erected out in the open hills during WWII? Is this a typical missing person case, unsolved for many years? Or is it something more sinister? Erlendur and his team uncover several possible scenarios but trying to piece together the story is difficult as most of the people involved are no longer alive. At the same time, Erlendur is going through his own personal crisis with his estranged daughter. These are not action-packed reads. The characters and their stories are what make these two books so fascinating. One of *Wendy's Picks* a while back.

INK, INDIA bath and body BLUSH WITH DEATH (#2) (\$9.99) Sequel to Scent to her Grave (\$9.99).

JACKSON, JOSHILYN GODS IN ALABAMA (\$17.95) When Arlene Fleet goes off to college she promises God that she'll stop fornicating and lying, and never, ever go back to her hometown in Alabama. All God has to do is make sure the body is never found. Ten years later, God has broken the deal.

JAMES, PETER grace DEAD SIMPLE (#1) (\$9.99)

JAMES, PETER grace LOOKING GOOD DEAD (#2) (\$22.95 trade paperback, \$29.95 hardcover) See Hardcover section.

JOHNSTON, LINDA O FINE EATHERED DEATH (\$9.99)

JORDAN, SPENCER JOURNEYS IN THE DEAD SEASON (\$16.99)

KALLA, DANIEL RESISTANCE (\$10.99)

KANON, JOSEPH ALIBI (\$19.00) Adam Miller has come to Venice in 1946 to visit his widowed mother and to forget the horrors he witnessed as a U.S. Army war crimes investigator in Germany. When he falls in love with Claudia, a Jewish woman scarred by her experiences during the war, he is forced to confront a Venice still haunted by atrocities it would rather forget. Los Alamos (\$10.99), The Perfect Spy (\$9.99), and The Good German (\$20.00 trade paperback, paperback due August at \$10.99) are his three earlier novels. Winner of the 2006 Hammett Award.

KERLEY, JACK DEATH COLLECTORS (\$10.99) Thirty years after renowned artist and serial killer Marsden Hexcamp is shot dead in the courtroom, a suspected prostitute is found murdered in a motel room, the first in a series of horrors suggesting Hexcamp's art remains alive and treacherous. Homicide detectives Carson Ryder and Harry Nautilus descend into the world of Death Collectors, people who spend vast sums of money to collect serial killer memorabilia. The first in the series is The Hundredth Man (\$10.99) which Wendy just loved and is making everyone buy.

KING, STEPHEN DARK TOWER (#6) SONG OF SUSANNAH (\$12.99) The sixth in his Dark Tower series.

KLAVAN, LAURENCE SHOOTING SCRIPT (\$9.99) Typesetter Roy Milano lives for the movies. So he can't resist a mysterious e-mail that lures him with the promise of an elusive treasure: a copy of Jerry Lewis's famous unreleased drama, The Day the Clown Died. But after arriving at a rendezvous too late to save a dying man, Roy realizes he's stumbled into a dangerous race to possess a piece of cinema history.

KNIGHT, ALANNA mcquinn GHOST WALK (#4) (\$12.95) It is 1897 and three years have passed since Rose McQuinn's husband, Danny, disappeared in Arizona. Believing him to be dead, she returned to Scotland to start her life afresh. She becomes a 'Lady Investigator, Discretion Guaranteed', and is about to marry her lover, Detective Inspector Jack Macmerry of the Edinburgh police. But a nun from the local convent claims to have received a letter from Danny so Rose investigates. The only other paperback title featuring Inspector Faro's daughter, Rose, is The Inspector's Daughter (\$10.95). More titles are scheduled to be released in paperback later this year.

KNOPF, CHRIS LAST REFUGE (\$17.95) Sam Acquillo is a middle-aged corporate dropout living in his parents' old cottage in Southampton's North Sea. He has abandoned his family and friends and has taken to drinking vodka and staring at the water. But then the little old lady next door ends up floating in her bathtub and it seems like Sam is the only one who wonders why. A debut novel.

KONRATH, J A BLOODY MARY (#2) (\$9.99) When Chicago cop Lieutenant Jacqueline Daniels receives a report of an excess of body parts appearing at the morgue, she hopes it's only a miscount. The first in the series is Whiskey Sour (\$9.99), which Marian picked in an earlier newsletter.

KRUEGER, WILLIAM KENT MERCY FALLS (#5) (\$10.99) Sheriff Cork O'Connor investigates a high-profile murder but sparks fly when the deceased's wealthy family insists on hiring a beautiful private investigator named Dina Willner to consult on the case. (Hey Dina, you've been Tuckerized!!)

LAVENE, JOYCE & JIM peggy FRUIT OF THE POISONED TREE (#2) (\$9.99)

LEININGER, ROBERT KILLING SUKI FLOOD (\$14.95) A great read. Nice to see this one back in print. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

LEON, DONNA BLOOD FROM A STONE (#14) (\$10.99) On a cold night shortly before Christmas, a street vendor is killed in a scuffle in Campo Santo Stefano, Venice. Commissario Guido Brunetti can't figure out who would want to kill an African immigrant peddling goods after hours without a work permit but he redoubles his efforts to unearth the truth when told to cease his investigation.

LEWIS, DAMIEN DESERT CLAW (\$7.95)

LITTELL, ROBERT LEGENDS (\$18.50) Martin Odum, at one-time a CIA field agent, now a private detective in Brooklyn, is struggling his way through memories of past identities. Is he an IRA explosives man or a Civil War expert? Is he suffering from a multiple personality disorder, brainwashing or simply exhaustion?

LOGAN, CHUCK HOMEFRONT (\$10.99) Nina Pryce and Phil Broker hoped that by moving to Glacier Falls, Minnesota, they could recover from the roles they played in averting an act of terrorism. But their daughter triggers a set of events that has the mob looking for Phil.

LOGUE, MARY watkins POISON HEART (#5) (\$9.99) Deputy Sheriff Claire Watkins of Pepin County is adapting to small town life and its crime solving. Thrown into the mix are a suspicious goat-herding daughter-in-law, a wounded elk and a woman who has married a man twenty years her senior in the hope she can sell off his land and make a fortune.

LOOMIS, GREGG JULIAN SECRET (#2) (\$8.99) Don Huff was Lang Reilly's friend, and now he's been murdered. Was it because of the book he was writing? The trail of secrets leads Lang on a deadly chase across Europe and deeper into a mystery that has been concealed since the days of the Roman Empire and the founding of the Catholic Church.

LOOMIS, GREGG PEGASUS SECRET (#1) (\$8.99) American lawyer Lang Reilly is determined to find the real cause of the blast in a picturesque Parisian neighbourhood that killed his sister. His search begins with a painting his sister bought just before she died.

Could there be something about the painting itself that made someone want to kill her?

LOWELL, ELIZABETH ALWAYS TIME TO DIE (\$10.99)

LUCARELLI, CARLO CARTE BLANCHE (\$20.00)

MCBAIN, ED ALICE IN JEOPARDY (\$10.99) Since her husband Eddie's tragic death in a boating accident eight months ago, Alice Glendenning has struggled to maintain a normal life for her two children. They don't come home from school one day and she gets a call from a woman claiming to have the kids and demands a ransom identical to the amount Alice is due from the insurance company for Eddie's accident. Alice calls on Charlie Hobbs, a new friend, for help.

MACBRIDE, STUART logan DYING LIGHT (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section.

MCCLURE, KEN EYE OF THE RAVEN (\$12.95) Dr. Steven Dunbar works for an elite government agency charged with investigating hi-tech crimes relating to the world of science and medicine. He is bemused when the deathbed confession of a convicted psychopath lands on his desk. Until it emerges that another man has already been convicted of the crime, a man whose medical research sent shockwaves through the scientific community. Dr. David Little is nine years into his life sentence for the brutal rape and murder of a thirteen-year-old girl. The evidence against him is indisputable: a perfect DNA match. But Steve is determined to uncover the truth which may be more horrific than anyone could have imagined.

MACLEAN, ANNA LOUISA AND THE CRYSTAL GAZER (#3) (\$9.99) In December 1855, Louisa May Alcott attends a séance with her friend Sylvia Shattuck. On their second visit to Boston's most famous crystal gazer, they discover she's been murdered. The other two in the series are Louisa and the Missing Heiress and Louisa and the Country Bachelor (\$8.99 each).

MCCULLOUGH, COLLEEN ON, OFF (\$24.95) At a prestigious research centre for the neurosciences, fondly known by its staff as the Hug, parts of a mutilated body are discovered. Lieutenant Carmine Delmonico of the Holloman Police learns that a string of murders, each fitting the same *modus operandi* as the body found at the Hug, has been occurring throughout Connecticut. Author of The Thorn Birds, Caesar's Women, among a ton of other novels.

MARGOLIN, PHILLIP LOST LAKE (\$12.99) On a summer night in Portland, violence erupts at a Little League game and attorney Ami Vergano watches in horror as the quiet, gentle artist she recently befriended does something unexpected and unthinkable.

MARSH, NGAIO CLUTCH OF CONSTABLES (\$8.95)

MARTIN, ANDREW LOST LUGGAGE PORTER (#3) (\$25) Winter, 1906. It's Jim Stringer's first day as an official railway detective working from the York Station. He meets the Lost Luggage Porter, humblest among the railway's employees. He tells Jim a tale which leads him to the roughest part of town, a place where the police always walk in twos. Jim is off on the trail of pickpockets, 'station loungers' and other small fry of the York underworld.

MATHEWS, ADRIAN APOTHECARY'S HOUSE (\$17.99) At the Rijksmuseum's research library in Amsterdam, Ruth Braams is tracing the provenance of artworks looted by the Nazis when an old woman barges in and demands the return of a picture painted by her own eighteenth-century ancestor. She is told to go through proper channels but Ruth's curiosity is aroused.

MEREDITH, D R clark MURDER BY THE BOOK (#5) (\$9.99) Reference librarian Megan Clark fears that one of her reading group members may be a killer but since Megan has discovered the corpses, she's the prime suspect.

MILLS, KYLE FADE (\$9.99) Salam al Fayed, Fade, ex-Navy Seal, son of immigrants, speaks perfect Arabic and is just right for an undercover job in the Middle East for the Department of Homeland Security. Trouble is, he was shot in the line of duty and the US government refused to pay for the risky surgery that could have

extracted the bullet that is now lodged close to his spine. The last thing he wants is to work for the government again.

MONTALBAN, MANUEL V. MAN OF MY LIFE (\$21)

MORETON, CASEY HIT AND RUN (\$19.00) Allan Adler knows his son Steven, a junior at Harvard, did not commit the murder he is accused of. Using blackmail as leverage, he hopes to clear his son. Twenty years ago, he was the chauffeur for a Pentagon official named Getty Fairfield and had been privy to Fairfield's affair with a sexy Russian spy. Now Fairfield is the president's choice for chief justice of the US Supreme Court.

MYERS, TIM FLICKER OF DOUBT (#4) (\$9.99) Harrison Black was looking forward to a peaceful morning, kayaking on the Gunpowder River, before opening up his candle shop, At Wick's End. He didn't expect to find the body of an ex-girlfriend. Or that her death would be ruled a suicide. Sequel to At Wick's End (\$8.99), Snuffed Out (\$8.99), and Death Waxed Over (\$9.99).

NABB, MAGDALEN MARSHAL MAKES HIS REPORT (\$21.00) A special order from England.

NADELSON, REGGIE RED HOOK (#6) (\$11.99) Sid McKay asks Artie Cohen to come out to Red Hook, in Brooklyn. It's Artie's wedding day but he owes Sid, so he goes. On arriving, he finds a dead man spread-eagled in the water off the old docks. Why is Sid so scared? A terrific series, one of *J.D.'s Picks* a little while ago. The first two entries in the series, Red Mercury Blues (#1) and Hot Poppies (#2) (\$11.99 each), have recently been reprinted, so you can finally start at the beginning.

NOVIK, NAOMI HIS MAJESTY'S DRAGON (#1), THRONE OF JADE (#2) and BLACK POWDER WAR (#3) (\$9.99 each).

Marian told you about these in the last newsletter. Terrific.

NYKANEN, MARK SEARCH ANGEL (\$9.99) Suzanne Trayle has built her reputation reuniting birth mothers with their adopted children but has failed to find the son she put up for adoption thirty years ago. A serial killer contacts Suzanne, claiming to have located her now-grown child and then proceeds to murder her clients, vowing to kill her son and his family if she tries to stop him.

PAGE, KATHERINE HALL BODY IN THE SNOWDRIFT (#15) (\$9.99) When caterer Faith Fairchild learns of her father-in-law's plans to celebrate his seventieth birthday by treating his entire family to a weeklong stay at Pine Slopes resort, her reaction is mixed. When she finds a dead body on the slopes and one catastrophe follows another, Faith investigates.

PALMER, LINDA morgan tyler LOVE YOU MADLY (#3) (\$9.99) "Another winner" says Marian, who has read all three and loved them. Daytime drama (aka soap opera) writer Morgan Tyler tries to protect the leading man in the soap from a woman stalking him who can't separate fact from fiction. The first two are Love is Murder (\$8.99) and Love Her to Death (\$9.99). See *Marian's Picks*.

PARKER, ROBERT B APPALOOSA (\$10.99) Appaloosa, 1800s. The town is suffering at the hands of renegade rancher Randall Bragg. Virgil Cole and Everett Hitch, itinerant lawmen, are used to cleaning up after opportunist thieves.

PATTERSON, JAMES womens FOURTH OF JULY (#4) (\$12.99) Detective Lindsay Boxer and her friends in the Women's Murder Club battle for her life on two fronts: before a judge and jury as her murder trial comes to a climax, and facing unknown adversaries who will stop at nothing to keep her from knowing the truth about an unsolved murder case she worked as a rookie.

PEPPER, KATE ONE COLD NIGHT (\$9.99) New York police detective Dave Strauss is haunted by the one case he couldn't solve. A schoolgirl vanished off the streets of New York, with only a trail of blood and a series of untraceable phone calls from "the Groom" hinting at her fate. Now another girl has gone missing but this time she is part of Dave's family. He and his wife know fourteen-year-old Lisa has not run away.

PEREZ-REVERTE, ARTURO CLUB DUMAS (\$17.95) A reissue. First published in 1997.

PETERS, ELIZABETH MUMMY CASE (#3) (\$10.99) Reissue.

POE, EDGAR ALLAN MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE (\$11.95)

QUIGLEY, SHEILA BAD MOON RISING (\$8.99) Three women are dead and Det. Insp. Lorraine Hunt is searching for a serial killer. But in Houghton-le-Spring, it's Feast week, and the town is full of strangers, not a good time to be looking for a killer.

QUIGLEY, SHEILA LIVING ON A PRAYER (\$25.95) 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.

RANKIN, IAN REBUS'S SCOTLAND (\$16.95) Insights into the world that John Rebus inhabits, and personal insights into the life of Ian Rankin. This small and well illustrated book is as close to an autobiography as you're going to get, said the author.

RAYNE, SARAH ROOTS OF EVIL (\$10.99)

REDMOND, PATRICK ALL SHE EVER WANTED (\$24.95) Tina was weak once, bullied at school, an object of derision and fun. Now she is Chrissie. Bold, self-reliant, beautiful. She is everything she ever wanted to be. When love enters her life, it threatens the carefully crafted personality she has worked so hard to create. And nothing can ever be allowed to do that.

REICHS, KATHY CROSS BONES (#8) (\$12.99) When an Orthodox Jewish man is found shot to death in Montreal, Temperance Brennan is called in to investigate. Unexpectedly, a stranger slips her a photo of a skeleton. With detective Andrew Ryan and biblical archaeologist Jake Drum, Tempe travels to Israel to probe the origins of the skeleton and the ancient crypt in which it was found. A startling discovery raises questions about Christ's death.

ROBB, CANDACE kerr CRUEL COURTSHIP (#3) (\$21.00) This is the third in the Margaret Kerr series by the author of the Owen Archer series. Set in 13th century Scotland.

ROBB, J D MEMORY IN DEATH (\$10.99) Eve Dallas is one tough cop but when Trudy Lomard comes to New York to visit, seeing her plunges Eve back into the days when she was a vulnerable traumatized little girl. Although Trudy claims she just wants to see how Eve is doing, she attempts to blackmail Eve. Trudy turns up dead and Eve investigates.

ROBERTS, A R R R VA DINCI COD (\$10.99) An eminent, renowned museum curator lies dead in his own gallery, with a three-foot cod stuffed down his throat. A brilliant renowned anagrammatologist and a beautiful renowned French police cryptologist solve the crime. You get the picture!???

ROSENFELT, DAVID carpente SUDDEN DEATH (#4) (\$9.99)

SANDFORD, JOHN davenport BROKEN PREY (#16) (\$13.50) Lucas Davenport is on the trail of a deranged serial killer. Number sixteen in the series and counting.

SAYLOR, STEVEN gordianus GLADIATOR DIES ONLY ONCE (#10) (\$18.95) A collection of stories set between the time periods of Roman Blood (\$9.99) and Catalina's Riddle (\$8.99).

SCARROW, ALEX THOUSAND SUNS (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover)

SCARROW, SIMON YOUNG BLOODS (#1) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation for both Scarrows.

SCOTT, MICHELE MURDER BY THE GLASS (#2) (\$9.99) Nikki Sands is loving her job at the Malveaux Estate Winery in Napa Valley. Nikki's friend Isabel agreed to cater the wedding of the decade, before she learned that the groom was her cheating lover. But when the bride is found dead, and there is a long list of suspects including Isabel, Nikki investigates. "I found this so much

better reading than the first in the series. Maybe she changed editors”, says Marian. The first is Murder Uncorked (\$9.99).

SEDLEY, KATE BURGUNDIAN’S TALE (#14) (\$19.95) The fourteenth in the Roger the Chapman series.

SHARP, ZOE fox ROAD KILL (#5) (\$21.00) Charlie Fox is caught up in the aftermath of a fatal bike crash involving one of her closest friends. The more she probes, the more she suspects that the accident was far from accidental. One of *Wendy’s Picks* a while ago.

SHELBY, JEFF braddock KILLER SWELL (#1) (\$9.99) Laid back surfer and San Diego private eye Noah Braddock is hired to find his old high school sweetheart, Kate. As the investigation deepens he discovers more about Kate than he ever wanted to. Terrific reviews. See *Wendy’s Picks*.

SMITH, BRAD BUSTED FLUSH (\$10.99) Dock Bass, a carpenter-turned-realtor, hates his job, his wife, and his life. He is summoned to Gettysburg by a law firm where he learns that he’s inherited an ancient house from a relative he never knew existed. Renovating the place, he discovers a treasure trove of Civil War memorabilia including a recording of Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg. His life just got very hectic.

SMITH, BRAD ONE EYED JACKS (\$10.99) The author’s first novel, winner of the Arthur Ellis Award for Best First Novel. Finally available in a mass market paper back. About a young boxer and his black friend, trying to survive in Toronto of the 1950s. By the author of All Hat (\$10.99), one of my all-time favourites.

SMITH, MARK HASKELL DELICIOUS (\$15.50)

SOUTHERN, PAUL BROWN BOYS IN CHOCOLATE (#2) (\$19.95) By the author of Craze (\$19.95). Set in Manchester, crime capital of the UK. Too many men are in love with Fari, the most beautiful girl at Mohammed Butt’s first all-Asian brothel. And that can only mean one thing, trouble.

SPENCER-FLEMING, JULIA TO DARKNESS AND TO DEATH (#4) (\$9.99) In the small Adirondack town of Millers Kill, where everyone knows everyone and all are part of an interconnected web of blood or acquaintance, one person’s troubles have a way of ensnaring others. The three earlier novels are: In the Bleak Midwinter, A Fountain Filled With Blood and Out of the Deep I Cry (\$9.99 each).

SPIEGELMAN, PETER DEATH’S LITTLE HELPERS (#2) (\$18.95) The second John March investigation, sequel to Black Maps (\$11.99), in which our hero is hired to find missing Wall Street analyst Gregory Danes. Both are very good.

SPINDLER, ERICA KILLER TAKES ALL (\$9.50)

STAEGER, WILL PAINKILLER (\$10.99) A sort-of retired, Virgin Island based CIA operative known as W. Cooper is drawn together with CIA junior analyst Julie Laramie, who discovers, almost by accident, evidence of a massive, clandestine military buildup in China and elsewhere. But no one believes her.

STALLWOOD, VERONICA ivory OXFORD LETTERS (#12) (\$10.99)) When Kate Ivory receives a phone call to say her mom is unwell, she returns home to find a married couple, the Freemans, moved into the house. Although her mom says they are helping her, Kate suspects otherwise and starts to investigate their background.

STARR, JASON LIGHTS OUT (\$33) Money, sex and jealousy are a potent mix, and when Jake, a millionaire baseball player, and his friend Ryan, who never made it to the big times, play out a personal vendetta, it gets caught up in a gang feud. Set in Brooklyn.

STEWART, KAY & BULLOCK, CHRIS DEADLY LITTLE LIST (\$11.95) We first received these in April but now have a limited number of **autographed copies**. A deadly scandal surrounding a controversial land development casts a shadow over the annual Salt Spring Island theatre festival.

STEWART, MARIAH mccall DEAD END (#4) (\$10.99)

STEWART, MARY WILDFIRE AT MIDNIGHT (\$10.99)

STEWART, MIKE macinnes CLEAN KILL (#3) (\$8.99) When a young woman asks Tom McInnes to investigate her mother’s death from what appeared to be just simple food poisoning, he’s intrigued. As he and his investigator, Joey, look into the case, an attempt is made on his life, the state bar threatens to disbar him, and he finds himself accused of murdering a fellow lawyer. Sequel to Sins of the Brother and Dog Island (\$8.99 each).

STOCKWIN, JULIAN TENACIOUS (#6) (\$10.99) Kydd is summoned to join Nelson’s taskforce on an urgent reconnaissance mission. Intelligence suggests the French Revolution is about to set the Mediterranean on fire.

SWAIN, JAMES valentine DEADMAN’S POKER (#6) and DEADMAN’S BLUFF (#7) (\$9.99 each) Two more Tony Valentine Las Vegas thrillers, published as paperback originals.

TALLIS, FRANK liebermann MORTAL MISCHIEF (#1) (published in the US as A Death in Vienna) (\$19.95) and VIENNA BLOOD (#2) (\$24.95) The first two Dr. Max Lieberman stories.

“There are many commonalities that link detection and psychoanalysis. Fundamentally, Sigmund Freud and Sherlock Holmes were in the same business” says the author. “Guilty people are always giving themselves away – unconsciously. For the psychoanalyst, every pause, inflection, or stumble has meaning. Freudian slips render the soul transparent. Even dreams, when interpreted, cannot hide forbidden wishes and desires. A psychoanalyst who placed his skills at the disposal of criminal investigators would be a formidable adversary. Gradually, as I mulled all this over, a character began to take shape...” and he’s Max Liebermann, a psychoanalyst and disciple of Sigmund Freud. Excellent.

TANENBAUM, ROBERT FURY (#17) (\$10.99) The seventeenth Butch Karp novel.

TAYLOR, ANDREW STAIN ON THE SILENCE (\$24.00) The last person James wants to see again is Lily, but she is dying of cancer and she wants to tell him something. Twenty-four years ago, she gave birth to a daughter, and James is the father. Their daughter is now a wanted woman, on the run for murder.

TAYLOR, CHAD DEPARTURE LOUNGE (\$17.95) Greg is a small-time thief. He finds a certain calm inside the homes he robs. He is also searching for signs of an answer to a question that has troubled him since a local girl disappeared. Nobody knows what happened to Caroline May, or no one wants to admit it.

TEMPLE, PETER IDENTITY THEORY (\$17.95)

THOMPSON, VICTORIA MURDER ON LENOX HILL (#7) (\$9.99) Turn-of-the-century New York and midwife Sarah Brandt is summoned to examine the teenage daughter of the Lintons of Lenox Hill. She is with child but the pregnancy is a mystery however, as the young woman, mentally a child herself, is never left on her own and denies that any man has ever hurt her. When the minister falls dead during a service, poisoned by cyanide-laced wine, Sarah and Detective Sergeant Frank Malloy join forces and investigate.

THOR, BRAD BLOWBACK (\$10.99)

THURLO, AIMEE&DAVID agath THIEF IN RETREAT (#2) (\$9.99) At the request of the archbishop, Sister Agatha must discreetly investigate the goings on at a former monastery sold by the diocese and now operating as a hotel and business retreat. Several valuable pieces of Southwestern folk art, owned by the diocese and left on loan in the retreat, have been stolen and replaced by replicas. m lkj (Paddington)

TRANTER, NIGEL HOPE ENDURES (\$10.99) Sir Thomas Hope was the son of an Edinburgh merchant who went on to be friend and legal advisor to three Scottish kings. This is the last novel written by Nigel Tranter before he died.

TREMAIN, ROSE MUSIC AND SILENCE (\$19.95)

URE, LOUISE FORCING AMARYLLIS (\$9.99) Calla Gentry works as a trial consultant in Tucson and only handles civil cases. Seven years ago her sister, Amy, was attacked and left for dead, and

the nightmares caused by that event have not gone away for Calla. When she is forced to join the defense team for accused rapist and murderer Raymond Cates, she is sickened by the parallels between Cates' crime and her sister's attack.

VACHSS, ANDREW TWO TRAINS RUNNING (\$21.00) Corruption in small town USA. Set in Locke City in 1959, a number of bad guys vie for control of the town. Standing in their way is the town's one clean cop, Sherman Layne.

VALENTINE, KATHERINE HAUNTED RECTORY (\$18.95)
VARIOUS/LEWIS, SHERRY LOW DOWN AND DERBY (\$13.95)

[VARIOUS]PENZLER, OTTO ed. MURDER IN THE ROUGH (\$18.95) See annotation in the hardcover section.

VINE, BARBARA MINOTAUR (\$10.99) Secrets and lies in a proper English family lead to murder.

VINING, DAN QUICK (#1) (\$10.99) Private investigator Jimmy Miles is hired by the daughter of a man who was executed for a long-ago murder. She wants Jimmy to uncover the truth about the crime and clear her father's name.

WAIT, LEA summer SHADOWS AT THE SPRING SHOW (#4) (\$16.50) Antiques print dealer and American Studies professor Maggie Summer agrees to run an antiques show to benefit a local adoption agency. Everything is going grand until the agency and Maggie herself start receiving anonymous letters and calls threatening to sabotage the show. The first three in the series are Shadows at the Fair (\$10.50), Shadows on the Coast of Maine (\$10.50), and Shadows on the Ivy (16.50 trade paperback).

WAITES, MARTYN MERCY SEAT (\$10.99) Once a renowned investigative journalist, Joe Donovan's life fell apart when his six-year-old son disappeared without a trace. Now a virtual recluse, Donovan is abruptly thrust back into the limelight when a teenage boy makes contact, in desperate need of help. Donovan puts together a team to help him, a team of outsiders that doesn't much care which side of the law it operates on.

WALL, KATHRYN R RESURRECTION ROAD (\$9.99) Bay Tanner's tenuous peace is shattered by an innocent-looking boy who will force her to relive the nightmare of her husband's murder.

WALTERS, GUY COLDITZ LEGACY (\$10.99) In 1941 British POWs Hugh Hartley and Malcolm Royce are transferred to the infamous Colditz Castle after a failed escape from their camp. Mounting another escape, Malcolm is shot but Hugh manages to get free. It is now 1973 and Hugh is a senior officer with MI6 running agents in East Germany. A scrap of intelligence crosses his desk that Malcolm is still alive and being held in Colditz, now a lunatic asylum, as a mental patient. As Hugh sets out on his perilous mission, he wonders if it would be better if his friend had "died" a hero.

WAN, MICHELLE DEADLY SLIPPER (\$19.95) Marian had this to say about this book when it was first published in hardcover: "Set in the Dordogne it will make you want to photograph and chart orchids just like the characters in the story. Twenty years ago wild orchid enthusiast Bedie Dunn vanished without a trace while on a hiking holiday in France. Her twin, Mara, has been trying to find

out what happened and finally gets a break when she uncovers Bedie's camera on a chance visit to a local junk shop. (Yes, that part is a bit contrived, but you have to suspend some disbelief). She gets the roll of film developed and tries to reconstruct Bedie's last hike by following the trail of orchid photos. She also seeks the help of orchid expert Justin Wood who lives in the area. Interesting characters, neat stuff about orchids, an ending I didn't care for, but all in all I enjoyed this novel and can't wait for the next one."

WARSH, SYLVIA MAULTASH SEASON OF IRON (\$11.99)

Set alternately in 1979 Toronto and 1930s Berlin, Dr. Rebecca Temple follows a trail that begins when Birdie, the schizophrenic homeless woman she has been trying to help, is killed. The other story line follows the Eisenbaums during the Nazi rise to power and the gradual stripping away of rights of Jews in Germany. The youngest child, Frederika, becomes a doctor against all odds, but as the Nazi grip tightens she is finally sent to a concentration camp. Rebecca's and Frederika's stories are connected.

WENK, ARTHUR QUARTER NOTE TALES (\$23.95) Terrific collection of three novellas. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

WESTBROOK, KATE MONEYPENNY DIARIES (\$14.95)

WILSON, F PAUL CRISSCROSS (\$10.99) Repairman Jack is helping a nun who is being blackmailed, while also looking for the missing son of an elderly woman. Jack must infiltrate the inner reaches of the Dormentalist Church, a secretive, globe-spanning cult whose members include some of the biggest and most powerful names in entertainment, sports and politics.

WINSLOW, DON POWER OF THE DOG (\$21.00) Spanning the years from the rise of the Mexican drug Federacion in the 1970s to the Iran-Contra affair in the 1980s to the vicious drug wars of the 1990s, the action ranges from Manhattan's Hell's Kitchen and the halls of Washington to the streets of Tijuana and the deserts of the American Southwest. A DEA agent, a drug lord, a call girl, a hit man, and a priest. Their stories converge in this new book from this great writer.

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