



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

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Greetings

March 2006

The 2006 Winter Olympic Games are now history. Our men's hockey team did not perform as well as we just assumed they would; the women's hockey team did perform every bit as well as we knew they would. Maybe the men should learn to skate like girls! I am not a big fan of the Olympics, so didn't pay too much attention—besides I was in Florida, golfing, during the second week of the Olympics—but one would have to be deaf, blind and illiterate to not know about the hockey teams and the speed skaters. On to British Columbia in 2010.

In the January newsletter I told you about Sleuth online. Although I had mentioned that ALL books in print are searchable and orderable from Sleuth online, NOT just mysteries, I had not really expected you to order so many non-mysteries. Well, you showed me wrong. You have been searching and ordering all genres of books, including large print books and audiobooks and that's just fabo. Go, search, salivate, order. Thank you for letting us be your "one stop shop" for all your book needs. Set up an account, a matter of two minutes at most, search and order to your hearts content and then "check out" to send us an e-mail with your order. It's that simple. We'll get back to you with any corrections or adjustments and let you know when to expect them. What fun.

Talking about golf...you might remember that in the January newsletter I was pissing and moaning about no golf trips in my near future and that I could be available at a moment's notice. Well, someone did take note and a last minute no-show left an opening for me to join a group of seven other golfers. Off we went for a week of golf in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area and a great time was had by all. Had I realised that these guys take their golf seriously and that this is an annual competition with prizes and bragging rights for a year, I might have thought twice. Well, probably not. I acquitted

Meet

MAUREEN JENNINGS

author of the Det. Murdoch series
Vices of my Blood (\$22.99)

Wednesday April 5, 2006
6:30 to 8pm,

myself reasonably well, finishing tied for third. I'm already championing at the bit for the 2007 competition!

And, it's that time of the year. Time to start hitting you up for the 2006 installment of the Sunnybrook Run for Research. The run takes place on the 28th of May this year and this is the time of the year when I come to you looking for donations. So here I am. And every year you have been very generous, very encouraging, so you have no one to blame but yourself. Just to remind you all the money you send me--there is no cut for Sleuth, damn it--goes to Sunnybrook and Women's College hospitals to study the issues facing women: dementia, diabetes, heart disease, breast cancer. And since, my happiness and livelihood are dependant to a not insignificant extent on women it behooves me to do what I can to keep as many of them around, healthy and for as long as possible. Seriously, I appreciate that there are countless worthy causes and you can't possibly support them all, but if there is any room left in your donation budget please consider this one. I would be delighted and honoured to run under your sponsorship. All donations are tax receiptable, of course. **Cheques should be made out to Manulife Run for Research** and we can also charge your Visa or MasterCard if that's convenient. Thank you.

The Merchant of Menace,

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

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(*with the odd exception)

Hours of Business

10 am to 6 pm

every day

except

Sunday: Noon - 4pm

Holidays: closed

In early June I'm also going to be involved in a fund raiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation in Burlington. The event is called The Big Bike Ride for Stroke and when they say big, they mean big. This is a bike for thirty! So, if you'd like to direct your donation to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, just let me know. **Cheques should be made out The Heart and Stroke Foundation.** Again, thank you.

Maureen Jennings, author of the Detective Murdoch novels, will be here Wednesday, April 5, 2006 from 6:30 to 8pm to launch Vices of my Blood (\$22.99, trade paperback, McClelland & Stewart), the sixth in this very successful series set in Victorian Toronto. The author informs us: "As is our tradition we will do a limited edition stamp for the launch. For this book we will also produce a limited edition post card, a signed copy by Charles Dunlop of an original drawing from 1895 of The House Of Industry (the poor house)." One copy of the card for each book sold, while supply lasts. Wendy has read the book and pronounced it "Excellent, the best yet." Reverend Charles Howard has been brutally beaten, stabbed to death in his office in Chalmers Presbyterian Church. The Reverend was a popular man with his congregation, especially the ladies. He was a charitable man, working as a Visitor for the House of Industry, assessing the poor folk who applied to the poor house for assistance. Was his murder vengeance for an application rejected, a bungled robbery or something more sinister?

Wendy's Picks

I was really looking forward to the new **VAL McDERMID** stand-alone thriller, The Grave Tattoo, (\$39.95 hardcover, \$22.99 trade paperback) but the Canadian edition is not due until April. Happily for me, we brought in a few copies of the UK hardcover (at the princely sum of \$55!! HarperCollins first editions) so I did not have to wait another minute. **Val McDermid** has done it again, written a wonderful book. Jane Gresham is from the Lake District, a Wordsworth scholar, living in a London council flat and working several jobs to support herself while finishing her graduate studies. A newspaper article about a tattooed body found in a bog near her Fellhead home captures her attention. Jane had grown up with the legend that Fletcher Christian, the lead mutineer on the Bounty, did not die on Pitcairn Island but returned to England and told his story to longtime friend William Wordsworth. The poet supposedly wrote a long narrative poem, never published, from Christian's point of view about the mutiny. The body with the strange tattoos (could it be Christian?) fuels Jane's desire to prove the legend and find the manuscript. She returns to Fellhead to search for the lost manuscript. But she's not the only one looking for the priceless document. And somebody is willing to kill for it. It seems straightforward but the author constructs several storylines that eventually come together. As always, superior writing, storytelling and characters – just what I expect from this terrific writer.

ELIZABETH GEORGE is back on form, in my opinion, with her thirteenth DS Lynley mystery, With No One As Witness (\$10.99). DS Lynley and Barbara Havers are back, investigating a series of four murders. Unfortunately, some time passed between the killing of each black youth and the police did not connect them as serial killings so the Yard has been called in to investigate and help quell the cries of racism raised after the police inaction. Tension is in the air between Lynley and several characters: Assistant Commissioner David Hillier (a really unlikable fellow who consistently undermines Lynley during the investigation); a tabloid reporter; a profiler

brought in by Hillier; and even with Havers. Lynley is compelled to keep Barbara on a short leash to prevent her from going off on her own to solve the crimes and further damage her career. Their investigation leads them to an outreach organization for troubled teens, frequented by the victims. On the home front, Lynley and Helen are expecting their first child. This is an astonishing mystery, full of twists and turns, surprises and shocks that will probably change the series as we know it.

ROBERT J. MRAZEK has written a fast moving mystery set against the backdrop of war torn London during WWII with Deadly Embrace (\$35). As the allies prepare to invade Europe, Second Lieutenant Liza Marantz, a twenty-five year old Jewish forensic expert from New York, is seconded to Major Sam Taggart to safeguard the cracking of the ULTRA code and the details of the invasion itself. When two female colleagues die under mysterious circumstances, Sam and Liza uncover a plot that involves senior American officers and English nobility. They are quickly removed from the case and their findings buried. Conspiracies abound. The mystery moves along at a good pace with a satisfying finale. Very enjoyable.

EDWARD WRIGHT sets his third John Ray Horn mystery, Red Sky Lament (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) during a dark time in Hollywood. The US government is intent on uncovering Communists in the movie industry and ordering people to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). John Ray is hired to find the murderer of Owen Bruder, a talented but difficult screenwriter, accused of being a Communist Party member. Unfortunately, nobody wants him to investigate. People are afraid, suspicious of each other. The wrong word can ruin one's life. A very compelling read and I learned something about this time in American history.

As everyone should know by now, I am a fan of the Scandinavian mysteries and The Devil's Star (\$32.95 trade paperback) by **JO NESBO** is a winner. This is **Nesbo's** first book to be translated and published here. There is a heat wave in Oslo, a young woman is found murdered in her apartment, one finger severed and a tiny red diamond in the shape of a five pointed star placed beneath her eyelid. Detective Harry Hole is assigned to the case alongside Tom Waaler whom Hole believes is corrupt. Five days later, another woman is reported missing and you guessed it – another severed finger, another star-shaped red diamond. Oslo is dealing with a serial killer. Hole is a fascinating character, an alcoholic separated from his family, on the outs with his superiors, suspicious of his partner and determined to solve the murders and expose his partner. Very readable, enjoyable and highly recommended.

I (sort of) took the advice of several customers who told me that I had to read **PAUL LEVINE's** book Solomon vs. Lord (\$7.99) because it was so funny. I don't usually read 'funny' but when the new book Deep Blue Alibi (\$9.99) arrived, I gave it a go. Well, this book is funny and I loved it! Steve Solomon and Victoria Lord, mismatched legal and romantic partners, are hilarious. Solomon is a wise-cracking, rule-bender (is that a word?); Victoria is his opposite, playing by the rules. They are retained by a former business partner of Lord's father, charged with the murder of an EPA official with a spear gun. The partners are immediately in conflict – Solomon sees this an opportunity to get Solomon & Lord off the ground; Victoria sees it as an opportunity to go out on her own. A delightfully light legal thriller, full of wisecracks, witty banter, family secrets, quirky characters and a terrific mystery, to boot.

Besides not usually reading 'funny', I don't usually read short stories. I picked up Bark M For Murder (\$9.99) for two reasons: it's about dogs and it contains a short story written by **Virginia Lanier**. I didn't think that we would see anything else by this writer, so this is a little gift. Jo Beth Siddon and her bloodhounds are scenting out the killers of a convenience store clerk in 'Red Shirt and Black Jacket'. The dogs, as usual, steal the story. **J.A. Jance, Chassie West** and **Lee Charles Kelley** also contribute.

Three Can Keep a Secret (\$34.95) is the follow-up to Till the Cows Come Home (\$19.95) by **JUDY CLEMENS**, a book that I thoroughly enjoyed and picked as a favourite last year, if memory serves. Stella Crown, Pennsylvania dairy farmer and biker, is back, recovering from injuries sustained in a motorbike accident in the first book and grieving the death of Hank, her farm manager and second father. Stella hires Lucy Lapp, a young Mennonite widow with an eight year old daughter, to help her on the farm. Lucy brings a whole host of trouble with her to the farm and her reluctance to talk about her husband's death has Stella thinking she may have made a mistake hiring Lucy. Away from the farm, Stella's friend Lenny, a biker, is having troubles of his own. After being severely beaten, he refuses to discuss his problems with Stella so the amateur detective just has to find out for herself what is going on. Lighter fare that I normally read but surprisingly, I really enjoy the descriptions of farm life, the chores and the Pennsylvania Mennonite community. Oh and there's usually a touch of romance so I think that Marian should read these books too.

Just a quick reminder that Black Angel (\$10.99) by **JOHN CONNOLLY** is now out in paperback as is The Forgotten Man (\$10.99) by **ROBERT CRAIS**, both terrific mysteries.

Marian's Picks

We had almost no help from Paddington in this newsletter, he's just been snuggled up by the fire at the back of the store, keeping warm and toasty. It's wonderful to see him lying there all stretched out, on his blanky. Oh to be the store cat. (*At Sleuth!*)

There has not been much going on here lately. I've been outside running on a regular basis. Since our winter has not been too bad, the footing has been okay, and I haven't slipped and broken anything. I am going to run a half marathon in late March, only 13.1 miles, not the full 26.2 miles, so I have not had to do a ton of training. As I mentioned in one of the newsletters last year, I don't plan on running any more marathons. Maybe I'll walk one instead.

I love stories about the Knights Templar and there are a number in this newsletter that you should read. **RAYMOND KHOURY's** debut novel, The Last Templar (\$35.00) introduces archaeologist Tess Chaykin who helps in an FBI investigation led by Sean Reilly. What got me reading the book was its opening chapter where four bad guys ride up the steps of the Metropolitan Museum of Art on horseback and proceed to ransack an exhibit of Vatican treasures. I was on those very steps last year when I went to New York to run a half marathon! Not when the bad guys were there, but to see another exhibit. The key to the story is the treasure that the Knights Templar supposedly hid shortly before their downfall in the early 1300s. A good fast read that will make an afternoon in front of the fire fly by.

The second book about the Templars that I read was The Templar

Legacy (\$32.95) by **STEVE BERRY**. I had read his story about what could have happened to the Amber Room during World War II (The Amber Room (\$10.99)) and found it to be a nice fast read, although a touch contrived in parts, but I was still fascinated enough to finish it. (At this stage in my life I no longer feel the need to finish every book I start.) When I saw that the author had written a book about the Templars, I knew what I was reading next. It was fast moving, full of historic detail, although set in the present, and presented an interesting take on what could have happened to their treasure, with a twist. A retired operative for the US Justice Department, now an antiquarian book dealer in Copenhagen, comes to the aid of his former supervisor when she starts to uncover the clues required to find the treasure. A romp around Europe ensues. It made for a nice winter afternoon's reading. I loved it.

While I am on the topic of the Knights Templar I'll mention Cup of Ghosts by **PAUL DOHERTY** although I will not have copies to sell you until the paperback is released in May. Long story short, there was a mix up in the cataloguing of the book which meant that the hardcover print run had sold out before any copies could be shipped to the colonies. We can try to track down a copy if you do want one, so ask us to quote you. Although not about the Knights Templar specifically, there is a connection. This story introduces a new character, Mathilde of Westminster, who, in 1322, had become the finest physician in London. But the story starts in October, 1307, in Paris, when Mathilde was just twenty-years-old. She was living with her uncle, training to be a physician, but was forced to flee when he was arrested for suspicion of being a Knights Templar. She becomes the confidant of Isabella of France, the only daughter of King Philip, and who was soon to be wife of King Edward of England. Political intrigue, mysterious deaths, and medical ministrations hold your interest. This was an entertaining read, with a great plot and colourful characters.

Season of the Monsoon (\$19.95) by **PAUL MANN** was released by Felony & Mayhem in December 2005 and I forgot to mention it in the last newsletter. It introduces Inspector George Sansi, of the Bombay police, who sticks out in a crowd because, although he has the complexion of a man from India, he has bright blue eyes. This story takes him from the slums of Bombay to the ritzy palaces where movies are filmed. It's fast moving and a little edgy, but really well done. It also gives you a look at India, its good parts and its bad. There are two other books in this series but no word yet whether they will be reprinted.

Another Felony & Mayhem book just released is Landscape of Lies (\$19.95) by **PETER WATSON**. This art mystery was originally published in 1989, long before art mysteries became fashionable. The story is about an ugly painting full of clues that will lead you to a cache of priceless religious artifacts that were hidden by the monks when Henry VIII was dissolving the monasteries. All you have to do is to decipher the clues. And like the original hardcover edition, the publisher has very nicely included a fold-out, full-colour copy of the painting so that you may follow along and try to decode the clues along with the protagonists. The other two art mysteries by this writer, Crusade and Stones of Treason, are out of print, but, here's hoping.

I didn't read Morgue Mama, **C.R. CORWIN's** debut novel, when it was first published, although JD did, loved it, and said I should read it. When I went to look for a copy of it last week, I discovered that, one, the book had been re-issued in trade paperback under a slightly changed title Morgue Mama: The Cross Kisses Back (\$19.95 trade paperback) and two, we were sold out. Not wanting to wait, I read the second one in the series, Dig (\$34.95). Dolly Madison Sprowls,

aka Morgue Mama, is delightful, takes no guff from anyone, and is determined to find out who killed her old college friend, George Sweet. A very nice read. (*Lots of copies of both are on hand, so start at the beginning—JD.*)

J.D.'s Picks

I've read many espionage novels over the years, of course, but would not consider myself a real fan. **John le Carre's** [The Spy Who Came in From the Cold](#) (\$11.99) is, truly, a classic which we have all read. We all know **Graham Greene**, **Eric Ambler**, **Ted Allbeury** rather well and, perhaps, **Daniel Silva** and **Charles McCarry** not as well, but one name that you likely have not heard of is **HENRY BROMELL**. In 2001 he published [Little America](#) (\$21) which, although we did stock, I did not read and promptly forgot about. A customer ordered a copy recently and mentioned in passing that this was one of his favourite books, so I ordered one for me as well. It's terrific. It's riveting. It's elegant and eloquent and thoroughly entertaining. Briefly, Terry Hooper, our hero is trying to piece together his father's story. His father, Mack, was a CIA agent during the height of the Cold War and in the late 1950s was sent to Kurash, a tiny Middle Eastern kingdom, to befriend and protect its inexperienced young ruler. The kingdom is no longer in existence, subsumed by its neighbours and Terry would like to know exactly what was his father's role in the events that transpired.

First published in 1945, **MATTHEW HEAD's** [THE DEVIL IN THE BUSH](#) (\$19.95) has now been reissued by Felony and Mayhem. And it's a terrific addition to crime literature available. This is the first in the Hooper and Dr. Finney series, set in Belgian Congo during the Second World War. Hooper is an American "flunkey" sent to Africa on a vague errand related to the war effort and Dr. Finney is a missionary and sleuth with powers to match Miss Marple. "...[the duo] turn up and solve a murder in the middle of a native revolt. The motive is commonplace but the tricks are excellent and so are the characters."--*A Catalogue of Crime, Barzun and Taylor*. What I found most interesting was the locale and the politics of the day. From other comments made by Barzun and Taylor [The Congo Venus](#) (out of print but there are a number of used copies at \$10 ea. on hand) may well be the best of this series so I guess that's what I'm going to be reading soon. What fun.

In the January newsletter I had told you about **MICHAEL KORYTA** and his first novel, [Tonight I Said Goodbye](#) (\$9.99 paperback, \$31.95 hardcover, first editions while supply last), and how much I liked it and so on and so forth. Well the second one, [Sorrow's Anthem](#) (\$30.95) is now available and it's every bit as good. Mr. Z., the friend who had first brought **Koryta** to my attention, had this to add about the sequel: "even though **Koryta** is only 22 or 23, he's the real deal. Outstanding blend of early relationships between characters and how they impacted present day mystery. Read the final 200 pages in one go." I found this one just as entertaining and enjoyable. I am not suggesting that you acquire books for "investment purposes" but this is one series I'm planning on salting away in some quantity. Consider the numbers: the downside is minimal, about \$70 for a set in hardcover, and the upside, well, fine copies of **Robert B. Parker's** first two novels, [The Godwulf Manuscript](#) and [God Save the Child](#), to which these two compare very, very favourably, would fetch around \$1,000.

One of my favourite reads of the last couple of years is [Relative Danger](#) (\$19.95) by **CHARLES BENOIT**. In the November 2004

issue of this newsletter I gave it one of the most enthusiastic reviews I have ever given a book. Although this is a debut novel you would never think that from reading it. Well, the paperback has finally been released and you are in for a treat. If you only read one book this month, make it this one.

And, finally, a debut novel that came accompanied by much advance praise is now in the store and it lives up to all the advance praise. [Holmes on the Range](#) (\$29.95) by **STEVE HOCKENSMITH** is not a Sherlockian parody or pastiche, as one might assume from the title. It is, instead, a murder investigation that takes place in 1893 Montana and our heroes are brothers Big Red and Old Red Amlingmeyer, who sign on as ranch hands at the secretive Bar VR cattle spread. The brothers' favourite pastime? Scouring *Harper's Weekly* for stories about the famous Sherlock Holmes. Big Red reads them aloud to his illiterate older brother around the campfire! When the boys come across a dead body and some funny goings on, Old Red sees the perfect opportunity to employ his Holmes-inspired deducifyin' skills. Great fun, and something that happens far too infrequently, an original.

David's Picks

In the last issue I focused on **John Harvey's** newest titles and I enjoyed highlighting an author that has been publishing great books and really deserves to find a wider audience. J.D. liked that approach as well and even offered to buy me beers. Free beer and re-discovering a fine writer! Why not do it again? This time around I am discovering a writer who already has a decent following and seems poised to break out and dominate best seller lists.

CAROL GOODMAN has written [The Lake of Dead Languages](#) (\$10.99), [The Seduction of Water](#) (\$21), [The Drowning Tree](#) (\$21) and the new one, [Ghost Orchid](#) (\$34.95). I've had the pleasure of reading two of these books over the past few weeks.

In [The Seduction of Water](#) **Goodman** blends finely calibrated writing with intriguing mystery and sets the story in and around the Equinox Hotel in the Catskill Mountains. Iris Greenfeder is a struggling author and Ph.D. candidate who is troubled by the mysterious death of her mother. Iris once lived at the Equinox Hotel. Her father ran the inn and Iris's mother was a successful writer, having published two fantasy novels until she disappeared en route to a writing conference when Iris was just a girl. Iris lives an unremarkable life teaching to make ends meet at a local college and at Van Winkle Prison. Numerous unanswered questions surrounding her mother tug at Iris, an intelligent and thoughtful woman who realizes that she will eventually have to unearth the truth. Iris is slowly giving in to her investigative urges when Aidan Barry, a recently paroled inmate from Van Winkle, shows up at her door and the story really kicks into high gear... (*Good choice, David. I liked this one a great deal. It would have been perfect if it had been a little shorter, but that's my usual complaint.—JD*)

[The Drowning Tree](#) is **Goodman's** third. This a multi-layered and complicated story that might have failed in the hands of a lesser writer. The story is narrated by Juno McKay, a likeable and straightforward woman who attends a lecture at her alma mater, Penrose College, to hear an old friend (Christine) lecture on an old stained glass window designed by the college's founder. The stunning glass tells a story and features images that have Christine asking some unusual questions. Juno is concerned for her old

friend and generally perplexed by Christine's behavior and the almost obsessive attitude she has developed toward the stained glass, the college and its founder's dynasty. Juno is all set to dismiss Christine until she is found dead in an apparent boating accident...

The summaries above merely scratch the surface of these stories. **Goodman** weaves several subplots into each novel. Her characters are complex and believable. If you enjoy the solid writing you'd find within the pages of **Peter Robinson** or **Giles Blunt** and you're in the market for an atmospheric, perhaps even gothic story, **Carol Goodman** will not disappoint. In fact, she might just have you up half the night.

Well, that's it for this time. Thank you David for those fine suggestions and we look forward to seeing many of you at **Maureen Jennings'** signing. Enjoy.

Hardcover

ADAM, PAUL ENEMY WITHIN (\$44 hardcover, \$25 trade paperback) (Time Warner, UK) Raided by the police at dawn, and in the full light of the paparazzi, academic Tom Whitehead is hauled away for questioning about the pornography found on his computer at work. And about the fact it was paid for by his credit card. The police acquired his details from the National Criminal Intelligence Service, via the FBI. But why? And how? By the author of the wonderful novel set in Venice titled Sleeper (\$10.99).

ALLEN, CONRAD MURDER ON THE OCEANIC (\$31.95) (St. Martin's) George Porter Dillman and Genevieve Masefield, ship's detectives on the Oceanic, are a little concerned when the ship stops at Cherbourg, France, to pick up J.P. Morgan, who has just finished a buying trip of priceless objects d'art. The ultimate destination is New York.

ALLBEURY, TED

DUE PROCESS aka PAY ANY PRICE (\$39)

HOSTAGE aka NO PLACE TO HIDE (\$39)

NETWORKS aka SPECIAL COLLECTIONS (\$39)

NEVER LOOK BACK aka CHOICE (\$39)

SPECIAL FORCES aka MOSCOW QUADRILLE (\$39)

The respected author of spy thrillers who served as a secret agent during WW2 and the Cold War died in Dec. 2004 and that prompted me to see what was still in print. Lo and behold, five of his books had been retitled and reissued in UK hardcover editions.

APODACA, JENNIFER THRILLED TO DEATH (#5) (\$31.00) (Kensington) Knocking down the wall between Samantha Shaw's dating service, Heart Mates, and her boyfriend Gabe Pulizzi's P.I. office seemed like a good idea. But the real trouble comes when her ornery magician grandfather is accused of hiring a hit man to kill another magician.

ARRUDA, SUZANNE MARK OF THE LION (\$33.00) (New American Library) In 1919, when most young women only dream of adventure, Jade del Cameron lives it. After growing up tough on a New Mexico ranch and driving an ambulance on the front lines in World War I, she can fire a rifle with deadly precision. Fulfilling the dying wish of her beloved David, Jade travels to the East African city of Nairobi, to search for the brother he never knew he had. While there it becomes apparent that David's father had been murdered and Jade must find his killer. A debut novel.

ATHERTON, NANCY AUNT DIMITY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA (#11) (\$32) (Viking) Lori Shepherd and the five-year-old twins flee to the safety of Sir Percy Pelham's home when Lori's husband, high-profile attorney Bill, receives chilling death threats.

But Lori soon finds herself getting supernatural help from Aunt Dimity when she suspects the locals are making a fortune from illegal smuggling operations.

ATKINSON, DEBORAH TURRELL GREEN ROOM (#2) (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Lawyer Storm Kayama is invited to O'ahu's North Shore to watch a surfing event that will give her the opportunity to watch distant cousin, Nahoia Pi'ilani, compete. A child delivers a package to Nahoia which contains a wooden weapon encircled with shark's teeth. Storm recognizes the lei o mano. It's a threat, a call to battle.

BASS, JEFFERSON CARVED IN BONE (\$32.95) (Morrow) A woman's corpse lies undiscovered for thirty years in a cave in the mountains of East Tennessee. Her body has been transformed by the cave's chemistry into a near-perfect mummy, one that discloses an explosive secret to renowned anthropologist Bill Brockton. He has spent his career surrounded by death and decay at the Body Farm, but even he is baffled by this case. Jefferson Bass is the pseudonym of Jon Jefferson and Dr. Bill Bass. Dr. Bass is the real life, world-renowned forensic anthropologist who founded the University of Tennessee's Anthropology Research Facility, the Body Farm, twenty-five years ago.

BEATON, M C DEATH OF A DREAMER (#21) (\$32.95) (Mysterious) With two of his old girlfriends showing up in the village of Lochdubh and his superior calling the death of Effie Garrard a suicide, Hamish Macbeth's intuition tells him trouble is in the air.

BENOIT, CHARLES OUT OF ORDER (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen Press) Following on the heels of the delightfully witty Relative Danger (\$19.95 trade paperback) we are now introduced to Jason Talley of Corning, New York. He leads an orderly life, processing loans, which gets turned upside down when two of his friends die. The police call it murder/suicide. But is it? Jason travels to India to see if he can fulfill a wish for his late friend. The story is not as witty as Relative Danger, which is a touch disappointing, but, on the bright side, this is a great way to "see" India.

BERRY, STEVE TEMPLAR LEGACY (\$32.95) (Ballantine) Cotton Malone, onetime top operative for the US Justice Department, is enjoying his retirement as an antiquarian book dealer in Copenhagen. His former supervisor, Stephanie Nelle, far from home on a mission that is not related to national security, has a series of clues related to a centuries-old puzzle. When she is attacked, Cotton comes to her rescue and becomes involved in the hunt for the lost Templar treasures. See *Marian's Picks*.

BLACK, CARA MURDER IN MONTMARTRE (#6) (\$33.50) (Soho) Aimee Leduc's childhood friend, Laure, is now a police-woman. When her partner sets up a meeting in Montmartre with an informer, she reluctantly accompanies him as backup. He is shot to death on an icy rooftop and Laure, who suffered a concussion, is accused of his murder. She lapses into a coma and is unable to defend herself against the charges. Aimee resolves to clear her friend.

BOAST, PHILIP THIRD PRINCESS (\$37.95) (Severn House) Septimus Severus Quistus solves a brutal murder but if he accuses the murderer, he will condemn 1313 innocent slaves to death. Nero, suspecting Quistus's Christian sympathies, blackmails him into escorting a princess to Britain. A new series.

BORN, JAMES O ESCAPE CLAUSE (#3) (\$36.00) (Putnam) Bill Tasker is sent to investigate the murder of an inmate at Manatee Correctional Facility. His boss thought he was doing Bill a favour by giving him an easy job, but it didn't turn out that way. .Sequel to Walking Money (\$9.99) and Shock Wave (\$10.99).

BOWEN, PETER NAILS (#13) (\$31.95) Gabriel Du Pre is back but I have no stock left at the moment, so I can't tell you what the story is about.

BURKE, RICHARD REDEMPTION (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) Matthew Daniels, a prison governor, is convinced that his wife's abduction is related to his job. Unable to talk to any-

one, he resorts to the only help he can find, Monk, an ex-prisoner who appears to have gone straight since his release, but has underworld contacts Matthew can only guess at. His first book, Frozen (\$10.99), was very well received.

CASEY, DONIS THE OLD BUZZARD HAD IT COMING (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) The body of Harley Day is found frozen in a snowdrift one January day in 1912 in Oklahoma. When Alafair Tucker helps Harley's wife prepare the body, they discover a bullet lodged behind his ear. Harley's son is suspected of the murder but Alafair becomes more concerned when she fears that her daughter, Phoebe, may also be a suspect.

CLARK, CLARE GREAT STINK (\$33.95) (Harcourt) It is 1855, and engineer William May has returned home to London and his wife from the horrors of the Crimean War. When he secures a job transforming the city's sewer system, he believes that in the subterranean world beneath the city, he can lay his ghosts to rest. But when the peace of the tunnels is shattered by a murder and William is implicated, he loses his tenuous hold on his sanity.

CLEEVES, ANN TELLING TALES (\$50.00) (Macmillan) A special order in hardcover but the paperback is due out soon (tentative price \$9.99). As Inspector Vera Stanhope makes fresh inquiries into the murder of a young girl ten years earlier, the villagers are hauled back to a time they would rather forget. Jeanie Long had been charged with the murder but now they realize that the killer is still at large.

CORWIN, C R DIG (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Cranky 68-year-old newspaper librarian Maddy Sprowls finds herself investigating the murder of her old college friend Gordon Sweet. And somehow, Gordon's death might be connected to the bludgeoning of state wrestling champ David Delarosa fifty years earlier. Sequel to Morgue Mama, The Cross Kisses Back (\$19.95). See *Marian's Picks*.

CRAIS, ROBERT TWO MINUTE RULE (\$34.50) (Simon & Schuster) Mixed reviews on this non Elvis Cole novel. We are introduced to Max Hollman, just released from prison for bank robbery. The sad part of the story is that Max's son, a cop, was gunned down the night before his release along with three other cops. When the hit is exposed as a revenge killing and the question of police corruption is raised, Max must find the killer and clear his son's name. Marian said she liked the book, but felt it read like a movie script. Fast and furious.

DAVIES, FRED A BOUND IN SHALLOWS (\$37.50) (Carroll & Graf) The US edition of a book first published in the UK in 2001. Back in 1940s wartime Gloucestershire, a young GI stationed at the village of Tolland disappears, and it is presumed he has deserted. Fifty years later, a skeleton unearthed in a field is found bearing his dog tag. In the search for his killer, a fresh corpse is discovered. Detective Inspector Keith Tyrell investigates.

DAVIES, FRED A FINE AND PRIVATE PLACE (\$36.00) (Carroll & Graf) The US edition of a book first published in the UK in 2003. Detective Inspector Keith Tyrell finds the trail of the murderer leads back to the Forest of Dean. Three more Forest girls are murdered and a mixture of witchcraft, computers and conflicting evidence convinces Tyrell that he must account for two killers.

DICKINSON, DAVID DEATH CALLED TO THE BAR (#5) (\$33.95) (Carroll & Graf) In 1902, Queen's Inn is the youngest and most fashionable of London's Inns of Court. At a feast there, senior barrister Alexander Dauntsey collapses into his soup and dies. He has been poisoned. Soon afterwards, his friend is shot dead. Lord Francis Powerscourt is summoned to resolve the matter of the murdered barristers.

DOHERTY, PAUL CUP OF GHOSTS (#1) (\$38.95) (Headline) See *Marian's Picks* for the saga of this novel. We are expecting the paperback in May.

ELTON, BEN FIRST CASUALTY (\$45.95) (Bantam, UK) Flan-

ders 1917. A British officer and celebrated poet is shot dead, killed not by German fire but while recuperating from shell shock well behind the lines. A young English soldier is arrested and charged with his murder. Douglas Kingsley, a conscientious objector imprisoned for his beliefs, previously a detective with the London police is released and sent to France in order to secure a conviction. But Kingsley discovers that the evidence and the witnesses he needs are quite literally disappearing into the mud that surrounds him.

ERIKSSON, KJELL PRINCESS OF BURUNDI (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Winner of the Swedish Crime Academy Award for Best Crime Novel. Translated from Swedish. Despite being on maternity leave, Inspector Ann Lindell is determined to find the killer of John Johnson, a respectable family man who was a local expert on tropical fish.

FAIRSTEIN, LINDA DEATH DANCE (\$36.00) (Scribner) Assistant DA Alex Cooper, along with NYPD's Mike Chapman and Mercer Wallace, investigate the disappearance of a world famous dancer, who suddenly vanished backstage at Lincoln Center's Metropolitan Opera House, during a performance.

FERRIGNO, ROBERT PRAYERS FOR THE ASSASSIN (\$34.50) (Scribner) Set in 2040 when simultaneous nuclear attacks destroy New York, Washington, D.C., and Mecca. The attacks are blamed on Israel and a civil war breaks out in the USA. An uneasy truce leaves the nation divided between an Islamic republic with its capital in Seattle, and the Christian Bible Belt in the old South.

FIELDING, JOY MAD RIVER ROAD (\$34.95) (Doubleday, Canada) After spending a year in prison, Ralph Fisher has explicit plans for his ex-wife, the woman he blames for his fate and against whom he has sworn vengeance.

FLETCHER, RICHARD CROSS AND THE CRESCENT (\$39.99) A special order only.

FLUKE, JOANNE CHERRY CHEESECAKE MURDER (\$31.00) (Kensington) A movie company rents Main Street for a movie shoot and The Cookie Jar becomes snack central. When the director demonstrates a suicide scene with a prop gun, it turns out the prop was real. Hannah investigates. "Lots of fun and some great cookie recipes (as well as a wonderful mini cherry cheesecake recipe)", says Marian.

FORBES, COLIN MAIN CHANCE (\$54.00) This is an expensive British import we got in as a special order for a customer. Due to its price this will be a special order only.

FREY, STEPHEN PROTEGE (\$34.95) Sorry, we sold out of this one so we can't tell you what the blurb says.

GABBAY, TOM BERLIN CONSPIRACY (\$32.95) (Morrow) Jack Teller left the CIA after the Bay of Pigs fiasco, hoping to lead a quiet life in south Florida. Just days before John F. Kennedy is scheduled to give a speech at the Berlin Wall, a mysterious message is sent to the Berlin station of the CIA from a Colonel in the East German Stasi. He claims to have important information, but will disclose it only to Jack.

GAIMAN, NEIL ANANSI BOYS (\$36.95) Special order only.

GANNASCOLI, JOSEPH MEAL TO DIE FOR (\$29.95) (Forge) The story of the food fence and the descriptions of the food was great, says Marian, but she felt the rest of the storyline was weak. Food fence Benny Lacoco is also a gourmet chef and he has been summoned to cook a special meal for some of his associates on the occasion of 'the big man being sent up the river'. This gives Benny the chance to prepare the meal of his life, but word has it that someone in their midst is a rat, and that this will be his last meal.

GARCIA-ROZA, LUIZ ALFREDO PURSUIT (#5) (\$31.95) (Henry Holt) When his daughter disappears and his patient emerges as the prime suspect, a troubled psychiatrist comes to Inspector Espinosa for help.

GARDNER, LISA GONE (\$35.00) (Bantam) For ex-FBI profiler Pierce Quincy, it's the beginning of a nightmare: a car abandoned

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

GEAGLEY, BRAD DAY OF THE FALSE KING (#2) (\$33.00) (Simon & Schuster) Semerket, Egypt's Clerk of Investigations and Secrets, is plunged into another adventure as he tries to serve his Pharaoh and to find the woman he loves who has been banished to Babylon as an indentured servant. The first in the series is Year of the Hyenas (\$33.50, no listing for a paperback at the moment).

Wendy enjoyed them both.

GEORGE, ELIZABETH WITH NO ONE AS WITNESS (\$37.95) This is a special order of the LARGE PRINT edition.

GOODMAN, CAROL GHOST ORCHID (\$34.95) (Ballantine) Ellis Brooks, a first time novelist, has come to the Bosco Estate as an artist-in-residence to write a book based on its founder, Aurora Latham, and the infamous summer of 1893, when wealthy, powerful Milo Latham brought the notorious medium Corinth Blackwell to the estate to help his wife contact three of the couple's children, lost the winter before in a diphtheria epidemic. But when the séance turned deadly, Corinth and her alleged accomplice, Tom Quinn, disappeared, taking with them the Lathams' only surviving child.

GRAN, SARA DOPE (\$31) (Putnam) While the rest of America is driving shiny new cars to the suburbs and reaping the rewards of the G.I. Bill, in Hell's Kitchen it's business as usual for Josephine Flannigan. Joe is still stealing jewelry from Tiffany's and living in a furnished room rented by the week. But things look up when she is offered \$1,000 by a nice suburban couple to locate their daughter who has disappeared into the seedy underbelly of New York.

GREENWOOD, KERRY URN BURIAL (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen Press) Originally published in 1996, Phryne Fisher is holidaying at Cave House, a Gothic mansion in the heart of Australia's Victorian mountain country. When the parlour maid is strangled, Phryne investigates.

GRIMES, MARTHA OLD WINE SHADES (#20) (Viking) (\$36) Over three successive nights at the Old Wine Shades, Harry Johnson tells Richard Jury the story of his good friend whose wife, son, and dog disappeared. And then the dog came back.

GRIPPANDO, JAMES GOT THE LOOK (#5) (\$32.95) The latest Jack Swyteck in the series.

HARRIS, JOANNE GENTLEMEN AND PLAYERS (\$32.95) (Morrow) For generations, privileged young men have attended St. Oswald's Grammar School for Boys, groomed for success by the likes of Roy Straitley, the eccentric Classics teacher who has been a fixture there for more than thirty years. As the new term gets underway, a number of incidents befall students and faculty alike, and with St. Oswald unraveling, only Roy stands in the way of its ruin.

HAWKE, RICHARD SPEAK OF THE DEVIL (#1) (\$29.95) (Random House) The author photograph on this book looks suspiciously like that on the books of Tim Cockey who writes the Hitchcock Sewell, Baltimore undertaker, series. As Fritz Malone is watching the Thanksgiving parade in New York City, a gunman starts firing into the crowd and then flees through the park with Fritz in pursuit. Delivered to the office of the current commissioner Fritz is talked into being the outside man hired to track down the killer. Rather uneven.

HOCKENSMITH, STEVE HOLMES ON THE RANGE (\$29.95) (St. Martin's) Montana, 1893, and Big Red and Old Red are hired on as ranch hands at the secretive Bar VR cattle ranch. Not a Sherlockian pastiche, rather Holmes-inspired deducifyin'.

Excellent. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

HURLEY, GRAHAM FARADAY BLOOD AND HONEY (#6) (\$34.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) The discovery of a headless body in the sea beneath cliffs on the Isle of Wight leads DI Joe Faraday and DC Winter on a terrifying chase. There are five earlier novels featuring Joe Faraday, all excellent.

JAMES, P D LIGHTHOUSE (\$39.95) A LARGE PRINT edition. Special order only.

JOHANSEN, IRIS ON THE RUN (#1) (\$37.00) (Bantam) A woman with a highly classified past, Grace has never run from anything. But as a mother, she'd do anything to keep her eight-year-old daughter safe. Eight years ago she fled to a remote part of Alabama but that safe world has now been shattered. He's found them.

KADARE, ISMAIL THE SUCCESSOR (\$29.95) (Doubleday, Canada) A fictional inquiry into the still unexplained death of Mehmet Shehu, the man who for decades was the designated Number Two political figure in the Communist dictator Enver Hoxha's ironfisted and increasingly paranoid regime. Winner of the Man Booker International Prize 2005.

KAMINSKY, STUART TERROR TOWN (#9) (\$31.95) The latest Lieberman.

KELBY, N M WHALE SEASON (\$33.00) (Shaye Areheart) One Christmas Eve, Whale Harbor is visited by a man who thinks he's Jesus and claims to be looking for a game of poker. You take your miracles where you can get them. Great fun, in a Hiaasenesque manner. Could have easily been a *J.D.'s Pick*.

KHOURY, RAYMOUND LAST TEMPLAR (\$35.00) (Dutton) During the opening of a Treasures of the Vatican exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in New York City, four masked horsemen ride up the steps into the museum and proceed to ransack and steal the valuable artifacts. But why is a strange geared device also stolen? Archeologist Tess Chaykin, along with FBI anti terrorist specialist Sean Reilly, join forces and delve into the dark and hidden history of the Knights Templar. See *Marian's Picks*.

KILMER, NICHOLAS MADONNA OF THE APES (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Art collector Clayton Reed appears to have purchased a painting by one of the most important artists of the Italian Renaissance. Is it a forgery? Fred Taylor helps.

KING, STEPHEN CELL (\$34.95) Special order only.

KORYTA, MICHAEL SORROW'S ANTHEM (#2) (\$30.95) (Thomas Dunne) PI Lincoln Perry meets with Ed Gradduk, an old friend that he hadn't seen in years. But Gradduk is killed in a violent police confrontation and Perry can't walk away from it until he finds out what brought his friend down. The first in the series, Tonight I said Goodbye (\$9.99), won Best First PI Novel from the Private Eye Writers of America. Both are excellent. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

KRENTZ, JAYNE ANN ALL NIGHT LONG (\$35.00) Special order only.

KRISTEVA, JULIA MURDER IN BYZANTIUM (\$45.00) (Columbia) The story moves from 11th-century Europe, wracked by the turbulence of the First Crusade, to the sun-dappled, cultural wasteland of present day Santa Varvara, threatened by religious cults, gangs, and a serial killer on the loose. Translated from French.

LAMBDIN, DEWEY WHAT LIES BURIED (\$30.95) (McBooks) In pre-Revolutionary Wilmington, North Carolina, respected political leader Harry Tresmayne has been found murdered beside a lonely road on Cape Fear. His friend, Matthew Livesey investigates.

LESCROART, JOHN T HUNT CLUB (#1) (\$38.00) (Dutton) A federal judge is murdered, found shot to death in his home, together with the body of his mistress. San Francisco homicide detective Devin Juhle's investigation reveals that the judge had many enemies. Juhle's friend, PI Wyatt Hunt, has become smitten with lawyer Andrea Parisi who also had a connection to the judge.

LINDBERG, JUDITH THRALL'S TALE (\$36.00) (Viking)

This is the story of Katla, a "thrall" or slave, the daughter of an Irish Christian captured in a Viking raid; her daughter, Bibrau, born of a brutal rape; and Thorbjorg, a seeress and healer, faithful servant to her Norse patron god, Odin. A debut novel set in Greenland, the jacket blurb says it took the author ten years of research before she wrote the book.

MCCREA, GRANT DEAD MONEY (\$29.95) (Random House, Canada) Introducing Rick Redman, lawyer, drinker, rookie investigator, father, and poker hound. When his infuriating boss puts him on the Fitzgibbon case, Rick suspects he's being set up to lose.

MCKINTY, ADRIAN DEAD YARD (\$34.50) (Scribner) Mercenary bad guy Michael Forsythe makes a deal with a British intelligence agent. If he will infiltrate an IRA sleeper cell in the USA, she will keep him out of both a Mexican and a Spanish jail.

MCMANUS, PATRICK F THE BLIGHT WAY (\$33.00) (Simon & Schuster) Bo Tully, sheriff of Blight County, Idaho, has lost twenty pounds on the Atkins diet and has been thinking about asking out Jan Whittle, his grade-school sweetheart. But the discovery of a dead body puts that thought on hold.

MCNAB, ANDY AGGRESSOR (\$45.95) A special order only.

MARTINEZ, MICHELE FINISHING SCHOOL (#2) (\$32.50) (Morrow) Teamed with Dan O'Reilly, a hard-to-resist FBI agent, federal prosecutor Melanie Vargas goes undercover to find the killer of two teenagers. The first in the series is Most Wanted (\$9.99).

MILLS, WENDY HOWELL ISLAND INTRIGUE (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Teacher Sabrina Dunsweeney was expecting a quiet vacation on tiny, isolated Comico Island to recover from a cancer scare and the death of her mom. Instead she ends up seeing a ghost and getting in the middle of an island feud. A new series.

MRAZEK, ROBERT J DEADLY EMBRACE (\$35.00) (Viking) Trained as a forensic pathologist, Lieutenant Elizabeth Marantz joins the security command of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Command. She is assigned to the staff of Major Sam Taggart, a troubled former NYC homicide detective, whose mission is to prevent the plans for the D-Day invasion of Europe from being compromised by German agents. See *Wendy's Picks*.

MURRAY, WILLIAM DEAD HEAT (\$31.95) (Eclipse) Jill Aspen finds a job with horse trainer Jake Fontana and an ally in Sal "Bones" Righetti, ex-mob enforcer, jockeys' agent and wily horseplayer. Published posthumously.

MYERS, TAMAR GRAPE EXPECTATIONS (#14) (\$28.00) (New American Library) Alcohol is a no-no in the Mennonite community of Hernia, Pennsylvania, but a couple of outsiders have bought an old farm at the edge of town where they plan to grow grapes and open a winery. When one of the vineyard owners is found entombed in cement, Magdalena Yoder helps investigate.

NADEL, BARBARA DANCE WITH DEATH (#8) (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) When the body of a young woman is discovered in a cave in the remote rural region of Cappadocia, Inspector Ikmen is summoned from Istanbul to investigate. Her corpse has lain undisturbed for twenty years and Ikmen fears that she may be the same woman who once captured his heart.

PAIGE, ROBIN DEATH ON THE LIZARD (#12) (\$35.00) (Berkley) Lizard Village 1903, and Guglielmo Marconi sends his first wireless signal across the Atlantic from his station on the Lizard. After two apparently accidental deaths at the Marconi transmission station, Lord Sheridan is asked to head an investigation.

PARKER, ROBERT B SEA CHANGE (#5) (\$36.00) (Putnam) A woman's partially decomposed body washes ashore in Paradise, Massachusetts, and police chief Jesse Stone has a devil of a time identifying the woman and finding the killer.

PATTERSON, JAMES 5TH HORSEMAN (#5) (\$37.95) (Little, Brown) The Women's Murder Club faces their latest case as people are dying in a San Francisco hospital for no apparent reason.

PAWEL, REBECCA SUMMER SNOW (#4) (\$33.50) (Soho) Influence is exerted to have Carlos Tejada Alonso y Leon transferred back to Granada, Spain, when it is suspected his Aunt Rosalia has been murdered and his father is the prime suspect. Set in 1945. The other three in the series are Death of a Nationalist (\$17.95), Law of Return (\$17.95), and The Watcher in the Pine (\$17.50). An excellent series.

PHELAN, TWIST SPURRED AMBITION (#2) (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) Business attorney Hannah Dain heads to the cliffs of Pinnacle Peak, Arizona, to do some climbing and winds up in the middle of an anti-Indian protest. Then she meets Tony Soto, who saves her from a climbing mishap, and a near-fatal attraction jeopardizes her relationship with her boyfriend Cooper Smith.

PRONZINI, BILL MOURNERS (#31) (\$33.95) (Forge) Nameless is back and spending time watching James Troxell attending funerals of women who have recently died violent deaths. Why? **PURSER, ANN** FEAR ON FRIDAY (#5) (\$38.95) The latest in the series featuring house cleaner Lois Meade.

ROBB, J D MEMORY IN DEATH (\$35.00)

ROBINSON, EDEN BLOOD SPORTS (\$32.99)

ROWLANDS, BETTY PARTY TO MURDER (\$38.95) (Severn House) Sir Digby Kirtling has renovated a crumbling manor house in Gloucestershire and he has commissioned some special artwork to celebrate. At the party thrown to unveil the artwork, his estate manager, Una May, is found dead in the grounds and a post mortem determines she was pregnant with his baby. Sukey Reynolds, Crime Scene Investigator, investigates.

ROYAL, PRISCILLA SORROW WITHOUT END (#3) (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) In the autumn of 1271, Crown Ralf finds the body of a murdered soldier near Tyndal Priory. The dagger in his chest is engraved with a strange design and the body is wrapped in a crusader's cloak. Was this the act of the Assassin sect or was the dagger meant to mislead him in finding the killer?

RUDOLPH, PENNY THICKER THAN BLOOD (\$34.95) (Poisoned Pen) All Rachel Chavez wants to do is stay sober and keep her recently inherited parking lot in downtown Los Angeles solvent. When an executive from the nearby water agency is killed by a hit-and-run driver, Rachel sees the car that killed him in her garage. A few days later, her stand-in employee is killed. Rachel unknowingly becomes tangled in the conniving cross-purposes of California water politics.

SATTERTHWAIT, WALTER PERFECTION (\$33.95) In a small Florida town, a most baffling killer insists his victims meet very specific criteria; he's targeting women of size. Police detectives Sophia Tregaskis and Jim Fallon investigate. Excellent, in a dark and violent way. Could have easily been a *J.D. & Pick*.

SHIMADA, SOJI TOKYO ZODIAC MURDERS (\$33.50) (IBC) Translated from Japanese. P.I. and astrologer Kiyoshi Mitarai must solve a bizarre mystery that has baffled the Japanese nation for more than 40 years. Who murdered the Tokyo artist Heikichi Umezawa, raped and killed his eldest daughter, and then chopped up the bodies of six of his daughters and nieces to create Azoth, the supreme woman? The book is both a novel and a dossier so that you can try to solve the murders as well. You are given all the clues that the police gave to the public in an attempt to solve the crime.

TODD, CHARLES LONG SHADOW (#8) (\$32.50) (Morrow) New Year's Eve, 1919. Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge has accompanied his sister to the home of mutual friends for dinner but is called away by work. On the steps outside, he finds a brass cartridge casing identical to the countless others he'd seen during the war. Then he finds another. Is someone hunting him? Excellent.

TODD, MARILYN SOUR GRAPES (#12) (\$38.95) (Severn House) Visiting her stepmother on the family estate in Tuscany, Claudia is concerned by the gaggle of hangers-on surrounding the old lady. And when a series of local murders befall a number of

people, Claudia investigates.

WHITE, JENNY SULTAN'S SEAL (\$35.00) (Norton) 1800s Turkey. Kamil Pasha, a magistrate in the new secular courts, sets out to find the killer of an English governess for the royal harem.

WILCOX, JOHN DIAMOND FRONTIER (#3) (\$37.95)

WILSON, LAURA A THOUSAND LIES (\$37.95) (Orion) In 1987, 36-year-old Sheila Shand was given a suspended sentence for killing her father. Years later, journalist Amy Vaughan discovers a newspaper clipping about the Shand case while clearing out her dead mother's flat. Concluding that they are related, she decides to visit Sheila's mother Iris, who is in a care home. When she begins to investigate the Shand case, she realizes that there is more to the murder than the police ever unearthed.

WOODS, PAULA STRANGE BEDFELLOWS (#4) (\$33.95)

(Ballantine) The shooter gunned down a prominent Republican businessman, his wife, and two Muslim business associates outside an elegant Los Angeles restaurant. The case turns hot for LAPD homicide detective Charlotte Justice when her initial suspect suddenly surfaces as the cause of a freak auto accident.

WRIGHT, EDWARD RED SKY LAMENT (\$37.95 hardcover, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Orion) It's Los Angeles in the late 1940s and all over Hollywood the US government is ordering people to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee as part of the crusade to uncover Communist influence in the movies. John Ray Horn has little use for politics but his ex-lover, Maggie O'Dare, has asked him to help an old friend of hers who has been targeted by the committee. The earlier ones in the series are Clea's Moon (\$9.99) and The Silver Face (US title is While I Disappear) (\$10.99). See *Wendy's Picks*.

Paperbacks

ALEXANDER, BRUCE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (#11) (\$9.99) The author, whose real name was Bruce Cook, died in 2003 and this novel was completed by his widow and **John Shannon**. Published posthumously. Sir John Fielding and Jeremy are confronted with a series of bizarre deaths in Georgian London. If you have not read any of the novels in this excellent series, then start with Blind Justice (\$9.99), the debut.

ANDREWS, DONNA OWLS WELL THAT ENDS WELL (\$9.99) Meg Langslow thought having a giant yard sale to get rid of all the junk in the old Victorian house she and her boyfriend Michael bought would be a good idea. Little did they know what would happen. You can probably guess! A very funny series.

ATHERTON, NANCY AUNT DIMITY AND THE NEXT OF KIN (#10) (\$10.99) Lori Shepherd becomes a volunteer at the Radcliffe Infirmary where she befriends Miss Beacham. When the woman dies and Lori receives a letter from Miss B. written shortly before her death, she realizes that there was more to the gentle invalid. Guided by Aunt Dimity's supernatural skills, Lori investigates.

ATKINSON, DEBORAH TURRELL PRIMITIVE SECRETS (#1) (\$19.95) Lawyer Storm Kayama is shocked to find her Uncle Miles dead at his desk. When she herself is attacked a couple of times she suspects that the murderer believes she knows something that they have already killed once for.

AUBERT, BRIGITTE DEATH FROM THE WOODS (\$9.99) This novel was named France's Best Thriller of the Year. Elise Andrioli, the main character, is blind, mute, and a quadriplegic. Left briefly alone in her wheelchair in a park, Elise, who can still hear, becomes the helpless confidante to Virginie, a troubled child who whispers to Elise fragmented information about a still-at-large serial killer of young boys.

AUBERT, ROSEMARY RED MASS (#5) (\$10.99) The final

installment in the series featuring Judge Ellis Portal. Once homeless, now readmitted to the practice of law, he watches in horror as his former law classmate and enemy, Supreme Court Justice John Stoughton-Melville, is led off in handcuffs, charged with murder. Portal is tricked into defending him. An excellent series.

BAANTJER, ALBERT CORNELIS DEKOK AND THE DEATH OF A CLOWN (\$19.95) Without the slightest trace, an antique collection disappears from a house along Gentleman's Canal in Amsterdam. Detective DeKok feels compelled to help the victim of the theft; unknowingly signing up for a homicide case as well. Mr. Baantjer is a former detective in the Amsterdam police, spending thirty-eight years in law enforcement.

BABSON, MARIAN PLEASE DO FEED THE CAT (\$9.50) Published in the UK as Retreat From Murder. Author Lorinda Lucas returns from a book tour of the USA to find that Roscoe, the cat who lives upstairs, and Roscoe's mommy, the thriller writer Macho Magee, have been put on diets by Cressie Adair, a romance writer who has decided to move in with them. Amongst this colony of crime writers, Cressie excluded, a murder is committed. If you are wondering where to start with the ever delightful Ms. Babson, don't worry about it, choose any one. One of Marian's favourites is Murder at the Cat Show (\$9.99).

BANKS, L A DAMNED (#5) (\$19.95) A Vampire Huntress Legend. Lilith has released the Damned to walk the streets as the living dead. One touch from these deadly creatures infects a human, driving him to madness and even worse. Damali Richards and her team must find Lilith and behead her.

BARNARD, ROBERT BONES IN THE ATTIC (\$19.95) Moving into an upmarket new home in Leeds, rising radio star Matt Harper is shocked to find the skeleton of a small child in the attic. His discovery takes him back to 1969 when he lived with his aunt a few streets away, reawakening dim, disturbing memories from his childhood. While Detective Charlie Peace heads up the nominal police investigation into the bones, Matt's unease leads him to revisit the past in an attempt to solve the mystery. This is the US trade paperback edition, now that the UK mass market seems to have gone out of print.

BARNARD, ROBERT MURDER IN MAYFAIR (\$19.95) The high point in Colin Pinnock's career, a stunning victory, a new government, and junior office for him, is tarnished when he receives a card asking 'Who do you think you are?'. Who are his real parents? As Colin investigates this question, he is led back in time to an old political scandal: a murder case which ended with a politician's downfall and disappearance. First published in the UK as Touched by the Dead.

BARR, NEVADA HARD TRUTH (#13) (\$10.99) Three days after her wedding to Sheriff Paul Davidson, Anna Pigeon moves to Colorado to take up her new post as district ranger at Rocky Mountain National Park where three girls have recently disappeared. Two of the children are found a month later and Anna investigates. What she fears is that some evil religious sect is loose in the park.

BEATON, M.C. QUICHE OF DEATH (\$9.99) Just in case you never got to read the first Agatha Raisin story, here it is. Originally published in 1992.

BEBRIS, CARRIE SUSPENSE AND SENSIBILITY (\$9.99) Elizabeth Darcy and her husband Fitzwilliam have taken on the responsibility of finding a suitable husband for Elizabeth's younger sister Kitty. A match is found and wedding plans are underway when a change in personality occurs in the groom-to-be, jeopardizing not just the Darcys' social standing, but their lives.

BEDFORD-JONES, H TWO MR SHENS OF SHENSI (\$17.50)

BENOIT, CHARLES RELATIVE DANGER (\$19.95 trade paperback) Simply, a wonderful read, enjoyed by both Marian and J.D. which does not happen often. This really is, as the blurb on the cover reads, a "rollicking adventure". Douglas Pearce, a young

brewery worker from Pottstown, PA., is on a quest to find his long-dead uncle. The action takes him from Toronto to Casablanca, from Cairo to Singapore. All of it good fun. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

BERNHARDT, WILLIAM DARK EYE (\$9.99) Eight months after her cop husband's death, Susan Pulaski's life is spiraling out of control. When a violent incident earns her a pink slip from the Las Vegas Police Department and a trip to detox, she is determined to get her job back. Unfortunately, the serial killer stalking the city has her in his sights. By the author of the Ben Kinkaid novels.

BERNHARDT, WILLIAM PRIMARY JUSTICE (#1) and BLIND JUSTICE (#2) (\$6.99ea.) The first two Ben Kinkaid novels, now reissued at a price which will entice you to start the series and get hooked.

BERRY, STEVE THIRD SECRET (\$10.99) In 1917 The Virgin Mary appeared to three children in Fatima, Portugal, and shared three secrets with them. Two of the secrets were soon revealed and the third was disclosed in the year 2000. When revealed, its puzzling tone and anticlimactic nature left many of the faithful wondering if the Church has truly revealed all of the Virgin Mary's words. Papal secretary Father Colin Michener is concerned for the Pope who is distressed over the revelations in Fatima. When AZZ (Paddington) the Pope sends Michener to the Romanian highlands in search of a venerable priest, possibly one of the last people on Earth who knows Mary's true message, a perilous set of events unfold. His two earlier novels are: are The Amber Room and The Romanov Prophecy (\$10.99 each).

BIGGINS, JOHN SAILOR OF AUSTRIA (#1) (\$21.95) For Lieutenant Otto Prohaska of the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Navy, life is challenging in the waning days of the Habsburg Empire. Originally published in 1991.

BLACK, CARA MURDER IN CLICHY (#5) (\$17.50) Number five featuring Parisian private eye Aimee Leduc.

BLACK, J CARSON cardinal DARK SIDE OF THE MOON (#2) (\$10.99) When two newlyweds are found murdered at an Arizona campground, Det. Laura Cardinal discovers one victim's ties to an underground organization. She is plunged into a high-stakes conspiracy played out against the unforgiving backdrop of the Mojave Desert. Sequel to Darkness on the Edge of Town (\$9.99).

BLAINE, MICHAEL MIDNIGHT BAND OF MERCY (\$19.95) New York City, 1893. A line of ritually murdered cats laid out in front of a Waverly Place brothel leads newspaperman Max Greengrass to discover a dark conspiracy amongst the city's elite to commit serial murder and eliminate undesirables. Based on actual events. Michael Connelly says: "A hell of a yarn that moves with the velocity of newspaperman on a hot story".

BLAIR, MICHAEL OVEREXPOSED (#2) (\$11.99) Just when Vancouver commercial photographer Tom McCall thought he'd got his life back on track, a complete stranger shows up dead on the roof of his floating home. Sequel to If Looks Could Kill (\$11.99).

BLOCK, LAWRENCE ALL THE FLOWERS ARE DYING (\$10.99) Scudder has agreed to investigate the ostensibly suspicious online lover of an acquaintance. It seems simple enough at first, but when people start dying it is clear a vicious killer is at work. Number sixteen in the series.

BORN, JAMES O SHOCK WAVE (#2) (\$10.99) Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent Bill Tasker reluctantly teams up with the FBI on a case involving a stolen Stinger missile. Walking Money (\$9.99) is the first one.

BRANCH, PAMELA LION IN THE CELLAR (\$19.95) (Rue Morgue) Other than her Uncle George, Sukie was the only member of the notorious Heap family still at large. So when Mr. Bentley turned up dead with a bloody axe at his side, Sukie's husband figured she was at last taking up the family trade and proceeded to cover up the crime.

BROWN, RITA MAE CAT'S WITNESS (\$9.99) Every time

Marian goes to annotate this book, the program crashes. This is the third try. Mrs. Murphy and the gang help solve the crime. Short and sweet, in case it crashes again.

BRUEN, KEN MAGDALEN MARTYRS (\$17.95) This third Jack Taylor novel has him investigating the Magdalen laundry, a notoriously harsh home for wayward girls. The first two in the series are The Guards and The Killing of the Tinkers (\$17.95 ea).

BURKE, JAMES LEE LOST GET BACK BOOGIE (\$12.99) A new edition of his Pulitzer-nominated novel. Written before he started the Robicheaux series.

BURKE, RICHARD REDEMPTION (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

BURNS, JOHN SPIKE (#4) (\$18) Chief Crime Correspondent Max Chard is told by his editor to keep watch on the house of Zenia Evans, the mistress of a whiter-than-white Labour MP. But when she disappears and his editor is reluctant to run his scoop, Max realizes he has a far bigger story than an adulterous MP on his hands. A delightfully fun series. Finally available in paperback even though it is 'an expensive British import.'

CAINE, LESLIE MANOR OF DEATH (#3) (\$9.99) Erin Gilbert is paid to bring spaces to new life, and her latest job is in a Victorian manor. But things get out of control. It starts with her sighting of a ghost and leads to the discovery of a decades-old secret, a hidden dead space in the attic, and the shocking death of a beautiful young woman. The first two in the series are Death by Inferior Design and False Premises (\$10.99 each).

CAINE, RACHEL DEVIL'S DUE (\$6.99) The money Lucia Garza and Jazz Callender received to open their detective agency had come with strings attached: any assignment delivered via red envelope had to be given top priority. The first in the series is Devil's Bargain (\$6.99, but might be out of print).

CAINE, RACHEL weather WINDFALL (#4) (\$10.99) Highly impossible but Marian loves them. This is the fourth in the Weather Warden series. Some wardens control the earth, some the weather, some have a Djinn in their power, some do not. This is the continuing story of Joanne Baldwin, whose powers right now are at an all time low. She gets caught up in the middle of a supernatural civil war. Marian says she would put them as her picks, but she's afraid everyone would laugh at her choice. The first three in the series are: Ill Wind, Heat Stroke and Chill Factor (\$9.99 each).

CAMERON, LINDY kit BLOOD GUILT (#1) (\$19.95) If it wasn't for secrets and lies, private eye Kit O'Malley would be out of a job. But when she tangles with the wealthy Robinson family, she discovers just how far people will go to keep their skeletons in the closet. Originally published in Australia in 1999.

CASPARY, VERA BEDELIA (\$19.99) Bedelia is the picture perfect spouse who lives to please her wealthy, if insecure, new husband. But a detective unsettles the town, looking for "a kitten with claws", who has left a trail of dead husbands behind her. Originally published in 1945.

CHRISTIE, AGATHA POIROT DEATH ON THE NILE (\$8.99)

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS NO PLACE LIKE HOME (\$12.99) At the age of ten Liza Barton had shot her mother, desperately trying to protect her from her estranged step-father. The Juvenile Court had ruled the death an accident but many in town did not agree.

Over twenty years later she moves back to her home town with her son and husband. Even though she has changed her name it seems someone in town knows her true identity.

CODY, LIZA DUPE (#1) (\$19.95) The first Anna Lee investigation, finally back in print.

CONNELLY, MICHAEL BOSCH CLOSERS (#10) (\$10.99)

Harry Bosch is back with the LAPD with the sole mission of closing unsolved cases. "What a fabulous book" says Marian. One of *Marian's Picks* a year or so ago.

CONNOLLY, JOHN PARKER BLACK ANGEL (#5) (\$10.99) As

Charlie Parker tries to find a young prostitute, he discovers that her disappearance is linked to a church of bones in Eastern Europe, to the slaughter at a French monastery in 1944, and to the myth of an object known as the Black Angel. "Sensational" says Wendy.

CORK, VENA THORN (#1) (\$10.99) Rosa Thorn, her life changed by a tragedy, has taken the post of drama teacher at the local school her children attend but strange things are going on. The headmaster is insinuating himself into their lives, her daughter is the subject of someone's demented infatuation, and the caretaker is a little sinister. "...a brilliant, menacing, psychological thriller that takes you to the edge of darkness" per the blurb. A debut novel.

CRAIS, ROBERT elvis cole FORGOTTEN MAN (#10) (\$10.99) "His best" says Wendy. "Fabulous" says Marian. Elvis Cole is not sure if the dead man was his long gone dad.

CUTLER, JUDITH DRAWING THE LINE (\$10.95) Lina Townend, orphaned at a young age, has finally found some measure of happiness but still longs to learn about her past. One day at an antiques fair, she comes across a frontispiece from an extremely rare book and that triggers a memory; she must find the rest of the book and perhaps get some answers. Others are also looking for the book and it soon becomes clear that she is involved in something a lot more dangerous than some family research.

DANIELS, CLAIRE FINAL INTUITION (#4) (\$9.99) AKA Jacqueline Girdner. Attorney and clairvoyant energy worker, Cally Lazar has a heck of a Thanksgiving when her Aunt Daphne keels over after the turkey dinner. According to Daphne's devoted teen-aged caretaker, someone has been trying to poison her. The first three in the series are: Body of Intuition, Strangled Intuition, (seems like the first two are out of print) and Cruel and Unusual Intuition (\$9.99).

DIBDIN, MICHAEL AND THEN YOU DIE (\$19.95) See, Zen did not die in Blood Rain (\$18.95). How he escaped is something you'll have to find out for yourself.

DONNELLY, DEBORAH YOU MAY NOW KILL THE BRIDE (#5) (\$7.99) On picturesque San Juan Island, wedding planner Carnegie Kincaid has come to oversee her best friend's wedding. But when her mother announces her engagement to a local millionaire, Carnegie inherits more than two hostile about-to-be stepsisters and a new father she doesn't quite trust.

DONOHUE, JOHN burke DESHI (#2) (\$10.99) Asian scholar and martial artist Connor Burke is drawn into a murder investigation when the police discover a link between the victim and the mysterious Kita Takanobu, a prominent martial arts sensei. The first in the series is Sensei (\$9.99).

DOODY, MARGARET MYSTERIES OF ELEUSIS (\$11.99) In the winter of 330-329 BC, Athens suffers a series of alarming thefts and home robberies. The great philosopher Aristotle helps his former student Stephanos investigate a break-in and brutal murder at the house of one of his neighbours.

[DOYLE]FULLENKAMP, LUKE SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE GHOST OF THE FLYING DUTCHMAN (\$30) The fate of the world rests on the shoulders of our intrepid duo as they try to determine why good and innocent people are dying in the Irish Sea. Volume 2 of his Sherlockian trilogy, sequel to The Adventure of the Three Dragons (\$25) and prequel to The Search for Excalibur (\$29).

[DOYLE]HARRINGTON, HUGH RE: SHERLOCK (\$15) A Collection of Observations and Commentaries by this eminent, albeit elusive, Sherlockian. (80pp.)

[DOYLE]VARIOUS SHERLOCK HOLMES THE HIDDEN YEARS (\$19.95) What happened to Sherlock Holmes between 1891 and 1894? A collection of original possibilities. Edited by Michael Kurland.

[DOYLE]TREMAYNE, PETER ENSUING EVIL AND OTHER STORIES (\$19.95) A collection of fourteen historical stories, five of which are Sherlockian.

[DOYLE]VARIOUS GHOSTS IN BAKER STREET (\$22.95) The third collection of "New Tales of Sherlock Holmes" edited by Greenberg, Lellenberg and Stashower. This time our heroes tackle situations with supernatural twists. The other two collections of new tales were Murder, My Dear Watson and Murder in Baker Street (\$22.95 ea).

DU BRUL, JACK B CHARON'S LANDING (\$10.99) The president of the USA has decided to free America from its dependence on foreign oil by using Alaska's oil deposits and developing alternative energy sources. When secret plans are stolen by the bad guys, geologist-adventurer Philip Mercer races to stop an act of terror that could bring the US to its knees.

DUMAS, ALEXANDRE KNIGHT OF MAISON ROUGE (\$21)

EDWARDS, MARTIN COFFIN TRAIL (#1) (\$19.95) Oxford historian Daniel Kind and his partner, Miranda, buy a cottage in Brackdale, an idyllic village in the Lake District. When the police launch a cold case review of the death of a woman whose body was found on the Sacrifice Stone, an ancient pagan site up on the fell, he, along with DCI Hannah Scarlett get involved.

EICHLER, SELMA MURDER CAN RUN YOUR STOCKINGS (#13) (\$9.99) Flying home from a friend's wedding, Desiree Shapiro is seated beside an attorney travelling to New York for the funeral of his Aunt Bessie, who died from a fall down the basement steps. Before long, he suspects that the tumble wasn't accidental and asks Desiree to investigate.

ELKINS, AARON oliver OLD BONES (#4) (\$9.99) Reprint. First published in 1987.

ELKINS, AARON oliver WHERE THERE'S A WILL (#12) (\$9.99) Gideon Oliver investigates the skeletal remains of a man who went missing in a plane crash ten years earlier, in his 12th adventure. Fellowship of Fear (\$9.99), the first in this series has been reprinted recently and it would be, indeed, a great place to start.

ELLIS, DAVID IN THE COMPANY OF LIARS (\$10.99) The story starts with the death of Allison, on trial for murder and then moves backwards in time to the beginning of her story, slowly revealing more and more of what really happened. This book is getting tremendous acclaim. Line of Vision (\$10.99) won the Edgar for Best First Novel.

ENGEL, HOWARD COOPERMAN MEMORY BOOK (#11) (\$10.99) Benny, recovering from a serious blow to the head, is not able to read and his memory has been damaged. An amazing book considering the difficulty Mr. Engel had in writing it.

FAIRSTEIN, LINDA DEATH DANCE (\$21 trade paperback, \$36 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

FAIRSTEIN, LINDA ENTOMBED (\$12.99) Workers demolishing a nineteenth-century brownstone, where Edgar Allan Poe once lived, discover a human skeleton standing, entombed, behind a brick wall. When assistant district attorney and sex crimes prosecutor Alexandra Cooper hears about the case, it sounds like classic Poe, except forensic evidence shows this young woman died within the last twenty-five years. On top of that case, the Silk Stocking Rapist has started preying on women again, after a hiatus of four years. Alex and Detectives Mercer Wallace and Mike Chapman have their hands full.

FAWER, ADAM IMPROBABLE (\$10.99) David Caine is a compulsive gambler possessing a brilliant mathematical mind and an uncanny ability to calculate odds in the blink of an eye. He is also susceptible to crippling epileptic incidents. One night he suffers a bad one and, desperate to regain his equilibrium, he agrees to take experimental drugs with unnerving side effects. Chemistry and destiny have colluded to grant David the ability to foresee the probabilities and consequences, both good and bad, of his actions. As you can imagine, others also want this ability. A debut novel.

FLUKE, JOANNE swensen PEACH COBBLER MURDER (#7) (\$9.99) As she sits in her nearly empty cookie shop Hannah can

only hope that business will pick up. The Magnolia Blossom Bakery, recently opened by Shawna Lee, is causing Hannah grief. When Shawna is found murdered, Hannah is, naturally, the prime suspect. Looking for another lighthearted mystery with cookie and cake recipes? This is it.

FORSTER, REBECCA PRIVILEGED WITNESS (\$10.99)

Grace McCreary convinces attorney Josie Baylor-Bates to take on her case; she's accused of killing her sister-in-law. Josie swore off rich clients years ago but Grace is the sister of Senate hopeful Matthew McCreary, her lover many years ago.

FRAZER, MARGARET frevisse WIDOW'S TALE (#14)

(\$9.99) Dame Frevisse of St. Frideswide's nunnery must decide where her loyalties lie: to her cousin, to the truth or to England's peace when she helps a woman who has been imprisoned by her dead husband's greedy and ambitious relatives.

FROST, SCOTT RUN THE RISK (\$10.99) Los Angeles homicide detective Alex Delillo works a case that chills her from the start. None of the evidence makes sense, from the murder of a small-time shopkeeper to the disappearance of a teenage girl.

GAIMAN, NEIL CORALINE (\$7.99)

GARCIA-ROZA, LUIZ ALFREDO WINDOW IN COPACABANA (#4) (\$19) Espinosa, chief of the 12th Precinct in Copacabana, Rio de Janeiro, doesn't have much to go on in the deaths of three cops killed by an assassin who likes to fire at point-blank range. The three earlier novels are The Silence of the Rain (\$20), December Heat (\$18), and Southwesterly Wind (\$18).

GARFIELD, BRIAN HOPSCOTCH (\$21.95) Since being forced into retirement by the CIA, Mike Kending is bored. He formulates a plan: by threatening to expose the espionage secrets of the major powers, he sets himself up as the quarry of an international man-hunt. Finally, some action back in his life.

GEDGE, PAULINE CHILD OF THE MORNING (\$11.99)

GEDGE, PAULINE EAGLE AND THE RAVEN (\$11.99)

GHOSH, AMITAV CIRCLE OF REASON (\$20.00)

GISCHLER, VICTOR SUICIDE SQUEEZE (\$9.99) A million dollars goes to the person who brings Yakuza boss Ahira Kurisaka the DiMaggio autographed baseball card that Teddy Folger got from the man himself. Unknown to down-on-his-luck repo man Conner Samson, hired to repossess Teddy's boat, the baseball card is on board and some tough men are on its trail. Set in 1954.

GODDARD, ROBERT INTO THE BLUE (\$16.95) Reprint. First published in 1990, and one of the best. US trade paperback edition.

GRANGER, PIP NOT ALL TARTS ARE APPLE (\$15) "Delightful" says Marian. In 1953 London, even the toughest racketeer has a soft spot for seven-year-old Rosie. Living with her aunt and uncle, who are trying to legally adopt her, she becomes the target in a plot and rallies the whole neighbourhood to her aid.

GREENE, GRAHAM COMEDIANS (\$21.95), DR FISCHER OF GENEVA (\$19.95), GUN FOR SALE (\$21.95), and POWER AND THE GLORY (\$20). Four more reprints.

GREER, ROBERT DEVIL'S HATBAND (#1) (\$19.50) The first of the C J Floyd novels, now reissued. First published in 1996.

GREIMAN, LOIS UNPLUGGED (\$9.99) Psychologist Christina McMullen has problems, not the least of which are her clients, a schizophrenic septic system, and her 'sizzling-then-fizzling' romance with Lieutenant Jack Rivera. But her secretary's boyfriend is missing, and her skills, honed by years as a cocktail waitress, tell her something is wrong. The first in the series is Unzipped (\$10.99).

GUTTRIDGE, PETER ONCE AND FUTURE CON (#4)

(\$19.95) Reprint. First published in 1999 in the UK this is the US trade paperback edition of the fourth Nick Madrid novel.

HACKMAN & LENIHAN JUSTICE FOR NONE (\$9.99) In 1929 Vermillion, Illinois, World War I veteran Boyd Calvin is convicted of murdering his wife. He escapes from prison and lives on the lam in Chicago. But the fugitive's underworld is not for him and

he returns to Vermillion where he is surprised to find a small group of supporters who believe he is innocent of the murder.

HADDAM, JANE demarkian HEADMASTER'S WIFE (\$9.99) Since everyone thinks that Mark DeAvecca, freshman at Windsor Academy, is a druggie, no one believes him when he says he's seen a corpse. But his dormitory roommate is dead, so he turns to former FBI agent Gregor Demarkian for help. Number twenty in the series.

HALL, OAKLEY AMBROSE BIERCE AND THE ACE OF SHOOTS (\$20) It's San Francisco of the 1890s and Colonel Studely brings his world-famous Wild West Show to town. But the Colonel is shot dead as the parade makes its way down Market Street and Ambrose Bierce and his associate, Tom Redmond, hunt down a celebrity sniper.

HAMILTON, DENISE diamond SAVAGE GARDEN (#4) (\$10.99) L.A. Times reporter Eve Diamond has been looking forward to a romantic date with her new love, Silvio Aguilar, at the opening night of the theatre. But the leading lady doesn't turn up and it seems that Silvio is no stranger to the actress's home or her bed. The first in the series is Jasmine Trade (\$9.99).

HARPER, KAREN FYRE MIRROR (#7) (\$9.99) Elizabeth I tries to stop a serial killer who uses fire as a weapon. Not only is he killing people but he's burning up all her portraits.

HARRIS, LEE MURDER IN GREENWICH VILLAGE (\$9.99) NYPD Detective Jane Bauer and her team reopen a cold case. Ten years ago, police responding to a spate of late night 911 calls in Greenwich Village had found a young African American undercover cop, Micah Anthony, shot dead on Waverly Place. Anthony had infiltrated a gun-trading operation in the city, and it seemed likely that he knew and trusted his killer.

HART, ELLEN lawless INTIMATE GHOST (#12) (\$20.00) Restaurateur Jane Lawless is shocked to discover that the food she catered for her friend's wedding has been spiked with hallucinogenic mushrooms and the guests are engaged in reckless behaviour. Turning to her friend Cordelia for help in clearing her name, she finds that Cordelia's sister has deserted her infant daughter on Cordelia's doorstep, so she is on her own.

HART, ERIN LAKE OF SORROWS (#2) (\$10.99) American forensic pathologist Nora Gavin has been called to an archaeological site in the bleak midlands west of Dublin to assist at an excavation where a well preserved Iron Age body has been found buried in a peat bog. Nora and archaeologist Cormac Maguire team up again to solve a modern day murder as well. The first in the series is the very evocative Haunted Ground (\$10.99).

HAUS, ILLONA BLUE VALOR (#2) (\$9.50) The killer leaves a human heart on the snowy grounds of an elite private high school. Is it a calling card for the Baltimore police or a demented message for someone else? Detectives Kay Delaney and Danny Finnerty investigate. The first in the series is Blue Mercy (\$10.50).

HAYDER, MO DEVIL OF NANKING aka TOKYO (\$16.95) 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.

HEAD, MATHEW DEVIL IN THE BUSH (\$19.95) Terrific. See *J.D.'s Picks*.

HENRY, SUE MURDER AT FIVE FINGER LIGHT (\$9.99) Sled dog racer Jessie Arnold has just gotten back with her ex-boyfriend Alex Jensen, and, reluctantly, she heads off for a few days to help her friends restore their dream, a lighthouse on the Alaskan Inside Passage. Stumbling across a dead body and the search for a killer delays her return.

HEYER, GEORGETTE UNKNOWN AJAX (\$19.95) Another

of her Regency romance novels. And, great news, many of her mystery novels will soon be reissued. Now would be a good time to let us know if you want any.

HILLERMAN, TONY chee SKELETON MAN (#14) (\$10.99) The latest novel featuring Jim Chee. Former Navajo Tribal Police Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn comes out of retirement to help investigate what seems to be a trading post robbery. A simpleminded kid accused of the crime is the cousin of an old colleague of Sergeant Jim Chee. Proving his innocence requires finding the remains of one of 172 people whose bodies were scattered among the cliffs of the Grand Canyon in an airplane crash fifty years ago. That passenger had handcuffed to his wrist an attaché case filled with a fortune in diamonds, one of which seems to have turned up in the robbery. Margaret Cannon, who reviews mysteries for Toronto's *Globe and Mail* said that this is one of the best novels in the series.

HOLMES, RUPERT SWING (\$21.00) Set in the big band era of the 40s, Jazz saxophonist and arranger Ray Sherwood is asked to help orchestrate a highly original composition which is slated to premiere at the Golden Gate Exposition in San Francisco. Unfortunately, this trade paperback does not come with the "original big band CD" of music written and performed by this Tony Award winner which was packaged with the hardcover edition.

HOUGAN, CAROLYN ROMEO FLAG (\$19.95) (Felony & Mayhem) Nicola Ward is a divorced school teacher living in Maine when one day a mysterious (and long-delayed!) trunk arrives in the mail, sent to her when she was a baby from Shanghai. Nicola hires Neil Walker, a burnt-out CIA operative who has turned to scholarly research, to translate the family papers and authenticate the pieces of Russian art found in the trunk. But why does Nicola start receiving death threats? Is it because the Russian collection appears to identify her as the heir to the Romanov throne? Or could something in her family papers point the way to a Soviet mole in the US government? Originally published in 1989.

HOUGAN, JIM MAGDALENE CIPHER (\$10.99) Wendy took this home to read and discovered it had been published in 2000 under its original title of Kingdom Come. The slaughter of a college professor right under the nose of CIA agent Jack Dunphy forces him to leave London and return to the USA and a desk job. Determined to understand what happened, he uses all his skills to uncover the truth behind his demotion and discovers the fragments of a story that seems impossible. He becomes ensnared in a monstrous international web spun by a secret society as old as civilization.

HURLEY, GRAHAM faraday BLOOD AND HONEY (#6) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

ISHIGURO, KAZUO NEVER LET ME GO (\$21) Within the grounds of Hailsham, a pleasant English boarding school, Kathy grows from schoolgirl to young woman with little or no contact with the outside world. It's only when she and her friends Ruth and Tommy leave the school (as they always knew they would) that they realise the full truth of what Hailsham is. This is from the Booker Prize-winning author of The Remains of the Day (\$21.95).

JAKEMAN, JANE FOOLS GOLD (#3) (\$18) Reprint. First published in 1999. The US trade paperback edition of the third Lord Ambrose mystery.

JECKS, MICHAEL BUTCHER OF ST PETER'S (#19) (\$10.99) As the country is preparing for another civil war Sir Baldwin and Simon Puttock search for the murderer of a King's officer in Exeter. Set in 1323.

JEFFERSON, ROLAND S DAMAGED GOODS (\$17.95) Ten years into his sentence for bank robbery, Alonzo Crane is offered a chance to leave prison when a corrupt warden, in league with a prison gang, gives him a secret assignment.

JONES, STAN SHAMAN PASS (#2) (\$15.95) State Trooper Nathan Active was born in the Inupiat village of Chukchi, where he

is now stationed, but he was adopted and raised in Anchorage. He must investigate the murder of a tribal leader who was stabbed to death with an antique harpoon, recently returned to the community under the Indian Graves Act. The first in the series is White Sky, Black Ice (\$18.95).

JOYCE, BRENDA DEADLY KISSES (\$9.99) New York, 1902. Amateur sleuth Francesca Cahill is called to the home of her fiancé Calder Hart's former mistress, only to find her bloodied body when she arrives. She can't believe Calder is capable of murder but the police are far less inclined to believe in his innocence.

KELLY, THOMAS EMPIRE RISING (\$19) It is 1930 and ground has just been broken on the Empire State Building. One of the thousands of men working there is Michael Briody, an Irish immigrant torn between his desire to make a new life in America and his pledge to gather money and arms for the Irish republican cause. By the author of the excellent Rackets (\$20), one of *J.D.'s Picks* some years ago.

KELMAN, JUDITH SUMMER OF STORMS (\$10.99) Anna Jameson was only three when her five-year-old sister was murdered, while her family slept through a tempestuous hurricane. For thirty years Anna has been haunted by mental pictures of that night. She now returns to the scene of the crime.

KILMER, NICHOLAS LAZARUS, ARISE (\$19.95) At Logan Airport Fred Taylor helps a man who has fallen to the ground. His good deed for the day. He discovers much later that the newspaper flung at him by the man contains a beautifully illuminated vellum sheet, a priceless fragment of a medieval manuscript. Was he meant to get the package? Was the stricken man an art smuggler and Fred just happened to be at the right place at the right time? **KING, STEPHEN** DARK TOWER (#5) WOLVES OF THE CALLA (\$12.99) Roland Deschain and his ka-tet are heading through the forests of Mid-World on their quest for the Dark Tower. The wolves of Thunderclap and their unspeakable depredation are coming, and guns won't stop them.

KOONTZ, DEAN DRAGON TEARS (\$10.99) One fateful day policeman Harry Lyon was forced to shoot a man. A homeless stranger with bloodshot eyes uttered the haunting words that challenged Lyon's sanity: "Ticktock, ticktock. You'll be dead in sixteen hours..."

LAKE, DERYN DEATH IN THE VALLEY OF SHADOWS (#9) (\$13.95) When apothecary John Rawlings agrees to hide a middle-aged stranger who rushes into his shop looking panic-stricken, he doesn't realise the trouble he is letting himself in for. A few days later the stranger is dead. Suspicious of the woman, Mrs. Bussell, who was chasing the stranger, Sir John Fielding sends his Flying Runners to arrest her. But on the way back she is taken ill on the coach and dies before she can be thoroughly questioned. The Apothecary recognises the signs of poisoning and investigates.

LAKE, DERYN DEATH IN THE SETTING SUN (#10) (\$10.95) Apothecary John Rawlings is forced into hiding when he is suspected of murdering an actor.

LATOUR, JOSE HAVANA BEST FRIENDS (\$22.99) A \$10 million fortune, hidden in a Havana apartment, and a deathbed confession of its whereabouts has a cop following a trail of corpses.

LE CARRE, JOHN SMILEY'S PEOPLE (\$21.00) The US trade paperback edition.

LEVINE, PAUL solomon lord DEEP BLUE ALIBI (#2) (\$9.99) Beautiful people, family secrets, and a yacht washed up on Sunset Key with a hundred thousand dollars in cash and a dying man, keep Solomon and Lord busy. An explosive trial looms as the two fight against time, and each other, to expose a killer. The first in this series is Solomon vs. Lord (\$7.99). See *Wendy's Picks*.

LIND, HAILEY kincaid FEINT OF ART (#1) (\$9.99) This is a wonderful art mystery says Marian. Annie Kincaid has her own

studio where she puts her artistic talents to work as a faux finisher in San Francisco. Her real talent is her ability to copy the old masters. At age ten she was declared a prodigy when she painted a perfect copy of the Mona Lisa. At age seventeen she copied the Mona Lisa for the second time and that made her a crook. When she tells her ex-boyfriend, curator Ernst Pettigrew, that the new Caravaggio painting the Brock Museum just purchased for fifteen million dollars is a fake, all hell breaks loose. Excellent.

LJUNGSTEDT, AURORA THE HASTFORDIAN

ESCUTCHEON (\$22.50) Two novelettes, written by the Grande Dame of Swedish mysteries, both “characterized by clever plotting” and first published in Sweden in 1870. She was a best seller in her day but was soon forgotten. Newly recovered, they appear here for the first time in English.

LU DLUM, ROBERT & LARKIN MOSCOW VECTOR

(\$10.99) A covert-one novel. The new Russian government will apparently stop at nothing to take over the world, including developing and unleashing infectious diseases. People are dying.

LUNN, JONATHAN KILLIGREW AND THE SEA DEVIL (#6)

(\$10.99) Commander Kit Killigrew of the Royal Navy is framed for a murder by his old foe, the Russian Colonel Nekrasoff. To save himself he goes on an undercover mission to St. Petersburg to track down a British engineer who defected with plans for a secret weapon destined to change the face of naval warfare.

MCBRIDE, SUSAN LONE STAR LONELY HEARTS CLUB

(#3) (\$9.99) Bebe Kent joined a dating service for discriminating seniors shortly after she moved into the swanky Belle Meade retirement community. But she never met Mr. Right, and although the doctors declared her death natural, extravagant blue-blooded Dallas socialite Cissy Blevins Kendricks believes her old friend’s demise was hastened. She is ready to move into Belle Meade incognito to prove it. The first two in the series are Blue Blood (\$8.99) and The Good Girl’s Guide to Murder (\$9.99).

MCEWAN, IAN SATURDAY (\$21) Henry Perowne is a successful London neurosurgeon who has a minor traffic accident on his way to work. To his professional eye there appears to be something profoundly wrong with the other man involved; he’s fidgety and on the edge of violence. Later that night, as Henry’s family gathers for a reunion, his earlier fears seem about to be realized.

MCKEOWEN, DAVID GRIP (\$10.99) James Carroll only meant to do one deal to get him to film school. But it went wrong and now he owes 30,000 pounds to drug-dealer Roger Oates. This book was nominated for the CWA John Creasey Memorial Dagger for Best Debut Crime Novel in 2005.

MCNAB, ANDY DEEP BLACK (\$21.00) An expensive British import. A simple quest in Baghdad takes Nick Stone into the heart of a chilling conspiracy. Too late he realizes he is being used to lure into the open a man the darker forces of the West will stop at nothing to destroy.

MCNAMARA, EVAN FAIR GAME (\$10.99) Bill Tatum, former army sniper and current county sheriff of Mineral County, Colorado, investigates the death of a councilman found with a bullet hole in his head, left in the forest of the 4,000-acre spread of the Halfmoon Ranch. Sequel to Superior Position (\$10.99).

MANKELL, HENNING BEFORE THE FROST (\$19.95) This one features both Kurt Wallander and his daughter, Linda. Linda has just graduated from the police academy and is soon looking into the disappearance of her childhood friend, Anna. Her father’s case, an ominous series of animal killings, dovetails with Linda’s. Terrific. Terrific.

MARINICK, RICHARD BOYOS (\$17.95) Jack “Wacko” Curran and his brother Kevin are ambitious, highly successful earners for the South Boston Irish mob. But is this what Wacko wants to do for the rest of his life? A debut novel.

MILLER, SCOTT SILENCE INVITES THE DEAD (\$10.95)

Seven years later, Canadian journalist Myles Sterling is still haunted by his experiences with the Rwandan genocide. Accepting an invitation to join former Rwandan colleague Colonel John McTaggart in Candle Lake, Saskatchewan, for some R & R, he arrives to find the police dragging his friend’s body from the icy lake waters. The murder pulls him down the trail of a suspect casino development proposal, drugs, and violence.

MYERS, TIM SOAPMAKING DEAD MEN DONT LYE (#1)

(\$9.99) Benjamin Perkins takes care of his family’s specialty soap shop, but when his sister becomes the prime suspect in the murder of one of the shop’s suppliers, he has to teach his soap making classes as well as investigate the murder.

NADEL, BARBARA IKMEN DANCE WITH DEATH (#8)

(\$24.95 trade paperback, \$37.95 hardcover) See the Hardcover section for an annotation.

NESBO, JO DEVIL’S STAR (\$32.95 trade paperback) A young woman is murdered in her Oslo flat. One finger has been severed and behind her eyelid is secreted a tiny red diamond in the shape of a five-pointed star, a pentagram, the devil’s star. Detective Harry Hole is assigned to the case along with his long-time adversary Tom Waaler. A wave of similar murders suggests that Oslo has a serial killer on its hands and the devil’s star is the key to solving the crimes. Translated from Norwegian. See *Wendy’s Picks*.

NOVA, CRAIG GOOD SON (\$21.00)

NUNN, KEM TAPPING THE SOURCE (\$20.50) One of my favourite novels of all time. This one and Uncivil Seasons (\$22.95) by **Michael Malone** are inextricably linked in my mind as they were published at the same time, I read them back to back, and both have stood the test of time.

O’BRIEN, MARTIN JACQUOT AND THE WATERMAN (#1)

(\$10.99) An excellent debut novel that all of us here enjoyed very much. If the second in the series, Jacquot and the Angel (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover), is a harbinger of what’s to come, we have much entertaining reading ahead of us.

PAIGE, ROBIN ARDLEIGH DEATH AT BLENHEIM PALACE

(#11) (\$9.99) At Marlborough Hall, in 1154, the mistress of King Henry II was poisoned. Was the murderer his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine? 1903, Charles and Kate Sheridan travel to what is now called Blenheim Palace as Kate is writing a book on the subject and plans to do research at the palace. While there the Duke and Duchess disappear and the two sleuths investigate.

PALAHNIUK, CHUCK FIGHT CLUB (\$19.50) and

SURVIVOR (\$21) By the author of Lullaby (\$21) and Stranger Than Fiction (\$21 trade paperback, \$34.95 hardcover).

PARKER, BARBARA SUSPICION OF RAGE (#8) (\$10.99)

Miami lawyers Gail Connor and Anthony Quintana have married and are on their way to Cuba. The night before they leave for Havana the CIA pays a visit. They want Anthony to deliver a message to his brother-in-law, General Ramiro Vega: he’s in danger, and unless he defects, he could be killed.

PARKER, ROBERT B COLD SERVICE (\$10.99) Hard to believe but this is number thirty-two in the Spenser series. Our hero learns that the Ukrainian mob is responsible for the brutal hit on Hawk that left him injured and near death.

PARRISH, P J UNQUIET GRAVE (\$9.99)

PATTERSON, JAMES & HOWARD ROUGHAN

HONEYMOON (\$18.95) Why is the FBI so interested in Nora Sinclair? Mysterious things keep happening to people around her, especially men.

PAWEL, REBECCA tejada WATCHER IN THE PINE (#3)

(\$17.50) Spain 1940. The remote mountain village of Potes is Carlos Tejada’s first independent command. Elena Fernandez, his pregnant wife, accompanies him to his new post. The whole place is hostile towards him and then he finds out that the officer he is replacing was shot to death in an ambush and the killer is still at large.

Sequel to Death of a Nationalist and Law of Return (\$17.95 each).

PEFFER, RANDALL KILLING NEPTUNE'S DAUGHTER

(\$19.95) This psycho-thriller carries Billy Bagwell deeper into long-repressed memories of thirty-five-year-old crimes. Billy returns home for the funeral of his childhood sexual obsession, and memories that he has tried to repress, appear again.

PENCE, JOANNE RED HOT MURDER (#13) (\$9.99) Chef Angie Amalfi leaps at the chance to spend some time with her fiancé, San Francisco homicide detective Paavo Smith, as he visits the desert town in Arizona where he spent some time as a boy. He's really going back to help a friend investigate the murder of a wealthy local and it seems the town is a hotbed of deadly secrets.

PERRY, THOMAS DEAD AIM (\$21) Robert Mallon hires private eye Lydia Marks to find a young woman he met on the beach in Santa Barbara, California.

PRESCOTT, MICHAEL MORTAL FAULTS (\$10.99) A private operative, Abby Sinclair, stalks the stalkers and takes them down. Her new client is a US congressman shadowed by a mystery woman believed to be a disgruntled employee. He wants her stopped. What Abby doesn't know is that FBI special agent Tess McCallum is already on the case. The two had vowed never to work together again.

PRONZINI, BILL BURGADE'S CROSSING (\$6.99) Eight short stories featuring US Secret Service agent turned private detective John Frederick Quincannon.

PURSER, ANN meade THEFT ON THURSDAY (#4) (\$9.99) In the village of Long Farnden, Lois has her hands full with her house-cleaning business. But she is delighted when Chief Inspector Cowgill asks for her help investigating the poisoning of the handsome new choir master.

RAYNER, RICHARD DEVIL'S WIND (\$18.95) A tale of love, murder, and retribution set in Las Vegas during the 1950s. Maurice Valentine is a successful architect from Los Angeles, who is ruled by ambition. But trouble arrives in the form of the beautiful Mallory Walker, who seduces him and turns his world upside down.

REED, MARY & ERIC MAYER FOUR FOR A BOY (\$19.95) The 4th John the Eunuch novel, set in 6th century Constantinople.

REICHS, KATHY & MAX ALLAN COLLINS BONES BURIED DEEP (\$10.99) An original Tempe Brennan novel written by Max Allan Collins. Based on, or possibly a novelization of, an episode of the TV series, *Bones*. Dr. Temperance Brennan is called in to assist with a bizarre discovery: a plastic bag of skeletal remains and a chilling note left on the steps of a federal building. Tempe determines the bones are from different corpses, suggesting a serial killer.

RENDELL, RUTH FALLEN CURTAIN and ONE ACROSS TWO DOWN (\$15) The US trade paperback editions of two early non-Wexford novels.

RHODES, JEWELL PARKER VOODOO DREAMS (#1) (\$18.99) New Orleans in the mid nineteenth century was a potent mix of whites, Creoles, free blacks, and African slaves, a city "pulsing with crowds, commerce, and an undercurrent of secret power", (per the book blurb). The source of this power is the voodoo religion and its queen is Marie Laveau. A debut novel that combines history, oral tradition, and storytelling.

RIEHL, GENE SLEEPER (\$9.99) FBI agent Puller Monk is asked by the NSA to go undercover to find a sleeper spy, infiltrate the contact the spy's been seducing, and stop her before she carries out her shadowy objective.

ROBB, J D ORIGIN IN DEATH (\$10.99) AKA Nora Roberts. NYPD Det. Eve Dallas and her partner Peabody investigate the murder of Dr. Icové, a highly dedicated reconstructive surgeon. When the doctor's son, also a reconstructive surgeon, is murdered in the same way, Eve figures the family has made a frightful enemy.

ROBERTS, GILLIAN pepper TILL THE END OF TOM (#12)

(\$9.99) Why was Tomas Severin's take-out cup of herbal tea laced with the party drug Amanda Pepper's students call "Roofie"? Why did he fall down the school's marble staircase? Amanda is hired to investigate.

ROBERTS, JOHN MADDOX SEVEN HILLS (\$10.99) The legionnaires have reclaimed from the Carthaginians their ancestral homeland, the "seven hills" of Rome itself. Though he is the hero of Rome's resurrection, Marcus Scipio does not have every Roman's loyalty. His old rival Titus Norbanus is plotting against him.

ROBERTS, JOHN MADDOX spqr PRINCESS AND THE PIRATES (#9) (\$17.95) Decius and his slave Hermes set off on a mission to rid the Mediterranean of pirates.

RUSSE, SAVANNAH BEYOND THE PALE (#1) (\$9.99) Daphne has escaped detection as a vampire for nearly five hundred years, but a department of the US government threatens to kill her if she doesn't take on the assignment of getting close to a shady arms dealer with terrorist connections. But while she chases Bonaventure, someone else is chasing her. He just happens to be the dark and sexy vampire killer Darius della Chiesa. The first in the dark-wing series. Marian says: "Yes, I know it's farfetched, but if you like light and breezy, romantic vampire stories, this one is not too bad."

SANDFORD, JOHN davenport RULES OF PREY (#1) (\$10.99) The first Lucas Davenport novel, first published in 1989.

SANSOM, IAN MOBILE LIBRARY: THE CASE OF THE MISSING BOOKS (\$17.95) Israel is an intelligent, shy, passionate, sensitive sort: he's Jewish, he's a vegetarian, and he could lose a bit of weight. He's just arrived in Ireland to take up his first post as a librarian. But the library's been shut down and he ends up stranded on the North Antrim coast driving an old mobile library van. Who would want to steal 15,000 books and where can he get a proper cappuccino?

SCHERF, MARGARET GLASS ON THE STAIRS (\$20.00) (Rue Morgue) Mrs. Otis Carver walked into Link Simpson's gun and antique shop one day and shot herself. At least that's what everyone thought. But the interior-decorator sleuths, Henry and Emily Bryce, uncover a pink glove, poisoned toothpaste, glass on the stairs, several motives, and determine it had to be murder. Originally published in 1954. Also available: *The Gun in Daniel Webster's Bust* and *The Green Plaid Pants* (\$19.95 each).

SHORT, SHARON HUNG OUT TO DIE (#4) (\$9.99) Small-town laundress Josie Toadfern, dumped in a local orphanage at the age of eight, is surprised to receive an invitation to her estranged parent's Thanksgiving celebrations. Too curious to refuse, she goes but finds herself proving that her dad is not a murderer.

SILVA, DANIEL PRINCE OF FIRE (#5) (\$10.99) Featuring art restorer and former Israeli intelligence operative Gabriel Allon. An excellent series that deserves more exposure and acclaim.

SIMENON, GEORGES MAN WHO WATCHED THE TRAINS GO BY and TROPIC MOON (\$16.95 ea.) Reissues of two novels by the author of the Insp. Maigret novels.

SOUNES, HOWARD WICKED GAME (\$19.95) This is the story of modern golf told through the lives of three of its greatest players: Palmer, Nicklaus and Woods. Wicked in two senses of the word: wickedly difficult and evil. Interesting reading.

SPRINKLE, PATRICIA yarbro DID YOU DECLARE THE CORPSE? (#6) (\$9.99) When planning her vacation, Georgia magistrate MacLaren Yarborough envisioned a tropical isle where she and her husband could relax. Instead Mac, minus her husband, is bound for chilly Scotland. A tour group full of unusual travel-mates and a chance to stay in Auchnagar, the small village where her ancestors lived, will keep things interesting. When two empty coffins mysteriously appear in Auchnagar's church, although none of the locals have died, things take a turn for the macabre. And when the bodies of two Americans are discovered occupying the coffins, Mac finds herself back on the job.

STEPHENSON, NEAL baroque QUICKSILVER (#1) and King of the Vagabonds (#2) (\$10.99 ea) In Quicksilver, Daniel Waterhouse, fearless thinker and courageous Puritan, pursues knowledge in the company of the greatest minds of Baroque-era Europe. In King of the Vagabonds, “half-cocked Jack” Shaftoe, London street urchin-turned-legendary swashbuckling adventurer, risks life and limb for love and fortune. The first two in his Baroque series.

STEWART, MARY GABRIEL HOUNDS (\$10.99) An eccentric Englishwoman, Lady Harriet, lives in the palace of Dar Ibrahim in Lebanon in decaying splendour and complete seclusion. Her isolation is broken by the arrival of rich, young Christy Mansel and her cousin, Charles. It is said that when the Gabriel Hounds run howling over the crumbling palace, someone will die. Originally published in 1967.

STROHMEYER, SARAH BUBBLES BETROTHED (\$9.99) Bubbles probes the murder of a high school principal while helping her needy ex-husband get out of some hot water, and playing fiancée to her boyfriend Steve Stiletto, who needs to be engaged to get out of an overseas job transfer. Number five in the series.

SYMONS, JULIAN BLACKHEATH POISONINGS (\$19.95) (Felony & Mayhem) Set in the 1890s, Paul Vandervent embarks on a quest to clear the name of his beloved as members of each of their families falls victim to “gastric misadventure”. Originally published in 1978.

TALLIS, FRANK MORTAL MISCHIEF (#1) (\$27.95)

TEMPLETON, ALINE fleming COLD IN THE EARTH (#1) (\$10.99) As a catastrophic virus devastates the Scottish countryside, killing cattle and destroying lives, human remains are dug up at one of the burial grounds. Detective Inspector Marjory Fleming investigates. This is the first in a series and Wendy liked it very much.

THOMAS, WILL TO KINGDOM COME (#2) (\$13.95) Victorian enquiry agent Cyrus Barker and his young assistant Thomas Llewelyn go undercover as a German bomb maker and his apprentice in order to infiltrate a secret cell of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, which is intent on bringing London to its knees. The first in the series is the excellent Some Danger Involved (\$14.50 trade paperback), enjoyed by all three of us.

TISHY, CECELIA regina NOW YOU SEE HER (#1) (\$9.99) Regina Cutter is a forty-something divorcee who starts her new life by taking over the legacies of a beloved aunt: a town house in Boston’s Barlow Square, co-ownership of a beagle and a startling paranormal ability. She becomes an unofficial consultant to the Boston P.D. and must find out if the man serving a life sentence for a thirteen-year-old murder is really guilty.

TREMAYNE, PETER ENSUING EVIL AND OTHER STORIES (\$19.95) Fourteen historical stories written by the creator of Sister Fidelma, his very well-known 7th-century Irish sleuth. This collection contains one Fidelma story, not collected in either Hemlock at Vespers (\$24.99) or Whispers of the Dead (\$21.95), five Sherlockian stories, a Raffles story, and others.

URIS, LEON HAI (\$9.99)

VALIN, JONATHAN LIME PIT (#1) (\$19.95) The first Harry Stoner novel, now reissued. Set in Cincinnati, Ohio, and long out of print. Anyone know what ever happened to Jonathan Valin? He seems to have disappeared.

VARGAS, FRED SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR (\$10.99) The second Commissaire Adamsberg investigation. Wolves are roaming the French countryside and killing sheep. Is this the work of wolves or werewolves? The locals need someone to blame and suspicion falls on Massart, a local. By the author of the terrific Have Mercy on us All (\$19.95).

VARGAS, FRED THREE EVANGELISTS (\$19.95) Sophia Simeonidis, a Greek opera singer, wakes up one morning to discover that a tree has appeared overnight in the garden of her Paris home. Intrigued and unnerved, she seeks help from her neighbours:

Vandoosler, an ex-cop fired for helping a murderer escape, and three impecunious historians, the three evangelists. They agree to dig around the tree and see if something has been buried there. When they find nothing and Sophia’s body is burnt to ashes in a car, Vandoosler and the three evangelists set out to find her killer. Translated from French. By the author of Have Mercy On Us All (\$19.95) and Seeking Whom He May Devour (\$10.99).

VARIOUS/GORMAN/GREENBERG ADVENTURE OF THE MISSING DETECTIVE (\$22.95) Featuring stories from **Max Allan Collins, Jeffery Deaver, Laura Lippman, Val McDermid** and others. Also includes a ‘year in review’ article for 2004.

VARIOUS BARK M FOR MURDER (\$9.99) **J.A. Jance, Virginia Lanier, Chassie West, and Lee Charles Kelley**, all contribute stories featuring dogs. See *Wendy’s Picks*.

VARIOUS/MORGAN, JILL M CREATURE COZIES (\$9.99) Eleven stories where our four legged friends, cats and dogs, help their owners solve the crime. Stories from **Jan Burke, J.A. Jance, Carole Nelson Douglas**, and others.

VERMILLION, MARY MURDER BY MASCOT (\$19.95)

WALSH, MARCIE and MICHAEL MALONE KILLING CLUB (\$9.99) Ten years ago a group of friends started The Killing Club in Gloria, NJ, writing in their “pretend” death book ways to kill people they did not like. Now, ten years later, one of the friends is a detective sergeant on the local police force and the latest murder, a fellow member of The Club, is killed in an exact replica of a “murder” once dreamed up by the group. This novel is co-authored by **Michael Malone** (Uncivil Seasons, \$22.95 trade paperback, one of our all-time favourites). We’ve been afraid to read this one.

WATSON, PETER LANDSCAPE OF LIES (\$19.95) A terrific art mystery, first published in 1989. Long unavailable, now reissued by those wonderful people at Felony and Mayhem. Thank you, thank you, thank you. See *Marian’s Picks*.

WENTWORTH, PATRICIA FINGERPRINT, GAZEBO, KEY, and THROUGH THE WALL (\$10.99 ea.) Four more Miss Silver reissues. Terrific covers.

WESTLAKE, DONALD WATCH YOUR BACK (\$10.50) Manhattan billionaire Preston Fareweather has left a treasure-filled Fifth Avenue penthouse unguarded, so Dortmund & Co. spring into action. But the one place that Dortmund’s crew can always count on, their shrine and hangout, the O.J. Bar & Grill, is under siege from some real criminals: the Jersey Mob. Now the gang must liberate the treasures and fight off the Mob.

WESTO, KJELL LANG (\$18.95) A fine thriller translated from the Finnish.

WHITE, RANDY WAYNE DEAD OF NIGHT (\$10.99) When Doc Ford goes to check up on Frieda Matthews’ biologist brother, who is not answering his phone, little does he know what he is getting himself into. Number twelve in the series.

WHITE, STEPHEN MISSING PERSONS (\$13.50) Friend and fellow therapist Hannah Grant has died at the office, mysteriously and suddenly. The police are baffled but psychologist Alan Gregory can decipher Hannah’s clues and lead him to the answers.

WILSON, F PAUL GATEWAYS (\$10.99) Repairman Jack.

WOZENCRAFT, KIM WANTED (\$9.99) When a Texas drug dealer is charged with a grisly murder, police officer Diane Wellman knows the case is built on a lie and an innocent man is framed. But when she tries to present the evidence she is framed for possession of cocaine. Political activist Gail Rubin, framed for the crimes of others, has been nursing revenge in prison for eighteen years. She finds common ground with her new cell mate. Neither has anything left to lose. They both want justice. They escape and struggle to stay one step ahead of the law.