



The Merchant of Menace

The official newsletter of

SLEUTH of Baker Street

1600 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M4G 3B7
416-483-3111/Fax 416-483-3141/e-mail sleuthbooks@sympatico.ca

www.sleuthofbakerstreet.com

Greetings

May 2005

Summer is almost here, and I'm ready. New clubs (new to me, I bought some "previously loved" fairway woods from Callaway), a new (and I mean new) pair of shoes, a renewed sense of optimism (renewed sense of delusion, if you ask Them Who Must Be Obeyed) and as soon as I get back from Malice Domestic, the flora and fauna had best be on their guard. Golf season is nigh!

Marian and I are off to Malice Domestic in a few days so the panic is on to get this issue to the printers. You might know that Malice Domestic is the annual crime conference that caters to writers and fans of the "cozy" crime novel, the Christies not the Connollys, and is billed as being "Not everyone's cup of tea". It's held the end of April in the DC area and we go because it's fun and it's a chance to meet old friends and make new ones. There's a lovely little street chuck full of restaurants very nearby the conference hotel and that's where we all head at the end of the day and unwind and eat and drink and catch up and the weather is usually gorgeous. So, think about it for next year and come join us.

This is also Girl Guide Cookies season. A significant chunk of my take home pay seems to go to subsidize the little dears. I did learn one thing, one very important thing, recently however. Their chocolatey mint cookies do not go well with 30-year-old single malt scotch. Duh!

There are a lot of Picks in this issue. Wendy had nothing but time so she read a lot, and liked a lot of what she read. Gratefully, I've included all of her reviews here. You'll notice that many of her Picks are forthcoming, albeit in the very near future, and a word about that. We've tended to stay away from listing forthcoming books in the newsletter, because, as they say, there's many a slip between the cup and the lip—I'm hoping they still say that—and "forthcoming"

Signings

RICH BLECHTA

Wednesday, May 18, 2005

MAUREEN JENNINGS

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

6pm to 7:30pm

can become "well, maybe someday" in a hurry and that just don't do nuffin for nobody. But there are uses to listing forthcoming books. We'll indicate when the book is due, and you can pre-order any of them as we'll keep track and add those to future orders. I've also asked the publishers who submit ads to indicate the publication dates wherever necessary.

Talking about ads, thank you to all who responded to our query about how you felt about the ads appearing in the newsletter. We heard from many of you and the responses were all positive. So, I guess we'll continue and a number of them are in this issue.

A quick note of thanks to all who have so generously sent in donations for this year's Sunnybrook Run for Research, on May 29. This is my shameless reminder that it's not too late to send in your donation. No amount is too small. You know I only ask you once a year so please dig deep. Again, the money raised from the run goes to help Sunnybrook and Women's College hospitals to study the issues facing women suffering from dementia, diabetes, heart disease and breast cancer. All donations are tax receiptable, of course. **Cheques should be made out to Sunnybrook Run for Research.** Thank you very, very much.

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 \$75 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.

Postage & Handling

Within Canada

\$6 per book, max. \$15*

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\$8.50 per book, max. \$20*

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(*with the odd exception)

Hours of Business

10 am to 6 pm

every day

except

Sunday: **Noon - 4pm**

Holidays: **closed**

Some signings coming up. We told you about **Giles Blunt** and the launch of his third Det. John Cardinal police procedural in the March issue so this is only a quickie reminder. **Blackfly Season** (\$34.95 Random House) has been getting terrific reviews, and it's not too late to order your signed copy. We might still have a few copies of the UK hardcover, **Black Fly Season** (\$57, HarperCollins, first editions), which preceded the Canadian edition.

Rick Blechta, author of the Victoria Morgan novels, will be here May 18 to launch **Cemetery of the Nameless** (\$16.95, trade paperback, RendezVous Press), sequel to **The Lark Ascending**. As the blurb says "set in Montreal and Vienna, perhaps the greatest city for music in the world and the home of many great composers, this novel is darker, less light-hearted than Rick's previous outings, but no less compelling."

Maureen Jennings, author of the Detective Murdoch novels will be here May 25 to launch **Night's Child** (\$24.99, trade paperback, McClelland & Stewart), the fifth in this very successful series set in Victorian Toronto. "As is our tradition we will do a limited edition stamp for the launch edition, as well as a special insert in the form of a promotional card from the television movies," says Maureen, "but only at the launch."

Crime Writers of Canada recently announced the short lists for the 2005 Arthur Ellis Awards:

Best First Novel

Mel Bradshaw, **Death in the Age of Steam** (\$22.95)
Jon Evans, **Dark Places** (\$19.95)
Rick Gadziola, **Raw Deal** (\$19.95)
Linda L. Richards, **Mad Money** (\$7.99)
Mark Sinnett, **The Border Guards** (\$24.95/\$10.99)

Best Novel

Gail Bowen, **The Last Good Day** (\$32.99)
Barbara Fradkin, **Fifth Son** (13.95)
Lyn Hamilton, **The Magyar Venus** (\$34.50/\$9.99)
Peter Robinson, **Playing with Fire** (\$36.99/\$10.99)
Mark Zuehlke, **Sweep Lotus** (\$11.99)

Best Short Story

Cecilia Kennedy, "The Robbie Burns Revival" in **The Robbie Burns Revival** (\$20.95)
Dennis Murphy, "Sound of Silence" in **Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine** (December 2004)
Dennis Murphy, "Death of a Dry-Stone Wall" in **Storyteller** (Summer 2004) (\$5.95)
Coleen Steele, "Sunnyside" in **Storyteller** (Summer 2004) (\$5.95)
Leslie Watts, "Crocodile Tears" in **Revenge: A Noir Anthology** (\$21.95)

There are a number of other categories, of course, non-fiction, juvenile and French, which are not listed here but a complete list can be seen on <http://www.crimewriterscanada.com>. Congratulations to all the nominees. But, if you will indulge me for just a moment, I'd like to single out one of the nominees, Dennis Murphy, for special mention.

For some time now a small group of us boys has been getting together to drink beer, tell lies, ogle women, and talk books. It's all harmless fun, about all that we are either allowed or are capable of. We meet Thursday nights, whenever it suits us, and start off at a pub near the bookstore and then move on to one of the many restaurants nearby. Two of us, Wes and I, own bookstores; John has

worked for a large publishing house for forever; David, of *David's Picks*, is a budding writer with many published short stories under his belt whose first novel will be published this fall; Soren, my web guru who just loves books and designs noise barriers for a living, I think; and, finally, the point of all this, Dennis Murphy who produces TV shows during the day and writes short stories good enough to be nominated for the Best Short Story Ellis Award at night. Way to go, Dennis. The beers are on you!

Wendy's Picks

I should be in New Zealand instead of writing this but I unfortunately had to cancel my trip because I pulled a "Marian". While walking home from work on March 15th, I slipped on a miniscule patch of black ice, fell, and landed the wrong way on my right foot, fracturing a bone. I'm in a boot cast until May 4th so my trip was out of the question. Canceling the trip was actually more painful than fracturing the bone. Thanks to everyone for their sympathy, kind words, chocolate and wine. Special thanks to Marian and JD who have been very helpful and understanding. And to Mary who keeps yelling at me to sit down (and put my foot up).

I'd had to take some time off work to stay off my foot so I did a lot of reading and movie watching. Many of the books that I read have not yet been published but are due soon. One that is available is the new **ELIZABETH GEORGE**, **With No One As Witness** (\$37.95), the thirteenth in the Lynley series. I wasn't too fond of the last two books so I was more than pleasantly surprised by this book. It's terrific. Scotland Yard has taken over the investigation into the murders of four adolescent boys. DI Lynley is in charge. This case is doubly complicated for him as he is not only searching for a serial killer, he is stymied at every turn by his superior. As usual, Barbara is her headstrong, loner self whom Lynley tries unsuccessfully to rein in. There is a twist to the story and I will say no more.

I read three terrific debuts novels: **Double Eagle** by **JAMES TWINING**, **Blood Eagle** by **CRAIG RUSSELL** and **Trace Evidence** by **ELIZABETH BECKA**. Writers to watch for.

Double Eagle (\$34.95) by **JAMES TWINING**, of tea fame, is in stock. The two main characters are Tom Kirk, a young art thief who wants out of the thieving life and Jennifer Browne, an ambitious FBI agent trying to redeem herself after making a tragic error three years earlier. She is investigating a theft from Fort Knox and Tom is the prime suspect. Tom races against time and killers to find the real thieves and the 1933 U.S. Double Eagle which officially never existed. So how come everybody wants it? Action packed excitement! (We do not have a large quantity available so order right away.)

Blood Eagle (\$24.95 trade paper original in Canada) by **CRAIG RUSSELL** is due out in May. The book was published in the UK in hardcover in March and we did bring in some stock (\$34.95) and have more on order so let us know which edition you would prefer and we'll do our best. **Blood Eagle** is a police procedural set in Hamburg with half-Scottish, half-German detective Jan Fabel. This is a violent book with Fabel tracking down a monstrous killer, hopefully before more bodies are discovered. I could not put this book down. The Hamburg setting is wonderful.

Trace Evidence (\$29.95, tentatively priced) by **ELIZABETH BECKA** is not due until July but it is so good that I can't contain myself. It introduces Evelyn James, a Cleveland Forensic Pathologist. She becomes involved in the investigation into the drowning

(but not that straightforward a drowning) death of an unidentified woman. When another body is discovered and clues point to the same killer, Evelyn becomes concerned for her daughter's safety and ultimately puts herself in danger. Marian has just started the book and keeps telling me how much she is enjoying it. (*I finished it. It's great! I want more. Marian*) Advance order your copy now if you'd like and we'll add it to a future order.

Five of my favourite writers have new books coming out in the next few months: **JOHN CONNOLLY's** new Parker, [The Black Angel](#) (\$34.50, tentatively priced) is due out in June and is sensational. Parker travels to New York City to help Louis find his niece. What they discover is a link to a church of bones in Europe and the Believers, a group that will stop at nothing to find and release the Black Angel. I won't say much more as **Connolly** has written a thrilling, unsettling and compelling mystery that is hard for me to describe briefly but is terrific to read. [Bad Men](#) (\$11.99), one of my picks from two years ago, is now out in paperback. It is a non-series book but a great way to introduce yourself to this wonderful writer.

And while I'm on the topic of **John Connolly**, his first collection of short fiction, [Nocturnes](#) (\$18.95 trade paperback), has been published in its US edition. You might remember that we did smuggle in some copies of the UK hardcover edition six months ago. At that time I told you that the long Parker novella contained therein, [The Reflecting Eye](#), was by itself worth the price of the entire collection. Well, you can now have the collection at an even better price. John is a terrific writer and I thoroughly enjoyed the stories, a little dark, a little scary, a little creepy and a lot suspenseful.

LEE CHILD has written the ninth in the Jack Reacher series, [One Shot](#) (\$33.99, tentatively priced) and it is due out in June. James Barr, whom everybody knows is the sniper who killed five people ('cuz all the clues point to him), says the police have the wrong man and asks them to get Jack Reacher. Meanwhile, Jack has seen the news reports about the sniper and is on his way from Florida to Indiana to see that justice is done. The twists start early on and kept me reading till the wee hours. Another page turner.

VAL MCDERMID's latest book is [Stranded](#) (\$50.00) a collection of short stories. The print run is limited to 325 signed hardcover copies and we managed to get twenty, so do let us know soon. I've been reading a couple of stories each night and they are a delight.

Marian and I have become great fans of **SIMON KERNICK** and his newest, [A Good Day To Die](#) (\$34.95, tentatively priced) brings back Dennis Milne from [The Business of Dying](#) (\$11.99) and is due out in July. Dennis has been living a quiet life in the Philippines after fleeing England. He does the occasional hit for his business partner but when his former police partner is gunned down in London, Dennis returns to avenge his death. He treads on a few toes, gets beaten up a few times but keeps on searching for the people he needs to kill. Terrific.

MARK BILLINGHAM has written the fifth in the Thorne police mysteries, [Lifeless](#) (\$32.00 hardcover, \$25.00 trade paperback, tentatively priced), due out in May. Thorne is on 'gardening leave' after the events in [Burning Girl](#) (\$10.99, due in May and tentatively priced). He volunteers to go undercover as a homeless man to find the person who is killing homeless men. He does not have to do much to look the part, according to his colleagues.

If you enjoyed [Worm in the Bud](#) (\$38.95 hardcover, \$10.95 paperback due out in May or June) by **CHRIS COLLETT**, her second book, [Blood of the Innocents](#) (\$39.95, tentatively priced) is due out

in May. I have not seen an advance copy but am very anxious to get my hands on this book as I (and Marian and many of you) really liked her first book. We can only hope that the second is as good.

Marian's Picks

I never have any luck buying sandals. In fact I have trouble buying shoes in general. Except for running shoes that is. I wonder why! I was leafing through a Land's End catalogue while I was in New York City last month and they had these really nice clog type slip ons for summer, in really neat colours, and I wanted them. All. But, this was mail order and, what size?, which colour?, and then there is the question of having them shipped across the border (duty, GST etc), and if I don't like them or if they don't fit I'd have to send them back. How do I do that? Did I really want to be bothered? All this to say that I did nothing. But I remain amazed at how common ordering by mail seems to have become in the USA compared to Canada; the number of catalogues my friend receives at her flat is amazing. (*Maybe because she actually orders things, Marian.*) I understand the huge population difference between our two countries but is mail order business in the US so huge?

I was in NYC recently to run a half marathon geared to women over 40. (Yup, I'm way past that). Two and a half times around Central Park for the half and five times for the full marathon. 3,500 women running or walking; it was quite a sight. I had a great time and the visit to the newly renovated Museum of Modern Art was one of the highlights. Thanks to Liz for her hospitality and to Henrietta for the tips on reasonably priced restaurants; I found a fabulous Italian one based on your suggestions. I will most certainly go back to it. Also thanks to Barry who recommended a great Indian restaurant. I look forward to going back to run the event again next year.

It must be the start of nicer weather as Paddington now wants to go out during the night to patrol his territory. Most often he comes back no worse for wear but every so often he has a tussle with one of the neighbourhood cats and comes back looking very sorry for himself. I hate to see what the other cat looks like but I suspect Paddy gets the worse end. He was never meant to be a fighter. A few nights ago it looked like he had been rolled in rainwater and wet leaves. He smelt awful as well. That's my boy.

There are some terrific reads in this newsletter. The problem is going to be limiting my choices. Wendy and I had the usual debate over who gets to pick what. I can honestly say I don't know what she has picked as I have not seen her contribution yet, and I don't care. I'm going to pick what I want to pick! At least she didn't kick me with her big boot cast. What a shame she had to cancel her trip.

I can't tell you how much I have enjoyed reading the **STUART PAWSON** novels. There are four available at the moment and each is truly wonderful. Detective Inspector Charlie Priest of Yorkshire is the main character with a group of slightly irreverent colleagues working around him. I love the interaction between the men and women at the station house and the nonchalant way Charlie goes about doing his job. If you want a new English police procedural to read I don't think you will be disappointed with this series. Available at the moment are: [The Picasso Scam](#) (#1), [The Mushroom Man](#) (#2), [Laughing Boy](#) (#8), and [Limestone Cowboy](#) (#9). (\$12.95 each). Coming some time this summer will be [Judas Sheep](#) (#3) and [Chill Factor](#) (#7). I don't know how much these two paperbacks will cost, but I can hardly wait. Exceptional!

I know Wendy picked this author in the March newsletter but I couldn't let her get away with being the only one to say something about Sympathy Between Humans (\$30.00) by **JODI COMPTON**. This, the second in the series featuring Minneapolis cop Sarah Pribek, is a continuation of the story started in The 37th Hour (\$10.99 paperback or \$32.95 hardcover). A very zealous D.A.'s investigator is still trying to pin the murder of Royce Stewart, which happened in The 37th Hour, on Sarah. She, on the other hand, is still trying to protect the identity of the killer. With her cop husband in prison and her ex-partner in Europe she is on her own facing the consequences. A great story, with believable and loveable characters and an interesting plot, this is well worth the read.

I loved Bloodless Shadow (\$10.99) by **VICTORIA BLAKE** when I read it last year and was worried that the second book in the series wouldn't hold up. But I worried needlessly. Cutting Blades (\$34.95 hardcover or \$24.95 trade paperback), is great. London-based private investigator Sam Falconer is asked to investigate the disappearance of a young rower who would have cemented the win for Oxford over Cambridge in their annual dual. She also has to cope with the fact that her father has reappeared in her life. She though he had been dead for the past twenty eight years, killed while on assignment for the SAS.

MARTIN O'BRIEN has written what we hope will be the beginning of a long series featuring Marseilles policeman Daniel Jacquot. In Jacquot and the Waterman (\$24.95 trade paperback) Daniel is tracking down a killer who drowns his victims. The story is fast moving, very atmospheric, and with interesting characters. Daniel was facing his own problems, the break-up with his girlfriend, and the fact that he scored the winning try in a Five Nations final against England twenty years earlier. I found the ending of the story a little weak, but I suspect that in real life the police actually do catch the bad guys the way it happens here. I look forward to the next story which is out sometime this fall.

Another new writer is **JAMES TWINING** with The Double Eagle (\$34.95). It's hard to tell whether the main character in this novel is FBI agent Jennifer Browne or brilliant young art thief Tom Kirk. The story starts seventy years ago when Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 6102 which prohibited any person, corporation or association from hoarding gold coin, gold bullion or gold certificates. All the gold in the US was to be turned over to a federal reserve bank and the US government would compensate the holder. A daring robbery from Fort Knox of gold coins, The Double Eagle, that were not supposed to exist, the murder of a priest in Paris, and a kick start to a career that is going down the dumps for Browne are all part and parcel of this excellent chase thriller that takes you from the US to London to Paris to Amsterdam to Istanbul.

Those of you who have read Monkeewrench and Live Bait (\$9.99 each) know how good those two novels are. The third in the series from the mother and daughter team of **P. J. TRACY**, Dead Run (\$35.00), is even better than the first two, if that's possible. The same old gang is back from the Monkeewrench team, this time they are donating their software to help police stations across the USA find serial killing bad guys quicker. Grace MacBride, Annie Belinsky, and Deputy Sharon Mueller are driving from Minneapolis to Green Bay when their car breaks down deep in the woods with no cell phone reception and all contact is lost. The rest of the crew along with cops Leo Magozzi and Gino Rolseth set out on a blind search to find them. I think the best character in the story is Charlie, the dog. I'm now going to have to wait another year for the next one; I hate waiting.

A quick note some new paperbacks for you to try. Skinny-Dipping (\$9.99) by **CLAIRE MATTURRO** introduces Sarasota attorney Lilly Cleary with her take-no-prisoners courtroom attitude. Her senior partner keeps dumping one bad client after another on her desk and in this novel she is dealing with a kayak-whiplash case and a malpractice lawsuit she's inherited. Fun.

CHATHERINE SHAW introduces us to Miss Vanessa Duncan, a young schoolmistress, recently arrived in the Cambridge of 1888, in Three Body Problem (\$10.95). She loves teaching and finds the world of academia fascinating until a Fellow of Mathematics at the university, Mr. Akers, is found murdered and things take a dramatic turn. It turns out her upstairs neighbour, Arthur Weatherburn, was one of Akers' colleagues and the suspicion is Akers was close to solving Sir Isaac Newton's yet unsolved n-body problem, which would have won him a ton of money. Did someone steal his solution? An interesting story, atmospheric and very academic.

Some Danger Involved (\$14.50 trade paperback) by **WILL THOMAS** is as close to a Sherlockian novel you can get without being a Sherlockian novel. I loved the characters, the plot, the setting. The first chapter hooked me as it must have done Wendy and J.D., as well, as all of us read it. The second novel has just arrived, To Kingdom Come (\$31.50), and I have put it on my "to be read" pile.

J.D.'s Picks

Been reading a lot of paperbacks recently and here are some of the ones I'd like to share with you. Summertime and paperbacks just go together so well. Unlike...well, you know.

Our good friends at the Poisoned Pen Press have been publishing some real winners recently. You might remember how fond I was of their publication Relative Danger (\$10.50 paperback due May, \$65 signed first editions) by **CHARLES BENOIT**. Well, as it turns out I was not the only one; its been short listed for the Best First Novel Edgar Award! And by the time you get this issue the winner will have been declared. Another great read from them is Morgue Mama (\$10.50) by **C.R. CORWIN**. Not morgue as in that cold medical facility where forensic examiners cut up bodies but as in that dry and dusty storage area where newspapers send old story clippings to rest forever. Dolly Madison Sprowls--she's either named for the president's wife or the pastry, she's not really sure--has been in charge of the Nannawa Herald-Union's morgue for more than forty years. Affectionately known as Morgue Mama, but only behind her back. She's gruff and difficult, well past retirement age, and resisting computerization with all her being. She's the queen of her ink-stained domain. All that is turned upside down when the paper hires 24-year-old Aubrey McGinty for the police beat and she loses no time in questioning the conviction of Sissy James for the murder of TV evangelist Buddy Wing. What follows is a delightful, witty caper and I want more.

I been reading great reviews of another winner from Poisoned Pen Press but I have not gotten my hands on a copy of the book yet. The Poet's Funeral by **JOHN M. DANIEL** (\$35, due May) is about books and bookstores, and that's usually enough to get me interested. This debut novel has been called a gem by one colleague. Debut biblio-mysteries are usually pretty hot, and as the print run of this one is going to be small, consider ordering one sight unseen. But I'll report fully in the next issue.

A novel that Marian read and picked some time ago, The Bad News Bible (\$10.99) by **ANNA BLUNDY** has now been published in paperback. And, you know, it's terrific. (*Maybe you should read your newsletters!* - Marian). Faith Zanetti, journalist, war correspondent, prodigious consumer of vodka, is in Israel because the fat drunk who is her foreign editor has posted her there. And if the conditions are harsh and the work dangerous, little does she know that in her next adventure, Faith Without Doubt (\$34.95 cloth, \$24.95 trade paperback), she's going to be in Baghdad! The author is a journalist herself and thus one assumes that she is showing us the world of foreign correspondents as it really is. In any case this was a terrific read. I had some trouble, initially, keeping the politics, both Israeli/Palestinian and internal at the newspaper, straight, but you won't. Looking forward to reading the next one.

REED FARREL COLEMAN has written three novels featuring Moe Prager, a retired New York City policeman. Walking the Perfect Square (\$9.99) is the first. Marilyn Satsio, reviewing that book in The New York Times Book Review, said: "Among the undying conventions of detective fiction is that one that requires every retired cop to have a case that still haunts him." Well this is one such case for Moe. In 1977 mild-mannered college student Patrick Maloney went missing. Where Moe was not involved in the police investigations he does become involved a year later, when working as a PI, the father hires him to search for his son. The case, of course, turns out to be far different and far more complex from what it appeared to be and, ultimately, Moe is unsuccessful. Twenty years later, Moe gets a phone call telling him that a dying man wishes to see him. About the Maloney case. And that's where the story really starts. The writing is very good, the story is interesting, and I'm glad I read it.

Some time ago, last November to be exact, a good customer, Bill S., who lives in Melfort, Saskatchewan, wondered if we would feature a couple of his favourite Saskatchewan writers, **Gail Bowen** and **Anthony Bidulka**. I responded that we all know and love **Gail Bowen** and review her books regularly but when **Bidulka's** first book, Amuse Bouche (\$9.95) is published in paperback we'd be happy to run his review here. Well, it has and here it is:

Second best (*Gail Bowen being first best*) is the new Russell Quant series by **ANTHONY BIDULKA**. The first mystery, Amuse Bouche, sees Quant called by a wealthy businessman to search for his fiancée who jilted him and failed to attend their wedding. The twist in the tale is that the couple were gay and Russell is gay. Russell pursues threads of the investigation through Saskatoon's gay and lesbian world and the high tech world of Innovation Place in Saskatoon. **Bidulka** is at his best in the book in describing gay relationships. His portrayal of Saskatoon is flawless. The light hearted tone works well and reminds me of Archie McNally, the Palm Beach detective created by **Lawrence Sanders**. (*Thank you Mr. S. I read it on your recommendation and happily pass on the recommendation to our readers.—JD*)

David's Picks

A Time Gone By (\$21.95) (Akashic) by **WILLIAM HEFFERNAN** is a perfect blend, perhaps even a culmination, of all the excellent fiction this author has penned over the years. **Heffernan** is of course the author of the Paul Devlin series and the highly acclaimed standalone Beulah Hill (\$22.50). In A Time Gone By he manages an intricate tale that provides the hard-boiled tension of **Hammett** and depth of **Ross MacDonald** or **Raymond**

Chandler. The story centres on Jake Downing a former New York City Cop who worked his way up to Chief of Detectives. As Downing prepares for retirement he is haunted by questions surrounding the very case that launched his successful police career. In 1945, as a rookie detective Downing was one of the investigators assigned to the murder of Wallace Reed, a prominent judge headed for the Governor's Office. Jake Downing foolishly became involved with the Judge's widow Cynthia Reed, the very woman he was assigned to protect. Passion and instinct for self-preservation propelled the young Downing into a web of lies and deceit that he has struggled to shake since the day he first set eyes on Cynthia Reed. The beauty of **Heffernan's** latest is in the telling of the story. He moves effortlessly between two perspectives: the wise and battle-scarred Jake Downing in 1975, back to the wet-behind-the-ears, smitten rookie Downing of 1945. Hailed by critics as paying homage to the great detective novels of the 30's and 40's, A Time Gone By is that and much, much more. The perfect book to take up to the cottage

I've had a run of good luck lately as I search for crime novels that are stretching the boundaries. I was really amazed by Outside Valentine (\$32.95) (Henry Holt) by **LIZA WARD**, a debut novel. The author has taken three voices, and used them to tell this (partly true) story about a shocking crime and its fallout across three generations. In the early 1950s, after a bitter argument with her dictatorial stepfather, Caril Ann Fugate ran away from her home and into the woods behind her farm in Lincoln, Nebraska. It was there she met Charles Starkweather, a thug with a .22 caliber rifle and a mind full of rotten ideas. The author succeeds in the telling of the romantic union between Starkweather and Fugate, from its clumsy beginnings to the love affair that would see the teenaged Fugate under the spell of the psychotic Starkweather. This strand of the novel alone is good enough to recommend it. But **Ward** weaves in narratives from two other voices: Lowell Bowman, an antique collector haunted by the murder of his parents by Fugate and Starkweather, and Susan Hurst, a Lincoln teenager obsessed with the crimes. If the book sounds dark, make no mistake, it is. But the author keeps this tale achingly gripping and dangles the hope of light at the end of the tunnel. In the end she writes a chilling crime novel, and a strangely heartfelt story, told with wise compassion and brimming with atmosphere. One of my favourite books so far in 2005.

I am going to cheat here but also go on record right off the bat and tell you that The Last Good Chance (\$22) (Picador) by **TOM BARBASH** isn't truly a crime or mystery novel, although there is certainly crime and no shortage of little mysteries in Lakeland, New York, the tired, upstate town where the story is set. Jack Lambeau is the pride of Lakeland, the local boy who broke away to the Big Apple and made himself a name as an urban planning genius. The story begins with his return to his struggling home town and his plans for its re-development. Boutiques, bistros, open-air markets, bandshells and cobblestone streets are all part of the plan for a new and revitalized Town of Lakeland; the new jewel of the Great Lakes. But Jack's younger brother Harris is in trouble with the law, and involved in the illegal dumping of chemical waste on the dormant farmland around the town. The Mayor is no saint, Turner the local reporter is all for the redevelopment until he meets Jack's beautiful new wife Anne, and decides that maybe she'd be better off with him. There are thugs armed with baseball bats roaming the town at night and environmentalists who'll stop at nothing to fuel Turner's zeal for toppling Jack Lambeau. **Tom Barbash** is a skilled writer with a knack for putting the reader right in the thick of things. If you liked the movie Fargo and if you enjoy the novels of **Richard Russo**, The Last Good Chance, with its quiet suspense and sharp wit, will not disappoint.

Hardcover

ALBERT, SUSAN WITTIG DEAD MANS BONES (\$35.00) (Berkley) China Bayles has her hands full but when her teenage son finds some skeletal remains during a local cave dig, she suspects they relate to a more recent murder, and that's just more work. Number thirteen in the series.

ALEAS, RICHARD LITTLE GIRL LOST (\$60.00) (Five Star) Special orders only due to the price. John Blake and Miranda Sugarman dated in high school but went their separate ways after graduation: he as a private eye and she as an ophthalmologist. Ten years later he opens his paper to see the headlines: Stripper Murdered. How did Miranda end up back in New York as a stripper? He just can't see it. Short listed for the Best First Edgar.

ALEXANDER, BRUCE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT (\$36.00) (Putnam) Completed by the author's wife and John Shannon and published posthumously; the author, whose real name was Bruce Cook, died in 2003. Sir John Fielding and Jeremy are confronted with a series of bizarre deaths in Georgian London. If you have not read any of the series start with Blind Justice (\$9.99).

ALLEN, CONRAD MURDER ON THE SALSETTE (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Genevieve Masefield and George Porter Dillman cruise the seas as ship detectives. In their sixth adventure they are on board the Salsette investigating a murder.

ANDREWS, DONNA OWLS WELL THAT ENDS WELL (#6) (\$31.95) (Thomas Dunne) Meg Langslow and her husband Michael buy an old house full of stuff; the previous owner collected everything. When she died, her estate, rather than cleaning out anything, sold everything 'as is'. Having a giant yard sale is the way to clear out the junk, but when a local antique dealer is found dead in a trunk, the police close down the sale.

ANDREWS, RUSSELL MIDAS (\$34.95)

BABSON, MARIAN PLEASE DO FEED THE CAT (\$31.99) (Thomas Dunne) 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. Always delightful. If you are wondering where to start with Ms. Babson, don't worry about it, choose any one, as there is seldom a continuing character. One of Marian's favourites is Murder at the Cat Show (\$9.99).

BALLARD, MIGNON F TOO LATE FOR ANGELS (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) Guardian angel Augusta Goodnight shows up in Stone's Throw, South Carolina (with a basket of strawberry muffins, recipe included) to calm down Lucy Nan Pilgrim after two women are found dead in town. Number five in the series.

BANKS, CARLA FOREST OF SOULS (\$39.95) (Harper Collins, UK) Before her death Helen Kovacs had told no one of her research into the Nazi occupation of Eastern Europe. Even her closest friend and colleague, Faith Lange, had no idea. Until she began retracing the dead woman's steps. AKA **Danuta Reah**.

BARNARD, ROBERT GRAVEYARD POSITION (\$34.50) (Scribner) The US edition. The Cantelos of Leeds, England, are a dysfunctional family. Believing her son to be in danger, Clarissa, a skilled clairvoyant, had sent him to Italy. When she dies he returns to claim his inheritance but his long-lost relatives don't believe he is who he says he is.

BARR, NEVADA HARD TRUTH (\$36.00) (Putnam) 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 disappeared recently. 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.
BARRON, STEPHANIE JANE AND HIS LORDSHIP'S LEGACY (\$34.00) (Bantam) It's with a heavy heart that Jane Austin takes up a new residence at Chawton Cottage in Hampshire. Secretly mourning the lost love of her life she is surprised to find that Lord Harold Trowbridge has made her heir to a chest full of his diaries, letters, and most intimate correspondence. But a body found in the cellar of her new home keeps her busy until she begins to suspect the answer to the murder may lie in the chest of papers.
BEATON, M C DEATH OF A BORE (\$34.95) (Mysterious Press) The poster in the general store announced: "Do you want to be a famous writer? Famous writer John Heppel will help you become one." Hamish Macbeth doesn't think anyone will sign up but at least a dozen people do and show up at the village hall. Heppel mocks their writing and butchers their dreams—he did lack a little tact—and every single one of them wants to kill him. And someone does.

BEAUFORT, SIMON COINERS' QUARREL (\$42.00) (Seymour House, UK) Westminster 1102. About to depart for the Holy Land, Sir Geoffrey is furious to be summoned back by the king to investigate a potentially treasonous plot.

BELL, NANCY DEATH SPLITS A HAIR (\$32.95) (Thomas Dunne) Judge Jackson Crain and his teenage daughter, Patty, combine forces to snoop into the secret lives of their friends and neighbours after the beloved barber of Post Oak, Texas, is found murdered. Sequel to Restored to Death (\$6.99). (Paddington)

BISSELL, SALLIE LEGACY OF MASKS (\$33.00) Ex-prosecutor Mary Crow returns home to Pisgah County, North Carolina, to set up her own law firm. Her first case is defending a young mystical Ani Zaguhi Cherokee named Ridge Standingdeer, accused of murdering a young girl. Others in the series are In the Forest of Harm (\$9.99), A Darker Justice (\$10.99), and Call the Devil By His Oldest Name (\$10.99).

BLACK, CARA MURDER IN CLICHY (\$35.95) (Soho) Number five featuring Aimee Leduc.

BLAKE, VICTORIA CUTTING BLADES (\$34.95) (Orion) The first in this series, Bloodless Shadow (\$10.99), was a pick for both Marian and Wendy a year or so ago and, no surprise, they are fighting over the sequel. It's the War of the Picks. London private investigator Sam Falconer is asked to investigate the disappearance of an Oxford University rower. See *Marian's Picks*.

BLOOM, ELIZABETH SEE ISABELLE RUN (\$32.95) (Mysterious Press) AKA **Beth Saulnier** who writes the Alex Bernier mysteries. Dumped by her fiancé for her maid of honour twenty minutes before her wedding, Isabelle Leonard tries to make the best of a bad situation. Taking a new job at Becky Belden Multi-media, America's favourite homemaking guru, she appears to have a dream job. But bodies of her fellow employees start piling up.

BLUNDY, ANNA FAITH WITHOUT DOUBT (\$34.95) (Review) Faith Zanetti, war correspondent, is back in her second outing, this time in war-torn Baghdad. With fat photographer Don McCaughrean, Carly Posner, and her on-again-off-again lover Eden Jones, she plunges into the war on Saddam. Weapons inspector Joshua Klein is a big distraction. The first in the series is Bad News Bible, (\$10.99). See *J.D.'s Picks*.

BLUNT, GILES BLACKFLY SEASON (\$57.00) (Random House, Canada) A woman walks out of the bush and can't remember a thing. She also has a small-calibre bullet lodged in her brain. A body is found in a cave in the woods, with no hands, feet or head. How are these related? Algonquin Bay detectives John Cardinal and Lise Delorme investigate. The first two in the series are Forty Words for Sorrow and The Delicate Storm (\$10.99 each) and excellent they are.. **Signed copies** available.

writer Sophie Katz is worried that a crazed reader is going to kill her by reenacting a scene from her books.

DICKINSON, DAVID DEATH OF A CHANCELLOR (#4) (\$35.00) (Carroll & Graf) The US edition. England, 1901, and the cathedral in the town of Compton in the west of England is preparing to celebrate 1,000 years of Christian worship. But a few weeks before the main ceremonies at Easter, the chancellor dies in mysterious circumstances. Lord Francis Powerscourt is asked to investigate.

DOHERTY, PAUL SEASON OF THE HYAENA (\$34.95) The second to feature Mahu, former Chief of Police and Keeper of the Secrets. A mysterious stranger appears on the Nile Delta; has the Emperor Akenhaten returned to Egypt? Mahu investigates. Evil Spirit Out of the West (\$10.99) is the first of what we are told is going to be a trilogy.

DOYLE, ARTHUR CONAN COMING OF THE FAIRIES (\$24.95) (Pavilion) Is it the greatest hoax of all time or an amazing event? Doyle was convinced that the photographs of two young girls from Cottingley, in Yorkshire, playing with a tiny group of translucent fairies, were genuine and he published them in 1922. His reputation and his fortune, for he spend a good chunk of money researching and defending his position, were at stake.

[CARR]CARR, CALEB ITALIAN SECRETARY (\$29.95) (Harper Collins, Canada). Holmes has been summoned to the aid of Queen Victoria by his brother Mycroft. During the renovations at the Royal Palace in Holyrood, Edinburgh, a renowned architect and his foreman have been murdered. Commissioned by the estate of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

DUNNING, JOHN SIGN OF THE BOOK (\$36.00) (Scribner) A classic Cliff Janeway book with an interesting twist. Superstar lawyer Erin D'Angelo has joined Cliff in the book business and it's hard for him to refuse her request to help an old friend accused of murdering her husband. Lots of book collecting lore to enjoy. Booked to Die, Bookman's Wake, and Bookman's Promise (\$11.99 each) are the first three in the series. **Signed copies** available.

ELKINS, AARON WHERE THERE'S A WILL (\$35.00) (Berkeley) Gideon Oliver investigates the skeletal remains of a man who went missing in a plane crash ten years earlier. 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 (\$36.00) (Putnam) 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.

EPHRON, G H GUILT (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) A bomb narrowly misses forensic neuropsychologist Dr. Peter Zak as he is heading into a meeting at a Cambridge, MA, courthouse. Rattled, he agrees to help the police profile the bomber based on some antigovernment flyers found at the scene and at an earlier bombing outside a Harvard law school building. The first in the series is Amnesia (\$9.99).

ESLICK, TOM MOUNTAIN PERIL (\$39.00) (Viking) When a boy is reported missing on Mount Washington, Will Buchanan, high school teacher and part-time search and rescue volunteer, springs into action. While searching he finds the body of a woman buried in a shallow grave, the second woman found murdered on the mountain in the last two months.

ESTLEMAN, LOREN LITTLE BLACK DRESS (\$33.95) (Forge) Peter Macklin was a hit man for a long time, but has taken steps to distance himself from his past. With some difficulty. He has moved away from Detroit and married the gorgeous, intelligent Laurie. While visiting with his new mother-in-law he learns that mom-in-law's boyfriend is Benjamin Grinnell, the spotter for a gang of armed robbers who failed to spot a shotgun-toting shop

owner in their latest heist. The shop owner ended up being mist and Macklin's mom-in-law is now in harm's way.

FARMER, JERRILYN FLAMING LUAU OF DEATH (\$33.95) (Morrow) Madeline Bean plans a fabulous bachelorette party in Hawaii for her cherished employee Holly Nichols. What she didn't know was that Holly was married previously and never got around to divorcing her husband. Bigamy is fun. murder less so. Marian said she enjoyed reading this novel but it didn't have as much food talk in it as her six previous novels.

FAWER, ADAM IMPROBABLE (\$34.95) (Morrow) 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.

FITZHUGH, BILL HIGHWAY 61 RESURFACED (#2) (\$33.95) (Morrow) FM rock deejay and private investigator Rick Shannon is back in his second outing. This time around he's hired by a woman called Lollie Woolfolk to find her long lost granddaddy. Sequel to Radio Activity (\$9.99).

FLUKE, JOANNE PEACH COBBLER MURDER (\$31.00) (Kensington) 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.

FREY, STEPHEN W CHAIRMAN (\$29.95) (Ballantine) In order to forge alliances necessary to achieve his goal of taking New York private equity partnership, Everest Capital, to multibillion dollar heights, Christian Gillette must dodge assassination attempts and can trust no one.

FRIEDMAN, KINKY TEN LITTLE NEW YORKERS (\$35.00) (Simon & Schuster) As clues and bodies pile up in Greenwich Village the cops strong arm Kinky as their man. He has to prove otherwise.

FULMER, DAVID JASS (\$32.00) (Harcourt) In the rowdy red-light district of New Orleans of 1909, four players of the new music they call "jass" have turned up dead. When Creole detective Vincent St. Cyr begins to investigate he discovers that all the victims played in the same band and the only one still alive has gone into hiding. The first in the series is Chasing the Devil's Tail (\$18.95 trade paperback).

FYFIELD, FRANCES LOOKING DOWN (\$51.00) We ordered these from England and they have failed to show up. But they will, with any luck, so reserve one now.

GALGUT, DAMON QUARRY (\$29.99) (McClelland & Stewart) On a lonely stretch of highway in rural South Africa a minister, on his way to a new congregation, picks up a hitchhiker. Turns out the hitchhiker is a fugitive from the law who kills the minister and assumes his identity. The local police chief is suspicious.

GALLOWAY, GREGORY AS SIMPLE AS SNOW (\$35.00) (Putnam) Anna Cayne, a spooky girl with a penchant for riddles, short-wave radios, Houdini tricks, and ghost stories, spends most of her time writing obituaries for every living person in town. She disappears leaving behind a dress placed neatly near a hole in the frozen river and a string of unanswered questions.

GARDNER, ERLE STANLEY DANGER ZONE AND OTHER STORIES (\$45 cloth, \$29 trade paperback) (Crippen & Landru) A collection of stories originally published in the pulps.

GEORGE, ELIZABETH WITH NO ONE AS WITNESS

(\$37.95) (Harper Collins) See *Wendy's Picks*. "Absolutely fabulous" says Wendy.

GISCHLER, VICTOR SUICIDE SQUEEZE (\$33.00) (Delacorte) A million dollars goes to the person who brings Yakuza boss Ahira Kurisaka the Joe DiMaggio autographed baseball card that Teddy Folger got from the man himself. Unknown to down-on-his-luck repo man Conner Samson, who has been hired to repossess Teddy's boat, the baseball card is on board and some tough men are on its trail. Set in 1954.

GLASS, LESLIE FOR LOVE AND MONEY (\$33.95) (Ballantine) When her best friend, Carol, asks stockbroker Annie Custer to do a slightly illegal favour for her parents Annie reluctantly agrees and is swept into a family feud that proves to be dangerous.

GUILFOILE, KEVIN CAST OF SHADOWS (\$34.95) (Knopf) David More is a fertility doctor in Chicago specializing in reproductive cloning. His seventeen year old daughter is raped and murdered and when he receives her belongings from the police he finds among them a vial containing the killer's DNA. Will he clone his daughter's killer? Why? Three year old Justin Flynn looks like any other three year old but one day his face will be the exact match of a cold blooded killer.

GUNN, ELIZABETH CRAZY EIGHTS (#6) (\$33.95) (Forge) For Jake Hines, Captain of Detectives in Rutherford, Minnesota, the fact that Benny Niemeyer was found not guilty of murder was almost a personal insult. But when Niemeyer is murdered Jake puts his feelings aside and does what he has to do to find his killer.

HADDAM, JANE HEADMASTER'S WIFE (\$34.95) We have sold out of this latest Gregor Demarkian. More are on the way.

HAIG, BRIAN PRESIDENT'S ASSASSIN (\$37.95) The latest in the Sean Drummond series.

HALL, OAKLEY AMBROSE BIERCE AND THE ACE OF SHOOTS (\$40.00) (Viking) 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.

HALL, PATRICIA DEAD RECKONING (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) The US edition of this series set in Yorkshire featuring DCI Michael Thackeray. Racial tensions are high in Bradfield when it seems the local mill will be making staff cuts. When one of the mill owners turns up dead Thackeray investigates. In the meantime his girlfriend, reporter Laura Ackroyd, investigates the disappearance of a Saira Khan, a gifted student from a Muslim family.

HAMILTON, DENISE SAVAGE GARDEN (\$32.00) (Scribner) 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. Number four in the series, the first being Jasmine Trade (\$9.99).

HAMILTON, LAURELL K LUNATIC CAFE (\$34.00) A re-issue in hardcover of the fourth in the Anita Blake series.

HAMILTON, LAURELL K STROKE OF MIDNIGHT (\$33.95) (Ballantine) Meredith Gentry, private investigator, is also Princess Meredith, heir to the darkest throne faerie has to offer, is always on her guard against assassination attempts. Number four in the series.

HAMILTON, LYN MOAI MURDERS (\$34.00) (Berkley) Antiques dealer Lara McClintoch takes her first ever vacation to Easter Island with her friend Moira. To learn more about the stone carvings she and Moira crash a conference being held at their hotel. Murder follows. **Signed copies** available.

HAMMOND, GERALD SAVING GRACE (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Agency nurse and physiotherapist Grace Gillespie is offered work in Scotland near her home town nursing a patient recovering from an accident. Grace knows her patient's injuries do not match

up with his version of the accident and she doesn't know what he is trying to hide. This might be the beginning of a new series.

HART, CAROLYN DEATH OF THE PARTY (\$33.95) (Morrow) Max Darling has been hired to uncover the killer of wealthy Jeremiah Addison. To set the stage Addison's sister-in-law has invited everyone back to Golden Silk, his luxurious private island estate, who was in attendance during his last weekend. Annie Darling tags along for the fun.

HARVILL, KEN KILL WHITEY (\$34.95) (Uglytown) A strange novel about two mob families in Butchers Harbor who are fighting it out for control. A debut novel.

HAYDER, MO DEVIL OF NANKING (\$29.95) (Harper Collins, Canada) 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.

HENRY, SUE MURDER AT FIVE FINGER LIGHT (\$35.00) (New American Library) 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.

HESS, JOAN GOODBYE BODY (\$34.95) (St. Martin's) Bookstore owner Claire Molly and her daughter, Caron, accept the generosity of one of their customers when they are forced out of their apartment for a few weeks. But staying at the customer's palatial home has its drawbacks, including a dead body in the garden.

HOLMES, RUPERT SWING (\$34.95) (Random House) 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. Comes complete with "original big band CD" of music written and performed by this Tony Award winner.

HOLMS, JOYCE HIDDEN DEPTHS (\$37.95) (Allison & Busby) In book number eight Fizz Fitzpatrick needs help so she turns to barrister Tam Buchanan. An old friend of hers, Irene Lloyd, has disappeared. Also missing is the Rubens painting Irene had been working on. Unfortunately this author is pretty much unavailable as all the earlier titles are out of print. The seventh, Hot Potato (\$13.95), is slated to be reprinted in May and we can let you know if that actually happens. Marian, the sleuth, found that one listed under "Holmes" and ordered some. Funny if it turns out to not be our Holms! Wendy read and loved this one.

IGGULDEN, CONN FIELD OF SWORDS (\$35.00) (Delacorte) Caesar leaves Rome for the foothills of the Alps and with an army made in his own image he begins a charge through Gaul, across the English Channel, and to the wilds of tribal Britain. The first two in the series are The Gates of Rome and The Death of Kings (\$10.99 each).

ISHIGURO, KAZUO NEVER LET ME GO (\$34.95) (Knopf, Canada) 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).

JAMES, DEAN BAKED TO DEATH (\$31.00) (Kensington) Simon Kirby-Jones is curious about the local medieval faire that is coming to the small English village of Snupperton-Mumsley where he is now living. But Tristan Lovelace, the man who made Simon a vampire, has arrived in town to make a documentary about the faire and is making Simon's life miserable. The others in the series are

Posted to Death, Faked to Death, and Decorated to Death (\$7.99 each).

JARDINE, QUINTIN ALARM CALL (\$34.95 cloth, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) Oz Blackstone goes to the help of his ex-wife, Primavera Phillips, when she is cheated out of her fortune and robbed of her baby boy, Tom, by his lying, cheating con-man father. Number eight in the series.

JOHNSTON, DOROTHY TROJAN DOG (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) When Rae Evans, a powerful Australian bureaucrat and friend of her dead mother, offers Sandra Mahoney a job she jumps at the chance to get back into the work force. Days later Rae is accused of theft and computer fraud but Sandra believes the charges are false and begins to investigate the supposed theft. Originally published in Australia in 2000.

KANON, JOSEPH ALIBI (\$35.95) (Henry Holt) Adam Miller has come to Venice in 1946 to visit his widowed mother and to forget the horrors he witnessed as a U.S. Army war crimes investigator in Germany. When he falls in love with Claudia, a Jewish woman scarred by her experiences during the war, he is forced to confront a Venice still haunted by atrocities it would rather forget. Los Alamos (\$10.99), The Perfect Spy (\$9.99), and The Good German (\$20.00 trade paperback) are his three earlier novels.

KIDD, SUE MONK MERMAID CHAIR (\$34.99) (Viking) Inside the church of a Benedictine monastery on Egret Island, just off the coast of South Carolina, resides a beautiful and mysterious chair ornately carved with mermaids and dedicated to a saint who, legend claims, was a mermaid before her conversion. Jessie is summoned home to the island to cope with her eccentric mother's seemingly inexplicable act of violence but will the power of the mermaid chair alter the course of her life? From the writer of The Secret Life of Bees (\$21.00 trade paperback).

KING, JONATHON KILLING NIGHT (\$35.00) (Dutton) Detective Sherry Richards asks her boyfriend, Max Freeman, for help in proving an ex-cop is a serial killer. Trouble is, Max used to be a cop and said cop saved his life a number of years ago. The first in the series is The Blue Edge of Midnight (\$9.99) which won the Edgar for Best First Novel.

KLAVAN, LAURENCE SHOOTING SCRIPT (\$33.95) Sequel to Cutting Room (\$10.99), one of J.D.'s Picks a few months ago.

KOZAK, HARLEY JANE DATING IS MURDER (\$27.95) (Doubleday) Wollie Shelly is a greeting-card artist struggling to keep afloat and searching for the love of her life. She agrees to be a contestant on the reality TV show Biological Clock: six eligible singles date each other and the TV audience votes on which couple would make the best parents. When her friend Annika disappears Wollie finds herself in the middle of an FBI investigation. The first in the series is Dating Dead Men (\$17.95 trade paperback).

LEON, DONNA BLOOD FROM A STONE (\$31.95) (Atlantic Monthly Press) On a cold night shortly before Christmas, a street vendor is killed in a scuffle in Campo Santo Stefano, Venice. Commissario Guido Brunetti can't figure out who would want to kill an African immigrant peddling goods after hours without a work permit but he redoubles his efforts to unearth the truth when told to cease his investigation.

LEWIS, ROY HEADHUNTER (\$40.00) A more reasonable price for this fifteenth Arnold Landon novel. We originally got them in 2004.

LOCK, JOAN DEAD END (\$40.00) (Severn House) When Phoebe Threapleton is found dead on a bed in a department store in Newcastle, Inspector Best is baffled. Set in Victorian England.

LOVESEY, PETER CIRCLE (\$54.00) The UK edition of the ninth Peter Diamond novel. Special orders only. The US edition of this novel will be out in June 2005, tentative price around \$34.00.

LUNN, JONATHAN KILLIGREW AND THE SEA DEVIL (\$34.95) (Headline) 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. Number six in the series.

MCCARRY, CHARLES TEARS OF AUTUMN (\$36.00) (Overlook) A re-issue of the 1975 bestseller. Secret Agent Paul Christopher knows who arranged the assassination of John F. Kennedy and why, but he is ordered to desist from investigating.

MCDERMID, VAL STRANDED (\$50.00) (Flambard) 325 signed and numbered copies of this short story collection were all that were printed and we got our hands on a small quantity. "Brilliant" says Wendy. Limited supply, so apologies if we run out.

MACDONALD, MARIANNE THREE MONKEYS (\$39.95) (Severn House) Dido Hoare, antiquarian bookshop owner, is walking her son home one afternoon when he says there is a monkey loose on the street. Dido assumes this is a figment of his imagination until it rampages through her kitchen. She tries to restore the monkey to its owner but he disappears after finding the dismembered body of a girl in a pile of rubbish sacks across from the bookshop.

MCEWAN, IAN SATURDAY (\$34.00) (Knopf, Canada) Henry Perowne is a successful London neurosurgeon who has a minor traffic accident on his way to work. To Perowne's 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.

MACPHERSON, RETT THICKER THAN WATER (\$32.95) (St. Martin's) Genealogist Torie O'Shea is saddened by the death of her mentor and boss, Sylvia, who has finally passed away at the age of 102. She is surprised to learn that Sylvia left her all her worldly possessions including the Gaheimer House, the site of the local historical society. In clearing out her things Torie finds an old postcard from the late twenties with a photograph of a little girl on the front and an ominous message on the back. Who is the little girl?

MALLINSON, ALLAN ACT OF COURAGE (\$39.95) (Bantam, UK) Christmas 1826 finds Matthew Hervey of the 6th Light Dragoons a prisoner of the Spanish. His friends are rushing to his aid with an audacious escape plan.

MANKELL, HENNING SECRETS IN THE FIRE (\$25.95) (Annick Press) Winner of the 2002 International Sankei Children's Publishing Culture Award. This is based on a true story of a young girl living in war-torn Mozambique, and how she transcends the horror that shattered her childhood when she stepped on a landmine.

MARSTON, EDWARD EXCURSION TRAIN (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) Two men are strangled by a noose on a train and Detective Inspector Robert Colbeck and Sergeant Victor Leeming investigate. Set in Victorian England. The first in the series is The Railway Detective (10.95).

MARTIN, NANCY CROSS YOUR HEART AND HOPE TO DIE (\$29.00) (New American Library) The Blackbird sisters are back in their fourth adventure. Nora's boss is discovered, shot execution-style, and trussed up in expensive party hose. A trademark of her mob boyfriend's family. The first three in this delightful series are How to Murder a Millionaire, Dead Girls Don't Wear Diamonds, and Some Like It Lethal (\$9.99 each).

MATTURRO, CLAIRE WILDCAT WINE (\$33.95) (Morrow) Obsessive health nut and tough-as-nails attorney, Lilly Cleary, has her hands full with a psychic client and a Nazi next-door neighbour who keeps reporting her to the police. When an obnoxious partner in her firm is murdered she investigates. The first in the series is Skinny Dip (\$9.99) and it was "delightful" says Marian.

MITCHELL, GLADYS SLEUTH'S ALCHEMY (\$45 cloth and

\$29 trade paperback) (Crippen & Landru) Short stories featuring Mrs. Beatrice Lestrage Bradley and others.

MIYABE, MIYUKI SHADOW FAMILY (\$34.95) (Kodansha) Police investigating the double murder of a middle-aged company employee and his college-age girlfriend discover e-mail correspondence linking the victim with members of an online fantasy family, in which he plays the part of "Dad". Translated from Japanese.

MOFFAT, GWEN DYING FOR LOVE (\$35.00) (Carroll & Graf) In the sleepy little village of Culchet in the Lake District, England, nothing ever happens. Two murders and a missing child live things up in a hurry..

MORGAN, RICHARD WOKEN FURIES (\$34.95 cloth, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Gollancz) A savage young envoy called Takeshi Kovacs is brought out of storage to up-root the rebellion and crush it. A science fiction thriller. The first two in the series are Altered Carbon (\$9.99) and Broken Angels (\$10.99).

NADEL, BARBARA DEADLY WEB (\$34.95 cloth, \$24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) Inspectors Cetin Ikmen and Mehmet Suleyman follow an internet trail that leads them to an underworld of Goth nightclubs and Satanic worship. They are trying to figure out why two young people committed suicide. Number seven in the series.

NELSCOTT, KRIS WAR AT HOME (\$34.95) This is the fifth Smokey Dalton private eye novel.

NELSON, JAMES L THIEVES OF MERCY (\$37.95) (Morrow) The first in this Civil War naval fiction series, Glory in the Name (\$21.95), won the American Library Association's 2004 W.Y. Boyd Award for Excellence in Military Fiction. In the second novel, Captain Samuel Bowater, engineer Hieronymus Taylor, and the survivors of the crew are to take command of a new ironclad warship being built in Memphis, having lost their ironclad Yazoo River. They take passage upriver from "Mississippi" Mike Sullivan, one of the wild, undisciplined captains of the River Defense Squadron. But the ship is only half built when they arrive and the Yankees are closing in fast.

NICHOLSON, DEBORAH EVENING THE SCORE (\$40.00) (Severn House) Front-of-the-house manager Kate Carpenter, of Calgary's largest theatre company, has just recovered from the murder of a patron in her theatre's lobby (House Report, out of print) when she learns that a flooded concert hall results in a huge piano competition being moved to her theatre. A dead body hanging from the second balcony of the theatre does not bode well.

O'BRIEN, CHARLES NOBLE BLOOD (\$37.99) (Severn House) Paris 1787. A deaf maid at the Court of Versailles is accused of murdering the Duchesse of Saumur, one of Marie Antoinette's intimates. Anne Cartier, teacher at the world-famous Institute for the Deaf, is drawn into the investigation.

O'BRIEN, MARTIN JACQUOT AND THE WATERMAN (\$100.00 First editions, 24.95 trade paperback) (Headline) A wonderful debut novel according to both Marian and Wendy. We sold out of our original order pretty quickly, only to find that the entire print run had been sold out and that was that. Actually, our first clue was when American dealers started calling us to order the book! Apparently the print run was about 1,100 copies only and a tiny number came to Canada. We did manage to track down a few more copies from others sources but they were expensive. Forget the hardcover, get the trade paper and enjoy the read.

PAGE, KATHERINE HALL BODY IN THE SNOWDRIFT (\$33.95) (Morrow) When caterer Faith Fairchild learns of her father-in-law's plans to celebrate his seventieth birthday by treating his entire family to a weeklong stay at Pine Slopes resort her reaction is mixed. When she finds a dead body on the slopes and one catastrophe follows another, Faith investigates.

PARKER, BARBARA SUSPICION OF RAGE (\$36.00) (Dutton) Miami lawyers Gail Connor and Anthony Quintana have mar-

ried 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 is in danger, and unless he defects, he could be killed.

PARKER, ROBERT B COLD SERVICE (\$36.00) (Putnam) Hard to believe this is number thirty-two in the Spenser series. Our hero learns that the Ukrainian mob is responsible for the hit on Hawk that left him brutally injured and near death.

PATTERSON, JAMES & HOWARD ROUGHAN HONEYMOON (\$39.95) (Little, Brown) Why is the FBI so interested in Nora Sinclair? Mysterious things keep happening to people around her, especially men.

PELECANOS, GEORGE DRAMA CITY (\$34.95) (Little, Brown) Ex-con Lorenzo Brown loves his work. In his job as an officer for the Humane Society, he looks for dogs that are mistreated and makes their lives better. His parole officer, Rachel Lopez, takes to the bars at night looking for drugs and sex. Lorenzo needs her to help him from getting sucked back into the battleground he left, but she is having her own troubles. The start of a new series.

PENMAN, SHARON KAY PRINCE OF DARKNESS (\$36.00) (Putnam) Justin de Quincy hastens to Paris at the request of his former lover Lady Claudine, but it is Prince John that seeks his help. He wants Justin to find and destroy a document that implicates him in a plot to kill his brother, King Richard. Only when he realizes that this document may also hurt the woman he serves, Eleanor of Aquitaine, does de Quincy agree to help. The three earlier books in the series are The Queen's Man (\$9.99), Cruel as the Grave (\$9.99), and Dragon's Lair (\$21.00 trade paperback).

PERRY, ANNE LONG SPOON LANE (\$35.95) (Ballantine) Thomas Pitt of the Special Branch joins forces with his old enemy, Sir Charles Voisey, to root out the leader of an Anarchist group trying to destroy the civil liberties in England. It seems the leader of the group is Inspector Wetron of Bow Street. Of course Charlotte and her great aunt Lady Vespasia help. We have a limited number of **signed copies**. If you have not read this lengthy series set in Victorian England start with the first, The Cater Street Hangman (\$9.99).

PETERS, ELIZABETH SERPENT ON THE CROWN (\$36.95) (Morrow) With the ban on their archaeological activities lifted Amelia Peabody and her family return to the Valley of the Kings in 1922. But a widow's strange story, and even stranger request, is about to plunge them into a storm of secrets, treachery and murder. We have a limited number of **signed copies**.

PICOULT, JODI VANISHING ACTS (\$36.00) Delia Hopkins has led a charmed life. Raised in rural New Hampshire by her widowed father she now has a young daughter, a handsome fiancé, and her own search-and-rescue bloodhound, which she uses to find missing people. And then a policeman knocks on her door, revealing a secret that changes the world as she knows it.

PILKINGTON, JOHN MAPMAKER'S DAUGHTER (\$39.99) (Severn House) Spring 1592 in the Berkshire Downs, and what starts as a quiet day for Thomas the Falconer and his young helper, Ned Hawes, turns into one of intrigue and murder when a fire at one of Sir Robert Vicary's tenant farms reveals the body of Simon Haylock.

POWELL & MEAGHER CURSE OF CAIN (\$34.95)

PRONZINI, BILL NIGHTCRAWLERS (\$34.95) (Forge) It's been quiet at the San Francisco agency Nameless founded. But soon both he and Jake are searching for their partner, Tamara, who has been kidnapped and taken to a trailer in the woods. They have a race against time.

PYPER, ANDREW WILDFIRE SEASON (\$29.95) (Harper Collins, Canada) Mike McEwan is a hard-drinking, fist-fighting, fire chief for the town of Ross River in the Yukon. A hunting

party seeking out one of the last giant grizzlies runs into trouble and a fire, set by human hands, causes Mike a ton of grief. From the author of Lost Girls (\$10.99). **Signed copies** for the moment.

QUIGLEY, SHEILA RUN FOR HOME (\$48.50)

RABB, JONATHAN ROSA (\$34.95) (Crown) In the last days of World War I a serial killer is stalking the streets of Berlin making life difficult for Detective Inspector Nikolai Hoffner and his young assistant Hans Fichte. Very good.

RHEA, NICHOLAS CURSE OF THE GOLDEN TROUGH (\$51.00) (Constable) Special orders only.

RIEHL, GENE SLEEPER (\$32.95) (St. Martin's) 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, CANDACE CRUEL COURTSHIP (\$60.00) (Heinemann) This is the third in the Margaret Kerr series. Managed to only get a small quantity but we are trying to get more.

ROBERTS, DAVID MORE DECEIVED (\$35.00) (Carroll & Graf) 1937 and Lord Edward Corinth is investigating a murder in the Foreign Office. The victim may have been leaking unauthorized information to Winston Churchill about England's rearmament program and this may have to do with his untimely demise. Verity Browne is in Spain following up a scoop.

ROBINSON, MARILYNE GILEAD (34.95) (Harper Collins, Canada) Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for 2004, we decided to carry this book although it is not a mystery. In 1956, toward the end of Reverend John Ames's life he begins a letter to his young son, an account of himself and his forebears.

ROBINSON, PETER STRANGE AFFAIR (\$54.00) (Macmillan) This is the UK edition for the completists.

ROWE, ROSEMARY ENEMIES OF THE EMPIRE (\$34.95) (Headline) On a business trip with Marcus Septimus, his benevolent patron, Libertus is shocked by the glimpse of a familiar face. His pursuit leads him into the murky world of racketeering, treason, and murder. Number seven in the series.

ROWLANDS, BETTY DEADLY OBSESSION (\$39.95) (Severn House, UK) When Arthur Soames is found with a broken neck the police rule it an accident. His daughter, Sabrina, believes it was murder. She turns to Sukey Reynolds for help.

SAGE, ANGIE SEPTIMUS HEAP: MAGYK (\$21.99) (Harper Collins) This kids book is for all the kids who find Philip Pullman and J.K. Rowling's just the ticket. A fantastic journey filled with quirky characters, this is the debut of what Marian is hoping will be a lengthy series. The seventh son of the seventh son, Septimus Heap, is stolen the night he was born by a midwife who had pretended he was dead. As if in exchange, his father, Silas Heap, comes across a bundle in the snow containing a newborn girl with violet eyes. Who is this baby? And what happened to Septimus? Is there a connection. There is also a magical CD included.

SHAW, CATHERINE FLOWERS STAINED WITH MOONLIGHT (\$39.95) (Allison & Busby) When the mother of a suspected murderer turns up on Vanessa Duncan's doorstep seeking help, the schoolmistress travels from Cambridge to London to Paris to seek justice. Set in the late 1800s. The first in the series, Three Body Problem (\$10.95), is wonderful says Marian.

SIEGEL, JAMES DETOUR (\$34.95) (Warner) After five years of trying to have their own child Paul and Joanna Breidbart travel to Columbia to adopt a baby girl. One afternoon they briefly leave their baby daughter with their new nanny. When they return, something is disturbingly different about their child.

SILVA, DANIEL PRINCE OF FIRE (\$38.00) (Putnam) Number eight featuring art restorer and former Israeli intelligence operative Gabriel Allon.

SKIBBINS, DAVID EIGHT OF SWORDS (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Warren Ritter sets up his card table on a busy street corner

in Berkeley and reads tarot cards for money. When a young girl has her fortune read, and later disappears, Warren feels responsible. Partially because he had hidden from her her tenth card, Death. A debut novel.

SMITH, MARK HASKELL DELICIOUS (\$31.95) (Atlantic Monthly Press) When a TV producer flies to Hawaii to film a pilot, a fight breaks out over who should cater the event. Marian says she is not sure if she will read it based on the reviews. You be the judge: "...comic violence, good natured swearing, cannibalism, ...and some truly perverse sex."-- *Kirkus Reviews*. "I haven't laughed so hard or so often at a crime novel in years. Delicious is a wonderfully perverse book and I recommend it in the highest possible terms, with this caveat: Don't read it before dinner"-- *Scott Phillips*. I might read it. I like **Scott Phillips** and I loved his novel Ice Harvest (\$18)

STEPHEN, MARTIN GALLEON'S GRAVE (\$30.00) This is number three in the series but the shipment from the UK has gone awry so it might be a little while before we have some to sell you. But reserve one anyway.

STRIBLING, T S DR. POGGIOLI: CRIMINOLOGIST (\$45 cloth, \$29 trade paperback) (Crippen & Landru) A collection of stories originally published between 1929 and 1935. These stories present a penetrating view of race relation in the USA during the 1930s.

STROHMEYER, SARAH BUBBLES BETROTHERD (\$29.00) 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 need to be engaged to get out of an overseas job transfer. Number five in the series.

SWAIN, JAMES MR. LUCKY (\$27.95) (Ballantine) Ricky Smith was a small town loser but he is now winning at everything he touches. Why? A desperate casino hires Tony Valentine to pry into Ricky's past and find out what is going on.

THOMAS, WILL TO KINGDON COME (\$31.50) (Touchstone) 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.

THOMSON, KEITH PIRATES OF PENSACOLA (\$33.95) (St. Martin's) When Morgan Cooke, the cowardly, landlubbing, accountant is kidnapped by his father he learns that piracy is a part of his heritage and it still flourishes. (Didn't he see Pirates of the Caribbean?) He wakes up on board a boat in the middle of the Caribbean and learns of his family's feud with another pirate family that comes to a head when a treasure map turns up.

THURLO, AIMEE & DAVID WHITE THUNDER (\$33.95) (Forge) FBI area supervisor asks Navajo Tribal Police to help locate Andrew Thomas, a federal agent who disappeared after interrupting a Sing, a Navajo ritual being performed by a group of medicine men. Special Investigator Ella Clah is assigned to the case. The tenth in the series.

TISHY, CECELIA NOW YOU SEE HER (\$34.95) (Mysterious Press) Boston detective Frank Devaney asks Regina Cutter to help him determine if he put the right man behind bars thirteen years ago. Regina is following in her Aunt's footsteps as an unofficial consultant (psychic) to the police department. The first in a new series.

TODD, MARILYN STONE COLD (\$40.95) We hope to be getting this in soon. Please reserve a copy and we will do our best. Number eleven in the series.

TRACY, P. J. DEAD RUN (\$35.00) (Putnam) Monkeewrench and Live Bait (\$9.99 each) are the first two in the series and I think

Marian finally won the fight to make this her pick. So see *Marian's Picks*.

TWINING, JAMES DOUBLE EAGLE (\$34.95) (Harper Collins, UK) A debut novel by, you guessed it, one of the tea Twinings, although this novel has nothing to do with tea. The Double Eagle is a coin that supposedly does not exist. But the "non-existent" coin was stolen from Fort Knox. I don't know who won the battle of the picks so see either *Marian's Picks* or *Wendy's Picks*.

VAN MIL, ILONA SUGARMILK FALLS (\$34.99) (McClelland & Stewart) For years the residents of Sugarmilk Falls have lived with secrets. When a stranger comes to town trying to find answers, gossip turns to fear and fear turns to blame. A debut novel.

VANTREASE, BRENDA RICKMAN ILLUMINATOR (\$34.95) (St. Martin's) Marian says: "My friends from Poisoned Pen had read and loved this novel and it sounded intriguing, so I read it. The story is set in the late fourteenth century when all books were hand written and illustrated. Finn is a master illuminator who works not only for the Church but also, in secret, for the heretical Oxford cleric John Wycliffe. He and his daughter are billeted at Blackingham Manor where Lady Kathryn is torn between the King's taxes and the Church's tithes. A very good story but with perhaps a bit too much death."

[VARIOUS]BRUCE, MAGGIE ed MURDER MOST CRAFTY (\$31.00) (Berkley) "Crafty" stories from **Susan Wittig Albert, Monica Ferris, Margaret Maron** and others. Included in an appendix are addresses and web sites for such crafts as furniture painting, basketry, candle-making and others.

[VARIOUS/MORGAN, JILL ed CREATURE COZIES (\$35.00) (Berkley) A collection of stories featuring crime-solving canines and sleuthing cats from **J.A. Jance, Jan Burke, Carole Nelson Douglas** and others.

WALSH, MARCIE and MALONE, MICHAEL KILLING CLUB (\$28.95) (Hyperion) Ten years ago a group of friends started the Killing Club in Gloria, New Jersey, 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 club. 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.

WARD, LIZA OUTSIDE VALENTINE (\$32.95) (Henry Holt) A debut novel told by three different voices. See *David's Picks* for more.

WEBER, KEN MINI FIVE MINUTE MYSTERIES (\$6.95) (Running Press) A miniature edition. Seven five minute mysteries, so that should take you all of 35 minutes. No peeking at the included solutions included. Cute.

WEBER, RICHARD MISS GAZILLIONS (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) Daniel O'Sullivan has lived high off the hog; twenty years on his yacht in the Caribbean. But all that ends when his father dies and the yacht becomes the bank's. Now he's working as a landlord in Brooklyn, devising ways to get back to his tropical paradise. When the young woman in the upstairs apartment asks him for help, and shows him the two bags of loot she salvaged from a car accident, his life gets even more hectic.

WEINER, ELLIS BIG BOAT TO BYE-BYE (\$35.00) A DVD of dirty outtakes of *The Playground Pals*, a children's TV show, falls into the hands of the bad guys who blackmail the producers of the show. The producers hire Pete Ingalls to get the DVD back. The first in the series is Drop Dead My Lovely (\$20.00 trade paperback)

WHITE, GLORIA DEATH NOTES (\$39.95) (Severn House) Ronnie Ventana is back in her fifth outing, eight years after the fourth, and in that time the earlier novels have all gone out of print.

Shame, that. When Ronnie invites her friend and mentor, Blackie Coogan to join her at a concert featuring the greatest tenor sax player and composer alive she is not expecting murder. Wendy really likes this author.

WHITE, RANDY WAYNE DEAD OF NIGHT (\$36.00) (Putnam) 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 (\$38.00) (Dutton) Friend and fellow therapist Hannah Grant has died at the office, mysteriously and suddenly. The police are baffled but psychologist Alan Gregory has the means to decipher Hannah's clues and lead him to the answers.

WILCOX, JOHN ROAD TO KANDAHAR (\$34.95)

WINSLOW, DON THE POWER OF THE DOG (\$35.95) (Knopf) Stop press! Just in! Finally, finally, a new novel from the author A Cool Breeze on the Underground (\$8.50) and California Fire and Life (\$9.99), two excellent reads. The players in this novel: a DEA agent, a drug lord, a call girl, a hit man, a priest. Haven't read it yet but it going straight to the top of the unread pile.

WOODS, STUART TWO DOLLAR BILL (\$38.00) (Putnam) Stone Barrington, Manhattan cop turned lawyer, back in his tenth outing, facing down a southern flimflam man.

WRIGHT, NANCY MEANS MAD COW NIGHTMARE (\$33.95) (Thomas Dunne) When two of Ruth Willmarth's calves get quarantined due to a suspected case of Mad Cow Disease, all hell breaks loose on her Vermont farm. It seems that a visitor to the farm, who recently had brain surgery in a Toronto hospital, may have contracted the disease. The visitor has disappeared and Ruth has to find her to prove that her cows are not infected. (Yeah, sure, as if there have never been cases of Mad Cow Disease in the US.)

Paperbacks

ABRAHAMS, PETER OBLIVION (\$22.95) By the author of the Edgar nominee Lights Out (\$10.99), The Fan (\$10.99) and many others...Nick Petrov, a PI specializing in missing persons is drowning in clues to a case he can't remember taking on. He's become a bit of a missing person himself.

ABRAHAMS, PETER DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE (\$15.99) **Stephen King** says "I've read all of Peter Abrahams's novels and think that this one is my all-time favourite...As with the Harry Potter books, when stories are this good, terms such as 'juvenile' or 'adult' really cease to have meaning: this is just one walloping good suspense yarn, and I couldn't put it down and go to bed until I'd finished." Thirteen-year-old Ingrid Levin-Hill gets involved in a murder investigation rivaling those solved by her idol, Sherlock Holmes.

ALBERT, SUSAN WITTIG DILLY OF A DEATH (#12) (\$9.99) P.I. Mike McQuaid and Associates (China Bayles and her best friend Ruby) are on the case of the missing Pickle Queen. Phoebe, the Pickle Queen, owner of the biggest little pickle business in Texas has asked them to investigate her plant manager whom she feels is embezzling from her. But just days before the annual Picklefest, Phoebe disappears.

ANDERSON, JAMES AFFAIR OF THE BLOODSTAINED EGG COSY (\$21.00) The classic 1930s country house mystery, superb. First published in 1975.

ANDERSON, JEFFREY SLEEPER CELL (\$10.99) A plague is about to be unleashed on the US. Intelligence traces the threat to Syria but the weapon was developed and spread in the US.

ARMSTRONG, CAMPBELL WHITE RAGE (#3) (\$10.99) When an Asian entrepreneur dies in a suspicious fall from a bal-

cony and an Indian teacher is gunned down in front of her class, it is clear to Glasgow detective Lou Perlman that he is dealing with racially motivated murders. The first two in the series are Bad Fire (\$9.99) and The Last Darkness (\$10.99).

ASHLEY, MIKE MAMMOTH BOOK OF ROARING TWENTIES WHODUNNITS (\$17.95)

ATKINS, ACE DIRTY SOUTH (#4) (\$9.99) Former football player Nick Travers solves problems for his friends. When music mogul Teddy Paris, a former team-mate from the New Orleans Saints, visits Nick and asks him to help find \$700,000 taken from a fifteen-year-old rap prodigy, Nick can't turn down his friend.

BABSON, MARIAN CAT WHO WASN'T A DOG (\$9.99) Originally published as Not Quite a Geisha. Another in the delightful series featuring the ageing movie and stage stars Trixie and Evangeine. Delightful.

BALDWIN, FAITH SKYSCRAPER (\$21.95) Women write pulp? If you think that this is a contradiction in terms then you need to read this series of re-prints from The Feminist Press. Some of the "best of women's writing in the classic pulp genres"--mystery, romance, lesbian--originally published in the 30s, 40s and 50s is being revived. This is more a racy romance than a hardboiled noir, but I liked the cover and since I was ordering the others in this series I didn't want this one to be left out. Others in this series of re-prints are In a Lonely Place (\$21.50) and Blackbird (\$20) by **Dorothy B. Hughes**, The Girls in 3-B (\$19.95) by **Valerie Taylor**, Bunny Lake is Missing (\$18.95) by **Evelyn Piper** etc. . .

BANKS, CARLA THE FOREST OF SOULS (\$24.95 trade paperback, C\$39.95 cloth) Pseudonym of **Danuta Reah**. See the hardcover section for an annotation.

BARNES, LINDA COYOTE (\$9.99) The third Carlotta Carlyle investigation, now back in print.

BARON, ADAM IT WAS YOU (#4) (\$9.99) As she walks home from work, Josephine Thomas is brutally murdered. Billy Rucker had known her, briefly, and at the request of Jo's distraught colleagues, he agrees to look into the murder.

BATEMAN, COLIN MURPHY'S REVENGE (\$24.95 trade paperback, C\$34.95 cloth) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

BEATON, M C AGATHA RAISIN & THE HAUNTED HOUSE (#14) (\$9.99) Whispers, footsteps, and a cold white mist are plaguing Mrs. Witherspoon, but police have failed to come up with any leads. When she turns up dead, Agatha Raisin and her handsome neighbour Paul Chatterton investigate.

BEINHART, LARRY WAG THE DOG (\$22.50) Originally titled American Hero then re-titled Wag the Dog to tie in with the movie, and now re-printed. By the author of the terrific political thriller The Librarian (\$22.50).

BEN, MACINTYRE JOSIAH THE GREAT (\$10.99)

BENACQUISTA, TONINO HOLY SMOKE (\$19.95) Another winner of prestigious French award for crime writing. Tonio has been left a small vineyard somewhere east of Naples by his murdered friend, Dario. The wine is drinkable but an elaborate scheme has been set up and the Mafia is interested. So, by the way, is the Vatican.

BIDULKA, ANTHONY AMUSE BOUCHE (\$9.95) Meet Russell Quant--cute, gay, and a rookie private eye. Delightful. See J.D's Picks.

BIEHL, MICHAEL LAWYERED TO DEATH (#2) (\$23.95) Harvard Law School grad, attorney, chairman of a psychiatric hospital, professor of law, musician and author. . . His second novel featuring hospital attorney, Karen Hayes. The CEO of a Midwest hospital is being set up for a costly sexual harassment claim and it's up to Karen Hayes to protect the hospital.

BLOCK, LAWRENCE BURGLAR WHO LIKED TO QUOTE KIPLING (#3) (\$9.99) An early Bernie Rhodenbar novel.

BLUNDY, ANNA FAITH WITHOUT DOUBT (#2) (\$24.95) Sequel to the excellent Bad News Bible (\$10.99). See the hardcover section for an annotation.

BONNER, HILARY WHEN THE DEAD CRY OUT (\$21.00) Journalist John Kelly and Detective Superintendent Karen Meadows have been only too aware of the disappearance of Clara Marshall and her two children almost three decades ago. Many have suspected the husband, Richard, of having murdered the three but nothing was ever proven. Then extraordinary events reawaken the case and John and Karen are determined to discover what did happen and get justice.

BORN, JAMES O WALKING MONEY (\$9.99) The author has spent more than seventeen years with the US Marshals Service, DEA, and Florida Department of Law Enforcement. And he has seen what Florida criminals can come up with and he's put it all into this book. A fun, fast, debut novel.

BOWEN, RHYS EVANS GATE (#8) (\$9.99) When Constable Evan Evans discovers a beautiful shepherd's cottage in the mountains of Llanfair, Wales, he and his fiancée are thrilled. But as he begins to make repairs he finds a decades old skeleton of a child in their front yard. Will the resolution of this old mystery help shed light on the present day case of the missing girl?

BOWERS, DOROTHY POSTSCRIPT TO POISON (\$21.50) A classic Golden Age novel from a forgotten master of the genre, set in an English cathedral town and introducing Insp. Dan Pardoe. With an introduction by Tom and Enid Schantz, the brains behind Rue Morgue Press

BOX, C J TROPHY HUNT (#4) (\$9.99) Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett discovers some mutilated animals and worries that someone is testing their skills. The discovery of two bodies bearing similar wounds confirms Joe's fears. The fourth in the series.

BRADLEY, LAURA SPRAYED STIFF (#2) (\$10.50) She's a cut above the average sleuth. . . Reyn Martin Sawyer is a San Antonio hair stylist with a head for solving murders. Sequel to The Brush-Off (\$9.50).

BRETT, SIMON HANGING IN THE HOTEL (#5) (\$9.99) The Hopwicke Country House Hotel, owned by Jude's friend Suzy Longthorne, is host to an event for the all-male society, the Pillars of Sussex. She helps Suzy serve dinner and watches with relief when the men all drag themselves off to their beds. The next morning one of the men is found hanging from the beams of his four-poster bed. The fifth Feathering mystery.

BROOKMYRE, CHRISTOPHER BE MY ENEMY (\$18.50) The owners of Ultimate Motivational Leisure offer the latest in corporate outward bound courses, the sort of team-building exercises that investigative journalist Jack Parlabane thinks are for bankers. But a free trip to Scotland to participate in one, and hopefully change his mind, is in the cards. Except the longer the weekend goes on, the weirder things start to get. And when the group strays on to army land and the army starts firing back, no one can tell what is real and what isn't.

BROWN, ROSELLEN BEFORE AND AFTER (\$20.00), HALF A HEART (\$20.00) and TENDER MERCIES (\$16.95). In the March issue David told you how wonderful a writer this woman is. Here are some of her works for you to sample.

BROWN, SANDRA WORDS OF SILK (\$7.99) A romance novel.

BRUEN, KEN RILKE ON BLACK (\$19.95) First published in 1996. "Amongst writers, Ken Bruen has become the crime novelist to read." Says **George Pelecanos**.

BRUEN, KEN KILLING OF THE TINKERS (#2) (\$17.95) Jack Taylor is back in Galway with a new leather jacket, a pack of smokes, a few grams of coke and Guinness on his mind. So much for never drinking again. (Read The Guards (\$17.95) trade paperback). A big gypsy walks into the bar one day with a simple re-

quest. Jack knows the look in the man's eyes, a look of hopelessness mixed with resolve topped off with a quietly simmering rage; he's seen it in the mirror.

BUCHANAN, EDNA COLD CASE SQUAD (\$11.99) The Cold Case Squad investigates murders at a Miami Beach strip club and an explosion in a garage that rocked a child's birthday party and burnt a father of three to death. These events took place twelve years ago but now are somehow intertwined.

BUFFA, D W BREACH OF TRUST (#6) (\$10.99) Defence attorney Joseph Antonelli delves into an old case, never solved. It has implications for the upcoming US presidential race and for a group of old friends who thought they had put far behind them the sudden death of a young woman years ago. Number six in the series.

BURKE, JAMES LEE NEON RAIN (#1) and HEAVEN'S PRISONERS (#2) (\$22 ea.) The first two Dave Robicheau novel re-issued in trade paperback.

BUTLER, RACHEL ASSASSIN (\$10.99) In her game, the rules are simple: Kill or be killed. "Gritty and sexually charged. The cop and the killer are a dynamite duo." Says **Andrea Kane**, author of I'll Be Watching You.

CANNELL, STEPHEN J VERTICAL COFFIN (\$9.99) Two elite SWAT units from the L.A. Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms appear to be engaged in a deadly midnight war. Officers from both agencies are being sniped at and murdered. As the violence escalates, the mayor directs the LAPD to investigate. Shane Scully is assigned to the case.

CARTER, CHARLOTTE TRIP WIRE (#2) (\$17.95) The second Cook County mystery, sequel to Jackson Park (\$19.95). It is December 1968. In the wake of assassinations and the violence of the Democratic convention in Chicago, the summer of love has turned deadly. Black life in one of the most turbulent times in American history.

CHESNEY, MARION HASTY DEATH (\$9.99) **M C Beaton** writing Edwardian mysteries. Freddy Pomfret, a silly and vacuous young man, was almost certainly up to no good before he was shot in his London flat. Good thing, too, as this is the excuse Lady Rose Summer needs to investigate. She's had enough of being self-supporting and working as a typist.

CHRISTOFFERSON, APRIL PATENT TO KILL (\$10.99) Biopiracy: a new crime for the new century. Greedy drug companies swoop down on remote tribes, steal their folk medicines and native cures, then reap tremendous profits from the patents.

CHURCHILL, JILL IT HAD TO BE YOU (#5) (\$9.99) The Brewster siblings, riding out the Depression penniless but in high style in their late great-uncle's "Grace and Favor" mansion, must expose a cold-blooded criminal before he—or she—kills again.

CLARK, MARY HIGGINS NIGHTTIME IS MY TIME (\$11.99) A twenty-year high-school reunion turns deadly. Five have died and Jean Sheridan is slated to be next.

CLAUSEN, LOWEN THIRD AND FOREVER (\$10.99) Former beat cop-turned-author in his third authentic police procedural. Sequel to First Avenue and Second Watch (\$9.99 each).

COBEN, HARLAN JUST ONE LOOK (\$10.99) When Grace Lawson picks up a newly developed set of family photos, there is a picture that doesn't belong, a photo from at least twenty years ago. When her husband Jack sees the photo he denies he is the man in it. Later that night he and the photo disappear.

COHEN, NANCY J BODY WAVE (#4) (\$7.99) Marla Shore, owner of the Cut 'N Dye Salon, goes undercover as a nurse to help prove that her former husband did not murder his third wife, the very rich Kimberly

COLLINS, KATE SLAY IT WITH FLOWERS (#2) (\$9.99) Abby Knight, newly sprouted flower entrepreneur is going to be the bridesmaid and get to supply the flowers. When members of the

bridal party start disappearing Abby also gets to be sleuth. Sequel to Mum's The Word (\$8.99)

CONNELLY, MICHAEL NARROWS (#9) (\$10.99) FBI agent Rachel Walling gets a call to say that the Poet has returned, The Poet (\$10.99). Harry Bosch gets a call also. The former LAPD detective hears from the wife of an old friend who has recently died. The death appeared natural but this man's ties to the hunt for the Poet make Harry suspicious. What can we say? Mr. Connelly has done it again. One of *Marian's Picks* a year ago.

CONNOLLY, JOHN BAD MEN (\$11.99) This book has some very bad, very nasty men in it. But boy, is it good. Picked by both *Marian* and *Wendy* a year ago. See *Wendy's Picks*.

CONNOLLY, JOHN NOCTURNES (\$18.95) The first collection of short fiction by the author of the Every Dead Thing (\$11.99). You've read and loved his novels, you'll love these. See *Wendy's Picks*.

COOKE, R CAMERON PRIDE RUNS DEEP (\$10.99) "A great submarine story, on par with The Hunt for Red October." – Nelson DeMille. Submarine warfare in WWII.

COOPER, NATASHA PREY TO ALL (\$18.00) Barrister Trish Maguire goes to bat for Deb Gibbert who has been sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering her father. When Trish hears Deb recount the details of the night her father died she comes to believe that circumstantial evidence convicted this innocent daughter and mother of four.

CORNWELL, BERNARD SHARPE'S ESCAPE (\$10.99) Captain Richard Sharpe's job as Captain of the Light Company is under threat from a better connected officer and he has made a new enemy, a Portuguese criminal known as Ferragus. It is 1810 and the French are making yet another attempt to invade Portugal, but Sharpe and Harper have other ideas.

CORNWELL, BERNARD FALLEN ANGELS (\$10.99) The sequel to A Crowning Mercy (\$10.99). Two chronicles of the Lazender family originally published in 1983 as by Susannah Kells. Turns out that she was really Bernard and Judy Cornwell. So I seem to recall.

CORRIHER, KURT SOMEONE TO KILL (\$10.99) Investigative reporter Judith Lyles is murdered. Her ex-husband is devastated and stunned when he finds out that their four year-old daughter also died with her and he's determined to find out why his family was killed.

CORWIN, C R MORGUE MAMA (#1) (\$10.50) Terrific. See *J.D's Picks*.

COULTER, CATHERINE BLOW OUT (\$10.99) The author suggests that you'll be constantly checking your heart monitor while reading this book. Presumably because it's that thrilling...A novel of the FBI.

CRANE, FRANCES GOLDEN BOX (\$19.95) The second Pat and Jean Abbott mystery set on the eve of Pearl Harbor, sequel to The Turquoise Shop (\$24). A Rue Morgue Vintage Mystery.

CUTLER, JUDITH SCAR TISSUE (#1) (\$10.95) By the author of the Kate Power and Sophie Rivers series, the first starring Caffy Tyler. Caffy has moved on and made a new life for herself; she feels safe and has friends. But her past seems to be catching up to her and she's forced to assume a new identity. Why won't the man she once loved, who is now a police officer, help her? Whom can she trust?

CZUCHLEWSKI, DAVID MUSE ASYLUM (\$19.00) Three recent college graduates become entangled by romantic and literary obsessions and their search to uncover the identity of the great modern American writer Horace Jacob Little. A debut novel.

DAHEIM, MARY ALPINE PURSUIT (#16) (\$10.99) Opening night at the local amateur production brings Emma Lord, and the rest of the audience, more than what they expected. They thought

the shooting of one of the actors brilliant, until they realised the bullets in the gun were real.

DANIELS, CLAIRE CRUEL AND UNUSUAL INTUITION

(#3) (\$9.99) Cally Lazar, clairvoyant energy worker, recovering attorney, and reluctant finder of dead bodies, is back for another round of intuitive sleuthing in her third new age adventure. Sequel to Body of Intuition and Strangled Intuition (\$9.99 each).

DAVIES, LINDA FINAL SETTLEMENT (\$24.95)

DEWHURST, RICK BYE BYE BERTIE (\$14.99) Joe La Flam, a Christian Private Detective, is single and desperate to mate. When the lovely Brittany hires him to track down her sister, Bertie, who has run off to join the Druids, you know, the ancient Celtic religion, what's a Christian PI to do? Besides keep his hands to himself?

DICKINSON, DAVID DEATH OF AN OLD MASTER (\$21.00) England 1899 and Titian has come to London. So has a bunch of other great artists in a major exhibition of Venetian paintings.

Shortly after the exhibition opens a leading art critic, Christopher Montague, is found murdered. Lord Francis Powerscourt, the discreet society investigator is called upon to look into the case, and finds that Montague suspected most of the paintings at the exhibition to be fakes. Trade paperback, snuck in from the UK.

DOHERTY, PAUL SEASON OF THE HYAENA (#2) (\$24.95 trade paperback) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

DOHERTY, PAUL SONG OF THE GLADIATOR (#3)

(\$10.99) Christianity, and the deep divisions amongst its adherents, is becoming a threat to the stability of Rome. The Emperor Constantine invites theologians from both sides of the division to come to his villa and debate.

DOOLITTLE, SEAN BURN (\$10.99) Andrew Kindler, an arsonist, (yuk, yuk) has just moved to LA and already he's feeling the heat (yuk, yuk) from the LAPD. He must solve a murder he knows nothing about, find a killer he's never met, and unravel a family secret. His reward for success? To live another day.

(DOYLE)REAVES, MICHAEL SHADOWS OVER BAKER STREET (\$21.00) Twenty tales of terror. Sherlock Holmes and his allies are faced with mysteries whose solutions lay not only beyond the grasp of logic, but of sanity itself.

(DOYLE)WAWR, SIANCEN Y SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE WATSON PASTICHE (\$25) Sixteen more adventures of the dynamic duo, recently discovered at an auction.

DUCHIN, PETER & WILSON, J GOOD MORNING HEARTACHE (#2) (\$9.99) Philip Damon and his orchestra travel to Los Angeles for a six-week gig. But when the body of his fill-in trumpeter is washed up on the shore, Philip sets out with the help of his friend Hercules Platt, ex-cop turned sax player to solve the crime. The first book in this series is Blue Moon (\$9.99).

DUNN, CAROLA DIE LAUGHING (#12) (\$8.99) A visit to the dentist for Daisy Dalrymple Fletcher leads her into another case as she finds him dead in his dentist chair with the nitrous mask strapped to his face. A light and funny series, this is number twelve.

EASTMAN, BRIAN AND NO BIRDS SING (\$21.00 expensive British import paperback) From the UK TV series Rosemary and Thyme. More stock being smuggled in from the UK. Feel free to reserve a copy.

ELKINS, AARON FELLOWSHIP OF FEAR (#1) (\$9.99) The first Gideon Oliver novel, now re-issued.

ELLIS, DAVID JURY OF ONE (\$10.99) Shelly Trotter is a determined lawyer and a children's rights advocate, but she is thrust into the criminal courts when she represents a seventeen-year-old accused of killing a policeman. She begins to suspect he may have been part of an undercover operation to entrap dirty cops. To make matters worse she feels she has a connection to the young man. Something she has kept secret for many years.

ELLORY, ROGER JON GHOSTHEART (\$12.95) Annie O'Neill is single and lonely and works in a second-hand bookstore

in Manhattan. She is intrigued by a stranger who knew her father, dead now for the past twenty years. He shares a story with her that takes her from the gas chambers of Auschwitz to the gangs of 1960s New York, and the rise of an orphaned child to Manhattan kingpin.

EMERSON, KATHY LYNN FACE DOWN BELOW

BANQUETING HOUSE (#8) (\$18.95) Lady Appleton, Gentlewoman, Herbalist, and Sleuth in her eighth adventure. Trade paperback original. Seven words that could terrify any member of the Elizabethan gentry who owned a county house: The queen is coming for a visit.

ENGEL, HOWARD MEMORY BOOK (#11) (\$22.00 trade paperback original) Mentioned this one in the March newsletter, but managed to get the title wrong. So here it is correctly. Benny is recovering from a serious blow to the head, is not able to read and his memory has been damaged. Signed copies.

ERICKSON, K J ALONE AT NIGHT (#4) (\$9.99) Detective Marshall Bahr and his partner Nettie Frisch, investigating a string of old convenience store murders, turn up the file of Andrea Bergstad. She was a beautiful teen who was working alone at night in a desolate rural store when she disappeared. Third Person Singular (\$8.99), Dead Survivors (\$9.99), and Last Witness (\$9.99) are the first three.

EVANOVICH, JANET FULL BLOOM (\$10.99) Co-written with Charlotte Hughes. Paperback original and the fifth in the Full series.

FAIRSTEIN, LINDA KILLS (\$11.99) A rape case handled by Manhattan sex-crime prosecutor Alexandra Cooper is somehow linked to the murder of an impoverished eighty-two-year-old woman which is being investigated by Alexandra's police detective friend Mercer Wallace.

FAWER, ADAM IMPROBABLE (\$22.50 trade paperback, \$34.95 cloth). See the hardcover section for an annotation.

FIELDING, HELEN OLIVIA JOULES AND THE OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION (\$20) Olivia has always wanted to be James Bond, so when this independent beauty journalist gets the chance to really be a spy she jumps at it. A quick read, light and fun and a perfect escape. Maybe not as funny as Bridget Jones's Diary (\$10.99) says Marian but still enjoyable.

FITZHUGH, BILL RADIO ACTIVITY (#1) (\$9.99) Rick Shannon is an unemployed FM rock DJ considering a change in career. But just as he begins selling off his record collection, a job offer comes in from a small station in Mississippi, where a DJ recently stopped showing up for work. After Rick discovers an audiotape that might explain the fate of the DJ, he assumes another identity: Buddy Miles, P.I., and decides to investigate.

FLEMING, CHARLES AFTER HAVANA (#2) (\$20.00) The second Peter Sloan novel. When things had gotten rough for Sloan in Las Vegas and LA, Ivory Coast (\$20), he had ended up in Havana, playing in the Tropicana band, and trying to keep out of trouble. Fat chance. Havana of the late 1950s and all hell is breaking loose: Castro, Batista, Meyer Lansky...

FLETCHER & BAIN MURDER SHE WROTE MAINE MUTINY (\$9.99) A new novel.

FOSSUM, KARIN HE WHO FEARS THE WOLF (#2) (\$11.99) Another fine Scandinavian writer is starting to be translated into English and are we ever lucky. Karin Fossum, who lives in Oslo, has written five novels featuring Norwegian Inspector Konrad Sejer, and this is the second. Excellent. Sequel to Don't Look Back (\$11.99) and also available is When the Devil Holds the Candle (\$24.95).

FRASER, GEORGE MACDONALD FLASHMAN ON THE MARCH (\$24.95 trade paperback, C\$39.95 cloth) Lots of copies of the trade edition on hand but not the cloth yet. We are expecting them soon, so don't panic. Britons are held captive in Africa and Sir

Harry Flashman is on hand to help! What Harry really needed was a place to hide and this seemed to be far enough away.

FREDRICKSON, MICHAEL DEFENSE FOR THE DEAD

(\$10.99) Does Boston attorney Jim Morrissey have a dead man as a client? The FBI tracked down and killed a suspected serial killer but did they get the wrong man? It's not long before Morrissey realizes he's been sent a message from beyond the grave and the murderer is still alive.

FRENCH, NICCI SECRET SMILE (\$10.99) Miranda Cotton has kicked out her boyfriend and she's relieved that she's done with him. Only to have him turn up dating her sister. What is he up to?

FREY, STEPHEN W SHADOW ACCOUNT (\$10.99) When a wayward email crosses the computer of investment banker Conner Ashby, he has no way of knowing who sent it. It seems that a company is engaged in some kind of corporate fraud that could cost millions with high-powered careers at stake. Whoever clicked the send button by mistake isn't about to take any chances and Conner begins a harrowing race for his life.

GARCIA, ERIC HOT AND SWEATY REX (#3) (\$20.00)

When the head of the Raptor mafia asks Vincent Rubio to perform a service, he heads to Miami to investigate a team of Hadrosaurs who are muscling in on Raptor territory. The third in this series featuring dinosaurs who are still alive and committing crimes.

GARDNER, ERLE STANLEY DANGER ZONE AND OTHER STORIES (\$29 trade paperback, \$45 cloth). See the hardcover section for an annotation.

GARDNER, ERLE STANLEY TOP OF THE HEAP (\$8.99)

GARVEY, AMY MURDER IN THE HAMPTONS (\$20) The Hamptons, the "it" crowd, lots of rich people, Tyler Brody (of the wild, passionate, naked pizza-eating weekend fling), and a dead body. What's Maggie Harding to do? Deal with it, of course.

GAUTREAUX, TIM CLEARING (\$20.00) Set in the harsh and hard world of a lumber camp in the Louisiana of the 20s. A story of two brothers, one a shell-shocked WWI veteran, embroiled in a lethal feud with a powerful gangster.

GAYLIN, ALISON HIDE YOUR EYES (\$8.99) New York Rule #1: Don't get involved. New York Rule #2: Don't make eye contact. New York Rule #3: If you must break Rules #1 and #2, get some help from New York's Finest.

GILMORE, JIM DEAD RITE (\$14.95)

GORES, JOE TIME OF PREDATORS (\$21.95) A re-issue of his first novel, originally published in 1969. A classic.

GORMAN, ED BLOOD MOON (\$10.50) New Hope, Iowa. On the surface it's the kind of small-town to restore a hardened FBI agent's faith in America. Underneath, home to a more evil criminal mind than he ever imagined.

GRAFTON, SUE R IS FOR RICOCHET (\$10.99) The Rth in this series. Kinsey Milhone is once again on the job.

GRANGE, JEAN CHRISTOPHE BLOOD RED RIVERS

(\$11.99) A corpse is discovered wedged in an isolated crevice. It has been horribly mutilated. The brilliant but violent ex-commando Pierre Niemans is sent from Paris to the French Alps to lead the investigation. Meanwhile, in a town in south-west France, Karim Abdouf, a young Arab policeman, is trying to find out why the tomb of a young child has been desecrated. When a second body is found the paths of the two policemen cross.

GRAY, ALEX NEVER SOMEWHERE ELSE (#1) (\$21.00 expensive British import) When a series of young women are discovered strangled and mutilated in a Glasgow park, it falls to DCI Lorimer to find their killers. But not without the help of Dr. Brightman, a young psychologist and criminal profiler. "A real threat to Inspector Rebus."—*The Herald*. "Wonderful" says Wendy. Many of you already have A Small Weeping (\$26.95) the second novel in the series.

GUTTRIDGE, PETER GHOST OF A CHANCE (#2) (\$20.00)

The first two Nick Madrid novels--No Laughing Matter (\$20) was the first one--were originally published in the UK in the late 90s, and are now available in US trade paperback editions. The sixth in the series has just been published in hardcover in the UK, Cast Adrift (\$36.95). Great fun.

HAMILL, DENIS HOUSE ON FIRE (\$8.99) In the blink of an eye firefighter Kevin Dempsey's life goes up in smoke: his wife is leaving him, taking his daughter whom she now claims is not his child, and his NYPD brother is being investigated for corruption. And the day had started off so well.

HAMILTON, DENISE LAST LULLABY (#3) (\$10.50) Los Angeles Times reporter Eve Diamond has spent her day at LAX, shadowing US Customs supervisor William Maxwell. He has his eye on a flight coming in from Beijing via Seoul and Tokyo. As the passengers disembark shots ring out and three people who were aboard the plane are killed. Why? The first two in the series are Jasmine Trade (\$9.99) and Sugar Skull (\$10.50).

HAMILTON, LYN MAGYAR VENUS (#8) (\$9.99) After a night on the town that Lara McClintoch vaguely remembers, she awakens the next morning to the news that one of her fellow revelers has committed suicide. Lara feels compelled to find out what really happened the previous evening and since it all seems to tie into a twenty-five-thousand-year-old artefact called the Magyar Venus, she's off to Budapest to investigate. Number eight in this globetrotting archaeological mystery series.

HAMILTON, SYLVIAN GLEEMAIDEN (#3) (\$14.95) One of Marian's Picks when it was published in hardcover. She just loved it. This is the third novel featuring ex-Crusader and relic trader Sir Richard Straccan, and the multiple story lines make for a nice complicated read that does end up dovetailing nicely.

HART, CAROLYN MURDER WALKS THE PLANK (#15) (\$9.99) Annie Darling's murder-mystery cruise turns deadly when one of the revelers plunges overboard. Over the next few days the body count rises and Annie and Max investigate. Number fifteen in the series.

HARVEY, JOHN FLESH AND BLOOD (#1) (\$10.99) Detective Inspector Elder flees as far as it is possible to go in England without running out of land after his wife's betrayal and his retirement from the force. But the release from prison of a man convicted in the rape and murder of a young girl forces him back into action.

HAUS, ILLONA BLUE MERCY (\$10.50) A police procedural.

HEFFERNAN, WILLIAM TIME GONE BY (\$21.95) In 1945 Jake Downing was a rookie detective on the New York City police force. He was called in to investigate the murder of one of the city's most prominent judges. A man was ultimately arrested, convicted and executed for the crime. The case launches Downing's career but he can never escape the knowledge that the wrong man was sent to the chair. Now, facing retirement, Downing decides to reopen the case, to get both the record and his conscience straight.

HELLER, JANE BEST ENEMIES (\$9.99) What's a little betrayal, jealousy, and deceit among friends?

HENRY, SUE SERPENTS TRAIL (#1) (\$9.99) Maxie McNabb is a 63-year-old retiree, who, along with her mini-dachshund Stretch, sets off in her Winnebago for a new life travelling across the USA. A new series that has Maxie in Colorado for her first adventure helping a friend whose house has been burglarised while she was in hospital barely conscious and terminally ill.

HERREN, GREG JACKSON SQUARE JAZZ (\$20.00) "When Herren introduced young, well-muscled former New Orleans bar dancer Scotty Bradley, he gave crime fiction one of its most engaging gay heroes."—Booklist. Sequel to Murder in the Rue Dauphine, (reprinting).

HEWSON, DAVID VILLA OF MYSTERIES (#2) (\$9.99) Rome police officer Nic Costa investigates the discovery of a young

woman's body buried in a bog, possibly the victim of an ancient pagan ritual. He's also investigating the disappearance of a young teenage tourist, last seen getting on a motorcycle with her Italian boyfriend. What he discovers is that both cases might be related. Season for the Dead (\$9.99) is the first. "Terrific reads" say both Marian and Wendy.

HILTBRAND, DAVID DEADER THAN DISCO (#2) (\$9.99) Fame's a killer. The music world is PI Jim McNamara's arena and this time he's searching for rock diva Angel. When the dead body of a rising hoop star is found at her LA pleasure palace, she does a runner. Sequel to Killer Solo (\$9.99).s

HIRAHARA, NAOMI GASA GASA GIRL (#2) (\$17.00) Sequel to Summer of the Big Bachi (\$18). When Mas Arai's estranged daughter asks for his help—her boss has been found dead at the bottom of her koi pond—he rushes to help.

HOFFMAN, JILLIANE RETRIBUTION (#1) (\$10.99) When an elite prosecutor faces the most lethal predator she's ever encountered, it all comes down to a choice between justice and retribution. A debut novel that Wendy enjoyed, but cautions that the first chapters are tough to read as they describe a very vicious attack against a young woman.

HOUSTON, VICTORIA DEAD JITTERBUG (#6) (\$9.99) Loon Lake, Wisconsin, is sure seeing its share of deaths recently. Diehard fisherman Doc Osborne and the prettiest of his fishing buddies, police chief Lewelyn Ferris, investigate the death of Loon Lake's very own Dear Abby.

HOZY, S P IF ONLY TO SAY GOODBYE (#2) (\$15.99) Appointed by a Senate committee after the fall of Saigon to solve the Vietnamese refugee problem that is becoming an embarrassment to the American government, Franklin Reynolds has been in Bangkok for nine months. When he dies under mysterious circumstances his wife wants answers.

HUNTER, STEPHEN HAVANA (\$11.99) Havana, Cuba, 1953 and Earl Swagger has been conned by two young Old Boys of the CIA to become Our Gun in Havana.

HYNES, JAMES KINGS OF INFINITE SPACE (\$20.00) By the author of the fine, fine novel The Wild Colonial Boy (\$19.99). Looking forward to reading this one "...a hilarious and horrifying spoof on our everyday lives and gives true voice to the old adage, "Work is Hell."

INNES, HAMMOND ATTACK ALARM (\$9.99) First published in 1941. A novel of the Blitz.

ISLEIB, ROBERTA FAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (#4) (\$9.99) Cassie Burdette is at Pinehurst playing in a tournament with her formerly estranged father and her grumpy boyfriend. And things are not going well. When people start disappearing...

JAMES, DEAN DECORATED TO DEATH (#3) (\$7.99) When a celebrity interior designer meets his demise at a tea held in his honour at Blitherington Hall, US vampire sleuth Simon Kirby-Jones was surprised that it hadn't happened sooner. The first two in the series are Posted to Death and Faked to Death (\$7.99 each).

JARDINE, QUINTIN STAY OF EXECUTION (#14) (\$10.99) Evil stalks the city of Edinburgh and that's not good as the pope is about to make a visit. Can DCC Bob Skinner find a chink in the armour?

JARDINE, QUINTIN ALARM CALL (#8) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 cloth) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

JOHANSEN, IRIS BLIND ALLEY (\$11.99) Eve Duncan is a forensic sculptor locked in a deadly duel with a serial killer determined to destroy her: one life at a time.

JOYCE, BRENDA DOUBLE TAKE (\$9.99) ...a woman's dangerous quest to protect her twin sister...

KATZENBACH, JOHN MADMANS TALE (\$10.99) It's been twenty years since Western State Hospital in Massachusetts was closed down and its inmates reintegrated into society. Francis Pet-

rel, now middle-aged, leads an aimless, solitary life housed in a cheap apartment. But something triggers memories of the night long ago when a young nurse was sexually assaulted and brutally murdered at the hospital, and with a pencil and bare walls in his apartment Francis feels the need to tell the story.

KELLERMAN, JONATHAN THERAPY (#18) (\$11.99) Detective Milo Sturgis asks Alex Deleware to help when a murdered couple is found in a car on a lonely lane in the hills of Los Angeles. Eighteenth in the series.

KENNEDY, CECILIA ROBBIE BURNS REVIVAL & OTHER STORIES (\$20.95) A collection of ten stories, all centered around the same main character, a lifelong resident and police officer of a typical small Ontario town.

KINCAID, M G LAST VICTIM IN GLEN ROSS (#1) (\$10.50) and LAST SEEN IN ABERDEEN (#2) (\$9.50). Two Sergeant Mornay mysteries. "Rural Scotland rarely felt so malevolent." – *Deadly Pleasures*.

KING, JONATHON SHADOW MEN (#3) (\$9.99) Max tries to solve an eighty-year old mystery, the disappearance of a man and his two sons, working on the first road built through the Everglades.

KING, LAURIE R GAME (#7) (\$10.99) Mary Russell is settling in for a much needed rest with her husband, Sherlock Holmes when a gravely ill Mycroft visits bearing a package that contains the papers of a missing English spy named Kimball O'Hara, (of Rudyard Kipling fame). Mary and Sherlock travel to India to search for the missing operative. Number seven in the series.

KOZAK, HARLEY JANE DATING DEAD MEN (#1) (\$17.95) Los Angeles greeting-card artist Wollie Shelley is dating forty men in sixty days as research for a radio talk-show host's upcoming book, *How to Avoid Getting Dumped All the Time*. She's meeting plenty of eligible bachelors but it's not until she stumbles over a dead body on her way to Rio Pescado, a state-run mental hospital, and is momentarily taken hostage by a charismatic "doctor", who is on the run from the mob, that her life starts to get interesting. "I quite liked it", says Marian. "It was a light-hearted and fun read."

KUNZMANN, RICHARD BLOODY HARVESTS (\$22.95) A first novel set in South Africa. Are the death of children the work of a serial killer or of a butcher harvesting body parts for powerful medicines? Detective Harry Mason and his partner, Jacob Tshabalala, a tribesman and cop, become increasingly convinced that this time they are dealing with a genuine witch.

LAMAR, JAKE RENDEZVOUS EIGHTEENTH (\$19.95)

LEATHER, STEPHEN SOFT TARGET (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$39.95 cloth due soon) When a group of armed police in an elite unit turn maverick and start to rip off drug dealers at gunpoint, undercover cop Dan 'Spider' Shepherd is given his most dangerous mission so far.

LEE, DON COUNTRY OF ORIGIN (\$20.00) Lisa Countryman is half African American and half Asian but when she disappears in Tokyo no one can be bothered looking for her. The American embassy official is preoccupied with an unsavory love affair with the wife of a CIA officer; the Japanese policeman assigned to her case, equally preoccupied.

LEHRER, JIM FLYING CROWS (\$21.00) In 1997, police discover an old homeless man in the Kansas City train station. Birdie Carlucci claims he has lived there since 1933. What's his story? City cop Lieutenant Randy Benton decides to uncover the truth—and that takes him back to the Civil War.

LEVINE, LAURA KILLER BLONDE (\$7.99) Beverly Hills socialite SueEllen Kingsley offers Jaime Austen megabucks to ghost-write a book of hostess tips. When SueEllen winds up dead Jaime investigates.

LIEBER, JULIA THERE CAME TWO ANGELS (\$19.95) A debut novel. Loy was the best and brightest homicide detective in Charlotte, NC, until she pleaded the Fifth in a scandalous trial

against her bighearted partner, Sam MacLean. Sam, now the head of the conservative American Family Freedom Campaign, doesn't know she's gay but does know that she was the best detective in her day and needs her to take care of a very big problem. His boss has found a dead gay hustler in his bed!

LIMON, MARTIN SLICKY BOYS (\$18.95) First published in 1997. US military police in Korea.

LINSLEY, CLYDE DIE LIKE A HERO (#3) (\$9.99) President Harrison has died after only a month in office and Josiah Beede, military hero and lawyer, is asked to investigate. Did Harrison die by the hand of God or by the hand of man? Vice President Tyler, maybe? Distracting him is an affair of the heart.

LIVELY, KATHRYN PITHED (\$18.00) "He pissed me off, Andy...he pissed me off for the last time, so I pithed him." Biology teacher Andy Farmer is hoping his long-time friend, Chuck, was lisping when he said that...

LONG, JEFF YEAR ZERO (\$11.99) An archaeological manhunt is raging in the holy land: a hunt for the historical Jesus. For Nathan Lee Swift, a young American field researcher and expectant father, the line between noble discovery and the plunder of ruins is sacred, until the night he crosses that line. At a Roman landfill beneath the crucifixion grounds known as Golgotha, he yields to his professor's greed and turns common grave robber. Hundreds of miles away, on the island of Corfu, a wealthy collector pries open a fourteen inch holy relic containing a vial of blood dating back to the first century, and unleashes a two-thousand-year-old plague. As the pandemic explodes from the Mediterranean basin and threatens to devour mankind, Nathan Lee gets a chance at redemption.

LONG, JEFF RECKONING (\$11.99) The US military's search for the remains of MIA is never-ending.

LUDLUM, ROBERT MATARESE COUNTDOWN (\$10.99) A re-issue.

LUSTBADER, ERIC VAN BOURNE LEGACY (#4) (\$10.99) Robert Ludlum's best-selling character Jason Bourne returns in a new novel.

MCDOWALL, IAIN PERFECTLY DEAD (#3) (\$10.95) The third in this excellent series with Chief Inspector Jacobson. Study in Death and Making a Killing (\$9.99 each) are the first two in the series and there is lots of stock so start at the beginning.

MACKEEHAN, GARY HUNT (#1) (\$16.95)

MACKINZIE, CLINTON CROSSING THE LINE (#4) (\$10.99) Antonio Burns is a cop; his brother, Roberto, is in jail. Mary Chang is an FBI agent who wants to trade a free pass from prison if Roberto will go undercover into a murderous drug-lord's remote Wyoming operations to help bring him down.

MACNAB, CLAIRE KOOKABURRA GAMBIT (#2) (\$19.95) The second Kylie Kendall mystery, sequel to Wombat Strategy (\$20).

MALLINSON, ALLAN RUMOURS OF WAR (#6) (\$11.99) It is 1826 and Matthew Hervey, newly returned from India, joins a party of officers sent to make an assessment of the treaty England is negotiating with Portugal and to lend support to the Portuguese regent. Number six in the series.

MARGOLIN, PHILLIP SLEEPING BEAUTY (\$10.99) After her father and best friend are murdered, high school soccer star Ashley Spencer, who has a crippling sense of survivor guilt, is offered a scholarship to an elite private school by school dean Casey Van Meter. When Casey is attacked by a serial killer and left in a coma, Ashley doesn't realise that reading the true account of Casey's ordeal, written by Casey's twin brother Miles, will be the key to her survival.

MARTIN, DAVID RALPH DEAD MAN'S BAY (#4) (\$11.99) DS Vic Hallam is ready to chuck it all in. The escalating drugs trade in Southern England can count him as one of its victims as well. Set in Bristol.

MARTIN, ROSEMARY ITS A MOD, MOD, MOD, MOD MURDER (\$9.99) Go-go boots, miniskirts, and murder. New York City in 1964 and everything's groovy. Until death rears its ugly head and spoils the fun. Bummer.

MARTINEZ, GUILLERMO OXFORD MURDERS (\$23) The murderer's methods seem clearly designed to appeal to mathematicians; he seems to know something of logic. And that's enough to intrigue Arthur Seldom, one of the leading minds in logic and his Watson, the young South American mathematician who arrives to study in Oxford.

MEYER, JOANNE THE SINGLE GIRL'S GUIDE TO MURDER (\$17.95) Karen Doucette, showroom girl/model/aspiring actress has to add novice sleuth to her slashes because someone's cut the balls off her gigolo-boy friend and left all the clues pointing at her. What Ms. Doucette to do?

MILLAR, CORMAC AN IRISH SOLUTION (\$10.99) The Irish Minister for Justice is anxious to secure a few big scalps in the Dublin drug trade and Seamus Joyce, Acting Director of the Irish DEA is expected to put himself on the front line of the fight. But he's having a hard time telling the good guys from the bad.

MILLER, JOHN A COYOTE MOON (\$9.99) A novel of lust, baseball, and the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle. In a gone-to-seed trailer park on the edge of the Mojave Desert, quantum physics runs headlong into reincarnation as the park's highly eccentric residents sit around in the evenings drinking home-brewed beer and asking themselves: Can a young, unheard-of rookie baseball player be the latest in a line of reincarnated spirits leading back to Sir Isaac Newton. You'll have to read the book to find out what the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle is, unless you already know, that is.

MINA, DENISE FIELD OF BLOOD (#1) (\$24.95) A new series featuring Paddy Meehan, who has just started work on the *Scottish Daily News*. In Glasgow a toddler goes missing, snatched from the front garden of his home and the police are led to the doors of two eleven-year-old boys. There was supposed to have been a hardcover edition, but no sign of it yet. Wendy enjoyed this one.

MITCHELL, GLADYS SLEUTHS ALCHEMY CASES OF MRS BRADLEY (\$29.00) See hardcover for annotation.

MITCHELL, KIRK SKY WOMAN FALLING (#4) (\$9.99) FBI Special agent Anna Turnipseed, a Modoc Indian from California, and Bureau of Indian Affairs Investigator Emmett Parker, a Comanche from Oklahoma, are a team sent by the Feds wherever there are problems in tribal territory. Their latest assignment takes them to the Oneida lands in upstate New York where Brenda Two Kettles, an elder of the Oneida Tribe, has been found dead in a cornfield, every major bone in her body shattered. She seems to have fallen from the sky. The first three in the series are Cry Dance, Spirit Sickness and Ancient Ones (\$9.99 each).

MONSOUR, THERESA COLD BLOOD (#2) (\$10.99) Homicide detective Paris Murphy tracks a bizarre killer with whom she shares a past. Sequel to Clean Cut (\$10.99).

MOONEY, CHRIS REMEMBERING SARAH (\$11.99) Mike Sullivan is determined to raise his young daughter Sarah as a tough, independent woman. But when she is six years old he takes her sledding, against the wishes of his wife, and she disappears. Five years later she is still missing and the only suspect, Francis Jonah, the former priest believed to be responsible for the disappearance of two other girls, is dying of cancer.

MORGAN, RICHARD WOKEN FURIES (#3) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 cloth) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

MOSLEY, WALTER LITTLE SCARLET (#8) (\$10.50) Just after the devastating riots in Los Angeles in 1965 the police show up on the doorstep of Easy Rawlins and ask for his help. A woman named Little Scarlet is found dead and the police fear that their

presence in the neighbourhood could spark a new inferno. Number eight in the series.

NADEL, BARBARA DEADLY WEB (#7) (\$24.95 trade paperback, \$34.95 cloth) See the hardcover section for an annotation.

NADEL, BARBARA PETRIFIED (#6) (\$10.99) The summer is hot in Istanbul and Cetin Ikmen has his hands full. Can the connection between the cases he is investigating lie in a macabre forgotten art? And why is his protégé, Suleyman, going dangerously off the rails? But there is not much to go on and with little more than his sixth sense telling him something is definitely wrong, he faces an investigation which threatens to rock the very fabric of Turkish society. Full of atmosphere, there are five earlier novels in the series: Belshazzar's Daughter, Chemical Prison, Arabesk, Deep Waters (\$9.99 each), and Harem (\$10.99).

NORMAN, HILARY GUILT (\$10.95) Abigail Allen's dark secret is that when she was thirteen she was responsible for killing her parents and boyfriend in an accident. Now a cellist with a modest career, guilt has become her constant companion. She meets Silas Graves, a charming photographer, who has a secret of his own.

NOVA, CRAIG UNIVERSAL DONOR (\$19.00)

OAKES, ANDY DRAGON'S EYE (\$22.00) Chief Investigator Sun Piao and his boisterously faithful and foul-mouthed deputy, Yaobang, investigate a case that no homicide detective would want: eight bodies mutilated beyond recognition, shackled together and writhing with the tide in a bizarre choreography of death on the flats of the Huangpu River. No morgue will admit the bodies. A debut novel.

OATES, JOYCE CAROL RAPE, A LOVE STORY (\$16.95) Teena Maguire should not have tried to shortcut her way home that Fourth of July. Not after midnight, not through Rocky Point Park. Not the way she was dressed. Not with her twelve-year-old daughter.

O'BRIEN, MARTIN JACQUOT AND THE WATERMAN (\$24.95 trade paperback) A debut novel. Daniel Jacquot is a chief inspector, working homicide with the Marseilles *Judiciaire*. Like playing rugby, something he did well twenty years ago, tracking down killers is a game he understands. Terrific say the girls. The hardcover went out of print very quickly but there are a few copies at \$100.

OHNEMUS, GUNTER RUSSIAN PASSENGER (\$21.00)

O'SHAUGHNESSY, PERRI UNLUCKY IN LAW (#10) (\$11.99) Nina Reilly takes a seemingly unwinnable case where two time felon Stefan Wyatt is accused of robbing a grave and making off with the bones of a long-buried Russian émigré. Wyatt is also accused of the murder of a young woman but Nina suspects he has been set up.

PARKER, ROBERT B BAD BUSINESS (#31) (\$10.99) When Marlene Cowley hires Spenser to see if her husband, Trent, is cheating on her, he encounters more than he bargained for. He finds not only a two-timing husband, but a second investigator as well, hired by the husband to look after his wife.

PATRICK, JENNIFER NIGHT SHE DIED (\$18.95) Who would want to murder a pretty, charming and generous young woman? Lara Walton is shot in the head six times while packing to return to Washington, D.C. from whence she arrived only a few months earlier. Captain Jimmy Edgars has not investigated a murder inquiry in eight years. A debut novel.

PATTISON, ELIOT BEAUTIFUL GHOSTS (#4) (\$21.95) Released unofficially from the work camp to which he had been sentenced, Inspector Shan Tao Yun has been living in the remote mountains of Tibet with a group of outlawed monks. During a ceremony meant to rededicate an ancient and long-destroyed monastery, Shan stumbles across evidence of a recent murder in the ruins. In a baffling situation where nothing is as it seems, where the FBI, high-ranking Beijing officials, the long-hidden monks, and the

almost forgotten history of the region all pull him in different directions, he finds his devotion to the truth sorely tested.

PEACE, DAVID GB84 (\$18.50) Great Britain, 1984. The miners' strike. The government against the people. **Ian Rankin** calls this writer the English **James Ellroy**.

PEARSON, RIDLEY BODY OF DAVID HAYES (#9) (\$10.99) Many years ago Lou Boldt's wife Liz, had an affair with David Hayes. When Liz ended the fling Hayes reacted by engaging in a daring embezzlement scheme that left millions missing at the bank when he and Liz worked. He is now out of jail and there are those who want that money back. Liz and Lou find themselves back in the middle of a nasty situation.

PEREZ-REVERTE, ARTURO NAUTICAL CHART (\$19.95) Coy is a suspended sailor without a ship. At an auction in Barcelona, he meets a beautiful woman obsessed with the Dei Gloria, a Jesuit ship sunk by pirates in the seventeenth century. He is quickly drawn into the search and finds himself falling in love. A re-issue.

PERRY, ANNE SHIFTING TIDE (#14) (\$10.99) Private inquiry agent William Monk is hired to investigate the theft of a cargo of African ivory from a recently docked schooner. Monk doesn't understand why the owner didn't report the theft to the Thames River Police.

PETERS, ELIZABETH GUARDIAN OF THE HORIZON (#16) (\$9.99) The Emersons are spending a quiet summer at home in Kent, England, after being banned forever from the Valley of the Kings, when a messenger arrives from their friend Tarek. He needs their help, so off they go to the mountain fortress from which they narrowly escaped ten years ago.

PHILLIPS / TERVALON COCAINE CHRONICLES (\$22.99)

PHILLIPS, SCOTT COTTONWOOD (\$21.00) In 1872, Cottonwood, Kansas, is a one-horse speck on the map. The advent of the railway and rumours of a cattle trail turn the place into a wild and woolly boomtown. Sin, corruption and murder. What more do you want?

PICKENS, CATHY SOUTHERN FRIED (\$9.99) Avery Andrews has been downsized from her job in a law office in a North Carolina city and returns home to reconsider her opportunities. She picks up a couple of clients and when the company building owned by one of her new clients is destroyed by arson, and the person whose body is found inside was quite possibly murdered, life doesn't seem so dull. Winner of the 2003 St. Martin's/Malice Domestic contest for Best Traditional Mystery.

PIPER, EVELYN BUNNY LAKE IS MISSING (\$18.95) Another pulp novel re-printed by The Feminist Press. This 1957 thriller starts out with Blanche Lake going to her daughter's school to pick her up, but Bunny's gone missing.

PITMAN, JENNY VENDETTA (#4) (\$9.99) When Jan Hardy triumphs at Cheltenham she is asked to train Morning Glory, a promising young horse. Nervous, and terrified of traveling, the thoroughbred seems impossible to train until a young stable hand new to Jan's yard discovers his horse whispering talents. Meanwhile, a violent robbery leads to unexpected tragedy and brings to a head the rivalry between Jan and fellow trainer, Virginia Gilbert.

POYER, DAVID FIRE ON THE WATERS (#1) (\$21.00) The year is 1861 and America is on the brink of disunion. Elisha Eaker joins the Navy against his father's wishes. He does it as much to avoid an arranged marriage to his cousin as to defend the flag. This is the first in a new series of the Civil War at sea.

PRESTON, DOUGLAS CODEx (\$10.99) Maxwell Broadbent, a notorious treasure hunter and tomb robber, has accumulated a fortune in priceless, art, gems...before vanishing along with his entire collection from his mansion in New Mexico. His sons are not the only ones looking for him.

PROUTY, OLIVE HIGGINS NOW VOYAGER (\$19.95) Another re-print from The Feminist Press.

QUIGLEY, SHEILA RUN FOR HOME (\$10.99) When a headless body is found in the wastelands of the Seahills Estate, Detective Inspector Lorraine Hunt is called in to investigate. But then a more urgent case lands on her desk when Kerry's sister, Claire, is violently kidnapped.

QUIRINA, FIONA SEX: A MYSTERY (\$19.00) Fired from her high-profile Fortune 500 job, but still addicted to the life style, our heroine decides to become a kept woman, a sex surrogate, a therapist. When one of her regulars is found dead, in her bed, stabbed in the back with an ice pick, she's the prime suspect. So to clear her name she steps into what is the world's second oldest profession: detective.

RADCLIFFE, MARTIN MASTERS OF MYSTERY VINTAGE BRITISH Short Stories (\$26.95)

REEVES-STEVENS, J & G FREEFALL (\$11.99)

RENDELL, RUTH SIMISOLA (\$9.99) A re-issue.

RINEHART, MARY ROBERTS YELLOW ROOM (\$9.99) A re-issue.

ROBINSON, JOHN B SAPPHIRE SEA (\$9.99) Plagued by a bitter divorce Lonny Cushman has fled his old life trading high-quality gems and attending society balls in New York City to scout the lawless sapphire fields of northern Madagascar. He dreams of finding the perfect gem which will allow him to return home and establish an independent career. But when he finally unearths the greatest sapphire discovered in the last hundred years, the power brokers of Diego Suarez just want him dead.

ROBINSON, PETER COLD IS THE GRAVE (#11) (\$10.99) A new edition

ROBOTHAM, MICHAEL SUSPECT (#1) (\$10.99) When a young woman is found dead by a London canal with multiple stab wounds, all of them self inflicted, the police ask clinical psychologist Joe O'Loughlin for help. A debut novel.

ROOS, KELLEY MADE UP TO KILL (\$19.95). The novel that introduced Jeff and Haila Troy, one of the most engaging husband-and-wife sleuthing teams. The Frightened Stiff (\$19.95), the third in the series, was published earlier this year. From those bright minds at The Rue Morgue Press. Originally published in 1940

ROSENBERG, NANCY TAYLOR SULLIVAN'S LAW (#1) (\$9.99) Carolyn Sullivan, probation officer in Ventura County, CA, has a lot on her plate. One of her probationers has just been arrested for rape, and another, Daniel Metroix, claims that he's innocent of the murder of a young boy that he went to jail for twenty-three years ago.

ROSENFELT, DAVID BURY THE LEAD (#3) (\$9.99) His streak of murder case acquittals made him a regular on cable talk shows. His \$22 million inheritance bought him a dog rescue operation, yet Andy Carpenter feels he's facing a mid-life crisis. When a friend, a newspaper owner, calls in a favour and asks him to protect his star reporter, a journalist who is being used as a mouthpiece by a brutal serial killer, Andy is less than thrilled. The first two in the series are Open and Shut and First Degree (\$9.99 each).

ROTENBERG, DAVID HAMLET MURDERS (#4) (\$10.99) The fourth in this very good series featuring Shanghai police detective Zhong Fong.

ROUGHAN, HOWARD PROMISE OF A LIE (\$9.99) Psychologist Dr. David Remler knows he's crossed the line when he rushes to help a patient named Samantha Kent, after he receives a shocking phone call.

ROWLAND, LAURA JOH PERFUMED SLEEVE (#9) (\$9.99) In November 1694 the streets of Edo are erupting in violence as two factions struggle for control over the ruling Tokugawa regime. Each side is pressuring Sano Ichiro, the shogun's most honourable investigator, to join its ranks. With his wife, Reiko, working under cover, Sano investigates the death of Senior Elder Makino. Number nine in the series.

ROYAL, PRISCILLA WINE OF VIOLENCE (\$10.50) "This fresh first novel has all the potential to evolve into a series as enduring as **Ellis Peters'** Brother Cadfael books."—*Publishers Weekly*.

RYAN, P B DEATH ON BEACON HILL (#3) (\$9.99) Boston of the late 1860s. Sequel to Still Life With Murder and Murder in a Mill Town (\$9.99 each).

SANDFORD, JOHN HIDDEN PREY (\$10.99) Lucas Davenport is back in his fifteenth outing.

SCHLINK, BERNHARD SELF'S PUNISHMENT (\$17.00) By the author of the wonderful novel, The Reader (\$17.95), the first of four novels featuring Gerhard Self. Barred from the judicial system after the war because he had served as a Nazi prosecutor, he becomes a private investigator.

SCOTT, MANDA BOUDICA (#3) DREAMING THE HOUND (\$25.00 trade paperback)

SEALE, ANNE PACKING MRS. PHIPPS (#1) (\$19.95)

SEALE, ANNE FINDING MS. WRIGHT (#2) (\$19.95)

SEYMOUR, GERALD UNKNOWN SOLDIER (\$11.99) A tiny caravan of fugitives and camels moves slowly to its destination, an Al Qaeda camp, hidden in the Empty Quarter of Saudi Arabia. Searching for The Outsider in the limitless sands are US and British experts in counter-terrorism.

SHORT, SHARON DEATH IN THE CARDS (#3) (\$9.99)

Laundromat owner and stain removal expert Josie Toadfern knows her tiny town's dirty clothes and most of its dirty little secrets. Sequel to Death of a Domestic Diva and Death by Deep Dish Pie (\$8.99 each).

SILBERT, LESLIE INTELLIGENCER (\$20.00) This novel features Christopher Marlowe and current-day grad-student-turned-private-eye, Kate Morgan. The Royal Coroner ruled that Marlowe was killed in self defence in 1593 but others felt that it was his role as a spy for Queen Elizabeth that got him killed. Kate is also a spy, for a US agency, and uses her PI job as a convenient cover. Marian says: "I love the alternating story lines, and the part of the tale about a long lost manuscript is especially good fun. How it all ties together is clever, indeed. Terrific."

SILVER, ALFTRED CLEAN SWEEP (\$19.95) Who knows more about what's been swept under the carpet than the cleaning lady? Swindled out of her job as a loans officer at the Credit Union in Membertou County, Nova Scotia, Bonnie Marsden has to pay the bills somehow.

SIMMS, CHRIS PECKING ORDER (\$11.99) Rubble lives in a caravan and works on a battery farm. He spends his days disposing of the sick and injured chickens. A mysterious visitor arrives and sees his child-like naiveté combined with his ability to kill without compunction and he is soon employed on a sinister secret project.

SKILLINGS, JUDITH DANGEROUS CURVES (\$8.99) The world of classic cars, the men who own them, and the skilled professionals who restore them. The author and her husband own and operate a Rolls-Royce and Bentley motorcar restoration shop. Sequel to Dead End (\$8.99).

SMITH, MARY-ANN TIRONE SHE'S NOT THERE (#2) (\$9.99) FBI agent Poppy Rice is not convinced that the death of the young girl is drug related—especially when another girl's body is found. Seems that both attended the same expensive, private summer camp.

SOUTHERN, PAUL CRAZE (\$19.95) A novel about the hard life on the noir streets of Manchester. Kidnap, drugs and murder are the currency of the streets.

SPRINKLE, PATRICIA WHO KILLED THE QUEEN OF CLUBS (#5) (\$8.99) Hopemore, Georgia, county magistrate MacLaren Yarbrough investigates the murder of a bridge maven.

STALLWOOD, VERONICA OXFORD REMAINS (#11)

(\$10.99) Faith Beeton, Dean of Women Studies at Bartlemas, asks Kate Ivory for an impartial opinion about a complaint laid by a female student against her male tutor. But the tutor becomes a murder suspect when the female student dies.

STEINHAUER, OLEN CONFESSION (#2) (\$19.95) Eastern Europe in 1956 and Comrade Inspector Ferenc Kolyeszar is questioning his beliefs. A sequel to The Bridge of Sighs (\$19.95 trade paperback).

STEWART, BARBARA J SLEEPING BOY (\$10.99) A detective story that features "three-dimensional women"--*Lilian Nattel*, and "a ride through familiar streets with brand new glasses"--*Susie Maloney*, are just some of the quotes on this debut novel by a writer who hails originally from Waterloo, Ontario.

STRIBLING, T S DR. POGGIOLI CRIMINOLOGIST (\$29.00 trade paperback, \$45 cloth) See hardcover section for an annotation.

STROHMEYER, SARAH BUBBLES A BROAD (#4) (\$9.99) After a catfight at a stuffy historical society meeting nearly kills her career, Bubbles is given just one week to prove her worth to her editors at the News-Times. She has to discover who really murdered Carol Weaver's steel-executive husband with cyanide-tipped fingernails. Number four featuring flaky hairdresser, reporter, amateur sleuth Bubbles Yablonsky.

TAYLOR, VALERIE GIRLS IN 3 B (\$19.95) Another pulp re-issue by The Feminist Press.

THOMAS, WILL SOME DANGER INVOLVED (#1) (\$14.50) Set in Victorian London this introduces private detective Cyrus Barker. When a student bearing a striking resemblance to Jesus is found murdered in London's Jewish ghetto, Barker must hire an assistant to help him solve the case. Out of all who answer an ad for a position with "some danger involved" the eccentric and enigmatic Barker chooses down trodden Thomas Llewelyn, who actually narrates the tale, a gutsy young man whose murky past includes recent stints at both an Oxford college and an Oxford prison. See *Marian's Picks*.

THURLO, AIMEE & DAVID WIND SPIRIT (\$9.99) Another in the Ella Clah series.

TRACY, P J LIVE BAIT (#2) (\$9.99) Minneapolis detectives Leo Magozzi and Gino Rolseth, with the help of Grace MacBride's cold-case-solving software, may find the link that helps them find a serial killer who concentrates on elderly victims. Monkeewrench (\$9.99) the first in the series. See *Marian's Picks*.

URIS, LEON OHARA'S CHOICE (\$10.99) In the years following the Civil War, first generation Irish-American Zachary O'Hara, son of a legendary Marine, finds himself playing a critical role in the very future of the Marines. But there is an obstacle in his path. Amanda Blanton Kerr, the daughter of a ruthless industrialist, is a woman on a mission of her own.

VACHSS, ANDREW DOWN HERE (#14) (\$18.00) When Burke hears that Wolfe, the beautiful, driven former sex crimes prosecutor who was fired for refusing to "go along to get along" has been arrested for attempted murder he knows something is wrong.

VAN GULIK, ROBERT JUDGE DEE AT WORK (\$12.00), CHINESE GOLD MURDERS (\$19.95), CHINESE LAKE MURDERS (\$17.95), POETS AND MURDER (\$12.00) and HAUNTED MONASTERY (\$15.00). A number of the Judge Dee novels are back in print, from different sources and at varying prices. The two most inexpensive ones are probably old stock and the prices will rise significantly when they are re-printed. So get them now.

[VARIOUS] DEATH BY DICKENS (\$9.99) Edited by **ANNE PERRY**. Dickens inspired mystery stories written by **Anne Perry**, **Peter Tremayne**, and others.

[VARIOUS] **FOXWELL, ELIZABETH (EDT.)** SUNKEN SAILOR (\$9.99) A serial novel--successive chapters by different

authors--set between the two world wars in the small English village of Market Winsome. Some of the contributors: **Simon Brett**, **Jan Burke**, **Walter Satterthwait**...

[VARIOUS] **RANDISI, ROBERT J** MURDER AND ALL THAT JAZZ (\$9.99) Thirteen show stopping jazz stories by **Michael Connelly**, **Peter Robinson** and others.

VASAS-BROWN, CATHY SOME REASON IN MADNESS (\$10.99) Fifteen years after she helped send rapist Frank Ventresca to prison, guidance counselor Samantha Quinlan has a nearly perfect life. But when Frank turns up again, still obsessing, still delusional, and still dangerous, her horrors begin all over again. One of Wendy's Picks a year or so ago.

VILLATORO, MARCOS MINOS (#2) (\$10.99) By the author of Home Killings (\$10.99) the first Romilia Chacon novel. Romilia turns back to the reason she became a cop in the first place: to hunt for the sadist who took her sister's life and has kept on killing ever since.

WALDRON, ANN UNHOLY DEATH IN PRINCETON (#3) (\$9.99) Prof. McLeod Dulaney has to convince the cops that he only found the body in the garment bag, not placed it there. Sequel to Princeton Murders and Death of a Princeton President (\$8.99 each).

WESTLAKE, DONALD ROAD TO RUIN (#11) (\$9.99) The infamous gang of wayward thieves, led by the unlucky and unflagging John Dortmund, has hatched another perfect plan. They are going to dress up and play butler, driver, and personal secretary, and work for one of the world's most crooked men for the sole purpose of robbing him blind.

WHITE, RANDY WAYNE TAMPA BURN (#11) (\$10.99) In all his life Doc Ford has been passionately, irresponsibly in love with only one woman. Her name was Pilar and she was married to a thuggish politico named Balserio in a country where Ford was working undercover. When Ford had to run, it was with a bounty on his head, and unknown to him then, Pilar was pregnant. Now, many years later, Balserio has kidnapped the boy and taken him to his new home base in Florida.

WHITE, STEPHEN BLINDED (#11) (\$11.99) Psychologist Alan Gregory walks a thin line when a beautiful woman walks into his office and tells him she thinks her husband, Sterling, may have murdered a woman and is not finished killing yet. Struggling with a strict confidentiality agreement, he reveals just enough to interest his detective friend Sam Purdy, and start a search for the missing husband.

WIECEK, MICHAEL EXIT STRATEGY (\$9.99) An assault on Blindside, a high-tech corporation dealing in computer espionage and code breaking leaves eight employees blown away and the place incinerated. But the faceless killers made two mistakes. They left two witnesses.

WILLEFORD, CHARLES SIDESWIPE (\$17.00) The first three Hoke Moseley novels are now back in print and the fourth will be this August. Terrific Miami police novels and I'd suggest you start at the beginning, Miami Blues (\$18), cause you're gonna want them all and in the right order.

WILSON, ROBERT INSTRUMENTS OF DARKNESS (#1) (\$20.00) The US trade paperback edition. The UK mass market paperback is also available (\$10.99). Features Bruce Medway.

WOLZIEN, VALERIE DEATH IN DUPLICATE (\$10.99) Is the nanny of the Henshaw's twin grandchildren really a murderer?

WOODS, STUART PRINCE OF BEVERLY HILLS (#1)

(\$10.99) Rick Barron, a sharp, capable detective on the Beverly Hills force finds himself demoted after a run-in with a superior officer. Witnessing a traffic accident the day after his demotion, and manipulating the facts gets him a job at a swanky movie studio. Set in 1939 Hollywood.