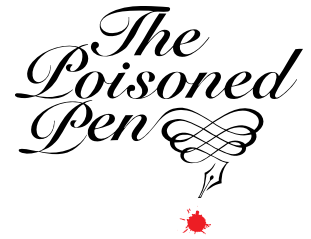


BOOKNEWS from

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sales@poisonedpen.com tel (888)560-9919
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4014 N. Goldwater Blvd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
480-947-2974



Fireworks all of July....

AUTHORS ARE SIGNING...

Some Events will be webcast at <http://new.livestream.com/poisonedpen>.

SATURDAY JULY 2 2:00 PM

Beatriz Williams signs [A Certain Age](#) (Harper \$26.99)

THURSDAY JULY 7 7:00 PM

Richard Kadrey signs [The Perdition Score](#) (Harper \$25.99)
Sandman Slim

SATURDAY JULY 9 10:30 AM

Coffee and Crime discusses Kerry Greenwood, [Earthly Delights](#) (\$14.95), the first Corinna Chapman food mystery set in Melbourne

SATURDAY JULY 9 2:00 PM Danger Woman!

Keith McCafferty signs [Buffalo Jump Blues](#) (Viking \$26) Montana Mystery #4
Frederick Ramsay signs [Danger Woman](#) (Poisoned Pen \$26.95) Botswana Trilogy #3

MONDAY JULY 11 7:00 PM

F. Paul Wilson signs [Panacea](#) (Forge \$25.99) ME Laura Hanning

TUESDAY JULY 12 6:15 PM

John Sandford and Michele Cook drop by to sign [Rampage](#) (Random \$18.99), #3 in the Singular Menace YA series. No program.

TUESDAY JULY 12 7:00 PM Launch Party!

Anne Wilson signs [Clear to Lift](#) (Forge \$25.99)

WEDNESDAY JULY 13 7:00 PM Double Danger!

David Bell signs [Since She Went Away](#) (NAL \$15)
Martin Limon signs [Ping-Pong Heart](#) (Soho \$26.95) The Slicker Boys

THURSDAY JULY 14 7:00 PM Double Debuts

Megan Miranda signs [All the Missing Girls](#) (SimonSchuster \$25)
Lili Wright signs [Dancing with the Tiger](#) (Putnam \$26)

FRIDAY JULY 15 7:00 PM

Daniel Silva signs [The Black Widow](#) (Harper \$27.99) Gabriel Allon

SATURDAY JULY 16 10:30 AM

Croak and Dagger discusses Robert Galbraith's [The Cuckoo's Calling](#) (\$9.99)

FRIDAY JULY 22 7:00 PM

SciFi Book Club discusses Paolo Bacigalupi's [The Water Knife](#) (\$16)

TUESDAY JULY 19 7:00 PM

Ace Atkins signs [The Innocents](#) (Putnam \$27) Quinn Colson

WEDNESDAY JULY 20 Double Trouble

Joseph Finder signs [Guilty Minds](#) (Dutton \$27.99) Nick Heller
Peter Spiegelman signs [Dr Knox](#) (Knopf \$26.95)

SATURDAY JULY 23 2:00 PM

Michael Robertson signs [The Baker Street Jurors](#) (St Martins \$24.99)

SUNDAY JULY 24 2:00 PM

Thomas Olde Heuvelt signs [Hex](#) (Tor \$25.99) English debut of the Dutch Hugo and World-Fantasy nominated author

TUESDAY JULY 26 7:00 PM Amish Country

Linda Castillo signs [Among the Wicked](#) (St Martins \$26.99) Kate Burkholder

WEDNESDAY JULY 27 7:00 PM Fashionista Alert

Linda Fairstein signs [Killer Look](#) (Dutton \$28) Alexandra Cooper

THURSDAY JULY 28 7:00 PM

Hardboiled Crime discusses Tom Cooper, [The Marauders](#) (\$15)

FRIDAY JULY 29 7:00 PM

James Sallis and the Three Legged Dog Band

EVENT BOOKS

Atkins, Ace. [The Innocents](#) (Putnam \$27). Here is Patrick's review of Quinn Colson #6: Things have gotten downright ugly in Tibbehah County, Mississippi, the setting for Atkins' exceptional series of crime novels featuring former ex-Ranger and sometime-sheriff Quinn Colson. After being voted out of office in a previous novel, Colson finds himself working as a deputy under the inimitable Lillie Virgil (a nice reversal of roles). Virgil finds herself with a horrific new murder victim: a young woman is found walking by the side of the road doused in gasoline and engulfed in flames. As Virgil and Colson investigate her death, they discover a darkness and depravity that belies the genteel, placid surface of the small town. Atkins has always had a love/hate relationship with the south and he writes hard-hitting, uncompromising morality tales that don't shy away from tackling tough subjects. I always recommend the Quinn Colson books to fans of Burke's Dave Robicheaux series. Probably best to start at the beginning with *The Ranger*, but not absolutely necessary. To do so, order all the Colsons [here](#).

NOTE: do not overlook Atkins' earlier Nick Travers crime fiction which is wonderful and now can partially be yours in cool graphic novel, [Nick Travers Volume 1: Last Fair Deal](#) (\$9.99), Signed of course.

Bell, David. [Since She Went Away](#) (NAL \$15). Some years back, the small Kentucky town of Hawks Mill makes the news when Celia Walters disappeared near Caldwell Park, where she was supposed to be meeting her friend Jenna Barron for late girls' night out. Celia, dubbed the "Diamond Mom" for her heirloom earring dropped at the scene, remains a focus of sensationalist media. Relentless pressure from TV reporter Becky McGee and crime show host Reena Huffman intensifies with each new development in the case, from finding a bone in a barn (deer) to a man's attempt to pawn Celia's other diamond earring. Both Jenna and Celia's husband Ian stay on defense and guilt is never far from either. In addition to dealing with the media, Jenna must face the scrutiny of police detective Naomi Poole, who's leading the investigation, and cope with her 15-year-old son, who's become infatuated with a troubled new girl in town. Bell pulls all these elements together as he reveals lies that bind and tragedies that can invade basically quiet lives.

Castillo, Linda. [Among the Wicked](#) (St Martins \$26.99). Painters Mill, Ohio, Chief of Police Kate Burkholder, was raised Amish and speaks Pennsylvania Dutch still. She's approached by the sheriff's department in rural, upstate New York to assist on a developing situation that involves a reclusive Amish settlement and the death of a young girl. Unable to penetrate the wall of silence between the Amish and "English" communities, the sheriff asks Kate to travel to New York, pose as an Amish woman, and work under cover in Roaring Springs in hopes of learning how and why Rachel died. Kate's lover, State Agent John Tomasetti, is dead set against a role where she'll have little backup and scant communications or transportation. Kate thinks she's the only cop who can do this and, hating the thought of children in danger, pushes ahead. Her role will be that of a childless widow seeking a stricter Amish way of life. Installed in a trailer, her car swapped for a scooter, her clothing Amish and her only weapon concealed,

she soon realizes Tomasetti was right but is too stubborn to quit, especially as her gut tells her something is off with the community's bishop, and with the community itself. Fans of Nevada Barr's last two Anna Pigeons will appreciate Kate's wilderness survival skills and guts in this brutal case. This is one of my favorite series, always startling and thoroughly page-turning. [Click here](#) to order all the Kates.

Fairstein, Linda. [Killer Look](#) (Dutton \$28). The first 60 to order will receive a nifty NYPD badge with their book. High fashion means high stakes, as an edgy Alexandra Cooper quickly discovers when businessman and designer Wolf Savage is found dead in an apparent suicide, mere days before the biggest show of his career set to be staged at the Temple of Dendur at NY's Metropolitan Museum of Art. There's a bold stroke for his fashion firm, breaking away from the usual practices of Fashion Week. Then his daughter comes to former schoolmate Alexandra Cooper insisting that Savage's death was murder. Coop, still traumatized by her kidnapping in [Devil's Bridge](#) (\$9.99), and drinking more than is wise, has been put on leave by DA Battaglia so it's tricky for her to get Mike and Mercer from Homicide engaged, although Mike is already on it as a suicide investigation. Will such a media sensation of a case where creativity, innovation, and daring driving high fashion means playing for high stakes imperil an already shaky Coop and her job? While not a serious fashionista by NY's high standards, her knowledge of this world is an asset as she learns more and more about the history of the garment industry and how it works while also uncovering secrets within the Savage family whose heritage is actually Brooklyn and Jewish: the Savitskys. Click [HERE](#) to order all of Coop's cases.

Finder, Joseph. [Guilty Minds](#) (Dutton \$28). Our copies come with a nifty Nick Keller handbook designed by Finder. Heller, who styles himself a private intelligence operative, is summoned to a top Boston law firm where one of his true heroes clandestinely awaits with the purpose of hiring Heller to head off a damaging scandal. Not her but the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is about to be defamed by a powerful gossip website called Slander Sheet, a downgrade from Gawker. Their top reporter has written an exposé claiming that the judge had three trysts with an expensive escort, a young woman willing to appear on video and tell the world her salacious yet convincing tale. Heller accepts the challenge and heads to DC where he has just 48 hours to disprove the story and halt publication if he can. And then the escort is found murdered and Heller realizes a more complex conspiracy must be in play to ruin reputations—but for what purpose? With Finder, there's never a simple explanation.

Heuvelt, Thomas Olde. [Hex](#) (Tor \$25.99). Welcome to Black Spring, the seemingly picturesque Hudson Valley town haunted by the Black Rock Witch, a seventeenth century woman whose eyes and mouth are sewn shut. Muzzled, she walks the streets and enters homes at will. She stands next to children's bed for nights on end. Everybody knows that her eyes may never be opened or the consequences will be too terrible to bear. The elders of Black Spring have virtually quarantined the town by using high-tech surveillance to prevent their curse from spreading. Frustrated with being kept in lockdown, the town's

teenagers decide to break their strict regulations and go viral with the haunting. But, in so doing, they send the town spiraling into dark, medieval practices of the distant past. This is the first of the Dutch Hugo and World Fantasy Awards-nominated author to be translated into English and is our **July Sci-Fi-Fantasy Pick**.

Kadrey, Richard. [Perdition Score](#) (Harper \$25.99 July 7). The request from Thomas Abbot, the Augur of the Sub Rosa council, couldn't come at a better time for James Stark, aka Sandman Slim. For a man who's most recently met Death—and death's killer—a few months of normal life is more than he can handle. He needs a little action, and now Abbott wants Stark and Candy to investigate the disappearance of a young boy—and help uncover council members who might be tied to Wormwood's power brokers. This lengthy series is a delight for fans of science fiction.

Limon, Martin. [Ping-Pong Heart](#) (Soho \$26.95). “At the start of Limón's compelling 11th novel set in 1970s South Korea featuring U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division agents George Sueño and Ernie Bascom, Major Frederick Schultz makes an official complaint, accusing a prostitute, Jo Kyong-ja, of taking his money without providing the agreed-upon services. When Sueño and Bascom question Jo, she denies the allegation and claims that Schultz was upset when he was unable to perform. Shortly after that interview, someone roughs up Jo, and a few weeks later, Schultz, the logical suspect in that assault, turns up dead himself, the victim of a knifing in a back alley behind a Seoul nightclub. Complicating the murder inquiry is the involvement of the South Korean police and the unsettling revelation that Schultz was doing classified work involving the review of potential irregularities in the running of a military intelligence unit. Major developments in the lives of Limón's leads complement the intricate whodunit.”—*PW* Starred Review on another astonishing story from one of my favorite crafters of crime fiction who steps up his mastery of his craft and the culture of this series with each new book. While his plots are fabulous, and this one certainly is, it's the characters, the two series leads as well as the attendant Americans and Koreans, who steal the book. [Click here](#) to order all the Slick Boys books. They are perfect for binge reading!

McCafferty, Keith. [Buffalo Jump Blues](#) (Viking \$26). OK, first, this is not a mystery with or about fishing, although indeed there are some epic battles with trout. If you read him you already know the survival and outdoor skills editor of *Field & Stream* (who won the 2016 Spur Award from the Western Writers of America for his amazing crime fiction) started Sean Stranahan off as a New England water color artist now resident of Big Sky Country and doing both fishing guiding and PI work on the side. In short, he cobbles together an income while still residing in his tipi and is usually broke. And he takes on some work from Sheriff Martha Ettinger with whom he has a complicated friends-with-benefits thing going. But the investigative work has risen to take over Sean's life and here it begins with a truly terrible event: a buffalo jump where a small herd that has strayed out of Yellowstone into Montana where by law the animals are to be shot (long story, you will learn why) is lured over the cliffs of an ancient hunting ground to their deaths. Sadly not all the buffalo die in the fall so Sean is forced to put the survivors down. Except for one little calf which involves him and Martha and Martha's current lover in a clandestine rescue op. So who instituted the buffalo jump, and why? And, who is the young Indian who

ended up gutted and dead—and did he die from losing a length of intestine or from the arrow wound in his thigh? McCafferty knows well how to mix the brutal bits with the sentimental as he draws razor sharp portraits of the quirky characters and magnificent landscapes of Montana. And I haven't even mentioned the local Mermaid Bar where three women entertain customers by donning elaborate tails and swimming in a giant tank. There is a definite agenda here regarding the buffalo, but it doesn't swamp a gripping tale: “McCafferty's entertaining tale, which shines a light on the government's slaughter of migrating bison, is sure to please advocates for change in current U.S. wildlife management policy.”—*PW*. I recommend the whole series highly: order it [HERE](#).

Miranda, Megan. [All the Missing Girls](#) (SimonSchuster \$25). “YA author Miranda makes her adult debut with this fiendishly plotted thriller. Family business brings Philadelphia prep school counselor Nicolette “Nic” Farrell back to her hometown of Cooley Ridge, N.C., a place still fraught with the unsolved disappearance of her best friend, Corinne Prescott, right after their high school graduation a decade earlier. Nic unexpectedly finds herself still attracted to high school sweetheart Tyler, whose current girlfriend, Annaleise Carter, disappears the day after Annaleise texted police with questions about Corinne's case. As Nic struggles to figure out what really happened to Corinne, who her demented father claims to have seen, she must also face some bitter truths—about her provocative BFF and herself. Miranda convincingly conjures a haunted setting that serves as a character in its own right, but what really makes this roller-coaster so memorable is her inspired use of reverse chronology, so that each chapter steps further back in time, dramatically shifting the reader's perspective.”—*PW* Starred Review. There is a long and fascinating essay in the *Los Angeles Times Book Review* that discusses the novel's structure, the shifting of social patterns and perspectives, the emergence of a new crime fiction archetype (“Young, white, beautiful, educated, and with a twisted relationship with her family, this girl is now a prime main character in crime fiction and beyond.”), and the use of the landscape: “The humid, dense, mostly green North Carolina setting is reminiscent of the way David Lynch used nature as a backdrop in *Twin Peaks*, and Corinne reminded me of cunning Laura (also the name of Nic's pregnant sister-in-law). The woods and caverns that surround Cooley Ridge's tight community create a confined and remote space where everyone is lying to protect the town and the town's golden girls, who are not what they seemed.” You can read the entire [essay here](#).

Also from Miranda: [The Safest Lies](#) (Crown \$17.99). In her latest YA thriller (ages 14+), Miranda explores the traumatic effects of fear conditioning while offering chills aplenty in this frightening thriller. Kelsey Thomas lives in a beautiful home with her mother, Amanda, who hasn't left for 17 years, since Kelsey was born. The house is a fortress meant to keep any threat at bay. When Kelsey is involved in a car accident and rescued by volunteer fireman and classmate Ryan Baker, it kicks off a series of events that bring to light the horror that her mother suffered all those years ago. Then Kelsey's mother disappears. Writing from Kelsey's first-person perspective, Miranda expertly builds a sense of dread, leaving readers to uncover the truth right alongside Kelsey.

Ramsay, Frederick. [Danger Woman: A Botswana Mystery](#) (Poisoned Pen \$26.95 July 9) winds up the spectacular Botswana mystery. There are two Danger Women in this gripping story: one a hyena, the alpha of her Chobe Game Park pack, the other the mistress of Oleg Lenka, leader of a Russian Bratva pack from St Petersburg intent on muscling into control over the Botswana region's high-end tourist trade. As their stories unfold in parallel, suspense builds over whether either female can keep control over the dangerous predators she runs with and withstand the challenges of the Danger Woman role. And whether the Botswana police led by Inspector Kgabo Modise, deployed from the capital, Gaborone, to the park, can foil the Bratva. The ideal would be to force them into committing a crime or crimes so they can be deported. But perhaps more unorthodox measures will be needed. Inspector Modise has his own Danger Woman in play. The park's District Superintendent, Sanderson, has her own moves. And as his lover, she has an emotional as well as professional stake in the outcome. *Library Journal*, reviewing [Reapers](#) (\$14.95), Botswana Mystery #2, finds that "Like Alexander McCall Smith's Precious Ramotswe, Sanderson is a delightful sleuth, although her Botswana is rougher edged than Precious's." If only the pompous local police superintendent had the same steel, Modise would surely prevail. But there's a wild card in play in the form of American billionaire Leo Painter, former CEO of Earth Global. It's his casino that the Bratva target, and Leo isn't about to let this final dream go without a fight. He's got a ruthless Russian of his own on a leash, not to mention some surprise resources summoned from Chicago. "Through parallel stories, Ramsay... shows the ruthlessness of the business and the animal worlds without resorting to gimmickry. Ramsay matches keen characterizations with an obvious affection for Botswana, a complicated country that's more than Alexander McCall Smith's 'quaint mysteries'". — *Publishers Weekly* on [Predators](#) (\$14.95), Botswana Trilogy #1

Robertson, Michael. [The Baker Street Jurors](#) (St Martins \$24.99). Now here is a deceptive book; it starts quietly with two jury summonses arriving at 221B Baker Street where solicitor Nigel Heath shares the Baker Street Law Chambers with his barrister brother. And with Sherlock Holmes: the firm is obliged to deal with all correspondence sent to the great detective. Nigel discards the summons for Sherlock by turning it into a paper airplane and sailing it out the window, but he can't ignore the one addressed to him. And truth to tell, he's restive in his legal role. When he ends up as one of the five alternate jurors on the trial of hero cricket star Liam McSweeney, an athlete accused of murdering his wife (OK, it's shades of OJ), he takes a real interest in the court proceedings. So when a man called Siger (short for Sigerson) also becomes an alternate juror and asks penetrating questions, it prompts Nigel into deeper thinking. But even he doesn't see the real Agatha Christie sort of conclusion to this trial coming. Robertson lulls you with great detail about British juries and his portrait of the judge. As it concludes you will feel sucker punched and have real fun. "This is Robertson's best work yet, a classic fair play whodunit leavened with humor." — *PW* Starred Review for our **July British Crime Club Pick**.

Sandford, John/Michele Cook. [Rampage](#) (Random \$18.99 Signed by both). Volume 3 wraps up the couple's The Singular Menace Trilogy (ages 14+). Naturally it embodies the trademark Sandford pace and brilliant writing. Shay Remby and her band of renegade activists have got the corrupt Singular Corporation on

the run. Their exposé is finally working. Or is it? Even as revelations about the human experimental subjects break in the news, Singular's employees are slithering out of sight. And then their CEO is killed in a plane crash... Was it a freak accident? Or a cover-up? Shay's gang begins to see signs that there may be even more powerful figures than they knew managing events—publicly expressing outrage and mopping up the mess, but secretly gathering up their scientists and moving the operation further out of sight. It will take nothing short of a rampage to stop the Singular menace for good. For fans of Harlan Coben and those who wish Suzanne Collins had written more. "A fabulous mix of outlandish hijinks, techno-noir, and teen cheek—LA style. Not to be missed." — *Booklist Starred Review* for *Uncaged*, the first. Second: *Outrage* (18.99 each).

Silva, Daniel. [The Black Widow](#) (Harper \$27.99 July 15). The challenges for an author writing up-to-the-minute thrillers are many and one, as Silva points out in Author's Note to his 16th Gabriel Allon, is what is the way forward when real events overtake the story you had decided to write, were in fact actually writing. In this case, the Paris attacks. For here we have the legendary art restorer/assassin/spy poised to become the chief of the Office, Israel's secret intelligence service where he was mentored by Ari Shamron, when ISIS detonates a massive bomb in the Marais and the French demand that Gabriel eliminate the architect of this act before he can strike again. So, with Chiara nursing the twins, it's back into the field for one final operation: to stop the man called Saladin. In the dark about Saladin's next move, Gabriel risks a gambit: he will insert an Israeli agent posing as a "black widow" into the terrorist's organization. So, who will this undercover agent be? For answers we travel from a grim Paris to Santorini, to a training camp in Palmyra, and finally to Washington DC where Silva orchestrates events to warn us we are not safe here on our own soil (hmmm.... will he ever be able to dine at the real café in DC again?). As ever, not only does Silva catch history in the act, he weaves in issues like rising anti-Semitism in France, also the country with Europe's biggest Muslim population, the aftermath of the Arab Spring, ISIS's financing through stolen antiquities, the appeal of jihad to westerners, and the failures of European (and potentially American) security services. Order all the Allons [HERE](#) as they are best read in order.

Spiegelman, Peter. [Dr Knox](#) (Knopf \$26.95). Patrick writes, "Dr Adam Knox runs a clinic in downtown Los Angeles catering to the dispossessed and disenfranchised. His clients are addicts and prostitutes, the homeless and the working poor. To help underwrite his humanitarian efforts, Knox makes after-hours house calls to criminals and celebrities who need emergency medical care and are willing to pay well for Knox's silence. His partner in these endeavors is Ben Sutter, a former Special Forces op and part-time mercenary. When a frightened Romanian woman drops by Knox's clinic with her sick son and then disappears, leaving the boy behind, the idealistic doctor finds himself facing quite the ethical dilemma. When Russian thugs soon appear demanding the child, Knox begins a desperate search for the missing woman, which opens up a real Pandora's Box of nastiness, involving a powerful local business magnate, human trafficking, and all sorts of fun stuff. This novel is a blast and a great summer read. Don't miss it!" Our **July Hardboiled Crime Club Pick**.

Williams, Beatriz. [A Certain Age](#) (Harper \$26.99). In certain glittering circles of 1920s Manhattan, York, a little discreet philandering is not only encouraged, but condoned. After meeting Octavian Rofrano, a stoic young World War I pilot, society matron Theresa Marshall has embarked on her first extramarital affair. Though the Boy, as she calls him, wants to marry her, Theresa is unwilling to divorce her husband and give up her lavish lifestyle. But things change when Theresa's brother, Jay, enlists the Boy to perform an old family tradition: presenting an engagement ring on his behalf to the beautiful Sophie Fortescue. Beatriz Williams expertly explores the tangled web in her seventh novel, alternating deftly between Theresa's voice and Sophie's as she creates a deliciously scandalous and elegantly written reinterpretation of Richard Strauss's opera *Der Rosenkavalier*, and a thoroughly satisfying love story. See our June BookNotes for a review by John Charles of our staff who concludes by saying, "Williams effortlessly and artfully transposes Strauss's tale to the glittering setting of New York City in the 1920s, and the result is a stellar tale of romance, passion, secrets, and scandal with a nice tie-in to the author's Schuyler family characters."

Wilson, Anne A. [Clear to Lift](#) (Forge \$25.99 July 12). The Annapolis grad and helicopter pilot who wowed us all here with [Hover](#) (\$24.99), her 2015 debut, now calls upon her Search and Rescue expertise. Navy helicopter pilot Lt. Alison Malone has been assigned to a search and rescue team based at Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada, near the rugged peaks of the Sierra Nevada, and far from her former elite H-60 squadron. A rule follower by nature, Alison is exasperated and outraged every time she flies with her mission commander, "Boomer" Marks, for whom military procedures are merely a suggestion. When she meets mountain guide Will Cavanaugh during a particularly dicey mission, he introduces her to a wild, beautiful world of adventure that she has never known before. Stranded on a mountain during a sudden dangerous blizzard, Alison questions every truth she thought she knew about herself. When Will braves the storm to save her life, she must confront the fact that she has been living a lie. Jeffrey has created a nifty insert for our books and Wilson signs on publication day, July 12.

Wilson, F. Paul. [Panacea](#) (Tor \$25.99 July 11). We are all fans here of Wilson and his imaginative fiction. Repairman Jack is wonderful, but why not something different? Medical examiner Laura Hanning has two charred corpses and no answers. Both bear a mysterious tattoo but exhibit no known cause of death. Their only connection to one another is a string of puzzling miracle cures. Her preliminary investigation points to a cult that possesses the fabled panacea—the substance that can cure all ills—but that's impossible. Laura finds herself enmeshed in an ancient conflict between the secretive keepers of the panacea and the equally secretive and far more deadly group known only as 536, a brotherhood that fervently believes God intended for humanity to suffer, not be cured. Laura doesn't believe in the panacea, but that doesn't prevent the agents of 536 from trying to kill her.

Wright, Lili. [Dancing with the Tiger](#) (Putnam \$26 July 14). In rural Mexico, a meth-addicted grave robber inadvertently unearths the death mask of Montezuma. Among the cast of characters who will stop at nothing to possess it are a Mexican cartel boss, an American art collector, a respected curator and his long-suffering

housekeeper, and Anna Ramsey, who seeks the artifact as a way to redeem her father's reputation and remake her family into a whole unit again. A debut powerful debut, robust and rough, beckoned to me first with its great jacket art! **It's truly a thriller so while I think the First Mystery Club should line up to buy it, I'm making it our July Thriller Club Pick:** Here's why. "A rollicking combination of art and archeology, forgeries, drug deals, and tourists, Montezuma, murder, and love. *Dancing with the Tiger* is smart, sexy, and extremely suspenseful. Block out some time—once you start, you won't be putting it down."—Karen Joy Fowler. "A fast-moving [and] intricately wrought thriller. Clearly written with great care, the novel plumbs the depths of love and obsession in complex yet delicately woven themes... [a] journey of self-discovery [set] within a powerful story full of danger and pathos that will appeal to fans of Megan Abbott, Denise Mina, and Minette Walters." — *Booklist* Starred Review. "A gripping and powerful story of artifact smuggling and drug dealing in Mexico, driven by Lili Wright's deep compassion for the people and place she writes about."—Jess Walter.

SIGNED BOOKS

Abbott, Megan. [You Will Know Me](#) (Little Brown \$27). Patrick reviews: Only a writer as supremely talented as Megan Abbott could make me want to read about the inner worlds of the young women protagonists that have driven her recent work. This time out, she takes a slightly different tact, focusing on the parents of a remarkable child. Devon Knox is a child prodigy gymnast, the kind of natural talent that comes "once in a generation," according to her coach. Katie Knox and her husband Eric have devoted their lives to protecting and nurturing this talent, to the exclusion of just about everything else. Their daughter is on a single track, one that leads up through the ranks of elite athletes and has only one acceptable end: the Olympics. Then a shocking death rocks the tight-knit insular world of the gymnasts and their parents. As the Knoxes each set on their protective course of action, things begin to tilt askew and a hidden narrative begins to emerge. The questions Abbott poses are provocative: to what lengths should a parent go to protect a gifted child's dream? When does this single-minded focus become destructive? How well can we really know our children? Laura Lippman adds: "Is there anything Megan Abbott can't do? We will have to wait for the answer to that question because *You Will Know Me* continues her formidable winning streak. This story of an ordinary family with an extraordinary child is gorgeously written, psychologically astute, a page-turner that forces you to slow down and savor every word. And yes—please forgive me—she totally sticks the landing."

Barclay, Linwood. [Far from True](#) (NAL \$29). *PW* (and I) gives this a Star: "In this excellent sequel to 2015's [Broken Promise](#) (\$9.99), bestseller Barclay's knack for realistic characterizations makes each person, even the nasty ones, stand out. Promise Falls, N, a town already fraught with troubles, suffers a major tragedy when four people perish in the unexplained collapse of the Constellation Drive-In Theater's movie screen during its final night of business. PI Cal Weaver looks into a break-in at the home of one of the drive-in victims. Meanwhile, police detective Barry Duckworth attempts to solve two possibly linked murders while also investigating increasingly violent pranks, each of which involves the number 23. Barclay smoothly integrates myriad subplots, which involve a secret room for sex parties, an arrogant politician, an attempted kidnapping, a missing professor's wife,

a vacationing spouse, and the violent head of security at a local college. Each odd turn uncovers another dark aspect of Promise Falls.” Canadian bestseller Barclay signs this for us in NY this month—he’ll be back with the third in November.

Burton, Jessie. [Muse](#) (Picador \$35). From the internationally bestselling author of [The Miniaturist](#) (\$16.99), a 2014 History Club Pick, comes a captivating and brilliantly realized story of two young women—a Caribbean immigrant in 1960s London, and a bohemian woman in 1930s Spain—and the powerful mystery that ties them together. Spain, 1936. Olive Schloss, the daughter of a Viennese Jewish art dealer and an English heiress, follows her parents to Arazuelo, a poor, restless village on the southern coast. She grows close to Teresa, a young housekeeper, and Teresa’s half-brother, Isaac Robles, an idealistic and ambitious painter newly returned from the Barcelona salons. A dilettante buoyed by the revolutionary fervor that will soon erupt into civil war, Isaac dreams of being a painter as famous as his countryman Picasso. Raised in poverty, these illegitimate children of the local landowner revel in exploiting the wealthy Anglo-Austrians. England, 1967. Odelle Bastien is a Caribbean émigrée trying to make her way in London. When she starts working at the prestigious Skelton Institute of Art, she discovers a painting rumored to be the work of Isaac Robles, a young artist of immense talent and vision whose mysterious death has confounded the art world for decades. The excitement over the painting is matched by the intrigue around the conflicting stories of its discovery.

✠Clements, Toby. [The Kingmaker: Divided Souls](#) (Cornet \$39). Endorsed by Hilary Mantel, for fans of Philippa Gregory and of Conn Iggulden’s War of the Roses series, the third in the Kingmaker series. It’s Lent, 1469. The recent wars between the House of York and the House of Lancaster seem over. The Yorkist King Edward sits on his throne in Westminster, while the Lancastrian claimants are in exile or under lock and key in the Tower. But within the family of York there is discord. The Earl of Warwick conspires against his King, and while to one another’s faces they are all smiles, their household men speak in lies and whispers. No man comes to court unarmed. Thomas and Katherine have returned to Marton Hall, the only home they know. But what lies buried in the past cannot remain so for long, and soon they are forced to take up arms once more in one of the most savage wars in history.

Connolly, John. [A Time of Torment](#) (Hodder \$36). I have reviewed this new Charlie Parker before, but as we have some copies left am now sharing the Starred and Boxed *PW* Review: “As in the best noir, the violent events that propel the plot of Connolly’s grim but compelling 14th novel featuring PI Charlie Parker are triggered by a seemingly innocuous choice. Jerome Burnel, a jewelry store manager, in the middle of an armed robbery at a gas station outside Portland, Maine, manages to kill the criminals and save the intended victims. Two months later, someone frames Burnel by planting child porn in his house. During his subsequent imprisonment, Burnel is violated repeatedly by a sadist who says that he works for an entity known as the Dead King. After Burnel’s release, he hires Parker to look into who set him up so he’d go to prison, only to disappear soon afterward, leaving the sleuth another mystery that takes him down some extremely mean streets. Connolly again displays his mastery at combining the hard-boiled with the supernatural. Eloquent prose is a plus: “A man driving on a dark fall evening, a gas station appearing in

the distance: to stop or go on. On such decisions were lives saved, lives ended, and lives destroyed.”

✠Cumming, Charles. [A Divided Spy](#) (Collins \$34). Thomas Kell thought he was done with spying. A former MI6 officer, he devoted his life to the Service, but it has left him with nothing but grief and a simmering anger against the Kremlin. Then Kell is offered an unexpected chance at revenge. Taking the law into his own hands, he embarks on a mission to recruit a top Russian spy who is in possession of a terrifying secret. As Kell tracks his man from Moscow to London, he finds himself in a high stakes game of cat and mouse in which it becomes increasingly difficult to know who is playing whom. As the mission reaches boiling point, the threat of a catastrophic terrorist attack looms over Britain. Kell is faced with an impossible choice. Loyalty to MI6 – or to his own code? Expect this book to get a huge play in the US next winter—and the author may visit us! I’m a big fan of his intelligent spy thrillers. So is Colin Firth who has bought film rights to [A Foreign Country](#) (\$9.99) which won Cumming the Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award in the UK.

✠Delaney, Luke. [Rule of Fear](#) (Collins \$32). Sergeant Jack King is back on active duty after months off following a violent encounter. On the Met’s promotional fast-track scheme, King is headed straight for the top, but policing the streets is where his heart truly lies. Tasked with cleaning up the notorious Grove Wood estate, King is determined to rise to the challenge. But it’s not just drug dealers and petty thugs his team has to worry about. Someone on the estate is preying on children, and they need to find the culprit, fast. Soon King finds himself over his head: the local residents won’t play ball, his superiors want results yesterday, and he’s refusing to admit that he’s suffering from PTSD. As the pressures combine, the line between right and wrong starts to blur and King finds himself in a downward spiral. Only he can save himself – but is it already too late?

Farthing, Harry. [Summit](#) (Blackstone \$32). In the autumn of 1938, Germany’s *reichsführer* Heinrich Himmler is growing frustrated at the British using their regional power in India to block the passage of an SS expedition to Tibet. Determined to spite them, he plots to steal something the British hold dear and have failed for the seventh time that spring to achieve—a first summit of Mount Everest. Seventy years later, seasoned mountain guide Neil Quinn’s ninth visit to the top of the world’s highest mountain, this time in charge of the sixteen-year-old son of a Long Island billionaire, begins to unravel. As a desperate fight for their lives begins in the freezing air high above Tibet, Quinn stumbles across a clue to a story that challenges everything he thinks he knows about the great mountain. When the bitter aftermath of Quinn’s disastrous climb turns to violent tragedy in Kathmandu, his discovery pushes him into a relentless journey that takes him from the dangerous heights of Everest to the equally treacherous margins of a new Europe, where history hungers to repeat itself. This compelling thriller, our **June Surprise Me Pick** as I got to it late, reveals a rarely seen dark side of Everest. Terrific stuff!

Harvey, Michael. [Brighton](#) (Harper \$30). Patrick reviews: After six critically-acclaimed novels set in and around Chicago (including four featuring private investigator Michael Kelly), Harvey turns his attention to his home city, Boston. The result is easily the finest thing he’s written to date. Kevin Pearce grew up in the rough, working class Irish-American neighborhood of Brighton,

but unlike most of his peers, he escaped, becoming a Pulitzer-Prizing winning investigative reporter for the Boston Globe. His best friend and running-buddy Bobby Scales stayed behind, becoming a notorious bookie and hard case. Twenty-five years after he left town, Pearce is dating a beautiful young assistant D.A. who is researching a series of homicides that unexpectedly connects to an unsolved Brighton murder from back in the day. The case seems to implicate Scales, and, if he's not careful, himself. Harvey writes beautifully about the complicated blood loyalties and neighborhood ties that endure despite chronic violence and dissipation. Highly recommended for fans of Dennis Lehane and Richard Price." The July Indie Next Pick adds: "Gritty, thrilling, and full of twists, Harvey's first novel to be set in his hometown of Boston is cause for celebration. Its namesake neighborhood is as richly textured as the characters in this deeply moving crime story about two friends haunted by their shared past of violence. It will certainly appeal to fans of Dennis Lehane's *Mystic River*."

✎Hingley, David. [Birthright](#) (Allison & Busby \$45). The treacherous times of the Restoration are brought to startling life in an exciting new historical crime series 1664. Four years after Charles II is restored to the throne, Mercia Blakewood stands to lose everything: her father to the executioner's axe, her freedom to her treacherous uncle, her son to his resentful grandparents. But when her father leaves her a cryptic message in his last speech, she seizes her chance to fight back. With would-be lover Nathan Keyte and unlikely new friend Nicholas Wildmoor, Mercia must unravel her father's mystery to find a great prize long thought lost, striving to recover the King's stolen birthright in the hope of reclaiming her own. From London's bulging metropolis to the forests of Manhattan she will contend with murder, intrigue and lust, fighting for her future and her life as the town of New York is born.

Lane, JC. [Tag, You're Dead](#) (Poisoned Pen \$26.95). Our **July Surprise Me! Club Pick** gets this review from *Booklist*: "Three predators, three prey: six young people playing a high-stakes game of tag in which the object is for the predator (the "it") to find and kill the prey (the "runner"). The novel is a well-constructed hybrid of the classic 1930s film *The Most Dangerous Game* (in which people hunt humans for sport), Stephen King's *The Running Man* (featuring a murderous game), and, of course, *The Hunger Games*, but Lane includes enough original material to make the tale feel fresh. Its shifting point of view—the narrative jumps back and forth among the six players—helps keep us flipping the pages, and the big mysteries, including the identity and motivation of the people who are running the game, are appropriately difficult to penetrate (for us and for the players). Good reading for King fans as well as those many millions who secretly wish that Katniss Everdeen was still playing her own dangerous game."

✎Lovesey, Peter. [Another One Goes Tonight](#) (LittleBrown UK \$46). Only Lovesey could dream up a plot like this, starting slow with something off kilter and morphing into, just maybe, a homicide inquiry for Superintendent Peter Diamond, a man who lives for the unorthodox and to combat ordinary authority. Two police officers are about to head home after a long night shift wherein they stop an aged man dressed a lot like Sherlock and riding a motorized tricycle. End of shift they get a call about a naked man and, en route to the scene, their car spins off the road. The driver is killed, the other copper put into a coma. Diamond is

sent to the scene where he discovers, hours later, the tricycle and its driver thrown up a bank. This man too is in a coma. So how can he investigate? Tied to the Sherlockian victim by the CPR he administered, and making up a mythical cat called Hornsby to secure the man's house keys, Diamond begins an off the books inquiry that leads him into railroad enthusiasts, a trio of fabulous Fortuny heirloom dresses, and much more... maybe even a serial killer. How I love Lovesey: order all his books [HERE](#) for another binge reading treat.

✎Mackintosh, Clare. [I See You](#) (LittleBrown UK \$34). When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classifieds section of a London newspaper, she is determined to find out why it's there. There's no explanation, no website: just a grainy image and a phone number. She takes it home to her family, who are convinced it's just someone who looks like Zoe. But the next day the advert shows a photo of a different woman, and another the day after that. Is it a mistake? A coincidence? Or is someone keeping track of every move they make. This is Mackintosh's second after her big success with [I Let You Go](#) (Berkley \$26), our May British Crime Club Pick in the unsigned US edition which I highly recommend.

✎Marston, Edward. [Signal for Vengeance](#) (Allison & Busby \$45). 1860, Wimborne, Dorset. Rebecca Tullidge, miserably married to her callous husband, finds some escape through a love affair with another man. Saturday night, after putting her drunk husband to bed, she sneaks from their lodge to meet railway officer, John Bedloe. Much to her distress, she trips over her lover's dead body on the railway tracks. Determined to win votes for the upcoming election of mayor, Mr. Feltham calls for Inspector Colbeck and Sergeant Lemming to solve the hideous crime. As the pair arrives in the countryside, they are met with difficult personalities and conflicting alibis, making the investigation continue for much longer than Colbeck intends. With his pregnant wife back in London due to give birth to their first child, the inspector must work at speed if he is to return in time to be there when he becomes a father. On discovering Bedloe has a small town's worth of enemies as well as a sordid past, Colbeck and Leeming must unearth which of them is capable of plotting a violent murder. Could it possibly be a woman, distraught that he'd taken another lover? Or a jealous husband after discovering the truth? With a time limit looming over him, The Railway Detective is tasked with uncovering the truth.

McKenzie, CB. [Burn What Will Burn](#) (St Martins \$24.99). Despite having plenty of family money, Bob Reynolds, the narrator of this offbeat novel, seeks refuge in an old rundown home in Rushing, Arkansas, to avoid the Houston police, who suspect he might have been responsible for the recent fatal drowning of his wife in their bathtub. Bob, happily a loner in this isolated small town, has his serenity disturbed when he discovers a man's body in Little Piney Creek near his property. Bob reports the matter to Sheriff Baxter, only to find that the sheriff is familiar with his past and distrustful of his character and sanity. Suddenly, Bob is embroiled in the murder investigation. I found the story hard to follow but marvel at how one small place can embrace such a collection of lowlifes. Or maybe it is the place....

✎McPherson, Catriona. [Dandy Gilver and A Most Misleading Habit](#) (Hodder \$46). Scotland, 1932. Aristocratic private investigator Dandy Gilver strikes again with her witty sidekick Alec Osbourne to solve sinister goings on at a convent on a bleak

Lanarkshire moor. The convent was set alight following a mass breakout at a neighboring psychiatric hospital on Christmas Eve, resulting in the death of the mother superior. Most patients were returned safely but a few are still at large. . . As Dandy interviews each nun in turn she senses a stranger is still lurking in the corridors at night – could they be the same person who left blood-red footprints in the sacristsy?

Muller, Marcia. [Someone Always Knows](#) (Grand Central \$27). Finally settled into their new home after losing their house in a fire, and fully established in their new shared offices, private investigator Sharon McCone and her business partner, husband Hy, are starting to feel comfortable. That calm is shattered when Hy's former colleague Gage Renshaw—a shady troublemaker who they had presumed dead—reappears, and it's unclear what he wants from his prosperous former associate. Meanwhile, Sharon has a new client with a desire to rid a derelict house he's just bought in the city's notorious Western Addition neighborhood from intruders, drug users, and thugs. However, the abandoned house holds its share of secrets, and soon Sharon is contending with more than a simple eyesore as she searches for the individual who is obsessed with destroying her life....

Pearson, Ridley. [White Bone](#) (Putnam \$27). John Knox is an importer/exporter of international arts and crafts, a career that provides him good cover for his clandestine work with Rutherford Risk, an international security firm that specializes in hostage extractions. Grace Chu is a forensic accountant and hacker, and a colleague at Rutherford Risk. As *White Bone* opens, Knox has received a troubling text message from Grace, just before she goes radio silent. Troubled, he follows her into the field. Grace was sent into Kenya to track a stolen shipment of donated measles vaccines. The case quickly expands to involve the widespread criminal practice of poaching elephants for their tusks and rhinoceroses for their horns, and possibly the funding of terrorism. Corruption is standard operating procedure in Kenya, so Knox must beware of governmental agents and the police as well as the criminals he is tracking. When he arrives in Nairobi, Grace has been missing for days: he fears her cover has been blown. "Pearson's plot is complex, watertight and humming with tension. The finest details are realistic and disturbing, richly detailed and filled with intrigue that encompasses terrorism, corruption and lingering colonial strains. Its characters are nothing if not passionate, and these passions include the author's obvious concern for the central problem of elephant poaching. Pearson's writing is informative and allows his muscular story to take center stage. Series fans will remain committed, and new readers will be drawn in, with no background knowledge necessary to follow this action-packed novel combining the thriller, adventure and mystery genres." –Julia Jenkins. Order the whole Risk Agent Series [HERE](#).

Perez-Reverte, Arturo. [What We Become](#) (SimonSchuster \$28). We unexpectedly acquire a few copies signed by the Spanish bestseller whose work has ranged over locations and time periods. And range is the key word for a 20th Century sweep from 1920s Buenos Aires dance halls to a chess tournament in 1960s Italy and back to 1930s Nice, plus we're on board an ocean liner where Max, the usually elegant and detached thief, is engaged as an escort and does his stuff as a ballroom dancer with Mecha, the wife of a famous composer. As we travel with them, they are marked by their meetings and their shared histories, building all

the way to an ironic conclusion. So, romance, travel, adventure, a little espionage, all elegantly told.

Qiu, Xiaolong. [The Poems of Inspector Chen](#) (\$11). Compiled chronologically in the order the poems, written of course by Xiaolong, appear in the books. A new Chen is not yet listed but the paperback of [Shanghai Redemption](#) (\$15.99) will be out in mid-August. You can read more about them in the [LA Review of Books](#).

✚Robinson, Peter. [When the Music's Over](#) (Hodder \$45). This 23rd for Alan Banks probably won't arrive from London until early to mid-August but it publishes in July so I put it here. While DI Annie Cabbot investigates the circumstances in which a 14-year-old could possibly fall victim to such a crime, newly promoted Detective Superintendent Alan Banks must do the same – but the crime Banks is investigating is the coldest of cases. Fifty years ago Linda Palmer was attacked by celebrity entertainer Danny Caxton, yet no investigation ever took place. Now Caxton stands accused at the centre of a historical abuse investigation and it's Banks' first task as superintendent to find out the truth. As more women step forward with accounts of Caxton's manipulation, Banks must piece together decades-old evidence. With his investigation uncovering things from the past that would rather stay hidden, he will be led down a path even darker than the one he set out to investigate. Robinson takes hot-button topics—xenophobia, sexual assault, and celebrities—and turns them into uniquely compelling cases for Banks, who remains a stalwart of justice while adapting to change over his long career. Harper has been republishing earlier Banks: click here to order. You can order the Inspector Banks series [HERE](#).

Rosenfelt, David. [Outfoxed](#) (St Martins \$27). Edgar-finalist and Shamus Award winner Rosenfelt once again leads Andy Carpenter from the comfort of the couch or bar watching football into the courtroom thanks to a dog. In his 14th case, Andy has been running a program called Prison Pals, which uses inmates to help train and socialize rescued canines. White-collar criminal Brian Atkins, who's up for parole in four months from East Jersey State Prison, has bonded with Fox Terrier Boomer. When to everyone's amazement Brian stages an escape by posing as Boomer's trainer and then is espied driving away from the scene of a bloody double homicide, whose victims are his estranged wife and his former business partner, Andy, Brian's attorney, is puzzled. When he inadvertently leads to cops to a highway rest stop where Brian has driven with Boomer, and Brian saves Boomer from a speeding truck, Andy is impelled to take on Brian's defense—if he can persuade his client not to plead Guilty.... This is not Rosenfelt's strongest premise or plot, but really who cares when the ensemble cast is so great to hang with?

Rosenfelt returns to The Pen on October 20 to sign a Christmas book for Andy and his crew: [The Twelve Dogs of Christmas](#) (\$24.99). This is such a fun series, and craftily crafted—order all the Carpenters [HERE](#).

Rowley, Steven. [Lily and the Octopus](#) (SimonSchuster \$25.99). Rowley, who is also a screenwriter, peppers the story with Cate Blanchett, Ryans Gosling and Reynolds, Bradleys Cooper and Milton. Equally prominent are the literary references: Kipling's jungle, Auden's "Funeral Blues," and a reading list to prepare for an octopus hunt: Hemingway, Melville, Patrick O'Brian. The book opens in the spirit of a fun read, but the tone quickly deep-

ens to a sadder and a more intense experience. “Ted and Lily’s story centers around relationships: love and life partnership, the nature of commitment and of loss, and what it looks like to fight for one’s friends. As Ted battles the octopus and tries to shore up his darling, he ends up examining every aspect of his own life, his own shortcomings and the strengths he discovers in himself, almost by surprise. “His journey, then, is not only about a man and his dog but about breaking out of life’s stalemates. This introspection and interior aspect to the novel is only one of the depths that make it both more than another story about a beloved dog, and more than a whimsical work of fantasy—although it is a superb example of both.”—Julia Jenkins

✉Saunders, Kate. [The Secrets of Wishtide](#) (Bloomsbury UK \$35). Our **July History Club Pick** is a charmer that begins a Victorian series featuring widowed Mrs. Laetitia Rodd, relic of an arch-deacon left impoverished by his sudden death who has taken up lodgings in Hampshire with a more elderly, more impoverished but acute widow called Mrs. Bentley who once let rooms to poet John Keats and his two brothers. Laetitia’s beloved brother Frederick Tyson is a noted barrister who lives in neighboring Highgate with his extravagant wife and ten (soon to be eleven) children. So his aid to his sister lies in putting work in her way, work of a discreet nature demanding she employ her iron discretion and acute intelligence in assessing people and suppressing scandal. And aiding his defenses. And so it is that she is sent undercover into the household of the rich political figure Sir James Calderstone in Lincolnshire with an aim to uncover the doubtless unsavory past of the young “widow” his son and heir Charlie wishes to wed. Laetitia, who took up this career to avoid becoming a governess in Fred’s household, begins to snoop in the guise of the two daughters’ new governess and soon realizes that more than one secret is being concealed in the family. And then murders, no murders, strike. While the final moments in the resolution are a bit weak, the plot moves smoothly and twistily along, and you can’t help but love and admire Laetitia and Mrs. B and Fred. You will also realize that tight-knit Victorian society had no need of social media to stay connected and track its members. I’m thrilled at the prospect of their further adventures.

Swierczynski, Duane. [Revolver](#) (Little Brown \$26). Philadelphia, 1965: Two street cops—one black, one white—are gunned down in a corner bar. One of the fallen officers, Stan Walczak, leaves behind a 12-year-old boy, Jimmy. Philadelphia, 1995: Homicide detective Jim Walczak learns that his father’s alleged killer, Terrill Lee Stanton, has been sprung from prison. Jim stalks the ex-con, hoping to finally learn the truth. Philadelphia, 2015: Jim’s daughter Audrey, a forensic science student, re-opens her grandfather’s murder for a research paper. But as Audrey digs deeper, she comes to realize that Stanton probably didn’t pull the trigger—and her father may have made a horrible mistake....

Tremayne, Peter. [Penance of the Damned](#) (Headline \$46). Ireland, AD 671. King Colgú of Cashel is shocked to learn that his loyal Chief Bishop and advisor has been murdered in the old enemy fortress of the Uí Fidgente. When word reaches Cashel that the culprit will be executed under new law, a larger conflict threatens. Dispatched to investigate, Sister Fidelma and her companion Eadulf discover that the man facing punishment is Gormán – commander of the King’s bodyguard. But Fidelma cannot believe Gormán would carry out such an act – and yet he was found locked in a chamber with the body, weapon in hand.

The evidence is stacked against him. If they are to save Gormán and keep the peace between the kingdoms, Fidelma and Eadulf must find the true culprit. As the threat of war looms, the date of execution draws ever closer...

Watson, Larry. [As Good as Gone](#) (Algonquin \$26.95). Fans of Larry Watson (*Montana 1948*, *Let Him Go*) will recognize his mastery of foreshadowing in his 10th novel. Here’s an ordinary family in a nondescript small town, but something’s simmering. And when it erupts, readers are in for a heart-pounding read. It’s a typical July for the Sideys in 1963 Gladstone, Montana. Bill works as a realtor like his estranged dad, Cal, before him; his wife, Marjorie, cares for the home; 17-year-old Ann works at Penney’s; and Will, 11, is content to bike and fish. When Bill’s mother died suddenly, Cal spiraled into grief and drinking before abruptly leaving his two young children with his mother. Mostly absent since, he lives the cowboy life in an isolated trailer, reading classics in Latin by a kerosene lantern. Marjorie decides to travel 400 miles to Missoula for a needed surgery that brings Cal Sidey back to town. Watson keeps readers speculating until the end of this tense, fast-paced story of family drama as modern times clash with Old West mores. The July Indie Next Pick: “After the death of his wife, Cal Sidey abandoned his children for the life of a solitary ranch hand in Montana. Years later, in 1963, his son Bill asks his father to return home to look after his grandchildren, while Bill tends to a family emergency. The powerful story of Cal’s visit is a tragedy of narrowly missed moments as he attempts reentry into a world that no longer has any place for his old-fashioned and violent ways. The prose is clear and lovely, every character is strongly drawn, and Cal Sidey captured my heart while breaking it. Watson has given us a grand Western tragedy, spare and harrowing.”

BRITISH LIBRARY CRIME CLASSICS

Brandon, John G. [A Scream in Soho](#) (Poisoned Pen \$12.95). “Brandon’s novel, first published in 1940, presents Scotland Yard’s Inspector Patrick Aloysius McCarthy as a hero for his time: WWII-era London. Under the blackout, it can be hard to see your hand in front of your face. But as long as Soho native McCarthy is on the job, even the most heinous of criminals, including spies and murderers, will be brought to justice. Leaning on underworld figures like Floriello Mascagni and Danny ‘the Dip’ Regan, the sleuth dives into a case with national security implications: will the wily ‘Teutons’ be able to smuggle stolen anti-aircraft defense plans out of England? Brandon, an Australian-born professional boxer credited with over 120 novels, has, by contemporary standards, an overwritten style and a propensity for casually racist and sexist commentary. But the novel’s hero doesn’t disappoint; McCarthy knows his beat, trusts his hunches, and has no qualms about knocking heads together.”—*PW*

Forrester, Andrew. [The Female Detective](#) (Poisoned Pen \$12.95). In 1864, the British writer James Redding Ware, under the pseudonym Andrew Forrester, published *The Female Detective*, introducing readers to the first professional female detective character, Mrs. Gladden, and paving the way for the more famous female detectives of the early twentieth century, namely Miss Marple and Nancy Drew. Mrs. Gladden’s deductive methods anticipate those of Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes, who would not appear for another twenty years—and like Holmes, she regards the regular constabulary with disdain. But her energetic

and savvy approach to solving crimes is her greatest appeal, and the reappearance of the original lady detective is sure to captivate a new generation of crime fiction fans. *The Female Detective* is now available to the general public for the first time since its original publication. IMHO, it is really more for the enthusiast and those wishing closer acquaintance with the foundations of crime fiction than for those wanting a zippy read.

OUR JULY TRADE PAPERBACK PICKS

✚Alexander, Tasha. [The Adventuress](#) (\$15.99). If the French Riviera doesn't figure into your travel plans this summer, journey there with Lady Emily Ashton and her husband Colin. The Victorian sleuthing couple arrives to attend the engagement party of her lifelong friend Jeremy, Duke of Bainbridge, and Amity Wells, an American heiress. The smooth and glittering surface of the gathering is, sadly, swiftly marred by the apparent suicide of one of the party.... "This tenth entry in Alexander's historical series offers important character development, while giving the reader the feeling they've also been on holiday on the Riviera—minus the dead bodies. An enjoyable historical murder mystery that will please existing fans, while being very accessible to new readers."—*Library Journal*. Order all of Lady Emily's elegant cases [here](#).

Block, Lawrence. [The Girl with the Deep Blue Eyes](#) (\$9.95). Cashed out from the NYPD after 24 years, Doak Miller operates as a private eye in steamy small-town Florida, doing jobs for the local police. Like posing as a hit man and wearing a wire to incriminate a local wife who's looking to get rid of her husband. But when he sees the wife, when he looks into her deep blue eyes... Patrick writes, I don't know if this was another manuscript of Block's that was locked away for decades and recently rewritten and updated, but it has the feel of classic Gold Medal crime fiction with a liberal dose of kinky sex thrown in for good measure. This is certainly the best of Block's Hard Case crime novels that I've read, with a laconic former cop turned private eye that has a strong touch of Willeford and an unsettling measure of Jim Thompson's Lou Ford. Block keeps his sentences crisp and neat, like the pro that he is, and you won't be able to put this raunchy slice of classic noir (a term that has become co-opted and rendered useless these days, but it is entirely accurate here) down.

Goodfellow, Rick. [Collector of Secrets](#) (\$16). This is a dense, well-written novel that not only reviews some of WWII's history and creates a treasure hunt, but tours you around Japan. The *PW* Starred Review: "After living in Tokyo for a year, American Max Travers, the hero of Goodfellow's stellar debut, wants to quit his job teaching English, but Yoko, the unethical and manipulative owner of the language school he works for, refuses to return his passport in a ploy to get him to stay in Japan. When Max breaks into Yoko's office late one night in an attempt to retrieve it, he finds burglars already there ransacking the place. In the chaos that follows, he grabs a satchel that turns out to contain a journal kept by a prince who was Emperor Hirohito's first cousin. It details decades of imperial Japan's plunder of Southeast Asia's most valuable treasures during WWII. Suddenly on the run from the Yakuza mob and the Japanese police, Travers must stay alive long enough to understand the mind-blowing scope of the conspiracies revealed within the diary. Relentlessly paced, meticulously plotted, and richly described, this is a page-turner of the highest order."

Hart, Elsa. [Jade Dragon Mountain](#) (\$15.99). This elegantly written and conceived debut may be set in 18th Century China, but its elements hold true today: an emperor (Qing) trying to consolidate power after his family upends the old (Ming) dynasty and using cutting edge technology to do it; scapegoating Tibetans; European powers (The East India Company) pushing to expand trading interests; killer rivalries among foreign factions (Jesuits and Dominicans as well as the English, Portuguese, Indians); an excited populace in the emperor's host city; its chief magistrate trying not to rock the boat to preserve his own advancement; his ambitious yet unwed consort securing her future. And into this comes the magistrate's cousin, exiled imperial librarian Li Du, a man with no taste for politics but too curious to let the murder of an elderly Jesuit slide.... Set in tea-rich Dayan, modern Lijiang in Yunnan province. The sequel, [White Mirror](#) (St Martins \$27 Signed), comes out in September.

Hobbs, Roger. [Vanishing Games](#) (\$16). John Charles reviews: Six years after she disappeared from his life, Jack White's old mentor/friend Angela sends him an email saying she is in trouble and desperately needs his help. Angela's attempt to hijack a ship carrying a cache of rare sapphires has gone south. Arriving in Macau, Jack works out a plan with Angela to recover the gems only to stumble across an even more valuable cargo; one for which any number of people will kill to possess. Hobbs' debut novel *Ghostman* (2013) introduced readers to Jack. The book was a finalist for an Edgar award as well as winning the Crime Writers Association's Ian Fleming Steel Dagger for best thriller. *Vanishing Games* proves once again that Hobbs knows how to craft a white-knuckle read. The pacing is relentless and the action never stops even as readers gradually learn more about Jack and Angela's complicated relationship as well as the unique skills they possess that allow them to run cons and successfully morph from one person into another. *Vanishing Games* is a high-octane, high-stakes thriller that you won't want to miss. But start with 2013 First Mystery Club Pick [Ghostman](#) (\$14.95).

Koryta, Michael. [Last Words](#) (\$15.99). This moving series launch from bestseller Koryta illustrates why he's among today's top thriller writers. PI Mark Novak has not done well since his wife, Lauren, was murdered on her way to an interview on behalf of the Florida firm that specializes in exonerating death-row inmates for which the couple worked. Two years later, Mark, who's at risk of being fired by that firm, receives an unusual request. Ridley Barnes, an eccentric cave explorer, wants him to look into the decade-old murder of 17-year-old Sarah Martin, who disappeared inside Trapdoor Caverns in Garrison, Ind. Barnes was a prime suspect in that case, though he was never charged. The tragedy plunged the town into an economic depression after the cave's owners sealed it, cutting off the tourist trade. In Garrison, Mark encounters people who refuse to talk—and violence. Koryta sensitively portrays regret and grief while plunging the reader into exciting, claustrophobic scenes deep inside the massive cave." The creative Koryta has given you PI stories, supernatural thrillers, and a pure wilderness adventure. And he's only 32! Koryta joins us August 18 with a (literally) electrifying thriller: [Rise the Dark](#) (Little Brown \$26).

Limon, Martin. [The Ville Rat](#) (\$15.95). 10th in one of my very favorite series which captures everything I love about crime fiction: landscape, characters, roaring good plots—and an interesting culture to explore, both mid-70s Korean and that of the US Eighth

Army, which means you get to both travel and learn cool new stuff. This story begins when a young Korean woman dressed in a traditional *chima-jeogori* is found strangled to death on the frozen banks of the Sonyu River. A carefully calligraphed poem is concealed in her sleeve. George Sueño and Ernie Bascom, sergeants in the US 8th Army CID, are called in by the formidable KNP detective Gil Kwon-up to investigate. Not an easy task. The nearby village of Sonyu-ri is occupied by the US Army's 2nd Infantry Division, a disciplined and often brutal force that won't stand for outside officers questioning its men. All that George and Ernie are able to glean before being kicked out of town is that they are close to the truth—and that a mysterious smuggler, known locally as “the Ville Rat,” holds the key to the woman's murder... See Event Books for their 11th investigation *Ping Pong Heart*. Yay!

✚ Lovesey, Peter. [Down Among the Dead Men](#) (\$15.95) opens on a light note, with a professional car thief (call him “Driveaway Danny”) updating his skills with a remarkable gizmo that prevents a car from being locked — only to discover that the silver BMW he's stolen has a body in the trunk. The scene then changes to Priory Park School in Chichester, where all the A-level girls are swooning over their dreamy new art teacher, Tom Standforth, who drives a vintage MG and lives on a grand estate. All the girls, that is, except Melanie Mason, the scholarship student, who is upset that their old art teacher, Miss Gibbon, is listed on the police website as a missing person — and no one, not even the starchy headmistress, seems to care. “At precisely the right moment, the narrative shifts into a police procedural... Lovesey adroitly assembles all these random puzzle pieces and idiosyncratic characters into a resolution that is technically brilliant, subversively funny and — quite brave of him — rather cruel.” — *NY Times Book Review*. For the new Lovesey see Signed Books or New Books for the Unsigned US edition.

Mathews, Francine. [Death in Rough Water](#) (Soho \$15.95). My (late) Mother and I were both serious fans of the Merry Folger series set on Nantucket that Mathews published in the 1990s. She has now revised the first three in preparation for a new book so as to bring the stories current. Yay! When Joe Duarte, a fishing boat captain with decades of experience on the wild seas off Nantucket, is swept overboard during a spring storm, his death is pronounced accidental. But his estranged daughter, Del, is convinced it's murder. She moves back to Nantucket to get closer to the truth, and enlists her old friend, detective Merry Folger, to help. But Del is also hiding secrets of her own, and the police are not inclined to help her with what they see as a wild goose chase. Merry has to defy her boss—her father—in order to investigate. This is #2 after [Death in the Off Season](#) (\$9.99). Mathews writes historicals, espionage, and as Stephanie Barron, the Being a Jane Austen Mysteries.

Penny, Louise. [The Nature of the Beast](#) (\$15.99), amazingly, is based on something real although unbelievable. Ruth the poet has a key role (as does the duck). The 11th Armand Gamache finds the retired policeman and his wife Reine-Marie retired and loving it in Quebec's charming village of Three Pines. But the terrible murder of a child and echoes, and a relic, of war propel Gamache into action. The fact that he is only consulting with, not leading, his former team is additionally unsettling, leading to the question of what might his future be? He has years ahead of him... The

mystery at the novel's heart is both wonderful (and terrifying), the more so for being rooted in something real. And what most sticks with me is, referencing a Dr. Seuss moment, this one line: “on the lam from green eggs and ham.” You can preorder, and should, the August 30 Gamache: [A Great Reckoning](#) (St Martins \$30).

✚ Raybourn, Deanna. [A Curious Beginning](#) (\$15). London, 1887. As the city prepares to celebrate Queen Victoria's golden jubilee, Veronica Speedwell is marking a milestone of her own. After burying her spinster aunt, the orphaned Veronica is free to resume her world travels in pursuit of scientific inquiry—and the occasional romantic dalliance. As familiar with hunting butterflies as she is fending off admirers, Veronica wields her butterfly net and a sharpened hatpin with equal aplomb, and with her last connection to England now gone, she intends to embark upon the journey of a lifetime. But fate has other plans, as Veronica discovers when she thwarts her own abduction with the help of an enigmatic German baron with ties to her mysterious past. Promising to reveal in time what he knows of the plot against her, the baron offers her temporary sanctuary in the care of his friend Stoker—a reclusive natural historian as intriguing as he is bad-tempered. But before the baron can deliver on his tantalizing vow to reveal the secrets he has concealed for decades, he is found murdered. So begins a Victorian series from bestseller Raybourn of the Lady Julia Grey mysteries. The sequel appears in January, 2017.

✚ Willig, Lauren. [The Other Daughter](#) (\$15.99). Deceit. Passion. Revenge! What would you do if you discovered what you thought you knew about yourself and your history was a lie? Raised by her widowed mother in genteel poverty in an isolated English village, Rachel Woodley has been working for six years in France as a nursery governess. When her mother unexpectedly dies, she returns to England to clear out the cottage, and finds a photo from *The Tatler* under her mother's pillow—a photo of Rachel's father, who is clearly very much alive. He's an earl. And he has a family. And a daughter, a debutante making a splash in society. Pained, and furious, Rachel gets only half-truths from an old family friend. But the appearance of a mysterious man-about-town inspires her to assume a false ID and enter into London Society with the object of bringing shame to her father and half-sister Olivia. Rachel doesn't expect to like Olivia... or to fall for Olivia's fiancé....

Wilson, Anne A. [Hover](#) (\$14.99). Helicopter pilot Lt. Sara Denning joins a navy battle group with little fanfare—and that's just the way she likes it. After her brother Ian's tragic death, her career path seemed obvious: step into his shoes and enter the Naval Academy, despite her fear of water. But then comes a Navy SEAL team flight coordinator who requests her as an exclusive pilot and upends her world, not least during a stop in Hong Kong, and then a mission heading west where the US Vice President is in jeopardy... A terrific debut by a metro Phoenix author mixing Tom Clancy into Kristin Hannah territory. I read every word (in one gulp): thriller, romance, women's fiction, military fiction. See Event Books for a second Wilson, *Clear to Lift*, which draws upon her Search & Rescue experience flying helicopters.

A COZY CORNER... a selection of new cozy crimes will appear in the July BookNotes from John Charles

NEW BOOKS FOR JULY

Allende, Isabel. [The Japanese Lover](#) (\$16). Irina is a young Moldavian immigrant with a troubled past. She works at an assisted living home where she meets Alma, a Holocaust survivor who silk-screened designs fuel the family foundation. “Their narratives, however, go far beyond the retelling of Alma’s remarkable affair with a Japanese gardener’s son, Ichimei Fukuda, its heartbreaking end, and her subsequent marriage to loyal friend Nathaniel—or Irina’s heartbreaking struggle to break free of her haunting past. Allende sweeps these women up in the turmoil of families torn apart by WWII and ravaged by racism, poverty, horrific sexual abuse—and old age, to which Allende pays eloquent attention.”

Armstrong, Kelley. [Deceptions: A Cainsville Novel](#) (\$16). Olivia Taylor-Jones has discovered she’s not only adopted—her real parents were serial killers. A media frenzy blows up and she finds herself in Chicago taking refuge with her new boss, defense attorney Gabriel Walsh. Her former fiancé James sends a couple of “deprogrammers” to retrieve her (there is that \$25 million trust fund that will come due when she turns 25), whom Olivia and Gabriel swiftly subdue. Now what? There’s Ricky the biker. What powers does Gabriel have? Is James in charge of James, or is someone manipulating him? Armstrong is adept at throwing in twist after twist in her sexy, out of this world suspense....

Bannalec, Jean-Luc. [A Murder on Brittany Shores](#) (St Martins \$24.99) is the sequel to one of my favorite 2015 debuts: [Death in Brittany](#) (\$15.99), which sweeps you to the picturesque coast of Brittany, a French province rooted in the Celtic (Tristan and Iseult) mythology with millennia of a fishing and boating culture (two tiny islands off the coast of Canada make up a part of this province). And into the orbit of Commissaire Georges Dupin, a Parisian-born caffeine junkie who’s been exiled to the region. His second investigation begins one day in May when three mangled corpses are found on one of the fabled Glénan Islands, a kind of archipelago that floats, sometimes completely swamped by the Atlantic, off the coast. Who are they and how did they get there? Plus how will he get there (boat or helicopter, neither his favorite). His superior is pushing, so working from a superb local bistro (great coffee, and the local lobster is superb) doesn’t pan out. Instead Dupin is drawn deeply into a region full of myths and traditions, and into its history. To get to the bottom of the case, he must tangle with treasure hunters, militant marine biologists, and dangerous divers. The investigation leads him further into the perilous, beautiful world of Glénan. The pace is slow so you can savor this fascinating landscape and the constant complexities facing Dupin as tragedies unroll.

Bai, Xiao. [The French Concession](#) (\$15.99). Since David Downing’s [Jack of Spies](#) (\$15.95) remains one of my favorites, how could I resist a spy tale of 1930s Shanghai? The city of 1990s Inspector Chen (Qiu Xiaolong), of SJ Rozan’s *Shanghai Moon*. Tom Bradby’s terrific *The Master of Rain*. Lisa See’s [Shanghai Girls](#) (\$16). Unfortunately, and it may be in part the translation, I can’t get excited about Bai. There’s too much going on, too many players....

Batacan, FH. [Smaller and Smaller Circles](#) (\$15.95). Set in the Philippines in 1997, Batacan’s richly detailed and deeply unsettling debut won the Philippine National Book Award in its original short form. In this expanded version, Fr. Gus Saenz, whose

skills as a forensic anthropologist with a concentration in forensic pathology are often sought after by the country’s National Bureau of Investigation, helps look into the deaths of six boys, all of whom were found in Quezon City’s Payatas dump site, where children often pick through garbage to provide for their families. A dark story and an unfamiliar (to me anyway) setting.

✂Berry, Flynn. [Under the Harrow](#) (Penguin \$16) begins as a straightforward murder mystery: in the English countryside, but morphs quickly into a psychological thriller, called “*Broadchurch* as written by Elena Ferrante” in debut author Berry’s strong voice. When Nora takes the train from London to visit her sister in the countryside, she expects to find her waiting at the station, or at home cooking dinner. But when she walks into Rachel’s familiar house, what she finds is entirely different: her sister has been the victim of a brutal murder. Stunned and adrift, Nora finds she can’t return to her former life. An unsolved assault in the past has shaken her faith in the police, and she can’t trust them to find her sister’s killer. Haunted by the murder and the secrets that surround it, Nora is under the harrow: distressed and in danger. As Nora’s fear turns to obsession, she becomes as unrecognizable as the sister her investigation uncovers.

Brackmann, Lisa. [Dragon Day](#) (\$15.95). Ellie McEnroe is an Iraq war vet living in Beijing, where she represents the work of cutting-edge Chinese political artists. She has one bum leg, a taste for dumplings and beer, and an evangelical mother and a sweet-tempered rescue mutt for roommates. She also has Chinese Domestic Security on her tail and a dwindling supply of Percocets to get her through her bad days. And she’s about to have some bad days. The immensely powerful—and occasionally homicidal—Shanghai billionaire Sidney Cao has asked Ellie to investigate Marsh Brody, his son’s suspicious new American business partner. Ellie knows she can’t refuse, and is swept into the elite social circles of Sidney’s three children. When a waitress is killed at one of their parties, the last thing Ellie wants is to get sucked into a huge scandal involving China’s rich and powerful. But Ellie quickly becomes the most convenient suspect and realizes she’ll have to find out who really did it. At the core of her Ellie McEnroe trilogy—this is the third and final novel—Brackmann once again shines the spotlight on a major cultural issue: *Dragon Day* explores the class disparity and rampant materialism that have come to dominate the Chinese metropolis.

Burdett, John. [The Bangkok Asset](#) (\$16). An unusual crime scene disturbs Sonchai Jitpleecheep in Burdett’s “wild and entertaining sixth novel featuring the Thai homicide cop.” Near the corpse of a 12- or 13-year-old girl, whose head seems to have been pulled off her body by sheer brute force, someone wrote a message in the victim’s blood indicating that the writer knows who Sonchai’s father is. Before he can really process this suggestion regarding his unknown biological father, Sonchai witnesses two men in a boat each throw a woman off a boat to drown in the Chao Phraya River during a storm. The tragedy only gets weirder when video of the crimes shows that the boat’s other passenger, an enormously strong “tall blond *farang*,” swimming to shore against a raging current. That man is seen meeting with Joseph Goldman, a CIA spook, who was involved in notorious mind-control experiments. “Impressively, everything comes together,” says *PW*. I say there is a real touch of Marvel here in the action figure. For my money Timothy Hallinan does Bangkok better, but Burdett provides an unorthodox read. Order the earlier Sonchais [here](#).

✂Cannon, Joanna. [The Trouble with Goats and Sheep](#) (Scribner \$26). The July Indie Next Pick: “Best friends Grace and Tilly spend England’s sweltering summer of 1976 sleuthing for clues to uncover the reason for their neighbor’s disappearance. They go from house to house, neighbor to neighbor, investigating as only guileless little girls can do. While they’re at it, they also look for god in the most unusual places. As the mystery of the neighborhood is slowly revealed, so are the many secrets behind every door on the avenue. If you loved *A Man Called Ove*, you will love *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep*. Funny, quirky and profound!”

Carlotto, Massimo. [For All the Gold in the World](#) (Europa \$15). One of the many robberies that plague Northeast Italy goes wrong and ends with a brutal murder. The police investigation turns up nothing. Two years later, Marco Buratti, alias “the Alligator,” is asked to look into the crime and find out who was responsible. Buratti’s employer is young, the youngest client he has ever had; he is only twelve years old and is the son of one of the victims. The Alligator realizes right from the start that the truth is cloaked, twisted, shocking. Together with his associates, Beniamino Rossini and Max the Memory, he finds himself mixed up in a story involving contraband gold and blood vendettas .”

✂Cho, Zen. [Sorcerer to the Crown](#) (\$15). “An enchanting cross between Georgette Heyer and Susanna Clarke, full of delights and surprises. Zen Cho unpins the edges of the canvas and throws them wide.”—Naomi Novik. The Royal Society of Unnatural Philosophers maintains the magic within His Majesty’s lands. But lately, the once proper institute has fallen into disgrace, naming an altogether unsuitable gentleman as their Sorcerer Royal and allowing England’s stores of magic to bleed dry. At least they haven’t stooped so low as to allow women to practice what is obviously a man’s profession. At his wit’s end, Zacharias Wythe, Sorcerer Royal of the Unnatural Philosophers, ventures to the border of Fairyland to discover why England’s magical stocks are drying up, an adventure that brings him in contact with Prunella Gentlewoman, a woman with immense power and an unfathomable gift, and sets him on a path which will alter the nature of sorcery in all of Britain—and the world at large... First in the Sorcerer Royal Series.

Chu, Wesley. [Time Siege](#) (Tor \$25.99). Haunted by the past and enslaved by the present, James Griffin-Mars is taking control of the future. Earth is a toxic, sparsely inhabited wasteland—the perfect hiding place for a fugitive ex-chronman to hide from the authorities. James has allies, scientists he rescued from previous centuries: Elise Kim, who believes she can renew Earth, given time; Grace Priestly, the venerated inventor of time travel herself; Levin, James’s mentor and former pursuer, now disgraced; and the Elfeth, a population of downtrodden humans who want desperately to believe that James and his friends will heal their ailing home world. James also has enemies. They include the full military might of benighted solar system ruled by corporate greed and a desperate fear of what James will do next. At the forefront of their efforts to stop him is Kuo, the ruthless security head, who wants James’s head on a pike. Second in the Time Salvager Series for those risking time travel adventure!

Corbett, David. [Thirteen Confessions: Stories](#) (Mysterious \$13.99). Thirteen beautifully wrought tales of crime, passion, and people on the brink of disaster.

Crumley, James. [Bordersnakes](#); [Final Country](#); [The Mexican Tree Duck](#) (\$16 each). Here’s your chance to discover, or reread, classic Crumley.

Coulter, Catherine. [Insidious](#) (Putnam \$27). Venus Rasmussen, a powerful eighty-six-year-old woman who still runs Rasmussen Industries, an international conglomerate, believes someone is poisoning her. After Savich and Sherlock visit with her, someone attempts to shoot her in broad daylight. Who’s trying to kill her and why? A member of her rapacious family, or her grandson who’s been missing for ten years and suddenly reappears? Savich and Sherlock must peel away the layers to uncover the incredible truth about who would target Venus. Meanwhile, Special Agent Cam Wittier leaves Washington for Los Angeles to work with local Detective Daniel Montoya to lead the hunt for the Starlet Slasher, a serial killer who has cut the throats of five young actresses. Then a sixth young actress is murdered... 20th in Coulter’s FBI series.

Davis, Lindsey. [Graveyard of the Hesperides](#) (St Martins \$26.99). Days before her wedding to virile Tiberius Manlius Faustus, Flavia Albia brings a picnic lunch to her bridegroom at his popular restaurant, The Garden of Hesperides, currently closed for renovations. Their hearty romantic meal is interrupted when builders discover a cache of human bones. Her job as an informer (the ancient term for a private investigator) makes Albia feel duty-bound to investigate, however halfheartedly. Faustus immediately identifies the remains as those of Rufia, a Hesperides barmaid for the restaurant’s previous owner whose disappearance has prompted much gossip. The locals all know about Rufia but claim she had no enemies or even a boyfriend. The discovery of more body parts amps up the need for a real investigation as well as Albia’s anxiety. 4th in the Flavia Alba series. See Downie below for more Roman crimes).

✂Doherty, Paul. [The Great Revolt](#) (Severn \$29.95). June, 1381. The rebel armies are massed outside London, determined to overturn both Crown and Church. The Regent, John of Gaunt, has headed north, leaving his nephew, the boy-king Richard II, unprotected. Brother Athelstan meanwhile has been summoned to the monastery at Blackfriars, tasked with solving the murder of his fellow priest, Brother Alberic, found stabbed to death in his locked chamber. Athelstan would rather be protecting his parishioners at St Erconwald’s. Instead, he finds himself investigating a royal murder that took place fifty-four years earlier whilst the rebel leaders plot the present king’s destruction. What does the fate of the king’s great-grandfather, Edward II, have to do with the murder of Brother Alberic more than fifty years later? When he finds his own life under threat, Athelstan discovers that exposing past secrets is deadly dangerous.... Ordered Upon Request.

Downie, Ruth. [Vita Brevis](#) (Bloomsbury \$26). Ruso rocks the Romans. Yes, the medicus who’s been serving a legion in Britannia has relocated with his wife Tilla, a Briton, and their adopted daughter to Rome when his patron Accius returns home. Accius however has not come through with work and Ruso is growing desperate, Tilla and the baby fed up with living in a roach-infested tenement. Then Accius’ local physician, Kleitos, goes on leave and Ruso is offered the doctor’s practice and his home while Kleitos is away. Unfortunately it ends up that the offer includes the body of a man inside a barrel at Kleitos’ door. Things grow worse as a distracted Ruso makes a grave mistake.... For fans of

Lindsey Davis whose new book is listed above. Order the earlier Rusos, starting with *Medicus*, [here](#).

Eriksson, Kjell. [Open Grave](#) (\$15.99). Uppsala, Sweden, police officer Ann Lindell is great at solving crimes. Her personal life not so good...but it's nothing as barren as that of the new Nobel Prize winner just announced. 84-year-old Professor Bertram von Ohler trumpets the good news, but not everyone in his quiet upper-class neighborhood is happy for him. Some gravely not so....

Flynn, Rory. [Dark Horse](#) (Houghton \$22). When a late-summer hurricane slams into Boston, Detective Eddy Harkness and his Narco-Intel crew are thrown into the eye of a very different kind of storm. *Dark Horse* — an especially pure and deadly brand of heroin — has infiltrated the gritty Lower South End. Harkness soon finds that the drug is also at the center of an audacious land grab by the city's corrupt new mayor and his shadowy power brokers. Meanwhile, Lower South End residents displaced by the storm use an obscure bylaw to move into Eddy's hometown, and soon enough tensions are running high along Nagog's tree-lined streets. Flynn's June 2014 [Third Rail](#) (\$14.95) was a Hardboiled Crime Club Pick.

Ford, GM. [Salvation Lake](#) (amazon \$15.95). Seattle investigator Leo Waterman hasn't been seen for awhile but he's still hanging with the raucous crowd at his neighborhood bar, those guys who were part of his politico father's posse. Leo has enough money not to work but when his ex Rebecca, the King County's ME, appears thanks to two bodies discovered in the trunk of a car, one of them covered with a hideous and heavy old tweed coat that belonged to Leo's dad, Leo gets his *mojo* on, retracing the victims' final days and, inevitably, being surprised by the unexpected. This isn't in the class of Ford's earlier work but I hope it means he'll be writing more.

Galassi, Jonathan. [Muse](#) (\$16). From its seedy offices on Union Square to the outsized personality of its founder, Homer Stern, the "scrappy but consequential" publishing house Purcell & Stern is a clear proxy for FSG, where Galassi has worked for the last 30 years, and its iconic leader, Roger Straus. Homer, a scion of the German-Jewish aristocracy, has spent his career locked in professional combat with Sterling Wainwright, owner of Impetus Editions and a certified member of the WASP establishment. The ferocity of their competition sustains the two men into their eighth decades. To their rivalry comes Paul Dukach, the novel's protagonist. Hired by Homer as an editor, he brings to his job an "old-fashioned author-centered vision of publishing," but more than that, an obsession with the dynamic Ida Perkins, "the distinctive poetic voice of her generation." When Sterling, Ida's only publisher (a prize Homer covets), shares with Paul a collection of cryptic notebooks from one of her former lovers, the younger man is torn between these "figures from another era, these competing fathers." He eventually manages to meet his idol, now an elderly woman living out her final days in isolation in a Venetian palazzo, and Galassi uses that encounter to fashion a fitting resolution of the literary triangle that provides the plot's momentum.

Godfrey, Daniel. [New Pompeii](#) (Titan \$14.95). Here is a time-travel thriller that pays homage to Michael Crichton, substituting ancient Romans for resurrected dinosaurs. Crichton's novels generally follow a basic, almost mathematical formula: overweening ambition plus entropy equals a lot of dead people.

Godfrey proves the soundness of that formula by replicating it, with entertaining results. In *New Pompeii*, a controversial company called Novus Particles has developed the capability to pull objects, animals and even people from the past to the present day. Protagonist and struggling Ph.D. student Nick Houghton is hired by Novus Particles to serve as a historical adviser on its secret project to re-create the ancient city of Pompeii. Zapping the inhabitants forward in time just before they were buried under a mountain of ash, the company has built a replica-Pompeii in a remote location to encourage the Romans to return to business as usual. The true purpose of *New Pompeii* doesn't become clear until the final chapters, but suffice it to say that the Romans aren't the only ones harboring dangerous schemes.

Hambly, Barbara. [Drinking Gourd](#) (Severn \$29.95). *PW* stars this: "Hambly's outstanding 14th Benjamin January novel, set in the summer of 1839, takes the free black physician from New Orleans to Vicksburg, Miss., whose swampy environs hide runaway slaves desperate to join the Underground Railroad and "follow the drinking gourd" north to freedom. When Ezekias Drummond, the principal conductor of the local railroad, is stabbed to death, the authorities arrest Jubal Cain, who coordinates the whole railroad operation in Mississippi, for the crime. January, who's been posing as a slave accompanying his white master, must identify Drummond's killer before Cain's role in the railroad is exposed. In addition to the slavery issue, Hambly focuses on broader social concerns. With panache and sensitivity, she explores the plight of women, both black and white, who can only endure abuses in such a society, and are rarely able to escape them as men sometimes can. Her well-tuned ear for the vernacular speech of her characters, whatever their race, is a plus." Ordered Upon Request.

✧Hanff, Helene. [The Duchess of Bloomsbury Street](#) (\$14.99). Here's a reissue of a charming 1995 book I note because the Britain she's writing about appears, especially in light of Brexit, to be vanishing...or gone. When devoted Anglophile Helene Hanff is invited to London for the English publication of [84, Charing Cross Road](#) (\$13.99)—in which she shares two decades of correspondence with Frank Doel, a British bookseller who became a dear friend—she can hardly believe her luck. Frank is no longer alive, but his widow and daughter, along with enthusiastic British fans from all walks of life, embrace Helene as an honored guest. Eager hosts, including a famous actress and a retired colonel, sweep her up in a whirlwind of plays and dinners, trips to Harrod's, and wild jaunts to their favorite corners of the countryside. A *New Yorker* who isn't afraid to speak her mind, Helene Hanff delivers an outsider's funny yet fabulous portrait of idiosyncratic Britain at its best.

Harris, Shaun. [The Hemingway Thief](#) (Seventh Street \$15.95). Harris' debut reminds me of the 1948 film *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*—only the treasure is not an actual gold mine but a literary one: a portion of the original manuscript of *A Moveable Feast*, long thought lost along with other Hemingway work that vanished from the custody of Hemingway's first wife Hadley at the Gare de Lyon, Paris. It comes along at a seedy hotel in the Baja beach area where stalled author Henry Cooper sips too much rum. Coop is having a hard time writing his new pseudonymous vampire romance. When the hotel owner, his buddy Grady, tries to save a drunk from a vicious surprise attack by two thugs, Coop tags along hoping for some kind of story. It turns out the drunk is a small-time thief on the run in Mexico with the

Hemingway first draft stolen from a wealthy rare books dealer. Is this relic genuine? And if so does it suggest that the then unpublished Hemingway might have had an angle rather than a stunning loss? Don't expect a polished literary mystery here—but it's raucous and fun.

✎Hawkins, Paula. [The Girl on the Train](#) (\$16). I am staging my own quiet revolt against all novels, including this seminal suspense story that accelerated the grip of *Gone Girl* with “Girl” or “Girls” in the title. I can't fault Hawkins for the copycat actions, but... This 2015 First Mystery Club Pick has been on bestseller lists since it published, selling more than 4.5 million copies in the US, and foreign rights have been sold in more than 44 countries. With the numbers it's posted, it has become one of the fastest selling adult hardcovers ever published. The *New York Times* praised the book as “having more fun with unreliable narration than any chiller since *Gone Girl*,” and authors including George R.R. Martin and Stephen King have proclaimed themselves fans, with King going so far as to call the book “dead perfect.” A film adaptation from Dreamworks starring Emily Blunt and Justin Thoreaux and directed by Tate Taylor will debut on October 7.

Holt, Anne. [Dead Joker](#) (Scribner \$26). I couldn't help but think of this powerful series by Norway's former Minister of Justice Holt while traveling around the country in June—and especially on the 7.5 hour train trip from Bergen to Oslo, scene of one of her best. *PW* reviews this July 26 release: “Edgar-finalist Holt's powerful fifth Hanne Wilhelmsen novel finds the Oslo chief inspector investigating the murder of Doris Flo Halvorsrud. The police suspect the culprit is her husband, Chief Public Prosecutor Sigurd Halvorsrud, who claims he was held at gunpoint and forced to watch as Ståle Salvesen—a businessmen he once investigated for insider dealing—beheaded his wife. Unfortunately for Sigurd, Ståle was seen jumping off the Staure Bridge the Monday before the murder. After Sigurd is released from jail, a journalist is decapitated and Sigurd's fingerprints are found at the scene. Meanwhile, Hanne's best friend and colleague, Billy T., faces down marriage and fatherhood, and her long-time live-in partner, Cecilie Vibe, battles cancer. Nuanced characters and a strong sense of place make for an immersive tale that packs an emotional punch and offers incisive commentary on the failings of the criminal justice system. Short chapters and a rapidly shifting perspective keep the pace swift despite a dizzyingly complex plot.” Order all the Hannes [here](#).

✎Huber, Anna Lee. [As Death Draws Near](#) (Berkley \$26). July 1831. In the midst of their idyllic honeymoon in England's Lake District, Kiera and Gage's seclusion is soon interrupted by a missive from her new father-in-law. A deadly incident involving a distant relative of the Duke of Wellington has taken place at an abbey south of Dublin, Ireland, and he insists that Kiera and Gage look into the matter. Intent on discovering what kind of monster could murder a woman of the cloth, the couple travel to Rathfarnham Abbey School. Soon a second nun is slain in broad daylight near a classroom full of young girls. With the sinful killer growing bolder, the mother superior would like to send the students home, but the growing civil unrest in Ireland would make the journey treacherous. Before long, Kiera starts to suspect that some of the girls may be hiding a sinister secret as the killer is poised to strike yet again.... Lady Derby moves into hardcover. I may say more in the Enews. This is a fine series to read as a whole; order it [here](#).

Huntley, Swan. [We Could Be Beautiful](#) (Doubleday \$25.95) features a fascinating heroine who longs for answers but is blinded by her own privilege. *We Could Be Beautiful* is a glittering, seductive, utterly surprising story of love, money, greed, and family. A kind of thriller, it follows one wealthy Manhattan woman who has nearly everything. The one thing she lacks, however, is a relationship. That is, until her white knight comes along one evening. But it never quite works out that way, does it? (Not in a book like this, certainly.) Huntley's novel is a twisting, turning, secret-filled story that's worthy of your precious summer reading time.” —*Elle*. Check out our beautiful in-store display from Chatterbox for this debut.

✎Iggulden, Conn. [Wars of the Roses: Bloodline](#) (Penguin \$28). The 3rd volume in Iggulden's *Game of Thrones* that ended with Henry VII and the relatively short Tudor dynasty. It's Winter 1461: Richard, Duke of York, is dead—his ambitions in ruins, his head spiked on the walls of the city. King Henry VI is still held prisoner. His Lancastrian queen, Margaret of Anjou, rides south with an army of victorious northerners, accompanied by painted warriors from the Scottish Highlands. With the death of York, Margaret and her army seem unstoppable. Yet in killing the father, Margaret has unleashed the sons. Edward of March, now duke of York, proclaims himself England's rightful king. Factions form and tear apart as snow falls. Through blood and treason, through broken men and vengeful women, brother shall confront brother, king shall face king. Two men can always claim a crown—but only one can keep it.

Johansen, Iris. [Night and Day](#) (St Martins \$27.99). Forensic sculptor Eve Duncan risked it all to protect Cara Delaney from the enemies who want her dead. The journey has led them from California to a remote mountain in the Scottish highlands—and earned Eve the distinction of becoming their next target. When, despite all precautions, Cara is taken, Eve must hunt down the very people who want to kill her in order to save the young girl. At a time in her life when she has more at stake than ever before, she unhesitatingly puts it all on the line....

Karjel, Robert. [The Swede](#) (\$15.99). A debut featuring a Swedish security force agent, Ernst Grip, who's been dispatched to a remote military base in the Indian Ocean where he's met by FBI Agent Shauna Friedman. Grip's assignment: is the prisoner, known as “N,” a suspect in an Islamic terrorist attack, a Swedish citizen? Is he a survivor of the 2004 tsunami that struck Thailand, part of a cabal of survivors? And will Grip and Friedman each be able to keep their own secrets? It takes close reading to follow this complex thriller, its range, the international repercussions or 9/11 and other events, and the compromises and tactics being made in the name of security and survival.

Keating, Kevin. [Captive Condition](#) (\$16). They say Normandy Falls is haunted, but that doesn't keep Edmund Campion from moving there to study literature at the university. But when he discovers the drowned body of a local woman, and meets her psychic daughters, he begins to wonder if he should have stayed away. Meanwhile, an eccentric chef serves hallucinogenic cocktails, a criminal sets up a moonshine still, and an elderly artist plans a surreal retrospective. A debut.

Kerns, Arthur. [The Yemen Contract Signed](#) (Diamond \$14.99 Signed August 20 at The Pen). CIA operative Hayden Stone has his work cut out for him. Abdul Wahab seeks to make a power grab in the exotic land of Yemen and establish a terrorist base

from which to launch an attack on Europe. Wahab lures Stone to Yemen by kidnapping his partner CIA officer Sandra Harrington in Sicily. Stone comfortably operates in this world where tribal leaders vie for power with the central government, al Qaeda exerts its influence through murder and mayhem, and double-dealing among Bedouin and townspeople is a national pastime. The cat and mouse game goes from the capital Sana'a, to the deserts in the far east of the country, and to the mountain villages in the north. Stone has a personal stake in this mission, but can never keep his eye off of the greater plot developing, the one that puts millions in peril.

Kope, Spencer. [Collecting the Dead](#) (St Martins \$25.99) “introduces Magnus ‘Steps’ Craig, who works in the FBI Special Tracking Unit as the “human bloodhound.” Steps has the synesthetic ability to see touch, i.e., he can spot the traces people leave behind on surfaces they’ve walked over and touched. “Shine” is what he calls these tracks, and each person’s shine has a distinctive color and texture, identifiers as specific as DNA. Steps and his partner, Special Agent Jimmy Donovan, are on the trail of a serial killer of young women. Even with Steps in pursuit, the killer remains elusive—he has cunning ways of covering his tracks, leading Steps and Jimmy to fight against time and hostile terrains to find the murderer before more women die. Steps hates forests—“They’re like nightmares with leaves”—but often ends up in one while tracking criminals. Refreshingly, he’s far from being a hardened hero haunted by his past. Steps had a happy childhood with a loving family—he still lives with his brother—and thus it’s particularly upsetting for him to witness so much darkness in his work. Jimmy constantly reminds him, however, that they need his ability to save who they can.” Kope, a crime analyst, gives readers insight into a world in which good people, as he says in the acknowledgments, “confront fear so that others don’t have to.”

Lane, JC. [Tag, You’re Dead](#) (Poisoned Pen \$15.95). See Signed Books for our July Surprise Me Club Pick! *Kirkus* adds, “In a technology-infused game of tag to the death, six teenagers must use every resource at their disposal to stay alive.... [Lane]takes readers on a fun ride.”

Lansdale, Joe R. [Miracles Ain’t What They Used to Be](#) (PM Press \$13). New fiction starring Lansdale’s unlikely best friends Hap and Leonard, two good ol’ boys from East Texas who have a way of getting into some bad fixes, plus some of Lansdale’s most famous and hard-to-find Texas Observer columns. In his nonfiction, Lansdale discusses, dissects, and discovers the trials of a Southern writer’s life, his personal literary inspirations from Poe to porn, race and class in today’s unsettled South, the Cold War in East Texas, the tornado, and the Bomb. Also featured is a candid and often coruscating Outspoken Interview, and an essential bibliography of one of today’s most prolific and eclectic writers.

Lawson, Mike. [House Revenge](#) (Grove \$25). Congressional fixer Joe DeMarco finds himself dispatched to his boss Congressman John Mahoney’s hometown to help an elderly woman fight against a developer intent on tearing down her apartment building for a massive new project. Mahoney’s motive is free press coverage until Elinore suffers a horrible accident at the hand of two thugs on the developer’s payroll, an action that spurs Mahoney and DeMarco into calculating revenge. Collusion and corruption behind the wrecking ball may, or may not, be a match for DeMarco who is ruthless in following the money trail.

☞ Lovesey, Peter. [Another One Goes Tonight](#) (Soho \$27.95). See Signed Books for my review of this splendid Superintendent Peter Diamond case. Here are more comments: “Lovesey taunts readers with extracts from what appears to be a serial killer’s diary while building up to an ingenious final reveal that highlights his gift for misdirection.” No kidding! “Pacing, dialogue, exposition, backstory—nobody handles them better than Lovesey, who always writes elegantly while spinning a tough-minded police procedural.” —*Booklist* Starred Review

☞ Maguire, Gregory. [After Alice](#) (\$15.99). A magical new twist on *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*, published in 2015 in hardcover to coincide with the 150th anniversary of Lewis’s Carroll’s beloved classic. When Alice toppled down the rabbit-hole 150 years ago, she found a Wonderland as rife with inconsistent rules and abrasive egos as the world she left behind. But what of that world? How did 1860s Oxford react to Alice’s disappearance?

Murphy, Haughton. [Murdercom](#) (Mysterious \$14.99). It’s been years since lawyer “Murphy: published an investigation for Reuben Frost. The girl is found lying beside the East River, strangled. She’s in her late twenties—so why was she carrying a fake ID? The case should have nothing to do with Reuben Frost, legendary retired Wall Street lawyer, but Frost has never been known to mind his own business. Not to mention, his wife, Cynthia, has been slowed down by arthritis, and his social calendar is barren for the first time in decades. It’s the perfect time to find a murderer. The dead girl is Marina Courtland, daughter of millionaire food distributor Daniel Courtland, a treasured client of Frost’s old firm....

Nakamura, Fuminori. [The Kingdom](#) (Soho \$23.95). The Japanese noirist’s 10th novel is what he calls a “sister novel” to [The Thief](#) (\$14.95), with “lots of connections between the two.” Yurika is a freelancer in the Tokyo underworld who poses as a prostitute (prostitution is a crime), knocking her victims out and photographing them for blackmail. She has little idea about the organization that employs her and she’s reasonably ok with the arrangement as long as she can live and work alone, doing her best to lock away painful memories. But then a young man from the orphanage recognizes her and the whole game begins to change....

Nassise, Joseph, ed. [Urban Allies: An Urban Fantasy Anthology of Collaborative Stories](#) (Harper Voyager \$15.99). Pairing up authors/series into ten electrifying stories. Charlaine Harris/Christopher Golden. Carrie Vaughn/Diana Rowland. Jonathan Maberry/Larry Correia. Kelley Armstrong/Sean McGuire. Nassise/Sam Witt. Steven Savile/Craig Schaefer. David Wellington/Weston Ochse. Stephen Blackmoore/Jeff Somers. CE Murphy/Kat Richardson. Jaye Wells/Caitlin Kittredge. You met some of these authors at our June 1 Eleventheden event.

Patterson, James/Mark Sullivan. [The Games](#) (LittleBrown \$27.99). To ensure that the Olympics off without a hitch, the organizers turn to Jack Morgan, the unflappable head of the renowned international security and consulting firm Private. But when events are this exclusive, someone’s bound to get left off the guest list. Two years after the action nearly spilled from the field to the stands during soccer’s championship match, Jack is back in Rio for the Olympics. But before the cauldron is even lit, the only thing more intense than the competition is the security risks. When prominent clients he’s supposed to be protecting disappear, and bodies

mysteriously start to litter the streets, Jack is drawn deep into the heart of a ruthless underworld populated by disaffected residents trying to crash the world's biggest party. Hmm... sadly it may be that Rio's games will suffer many hitches.

Pearce, Michael. [Women of the Souk](#) (Severn (\$28.99)). "Set in 1913 Cairo, Pearce's latest focuses on the kidnapping of Marie Kewfik, the daughter of one of the city's richest men. Her friend Layla begs Gareth Owen, the Mamur Zapt, to find Marie before her kidnappers kill her. When he receives the same request from the highest levels of government, Owen knows he has no choice, but he also knows this will need to be handled with the utmost delicacy. After some initial investigation, he begins to wonder if the kidnapping had to do with the fact that Marie was friendly with Ali Shawquat, a poor but musically gifted young man. But the more Owen seeks to unravel the story and determine how to get Marie released without setting off a chain reaction that might result in disastrous consequences, the more he realizes that this is less about a kidnapping than it is about resentment and tension between rich and poor and between women who want to be equals and men who want to keep them in their place. Pearce's engrossing story successfully juxtaposes the volatile atmosphere of early twentieth-century Cairo against a tale full of culture, history, charm, humor, and romance. A fine addition to this excellent series."—*Booklist* Starred Review. Ordered Upon Request. This is a splendid, colorful, original concept binge read series: click [HERE](#) to order all.

Pollock, Donald. [The Heavenly Table](#) (Doubleday \$27.95). It's 1917 in rural Georgia where a sharecropper and his three sons live lower than hardscrabble, worse than hogs. Then the father drops dead and the three brothers set out on a run for Canada, intent on pillaging their way to something better, some kind of riches. They are inspired by the dime novel that only the eldest can read (taught by his mother before she died). Real life proves more brutal than fiction as they gain infamy and pursuit. It can't end well although there is some poetry in the ploy. The July Indie Next Pick: "After murdering the tyrannical owner of the land they farmed on the Georgia/Alabama border, three brothers make a desperate run for Canada and manage, along the way, to acquire national reputations as the kind of ruthless outlaws who are immortalized in dime store novels. This is a rollicking and ribald adventure story, populated with shady characters and told in vivid, sparkling prose reminiscent of Patrick DeWitt's *The Sisters Brothers* — and there is hardly a higher compliment." I, myself wouldn't call this "rollicking"....

Pretorius, Michelle. [Monster's Daughter](#) (Melville \$27.95). Karen reviews: This debut novel is generous with suspense, tension, second-guessing, and a surprise ending. In 1901, at the height of the Boer war, a British doctor performs brutal medical experiments on prisoners in the concentration camps. Two of them survive. In 2010, Alet Berg, a one-time trainee for the Special Task Force, is exiled to the small town of Unie due to an indiscretion with a colleague. High crime is rare until Alet discovers the body of a woman so badly burned she cannot be recognized. Thus begins a journey connecting the years between the experiments and her discovery. Alet is an intriguing character, not afraid to push the envelope to pursue the truth, even to her own detriment. The brutal concepts, and fight against Apartheid are a history lesson to be noted. Pretorius is a native of South Africa and provides a rich sense of place for her well written story.

Raabe, Melanie. [The Trap](#) (Grand Central \$26). A debut thriller translated from German is intriguing both for the landscape of the story (around Munich) and the concept. Bestseller Linda Conrads has spent eleven years producing excellent books while never stepping a foot outside her home, a house she has set up to represent various continents and countries where she "visits" supported by catered foods, videos (loves documentaries), music, and books. Why? She's in long-term shock, traumatized by the unsolved murder of her younger sister. Linda discovered Anne's body and briefly glimpsed the face of a man who fled the scene. She calls him the Monster. And one day watching a newscast, she sees him again. He's a newscaster. Wondering if she can overcome her debilitating anxiety, hobbled by her years of isolation with visits only from her publisher, her agent, and a personal assistant, she constructs a plan to trap the Monster. It means she will write something new, a crime novel, depicting her sister's murder. And invite the newsman to do her first ever interview. She'll begin it by saying *I wrote this book just for you*....

Ramsay, Frederick. [Danger Woman](#) (Poisoned Pen \$15.95). See Event Books for the Signed hardcover edition of this hugely entertaining finish to the Botswana Trilogy. On the one hand, an aging, pregnant hyena. On the other, the mistress of a St Petersburg gangster intent on taking over the action at the Chobe River. Both of them, Danger Women!

Raymond, Midge. [My Last Continent](#) (Scribner \$26). The Indie Next Pick: "Suspense and love intertwine against the starkly beautiful backdrop of Antarctica in this wonderful debut. Deb is a researcher devoting her life to the magnificent penguins that populate this remote corner of the world, where the ice-choked waters set the stage for the tragic collision of a supersized cruise liner and mountainous iceberg. When Deb discovers the man she loves is aboard the doomed ship, the poles of her world shift, as she must now focus on rescuing the one person who has saved her from her self-inflicted solitude. Raymond does a masterful job building the tension while the dramas of both the past and present unfold."

Rich, A.J. [The Hand That Feeds You](#) (\$15). The Indie Next Pick: "Morgan is living the good life until the day she returns home to find her fiancé mauled to death and her dogs covered in blood. She had rescued her dogs from a shelter, wanting to do something good, and now a man is dead. As time moves forward, the ground under Morgan shifts. She doesn't understand why her dogs, loving animals, would have done such a thing. And the victim is not all he seemed either — his job, his home, nothing is as he said, and then there is the discovery he had other fiancées. This edge-of-your-seat mystery has twists and turns that will keep you guessing. A.J. Rich is the pseudonym of award winners Jill Ciment and Amy Hempel, writing as a team." The idea that a pair of pit bulls could be framed for murder is interesting and the sociopath depicted in this novel is a real horror.

✠Riley, Bronwen. [The Edge of the Empire: A Journey to Britannia from the Heart of Rome to Hadrian's Wall](#) (Pegasus \$28.95). An erudite and fascinating narrative of the Roman occupation of Britain achieved by reconstructing the journey in AD 130 of Sextus Julius Severus, an official, from Rome to the island and on to the remote frontier where incursions were to be blocked by the completion of Emperor Hadrian's wall along the border of Caledonia. Think about it as a traveler: what to pack, what to

visit or guard against, what to eat and where, what to read on the road (detailed tourist maps are available). What will be the public entertainments? Which industries to observe and patronize? What are the best places to stay—generally the official lodgings called *mansiones* dotted along the way. You will find the whole experience not unlike traveling in Britain today where the motorways often follows Roman roads. And you can read all about running a Roman mansio in Jane Finniss' excellent mysteries: order them [here](#). This is an excellent companion read to the *Medicus* mysteries by Downie reviewed above.

✂Robinson, Peter. [In the Dark Places](#) (\$14.99). This new Alan Banks (UK title is 2014's *Abattoir Blues*) is quintessential Banks, full of the wine, music, Yorkshire scenery and a page-turning plot. And here we are at his 22nd Alan Banks that begins quietly when Banks investigates the disappearance of a tractor belonging to a gentleman farmer. Why connect the theft to a bloodstain found at a nearby WWII airplane hangar? The tale moves off in unexpected directions, still rich in the landscape and culture of Yorkshire. Still populated with characters moving through their lives, reacting to events, reaching for experiences, skills, relationships—and justice for victims. Still ingeniously plotted though the astute reader should keep up despite nerve-wracking suspense. Still flush with the musicality of his prose, and with the love of music that is so much a part of Banks. And still shaping the story with local history and landmarks so that *In the Dark Places*, like each Alan Banks, is unique, yet contributing to a remarkable portrait of modern Britain in all its insularity and diversity. See Signed Books for the new Banks and to order them all—and binge!

Rose, MJ. [The Secret Language of Stones](#) (Atria \$25). We're in Paris, the Palais Royal where the jewelry emporium La Fantasie Russe is tucked in at No. 130. Young Opaline Duplessi's war effort is to make trench watches for soldiers at the front and mourning jewelry for the women left bereft by the Great War. Certain gemstones enable her to receive messages from those dead men and pass them on. The one day one of the voices speaks directly to her and sends her across wartime Paris and over the Channel where the exiled dowager Roman empress awaits news of her family's fate although sadly Opaline already has word of the fate of the man whose voice sent her on her journey. The Indie Next Pick: "World War I Paris is a dangerous place for the young witch Opaline Duplessi. Still in denial about the true extent of her powers and hopelessly in love with a man she can never have, Opaline becomes caught up in a Russian émigré's plan to save a Romanov from Bolshevik spies on the windswept English coast. Magic and intrigue collide."

✂Rowling, JK. [Harry Potter and the Cursed Child](#) (Little Brown \$44 UK edition). Based on an original new story by J.K. Rowling, John Tiffany and Jack Thorne, a new play by Jack Thorne, this special rehearsal edition is the eighth in the Harry Potter series and the first official Harry Potter story to be presented on stage. The play will receive its world premiere in London's West End on 30th July 2016. It was always difficult being Harry Potter and it isn't much easier now that he is an overworked employee of the Ministry of Magic, a husband, and father of three school-age children. While Harry grapples with a past that refuses to stay where it belongs, his youngest son Albus must struggle with the weight of a family legacy he never wanted. As past and present fuse ominously, both father and son learn the uncomfortable truth: sometimes, darkness comes from unexpected places.

✂Runcie, James. [Sidney Chambers and the Dangers of Temptation](#) (Bloomsbury \$27). 5th in this postwar England series set in the Fens. It's now the late 1960s, the Summer of Love. Sidney is Archdeacon of Ely Cathedral but still keen on his private investigations. A bewitching divorcee enlists Sidney's help in convincing her son to leave a hippie commune; at a soiree on Grantchester Meadows during May Week celebrations, a student is divested of a family heirloom; Amanda's marriage runs into trouble; Sidney and Hildegard holiday behind the Iron Curtain; Mrs. Maguire's husband returns from the dead and an arson attack in Cambridge leads Sidney to uncover a cruel case of blackmail involving his former curate. In the rare gaps between church and crime, Sidney struggles with a persistent case of toothache, has his first flutter at the Newmarket races and witnesses the creation of a classic rock song. Busy times. This tale comes in a simultaneous trade paperback edition too: [Sidney Chambers and the Dangers of Temptation](#) (\$17). You can catch Sidney in the TV series as well.

Scottoline, Lisa. [Everywhere That Mary Went](#) (Harper \$15.99). Scottoline joins us in a prepublication event on Monday August 15 for her new legal thriller [Damaged](#) (St Martins \$27.99). But it all started here with this terrific debut I urge you to read if you missed it.

Simenon, George. [Maigret Gets Angry](#); [Maigret in New York](#) (\$12 each). More reissues of the classic French flic's cases.

Steele, Jon. [The Watchers](#) (\$16) is a new paperback edition of a terrific thriller set in Lausanne and drawing upon its true history employing a watcher to spend each night atop the cathedral to check on fire, invasion, or other threats. Rob and I joined the author one night on its roof and met the watcher (a city employee). Steele brings more to the story including angels, and continues it in [Angel City](#) (\$16) and the August release of the conclusion to The Angelus Trilogy: [The Way of Sorrows](#) (\$16). Something different, and informative as well as thrilling.

Stross, Charles. [The Nightmare Stacks](#) (Ace \$27). This fun, intelligent, engaging novel continues and expands upon Charles Stross' Laundry Files. Dr. Alex Schwartz is a socially awkward young mathematical genius with a background in high-end financial algorithms. He's also a vampire with no stomach for killing but a strong talent for magic, which happens in his case to be a function of mathematical reasoning. Alex works for the Laundry, a hush-hush secret agency in Britain that deals with the supernatural. The organization has just begun a relocation process to Leeds, where Alex first encounters Cassie, an advance scout for a long-slumbering host of dangerous elf-like beings. She has stolen the identity of a young university co-ed to get close to Alex, and what an adorable couple they make! Cassie may be First of Spies of the invading enemy, but she's also able to do one thing her malevolent father and stepmother cannot: feel empathy. Soon Cassie is torn between her allegiance to her god-emperor father and her love for Alex. As the evil invaders prepares to destroy humanity and conquer Earth, Alex and Cassie must find a way to subvert the spells that hold her in check to her father's will—and save the world.

Swyler, Erika. [The Book of Speculation](#) (\$15.99). Here's another imaginative, genre-bending novel blending books (an 18th century journal from a traveling carnival), drowning deaths, generations of a Connecticut family saga (mermaids!), a mansion perched

perilously on bluff overlooking the Atlantic, and the possible impending death of young librarian Simon Watson's sister on July 24, just six weeks away.

Tremayne, Peter. [The Second Death](#) (St Martins \$26.99). In 671AD Ireland, summer is a coming in and Muman is preparing to celebrate the kingdom's Great Fair at Cashel. It's an extravagant nine days of what we call today a Renaissance Fair. Sister Fidelma and Eadulf have been unable to attend for years but for once they are in Cashel and eager to enjoy the festivities. Sigh... the last wagon in a train traveling to the fair catches fire and it appears that the driver was a woman dressed as a boy. Why? An even bigger question: whose is the rotting corpse now discovered in the back of the wagon? For the newest Sister Fidelma, see Signed Books.

✚Unsworth, Cathi. [Without the Moon](#) (Houghton \$15.95). Why not a serial killer hunt set in wartime London where death is already a daily occurrence and coppers like DCI Edward Greenaway have difficulty keeping a wary eye peeled? The Blackout Ripper—or is there more than one killer?—targets prostitutes, mostly working in the seedy Soho area where behind the blackouts and raids and rationing a semblance of the prewar way of life carries on. Unsworth pens a gripping look at an England very different from that portrayed in Christie and Sayers as Greenwood follows a bloody trail to stop the slaughter. She includes a helpful glossary and notes on the book's background to enrich our **Fresh Fiction Pick for July**.

Vandermeer, Jeff/Ann, eds. [The Big Book of Science Fiction](#) (Vintage \$25). What if life was never ending? What if you could change your body to adapt to an alien ecology? What if the pope were a robot? Spanning galaxies and millennia, this must-have anthology showcases classic contributions from H. G. Wells, Arthur C. Clarke, Octavia E. Butler, and Kurt Vonnegut, alongside a century of the eccentrics, rebels, and visionaries who have inspired generations of readers. Within its pages, you'll find beloved worlds of space opera, hard SF, cyberpunk, the New Wave, and more. Learn about the secret history of science fiction, from titans of literature who also wrote SF to less well-known authors from more than twenty-five countries, some never before translated into English.

Vanhoenacker, Mark. [Skyfaring: A Journey with a Pilot](#) (\$16). The author, who flies Boeing 747s on long-haul flights for British Airways, wrote a piece in the *New York Times* that mesmerized me with his language skills and his astonishing range of observation, emotion, and world—or rather air, view. So here is the paperback edition which I snatched up at Heathrow on June 19 to read on the flight to Phoenix aboard the BA 747 on the route. It was fabulous to read about the plane, how it works, how it shapes the lives and worlds of those who fly it, while being on board. Vanhoenacker demystifies the complexities of flight and engages readers with his wit, knowledge and excitement for his profession—a modern farer of the skies. Whether you travel, whether you fly, sharing his thoughts about soaring above our world, his world, will be a transformative experience. “An exceptionally lucid and philosophically minded writer. He has spent the past several years taking notes about his life in the air and meditating on both the ethereal beauties and contradictions of flight... He reminds me of a brainy college physics major who actually wants

to be a poet.”—*WSJ*. “A superb chronicle...Vanhoenacker makes jet travel seem uncanny and intriguing all over again...[he] writes in a richly ethereal style, with the confidence of a professional who knows his subject...an elegant, nonlinear reflection on how flying in a commercial airliner—even while painfully folded in a seat in coach—can lift the soul.”—*NY Times*.

Walker, Wendy. [All is Not Forgotten](#) (St Martins \$26.99). The July Indie Next Pick: “This powerful and intense psychological thriller explores the memory of trauma and how it affects our very being. When 16-year-old Jenny Kramer is brutally raped and then given a controversial drug to erase her memory of the event, her parents think it will allow them all to return to their normal, idyllic life in an affluent small town in Connecticut. But that is far from the truth. What ensues is a fascinating look at psychiatric treatment and the lies people tell themselves and others in order to feel whole. Secrets are revealed and integrity is tested as, indeed, all is not forgotten.”

✚Ware, Ruth. [The Woman in Cabin 10](#) (Gallery \$26). This was meant to be the perfect trip. The Northern Lights. A luxury press launch on a boutique ship cruising Norway's waters. A chance for travel journalist Lo Blackwood to recover from a traumatic break-in that has left her on the verge of collapse, and to work out what she wants from her relationship. Except things don't go as planned. Woken in the night by screams, Lo rushes to her window to see a body thrown overboard from the next door cabin. This is far from the travel magazine assignment that brought Lo on board, but she can't just give up reporting what she saw. But the records show that no-one ever checked into that cabin, and no passengers are missing from the boat. Exhausted, emotional, and increasingly desperate, Lo has to face the fact that she may have made a terrible mistake. Or is she trapped on a boat with a murderer – as the sole witness... This is a variation by British author Ware on the woman-in-jeopardy-or-as-witness genre. And frankly I grew very tired of Lo very quickly, not buying into her emotions or actions, just as I did the of the central female character in Ware's debut [In a Dark, Dark Wood](#) (\$16). See the review of Megan Miranda in Event Books; my conclusion is that this new archetype for suspense is not for me.

✚Watson, Peter. [Madeleine's War](#) (\$16). A nuanced marriage of military history and romance, set in a secret British resistance unit during World War Matthew fought on the ground in France with a secret British resistance unit until he suffered a severe injury. In his new role training fresh recruits, he meets Madeleine, a beautiful, talented French-Canadian woman determined to contribute to the war effort. Matthew's job is to train Madeleine for intelligence and sabotage before she parachutes behind enemy lines. Her superior officer, he is not supposed to fall in love with her, but the two nonetheless embark upon a passionate, short-lived affair, before she is sent to France and disappears. Despite its title, the novel is told from Matthew's perspective, leaving the reader as in the dark as he is after Madeleine vanishes in Nazi territory. He is then left to track her down—out of both love and duty, which sometimes conflict. The plot then twists again as Matthew is given an uncomfortable mission of his own to carry out. Watson's expertise as a historian lends credibility to the context of this story: in his afterword he states that the geography, training procedures, technologies and secrecy he portrays are all based on fact.

Williams, Terry Tempest. [The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks](#) (Farrar \$27). America's national parks are breathing spaces in a world in which such spaces are steadily disappearing, which is why more than 300 million people visit the parks each year. Now Williams, the author of the environmental classic *Refuge* and the beloved memoir *When Women Were Birds*, returns with a literary celebration of our national parks, an exploration of what they mean to us and what we mean to them.

Winters, Ben. [Underground Airlines](#) (LittleBrown \$26). The #1 July Indie Next Pick: "Winters has managed to aim a giant magnifying glass at the problem of institutionalized racism in America in a way that has never been done before. This Orwellian allegory takes place in the present day but in a United States where Lincoln was assassinated before he ever became president, the Civil War never took place, and slavery still exists in four states, known as the Hard Four. In agile prose that manages to convey the darkest of humors, Winters tackles the most sensitive of issues such as the motivations of misguided white liberals involved in racial politics, the use of racial profiling, and the influence of racism on the very young. *Underground Airlines* is the most important book of the summer. Read it."

Winterson, Jeannette. [The Gap of Time](#) (\$15). "Hogarth leads off the Hogarth Shakespeare series with one of the most gifted writers working today taking on the formidable 'Winter's Tale,' and the result is a shining delight of a novel... Winterson's gift for capturing unspoken emotion with powerful but never overwritten lyricism creates a cast of characters whose points of view are fascinating and sometimes harrowing to inhabit, fully employing the novel form's unique ability to illuminate the interiors of the actors on the page... The opening acts of the novel are propelled by an intricately suspenseful series of scenes that capture the raw violence stemming from greed, envy and paranoia. A subtle critique of hyper masculinity, and the attendant violence fueled by money (specifically the loss thereof), ripples meaningfully beneath the novel's surface. Winterson's great gift is capturing the emotional heft of her stories with sentences that hum along, beautiful, unexpected and swift... Winterson wrestles wonderfully with a perplexing text and emerges with a complicated, satisfying and contemporary tale that stands wholly on its own, despite the Bard's significant shadow."—*NY Times*

Womack, Gwendolyn. [The Memory Painter](#) (\$16). Most of us can't even access memories of early childhood. What if, thanks to a powerful experimental pharmaceutical, you could access ancient memories—not your own, but other people's, and acquire their skill sets and languages too? Neurogenetics may be a new frontier. But for artist Bryan Pierce, it's not about a drug, it's all about dreams, dreams where he might be re-experiencing lives stretching back millennia. And gaining dangerous knowledge. Womack couples modern science with imaginative concepts of time, history, and myth in her debut, *The Memory Painter*.

OUR JULY MASS MARKET PICKS

Blackmoore, Stephanie. [Engaged in Death](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Wedding Planner #1. When former bride-to-be Mallory Shepard unexpectedly inherits Thistle Park, a ramshackle mansion in her ex's hometown of Port Quincy, it's a problem she can't afford—literally. Mallory is dying to sell it off—especially once an unwanted visitor is found dead on the front lawn. Enlisting the help

of her sister Rachel, Mallory vows to unveil the killer before she herself becomes married to the suspect list. *Kirkus* loved this saying "Blackmoore's debut, first in a planned series, provides the usual cozy combination of mystery, romance, and recipes, with a little extra bite supplied by the timely fracking controversy."

Farnsworth, Christopher. [The Eternal World](#) (\$9.99) Escaping slaughter by conquistadors who are out to claim the Fountain of Youth, chief's daughter Shako swears revenge against their commander Simon De Oliveras, who makes a horrifying discovery centuries later when it seems someone (could it be Shako?) is out to kill him. *Kirkus* had this to say "With cinematic pacing and colorful action scenes, Farnsworth blends a unique premise into fun summer reading. Michael Crichton's gone, but Farnsworth entertainingly explores the border where science fantasy meets reality." Farnsworth's books also work equally well for fans of Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child's Pendergast series.

Grant, Andrew. [False Positive](#) (\$9.99) Alabama detective Cooper Devereaux and his new partner detective Jan Loflin must find a missing seven-year-old boy in a case that forces them to face a series of harrowing truths. The normally cranky *Kirkus* gave this a thumbs up concluding with "Readers who like defects in their heroes will love this guy, who knows he's not as good as he'd like to be. The final twist comes just as all finally seems well with the world. A dark, enjoyable novel. One of Grant's (RUN, 2014, etc.) better works."

Huber, Anna Lee. [A Study in Death](#) (\$7.99) Lady Darby #4. Seeking a respite from her pregnant sister's wedding plans in nineteenth-century Scotland, Lady Kiera Darby accepts a commission to paint the portrait of an abused baroness, who is subsequently found murdered. *PW*'s review included this snippet "Kiera's options are limited at a time when women were severely reined in both by law and custom, but she uses the resources she has with verve and vigor."

Kellerman, Jonathan. [The Murderer's Daughter](#) (\$9.99) Engaging in secret high-risk activities to escape from her regimented life as a master psychologist, Grace Blades has a one-night stand with a man who turns out to be her new client—one who claims a unique connection to Grace's foster father. *LJ* said this "Despite the ending, the rush up is exciting and definitely worth it. A good choice for fans of strong, female-driven thrillers and mysteries, as well as Kellerman's established fans.

Lescroart, John. [The Fall](#) (\$9.99) Dismas Hardy #19. Working to defend a middle-school teacher who has been wrongly implicated in the death of a foster teen, lawyer Rebecca Hardy and her father, Dismas, risk their careers to investigate four other suspects. *Kirkus*' review included this "You're never going to believe what just happened," as The Beck's roommate tells her at one point, could be a motto, for better or worse, for the whole wild tale."

Maron, Margaret. [Long Upon the Land](#) (\$7.99) Deborah Knott #20. Judge Deborah Knott tracks down the source of an engraving on her late mother's cigarette lighter while Dwight and Kez-zie investigate the murder of a former whiskey runner who has succumbed to three separate attacks. *LJ* ended their review with "Sprinkled with the low-country vernacular and the wonderful characters of Colleton County, NC, this title is a worthy addition to Maron's series. Readers of Southern mysteries will find much to adore."

Matthews, Jason. [Palace of Treason](#) (\$9.99) Navigating brutal enemies in her espionage work for the CIA, a Russian Intelligence agent pursues a life-threatening affair with her CIA handler before she is discovered by a mole. Matthews won the Edgar for *Red Sparrow*, the first book in this series, and *PW* thought the second was equally good saying “Authentic tradecraft, a complex plot that steadily builds tension, and credible heroes and villains on both sides make this a standout. Recipes at the end of each chapter provide some welcome relief from some brutal violence.”

Moss, Todd. [Minute Zero](#) (\$9.99) Judd Ryker #2. Ryker, a State Department crisis manager, becomes embroiled in an emergency in Zimbabwe, where a challenge to the presidency has resulted in roving armed gangs, military crackdowns, shady financing and reports of enriched uranium being available for purchase. *Kirkus* was a fan of Moss’s latest saying “That Ryker acts not like a supersleuth but as the former Amherst professor he is makes the book even more persuasive. A brilliantly orchestrated realpolitik thriller, Moss’ second effort is as instructive as it is exciting.”

Preston, Douglas/Lincoln Child. [Crimson Shore](#) (\$9.99) Pendergast #15. While searching for the stolen wine collection of a renowned sculptor, Aloysius Pendergast finds that the looted cellar contains human remains, which may have ties to local legends and a historic shipwreck. *LJ* loved the latest Pendergast saying “Anyone who enjoys deep intrigue with a historian’s viewpoint or a touch of macabre or gothic horror will love this adventure. New readers will be hooked and scrambling to catch up with the first 14 books. Die-hard fans will add this to their must-read lists.”

Reich, Christopher. [Invasion of Privacy](#) (\$9.99) Refusing to believe the official story behind her FBI agent husband’s death, Mary Grant is pitted against a new generation of cutting-edge surveillance technology and the most deadly conspiracy in America. *Bookpage’s* interview/review of Reich’s latest included this intriguing tidbit “International thriller writer Christopher Reich admits his new standalone nail-biter, *Invasion of Privacy*, lacks the globetrotting savoir faire of his bestsellers *Numbered Account*, *The Patriot’s Club* and *The Prince of Risk*. But what it so deliciously serves up instead is a visceral fear feast centered on a simple premise: What if your iPhone turned against you?” Maybe the Luddites were right after all?

Wiken, Linda. [Toasting Up Trouble](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Dinner Club #1. When the hotshot caterer for the Italian princess party she is organizing for the 21-year-old daughter of a high-tech millionaire is murdered—and she becomes a suspect—event planner Jennifer Tanner must turn the tables on the real killer with the help of her Culinary Capers Dinner Club. Wiken also writes the Ashton Corners Book Club mysteries as Erika Chase.

NEW IN MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

If the publisher is listed, the book is a paperback original.

Abbott, Allyson. [Shots in the Dark](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Mack’s Bar Mysteries #4. Determined to find out who murdered her bouncer, Milwaukee bar owner Mackenzie “Mack” Dalton and her barstool detectives must pour over the clues to outsmart a crafty killer who is not done brewing up trouble. Includes drink recipes.

Adler, Elizabeth. [One Way Or Another](#) (\$7.99) Barely surviving an attempt on her life that implicates everyone she loves, Angie Morse is consumed by thoughts of revenge and determinedly hunts down the four people who plotted against her.

Alexander, Ellie. [Caught Bread Handed](#) (St Martins \$7.99) Bake-shop #5. While her estranged husband, Carlos, launches yet another plan to win her back, Jules Capshaw must choose between her past and future as she tracks down the killer of Mindy Nolan, the owner of a new restaurant called Horizons. Includes recipes.

Beaton, M C. [Dishing the Dirt](#) (\$7.99) Agatha Raisin #26. Losing her temper when a Carsely newcomer tries to steal her husband and hires a private detective to investigate her background, Agatha is forced to prove her innocence in the wake of her rival’s murder.

Bell, Ted. [Patriot](#) (\$9.99) Alex Hawke #9. When the Kremlin develops a new weapon with the potential of reshaping Europe, MI6 officer Alex Hawke investigates a series of assassinations to prevent a full-scale world war.

Blackwell, Julie. [A Toxic Trousseau](#) (NAL \$7.99) Witchcraft #8. When rival clothier Autumn Jennings, the woman whom her potbellied pig Oscar head-butted, winds up dead, Lily searches for a way to clear her name and discovers a cursed trousseau with a treacherous past among Autumn’s recently acquired inventory.

Buckley, Julia. [A Dark and Stormy Murder](#) (Berkley \$7.99) A Writer’s Apprentice #1. While working as an assistant to suspense writer Camilla Graham, aspiring novelist Lena London finds herself drawn into a real-life murder mystery when a dead body is found on her new boss’s lakefront property, prompting her to follow the clues to catch a killer who is determined to write them both a deadly new ending.

Bush, Nancy. [The Killing Game](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Andi Wren is fighting to keep her late husband’s company safe from vindictive competitors. So when she receives an ominous note, she turns to P.I. Luke Denton. But though Luke has personal reasons for wanting to take down Wren Development’s opponents, his investigation suggests this is deeper and far more dangerous than a business grudge.

Butcher, Jim. [Cinder Spires the Aeronauts Windlass](#) (\$9.99) An airship’s crew becomes humanity’s lone defenders when an ancient enemy reawakens and threatens the world with monstrous creatures and perpetual darkness.

Cates, Bailey. [Spells and Scones](#) (NAL \$7.99) Magical Bakery #6. When a well-known advice columnist is found dead with an ex-witch standing over her, bakery owner Katie Lightfoot must conjure up the clues, with the help of the Spellbook Club, to clear the name of this witch who not only gave up magic, but who used to be the owner of Mungo, Katie’s terrier familiar.

Coco, Nancy. [All You Need is Fudge](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Candy-Coated #4. While making fudge for the annual yacht race, Allie McMurphy pulls a dead body from the murky waters of the marina and must dive into the case when her boyfriend’s sister becomes the prime suspect. Includes fudge recipes.

Cook, Robin. [Host](#) (\$9.99) Devastated by the death of her boyfriend after a routine surgery, fourth-year medical student Lynn Pierce investigates the accident and discovers a string of suspicious deaths at the hospital.

Cornwell, Patricia. [Depraved Heart](#) (\$9.99) Scarpetta #23. Receiving a surveillance video of her niece taken twenty years earlier that reveals disturbing secrets, Dr. Kay Scarpetta becomes increasingly isolated as she realizes the dangerous legal implications of her niece’s private life.

Corrigan, Maya. [Final Fondue](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Five Ingredient #3. When Val Deniston is asked to reclaim her old position as a cookbook publicist in New York City, she puts off her decision in order to help her grandfather perfect his chocolate fondue for Bayport's dessert cook-off. But after the opening ceremonies, Val finds a houseguest strangled to death in her grandfather's backyard. She suspects a classic case of mistaken identity, especially when another guest nearly bids her life a fondue farewell.

Coulter, Catherine. [Nemesis: An FBI Thriller](#) (\$9.99) FBI #19. Special Agent Lacey Sherlock interrogates a terrorist she prevented from launching a grenade at an American airport while Dillon Savich tracks a killer who styles himself like a Hollywood Dracula.

Fluke, Joanne. [Wicked](#) (\$7.99) Invited to participate in an once-in-a-lifetime exclusive writer's workshop, Eve Carrington, amidst tight deadlines and fierce competition, finds life imitating art when the murder mystery written by her biggest rival takes on a life of its own. Well, no one ever said getting your book published would be easy!

Forstchen, Will. [One Year After](#) (Tor \$9.99) A follow-up to One Second After picks up two years after a nuclear war decimates America, compelling survivors to piece together life-saving everyday technologies before a military draft reveals a dark side to the nation's reconstructed government.

Gilstrap, John. [Friendly Fire](#) (Kensington \$9.99) Scorpion, aka Jonathan Grave, who operates outside the law and leaves no evidence must find a way to defend Ethan Falk, who he rescued long ago from a kidnapper and torturer, when he is accused of murdering his tormentor, who is tied to an ongoing terrorist plot against the heart of America.

Hamilton, Donald. [Detonators](#) (Forge \$7.99) Matt Helm #22. The prim young lady needs a favor: help her father beat a bum drug rap. After all, he is Matt Helm's old colleague at the agency. Suddenly Dad's boat detonates outside Miami Harbor. And Matt Helm discovers that young Amy isn't as innocent as she looks.

Hechtman, Betty. [Gone with the Wool](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Yarn Retreat #4. During the annual butterfly festival at California's Monterey Peninsula, Casey Feldstein, while setting up a yarn retreat, baking and helping out, must unravel the clues to catch a killer when a former butterfly queen is found with a knife in her back. Includes knitting pattern and a recipe.

Hollon, Cheryl. [Cracked to Death](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Webb's Glass Shop #3. When a treasure hunt leads to deadly plunder, it's up to glass shop owner Savannah Webb and her trusty investigative posse to map out the true motives of a killer.

Hyzy, Julie. [Grace Sees Red: A Manor House](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Manor House #7. When her assistant, Frances, is accused of murdering an elderly resident of an upscale assisted-living facility, Grace Wheaton, curator and manager of Marshfield Manor, must clear her name and find the real killer before another resident checks out before their time.

Marks, Mary. [Something's Knot Kosher](#) (Kensington \$7.99) Quilting #4. When Birdie Watson's husband Russell is killed during a bank robbery, Martha Rose just wants to support her grieving friend. But en route to the burial plot in Oregon, Martha

makes a harrowing discovery about the casket's contents—instead of Russell, she finds an unidentified man. Now Martha and her quilting klatch can't rest in peace until they unspool the truth behind the macabre mix up.

Moran, Terrie F. [Read to Death](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Read'em and Eat #3. When driver Oscar Frieland, who is known for his colorful stories and his love of their café's fruit tartlets, is found dead in his van after taking their book club on a day trip, best friends Sassy and Bridgy must solve this puzzling crime before one of their members gets the book thrown at her. Recipe included.

Morrigan, Laura. [Take the Monkey and Run](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Call of the Wilde #4. On her first "real" case, animal telepath Grace Wilde arrives in New Orleans, where she, while attempting to communicate with her client's cat, gets distracted by a mysterious monkey who warns her that her client isn't what she seems, forcing her to separate fact from fiction to find the truth.

Perry, Marta. [How Secrets Die](#) (Harlequin \$7.99) Determined to find the truth surrounding her half-brother's sudden death once and for all, reporter Kate Beaumont returns to Laurel Ridge, Pennsylvania, where she attracts the unwanted attention of a killer, forcing her to get help from the one man she cannot stand—Sheriff Mac Whiting.

Reed, Hannah. [Dressed to Kilt](#) (Berkley \$7.99) Scottish Highlands #2. When her date with Leith Cameron in Scotland takes a deadly turn, resulting in the discovery of a dead woman floating in a vat of alcohol, aspiring romance author Eden Elliott steps in as a Special Constable to help solve the case, only to discover that the killer could be connected to her own Scottish heritage.

Robb, J D. [Brotherhood in Death](#) (\$7.99) Eve Dallas #41. Assisting a colleague whose husband may have been attacked by an injured senator who betrayed his family and then went missing, Eve Dallas uncovers clues leading to a powerful adversary with numerous targets.