

# BOOKNEWS from

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## THE MEMORIAL DAY ISSUE

**AUTHORS ARE SIGNING...**

*Some Events will be webcast on Facebook Live*

Check out our new [YouTube Channel](#)

### **SATURDAY MAY 25 Triple Threat**

**Jayne Anne Krentz** signs [Tightrope](#) (Berkley \$27)  
**Sujata Massey** signs [The Satapur Moonstone](#) (Soho \$26.95)  
Our copies come with a biography of the real life Bombay lawyer who inspired this award winning series  
**Meg Tilley** signs [Cliff's Edge](#) (Berkley \$16)

### **TUESDAY MAY 28 7:00 PM**

**Janet Napolitano at the Madison Center**  
5601 N 16th Street NW corner of campus Phoenix, AZ 85016  
The former Governor and Homeland Security Secretary signs  
[How Safe Are We? Homeland Security since 9/11](#) (Public Affairs \$26)

**TICKETS:** \$32 admits one with signed book; \$37 admits two with signed book; \$45 with book and admission to the VIP signing line 7:00 PM at the Madison Center at 16<sup>th</sup> and Missouri, Phoenix. Loads of on-site parking  
Purchase by phone 602-664-7777 or [themadison.shovation.com/](http://themadison.shovation.com/)

### **WEDNESDAY MAY 29 7:00 PM**

**Juliet Grames in conversation with Francine Mathews**  
**Grames** signs [The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna](#) (Ecco \$27.99)  
Our June Modern Firsts Book of the Month  
Grames is editor at Soho Press and may well talk about publishing as well as her debut novel

### **FRIDAY MAY 31 7:00 PM**

**James Sallis and Three Legged Dog**

### **SATURDAY JUNE 1 7:00 PM**

**Douglas Preston** signs [Talking to the Ground](#) (SimonSchuster \$17)  
Traveling by horseback around the Navajo's sacred land  
**Free shipping if ordered by itself within the US**

### **SUNDAY JUNE 2 2:00 PM**

**Becky Masterman** signs [We Were Killers Once](#) (St Martins \$27.99)  
Tucson's Brigid Quinn #4  
Our copies come with a letter to you from Masterman about why she wrote the book

### **MONDAY JUNE 3 7:00 PM Repeat Event!**

**Britannica Editor in Chief Theodore Pappas in conversation with Larry Siegel**  
Pappas signs [Britannica's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Collector's Edition of the Encyclopaedia's Final Yearbook](#) (\$69.95) and [True Grit: Classic Tales of Perseverance](#) (G2 \$19.95)

### **TUESDAY JUNE 4 7:00 PM Publication Party**

**Martin Walker** signs [The Body in the Castle Well](#) (Knopf \$25.95)  
Bruno, Chief of Police

### **THURSDAY JUNE 6 A Triple Header**

**Matt Goldman and David Ricciardi in conversation with Robin Burcell**  
**Goldman** signs [The Shallows](#) (Forge \$26.99)  
PI Nils Shapiro #3  
**Ricciardi** signs [Rogue Strike](#) (Berkley \$27)  
Jack Keller thriller #2

### **SATURDAY JUNE 8 2:00 PM Mystery Tea**

**Jenn Ashley** signs [Death in Kew Gardens](#) (Berkley \$15)  
Below Stairs Mystery #3  
**Kate Carlisle** signs [Book Supremacy](#) (Berkley \$25)  
Bibliophile Series #13  
**Lauren Willig** signs [The Summer Country](#) (Harper \$26.99)

### **MONDAY JUNE 10 7:00 PM**

**Stephen Coonts and Barrett Tillman** sign [Dragon's Jaw](#) (Hachette \$28)  
Vietnam War Aviation History, the bridge at Thanh Hoa

### **TUESDAY JUNE 11 7:00 PM**

**Mike Maden** signs [Tom Clancy: Enemy Contact](#) (Putnam \$29)  
**James O'Donnell** signs [The War for Gaul](#) (Princeton University \$27.95)  
Warriors...2,000 years apart

### **WEDNESDAY JUNE 12 7:00 PM**

**Michael Brandman** signs [Wild Card](#) (Poisoned Pen \$26.95)  
Buddy Steel #3

### **THURSDAY JUNE 13 7:00 PM A 20<sup>th</sup> Book Party**

**Cara Black** signs [Murder in Bel-Air](#) (Soho \$27.95)  
Aimée Leduc #19!  
**Nina Laurin** signs [The Starter Wife](#) (Grand Central \$14.99)  
Madness....

### **SATURDAY JUNE 15 2:00 PM La Dolce Vita**

**David Wagner** signs [Roman Count Down](#) (Poisoned Pen \$15.95)  
Our June Cozy Crimes Book of the Month. The Rick Montoya Italian Mysteries prequel

## EVENT BOOKS

Ashley, Jennifer. [Death in Kew Gardens](#) (Berkley \$15 June 8). This is a truly terrific Upstairs/Downstairs Victorian London mystery with an evil housekeepers, a surprisingly stalwart butler, the murder of Sir Jacob—a mad collector of all things Chinese including plants, visits to Kew Gardens, a Chinese gentlemen on a quest, visits to Kew Gardens, and wonderful depictions of the meals prepared by Kat Holloway, the cook. The third in the *Death Below Stairs* series begins when Kat Holloway bowls over a Chinese dressed in gorgeous but dirty silk while on her way home from market. Later that night when she steps out to share leftovers among the poor down the street, he appears and presents her with a beautiful box filled with tea. Two days later when the kitchen erupts with the news that Lady Cynthia's next-door neighbor has been murdered. Known about London as an "Old China Hand," Sir Jacob claimed to be an expert in the language and customs of China, acting as intermediary for merchants and government officials. He also had a passion for plants and frequented Kew Gardens. But Sir Jacob's dealings were not what they seemed, and when the authorities accuse Mr. Li of the crime, Kat, the household, and her interesting friend Daniel find themselves embroiled in a world of deadly secrets that reach from the gilded homes of Mayfair to the beautiful wonder of the gardens. [Read the whole series](#)

Black, Cara. [Murder in Bel-Air](#) (Soho \$27.95 June 13). Just as Aimée Leduc is to give a presentation at a tech conference that may well garner her agency new business, she gets an emergency call from the play group attended by her one-year-old baby in company with Aimée's mother, Sydney. Sydney has disappeared, leaving Chloé unattended. Aimée must dash away to pick her up. And she learns that Sydney, ex-CIA (or is she ex?) had been hanging out with a young woman who has been murdered. And so Aimée's 19<sup>th</sup> investigation begins in Bel-Air. As usual, Black takes the reader on a whirlwind tour of Paris, both the well- and less-well-known sections, and Aimée never leaves home without oozing style—here, her black Chanel dress. Quickly, Aimée finds herself entangled in a dangerous web of international spycraft, post-colonial Franco-African politics, and neighborhood secrets in Paris's 12<sup>th</sup> arrondissement. "Transcendentally, seductively, irresistibly French."—Alan Furst. "The abiding pleasure of this series is the chance to ride with a cabdriver who wants to discuss Sartre or just tearing around Paris on Aimée's pink Vespa, making stops at the Jardin du Luxembourg and the Île Saint-Louis, where Aimée has an apartment. Lucky girl."—*The New York Times Book Review*. Black will doubtless have much to say about Notre Dame as well. Nina Laurin who appears with her is from French-speaking Canada, but we'll do our program in English.

Brandman, Michael. [Wild Card](#) (Poisoned Pen \$26.95 June 12). Here's a review from Net Galley that expresses how I feel about this 3<sup>rd</sup> novel from Brandman in the Buddy Steel series—IMHO a big step up for both Brandman and Buddy. "An amazing third novel with Buddy Steel Jr. as 'interim' Sheriff of Freedom in San Remo County. Buddy is assisting his father who is actually the Sheriff, but is suffering from ALS. Buddy is a no-nonsense cop who left his job with LAPD Homicide in order to assist his father. He has been ordered by the California Coastal Commission to

reopen the beach land near a mansion owned by a wealthy Russian. The owner has fenced off the beach and has hired 'thugs' to patrol the land. When Buddy decides to do something, he goes all out, is effective and doesn't worry about making enemies in the process. A series of murders soon happen in Freedom, leaving no clues. Who could be targeting strangers in the middle of the day and in the town? When Buddy needs legal help, he brings in Jordyn Yates, a kick ass lawyer and his former lover. As Buddy and his small group of deputies work to catch the serial killer, Buddy learns more about the Russian's dealings and takes action as only Buddy can. What a ride! I love Mr. Brandman's style of writing... sarcasm, humor, brief dialog and action that will keep you cheering for Buddy as he solves things his way. Mr. Brandman has written some of the Robert B. Parker Jesse Stone novels and he is one of my all-time favorite authors. A fast action and thoroughly enjoyable mystery!"

Carlisle, Kate. [The Book Supremacy](#) (Berkley \$25 June 8). Here is lucky #13 in the Bibliophile Series. Newlyweds Brooklyn and Derek are enjoying the final days of their honeymoon in Paris. As they're browsing the book stalls along the Seine, Brooklyn finds the perfect gift for Derek, a first edition James Bond novel, *The Spy Who Loved Me*. When they bump into Ned, an old friend from Derek's spy days, Brooklyn shows him her latest treasure. Once they're back home in San Francisco, they visit a spy shop Ned mentioned. The owner begs them to let him display the book Brooklyn found in Paris as part of the shop's first anniversary celebration. Before they agree, Derek makes sure the security is up to snuff—turns out, the unassuming book is worth a great deal more than sentimental value. Soon after, Derek is dismayed when he receives a mysterious letter from Paris announcing Ned's death. Then late one night, someone is killed inside the spy shop. Are the murders connected to Brooklyn's rare, pricey book?

Coonts, Stephen/Barrett Tillman. [Dragon's Jaw](#) (Hachette \$28 June 10). The two military buffs tell a gripping chapter in the Vietnam War Aviation History, the bridge at Thanh Hoa. For seven long years hundreds of young US airmen flew sortie after sortie against North Vietnam's formidable and strategically important bridge, dodging a heavy concentration of anti-aircraft fire and enemy MiG planes. Many American airmen were shot down, killed, or captured and taken to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" POW camp. But after each air attack, when the smoke cleared and the debris settled, the bridge stubbornly remained standing. For the North Vietnamese it became a symbol of their invincibility; for US war planners an obsession; for US airmen a testament to American mettle and valor.

Goldman, Matt. [The Shallows](#) (Forge \$26.99). Minneapolis PI Nils Shapiro of Stone Arch Investigations looks into the murder of lawyer Todd Rabinowitz—found below the surface of a lake secured to a pier with a fish stringer through his mouth—at the request of the victim's widow, Robin. The Greater Lake Minnetonka PD is also on the case. Robin admits to Nils that she was having a relationship with sculptor Arndt Kjellgren, but insists that the murder was connected to Todd's legal firm. While visiting the firm, Nils spies local far-right political candidate Karin Tressler just before the announcement of a bomb threat against the lawyers. The bombing is followed by Arndt's arrest and sub-

sequent suspicious escape from the GLMPD. An apparent murder suicide raises the ante. Fortunately, Nils can turn for support to great people from Stone Arch, the Minneapolis PD, and the FBI. Goldman seasons the complicated puzzle with healthy doses of dry wit and meaningful secondary stories for his characters as he has along with nifty plot premises in the first two in this series I have always highly recommended.

Grames, Juliet. [The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna](#) (Ecco \$27.99 May 29). I gave you my review in the May Booknews. This is the *PW* Starred Review for our **June Modern Firsts Book of the Month**: “Grames’ vivid and moving debut follows its heroine from a childhood in the early 20th century in a tiny Calabrian mountain village to her family’s immigration to America when she is 19 and then through a long life including a marriage about which she has decidedly mixed feelings, many jobs, and even more children. When the novel begins in the present, Stella is 100 years old and has been brain-damaged for the past 30 years following a fall that required an emergency lobotomy and that left her with a mysterious hatred for her lifelong best friend, her younger sister Tina. The novel’s unnamed narrator, one of Stella’s granddaughters, reconstructs her life history with the help of Tina and other family members. She shapes it around Stella’s numerous near-death experiences, which include being gored by a pig and choking on a chicken bone. Grames keeps the spotlight on stubborn, independent, and frequently unhappy Stella, while developing a large cast of believably complicated supporting characters and painting sensually intricate portraits of Calabria and Connecticut. With her story of an “ordinary” woman who is anything but, Grames explores not just the immigrant experience but the stages of a woman’s life. This is a sharp and richly satisfying novel.

Laurin, Nina. [The Starter Wife](#) (Grand Central \$14.99 June 13). “Local police have announced that they’re closing the investigation of the suspected drowning of 37-year-old painter Colleen Westcott. She disappeared on April 11, 2010, and her car was found parked near the waterfront in Cleveland two days later, but her body has never been found. The chief of police has stated that no concrete evidence of foul play has been discovered in the probe.” I close the online search window, annoyed. These articles never have enough detail. They think my husband’s first wife disappeared or they think she is dead. That’s the voice in a novel that unnerves with its portrait of obsession and the mostly crazy.

Maden, Mike. [Tom Clancy Enemy Contact](#) (Putnam \$29 June 11). Jack Ryan, Jr. is in a funk. He summons up the energy to visit his old and neglected friend Chris who is dying of cancer. Chris makes a final request: that Jack scatter his ashes on a Peruvian mountain top along with a photo of Chris’ father (the two had pledged to climb it together; this is the only way Chris can see forward). That’s at the start. Later, on site, Jack doesn’t back down nor off when he’s warned by a former U.S. Army Ranger to desist and subsequently knocked about by thugs who break into his room. Before the Chris mission, Jack is dispatched to Poland on a professional assignment for The Campus. We also find a powerful woman Senator with presidential ambitions on the move. And Mary Pat Foley, Director of National Intelligence, who has learned that the CIA’s deepest secrets are being infiltrated and disseminated for some agenda that will undermine

the entire Western intelligence community. She’s determined to plug the leak. Maden has created another globe-spanning, high action but richly populated thriller cutting right along the edge of contemporary events. He’s good on technology but his narrative is character driven. I note that Jack Ryan, Sr., is a Republican President but Maden keeps current politics out of the story. I think he writes super books in the Clancy universe; [Point of Contact](#) and [Line of Sight](#) (\$9.99) each.

Masterman, Becky. [We Were Killers Once](#) (St Martins \$27.99 June 2). Inspired by Truman Capote’s *In Cold Blood*, Masterman’s intriguing fourth Brigid Quinn thriller supposes that Dick Hickock and Perry Smith didn’t act alone when they killed the Clutter family in Kansas in 1959. For Brigid’s upcoming wedding anniversary, her husband, former professor Carlo DiForenza, has the perfect gift, a memento from his days as a prison chaplain—a sketch by Hickock. Retired FBI agent Brigid has been obsessed with the notion that Hickock and Smith were also guilty of murdering a family of four in Florida a month after the Clutter slayings, a crime that was never solved. Brigid discovers a letter hidden behind the sketch that leads to a written confession by Hickock implicating a third person, Jerry Beaufort, who was 15 at the time. So part of the time we hear from Jerry, now nearly 70, who was recently released from prison after serving time for trafficking and drug possession. He’s on a mission to track down a detective and others involved in the Clutter case. Fearful that modern-day forensics could expose his role in the murders, he’s prepared to kill anyone who could implicate him. After his research reveals Carlo’s link to Hickock, Jerry sets out for Arizona to silence Carlo. Masterman keeps the tension high throughout this page-turner, a splendid book for those who like true-crime as well as fiction. **Our copies come with a letter by Masterman that adds to the book and we will stage a drawing for a gift basket on June 2 as well.**

O’Donnell, Jim. [The War for Gaul](#) (Princeton University \$27.95 June 11). A new translation that captures the gripping power of one of the greatest war stories ever told, Caesar’s pitiless account of his brutal campaign to conquer Gaul. Imagine a book about an unnecessary war written by the ruthless general of an occupying army—“a vivid and dramatic propaganda piece that forces the reader to identify with the conquerors and that is designed, like the war itself, to fuel the limitless political ambitions of the author. Could such a campaign autobiography ever be a great work of literature—”perhaps even one of the greatest?” It would be easy to think not, but such a book exists, and it helped transform Julius Caesar from a politician on the make into the Caesar of legend. This remarkable new translation of Caesar’s work is like dispatches from the front lines in what are today France, Belgium, Germany, and Switzerland. While letting Caesar tell his battle stories in his own way, distinguished ASU classicist James O’Donnell also fills in the rest of the story in a substantial introduction and notes that together explain why Gaul is the “greatest book ever written in which a genuinely bad person offers a bald-faced, amoral description of just how bad he has been.” Complete with a chronology, a map of Gaul, suggestions for further reading, and an index. Those who shirked Latin in school get away with it once again thanks to O’Donnell. I think pairing the professor with Mike Maden and his new Clancy is genius, a chance to compare warriors across 2,000 years.

Pappas, Theodore. [Britannica's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Collector's Edition of the Encyclopedia's Final Yearbook](#) (\$69.95 June 3). So fabulous was his April program we invited him back for June 3. Designed both to complete your *Britannica* yearbook collection and to serve as an engaging stand-alone volume, this individually numbered, special collector's publication is a rare compendium of knowledge, insights, and history and will be the last edition in the 80-year tradition of *Britannica's* distinguished yearbooks. Pappas also signs his book [True Grit: Classic Tales of Perseverance](#) (G2 \$19.95). Inspiring tales of ten of the most accomplished pioneers and leaders in history.

Preston, Douglas. [Talking to the Ground](#) (SimonSchuster \$17 June 1). **Free shipping if ordered by itself within the US.** I love this nonfiction account of a journey made on horseback touching the four peaks sacred to the Navajo. In 1992 Preston, his fiancée and her daughter rode across 400 miles of desert in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, retracing the route of a Navajo deity, the Slayer of Alien Gods, on his quest to restore beauty and balance to the Earth. More than a travelogue, Preston's account of their "one tough journey, luminously remembered" (*Kirkus Reviews*) is a tale of two cultures meeting in a sacred land and is "like traveling across unknown territory with Lewis and Clark to the Pacific" (Dee Brown, author of *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*). I well remember the event Doug and I did together for the hardcover and am delighted to see this eloquent and entrancing narrative leading us through the heart of Navajo desert country with photos, some of them not seen before, a perfect accompaniment to [The Lost City of the Monkey God](#) and [Cities of Gold](#), reissued. This gem is a must-read for Hillerman fans too.

Here's part of a review by a Navajo reader: "*Talking to the Ground* begins as a family adventure by horseback, tracing the footsteps of the Navajo Hero Twins. Preston, his fiancée Christine and her young daughter Selene, pass through some of the emptiest country in our entire nation. However, their three-month ride is little more than a device (albeit a fascinating and ballsy one) to reveal stunning truths about an alternate world inhabited by the Navajo. No author has ever conveyed the living, beating heart of Navajo legends with such powerful intimacy. An encounter with an old shepherd in search of his lost flock is nothing short of breathtaking in its implications. Preston relates a host of frightening moments as well, not all of which are horse, cliff or weather related. He leaves us with a profound sense of kinship to the Navajo people, and a clear and chilling vision of what awaits us if we fail to note the societal shipwrecks scattered throughout Navajoland: skeletons left behind by those ancients who would not read the writing on their own canyon walls."

**International customers may wish to order this gem held for shipment with Preston & Child's new series start featuring Nora Kelly, [Old Bones](#) (Grand Central \$28), signed for us on August 20.**

Ricciardi, David. [Rogue Strike](#) (Berkley \$27 June 6). CIA agent Jake Keller and his partner, Curt Roach, are in Yemen on an important mission. They've been tipped off to a secret meeting of top al Qaeda leaders. Their plan is to interrupt the meeting with a few unexpected visitors—a pair of Hellfire missiles from an orbiting drone. But the drone stops responding to their signals and soon disappears over the horizon. When next seen, the drone is attacking innocent pilgrims in Mecca. Yikes! Jake and Curt

are staggered. The U.S. government is desperate to disavow this atrocity. Who better to blame than a couple of rogue CIA agents? With all the governments of the Middle East looking for them and no help from their own side, they are in a desperate race to stay ahead of the mob and find out who's actually hijacked the drone and their mission. More non-stop action from Ricciardi whose debut in [Warning Light](#) (\$9.99) was an April 2018 Thriller Book of the Month. Loved it.

Wagner, David. [Roman Count Down](#) (Poisoned Pen \$15.95 June 15). Rick Montoya, eager to experience more of his Italian mother's culture, heads to Rome to start his own translation business. He's armed with curiosity and an appetite for local food and wine. Rick's maternal uncle is a Roman cop with one eye to his nephew's welfare and another to how Rick might be useful, perhaps widen his career choices. So Commissario Piero Fontana pulls Rick into an investigation: the murder of Count Umberto Zimbardi. The wealthy count enjoyed indulging a circle of convivial friends and a hobby collecting oral histories by interviewing residents in the city's centro storico. He was heading home from such an afternoon when he was found dead on a bridge over the Tiber. As a newcomer and an investigator, Rick makes rookie mistakes. He's learning the ropes as an amateur sleuth and that living in Rome is different from visiting. Plus he's distracted by a woman pressing him into service as a tour guide and the arrival of a college friend on a mission to sell Argentine wine to the Vatican. In this our **June Cozy Crimes Book of the Month**, the city emerges as another character in David Wagner's "...usual deft mix of travel and suspense" —*Kirkus Reviews*. Like all the Rick Montoya Mysteries, this prequel is rich in food, drink, and local culture and landmarks. "A book...for armchair travelers as much as it is for mystery lovers."—*Publisher's Weekly*. As is the whole [Rick Montoya Series](#) you can order and browse at leisure after you read Rick's introduction to full-time living in Italy.

Walker, Martin. [The Body in the Castle Well](#) (Knopf \$25.95 June 4 publication day). I love the mix of ingredients Walker stirs into his plots...a sort of complementary process to the meals served up by Bruno Courrèges, Chief of Police now for communes in the Vézère valley, for his friends and at occasions in his village of St. Denis. Here we have falconry, echoes of the Algerian war, a musical tribute to Josephine Baker, and both art history and that of Occupied France. The first victim in the story is one you truly mourn, a young American PhD student, wealthy, who was studying with a noted art scholar she wonders might have been engaged in shady dealings related to valuing looted art and to his valuable art collection. She was also seen in the presence of a man recently released from prison. Was her death a simple misfortune, possibly related to powerful painkillers she was taking, or to something more sinister? To read a Bruno is like visiting old friends, such a pleasure. *PW* admires "the intrepid Bruno, a horseback-riding and dog-loving master chef whose calm professional practicality pulls the reader into the well-developed, if familiar, crime story. Whether he's preparing a gourmet dinner, enjoying a glass of wine, or solving a murder, it's a pleasure to be in Bruno's company." *Bien sur*. Best to read [this delightful series](#) and enjoy life in the Périgord in the order published.

Willig, Lauren. [The Summer Country](#) (Harper \$26.99 June 8). Willig has written many sorts of books, all rooted in history—she's a meticulous researcher. She has outdone herself with a book she describes as her "full out M. M. Kaye" (one of my

favorite authors who did the British Empire well). It takes you to Barbados where English sugar barons and local planters wrested fortunes from the cane and their slaves. She bookends her two-track tale with the fiery rebellion of 1816 on the island and the lead up to it from 1812, and with the cholera epidemic that struck in 1854. I learned so much from both (excellent Appendix with sources) along with following the absorbing narrative. It opens in 1854: Emily Dawson has always been the poor cousin in a prosperous English merchant clan—merely a vicar’s daughter, and a reform-minded vicar’s daughter, at that. Everyone knows that the family’s lucrative shipping business will go to her cousin, Adam, one day. But when her grandfather dies, Emily receives an unexpected inheritance: Peverills, a sugar plantation in Barbados—a plantation her grandfather never told anyone he owned. When Emily accompanies her cousin and his new wife to Barbados, she finds Peverills a burnt-out shell, reduced to ruins in 1816, when a rising of enslaved people sent the island up in flames. Rumors swirl around the derelict plantation; people whisper of ghosts. Why would her practical-minded grandfather leave her a property in ruins? Why are the neighboring plantation owners, the Davenants, so eager to acquire Peverills? As we zigzag from one set of characters to the other, we find out. This excellent standalone is not truly mystery but is so rich, moving, and relevant to today that it is our **June Historical Book of the Month**.

#### SIGNED BOOKS

Cussler, Clive/Robin Burcell. [The Oracle](#) (Putnam \$29 on sale June 11). In 533 A.D., the last Vandal ruler in North Africa consults an oracle on how to defeat the invading Byzantine army. The oracle tells the king that a high priestess cast a curse upon the Vandal Kingdom after a sacred scroll was stolen. In order to lift the curse, the scroll must be returned to its rightful home. But the kingdom falls before the scroll is found, leaving its location a great mystery. . . until a current day archeological dig, funded by Sam and Remi Fargo, uncovers some vital clues. The search for the ancient scroll is put on hold when the Fargos learn that a shipment of supplies intended for their charitable foundation’s school has been stolen, and they travel to Nigeria to deliver new supplies themselves. But their mission becomes infinitely more complicated when they run afoul of a band of robbers.

Ellroy, James. [The LA Quartet: The Black Dahlia, The Big Nowhere, L.A. Confidential, White Jazz](#) (Everyman’s Library \$40); [Underworld USA Trilogy, Volume One American Tabloid, The Cold Six Thousand](#) (\$35). Vintage Ellroy in hardcover volumes best to order early so we have enough to go with our event for his new book [This Storm](#) (Knopf \$29.95), signed here on June 20.

Gilbert, Elizabeth. [City of Girls](#) (Riverhead \$28). Our **July Modern Firsts Book of the Month** begins a “beguiling tale of an innocent young woman discovering the excitements and pleasures of 1940 New York City with a light touch, as her heroine, Vivian Morris, romps through the city. Gradually the story deepens into a psychologically keen narrative about Vivian’s search for independence as she indulges her free spirit and sexuality. Freshly expelled from Vassar for not attending any classes, 19-year-old Vivian is sent by her parents to stay with her aunt Peggy Buell in Manhattan. Peg runs a scruffy theater that offers gaudy musical comedies to its unsophisticated patrons. As WWII rages in Europe, Vivian is oblivious to anything but the wonder behind

the stage, as she becomes acquainted with the players in a new musical called *City of Girls*, including the louche leading man with whom she falls in love with passionate abandon. Vivian flits through the nightclubs El Morocco, the Diamond Horseshoe, and the Latin Quarter, where she hears Count Basie, Billie Holiday, and Louis Prima. Drinking heavily and scooting into the arms of numerous men, one night at the Stork Club she meets Walter Winchell, the notorious gossip columnist, who plays a pivotal role in the tabloid scandal in which Vivian becomes embroiled. Vivian’s voice—irreverent, witty, robust with slang—gradually darkens with guilt when she receives a devastating comeuppance. Eventually, she arrives at an understanding of the harsh truths of existence as the country plunges into WWII. Vivian—originally reckless and selfish, eventually thoughtful and humane—is the perfect protagonist for this novel, a page-turner with heart complete with a potent message of fulfillment and happiness.”—*PW Starred Review*

Goldberg, Leonard. [The Disappearance of Alistair Ainsworth](#) (St Martins \$28). Sherlock Holmes’s daughter, Joanna Blalock, is searching for cryptographer Alistair Ainsworth, who has been kidnapped by Germans. Joanna, Dr. John Watson, and the doctor’s son (and her husband), John Jr., join forces with the police and naval intelligence officers to scour the city for Ainsworth, who, they discover, is part of a high-ranking unit charged with ensuring that the Germans can’t decipher British naval codes. Like her late father (who died in 1903, according to Goldberg), Joanna works through the logic of any puzzle presented, large or small, and “fans of traditional mysteries will appreciate the way each clue is laid out for Joanna to piece together. John Jr. does an able job as narrator as the action builds to a satisfying finale. The many references to the original Sherlock Holmes adventures will please Conan Doyle fans.”

LeGrand, Claire. [Kingsbane](#) (Sourcebooks \$21). Our **June SciFi/Fantasy Book of the Month**. In the sequel to the bestselling *Empire Trilogy #1, Furyborn*, two queens, separated by a thousand years, connected by secrets and lies, must continue their fight amid deadly plots and unthinkable betrayals that will test their strength—and their hearts. Ages 14+

#### A FEW NEW BOOKS FOR MAY 28-JUNE 15

Adams, Ansel. [The Grand Canyon and the Southwest](#) (Little-Brown \$21.99). Here’s a book for Father’s Day...or for you. Adams’ most iconic images of the Grand Canyon are reproduced alongside little-before-seen photographs showcasing the delicate and stark beauty of the Southwestern landscape surrounding it, from Texas to California. Next to Yosemite and the High Sierra, the Southwest was closest to Ansel Adams’ heart. It was there, in the early 1930s, that he decided to make photography his life’s work. This beautifully packaged book does not only include archival-quality images, but also has a selection of Adams’ vivid writings about the region and its influence on his art. “It is all very beautiful and magical here,” he wrote, “a quality which cannot be described. You have to live it and breathe it, let the sun bake it into you.”

✦Bailey, Martine. [The Almanack](#) (Severn \$28.99). Set in 1752 England, integrating the role that almanacs played at the time, into a tricky whodunit plot. Following a desperate summons from her mother, Tabitha Hart departs London for her home village of Netherlea – only to discover that her mother has drowned.

Determined to discover the truth about the Widow Hart's death, Tabitha consults her almanack and uncovers a series of cryptic notes describing her mother's terror of someone she names only as 'D'. Teaming up with young writer Nat Starling, Tabitha begins a race against time to unmask 'D' before more deaths follow. But as the summer draws to a close and the snow sets in, cutting off Netherlea from the outside world, Tabitha and Nat are forced to face the darkest hours of their lives.

✎Bauer, Belinda. [Snap](#) (\$16). Winner of the UK National Book Award, and longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, *Snap* is a gripping novel about a teenage boy's hunt for his mother's killer. Eileen Bright puts her 11-year-old son Jack in charge when she left their broken-down car on the side of the road to find help. But she never comes back, and three years later, Jack's still in charge: of his sisters, of making ends meet, of making sure nobody knows they're all alone in the house, and—quite suddenly—of finding out who murdered his mother. Meanwhile, a young woman named Catherine While wakes to find a knife beside her bed, and a note reading "I could have killed you." Bauer is a much bigger seller in the UK than here in the US for some reason.

Dunnett, Kaitlyn. [Crime & Punctuation](#) (\$15.95). After splurging to buy her childhood home in the Catskills, recently widowed Mikki Lincoln emerges from retirement as a freelance editor. But it's not long before Mikki realizes that the village of Lenape Hollow isn't the thriving tourist destination it was decades ago. When perky novice writer Tiffany Scott knocks at her door holding a towering manuscript, Mikki expects another debut novel plagued by typos and sloppy prose. Instead, she finds a murder mystery ripped from the headlines of Lenape Hollow's not-too-distant past. The opening scene is a graphic page-turner, but it sends a real chill down Mikki's spine after the young author turns up dead just like the victim in her story. Mikki refuses to believe that Tiffany's death was accidental, and suspicions of foul play solidify as she uncovers a strange inconsistency in the manuscript and a possible motive in the notes.

Fletcher, Jessica/Jon Land. [Murder She Wrote: Murder in the Red](#) (Berkley \$25). When Mimi Van Dorn, a well-liked resident of Cabot Cove, Maine, collapses and dies without regaining consciousness in Land's strong third contribution to the Murder, She Wrote franchise, mystery author Jessica Fletcher, who was a good friend of Mimi's, notices some anomalies and is soon assisting Sheriff Mort Metzger in his investigation. She is suspicious of the Clifton Clinic, the new private hospital in town, where Mimi recently went for a simple procedure. Ads for the clinic tout its "cutting-edge treatments" and "regenerative medicine," but the hospital's director, Charles Clifton, refuses to answer her questions. When Jessica's former beau, Scotland Yard inspector George Sutherland, checks into the same facility, she's determined to ensure that he doesn't also meet an early death. In her search for answers, Jessica plunges into the intricacies of clinical trials and eventually goes on a fact-finding excursion to Washington, D.C. The complex plot builds to a clever, if foreseeable, resolution. Land does a seamless job of maintaining the quality of this popular, long-running series of which this is #49.

Green, Layton. [A Shattered Lens](#) (Seventh Street \$15.95). A detective investigates the murder of a teenage golden boy that has rocked a small town—and the chief suspect is the victim's mother. Annalise Stephens Blue is a Creekville high school

student with plans to become a world-famous filmmaker. As she begins filming an exposé of the town called Night Lives, she uncovers more than she bargained for: on the very first night of filming, she stumbles upon a murder in the woods, and flees the scene steps ahead of the killer. Detective Joe "Preach" Everson is called to investigate....

Griswold, Eliza. [Amity and Prosperity](#) (\$16). The paperback of the 2019 Pulitzer Prize winner for Fiction is out on June 4. Prize-winning poet and journalist Eliza Griswold tells the story of the energy boom's impact on a small town at the edge of Appalachia and one woman's transformation from a struggling single parent to an unlikely activist.

Hobson, Brandon. [Where the Dead Sit Talking](#) (\$16). The winner of the Mountain and Plain Booksellers 2019 Best Novel Award: "I was really struck by the intelligence of the book, as well as the significance of the story that he's telling, about what it's like to be a modern Indigenous person in this country, as a Native American, and to be in the foster care system. I was very struck by the plot of it—it's very well written, it's very propulsive, it's very readable for literary fiction, and I would recommend it heartily to book clubs." —Min Jin Lee, author of *Pachinko*

Holt, Anne. [In Dust and Ashes](#) (\$17). Police investigator Kjell Bonsaksen is a contented man in most areas of life, but for one mistake he made years ago that has rankled like a stone in his shoe ever since: in 2001, a two-year-old girl was killed by a speeding car while playing in the road in front of her home. The marriage of the toddler's grief-stricken parents dissolved in the wake of the accident, and not long thereafter, the girl's mother died under mysterious circumstances. The girl's father, Jonas, was convicted of his ex-wife's murder and sentenced to twelve years in prison. But Kjell Bonsaksen knew he was innocent. Now it's 2016, and Kjell is looking forward to his retirement to the French countryside with his wife. An uncomfortable chance encounter with Jonas at a roadside gas station prompts him to dig out Jonas's case files for Detective Henrik Holme, the resident cold case prodigy. Henrik doesn't take long to convince his beloved mentor, Hanne Wilhelmsen, that Jonas was wrongly convicted for his ex-wife's murder. So Hanne and Henrik investigate in this final chapter in the 10-part Hanne Wilhelmsen series, and it's a crackerjack ending.

✎Horowitz, Anthony. [The Sentence Is Death](#) (Harper \$27.99). Bestseller Horowitz's doppelgänger, also named Anthony Horowitz, once again plays Dr. Watson to PI Daniel Hawthorne's Sherlock Holmes. "You shouldn't be here. It's too late..." These, heard over the phone, were the last recorded words of successful celebrity-divorce lawyer Richard Pryce, found bludgeoned to death in his bachelor pad with a bottle of wine—a 1982 Chateau Lafite worth £3,000, to be precise. Odd, considering he didn't drink. Why this bottle? And why those words? And why was a three-digit number painted on the wall by the killer? And, most importantly, which of the man's many, many enemies did the deed? Baffled, the police are forced to bring in Private Investigator Daniel Hawthorne and his sidekick, the author Anthony, who's really getting rather good at this murder investigation business. But as Hawthorne takes on the case with characteristic relish, it becomes clear that he, too, has secrets to hide. As our reluctant narrator becomes ever more embroiled in the case, he realizes that these secrets must be exposed—even at the risk of

death.... Start with 2018's *The Word Is Murder* to get in on the series and the sort literary prank the clever Horowitz is playing. PW find that, "Horowitz plays fair with the reader all the way to the surprise reveal of the killer's identity. Fans of traditional puzzle mysteries will be enthralled."

King, Stephen. [Flight or Fright: 17 Turbulent Tales](#) (Scribner \$17) just for you.

✚Lloyd, Amy. [One More Lie](#) (Hanover Square \$15.99). Charlotte wants to start fresh. She wants to forget her past, forget prison and, most of all, to forget Sean. But old habits die hard. Despite the ankle monitor she must wear as part of her parole agreement and frequent visits to her therapist, she soon finds herself sliding back toward the type of behavior that sent her to prison in the first place. The further down that path she goes, however, the closer she gets to the crime that put her in prison all those years ago. And that's the one memory she can't face. Until, one day, Sean tracks her down. Amy Lloyd won the Daily Mail First Novel competition for her debut, *The Innocent Wife*. Now she returns with a chilling portrait of a woman trying to be good, even when she isn't sure she wants to be.

✚Mason, Tim. [The Darwin Affair](#) (Algonquin \$27.95). The controversial publication of *On the Origin of Species* sets off a string of unspeakable crimes in London, June, 1860. When an assassination attempt is made on Queen Victoria, and a petty thief is gruesomely murdered moments later—and only a block away—Chief Detective Inspector Charles Field quickly surmises that these crimes are connected to an even more sinister plot. Was Victoria really the assassin's target? Are those closest to the Crown hiding something? And who is this shadowy figure witnesses describe as having lifeless, coal-black eyes? Soon, Field's investigation exposes a shocking conspiracy in which the publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* sets off a string of murders, arson, kidnapping, and the pursuit of a diabolical madman named the Chorister. As the investigation takes Field from the dangerous alleyways of London to the hallowed halls of Oxford, the list of possible conspirators grows as the body count escalates. And as he edges closer to the Chorister, he uncovers dark secrets that were meant to remain forever hidden.

✚McGuinness, Patrick. [Throw Me to the Wolves](#) (Bloomsbury \$27). McGuinness, a poet and Oxford professor longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, pens a thriller. After a young woman is found strangled by the River Thames, Michael Wolphram, who was an English and music teacher at an elite boarding school until his retirement, is hauled into the police station: he is the dead woman's neighbor and her DNA has been found in his car. Even before the police charge him, a bloodthirsty tabloid journalist uses Wolphram's eccentricities to hang him in the court of public opinion. The book has the signposts of a thriller—a crime to solve, a detective narrator—but it somewhat subverts the genre by lingering on the main character's personal relationships and on his musings unrelated to the crime. McGuinness says he was inspired by "the case of Christopher Jefferies, a teacher arrested by the police and hounded by the press for the murder of Joanna Yeates in 2010. He was my teacher, and we liked and admired him, and he was, for me, the teacher who taught me to love books and ideas and, eventually, I guess, writing. Though the novel is not about him, and the character in my book is visibly as well as anecdotally not him, I used my book to express some of the outrage and anger I

felt at what was done to him." And he name-checks Dorothy L. Sayers and Agatha Christie's Poirot and Marple, not to mention Rumpole and Columbo;

✚McKenna, Clara. [Murder at Morrington Hall](#) (Kensington \$26). "Set in 1905 in Hampshire, England, McKenna's delightful debut and series launch introduces feisty American heiress and horse breeder Stella Kendrick and Viscount Lyndy Lyndhurst, to whom Stella's father hopes to marry her off. Stella is the last to know about her father's scheme, and she's furious when she realizes he tricked her into going to England. When Stella and Lyndy go looking for the Reverend Bullmore, who's to marry them, they discover his dead body in the library of Murrington Hall, the Lyndhurst family estate. This breaks the ice between the two, who decide to investigate the murder together. Stella's longing for Kentucky diminishes as she grows fond of England, and she gradually falls in love with Lyndy, who's already smitten with her. After her stallion, Cicero, shipped over from the U.S. as a bargaining chip to seal the marriage deal, wins the Epsom Derby, its sire, Orson, is stolen. Eccentric, humorous characters add to the intrigue of catching the murderer and rescuing Orson from his captors. Eccentric, humorous characters add to the intrigue of catching the murderer and rescuing Orson from his captors. Fans of historical cozies will be enchanted."—PW. I don't know if I agree until I read it but this does sound promising.

Miranda, Megan. [The House Guest](#) (SimonSchuster \$26.99). This searing small-town thriller from bestseller Miranda (The Perfect Stranger) explores the complexities of female friendship and the picturesque fictions that money can buy. Avery Greer, a native of Littleport, Maine, is at a house party with the town's other 20-somethings awaiting her best friend, wealthy summer resident Sadie Loman, when the police arrive: Sadie's body washed up on the rocks near her parents' estate, and they want alibis from those in attendance. The discovery of a suicide note ends all talk of foul play, but Avery can't fathom Sadie taking her own life. A year later, Avery uncovers new evidence that underscores her suspicions and inspires her to investigate. The deeper Avery digs, the more secrets she unearths that are worth killing to keep. Flashbacks to the night of Sadie's death reveal fissures in the girls' relationship, casting doubt on Avery's honesty as a narrator. Sharply drawn characters both ground and elevate the bombshell-laden plot, while evocative prose heightens tension and conjures place. Miranda delivers a clever, stylish mystery that will seize readers like a riptide.

✚Montclair, Allison. [The Right Sort of Man](#) (Minotaur \$26.99). Set in 1946 London, Montclair's stellar debut and series launch introduces an unlikely pair of detectives. Gwen Bainbridge, whose husband died during WWII, lives with her late husband's parents, who managed to get legal custody of her six-year-old son, Ronnie. Gwen and Iris Sparks, a former operative for British intelligence, run the Right Sort Marriage Bureau. Their innocuous business becomes less so after client Tillie La Salle is stabbed to death shortly after her particulars were provided to Dickie Trower, a shy accountant. Dickie is charged with Tillie's murder, his purported motive anger over the cancellation of their first date. Convinced that the wrong person is behind bars and facing intensely negative press, Gwen and Iris investigate Tillie's death. They soon find plausible alternative motives, including fallout from the dead woman's involvement in the black market and a former beau's jealousy. Both leads are complex, well-developed

characters, whose penchant for humorous byplay never comes at the expense of the plot, which resolves itself in a clever fair play reveal. Fans of Maisie Dobbs and Bess Crawford will be delighted as will those receiving our **June British Crime Book of the Month**.

✎Ryan, Jennifer. [The Spies of Shilling Lane](#) (Crown \$27). In 1941, Mrs. Braithwaite is stripped of her vaunted village position as the leader of the Women's Voluntary Service for being too bossy. Mrs. Braithwaite, a woman of more gusto than height, heads to London to reconnect with her daughter, Betty, who she hasn't seen in two years. But when she gets to Betty's boarding house, no one has seen her in days; she also hasn't been to work at her listed employment for years. As Mrs. Braithwaite searches for answers, she makes a reluctant companion of Mr. Norris, Betty's landlord and a timid accountant who is worried Betty might be in trouble. Soon they discover Betty is working for British intelligence, and Mrs. Braithwaite and Mr. Norris become embroiled in a plot to root out Nazi-sympathizers in London. Mrs. Braithwaite shakes up Mr. Norris's life in unexpected, welcome ways as they form an unlikely friendship and almost get Betty captured while she is working undercover. Enjoy the eccentric, believable characters and plot of home front intrigue.

Silvis, Randall. [A Long Way Down](#) (Sourcebooks \$15.99). Ryan DeMarco returns to his hometown of Erie, Pennsylvania, after his estranged wife, Laraine, attempts suicide. Unfortunately, Laraine has decided that the only person who can make her well again is DeMarco himself. DeMarco disagrees. As he is leaving the hospital, for what he vows will be the last time, he runs into a former high school football teammate, a man who is now the Mahoning County sheriff. DeMarco learns that three unsolved murders have occurred in his old stomping grounds over the past month, and that they might be related to a cold case from 1988, the year he graduated from high school. Even though DeMarco longs to get back to his new love, Jayme, his heart is with his hometown and getting to the bottom of those unsolved murders.

Simsion, Graeme. [The Rosie Result](#) (Text \$26.99). Simsion concludes the Don Tillman trilogy set in present-day Melbourne with a whimsical tale of devoted, if rather unorthodox, parenting. Don's 11-year-old son, Hudson, has some social difficulties, and Hudson's teacher suggests the boy may be autistic. Don, who has been resistant to similar suggestions about himself, decides to help Hudson in ways he wished others had helped him when he was young. He leaves his job (after a well-meant lecture on genetics leads to him being misconstrued as racist), enlists assistance from friends and family, and develops a lesson plan, trying to teach his son ways to fit in. Meanwhile, Hudson is making changes and learning more about autism on his own, granting Don insight into himself and demonstrating how introspective a child can be. Don learns from his son that accepting oneself results in the ultimate happiness—this sensitive and sometimes humorous look at Don's relationship with his son is the ideal ending to the trilogy. [The Rosie Project](#) (\$16.99), one of my favorite novels; [The Rosie Effect](#) (\$15.99).

Spillane, Mickey/Max Allan Collins. [Last Stage to Hell Junction](#) (Kensington \$25). In a lively night at the Victory saloon in Trinidad, New Mexico, Sheriff Caleb York interrupts his poker game to settle a minor dust-up that raises the stakes into major trouble. The wounded miscreant he ushers to the hoosegow

spills the secret behind the mysterious disappearance of a certain stage coach. Bound for Denver, the stage carried three important passengers—beautiful ranch owner Willa Cullen, lovely temptress Rita Filley, and wealthy banker Raymond L. Parker. The two women are rivals for the lawman's love, while Parker is a key investor in Trinidad's future. But all are gone, with only the corpses of fellow passengers as bullet-ridden clues. York follows a trail of blood to a ghost town known as Hell Junction. To rescue his lady friends and the banker, he must infiltrate an outlaw den—and pray no one among the thieves, killers, and kidnappers will recognize him as he has only his desert rat deputy to back him up.

Straley, John. [Baby's First Felony](#) (\$15.95). The Sitka, Alaska's first Cecil Younger novel in 17 years, is bursting with the sort of oddball characters who make Alaska's wildlife look tame... Straley knows how to wrap deadly violence in a bubble of black humor that suits the novel's beautiful but harsh setting... —*NY Times Book Review*

Theurillat, Michael. [Death in Summer](#) (Bonnie \$14.95). Translated from the German, the first for Swiss Inspector Eschenbach. Theurillat makes his English-language debut with this polished novel. When middle-aged banker Philipp Bettlach is shot dead at the 15th hole of a swanky Zurich golf course, Eschenbach, the experienced, unconventional, and intuitive chief of Zurich's CID, investigates. Assisted by his trainee from the police academy, Claudio Jagmetti, he begins stripping layer after layer from a case that eventually reveals the banker's shady side. A related murder in Basel raises the ante. Eschenbach's disdain for bureaucracy and his tendency to concentrate on only one thing at a time play off effectively against Jagmetti's youthful hero worship of him, and the investigation is occasionally leavened by the absurdity of Jagmetti's falling hard for the victim's pretty young girlfriend, who's a prime suspect in the homicide. Wry humor provides some relief from the grimness of the crimes at the heart of the case. Those fond of sophisticated European police procedurals will enjoy another confirmation that crime writing has gone international.

✎Ware, Ruth. [The Death of Mrs. Westaway](#) (\$16.99). Ware spins another Gothic starting with an always intriguing ploy: a letter arrives (received by the wrong person) with news of a substantial inheritance. Hal, down on her luck, decides her skill a cold-reads developed by her tarot card gig may let her claim it. So she heads to the Duchy of Cornwall, DuMaurier territory, where at the funeral she senses something about the death, and more, is of...

Wieland, Liza. [Paris, 7 AM](#) (SimonSchuster \$26.99). Here's a perfect summer read, available June 7. Striking imagery and sharp, distinctive language shimmer in Wieland's haunting fifth novel (following *Land of Enchantment*), which imagines American poet Elizabeth Bishop as a young woman. It opens in 1930 as the Vassar student struggles with her attraction to women, alcohol's seductive comfort, and her literary gifts. In 1934, she graduates from college and learns that her mother, who fantasized about killing Elizabeth and was permanently committed to a psychiatric institution when Bishop was five, has died. Grappling with loss, loneliness, and longing for the mothering she never received, in 1936, Bishop travels with her friend Louise Crane to Paris despite news of Hitler's rising threat. They rent the apartment of American expat Clara de Chambrun, whose only daughter died at 19. Bishop is ambivalent about Clara's need

for a daughter figure, but when the older woman enlists her help in rescuing two Jewish infants being smuggled out of Germany, she can't refuse. "Wieland makes scrupulous use of known fact in crafting her fictional narrative, but neither rehashes familiar biography nor attempts literal interpretations of Bishop's poems or life. Instead, her dreamlike juxtapositions of the searing and the sensual probe the artistic process, the power of the mother-daughter bond, and the creative coming-of-age of one of America's greatest poets,"—*PW* Starred Review

#### MEMORIAL DAY ISSUE SMALL PAPERBACKS

*All published on May 28*

Berenson, Laurien. [Ruff Justice](#) (Kensington \$7.99). Melanie Travis #23. While preparing for the spring dog show, Melanie must investigate a murder after a talented canine portrait artist turns up dead behind her concession booth and her Aunt Peg's longtime dog sitter also disappears on the same day.

Blake, Bethany. [Something Borrowed, Something Mewed](#) (Kensington \$7.99). When her sister's abrasive wedding planner is found strangled by a garter, it is up to pet sitter Daphne Templeton to organize the big day while trying to unveil a killer.

Cahoon, Lynn. [Sconed to Death](#) (Kensington \$7.99). Cat Latimer #5. When a celebrity chef—and one of Denver's most eligible bachelors—is found dead in Dee Dee Meyer's bakery, Cat Latimer concocts a half-baked scheme to expose a scone-cold killer.

Dratch, Dana. [Seeing Red](#) (Kensington \$7.99). Alex Vlodnachek #2. Discovering that her boyfriend Ian is more than just a simple hotel owner when a body is found in his basement, his father goes missing and a "reproduction" Renoir is found in his library, intrepid ex-reporter Alex Vlodnachek must stay one step ahead of danger to expose the truth.

Howells, Debbie. [Part of the Silence](#) (\$7.99). After being left for dead, Evie Sherman only remembers her own name and her daughter, Angel, whom she believes is in grave danger, and with the warning phrase "Trust no one" stuck in her head, she navigates the uncertainty of her mind in hopes of determining what happened to her.

Jackson, Lisa. [Liar, Liar](#) (Kensington \$9.99). When it appears that someone has faked her absentee mother's suicide, Remmi teams up with Detective Dani Settler and her childhood crush, Noah, to find the truth about what happened.

Miranda, Megan. [The Perfect Stranger](#) (\$9.99). Failed journalist Leah Stevens leaves Boston and moves to rural Pennsylvania with a friend, Emmy Grey, but when Emmy disappears, leaving behind no clues or trail, Leah is forced to revisit her past to restore her credibility and uncover the truth about Emmy.

Paretsky, Sara. [Shell Game](#) (\$9.99). V.I. Warshawski #20. Returning to Chicago to prevent an erroneous murder charge, V. I. Warshawski traces a stolen artifact with links to a network of international mobsters, terrorist financiers, scammers and art thieves.

Rosenfelt, David. [One Dog Night](#) (\$7.99) Andy Carpenter #9. When a rehabilitated drug addict who saved Tara the golden retriever's life is wrongly implicated in a cold-case murder, defense attorney Andy Carpenter, the dog's dedicated owner, taps every conceivable resource to prove the man's innocence.

Schaffer, Bernard. [The Thief of All Light](#) (Kensington \$9.99). A detective-in-training who has always been obsessed with serial killers must seek the help of tarnished former detective Jacob Rein to find a serial killer who cannot be profiled.

Silva, Daniel. [The Other Woman](#) (\$9.99). Gabriel Allon #18. After his asset inside Russian intelligence is assassinated, Gabriel's search for the truth leads him to the twentieth century's greatest act of treason.

Smith, Karen Rose. [Murder with Cucumber Sandwiches](#) (Kensington \$7.99). Steeped in anxiety over the arrival of restaurant critic, Derek Schumaker, tea shop owners Daisy and Aunt Iris discover that reviews can be murder when he is poisoned to death.

Young, Kate. [Southern Sass and Killer Cravings](#) (Kensington \$7.99). When a regular customer is poisoned while eating at their diner, and her sister is led away in handcuffs, Marygene Brown, to save her sister and the diner, must find