

The Book Rack Newsletter

It just makes sense to buy your books at The Book Rack!

Vol 11, #6
June 2018
563-355-2310

*Store Hours: 10:00 - 6:00 Daily (except New Years Day, Easter, July 4,
Thanksgiving and Christmas)*

<http://www.thebookrackqc.com/>
BookRackQC@Gmail.com

Trivia for June

What classic Gothic novel of 1818 was subtitled, “The Modern Prometheus?”

For the answer see below!

New/Old Mysteries being added to our inventory!!

We recently received a large stash of older books from a customer. Approximately 25% are Science Fiction and 65% are mysteries. I'm working my way through them checking their condition (mostly Very Good to Like New) and value. Some will go on-line at premium value and many will enter our retail inventory. In either case, they are all available to you through our web page and you can use your credit for the premium priced books as well as for standard, retail priced books, applying credit for $\frac{1}{2}$ the Book Rack price. The ones on our

shelves will be priced at \$2.00, since they were originally \$.35 to \$2.00 and to allow us to allocate shelf space, we simply must make at least \$1.00/book, with credit applied. Some of the authors include Rex Stout, Helen MacInnes, Mary Stewart, Owen Sela, Ross McDonald, John D. McDonald and countless others. If any of the books are ones on your Request List and you are the first name on the list for the title we'll be calling! But, if you love mysteries, keep checking our web site and/or shelves for hard-to-find authors and titles you'd like to read. These authors may be gone, but their books are still wonderful reads.

Visit our Facebook Page and provide an HONEST review of The Book Rack and be registered to win a \$10 gift certificate! It's that easy.

Drawings Bi-monthly starting in May!

And...our first winner is

Amy Kirschenmann!!

\$25 Gift Certificate Winners!

In January 2018 we began giving away two \$25.00 Gift Certificates to **Book Rack** account holders each month. The names are selected randomly from all our registered customers who have registered and/or had a trade or purchase since 1 January 2016. All a winner has to do is to go to the newsletter and find your name listed, then come in and claim your reward. No purchase is required and you don't have to register separately from your initial account registration.

The June 2018 winners are:

Justine Barati

Jackie Mickley

Congratulations!

Just call or stop at the store on or before June 30 to claim your prize: a **\$25 gift certificate** from The Book Rack.

June Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

June 1 – National Flip a Coin Day – a day when making decisions is as easy as flipping a coin. I bet you don't!

5 – World Environment Day

14 – Flag Day

17 – Father's Day – Bring your Dad to The Book Rack or honor him with a gift certificate

19 – Juneteenth Day - Juneteenth day celebrates and symbolizes the end of slavery in the United States.

21 – Summer Soltice/Summer begins/ Longest day of the year – ENJOY!

26 – Forgiveness Day

29 – Waffle Iron Day

Book Reviews

A Lonely Place to Die by Wessel Ebersohn (1979)



A prominent politician's son dies after eating poisonous mushrooms and an obviously mad black servant is convicted. But prison psychiatrist Yudel Gordon refuses to accept the official case – with good reason

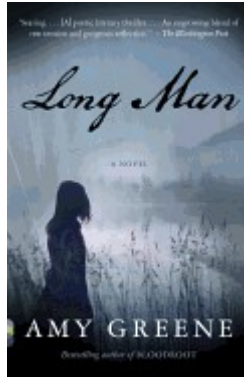
In a dangerous move to prove the innocence of the terrified man he travels to a remote country town, a closed and fearful society – and interviews relatives, friends and local police.

He encounters hostility – and when he gets too close to the truth his life is threatened.

After being savagely beaten and enduring some hellish hours of pursuit in the veld, he comes up with the shocking – and inevitable – solution.

Set in Apartheid South Africa, you get a deep look into both sides of that issue, though it's not the central issue. The murder is the mystery and it remains such until near the end. You'll like Yudel Gordon and want to read more. I give it a B and add it to my recommendation list!

Long Man by Amy Greene (2015)



A river called Long Man has coursed through East Tennessee from time immemorial, bringing sustenance to the people who farm along its banks and who trade between its small towns. But as *Long Man* opens, the Tennessee Valley Authority's plans to dam the river and flood the town of Yuneetah for the sake of progress - to bring electricity and jobs to the hardscrabble region - are about to take effect.

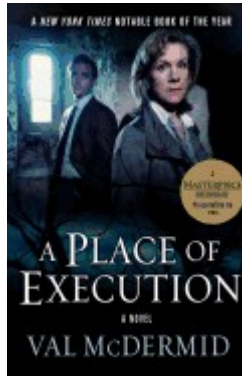
Just one day remains before last of the residents must leave their homes that will soon be flooded by the rivers rise, and most of the town has been evacuated. Among the holdouts is a young mother, Annie Clyde Dodson, whose ancestors have lived for generations on her mountaintop farm; she'll do anything to ensure that her three-year-old daughter, Gracie, will inherit the family's land. But her husband wants to make a fresh start in Michigan, where he has found work that will secure the family's future. As the deadline looms, a storm as powerful as the emotions between them rages outside their door. Suddenly, they realize that Gracie has gone missing. Has she simply wandered off into the rain? Or has she been taken by Amos, the mysterious drifter who has come back to town, perhaps to save it in a last, desperate act of violence?

Suspenseful, visceral, gorgeously told, *Long Man* is a searing portrait of a tight-knit community brought together by change and crisis, and of one family facing a terrifying ticking clock. It is a dazzling and unforgettable tour de force.

A virtually perfect blend of lyrical writing and page-turning plot. This book gives me hope for the future of the literary novel. Beautiful." --Karen Sandstrom, "Cleveland Plain Dealer".

I agree with this assessment. It grabbed my interest and attention from the beginning and held it to the end. A beautifully written addition to American literature. I give it an A.

A Place of Execution by Val McDermid (2009)



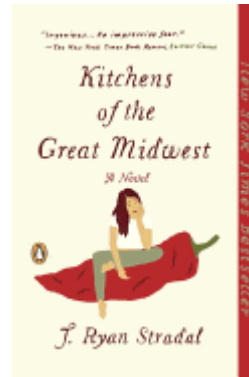
On a freezing day in December 1963, Alison Carter vanishes from her rural village, an insular community that distrusts the outside world. For the young George Bennett, a newly promoted inspector, it is the beginning of his most difficult and harrowing case--a suspected murder with no body, an investigation with more dead ends and closed faces than he'd have found in the anonymity of the inner city, and an outcome that reverberates through the years.

Decades later Bennett finally tells his story to journalist Catherine Heathcote, but just when the book is poised for publication, he unaccountably tries to pull the plug. He has new information that he refuses to divulge, new information which threatens the very foundations of his existence. Catherine is forced to reinvestigate the past, with results that turn the world upside down.

A Greek tragedy in modern England, Val McDermid's *A Place of Execution* is a taut psychological thriller that explores, exposes, and explodes the border between reality and illusion in a multi-layered narrative that turns expectation on its head and reminds us that what we know is that we do not truly know.

You often see associated with newly published books statements that the author is "The Next...(Lee Child, Stephen King or Steig Larssen)", but, while the book may be very good, it just doesn't live up to the standard. Well, I've of the looked for the next author comparable to Steig Larssen and have found but a few who I think compare favorably, such as Jo Nesbo and Don Winslow. Well, I now confidently add another name to the short list: Val McDermid. *A Place of Execution* is on the same plane as *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, in my book. While it starts slow, it continues to build tension and suspense to the end and has a surprising, inventive and believable conclusion that will leave you much to ponder. I give it an A+. This is my first McDermid book, but won't be my last. Fortunately, she has many titles from which to choose. I can only hope and expect them to be as well done.

Kitchens of the Great Midwest by J. Ryan Stradal (2015)

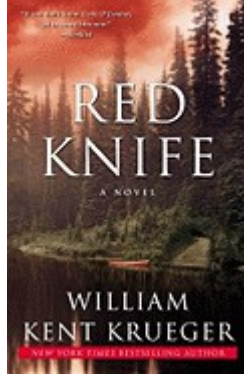


Kitchens of the Great Midwest is a novel about a young woman with a once-in-a-generation palate who becomes the iconic chef behind the country's most coveted dinner reservation. It was selected as a best book of the year by Amazon, *BookPage*, LibraryReads, and NPR.

When Lars Thorvald's wife, Cynthia, falls in love with wine--and a dashing sommelier--he's left to raise their baby, Eva, on his own. He's determined to pass on his love of food to his daughter--starting with pureed pork shoulder. As Eva grows, she finds her solace and salvation in the flavors of her native Minnesota. From Scandinavian lutefisk to hydroponic chocolate habaneros, each ingredient represents one part of Eva's journey as she becomes the star chef behind a legendary and secretive pop-up supper club, culminating in an opulent and emotional feast that's a testament to her spirit and resilience. Each chapter tells the story of a single dish and character, at once capturing the spirit of the Midwest, the rise of foodie culture, and delving into the ways food creates community and a sense of identity. By turns quirky, hilarious, and vividly sensory, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* is an unexpected mother-daughter story about the bittersweet nature of life--its missed opportunities and its joyful surprises. It marks the entry of a brilliant new talent.

As so often happens, I pick up a book thinking I may want to read it and add it to my stack. Many weeks later, after picking it up several times only to choose another title, I finally decide it's time. And, I am delighted with it. Eva is a wild child and the books follows her through several stages of her life and maturity. I thoroughly enjoyed the book, give it an A- and a recommendation, if you like, or are willing to try, this literary gem.

Red Knife by William Kent Krueger (2008)



The newest book in William Kent Krueger's award-winning Corcoran O'Connor series finds the charismatic private investigator caught in the middle of a racial gang war that's turning picturesque Tamarack County, Minnesota, into a bloody battlefield.

When the daughter of a powerful businessman dies as a result of her meth addiction, her father, strong-willed and brutal Buck Reinhardt, vows revenge. His target is the Red Boyz, a gang of Ojibwe youths accused of supplying the girl's fatal drug dose. When the head of the Red Boyz and his wife are murdered in a way that suggests execution, the Ojibwe gang mobilizes, and the citizens of Tamarack County brace themselves for war, white against red.

Both sides look to Cork O'Connor, a man of mixed heritage, to uncover the truth behind the murders. A former sheriff, Cork has lived, fought, and nearly died to keep the small-town streets and his family safe from harm. He knows that violence is never a virtue, but he believes that it's sometimes a necessary response to the evil that men do. Racing to find answers before the bloodshed spreads, Cork himself becomes involved in the darkest of deeds. As the unspeakable unfolds in the remote and beautiful place he calls home, Cork is forced to confront the horrific truth: Violence is a beast that cannot be contained.

In *Red Knife*, Krueger gives his readers a vivid picture of racial conflict in small-town America, as well as a sensitive look at the secrets we keep from even those closest to us and the destructive nature of all that is left unsaid between fathers and sons, husbands and wives, friends and lovers.

Krueger is an excellent writer whose books we have all too seldom. I give this book a B+. If you like C.J. Box, J.A. Jance or Steve Hamilton you'll like Krueger.

Trivia for June

What classic Gothic novel of 1818 was subtitled, “The Modern Prometheus?”

“Frankenstein” by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

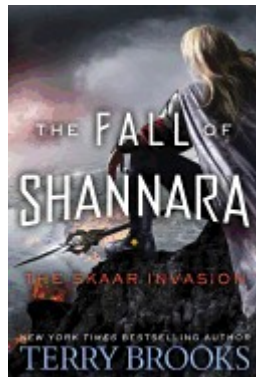
Recent and Upcoming New Releases:

Check out the prices following the title of the book. Those prices are the publisher's prices. **The Book Rack price is normally 20% lower.** When you pick it up at the store there is no shipping cost, though we can also ship it to you. Order now by calling the store or stopping in. We do ask for prepayment on all special orders.

You can also add any of these titles to your request list. Some will come in soon and others may take a while, but most will get to you eventually.

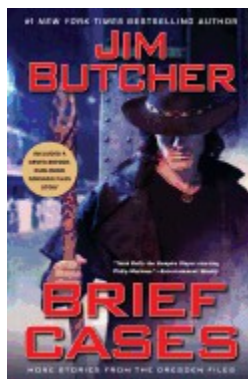
Hardcover and Trade Paperback

Terry Brooks – The Fall of Shannara: The Skaar Invasion – 28.00



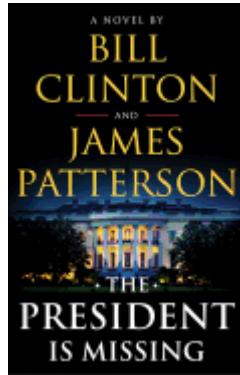
Dale Brown – The Moscow Offensive – 28.99

Jim Butcher – Brief Cases – 28.00



Robin Carr – A Summer in Sonoma – 15.99

Bill Clinton & James Patterson – The President is Missing – 30.00



Elin Hilderbrand – The Perfect Couple – 28.00

Anthony Horowitz – The Word is Murder – 27.99



Conn Iggulden – The Abbot's Tale – 25.95

Stephen King – The Outsider – 30.00



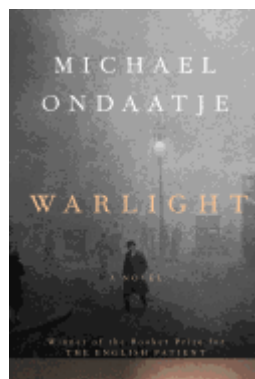
Mercedes Lackey – The Hills Have Spies – 27.00

Mike Maden – Tom Clancy's Line of Sight – 29.00

George R.R. Martin – Low Chicago: A Wild Cards Novel – 27.99

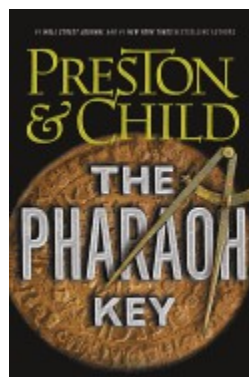


Michael Ondaatje – Warlight – 29.00



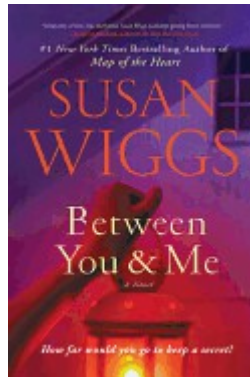
Matthew Pearl – The Dante Chamber – 28.00

Preston & Child – The Pharaoh Key – 28.00



Alexander McCall Smith – The House of Unexpected Sisters – 15.95

Susan Wiggs – Between You and Me – 26.99



Stuart Woods – Turbulence – 28.00

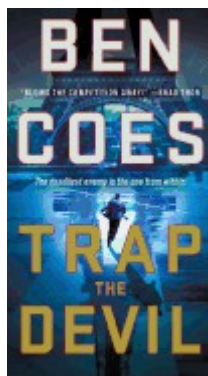
Mass Market Paperback

Tim Bryant – Dead and Buried – 7.99

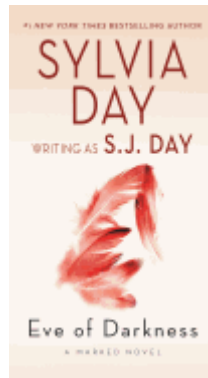


Linda Castillo – Down a Dark Road – 9.99

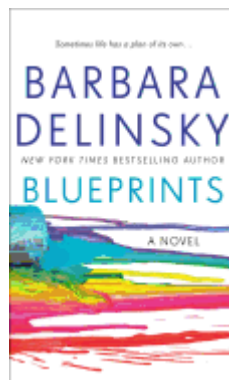
Ben Coes – Trap the Devil – 9.99



Sylvia Day – Eve of Darkness – 9.99

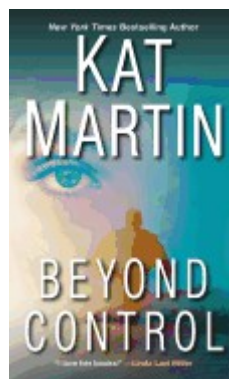


Barbara Delinsky – Blueprints – 8.99

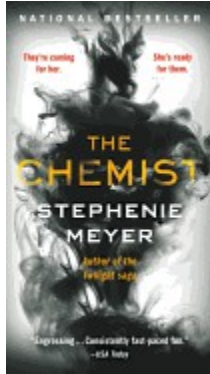


Christine Feehan – Shadow Keeper – 7.99

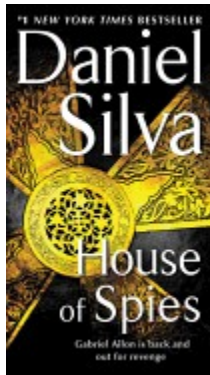
Kat Martin – Beyond Control – 7.99



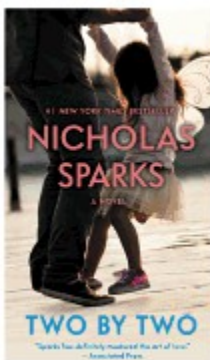
Stephanie Meyer – The Chemist – 9.99



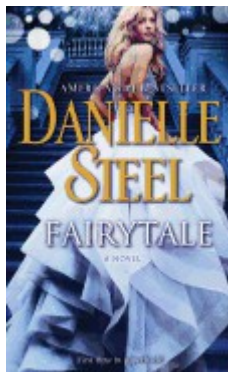
Daniel Silva – House of Spies – 9.99



Nicholas Sparks – Two by Two – 8.99

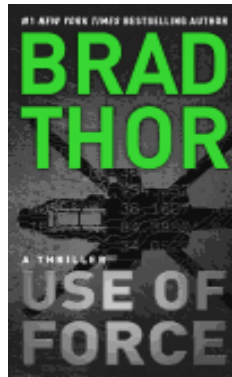


Danielle Steel – Fairytale – 8.99



S.M. Stirling – The Sea People – 9.99

Brad Thor – Use of Force – 9.99



J.R. Ward – Blood Fury – 7.99

