

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 7, #7

July 2014

3937 41st Ave Dr., Moline

309-797-1985

4764 Elmore Ave, Davenport

563-355-2310

Store Hours: 10:00 - 6:00 Monday - Sunday

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

The smallest bookstore still contains more ideas of worth than have been presented in the entire history of television.

~Andrew Ross

A Poetic Line that has passed into common usage:

"To err is human, to forgive divine."

Alexander Pope, An Essay on Confession.

July Holidays and such:

National Anti-boredom Month (Get more books!)

National Cell Phone Courtesy Month(Put it down and no one gets hurt!)

1 – Canada Day

3 – Disobedience Day

4 – Independence Day – **The Book Racks will be CLOSED**

7 – Chocolate Day

12 – Terri Dombek-Smith will be signing at The Moline Book

Rack, 11-1:00 copies of the book she illustrated and her father, John Dombek, wrote, Billie Goat in an Overcoat.

13 – Fool's Paradise Day

19- Kit Evans will be signing copies of her book at The Moline Book Rack 11-3:00

19- Steve McAfee will be signing copies of his book, Eddie, at The Davenport Book Rack 11-3:00

20 – Moon Day – The day astronauts first walked on the moon in 1969

24 – Cousins Day

26- Kit Evans will be signing copies of her book, 101 Testimonies of Hope at The Davenport Book Rack 11-3:00

27 – Parents Day

"HOW TO QUIT AMAZON AND SHOP IN AN ACTUAL BOOKSTORE: And why you damn well should" By Stephen Marchettino.

This article was recently published in Esquire Magazine. I encourage you to read it and pass it on to friends, family, acquaintances and random people with whom you may have contact. This is ~~absolutely not~~ self-serving. [;-)] Paste the following into your navigation bar and embrace the unvarnished truth!! Or, at least the views of the author and independent book store owners everywhere. Enjoy!

<http://www.esquire.com/blogs/culture/how-to-shop-in-a-bookstore>

Featured Authors:

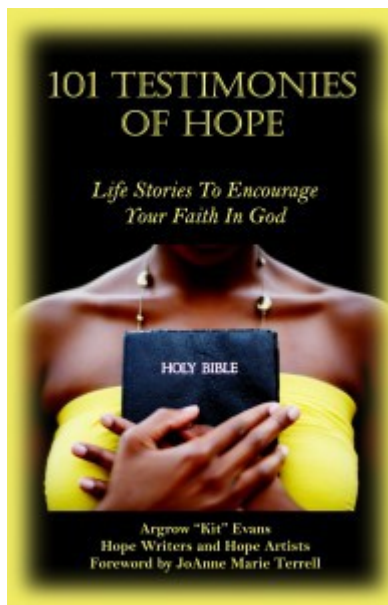
John Dombek (Author) and Terri Dombek-Smith (Illustrator) of Billy Goat in an Overcoat.

Billy Goat in an Overcoat is the most fun a book can be. It's an absolutely delightful, absolutely impossible, completely fanciful,

surprise-filled, dream-like, adventure that rambles through a curious landscape populated by outlandish characters that make perfect sense to children with vivid imaginations. Terri will be at [The Book Rack](#), Moline, 11-1:00, Saturday, July 11



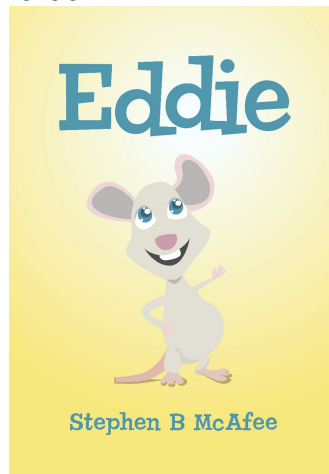
Kit Evans, the author of 101 Testimonies of Hope.



My name is Argrow Kitnequa "Kit" Evans. I have multiple degrees, traveled the world, and have worked with several organizations. However, I realized a long time ago that none of this mattered if I wasn't using this privilege to bless other people. I have heard so many people's testimonies over the years. Testimonies of suffering, healing, restoration, joy, peace, love, and hope. Testimonies of Hope: The Intercultural Christian Devotional Website is a vision come true to bring people together that I have met around the world whom have blessed me. I wanted to create a safe space where people come together across language, culture, and country to share testimonies and the unwavering hope that comes from having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I use my education, teachings on nonviolence and conflict resolution, travels, personal experiences, dance, and spirituality as a life coach, teacher, advocate, and speaker. One interesting thing about me is that I love to dance!

Stop by [The Book Rack](#), Moline, July 19, and/or at Davenport, July 26, 11-3:00, to meet this fascinating lady and ask her to sign one of her books for you.

Steve McAfee will be signing copies of his book, Eddie, at [The Book Rack](#) in Davenport on July 19, 11-3:00.



Eddie is the story of a properly raised mouse, a good mouse, a refined mouse and his adventures sharing a house with humans who hate mice. His mother was very wise and sophisticated. She teaches him that he must be clean and appreciative of the humans but most of all, invisible to them. You may never think of a mouse in the same way after reading this short story!

Free Verse:

“Diary Reveals Kewanee, Illinois Life During the Great Depression”, by Jane Reinhardt-Martin

Delving into someone else’s diary can be very entertaining, especially if it can take you to another world in time. Take for instance, Laura Ingalls Wilder and Ann Frank. Both women helped us understand how families were affected during historical periods. For many of us, they brought history to life. That is what happened to me a few years ago when I read my husband’s Grandmother’s diary.

Grandma Effie Martin wrote it during the great depression while living in Kewanee, Illinois. Effie was 45 years old when she started writing her diary and raising four children (ages 3, 8, 19, and 20). Yet she was optimistic, humorous, and hopeful during very tough times. In two books covering 1933 to 1937, she shares reflections, tales of tourist house guests, prices, recipes and more.

My husband Michael Martin and I published Effie’s story, *Grandma Effie’s Great Depression Diary*. I would like to share one of my favorite entries from her diary which was written on a Sunday night, December 30th, 1934. First- a few side notes, so this entry makes a bit more sense. Ed Martin, Effie’s husband, worked as a riveter at the Kewanee Boiler Shop. During the depression, worked slowed down tremendously. The Kewanee Boiler Shop found him work in the shipping department in 1934. In her diary, Effie noted that Chick (19 yr old son) paid \$2.00-this was for rent to help the family. Chick was a very good auto mechanic. At the end of each month and year, Effie would record in her diary the family

income.

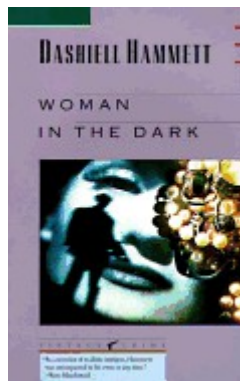
Another year is almost ended and while everyone is looking back over the happenings of the year, I think it would be interesting for me to mention here a few of the outstanding events.

- 1. The arrest of Bruno Hauptmann charged with the kidnapping and murder of Lindbergh baby. His trial will be in January.*
- 2. Birth of the Dionne quintuplets in Canada, all of whom are still living and are now about nine months old.*
- 3. Assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia and Barthow his minister. Also the death of King Albert of Belgium. King Albert of Belgium didn't fasten his safety belt when he went mountain climbing; the King of Yugoslavia didn't wear his bullet proof vest, because it made his dress uniform bulge. Both dead.*
- 4. Shooting of John Dillinger, who had defied the law and broke out of jail by holding up the guards with a little wooden gun which he had whittled out in his cell.*
- 5. Morrow Castle disaster. The big ship which couldn't sink-on its initial trip.*
- 6. Samuel Insull found not guilty after being brought back to America for trial-at a great expense to the government.*
- 7. Chancellor Dollfuss' murder.*
- 8. Dizzy Dean's World Series pitching, also his brother Paul.*
- 9. Hitler's Nazi purge. I don't know much about this, but if anyone can keep those Germans and their affairs straight, they have more intelligence than I.*
- 10. The biggest event in the history of the year, in my estimation is "Ed's job." It is a real job. It is clean, pleasant work, and it is as steady and any shop work can be. We are still just as thrilled and elated over it as we were when they first told him of it. The pay isn't large, but it is sufficient, and in the four months he has been working we have bought a lot of things besides just "eats". Teddy and I are alone this evening. Teddy is down with the measles. Ed and Jimmie have gone to a show. Virginia Best ate dinner with us today. Charles \$2.00. December - \$82.00. Total for 1934 - \$ 748.39.*

Grandma Effie's Great Depression Diary is a great reminder that the truly important things in life cannot be purchased. It's an excellent first-person account of a most difficult period in our history, and few great depression diaries have ever been published. This fantastic book can be purchased at The Book Rack.

Book Reviews:

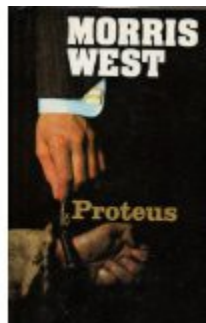
Woman in the Dark by Dashiell Hammett. (1951)



A young, frightened, foreign woman appears at the door of an isolated house. The man and woman inside take her in. Other strangers appear in pursuit of the girl. Menace is in the air.

Originally published in 1933, Hammett's *Woman in the Dark* shows the author at the peak of his narrative powers. Hammett's best known title has to be "The Maltese Falcon". *Woman in the Dark* is a short book, readable in a single sitting by nearly anyone. It's not readily available, having last been published in 1989. However, we do take in his other titles and you should not overlook Hammett when looking for a "new" author. Expand your consideration of good authors to the decades before the 1990s and you will be richly rewarded. I give "Woman..." a "B" and encourage you to watch for a copy of one of Hammett's books, like "The Maltese Falcon". Remember, the book is always (almost) better than the movie!

Proteus, by Morris West (1979)

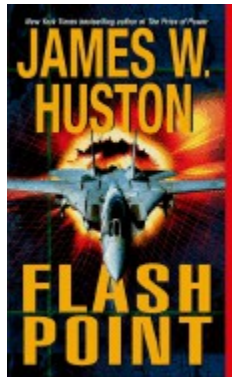


John Spada is a powerful, successful, and honorable businessman and family man, just the type of man most decent men aspire to be. Spada heads an international conglomerate, and is secretly the head of the ultra-secret Proteus organization which works behind the scenes on "just causes" worldwide. The book asks how we, ordinary men and women, should respond to the violence which is now commonplace in our daily lives. We are threatened by revolutionaries, terrorists, tyrants and even by men and women of goodwill who are prepared to use the most extreme methods to maintain order in the streets. *Proteus* is the story of one man's answer – an answer which begins as an attempt to "build bridges of benevolence" and yet ends with the threat to the whole civilized world. In ancient mythology Proteus was the shepherd of all the sea creatures. He was also the symbol of primal matter, the source of all good and evil in the world. In this timely and timeless novel, there is the same protean mystery of love,

compassion, violence, anguish, hope and human dignity. Read it and decide for yourself what you would do in the face of unbearable cruelty to your loved ones.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and give it an A-. It lacks some of the complexity I “demand” for anything higher, but it is a strong recommendation for Morris West’s books and “Proteus” in particular.

Flash Point by James W. Huston (2000)



With the same daredevil flying action found in Top Gun and the riveting nonstop storytelling that has established James W. Huston's reputation, here is an explosive novel that takes us from the cockpits of carrier-based naval fighters to the inside of the CIA and the Mossad, as one man's determination to avenge a wrongful death has the potential to ignite an international war of deceit, murder, and retaliation.

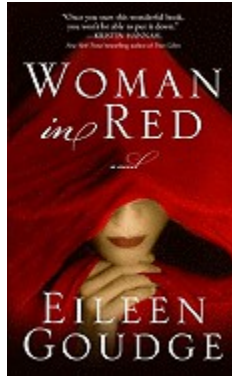
Sean Woods and Tony Vialli are F-14 pilots stationed aboard the USS George Washington in the Mediterranean. During a port call in Naples, Vialli falls for a beautiful woman he meets on a train who tells him she's Italian. She finally reveals she isn't Italian at all, and lures him out of the country to visit her. Vialli submits false leave papers, swears Woods to secrecy, and flies off to see her. His lover's trip becomes a nightmare when Vialli and the woman are brutally attacked in what appears to be a terrorist action. Enraged over his friend's vicious assault and furious at the lack of American response, Woods thinks the United States should retaliate against the man claiming responsibility, who says he is part of a secret society of Assassins founded in the eleventh century. Woods wants his country to declare war against this man personally, but his congressman pays no attention. A group of Israeli Air Force pilots offer Woods the chance to exact his own revenge by flying a section of F-14s with the Israelis, without the U.S. Navy's knowledge. Woods's flight turns into one of the biggest air battles since World War II. He must fight for his life, then fight to keep what he has done secret from the Navy and the rest of the world—all because of a woman whose identity and motives continue to elude him.

James W. Huston has crafted a spellbinding tale worthy of the best of Robert Ludlum and Tom Clancy. His crisp, energetic writing keeps the reader enthralled throughout this multilayered story of military action, personal courage, international intrigue, and true-life events. (Publisher's marketing)

This is a very good military suspense thriller. Plausible story line? Not really, but an

imaginative and enjoyable read. The descriptions of the dog fights, carrier landings and other pilot perspectives were thrilling. I give it a B+ and a solid recommendation.

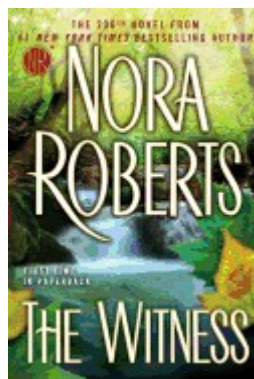
Woman In Red by Eileen Goudge. (2007)



Alice Kessler spent nine years in prison for the attempted murder of the drunk driver who killed her son. Now she's returned home to Gray's Island to reconnect with the son she left behind. Her boy, Jeremy, now a sullen teenager, is wrongly accused of rape, and mother and son are thrown together in a desperate attempt to prove his innocence. She's aided by Colin McGinty, a recovering alcoholic and 9/11 widower, also recently returned to the island in the aftermath of his grandfather's death. Colin's grandfather, a famous artist, is best known for his haunting portrait, "Woman in Red," which happens to be of Alice's grandmother. In a tale that weaves the past with the present, we come to know the story behind the portrait, of the forbidden wartime romance between William McGinty and Eleanor Styles, and the deadly secret that bound them more tightly than even their love for each other. A secret that, more than half a century later, is about to be unburied, as Alice and Colin are drawn into a fragile romance of their own and the ghost of an enemy from long ago surfaces in the form of his grandson, the very man responsible for sending Alice to prison.

This is my first Eileen Goudge book, but not my last. Woman in Red kept me fully engaged and anxious to return to it anytime I had to pause as I read it. It's a mystery romance that works very well. I recommend it and give it a solid B.

The Witness by Nora Roberts (2012)



Daughter of a cold, controlling mother and an anonymous donor, studious, obedient Elizabeth Fitch finally let loose one night, drinking too much at a nightclub and

allowing a strange man's seductive Russian accent to lure her to a house on Lake Shore Drive.

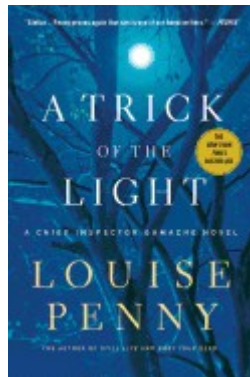
Twelve years later, the woman now known as Abigail Lowery lives alone on the outskirts of a small town in the Ozarks. A freelance security systems programmer, her own protection is supplemented by a fierce dog and an assortment of firearms. She keeps to herself, saying little, revealing nothing. Unfortunately, that seems to be the quickest way to get attention in a tiny southern town.

The mystery of Abigail Lowery and her sharp mind, secretive nature, and unromantic viewpoints intrigues local police chief Brooks Gleason, on both a personal and professional level. And while he suspects that Abigail needs protection from something, Gleason is accustomed to two-bit troublemakers, not the powerful and dangerous men who are about to have him in their sights.

And Abigail Lowery, who has built a life based on security and self-control, is at risk of losing both.

Do you read Nora Roberts? You should. This is a great choice as a start. It's a gripping suspense. It does have romance, but it fits exactly into the plot and is not at all overplayed or graphic. Without the contribution of the romance, the book would be incomplete. I give this book an A- and highly recommend it to you, especially if you have thought you'd NEVER read Nora. She's a remarkably diverse author. Read the cover, then pick a title that sounds good, like this one. Don't avoid one of the best authors on the planet.

A Trick of the Light by Louise Penny (2011)



Lillian Dyson carefully underlined in a book. "Sweet relationships are dead." But now Lillian herself is dead. Found among the bleeding hearts and lilacs of Clara Morrow's garden in Three Pines, shattering the celebrations of Clara's solo show at the famed Musee in Montreal. Chief Inspector Gamache, the head of homicide at the Surete du Quebec, is called to the tiny Quebec village and there he finds the art world gathered, and with it a world of shading and nuance, a world of shadow and light. Where nothing is as it seems. Behind every smile there lurks a sneer. Inside every sweet relationship there hides a broken heart. And even when facts are slowly exposed, it is no longer clear to Gamache and his team if what they've found is the truth, or simply a trick of the light.

Louise Penny has quickly risen to my favorite authors list and A Trick of the Light does nothing but solidify her position. Chief Inspector Gamache is a wonderful protagonist.

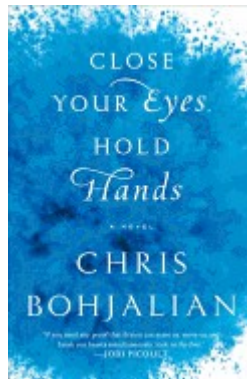
The police work is very well presented and credible. This is a terrific book and I give it an A. If you like Julia Spencer-Fleming, Michael Connelly, Charles Todd or Jacqueline Winspear, you will not want to overlook Louise Penny.

Upcoming New Releases:

Check out the prices following the title of the book. The first price is the publisher's price. The second price is the **Book Rack** price, when picked up at one of the stores. There is no shipping charge when you pick up your order. Order now by calling one of the stores or stopping in. We do ask for prepayment on all special orders.

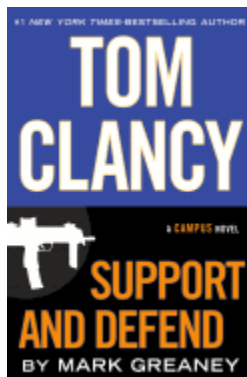
Hard cover and Trade Paperback:

Chris Bohjalian – Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands – 25.95/20.80



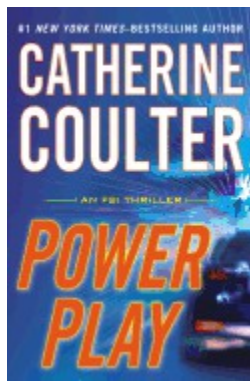
Rita Mae Brown – Nine Lives to Die – 26.00/20.80

Tom Clancy – Support and Defend – 28.95/23.20



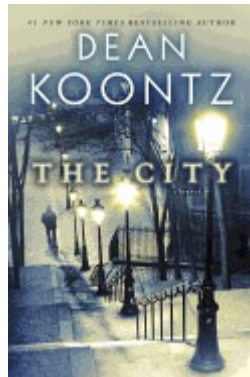
JM Coetzee – The Childhood of Jesus – 16.00/12.80

Catherine Coulter – Power Play – 26.95/21.60



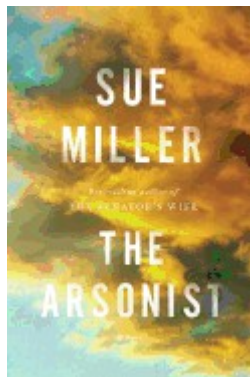
Deborah Harkness – The Book of Life – 28.96/23.20

Dean Koontz – The City – 28.00/22.40



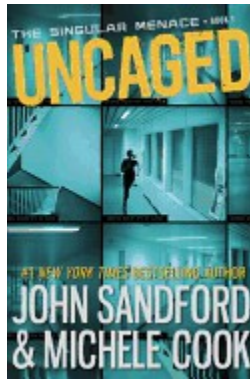
Jhumpa Lahiri – The Lowland – 15.95/12.80

Sue Miller – The Arsonist – 25.95/20.80



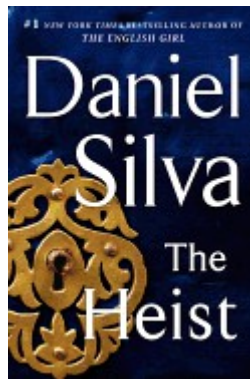
Jo Nesbo – Police – 14.95/12.00

John Sanford – The Singular Menace, Book 1(Childrens) – 18.99/15.20

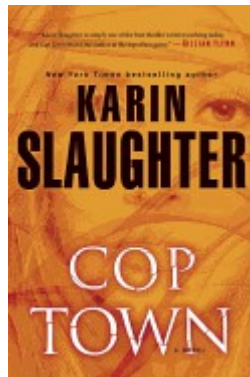


Anne Rivers Siddons – The Girls of August – 27.00/21.60

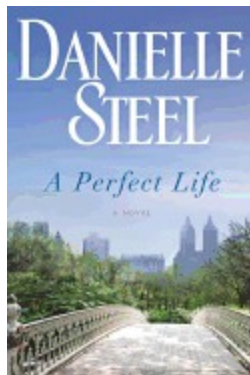
Daniel Silva – The Heist – 27.99/22.40



Karen Slaughter – Cop Town – 27.00/21.60



Danielle Steel – A Perfect Life – 28.00/22.40



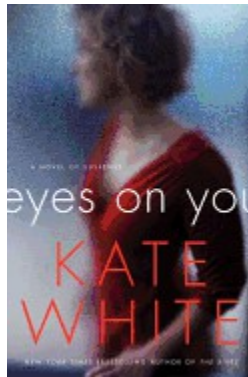
Amy Tan – The Valley of Amazement – 16.99/13.60

Brad Thor – Act of War – 27.99/22.40



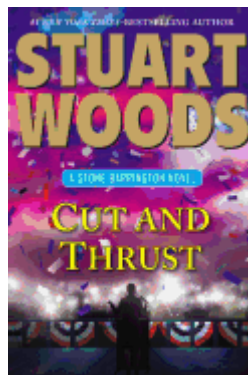
Andrew Vachss – Shockwave – 26.95/21.60

Kate White – Eyes on You – 25.99/20.80



Jacqueline Winspear – The Care and Management of Lies – 26.99/21.60

Stuart Woods – Cut and Thrust – 26.95/21.60



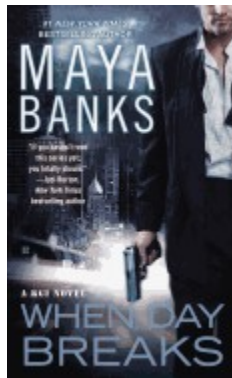
Paperback:

Keri Arthur – Fireborn – 7.99/6.40



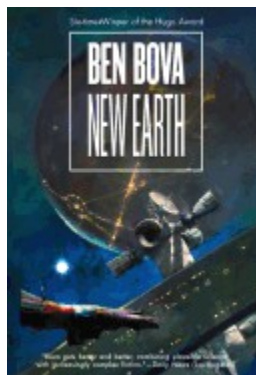
Mary Balough – The Escape – 7.99/6.40

Maya Banks – When Day Breaks – 7.99/6.40



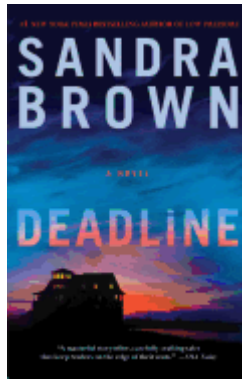
MC Beaton – Something Borrowed, Something Dead – 7.99/6.40

Ben Bova – New Earth – 7.99/6.40



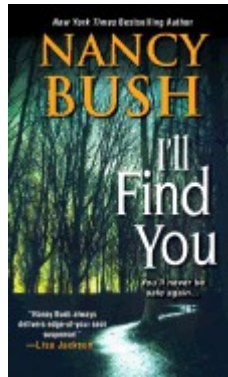
CJ Box – The Highway – 7.99/6.40

Sandra Brown – Deadline – 8.00/6.40

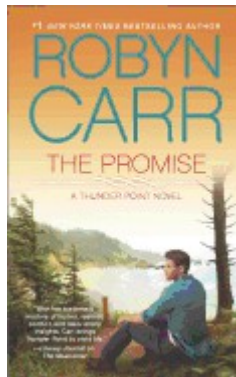


James Lee Burke – Light of the World – 9.99/8.00

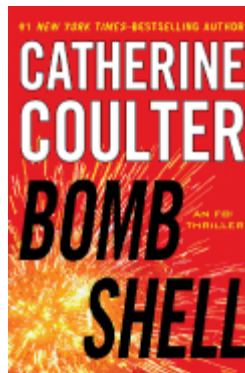
Nancy Bush – I'll Find You – 7.99/6.40



Robyn Carr – The Promise – 7.99/6.40



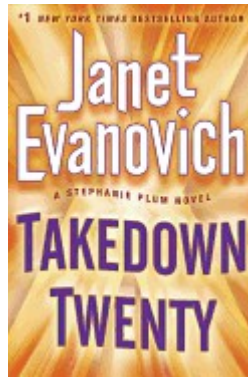
Catherine Coulter – Bombshell – 9.99/8.00



Sylvia Day – The Stranger I Married – 7.99/6.40



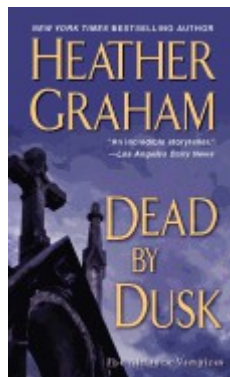
Janet Evanovich – Takedown Twenty – 8.99/7.20



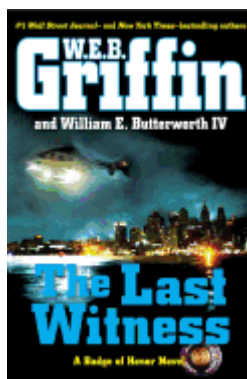
Terry Goodkind – The Third Kingdom – 9.99/8.00



Heather Graham – Dead by Dusk – 7.99/6.40

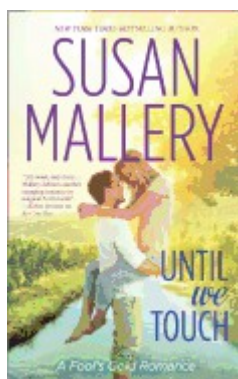


WEB Griffin – The Last Witness, A Badge of Honor Novel – 9.99/8.00

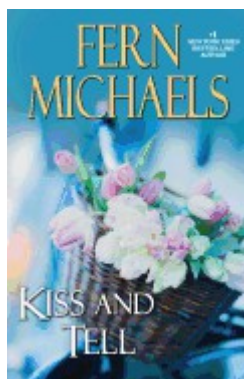


Greg Hurwitz – Tell No Lies – 9.99/8.00

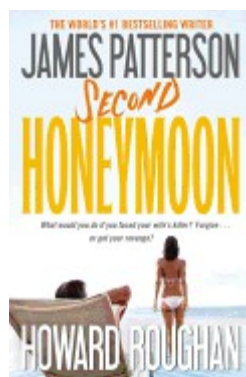
Susan Mallery – Until We Touch – 8.99/7.20



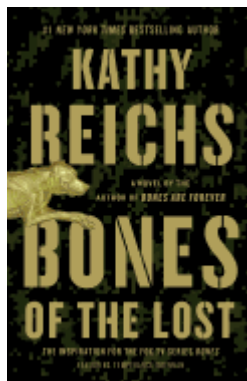
Fern Michaels – Kiss and Tell – 7.99/6.40



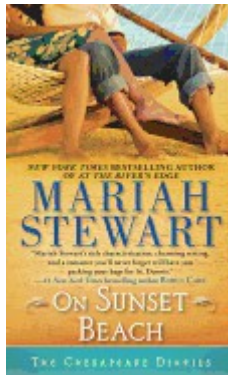
James Patterson – Second Honeymoon – 10.00/8.00



Kathy Reichs – Bones of the Lost – 7.99/6.40



Mariah Stewart – On Sunset Beach – 7.99/6.40



Eric Van Lustbader – Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Retribution – 10.00/8.00

Tad Williams – Happy Hour in Hell – 7.99/6.40

