

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 12, #7
July 2019
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 July

In what best-selling book did an author offer acknowledgment to a friend who later killed him?

For the answer read on and you're bound to stumble over it!

Our July

\$25 Gift Certificate Winners!

We try to give away four (4) \$25.00 Gift Certificates to The Book Rack account holders each month.

The names are selected from all our registered customers who have registered and/or had a trade or purchase since 1 July 2017.

All a winner has to do is read the newsletter and find your name listed below, 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 July 2019 winner #1 is:

Nichole Storm

See the other 3 winning names elsewhere in the newsletter, below. Find your name and just call or stop at the store on or before July 31 to claim your prize:

A \$25 gift certificate from [The Book Rack!](#)

Notably Generous Advances Paid to Authors

Frederick Forsyth received 3 million British pounds for *The Fourth Protocol*. He was also given 250,000 pounds for *The Devil's Alternative* purely based on the strength of the synopsis.

E.L. Doctorow was given an advance of \$1.3 million for his masterpiece *Ragtime* in 1976.

Colleen McCullough received \$1.9 million for just the paperback rights to *The Thornbirds* in 1978.

July Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

Month:

- National Anti-Boredom Month
- National Cell Phone Courtesy Month
- National Ice Cream Month

Day:

July 1 – Our 11th Anniversary – This day we begin our 12th year as the proud owners of [The Book Rack!](#) Thank you for keeping us open!

4 – Independence Day – The Book Rack will be CLOSED. Celebrate safely!

7 – [Chocolate Day](#)

11 – Cheer Up the Lonely Day

13 – **Susan Sharp will be at The Book Rack signing copies of her books.**

14 – Bastille Day

15 – Global Hug Your Kids Day (Do this every day you can!)

27 – National Day of the Cowboy – A good day to read a Western!

28 – Parent's Day

30 – International Day of Friendship

Upgraded Science Fiction Section

We've always tried to provide as much variety to our customers as we can fit into available space. This meant offering a wide range of authors, old and new publications and cover prices from \$.25 to \$9.99 and above. We are now in the process of switching out most of the oldest books to make room for the newer titles and authors we've not been able to fit in. You'll see many new authors and newer titles and books generally in better condition. We'll still accept your requests for older titles and authors and hopefully find them for you. We'll eventually expand this approach to other genre as we have time, refreshing our inventory as we go. We hope you will find the change to your liking.

Featured Author

Susan Sharp



Susan will be at The Book Rack 11-1:00 on July 13 to meet and greet new fans and old.

Susan has a bachelor's and masters degree and both are in Communication & Theatre Arts and also hold an Executive Certificate in Negotiations from Notre Dame. She's written five plays and four of them don't stink! She's also written

short stories, articles, numerous academic papers.

When not directing the theatre program at Carl Sandburg College, Susan speaks about her creative life, passion for helping others find their big ideas and her joy in speaking, writing and training. And when there's any time remaining, she works in her studio creating beautiful things for sale in her Etsy shops pinoodles.etsy.com and asharpcontrast.etsy.com. Susan shares the rest of her house with Molly, her 13 year-old four-legged child.

Susan's most recent book is: **Mid-Life Wisdom**

Are you at or approaching mid-life and starting to feel restless? Or perhaps you're asking, "Is this all there is?" *Mid-Life Wisdom* is a journal that encourages you to look back to see just how far you've come, and to celebrate the wisdom you've acquired along the way. With essays from the author, this book is a dose of encouragement, a nudge toward reflection, and a promotion of forgiveness--of self and others--as you move ahead to the best time of your life.

Susan Sharp grew up in Eastern Iowa on the banks of the Mississippi River. That rural life irrevocably shaped her heart to love open spaces, quiet and serenity. So for all the quiet she craves externally, there's an internal buzz happening 24/7. She is hyper-creative and does a myriad of things. She's a speaker, author, playwright, artist, musician, podcast host, blogger, a Color Code Certified Independent Trainer and creativity expert. Susan is an idea person and she often can't get them in her handy-dandy notebook fast enough.



Susan has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Communication & Theatre Arts and she also holds an Executive Certificate in Negotiations. But Susan really considers herself a student of life and is actively learning something new

every day! That rural upbringing made her infinitely curious and eager to explore.

Susan's art has really flourished in the last few years and it seems she has always been writing. She's written 5 plays--two with regional critical acclaim, short stories, articles, numerous academic papers, and a chapter in 13th edition of *The Change* --a book about self-empowerment. She's currently finalizing a children's book, working on a book exploring how ideas are combined, and numerous other writing and creative projects.

Susan also speaks and writes about team-building, communication skills, creativity, her creative life, her faith and passion for helping others to find their big ideas.

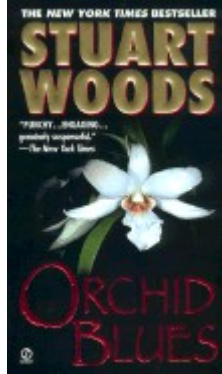
Stop in to [The Book Rack](#), July 13, 11-1:00 and meet and visit with Susan as she signs copies of her book. Or stop in any day 10-6:00 and pick up a copy from our Local Author section.

Books and/or Authors we need:

C.J. Box
Clive Cussler
Khristin Hannah
Stephen King (always)
Anne McCaffrey
Louise Penny (always)
Harry Potter
Rick Riordan
Stuart Woods
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens
Witcher Series by Andrzej Sapkowski
Minecraft (Anything related)
Outlander
Game of Thrones
Goosebumps
Choose your Own Adventures by R.A. Montgomery

Book Reviews

Orchid Blues by Stuart Woods (2002)



Chief of Police Holly Barker-the heroine introduced in the *New York Times* bestselling *Orchid Beach*-returns with her trusty Doberman, Daisy, to track an unusual band of thieves in this second thriller in Stuart Woods's newest and most captivating series.

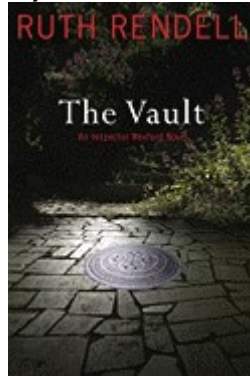
"Holly Barker-tough and tight-lipped-is fun to watch as she maneuvers among city politicians and wary colleagues, one of whom may be a murderer."
(*Entertainment Weekly* review of *Orchid Beach*)

Holly is on her way to be married to Jackson Oxenhandler, her steady beau, when her wedding day is shattered by a serious crime that takes place very close to home. A highly disciplined team of men hit a bank in Orchid Beach, Florida, and the waves from this robbery nearly capsize Holly's life. She vows to find these men-who have been careful enough to leave nothing behind except the corpse of a bank customer-and quickly, she discovers evidence that leads her into the midst of what appears to be a politically motivated clan. Her father, Ham, a retired army chief master sergeant, is her ticket into this strange world, and what Ham finds there stuns both Holly and her FBI contact, Harry Crisp.

Holly and Ham find themselves sucked into a whirlpool of crazed criminality and, in the end, the FBI can do little to help them. This time, Holly, Ham, and Daisy are on their own, and they wouldn't have it any other way.

I think this is my first Holly Barker novel. She's a great protagonist and Police Chief. *Orchid Blues* is just what it should be: suspenseful, gripping and entertaining. I give it a B+. If you've read Woods Stone Barrington series, but not Holly Barker, give her a shot. You'll like what you find. And in this one, stone makes a cameo!!

The Vault by Ruth Rendell (2011)



Wessex is retired -- or would be, if murder and danger would only leave him alone. The impossible has happened. He and his wife now divide their time between Kingsmarkham and a coach house in Hampstead belonging to their actress daughter, Sheila. For all the benefits of a more relaxed way of life, Wexford misses being the law. But a chance meeting in a London street, with someone he had known briefly as a very young police constable, changes everything. Tom Ede is now a Detective Superintendent, and is very keen to recruit Wexford as an adviser on a difficult case.

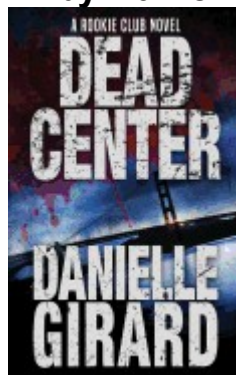
The bodies of two women and a man have been discovered in the old coal hole of an attractive house in St John's Wood. None carries identification. But the man's jacket pockets contain a string of pearls, a diamond and a sapphire necklace as well as other jewelry valued in the region of £40,000. Wexford is intrigued and excited by the challenge -- until this new investigative role brings him into serious physical danger.

A well crafted English mystery featuring Inspector Wessex. Rendell has been a favorite of many mystery fans for many years and The Vault only enhances that standing. I give it a B. She's definitely worth reading.

The July 2019 winner #2 is:

Betty Marxen

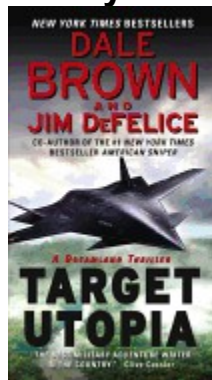
Dead Center, The Rookie Club #1 by Danielle Girard (2006)



Founded fifteen years ago in a San Francisco bar, the Rookie Club began as a tight-knit band of female cops struggling for respect from their male peers. Jamie Vail was one of them. So was Natasha Devlin, the woman Jamie caught in bed with her husband, When Natasha is murdered, Jamie wants nothing to do with the investigation. A seasoned inspector in the sex crimes department, she's facing her own terrifying case – female officers brutalized by a stranger who leaves no clues to his identity. Members of the rookie club are under attack, and a sick game is turning into a deadly vendetta. But because a primary suspect holds the key to Devlin's murder, Jamie must confront her past and hunt a killer who could be one of their own. Trapped between two violent cases, Jamie is close to becoming the killer's ultimate prize.

Yet another very good author I'd never read. Well plotted and written with a strong lead character in Jamie Vail, I give it a B. Girard may be hard to find. She's not a well known author, but worth the hunt and wait.

Target Utopia, A Dreamland Thriller by Dale Brown and Jim DeFelice (2015)

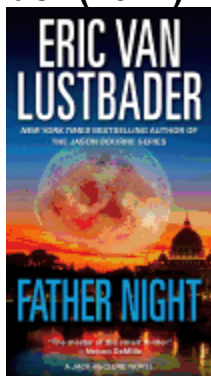


When Muslim extremists are found with a mysterious UAV in the Malaysian part of Borneo, Colonel Danny Freah and his Whiplash team are sent to investigate. They discover that Dreamland's drone technology has been stolen. Who has betrayed them? China is rumored to be involved, as is Russia. But finding out who's really bankrolling the guerrillas means finding someone who knows combat UAVs inside and out. Someone with nothing to lose. Someone like Air Force ace Turk Mako.

Yet as Mako and Freah learn, the conspiracy is deeper and darker than either imagined. With the situation worsening, the Whiplash team finds itself in a desperate race to recover their aircraft and capture the perpetrators--without setting off World War III.

Dale Brown is one of the best writers of military thrillers and Target Utopia is up to his standards. I give it a B+. The aerial combat is very exciting and the technology credible. If you like Steven Coonts, Patrick Robinson or Harold Coyle you'll like Dale Brown.

Father Night by Eric Van Lustbader (2012)



A tidal wave of reform is sweeping across the Middle East. Many lurk in the shadows, eager to seize power--giants of a vast criminal underworld, fueled by revenge and vengeance. Their wars know no end. Their power knows no bounds.

At the center of it all are two men who are inches away from holding the world in their hands: one is known as Dyadya Gourdjev and the other is known only as the Syrian.

Department of Defense special agent Jack McClure has followed this trail of shadows and lies right into the arms of Gourdjev's alluring, powerful granddaughter, Annika Dementiev. The lovers are in Moscow when news of Dyadya's failing health draws a slew of vultures--circling, anxious to seize the empire of secrets he spent a lifetime building. Jack and Annika find themselves locked in battle to ensure his safety but when it comes to Dyadya, nothing is as it seems.

Alli Carson, the child of a dead US president, has become Jack's surrogate daughter. While Jack is in Russia, Alli is targeted by a cyber-stalker who knows more about her than anyone should. With no one to trust but her friend, Vera Bard, Alli is determined to discover the truth, but her path forces her to come face-to-face with the nightmarish terror of her past.

As these two stories play out, Secretary of Defense Dennis Paull, with the help of detectives Nona Hendryx and Alan Frain, follows a trail of lies, corruption, and secret pacts that begins with Washington D.C.'s Head of Detectives.

All paths collide at the feet of one man, an old legend adapting to an ever-changing landscape a man history might have forsaken, but whose heinous evil is still very much alive: Father Night."

I was a bit disappointed in this book. I expected one on par with his Bourne

books, but this one was a step or two below. It had complexity, but it seemed more for the sake of having it than as an integral part of the story. I give it a B-. I still enjoyed it, but not as much as I hoped.

The July 2019 winner #3 is:

Darcy Stromek

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.

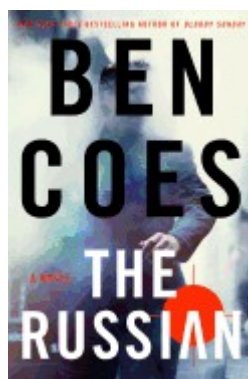
Hardcover and Trade Paperback

David Baldacci – One Good Deed – 29.00



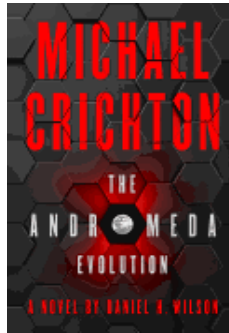
Ben Bova – Earth – 29.99

Ben Coes – The Russian – 27.99



Catherine Coulter – Labyrinth – 27.99

Michael Crichton – The Andromeda Evolution – 29.99



**Heather Graham – The
– 27.99**

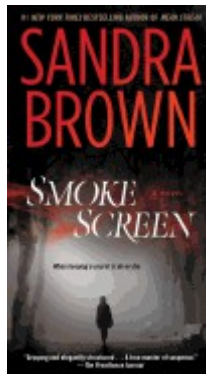
Seekers, Krewe of Hunters

Joanne M Harris – The Blue Salt Road – 22.99



Lisa Jackson – Paranoid – 27.00

Iris Johansen – Smoke Screen – 30.00

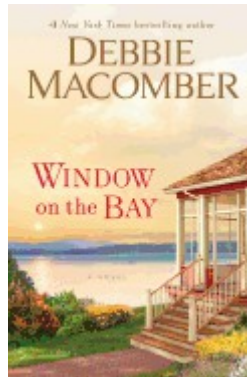


William Kent Krueger – This Tender Land – 26.00

**Eric Van Lustbader – The Sum of All Shadows, A Testament
Novel – 28.99**

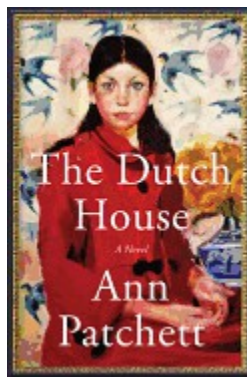
Johanna Lindsey – Temptation's Darling – 27.00

Debbie Macomber – Window of the Bay – 27.00

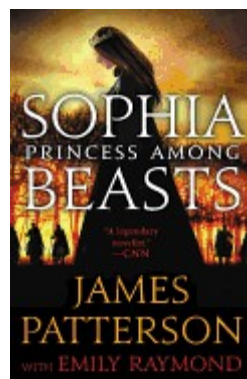


Jo Nesbo – Knife – 27.95

Ann Patchett – The Dutch House – 27.99

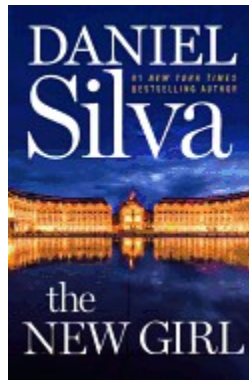


James Patterson – Sophia, Princess Among Beasts – 26.00



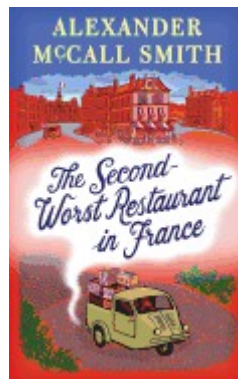
Nora Roberts – Under Currents – 28.99

Daniel Silva – The New Girl – 28.99



Karen Slaughter – The Last Widow – 27.99

Alexander McCall Smith – The Second-Worst Restaurant in France – 25.95



Neal Stephenson – Fall – 35.00

Trivia for July

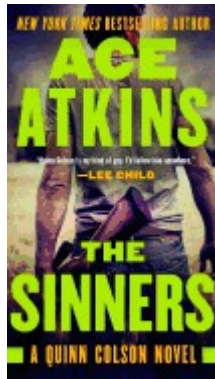
In what best-selling book did an author offer acknowledgment to a friend who later killed him?

Answer:

“The Complete Scarsdale Medical Diet,” in which Dr. Herman Tarnower thanked his friend Jean Harris.

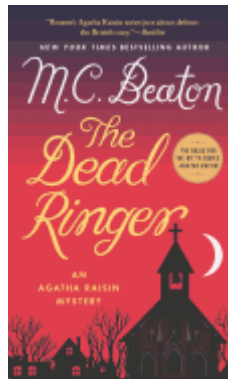
Mass Market Paperback Recent and New Releases

Ace Atkins – The Sinners – 9.99



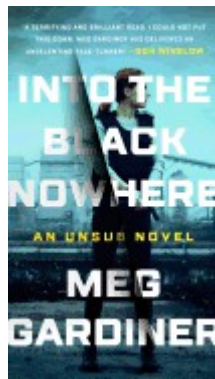
Mary Balough – Someone to Honor – 7.99

MC Beaton – The Dead Ringer, An Agatha Raisin Mystery – 7.99



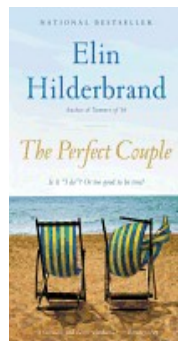
Nancy Bush – Bad Things – 7.99

Meg Gardiner – Into the Black Nowhere – 9.99



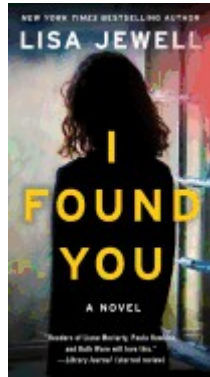
John Gilstrap – Total Mayhem – 9.99

Elin Hilderbrand – The Perfect Couple – 9.99



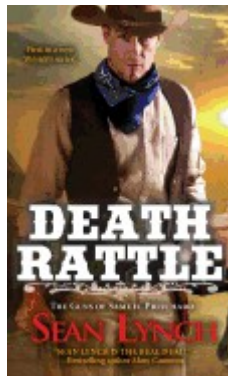
Tanya Huff – The Privilege of Peace – 7.99

Lisa Jewell – I Found You – 9.99



Laura Lippman – Sunburn – 9.99

Sean Lynch – Death Rattle, The Guns of Samuel Pritchard – 7.99



Debbie Macomber – Cottage by the Sea – 7.99

Louise Penny – Kingdom of the Blind – 9.99



The July 2019 winner #4 is:

Paula Jaeger