

# The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 13, #7  
July 2020  
563-355-2310

*Normal Store Hours: 10:00 - 6:00 Daily (except New Year's Day, Easter Sunday,  
July 4, Thanksgiving and Christmas)*  
<http://www.thebookrackqc.com/>

[BookRackQC@Gmail.com](mailto:BookRackQC@Gmail.com)

## The Book Rack

is

**OPEN!**

Since reopening June 1, we have been thrilled to welcome you back inside **The Book Rack**. And there have been a LOT of you!

Our shelves have been nicely restocked. Our new staff members have become familiar to many of you and you to them. We've all adapted to wearing masks in the store, which will remain a requirement until otherwise announced. And, it's becoming more "normal."

Thank you! Thank you!! Thank you!!!

As long as they are required, we will continue to offer single use face masks for \$1.00 should you forget yours.

# **Beginning July 1, The Book Rack BATHROOM will reopen to customers.**

**We'll work to keep it clean, but ask that you help us, yourself and those who follow you.**

- 1. Leave the door open and the lights on when you exit the bathroom. The fan will help keep the air fresher and dry water droplets in the air and on the surfaces and leaving the door open will help air circulation, as well.**
- 2. When entering assume the surfaces have not been properly sanitized since the last user. There are sanitary wipes, cleaner and paper towels for you to sanitize to your personal standards the surfaces you contact.**
- 3. Wash your hands before leaving. You can also use the hand sanitizer we have always provided.**
- 4. Use the paper towel you used to dry your hands to open the door. Deposit the towel in the trash in the bathroom. The door does not automatically close. Leave the door open and the light on.**

**CDC Guidance:** There is still a lot that is unknown about COVID-19 and how it spreads. Coronaviruses are thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets. Although the virus can survive for a short period on some surfaces, it is unlikely to be spread from domestic or international mail, products or packaging. However, it may be possible that people can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

Handwashing is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family from getting sick. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

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# NEW Features from **Your Book Rack!**

## **The Book Rack Storytime**

Be sure to look out for **virtual story time** and **book recommendation videos** from us on Facebook, Instagram (@qcbookrack), and YouTube (The Book Rack QC)! At the end of June, we began three different video segments entitled "**Virtual Story Time for Children**," "**Campfire Ghost Stories**," and "**Shelfies: Books We Recommend**."

Our "**Virtual Story Time for Children**" on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays features both short picture books and entire classics revisited one chapter at a time. We've begun with Lewis Carroll's beloved Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. The videos are not live and will be available on the aforementioned social media platforms for those who need to catch up.

"**Campfire Ghost Stories**" ensures that adults are not left behind in the post-COVID world of virtual story times. If you're missing those camping trips with s'mores, beer, and the exchanging of spooky tales late at night, this one's for you. We'll be reading classic ghost stories by candlelight-- some very familiar and some mostly unknown. Gather round to explore the Victorian storyworld of spirits, seances, and graveyards. This segment will be posted on Wednesdays and Fridays through August.

If you're not a child, a person who loves classic children's stories, or a fan of the horror genre, don't worry! In our "**Shelfies**" segment on Mondays, our staff will be recommending books from many genres, fiction and nonfiction. We'll let you know if the store has the title in stock, and if not, how much it would be to order it with our 20% discount on new books. Of course, you can also add it to your "Request List."

Please share with others you know who might be interested and send us your feedback or share it when you are in the store.

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## Why Shop **The Book Rack**, The Quad Cities Favorite Locally Owned Bookstore according to **Locals Love Us?**

When you shop at an independently owned business (**The Book Rack**), your entire community benefits:

### **The Economy**

- Spend \$50 at a local-owned business and \$26 of that stays in your community.

- Spend \$50 at a national chain and keep \$6.50 in the local community.
- Spend \$50 online with a remote vendor with no sales tax collected and keep not one penny in your local community.
- More of your taxes are reinvested in your community--where they belong.

### **The Environment**

- Buying local means less packaging, less transportation, and a smaller carbon footprint.
- Shopping in a local business district means less infrastructure, less maintenance, and more money to beautify your community.

### **The Community**

- Local retailers and their staffs are your friends and neighbors—support them and they’ll support you.
- Local businesses donate to charities at more than twice the rate of national chains.
- More independents mean more choice, more diversity, and a truly unique community.

## **Trivia for July**

**What book knocked Henry Kissinger’s book *White House Years* out of first place on the best-seller list in November 1979?**

Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.

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## **Our July 2020**

### **\$25 Gift Certificate Winners!**

**We try to give away ~~four (4)~~ three (3) \$25.00 Gift Certificates to The Book**

**Rack account holders each month. (It's harder than you think!) Only 3 winners this month. It will be 5 next month. My Bad!**

**The names are selected from all our registered customers who have registered and/or had a trade or purchase since July 1, 2018.**

**All a winner must 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 2020 winner #1 is:**

**Catherine Litwinow**

**See the other 2 winning names elsewhere in the newsletter, below. Find your name and just call or stop at the store on or before August 1, 2020 to claim your prize:**

**A \$25 gift certificate from The Book Rack!**

## **July 2020 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:**

July

Month:

Dog Days of Summer - July 3 - August 11

National Blueberry Month

National Anti-Boredom Month

Day:

1 – National Postal Worker Day – Through the shutdown period you still received your books, puzzles and mail. Thank your postal workers!

4 – Independence Day – The Book Rack will be closed!

5 – Work-a-holics Day though it's a Sunday

7 – Chocolate Day - More please!

10 – Teddy Bear Picnic Day – We surely have a book about this

11 – Cheer Up the Lonely Day – Give them a good book

14 – Pandemonium Day - a day of sheer bedlam, and utter chaos.

22 – Hammock Day

26 – Parent's Day

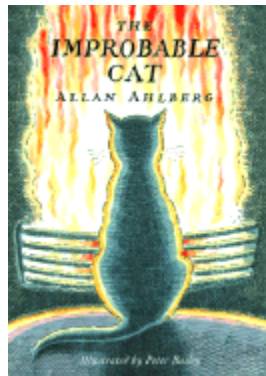
30 – International Friendship Day

# Book Reviews

## Book Reviews by Claudia

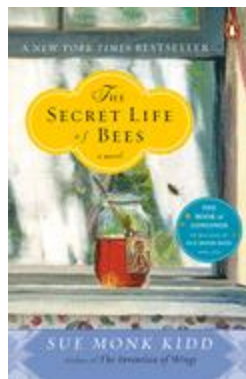
I belong to the Two Rivers Readers Book Club whose members have ranged from a second grader who led a discussion of Shel Silverstein's *Giving Tree*, to an 80+ leading a discussion of Daniel James Brown's, *The Boys in the Boat*. Our eclectic choice of books has included Mary Doria Russell's *The Sparrow*, Theodora Kroeber's *Ishi in Two Worlds*, Alan Bennett's *The Uncommon Reader*, David Grann's *Killers of the Flower Moon*, Madeleine Albright's *Fascism: A Warning*, and John Irving's *A Prayer for Owen Meany*. My book reviews will note if it is a Two Rivers Readers choice.

***The Improbable Cat*** by Allan Ahlberg is a little hardcopy volume recommended for ages 10 and up.



The summary contained on the reverse title page states, “A strange creature, which initially looks like a cat, appears in the yard of Davy’s house one day and proceeds to destroy his family’s life by “hypnotizing” everyone but Davy and his little brother.” The book is described as “1. Monsters – Fiction 2. Animals – Fiction 3, Horror stories.” Since Allan Ahlberg is the author of *The Jolly Postman*, I was not expecting this rather odd book. While it did not interest me that much, I can imagine an adolescent being intrigued by a strange, fast-growing kitten and the horror aspects of the story. The book might be a fairly innocuous introduction to the horror genre, but I recommend an adult read it first.

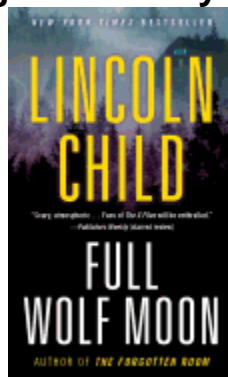
***The Secret Life of Bees*** by Sue Monk Kidd has been around for a few years, and made into a successful movie.



The story is told from the perspective of fourteen-year-old Lily Owens, who lives with her father and Rosaleen, a former picker in the Owen's peach orchard, until pulled into the house to help when Lily's mother is killed. Interspersed with interesting and relevant facts about bees, Lily's life in a racist mid-1960's South Carolina, remaining questions about her mother's death when Lily was small, and her escape to a home of strong black women, is as *The New York Times Review* says, "Fully imagined.... The core of this story is Lily's search for a mother, and she finds one in a place she never expected." Good book (and movie). A Two Rivers Readers choice.

## Book Reviews by Bob

### Full Wolf Moon – A Jeremy Logan Novel by Lincoln Child (2017)



Legends, no matter how outlandish, are often grounded in reality. This has been the guiding principle behind the exhilarating career of Jeremy Logan, the "enigmologist"--an investigator who specializes in analyzing phenomena that have no obvious explanation--previously seen in *The Forgotten Room*, *The Third Gate*, and *Deep Storm*. Logan has often found himself in situations where keeping an open mind could mean the difference between life and death, and that has never been more true than now.

Logan travels to an isolated writers' retreat deep in the Adirondacks to finally work on his book when the remote community is rocked by the grisly discovery of a dead hiker on Desolation Mountain. The body has been severely mauled,

but the unusual savagery of the bite and claw marks call into question the initial suspicions of a wild bear attack. When Logan is asked to help investigate, he discovers no shortage of suspects capable of such an attack--and no shortage of locals willing to point the finger and spread incredible rumors. One rumor, too impossible to believe, has even the forest ranger believing in werewolves. As Logan gets to know the remote deep-woods landscape, including a respected woman scientist still struggling with the violent loss of her father in these very woods, Logan realizes he's up against something he has never seen before. His most action-packed and white-knuckled novel to date, *Full Wolf Moon* is the perfect combination of exotic locales, provocative science, and raw action that make for a deeply entertaining Lincoln Child blockbuster.

If you like Jim Butcher, Amy Harmon or Douglas Preston, give Child a try.

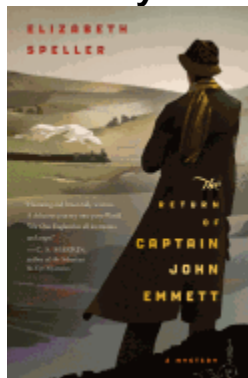
Reviewers say, "Scary, atmospheric . . . Fans of *The X Files* will be enthralled."  
-- *Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

"In *Full Wolf Moon*, Child uses cutting-edge science and the beautiful Adirondacks landscape to tell a quick and tense story."

-- *The Associated Press*

I give it a B and a suggestion for you to pick up a copy. It's a compact bundle of excitement you'll remember long after finishing.

## **The Return of Captain John Emmett by Elizabeth Speller (2011) Mystery**



London, 1920. In the aftermath of the Great War and a devastating family tragedy, Laurence Bartram has turned his back on the world. But with a well-timed letter, an old flame manages to draw him back in. Mary Emmett's brother John--like Laurence, an officer during the war--has apparently killed himself while in the care of a remote veterans' hospital, and Mary needs to know why. Aided by his friend Charles--a dauntless gentleman with detective skills cadged from mystery novels--Laurence begins asking difficult questions. What connects a group of war poets, a bitter feud within Emmett's regiment, and a hidden love affair? Was Emmett's death really a suicide, or the missing piece in a puzzling series of murders? As veterans tied to Emmett continue to turn up dead, and Laurence is forced to face the darkest corners of his own war experiences, his own survival may depend on uncovering the truth.



At once a compelling mystery and an elegant literary debut, "The Return of Captain John Emmett" blends psychological depth with lively storytelling from the golden age of British crime fiction.

"Elegant, engrossing read." - Publishers Weekly

"..The Return of Captain John Emmett is a fine puzzle of a historic mystery and ever so much more... Beautifully well done and not to be missed." - The Daily Herald

If you like Ian McDonald, Charles Todd or Ian Rankin I think you will really enjoy this book. I sure did and give it an A. It's not filled with lurid murders, sex or drugs, just a fascinating mystery and wonderful characters.

### **Enigma by Catherine Coulter (2017) Thriller**

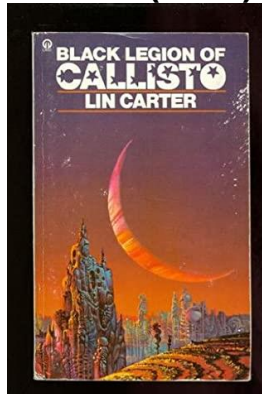


The highly anticipated twenty-first FBI thriller by #1 New York Times bestselling author Catherine Coulter presents Agents Savich and Sherlock with two baffling mysteries. Working with Agent Cam Wittier (Insidious) and New York-based former Special Forces agent Jack Cabot, they must race against the clock to catch an international criminal and solve the enigma of the man called John Doe. When Agent Dillon Savich saves Kara Moody from a seemingly crazy man, he doesn't realize he will soon be facing a scientist who wants to live forever and is using "John Doe" to help him. But when the scientist, Lister Maddox, loses him, he ups the stakes and targets another to take his experiments to the next level. It's a race against time literally as Savich and Sherlock rush to stop him and save both present and future victims of his experiments. In the meantime, Cam Wittier and Jack Cabot must track a violent criminal through the Daniel Boone National Forest. When he escapes through a daring rescue, the agents have to find out who set his escape in motion and how it all ties into the murder of Mia Prevost, the girlfriend of the president's Chief of Staff's only son, Saxton Hainny. It's international intrigue at the highest levels and they know they have to succeed or national security is compromised. Featuring Coulter's signature "breakneck plot and magnetic characters" (Huffington Post), "Enigma is a shocking thrill ride that will keep the you turning pages as fast as you can"—

"Enigma is a new seductive and menacing thriller that sets new standards to judge thrillers. It's a thriller most people would like to finish in one sitting. It is intense and packed with action and inventive fantasy Catherine Coulter is known for." The Washington Book Review.

Enigma is a very satisfying thriller filled with twists and turns. Savich and Sherlock are really good characters you can/will get behind and want to follow for many books to come. Coulter has 20 more where this comes from so she has many more to enjoy. I give it an A. If you like David Baldacci, Katherine Krentz or Kay Hooper, Coulter will fit nicely into your favorites list.

### **Black Legion of Callisto by Lin Carter (1972) Sci Fi**



Jonathan Dark (Jandar), earthman mysteriously transported to the [Jovian moon](#) of [Callisto](#) (or Thanator), has succeeded in rescuing Princess Darloona of Shondakar from the [Sky Pirates](#) of Zanadar, only to see her fall into the hands of the Black Legion, the mercenary force that had previously occupied her native city and driven her and her followers into exile. Journeying to Shondakar, Jandar improbably finds himself in the Legion's good graces after saving the son of its leader, the very man that leader intends to have Darloona wed in order to cement his control of the city. Having essentially been given a free hand to spy on the enemy, Jandar scouts out the city's defenses and weaknesses, particularly its tunnel system. He disrupts the wedding as Darloona's Ku Thad people infiltrate Shondakar through the tunnels and take the occupiers by surprise. Jandar kills the mastermind behind the princess's misfortunes, the supposed priest Oola, who is secretly one of the Mind Wizards conspiring to take over all of Thanator. But during the battle the Sky Pirates invade, and while the Ku Thad are ultimately victorious over both foes, Prince Thuton of Zanadar escapes, carrying Darloona back to the captivity from which Jandar sprung her in the previous book in a trilogy.

[Lester del Rey](#) found the series to be "fairly entertaining reading," but noted that Carter had "copied every trick of Burroughs, including those that are faults." Den Valdron, assessing the series in *ERBzine*, calls this book, along with the other two volumes in the trilogy, "quite good." He notes "[t]he world and the hero

are fairly vivid; the action moves quickly. It's hardly deep, but it is fun." For me this book was a nice change of pace from Several previous books I'd recently finished. A short (195 pg) novel it was full of adventure, sword fights and a couple aliens for extra measure. I give it a B-.

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If you need a book and can't find it on our site, please try:

<https://www.ChrisLandsSearch.com>

This will search hundreds of other independent bookstores around the world to help you. If all else fails...there's always AMAZON!

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**The July 2020 winner #2 is:**

**Kathryn Massey**

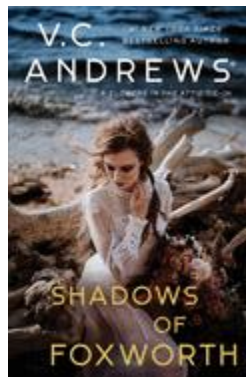
## **Recent and Upcoming New Releases:**

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 many will get to you eventually.

## **Hardcover and Trade Paperback**

**V.C. Andrews – Shadows of Foxworth – 26.99 – General**



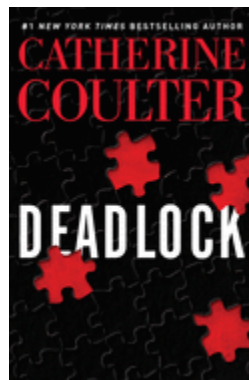
**Ted Bell – Dragon Fire, An Alex Hawke Novel – 28.00 - Thriller**

**Jim Butcher – Peace Talks, A Novel of the Dresden Files – 28.00 – Fantasy**



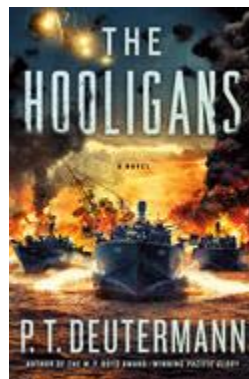
**Ashley & Jaquavis - Money Devils 1: A Cartel Novel ( Cartel, 8 ) – 16.99 – Urban Fiction**

**Catherine Coulter – Deadlock – 27.99 – Thriller**



**Clive Cussler - The Saboteurs ( Isaac Bell Adventure #12 ) – 29.00 – Thriller**

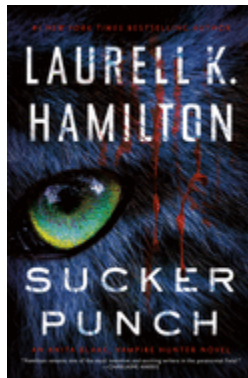
**P.T. Deutermann – The Hooligans – 27.99 – Thriller**



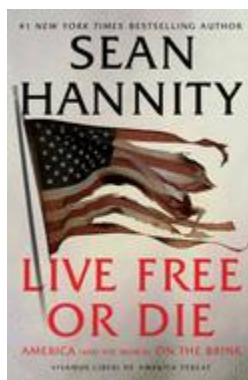
**Heather Graham – Deadly Touch, A Krewe of Hunters Novel –**

**28.99 - Thriller**

**Laurell K. Hamilton - Sucker Punch ( Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter #27 ) – 28.00 – Paranormal**



**Sean Hannity - Live Free or Die: America (and the World) on the Brink – 30.00 – Current Affairs**



**Jonathan & Jesse Kellerman - Half Moon Bay ( Clay Edison #3 ) – 28.99 – Mystery**

**Camilla Lackberg - The Golden Cage – 26.95 – Mystery**



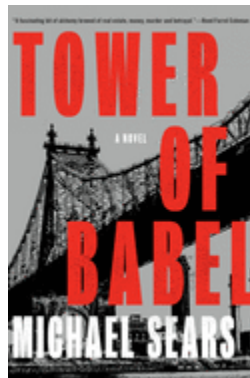
**Kat Martin – The Ultimate Betrayal – 26.99 – Romance**

**Jerry Pournelle – Mamelukes, A Janissaries Novel – 25.00 – Sci Fi**

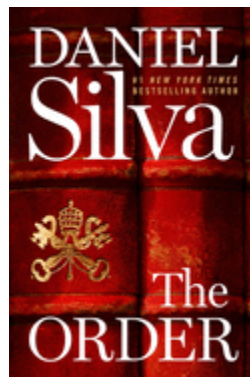


**R.A. Salvatore – Relentless, A Drizzt Novel – 28.99 – Fantasy**

**Michael Sears – Tower of Babel - 27.95 – Mystery**



**Daniel Silva – The Order – 28.99 – Thriller**



**Karen Slaughter – The Silent Wife – 28.99 - Thriller**

**Danielle Steel – Royal – 28.99 – Romance**



**Susan Wiggs – The Lost and Found Bookshop – 27.99 – General Fiction**

**Stuart Woods - Choppy Water (Stone Barrington Novel #54) – 28.00 – Mystery**



## Trivia for June

**What book knocked Henry Kissinger's book *White House Years* out of first place on the best-seller list in November 1979?**

**Answer:**

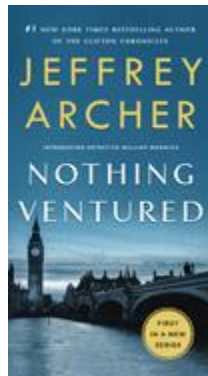
# *Aunt Erma's Cope Book, by Erma Bombeck*

**Mass Market Paperback**

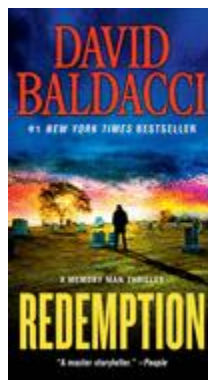
**The July 2020 winner #3 is:**

**Kathy Buckley**

**David Archer – Nothing Ventured – 9.99 – General**



**David Baldacci – Redemption, A Memory Man Thriller – 9.99**



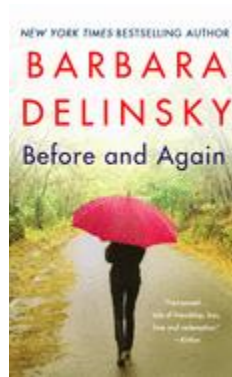
**Lorna Barrett – A Killer Edition, A Booktown Mystery – 7.99**

**Jacqueline Carey – Kushiel's Dart – 8.99 – Fantasy**





**Barbara Delinsky – Before and Again – 8.99 – General**



**Jane Green – Summer Secrets – 8.99 - General**

**John Grisham – The Guardians – 9.99 – Thriller**



**Stephen Hunter – Game of Snipers, A Bob Lee Swagger Novel – 9.99 - Mystery**

**Stephen King – The Outsider – 10.99 – Thriller**



**Jackson Lowry – The Sundown Riders Series: Lost Banshee Mine, A Ralph Compton Western – 7.99 - Western**

**Louise Penny – A Better Man – 9.99 – Mystery**



**Robert Pobi – City of Windows – 9.99 – Thriller**

**Christopher Reich – Crown Jewel, A Simon Riske Novel – 9.99 – Mystery**

