

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 12, #3
March 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/>

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Trivia for March

What were the names of the brothers Karamozov in the novel by Feodor Dostoevsky?

This is one of the tougher questions, because spelling counts! (OK! OK! Give yourself credit if you get at least ½ the letters in correct order in any name!)

For the answer, see below

Our March

\$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 January 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 March 2019 winner #1 is:

Deborah Connell

**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 March 31 to claim your prize: a \$25 gift certificate from
The Book Rack!**

March Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

Month:

- Irish American Month
- Music in Our Schools Month
- National Celery Month
- National Craft Month
- National Women's History Month

March 1 – Employee Appreciation Month

1 – World Compliment Day

5 – Mardi Gras/Fat Tuesday

10 - Daylight Savings begins at 2:a.m.

12 – Girl Scout Day

14 - National Pi Day- Why today? Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi.

17 – Saint Patrick's Day

20 – Extraterrestrial Abduction Day – Be careful. Be very careful!

20 – Spring Equinox – Hopefully it will feel like Spring.

29 - National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day

Metal Signs

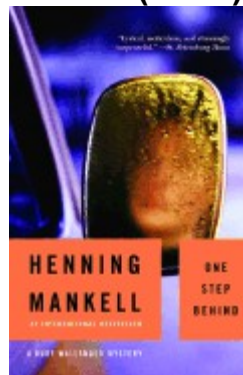
We've added more new signs to our inventory that you may find entertaining and a good gift for yourself or a deserving friend. Look through our racks at the counter or the ones hanging around in the store. Remember, you can use up to \$3.00 of your credit toward their purchase.

Here are a few of the new ones.



Book Reviews

One Step Behind by Henning Mankell (2002)



Sixth in the Kurt Wallander series.

On Midsummer's Eve, three role-playing teens dressed in eighteenth-century garb are shot in a secluded Swedish meadow. When one of Inspector Kurt

Wallander's most trusted colleagues-someone whose help he hoped to rely on to solve the crime-also turns up dead, Wallander knows the murders are related. But with his only clue a picture of a woman no one in Sweden seems to know, he can't begin to imagine how. Reeling from his own father's death and facing his own deteriorating health, Wallander tracks the lethal progress of the killer. Locked in a desperate effort to catch him before he strikes again, Wallander always seems to be just one step behind.

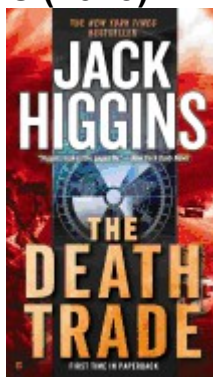
"Lyrical, meticulous, and stunningly suspenseful." - *St. Petersburg Times*

"Typical of the dense, intricate intelligence that Mankell brings to detection and crime writing." - *The Washington Post Book World*

"Satisfying in a way that has less to do with the wonders of forensic science than with the pure pleasure of rational thought." - *The New York Times*

Another great read by Mankell. The NY Times said it best above. Just a pleasure to read for anyone who enjoys a complex mystery, solved not by wizardry or super soldiers but by by exceptional, rational thought. I give it an A.

The Death Trade by Jack Higgins (2013)



Sean Dillon is back, and the world is at stake

An eminent Iranian scientist has made a startling breakthrough in nuclear weapons research, but he can't stand the thought of his regime owning the bomb. He would run if he could, but if he does, his family dies. He is desperate, and he doesn't know what to do.

It is up to Sean Dillon and the Prime Minister's private army to think of a plan. Most particularly, it is up to their newest member, an intelligence captain and Afghan war hero named Sara Gideon, who thinks there just might be a way to pull it off.

But plans have a way of going awry. And as the operation races from Paris and Syria to Iran and the Saudi Arabian desert, the only certainty is that blood will be spilled.

"Higgins is an author with the creative power to hook the reader and keep them

forever because of his terrific tales. There are many villains out there, but Higgins is by far the greatest at bringing to life the best and worst of them all."-- *Suspense Magazine*

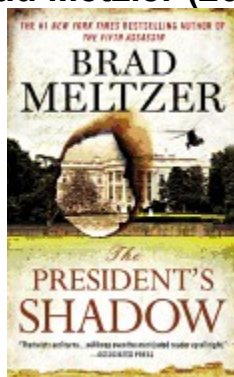
"Jack Higgins has written some of the best suspense fiction of the past fifty years."-- *The San Diego Union-Tribune*

A fun and quick read by one of the very best thriller writers on the planet. I give it a B+.

The March 2019 winner #2 is:

Sylvia Bonne

The President's Shadow by Brad Metzler (2015)



There are stories no one knows. Hidden stories. I find those stories for a living. To most, it looks like Beecher White has an ordinary job. A young staffer with the National Archives in Washington, D.C., he's responsible for safekeeping the government's most important documents . . . and, sometimes, its most closely held secrets.

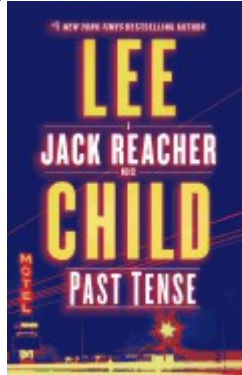
But there are a powerful few who know his other role. Beecher is a member of the Culper Ring, a 200-year-old secret society founded by George Washington and charged with protecting the Presidency. Now the current occupant of the White House needs the Culper Ring's help. The alarming discovery of the buried arm has the President's team in a rightful panic. Who buried the arm? How did they get past White House security? And most important: What's the message hidden in the arm's closed fist? Indeed, the puzzle inside has a clear intended recipient, and it isn't the President. It's Beecher, himself.

Beecher's investigation will take him back to one of our country's greatest secrets and point him toward the long, carefully hidden truth about the most

shocking history of all: family history.

Secret organizations, centuries old set up to protect us aren't my favorite plot lines, but this one worked pretty well. I give it a B. If you like Steve Martini, Steve Berry or Stephen Frey (or any other Steve) you may well enjoy Metzler.

Past Tense by Lee Child (2018)



Jack Reacher has extended his thumb and hit the pavement. His plan is to follow the autumn sun on an epic trip across America, from Maine to California. He doesn't get far. On a country road in rural New Hampshire, deep in the New England woods, he sees a sign to a place he has never been: the town where his father was born. He thinks, What's one extra day? and takes the detour ... The next morning in the city clerk's office, Reacher asks about the old family home. He's told no one named Reacher ever lived in town. He knows his father left and never returned. Now Reacher wonders: was he ever there in the first place?

I like Lee Child's Reacher books, but I think he's getting a little stale. The early Reacher was much more interesting, the plots more diverse and unexpected. I liked this one, but it's just not up to his expected standard. I give this one a B and hope his next one returns to the earlier form.

The Crystal World by J.G. Ballard (2016)



From J.G. Ballard, author of *Crash* and *Cocaine Nights* comes his extraordinary

vision of an African forest that turns all in its path to crystal.

Through a 'leaking' of time, the West African jungle starts to crystallize. Trees are metamorphosed into enormous jewels. Crocodiles encased in second glittering skins lurch down the river. Pythons with huge blind gemstone eyes rear in heraldic poses.

Fearing this transformation as a herald of the apocalypse, most flee the area in terror, afraid to face a catastrophe they cannot understand. But some, dazzled and strangely entranced, remain to drift through this dreamworld forest. Traveling through this gilded land, a doctor tries to resist its strange allure in pursuit of his ex-mistress, while a tribe of lepers search for Paradise...

In this tour de force of the imagination, Ballard transports the listener into one of his most unforgettable landscapes.

I listened to this audio book, performed by Sean Barrett. It's a fantasy that supposes the expanding crystallization of everything will continue to expand with nothing to stop it. In addition to the West African area, other spots around the Earth are also experiencing the same phenomena and no one has developed a means of arresting the transformations. The book is an interesting creation and the characters' varied responses caused me the pause and wonder what I'd do. I still don't know! I give the book a B-. While it was interesting it didn't really grab and hold me with it's story or characters.

The March 2019 winner #3 is:

Lucinda Sanders

Recent and Upcoming New Releases:

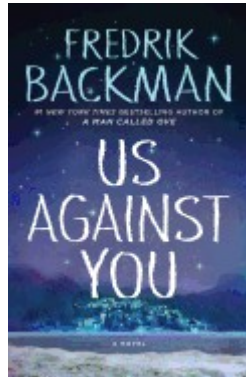
Check out the prices following the title of the book. Those prices are the publisher's prices. **The Book Rack price is normally 20% lower.** When you pick it up at the store there is no shipping cost, though we can also ship it to you. Order now by calling the store or stopping in. We do ask for prepayment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

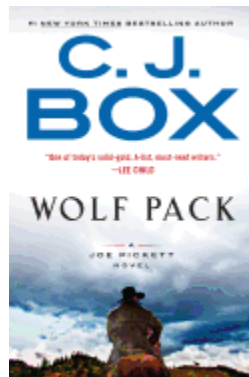
Fredrik Backman – Us Against You – 17.00

"Backman (*A Man Called Ove*) returns to the hockey-obsessed village of his previous novel *Beartown* to chronicle the passion, violence, resilience, and humanity of the people who live there in this engrossing tale of small-town Swedish life... Backman's excellent novel has an atmosphere of both Scandinavian folktale and Greek tragedy. Darkness and grit exist alongside tenderness and levity, creating a blunt realism that brings the setting's small-town atmosphere to vivid life."--Publishers Weekly



Steve Berry – Matha Exchange – 28.99

C.J. Box – Wolf Pack – 27.00



Laura Childs – Broken Bone China, A Tea Shop Mystery – 26.00

Harlan Coben – Run Away – 29.00

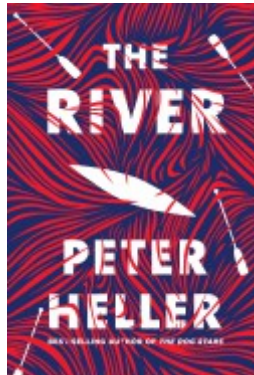


Catherine Coulter & J.T. Ellison – The Last Second – 27.99



Heather Graham – A Lethal Legacy – 26.99

Peter Heller – The River – 25.95



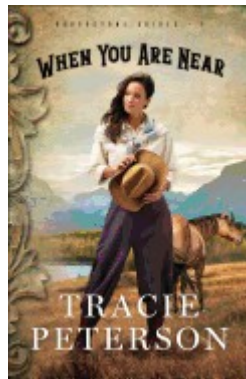
Greg Iles – Cemetery Road – 28.99

Iris Johansen – Dark Tribute, An Eve Duncan Novel – 28.99



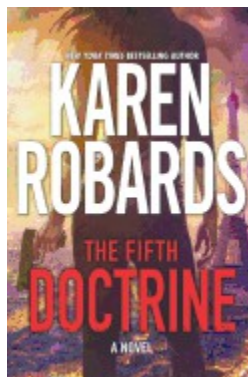
James Patterson – The First Lady – 16.99

Tracie Peterson – When You Are Near – 22.99



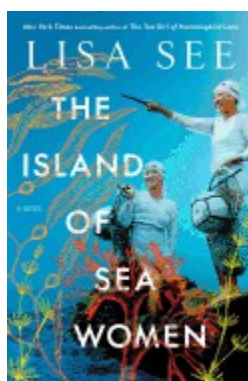
J.D. Robb – Connections in Death – 28.99

Karen Robards – The Fifth Doctrine – 26.99



Lisa Scottoline – After Anna – 17.99

Lisa See – The Island of Sea Women – 27.00



"On an island off the South Korean coast, an ancient guild of women divers reckons with the depredations of modernity from 1938 to 2008 in See's (*The*

Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane, 2017, etc.) latest novel.... See did extensive research with primary sources to detail not only the haenyeo traditions, but the mass murders on Jeju beginning in 1948, which were covered up for decades by the South Korean government... It is a necessary book."

--*Kirkus Reviews*

Danielle Steel – Silent Night – 28.99

Jacqueline Winspear – The American Agent, A Maisie Dobbs Novel – 27.99



Stuart Woods – Wild Card – A Stone Barrington Novel – 28.00

Trivia for March

What were the names of the brothers Karamozov in the novel by Feodor Dostoevsky?

Answer:

Demitri (or Mitya), Ivan (or Vanya), Alexei (or Alyosha) and Smerdyakov.

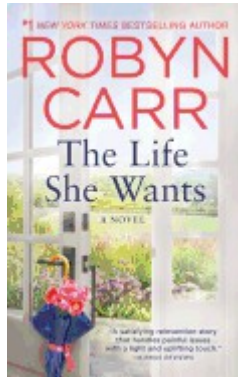
The March 2019 winner #4 is:

Kelly Abbie

Mass Market Paperback

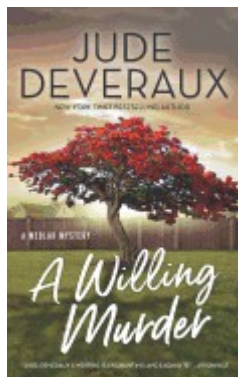
David Baldacci – The Fallen – 9.99

Robyn Carr – The Life She Wants – 8.99



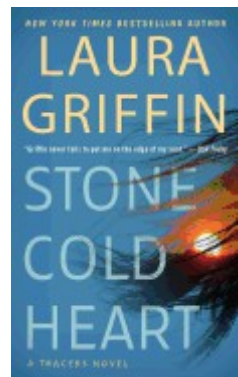
Mary Higgins Clark – I've Got My Eyes on You – 8.99

Jude Deveraux – A Willing Murder – 7.99



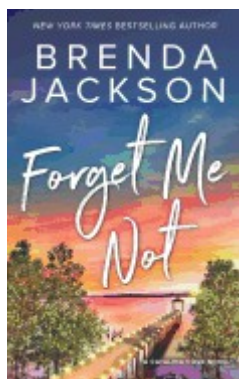
Lori Foster – Slow Ride – 7.99

Laura Griffin – Stone Cold Heart – 8.99



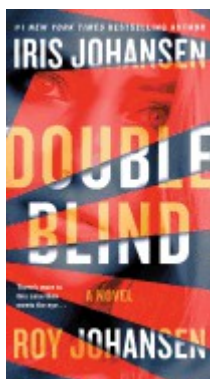
Kay Hooper – Hold Back the Dark – 9.99

Brenda Jackson – Forget Me Not – 7.99



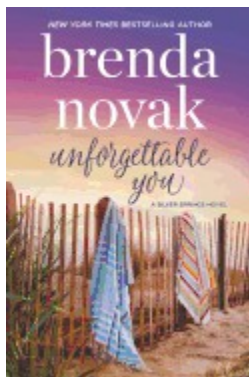
Lisa Jackson – Backlash – 7.99

Iris Johansen – Double Blind – 9.99

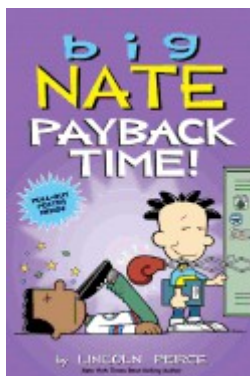


Carla Neggers – Stone Bridges – 7.99

Brenda Novak – Unforgettable You – 7.99

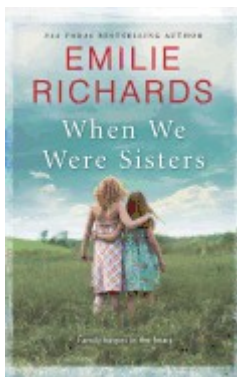


Lincoln Peirce – Big Nate: Payback Time – 9.99



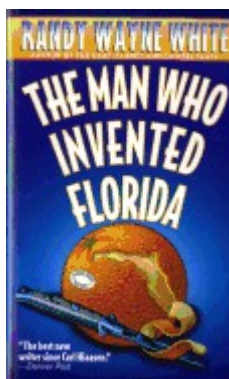
Preston & Child – The Pharaoh Key – 8.99

Emilie Richards – When We Were Sisters – 7.99



J.D. Robb – Leverage in Death – 8.99

Randy Wayne White – The Man Who Invented Florida – 9.99



Susan Wiggs – Between You and Me – 7.99

