The Book Rack Newsletter

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

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

Trivia for November

Where did the name Winnie, for Winnie the Pooh, come from??

Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.

Our November 2020

\$25 Gift Certificate Winners!

We try to give away four (4) \$25.00 Gift Certificates to The Book Rack account holders each month. (It's harder than you think!)

The names are selected from all our registered customers who have registered or had a trade or purchase since November 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 November 2020 winner #1 is:

Lisa Bouchard

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 December 1, 2020 to claim your prize:

A \$25 gift certificate from The Book Rack!

Metal Signs Make Great Christmas Gifts!!

We added new signs and restocked old favorites just in time for the Holidays. Whether it's a funny message,



A more serious one,



Or, a bit of both,



We have the right sign for everyone on your list. All are either 12.5" x 16" or 16" x 12.5", made of sturdy metal and **Made in America.** They are priced at \$12.00 each, but if you have store credit you can apply up to \$3.00 of your credit to each sign, reducing your cost to just \$9.00!

Stop in while the selection is best! We have over 60 different signs from which to choose.

November 2020 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

Month:

- Child Safety Protection Month
- National Adoption Awareness Month
- National Caregivers Appreciation Month
- National Diabetes Awareness Month
- National Epilepsy Month
- National Novel Writing Month
- Native American Heritage Month

November 1 – All Saint's Day

- 1 Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 AM
- 1 National Author's Day

3 – Election Day – Vote, if you've not already done so

7 – Book Lovers Day – Visit us and find another book to love!!

10 – Young Readers Day – Bring your young readers in to search our great selection of children's' and young adult books

11 – Veteran's Day – Fly your flag to honor our veterans

13 – World Kindness Day – We really need to honor this day and start being kinder to everyone

17 – World Peace Day

26 – Thanksgiving Day – The Book Rack will be CLOSED

27 – Black Friday – We will be open. Stop in for a calm, safe shopping experience.

Santa made a special trip to The Book Rack and delivered a slay-load of Christmas Books

We've started to shelve our collection of hundreds of Christmas books for your holiday season. We'll continue to expand it until all are shelved. Check them early and often as they will change daily.

Military History Section Up-Grade

We've acquired a large selection of Military History books and have expanded that Section. If you like this genre check out our new selection. If you have military history books you are able to let go, please bring them in to trade.

Ghost Stories/Paranormal Nonfiction

We obtained a nice selection of nonfiction Ghost Story/Paranormal books. These are detailed accounts of people encountering ghosts across the nation and around the world, not simply scary stories. Want to know where to visit (avoid) because the place is haunted by real, dead ghosts? We can help you. You will find them in a new section beside our Horror Section.

Book Reviews

A Matter of Grave Concern by Brenda Novak (2014) Historical Romance



When Maximillian Wilder hides his noble identity and joins the notorious

body snatchers known as the London Supply Company, the last thing on his mind is love. He's worried about Madeline, his vanished half-sister, who was last seen in the company of Jack Hurtsill, the gang's conscienceless leader. Raiding graveyards, stealing corpses, and selling them to medical colleges as dissection material is dirty work, but Max knows he must gain Jack's trust. He's determined to find out what happened to Madeline—and to bring Jack to justice if she was murdered for the coin her body could earn.

Beautiful, spirited Abigail Hale, daughter of the surgeon at Aldersgate School of Medicine, detests the challenging, hard-bargaining Max almost as much as Jack. But she must procure the necessary specimens if she is to save the college and her father's career. She believes she is going to be successful—until Jack double-crosses her. Then she's swept into a plot of danger and intrigue, one where Max must intervene to protect her, no matter the risk to his plan...or his heart.

Historical Romance rarely catches my eye, but I was looking for an audiobook for a recent road trip and decided to give it a spin, so to speak. It ended up shortening the trip by keeping me involved in the story and entertained. I give it a B. If you like Sharon Sala and Erica Spindler, add Brenda Novak to your list.

Orchid Beach (Holly Barker #1) by Stuart Woods (1998) Mystery



Stuart Woods delivers a riveting thriller that introduces an exciting addition to the pantheon of fictional sleuths.

Forced into early retirement at thirty-seven, smart, attractive, and fiercely independent Major Holly Barker trades in her bars as a military cop for the badge of deputy chief of police in Orchid Beach, Florida. But below the sunny surface of this sleepy, well-to-do island town lies an evil that escalates into the cold-blooded murder of one of Holly's new colleagues.

An outsider, Holly has little to go on for answers and no one to help her-except Daisy, a Doberman of exceptional intelligence and loyalty that becomes her companion and protector. The closer Holly gets to the truth, the more she knows that it'll take one smart dog with guts to sniff out this killer-before he can catch her first.

Most Stuart Woods fans love Stone Barrington, Woods' most frequent protagonist. I'd not read one of his (6) Holly Barker novels until I read Orchid Beach while on vacation. Frankly, I liked this book better than the few Stone Barrington books I've read and enjoyed. A reviewer has said, "Barker is tough when she needs to be, and clever and persistent in following her hunches." She's everything you want in a hero. I give it an A- and wish Woods would spend more time on expanding the Holly Barker series.

The Fourth K by Mario Puzo (1990) – Thriller



A PRESIDENTIAL DYNASTY. AN ARAB TERRORIST ATTACK. DEMOCRACY UNDER SIEGE. Mario Puzo envisioned it all in his eerily prescient 1991 novel, "The Fourth K.

President Francis Xavier Kennedy is elected to office, in large part, thanks to the legacy of his forebears-good looks, privilege, wealth-and is the very embodiment of youthful optimism. Too soon, however, he is beaten down by the political process and, disabused of his ideals, he becomes a leader totally unlike what he has been before.

When his daughter becomes a pawn in a brutal terrorist plot, Kennedy, who has obsessively kept alive the memory of his uncles' assassinations, activates all his power to retaliate in a series of violent measures. As the explosive events unfold, the world and those closest to him look on with both awe and horror.

I'm almost ashamed to admit I've never read Puzo before. Not even The Godfather! My mistake. The 4th K is a tense thriller spanning continents and several crises and catastrophes. A fictitious look into the leadership of the United States that may send shivers down your spine. I give it an A! How could I not? If you like Frederick Forsyth, Harold Robbins, Arthur Hailey or Nicholas Pileggi and haven't read Puzo, better start soon. You'll find you have some catching up to do.

Death Match by Lincoln Child (2004) - Techno Thriller



Lewis and Lindsay Thorpe were the perfect couple: young, attractive, and ideally matched. But the veil of perfection can mask many blemishes. When the Thorpes are found dead in their tasteful Flagstaff living room (having committed double suicide), alarms go off in the towering Manhattan offices of" Eden Incorporated, the high-tech matchmaking company whose spectacular success, and legendary secrecy, has inspired awe around the world. The Thorpes, few people knew, were more than the quintessential happy couple - they were Eden's "first "perfect match.

A short time later, Christopher Lash, a gifted former FBI forensic psychologist, receives an urgent plea from Eden to perform a quick - and quiet - investigation into the deaths. Lash's psychological autopsy reveals nothing suspicious, but inadvertently dredges up the memories of a searing personal tragedy he has kept at bay for years.

The situation changes suddenly when a second Eden couple is found dead -by all appearances, another double suicide. Now Eden - particularly Richard Silver, the company's brilliant and reclusive founder - has no choice but to grant Lash unprecedented access to its most guarded secrets if he is to have any chance of determining what is going wrong. The hidden world he discovers is a stunning labyrinth of artificial intelligence, creative genius, and a melding of technology that does indeed, to Lash's surprise, deliver on Eden's promise to its clients: the guarantee of a perfect, lifelong mate. But Lash's involvement in the investigation becomes more personal and dangerous than he could have imagined, nearly as soon as it begins. With tremendous imagination and skill, master thriller-writer Lincoln Child renders a setting too frighteningly believable not to be real. Infused with relentless suspense and a riveting pace, DEATH MATCH is Child at his best.

Lincoln Child is best known as the coauthor with Douglas Preston of the Agent Pendergast Series of thrillers, but is an accomplished solo author, as well. The book starts quickly, then slows as a great deal of technological background is introduced, then speeds toward an action-packed ending. I did have some difficulty staying focused (aka staying awake) while grinding through the background, but certainly found the book well worth the effort. If you like technological thrillers, this is a must read. I give it a B+ for the creative plot in particular and the character development – particularly Liza.

If you like James Rollins, Matthew Reilly, Dale Brown, Chris Stewart, or Stephen Coonts and haven't read Lincoln Child, you really should.

Most Dangerous Place by James Grippando (2017) Legal Thriller



Defending a woman accused of murdering the man who sexually assaulted her, Miami lawyer Jack Swyteck must uncover where the truth lies between innocence, vengeance, and justice in this spellbinding tale of suspensebased on shocking true-life events.

According to the FBI, the most dangerous place for a woman between the ages of twenty and thirty is in a relationship with a man. Those statistics become all too personal when Jack Swyteck takes on a new client tied to his past.

It begins at the airport, where Jack is waiting to meet his old high school buddy, Keith Ingraham, a high-powered banker based in Hong Kong, coming to Miami for his young daughter's surgery. But their long-awaited reunion is abruptly derailed when the police arrest Keith's wife, Isabelle, in the terminal, accusing her of conspiring to kill the man who raped her in college. Jack quickly agrees to represent Isa, but soon discovers that to see justice done, he must separate truth from lies—an undertaking that proves more complicated than the seasoned attorney expects.

Inspired by an actual case involving a victim of sexual assault sent to prison for the death of her attacker, James Grippando's twisty thriller brilliantly explores the fine line between victim and perpetrator, innocence and guilt, and cold-blooded revenge and rightful retribution.

Grippando gets underway with a bang and never lets up, springing a series of carefully calibrated surprises in and out of the courtroom guaranteed to catch even the canniest readers unaware. "-- *Kirkus Reviews*

This book did start out fast and hard. It did slow a bit before ramping up and finishing strong. I give it a B+. If you like John Lescroart, Joseph Finder or Robert Crais I think you'll thoroughly enjoy James Grippando.

Did You Know?

Herman Melville was arrested and briefly jailed in Tahiti as a member of the mutinous crew of an Australian Whaling ship.

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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

David Baldacci – Daylight, An Altee Pine Novel – 29.00 – Crime Thriller



FBI Agent Atlee Pine's search for her sister Mercy clashes with military investigator John Puller's high-stakes case, leading them both deep into a global conspiracy -- from which neither of them will escape unscathed.

Octavia Butler – Patternmaster – 16.99 – Dark Fantasy



An all- powerful ruler's son vies for control over the human race in this brilliant conclusion to the Patternist saga, from the critically acclaimed author of *Parable of the Sower*.

Max Alan Collins – Skim Deep – 10.95 – Crime Fiction



The onetime world-class thief Nolan - now happily gone straight with his own restaurant/nightclub - whisks his longtime lover Sherry off to Vegas for a trip to a wedding chapel and a honeymoon stay. But an eye-in-the-sky security cam at a casino spots Nolan, whose past catches up with him when he's thought to be casing the joint. An old friend sees Nolan as the perfect patsy for a scheme to heist the weekly skim haul, and when the former thief's young frequent accomplice, Jon - a musician in the casino's house band - finds the couple mysteriously, suspiciously missing, it's up to Nolan's Best Man to keep wedding bells from tolling a funeral march.

Clive Cussler - Marauder (Oregon Files #15) – 29.00 – Action Adventure



It is up to Juan Cabrillo and the crew of his ship, the *Oregon*, to stop a terrorist plot to release a deadly chemical weapon across the globe in the explosive new novel in Clive Cussler's #1 *New York Times* bestselling series

Christina Dodd – Wrong Alibi – 28.99 – Crime Thriller

Lars Kepler – Lazarus – 28.95 – Mystery, Police Procedural



Sam J Miller – The Blade Between – 26.99 – Horror



A frightening and uncanny ghost story about a rapidly changing city in upstate New York and the mysterious forces that threaten it.

Nick Petrie – The Breaker, A Peter Ash Novel – 27.00 – Suspense



Peter Ash tangles with dangerous enemies and terrifying technology in the newest thriller from bestselling author Nick Petrie.

A man wanted by two governments, Peter Ash has found a simple, low-profile life in Milwaukee, living with his girlfriend June and renovating old buildings with his friend Lewis. Staying out of trouble is the key to preserving this fragile peace . . . but when Peter spots a suspicious armed man walking into a crowded market, he knows he can't stand by and do nothing.

J.K. Rowling – The Ickabog – 26.99 – Fairy Tale



From J.K. Rowling, a warm, fast-paced, funny fairy tale of a fearsome monster, thrilling adventure, and hope against all odds.

Once upon a time there was a tiny kingdom called Cornucopia, as rich in happiness as it was in gold, and famous for its food. From the delicate cream cheeses of Kurdsburg to the Hopes-of-Heaven pastries of Chouxville, each was so delicious that people wept with joy as they ate them.

But even in this happy kingdom, a monster lurks. Legend tells of a fearsome creature living far to the north in the Marshlands... the lckabog. Some say it breathes fire, spits poison, and roars through the mist as it carries off wayward sheep and children alike. Some say it's just a myth...

And when that myth takes on a life of its own, casting a shadow over the kingdom, two children - best friends Bert and Daisy - embark on a great adventure to untangle the truth and find out where the real monster lies, bringing hope and happiness to Cornucopia once more.

Featuring full color illustrations by children from across the United States and Canada, this original fairy tale from one of the world's most celebrated storytellers will captivate readers of all ages.

Jane Smiley - Perestroika in Paris – 26.95 – Literary



A captivating, brilliantly imaginative story of three extraordinary animals--and a young boy--whose lives intersect in Paris

Paras, short for Perestroika, is a spirited racehorse at a racetrack west of Paris. One afternoon at dusk, she finds the door of

her stall open and--she's a curious filly--wanders all the way to the City of Light. She's dazzled and often mystified by the sights, sounds, and smells around her, but she isn't afraid. Soon she meets an elegant dog, a German shorthaired pointer named Frida, who knows how to get by without attracting the attention of suspicious Parisians. Paras and Frida coexist for a time in the city's lush green spaces, nourished by Frida's strategic trips to the vegetable market. They keep company with two irrepressible ducks and an opinionated raven. But then Paras meets a human boy, Etienne, and discovers a new, otherworldly part of Paris: the ivy-walled house where the boy and his nearly-one-hundred-year-old great-grandmother live in seclusion. As the cold weather and Christmas near, the unlikeliest of friendships bloom. But how long can a runaway horse stay undiscovered in Paris? How long can a boy keep her hidden and all to himself? Jane Smiley's beguiling new novel is itself an adventure that celebrates curiosity, ingenuity, and the desire of all creatures for true love and freedom.

Lisa Unger – Confession on the 7:45 – 27.00 – Mystery

Stuart Woods - Hush-Hush (Stone Barrington Novel #56) – 28.00 – Action Adventure



Stone Barrington faces down a rival with cutting-edge tactics in this heart-racing thriller

The November 2020 winner #3 is:

Karon McAvoy

Trivia for November

Where did the name Winnie, for Winnie the Pooh, come from??

Answer:

From a bear named Winnie in the London Zoo. The animal had been born in Winnipeg, Canada, and was brought to London in 1914 as the mascot of a Canadian regiment.

Mass Market Paperback

Jeffrey Archer - Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less – 9.99 – Thriller



The thrilling novel that launched #1 *New York Times* bestseller Jeffrey Archer's career, *Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less*.

THE SWINDLE IS INGENIOUS

The conned: an Oxford don, a revered society physician, a chic French art dealer, and a charming English lord. They have one thing in common. Overnight, each novice investor lost his life's fortune to one man. The con: Harvey Metcalfe. A brilliant, self-made guru of deceit. A very dangerous individual. And now, a hunted man.

SO IS THE REVENGE

With nothing left to lose, four strangers are about to come together--each expert in their own field. Their plan: find Harvey, shadow him, trap him, and penny-for-penny, destroy him. From the luxurious casinos of Monte Carlo to the high-stakes windows at Ascot to the bustling streets of Wall Street to fashionable London galleries, their own ingenious game has begun. It's called revenge--and they were taught by a master.

Marc Cameron - Stone Cross: An Action-Packed Crime Thriller (Arliss Cutter Novel #2) – 9.99 – Mystery



In a remote Alaskan village, Deputy U.S. Marshal Arliss Cutter searches for a stone-cold killer amid a hotbed of corruption, lies, and long-buried secrets...

Winter comes early to the rural native community of Stone Cross, Alaska--and so does hunting season. Caribou and moose are a major source of food through the long, dark months ahead. But Arliss Cutter has come here for a very different game. A federal judge is receiving death threats and refuses protection. Cutter and his deputy Lola Teariki have been assigned to shadow him on his trip to this icy outland to make sure that he's safe. But they quickly discover that no one is ever really safe in a place like this. And no one is above suspicion...

When Cutter and Lola arrive, the village is already gripped with fear. A young couple has disappeared from their fishing lodge, just eight miles upriver. Their handyman has been found dead, next to a crude drawing of a mysterious symbol. To make matters worse, a dense fog has descended on the region, isolating the town from civilization. With the judge's life still at risk, and two people still missing, Cutter and Lola have their work cut out for them. But navigating the small-town customs and blood-bound traditions of this close-knit community won't be easy. When the secrets come out, the deadly hunt is on...

C.J Cherryh - Alliance Rising (The Hinder Stars #1) – 8.99 – Hard Science Fiction



For years, the stations of the Hinder Stars, those old stations closest to Sol, have lagged behind the great megastations of the Beyond, like Pell and Cyteen. But new opportunities and fears arise when Alpha station receives news of an incoming ship with no identification. The denizens of Alpha wait anxiously for news about the outsiders, each with their own suspicions about the ship and its origins.

Ross and Fallon, crew members of the *Galway*, believe the unidentified ship belongs to Pell and has come to investigate another massive ship docked at Alpha, *The Rights of Man*. Though *Rights* is under the command of the Earth Company, it is not quite perfected--and its true purpose is shrouded in mystery.

James Robert Neihart, captain of *Finity's End--*a huge faster-than-light ship flown by one of the Merchanter Families--has heard whispers of *The Rights of Man* and wonders at its design and purpose, especially as Sol struggles to rival the progress of the Farther Stars. Now docked at Alpha, he must convince the crews that there is more to *The Rights of Man* than meets the eye.

Because the reasons behind the creation of *The Rights of Man*, and its true plans, could change everything--not just for Sol, but for the Hinder Stars and the Beyond itself.

Cate Conte - A Whisker of a Doubt: A Cat Cafe Mystery #4 – 7.99 –

Cozy Mystery



It's promising to be a picture-purrfect Christmas at New England's favorite cat cafe . . . but instead of jolly old St. Nick, residents are being visited by murder.

The holiday season on Daybreak Island is a mixed bag for Maddie James. On the one hand, her Christmas spirit is in the doghouse after a break-up. On the other, she's busy enough that she doesn't have to pretend to be merry. Business at her cat café is booming, and Maddie's care-taking of a feral cat colony in one of the area's wealthiest communities only helps her bottom line.

But tensions between the homeowners and animal activists are escalating to catastrophic levels. . .and before long a body is found dead in a snowbank. To prove that her accused friend is innocent of the crime, Maddie will have to prowl the island for clues to the real killer before everyone on the island goes completely hiss-terical--and more than nine lives are lost.

Nelson DeMille – The Deserter – 9.99 – Thriller



A brilliant and unorthodox Army investigator, his enigmatic female partner, and their hunt for the Army's most notorious--and dangerous--deserter.

When Captain Kyle Mercer of the Army's elite Delta Force disappeared from his post in Afghanistan, a video released by his Taliban captors made international headlines. But circumstances were murky: did Mercer desert before he was captured? Then a second video sent to Mercer's Army commanders leaves no doubt: the trained assassin and keeper of classified Army intelligence has disappeared.

When Mercer is spotted a year later in Caracas, Venezuela, top military brass task Scott Brodie and Maggie Taylor of the Criminal Investigation Division to bring Mercer back to America--preferably alive. Brodie knows this is a difficult mission, made more difficult by his new partner's inexperience, by their undeniable chemistry, and by Brodie's suspicion that Maggie Taylor is reporting to the CIA.

With ripped-from-the-headlines appeal, an exotic and dangerous locale, and the hairpin twists and inimitable humor that are signature DeMille, *The Deserter* is the first in a timely and thrilling new series.

Terry Goodkind - Heart of Black Ice: Sister of Darkness: The Nicci Chronicles, Volume IV (Nicci Chronicles, 4)



The climactic conclusion to Terry Goodkind's New York Times bestselling Nicci Chronicles, Heart of Black Ice.

In the wake of the brutal war that swept the Old World in *Siege of Stone*, a new danger is forming along the coast. Taken captive by their enemies, King Grieve, along with Lila and Bannon are about to discover the terrifying force that threatens to bring destruction to the Old World.

The Norukai, barbarian raiders and slavers, have been gathering an immense fleet among the inhospitably rocky islands that make up their home. With numbers greater than anyone could have imagined, the Norukai are poised to launch their final and most deadly war.

Greg Hurwitz - Into the Fire: An Orphan X Novel (Orphan X, 5) – 9.99 – Crime Thriller



Evan Smoak lives by his own code.

Once he was known as Orphan X. Trained as an off-the-books government assassin and spoken about only in whispers, Evan Smoak was one of the most talented --and most feared --men in the Program. But he broke free and reinvented himself as The Nowhere Man, a figure shrouded in mystery, known for helping the truly desperate. If anyone is truly desperate, it's Max Merriweather.

Max is at the end of his rope. His cousin has been brutally murdered, leaving Max an envelope that contains nothing but a mysterious key. However, someone really wants that key, badly enough that Max --and anyone he turns to --is in deadly danger. What seems like a simple job for The Nowhere Man turns out to be anything but. Behind every threat he takes out, a deadlier one emerges and Evan Smoak must put himself in greater danger than ever before as he heads once more *Into The Fire*.

Nora Roberts - Of Blood and Bone: Chronicles of the One, Book 2 – Epic Fantasy – 8.99



A new tale of terror and magic in a brand new world.

They look like an everyday family living an ordinary life. But beyond the edges of this peaceful farm, unimaginable forces of light and dark have been unleashed.

Fallon Swift, approaching her thirteenth birthday, barely knows the world that existed before--the city where her parents lived, now in ruins and reclaimed by nature since the Doom sickened and killed billions. Traveling anywhere is a danger, as vicious gangs of Raiders and fanatics called Purity Warriors search for their next victim. Those like Fallon, in possession of gifts, are hunted--and the time is coming when her true nature, her identity as The One, can no longer be hidden. In a mysterious shelter in the forest, her training is about to begin under the guidance of Mallick, whose skills have been honed over centuries. She will learn the old ways of healing; study and spar; encounter faeries and elves and shifters; and find powers within herself she never imagined. And when the time is right, she will take up the sword, and fight. For until she grows into the woman she was born to be, the world outside will never be whole again.

Nalini Singh - Archangel's Sun (Guild Hunter Novel #13) – 7.99 – Paranormal Romance (Vampires)



A horrifying secret rises in the aftermath of an archangelic war the deadly and beautiful Guild Hunter world....

The Archangel of Death and the Archangel of Disease may be gone but their legacy of evil lives on--especially in Africa, where the shambling, rotting creatures called the reborn have gained a glimmer of vicious intelligence.

It is up to Titus, archangel of this vast continent, to stop the reborn from spreading across the world. Titus can't do it alone, but of the surviving powerful angels and archangels, large numbers are wounded, while the rest are fighting a surge of murderous vampires.

There is no one left . . . but the Hummingbird. Old, powerful, her mind long a broken kaleidoscope. Now, she must stand at Titus's side against a tide of death upon a discovery more chilling than any other. For the Archangel of Disease has left them one last terrible gift

The October 2020 winner #4 is:

Dianne Andrews