## **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>

### HELP, STEPHEN KING IS MISSING!

We desperately need Stephen King books. If you have any you'd part with, please bring them in. For the month of October, we'll give 40% of the cover price in store credit for his paperbacks in good condition to try and pry them from your hot little hands.

### Trivia for October

What was the title of Mae West's 1959 autobiography?

Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.

Our October 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 October 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 October 2020 winner #1 is:

### Kobe Huddleston

See the other 4 winning names elsewhere in the newsletter, below. Find your name and just call or stop at the store on or before November 1, 2020 to claim your prize: A \$25 gift certificate from The Book Rack!

### **Booker Prize Shortlist Announced!**

The <u>Booker Prize</u> shortlist was announced in September, a diverse group of six including four writers of color and four debuts. Awarded each year to one outstanding English-language novel published in the UK or Ireland, the £50,000 prize is one of the most prestigious literary awards in the English-speaking world.

Congratulations to Diane Cook, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Avni Doshi, Maaza Mengiste, Douglas Stuart, and Brandon Taylor!

This year's winner will be announced on November 17.

The New Wilderness by Diane Cook



"Cook writes about desperate people in a world of ever shrinking livable space and increasingly questionable resources like air and water but also about the resilience of children who adapt, even enjoying circumstances that overwhelm the adults around them. Cook also raises uncomfortable questions: How far will a person go to survive, and what sacrifices will she or won't she make for those she loves?This ecological horror story (particularly horrifying now) explores painful regions of the human heart."--*Kirkus Reviews (Starred Review)* 

### This Mournable Body by Tsitsi Dangarembga



"Dangarembga writes with a graceful eloquence that keeps the pages turning

quickly."--*Library Journal*, starred review "Heartbreaking and piercing. . . . This is a smartly told novel of hard-earned bitterness and disillusionment."--*Publishers Weekly* "A haunting, incisive, and timely glimpse into how misogyny and class strife shape life in post-colonial Zimbabwe."--*Kirkus Reviews* 

### Burnt Sugar by Avni Doshi



'Precisely written, resolutely unsentimental... A compelling book, beautifully written and with startling imagery - emotionally wrenching and poignant in equal measure' The Booker Prize Judges 2020 In her youth, Tara was wild. She abandoned her arranged marriage to join an ashram, took a hapless artist for a lover, rebelled against every social expectation of a good Indian woman - all with her young child in tow. Years on, she is an old woman with a fading memory, mixing up her maid's wages and leaving the gas on all night, and her grown-up daughter is faced with the task of caring for a mother who never seemed to care for her. This is a poisoned love story. But not between lovers - between mother and daughter. Sharp as a blade and laced with caustic wit, *Burnt Sugar* gradually untangles the knot of memory and myth that bind two women together, revealing the truth that lies beneath.

### The Shadow King by Maaza Mengiste



ETHIOPIA. 1935.

With the threat of Mussolini's army looming, recently orphaned Hirut struggles to adapt to her new life as a maid. Her new employer, Kidane, an officer in Emperor Haile Selassie's army, rushes to mobilise his strongest men before the Italians invade.

Hirut and the other women long to do more than care for the wounded and bury the dead. When Emperor Haile Selassie goes into exile and Ethiopia quickly loses hope, it is Hirut who offers a plan to maintain morale. She helps disguise a gentle peasant as the emperor and soon becomes his guard, inspiring other women to take up arms. But how could she have predicted her own personal war, still to come, as a prisoner of one of Italy's most vicious officers?

The Shadow King is a gorgeously crafted and unputdownable exploration of female power, and what it means to be a woman at war.

"*The Shadow King* is a beautiful and devastating work; of women holding together a world ripping itself apart. They will slip into your dreams and overtake your memories" MARLON JAMES

### Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stuart



'We were bowled over by this first novel, which creates an amazingly intimate,

compassionate, gripping portrait of addiction, courage and love.' The judges of the Booker Prize

It is 1981. Glasgow is dying and good families must grift to survive. Agnes Bain has always expected more from life. She dreams of greater things: a house with its own front door and a life bought and paid for outright (like her perfect, but false, teeth). But Agnes is abandoned by her philandering husband, and soon she and her three children find themselves trapped in a decimated mining town. As she descends deeper into drink, the children try their best to save her, yet one by one they must abandon her to save themselves. It is her son Shuggie who holds out hope the longest.

Shuggie is different. Fastidious and fussy, he shares his mother's sense of snobbish propriety. The miners' children pick on him and adults condemn him as *no' right*. But Shuggie believes that if he tries his hardest, he can be normal like the other boys and help his mother escape this hopeless place.

Douglas Stuart's *Shuggie Bain* lays bare the ruthlessness of poverty, the limits of love, and the hollowness of pride. A counterpart to the privileged Thatcher-era London of Alan Hollinghurst's *The Line of Beauty*, it also recalls the work of Édouard Louis, Frank McCourt, and Hanya Yanagihara, a blistering debut by a brilliant writer with a powerful and important story to tell.

### **Real Life by Brandon Taylor**



Wallace has spent his summer in the lab breeding a strain of microscopic worms. He is four years into a biochemistry degree at a lakeside Midwestern university, a life that's a world away from his childhood in Alabama. His father died a few weeks ago, but Wallace didn't go back for the funeral, and he hasn't told his friends – Miller, Yngve, Cole and Emma. For reasons of selfpreservation, he has become used to keeping a wary distance even from those closest to him. But, over the course of one blustery end-of-summer weekend, the destruction of his work and a series of intense confrontations force Wallace to grapple with both the trauma of the past, and the question of the future. Deftly zooming in and out of focus, *Real Life* is a deeply affecting story about the emotional cost of reckoning with desire, and overcoming pain.

'This debut is a fresh take on the age-old 'campus novel' tradition, providing a deeply painful, nuanced account of microaggressions, abuse, racism, homophobia, trauma, grief and alienation. We admired the vivid ways the book evokes daily, repetitive action as well as memory and fantasy to get at its profound central question: what is 'real life' anyway?' – **Booker Prize judges** 

### October 2020 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

#### Month:

Breast Cancer Awareness Month Cookie Month Domestic Violence Awareness Month National Diabetes Month

#### Week:

Week 1 - Customer Service Week 14-20 – Earth Sciences Week

#### Day:

- 1 International Day for the Elderly
- 1 International Homemade Cookie Day
- 3 Local Author David Dorris will be at The Book Rack with his newest book,

#### 11-1:00

- 5 World Teachers Day
- 5 -- Do Something Nice Day
- 12 Columbus Day
- 12 Indigenous People Day
- 16 Bosses Day
- 17 Sweetest Day
- 21 Babbling Day
- 25 Mother-in-Law Day
- 31 Halloween

# **Teachers' Credit Account**

Through the generosity of our **Book Rack** customers since

February 2013, Teachers and School Librarians have saved more than \$16,950.00 by using the Teachers' Credit Account when buying books for their classrooms and libraries. This continues to be a very active program and we want it to continue to grow and contribute to more children readers and learners. If you know someone who is a teacher and buys books for their classroom, please tell them about our program. If you have more credit than you can use, consider contributing some to this account.

### **Featured** Author

### David Dorris

Will be at The Book Rack 11-1:00 on Saturday, October 2 with his 3 novels meeting with fans and friends. Make a point to stop in, visit a bit and pick up a copy.



#### The Adventures of Stunning Stephen Edwards as the Stunning Kid in the Time Traveling Marshals

First there was The Westside Kids meet The Small Fry followed by Stunning Stephen Edwards and The West Side Kids in The Invisible Man. If you like westerns, time travel and like to be entertained, you will like this ONE OF A KIND OF WESTERN THAT HAS A GREAT STORY. THIS BOOK IS AN EASY READ FOR ANY AGE that will make you laugh as you read along with the plots, twists and turns that will blind side you with the surprises. Now the gang goes back in time in The Adventures of Stunning Stephen Edwards as The Stunning Kid in The Time Traveling Marshals to Dodge City Kansas, 1880 to help Rex's great, great, great, grandfather, Marshal Allen. A new masked hero is introduced, known as The Stunning Kid. In this story there are many characters that are smart, fun, confused, stupid and dangerous that supply the action, adventure, surprises and comedy. This makes it a fun read for all as the gang fights The Dean Dickerson Gang who chase homesteaders off of their land to gain water rights, rustle cattle, rob stages and banks. As The Stunning Kid begins to interfere with The Dean Dickerson Gang's operations, The Dean Dickerson Gang comes up with a plan to get rid of The Stunning Kid. This is when The Stunning Kid calls on Rex, Columbo and The West Side Kids for help. THIS IS A MUST READ. So saddle up and ride with Stunning Stephen Edwards and the gang when they move back to 1880 with the 21st century knowledge and tools to regain law and order in the old west.

David Dorris retired after working thirty-five years at Ralston Purina. David got a twoyear degree from Scott Community College in 1992 for General Studies. He was a newsletter editor for The Dad's Club, his church and The Junior Chamber of Commerce over the years. He coached Dad's Softball for thirty years. He always taught the kids that played for him that life is like a sport, which encouraged him to write his other three books, "Life Is Too Short", Life Is Too Short: Choices In Life" and "Life Is Too Short: Life Is What We Make It". David would joke around once in a while about writing a short story about a Dwarf going around robbing and killing people. He was caught by the police and this Dwarf was sentenced to the electric chair by a judge. David was going to call this short story, Small Fry. A friend of his suggested he write a book about Small Fry.

## **Book Reviews**

#### **Book Reviews by Claudia**

*The Kitchen Boy: A Novel of the Last Tsar* is by Robert Alexander (a pen name of R. D. Zimmerman) (2004) Historical Fiction



Zimmerman graduated from Michigan State University, also studied at Leningrad State University, and lived and traveled extensively in the former Soviet Union. In researching *The Kitchen Boy*, he gained access to Russian archives and palaces that are closed to the general public. In July 1918, the former Tsar of

Russia and his family live imprisoned by Bolshevik soldiers. As a loyalist army presses toward the town and the Romanovs pray for a rescue that will never come, their captors receive a stark authorization from Moscow: Nikolai, his wife, and their five children are all to be shot to death. The story is a fictional account of the last days of Nicholas and Alexandra Romanov as seen from the point of view of Leonka, their 14-year old kitchen boy. Now an elderly man, Leonka claims to be the last living witness to the Romanovs' brutal murders, and shares the secrets of this doomed family. (Edited review from Penguin Random House) Good book.

# Less (winner of the Pulitzer Prize) by Andrew Sean Greer (2017) General Fiction



Less follows gay author Arthur Less as he travels the world prior to his fiftieth birthday. Having recently parted with his long-time partner (who is to be married while Less is in another country - not unplanned), and been told by his publisher that his current novel has much to be desired, Less's journey around the world (including stops in France, Germany, Japan, India....) brings a number of awkward and humorous moments, from language fax pas, misunderstandings, and the constant reminder that time marches on. A satirical comedy, *Less* is at its heart, a love story. I enjoyed Greer's turn of phrase and imagery. Pretty good book.

## The October 2020 winner #2 is: Nancy Beam

### **Book Reviews by Bob**

L.A. Outlaws by T. Jefferson Parker (2008) Mystery



Los Angeles is gripped by the exploding celebrity of Allison Murrieta, her real identity unknown, a modern-day Jesse James with the compulsion to steal beautiful things, the vanity to invite the media along, and the conscience to donate much of her bounty to charity. Nobody ever gets hurt, until a job ends with ten gangsters lying dead and a half-million dollars-worth of glittering diamonds missing. Rookie Deputy Charlie Hood discovers the bodies, and he prevents an eyewitness, a schoolteacher named Suzanne Jones, from leaving the scene in her Corvette. Drawn to a mysterious charisma that has him off-balance from the beginning, Hood begins an intense affair with Suzanne. As the media frenzy surrounding Allison's exploits swells to a fever pitch and the Southland's most notorious killer sets out after her, a glimmer of recognition blooms in Hood, forcing him to choose between a deeply held sense of honor and a passion that threatens to consume him completely. With a stone-cold killer locked in relentless pursuit, Suzanne and Hood continue their desperate dance around the secrets that brought them together, unsure whether each new dawn may signal the day their lies catch up with them.

It's been quite a while since I read a Parker book and I'm asking myself "Why?" This is a very good book. Lots of action, spiced with just the right amount of sex, great characters to love and hate, and some eliciting strong conflicting feelings. The story is compelling, to boot. I give it an A. Don't miss out on T. Jefferson Parker or you'll miss a real good author.

If you like Robert Crais, John Lethem, Greg Hurwitz or John Sandford, you'll like T. Jefferson Parker.

#### Inside Out, A Novel by Barry Eisler (2011) Thriller



This is the propulsive thriller that only former CIA operative turned bestselling novelist Barry Eisler could write.

Marooned in a Manila jail after a bar fight fatality, black ops soldier Ben Treven gets a visit from his former commander, Colonel Scott Horton, who explains the price of Ben's release: Find and eliminate Daniel Larison, a rogue operator from Ben's unit who has stolen ninety-two torture tapes from the CIA and is using them to blackmail the U.S. government.

But other players are after the tapes, too, and to find Larison, Ben will have to survive CIA hit teams, Blackwater mercenaries, and the long reach of the White House. He'll also have to find a way to handle Paula Lanier, a smart, sexy FBI agent who has her own reasons for wanting the tapes and is determined to get them before Ben does. With the stakes this high, everyone has an angle - everyone but Ben, who will have to find the right alliance if he wants to stay alive.

Barry Eisler spent three years in a covert position with the CIA's Directorate of Operations, then worked as a technology lawyer and startup executive in Silicon Valley and Japan, earning his black belt at the Kodokan International Judo Center along the way. Eisler's bestselling thrillers have won the Barry Award and the Gumshoe Award for Best Thriller of the Year, have been included in numerous "Best Of" lists, and have been translated into nearly twenty languages. Eisler lives in the San Francisco Bay Area and, when he's not writing novels, blogs about torture, civil liberties, and the rule of law.

I liked this book. I give it a B+. If you like Mary Burton, Gregg Olsen or Robert Dugoni you'll like Eisler. Alliances that form quickly and dissolve equally fast. Who'll end up on top at the end? Eisler keeps you wondering.

The Hidden Target by Helen Macinnes (1980) Espionage Thriller



Chance is the trigger that unleashes this whirlwind adventure. It unexpectedly brings Nina O'Connell and Robert Renwick face to face on a sunlit street in Amsterdam. Their last meeting had been in Geneva six years before, a time when Nina, fifteen thought herself in love with this American army major attached to NATO. The years, Nina notes, have made Bob even more attractive; the years, Renwick notes, have transformed that pretty, enchanting girl into a beautiful, poised, young woman.

In a nearby cafe they exchange news: Nina is off on a lark, an expense-free trip for a small group of students across Europe, the Near East, India, and, finally, the United States. Renwick is leaving NATO and the army to join a company of consulting engineers. Neither description is accurate.

Renwick, in charge of NATO's antiterrorist section, is setting up an international intelligence agency, operating under cover and concentrating on the bloody, crazed epidemic of terrorism now running rampant. Nina's tour is not the lark she imagines. The two young leaders of the group are, in fact, expertly trained, experienced terrorists, part of a well-financed, brilliantly organized, meticulously concealed structure. There is a final objective, sinister and devastating

- and Nina had been chosen for the part she, in all innocence, will play.

If you like Ian Fleming, Mary Stewart, Morris West or Robert Littell you'll probably enjoy MacInnes. I love many of these older authors. More tradecraft and less bravado from the lead characters. I give it a B+.

#### Face of Betrayal by Lis Wiehl with April Henry (2009) Mystery



While home on Christmas break, a seventeen-year-old Senate page takes her dog out for a walk and never returns. Reporter Cassidy Shaw is the first to break the story. The resulting media firestorm quickly ensnares Federal Prosecutor Allison Pierce and FBI Special Agent Nicole Hedges. The three unique women are life-long friends who call themselves The Triple Threat--a nickname derived from their favorite dessert and their uncanny ability to crack cases via their three positions of power.

Though authorities think Katie might have been kidnapped or run away, those theories shatter when Nicole uncovers Katie's blog. They reveal a girl troubled by a mysterious relationship with an older man. Possibly a U.S. Senator.

As the three women race against time to find Katie alive, their increasing emotional involvement brings out their own inner demons and external enemies. There are many faces of betrayal, but they must find one face in a crowd of growing suspects before they become the next victims.

If you like Jane Ann Krentz, Linda Howard or Karen Robards, you need to read Wiehl. I give the book a B. It's entertaining, energetic and has a very good set of characters.

If you need a book and can't find it on our site, please try: <u>https://www.ChrisLandsSearch.com</u> This will search hundreds of other independent bookstores around the world to help you. If all else fails...there's always AMAZON!

## **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

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

Richard Paul Evans - The Noel Letters (Noel Collection) - 21.99 – (Holiday Christian Fiction)

Alice Hoffman - Magic Lessons: The Prequel to Practical Magic – 27.99 – (General Fiction/Literature)



Where does the story of the Owens bloodline begin? With Maria Owens, in the 1600s, when she's abandoned in a snowy field in rural England as a baby. Under the care of Hannah Owens, Maria learns about the "Unnamed Arts." Hannah recognizes that Maria has a gift and she teaches the girl all she knows. It is here that she learns her first important lesson: Always love someone who will love you back.

When Maria is abandoned by the man who has declared his love for her, she follows him to Salem, Massachusetts. Here she invokes the curse that will haunt her family. And it's here that she learns the rules of magic and the lesson that she will carry with her for the rest of her life. Love is the only thing that matters.

Magic Lessons is a celebration of life and love and a showcase of Alice Hoffman's masterful storytelling.

#### Karen Kingsbury - Truly, Madly, Deeply – 26.00 (Inspirational Fiction)



Jeff Kinney - The Deep End (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 15) – 14.99 (Juvenile Fiction)

Joyce Carol Oates - Cardiff, by the Sea: Four Novellas of Suspense – 26.00



From one of the most important contemporary American writers, *Cardiff, by the Sea* is a bold, haunting collection of four previously unpublished novellas.

In the titular novella, an academic in Pennsylvania discovers a terrifying trauma from her past after inheriting a house in Cardiff, Maine from someone she has never heard of. Mia, the protagonist of "Miao Dao," is a pubescent girl overcome with loneliness, who befriends a feral cat that becomes her protector from the increasingly aggressive males that surround her.

A brilliant but shy college sophomore realizes that she is pregnant in "Phan-tomwise: 1972." Distraught, she allows a distinguished visiting professor to take her under his wing, though it quickly becomes evident that he is interested in more than an academic mentorship. Lastly, "The Surviving Child" is Stefan, who was spared when his mother, a famous poet, killed his sister and herself. Stefan's father remarries, but his young wife is haunted by dead poet's voice dancing in the wind, an inexplicably befouled well, and a compulsive draw to the same gar-age that took two lives.

In these psychologically daring, chillingly suspenseful pieces, Joyce Carol Oates writes about women facing threats past and present.

# Stuart Woods - Shakeup (Stone Barrington Novel #55) - (28.00) – (Thriller)



Stone Barrington must track down an enemy intent on disturbing law and order in the latest action-packed thriller from the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author.

Upon returning from a dangerous coastal adventure, Stone Barrington is looking forward to some normalcy with the leading lady in his life. But when a grisly crime arrives on his doorstep, along with some suspicious new clients eager for his help, Stone realizes peace and quiet are no longer an option.

As it turns out, the mastermind behind the malfeasance rocking New York City and the nation's capital wields a heavy hand of influence. And when Stone is unable to recruit those closest to the case to his side, he is left with few leads and a handful of dead-ends. But with the help of important people in high places--and the expertise of alluring new friends--Stone is more than ready to rise to the occasion.

# The October 2020 winner #3 is: Mike Meyer

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### Trivia for October

#### What was the title of Mae West's 1959 autobiography?

### Answer:

### Goodness Had Nothing to Do with It

### **Mass Market Paperback**

Ace Atkins – Robert B Parker's Angel Eyes, A Spenser Novel – 9.99



In the latest thriller featuring the legendary Boston PI, Spenser heads to the City of Angels to meet old friends and new enemies in a baffling missing person case that might shake Tinseltown to its core.

Gabby Leggett left her Boston family with dreams of making it big as a model/actress in Hollywood. Two years later, she disappears from her apartment. Her family, former boyfriend, and friends--and the police--have no idea where she is and no leads. Leggett's mother hires Spenser to find her, with the help of his former apprentice, Zebulon Sixkill, now an L.A. private eye. Spenser barely has time to unpack before the trail leads to a powerful movie studio boss, the Armenian Mob, and a shadowy empowerment group some say might be a dangerous cult.

It's soon clear that Spenser and Sixkill may be outgunned this time, and series favorites Chollo and Bobby Horse ride to the rescue to provide backup. From the mansions of Beverly Hills to the lawless streets of a small California town, Spenser will need to watch his step. In Hollywood, all that glitters isn't gold. And not all those who wander are lost.

#### Jackson Cain – Dead Men Don't Lie – 8.99



Known just as much for his highly realistic, impeccably researched settings and authentic characters as for his actionpacked plots, Jackson Cain kicks off a new series featuring notorious outlaw Torn Slater. In this first adventure, he blazes through the lawless wilds of 19th Century Arizona Territory and into the brutal violence of Mexico under the savage dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz.

Wanted in thirteen states. Locked up for two years in a Mexican prison. Released into the wilds of the American West with a twenty-thousand-dollar bounty on his head. The outlaw Torn Slater doesn't just live outside the law, he takes it into his own hands--and makes it cry for mercy...

After robbing some banks, Slater knows he should lay low. But when a beautiful widow asks for his help, he can't say no. Her reckless son has gone looking for trouble in Mexico--and found it in a woman called "La Senorita." This power-mad femme fatale combines the torture methods of the Spanish Inquisition with the heart-ripping rituals of the Aztecs to get whatever she wants. And she wants the widow's son. Slater would be lying if he said taking down "La Senorita" would be easy. But dead men don't lie...

# Marc Cameron – Tom Clancy Code of Honor, A Jack Ryan Novel – 9.99

#### Michael Connelly – The Night Fire, A Renee Ballard and Harry Bosch Novel – 9.99



Clive Cussler – Final Option, A Novel of the Oregon Files – 9.99 – Thriller



Juan Cabrillo fights the worst enemy from his past to the terrifying and unexpected ending in the latest actionpacked thriller in the #1 New York Times-bestselling series created by the Grand Master of Adventure, Clive Cussler. When the CIA realizes the identities of three American spies in Brazil have been compromised, they turn to Juan Cabrillo and the crew of the Oregon to rescue the agents. What seems a routine operation turns out to be a trap designed by Juan Cabrillo's greatest enemy, a man driven by hate to seek the ultimate revenge. At the heart of the plot is a state-of-the-art ship that is identical to the Oregon same weaponry, same technology, same ability to evade capture. The only thing it doesn't have is Cabrillo and his talented crew. But will they be enough to go up against the one ship that rivals their own? The crew of the Oregon must piece together a series of disturbing events, including the mysterious sinking of a nuclear attack submarine and the possible discovery of a WWII-era weapon that was thought to be lost in the jungles of Brazil, in the ultimate game of cat and mouse.

### Vince Flynn/Kyle Mills – Lethal Agent, A Mitch Rapp Novel – 9.99 Heather Graham – Dreaming Death, Krewe of Hunters – 9.99



Ever since she was a child, Stacey Hanson has had strange dreams--and sometimes they come true. Her skills and experience led her straight to the FBI's Krewe of Hunters. Now a serial killer is stalking Washington, DC, and people are scared. And it will be Stacey's first case. Special Agent Keenan Wallace isn't exactly thrilled to be teamed up with a rookie, but they're going to have to get past their mutual friction if they want to stop a brutal killer

#### Iris Johansen/Roy Johansen – Hindsight – 9.99

Mercedes Lackey – A Case of the Spellbound Child, An Elemental Masters Novel – 8.99



While Sherlock is still officially dead, John and Mary Watson and Nan Killian and Sarah Lyon-White are taking up some of his case-load--and some work for Lord Alderscroft, the Wizard of London.

Lord Alderscroft asks them to go to Dartmoor to track down a rumor of evil magic brewing there. Not more than four hours later, a poor cottager, also from Dartmoor, arrives seeking their help. His wife, in a fit of rage over the children spilling and spoiling their only food for dinner that night, sent them out on the moors to forage for something to eat. This is not the first time she has done this, and the children are moor-wise and unlikely to get into difficulties. But this time they did not come back, and in fact, their tracks abruptly stopped "as if them Pharisees took'd 'em." The man begs them to come help. They would say no, but there's the assignment for Alderscroft. Why not kill two birds with one stone? But the deadly bogs are not the only mires on Dartmoor. And these are not the only missing children.

#### Debbie Macomber – The Gift of Love – 9.99

#### Susan Mallery – Happily This Christmas, Happily Inc – 16.99



#### There's no place like Happily Inc for the holidays...

Wynn Beauchene has a thriving business, a great kid and a mildly embarrassing crush on the guy next door--local cop Garrick McCabe. She's a strong, independent woman who can't help dreaming what-if about a man she barely knows. Until he needs her help...

Garrick's pregnant daughter will be home for Christmas, and his house needs a woman's touch. Garrick and his little girl were tight once and he's hoping a small-town Christmas will bring her back to him. But thawing his daughter's frosty attitude will take more than a few twinkle lights. Maybe sharing the holiday with Wynn and her son will remind her of the joy of family. As the season works its magic on these wounded souls, Wynn realizes it's time to stop punishing herself for a painful secret, while Garrick remains haunted by the ghosts of past mistakes. Will he allow Wynn to open the only gift she truly wants--his heart?

#### Debbie Mason – Christmas on A Reindeer Road – 7.99

# Brenda Novak – A California Christmas, A Silver Springs Novel – 9.99

James Patterson – Criss Cross – 9.99



When a mysterious serial killer known as "M" launches a deranged "investigation", Alex Cross and his partner must unearth long-forgotten secrets to survive -- or risk getting buried themselves.

In a Virginia penitentiary, Alex Cross and his partner, John Sampson, witness the execution of a killer they helped convict. Hours later, they are called to the scene of a copycat crime. A note signed "M" rests on the corpse. "You messed up big time, Dr. Cross."

Was an innocent man just put to death? Alex soon realizes he may have much to answer for, as "M" lures the detective out of the capital to the sites of multiple homicides, all marked with distressingly familiar details -- details that conjure up decadesold cases. Details that conjure up Cross family secrets. Details that make clear that M is after a prize so dear that -- were the killer to attain it -- Alex's heart would no longer have reason to beat.

#### Geronimo Stilton – Superstore Surprise – 7.99 (Children's Age 9-12)

Stuart Woods – Treason, A Stone Barrington Novel – 9.99



### Stone Barrington takes on a scheming rebel in this latest action-packed thriller from #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author Stuart Woods.

Upon returning to New York City after a whirlwind British excursion, Stone Barrington is notified of a delicate situation within the country's administration. A close friend requires his expertise and subtlety to eradicate a destructive presence in a classified agency--only it soon becomes clear that this renegade was sent by a rival Stone has encountered before.

From the City of Light to the rocky Maine coastline, Stone will need to summon all his wit and daring to halt the audacious plots threatening to reveal confidential intel, and catch the evasive traitor at last. This enemy may be equipped with unlimited resources and devious schemes, but if Stone remains vigilant, justice may finally prevail....

### The October 2020 winner #4 is:

### Heidi Stevens