

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 13, #5
May 2020
563-355-2310

Important!

From now until 30-days after we fully reopen you will receive **35%** of the cover price in store credit for paperback books we accept in trade!! Help us restock and refresh our inventory, please.

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

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!

Trivia for May

What was the name of Don Quixote's worn-out old horse?

Bonus Question:

Sidekick Sancho Panza's Donkey was named what?

Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.

While the store is closed to in-store customers, we continue to man the phone 10-4:00 Mon – Sat and 12-4:00 Sunday for phone orders.

We may lengthen these times as we can.

We are now OPEN for outside pick-up of orders and for outside drop off of books for trade. Please wear your face mask and stay in your car. Call if we don't see you quickly. Be patient. Your books are worth the wait. And, "Hey!" you're out of the house! Please prepay if at all possible, via web site or by calling with your payment information to minimize your time waiting and risk for you and us.

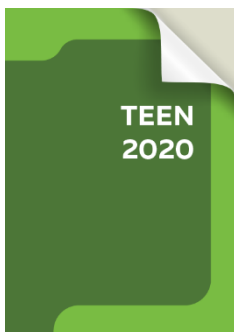
Shop for your books on our web site (<https://www.thebookrackqc.com/>). We've seen a very welcome surge in customers near and far using it. You can shop and order from there or call or email us your list. Tell us if you want them mailed or will pick them up. We'll pull the books, ring up the order, call you for payment, if that's your chosen payment option, and have them mailed or ready for pick up by the next day. We'll let you know when they are ready.

If dropping off books to trade, please ensure your name, phone number and email are on a note with your books. Please print clearly! Also, please don't bring a truck load all at one time. Bring them a box or bag at a time so as to not overwhelm us.

Once we are fully open and you can come into the store to shop, we'll make every effort to insure you have a safe environment. We have always done this beyond normal standards, but we'll further enhance those efforts. We'll frequently clean the counters, door handles and bathroom and have hand cleaner and wipes for your use. You'll know who you are dealing with and how careful we are being.

We'll fully reopen when we may. It will depend on the city and state leadership and our staff health and welfare. In any event we expect to continue to offer books through our web site and shipping at very reasonable cost, or free for orders of used books \$25.00, or more.

Do you have children and/or teens in your family that like to read? It's time to plan for their summer reading. The three catalogs below can help you find the right books that they will enjoy and will be excellent learning tools. Simply place your mouse over the picture and follow the electrons to the catalog



with many wonderful new titles. Then call, email or snail mail the store with the list of the books you want. We can order them and save you as much as 20% off the price shown and either have them shipped directly to you for \$4.00 for each order or free to the store for you to pick up at your convenience. Our offers of free or reduced shipping to your home do apply, but I didn't want to repeat myself unnecessarily.

Jigsaw Puzzles!!

New to TheBookRackQC.com

To help you while-away the hours enjoyably and keep your mind active, we've added a selection of great jigsaw puzzles. These are for the most part only available from our web site and can be shipped directly to you. We will carry a selection at the store which can be purchased on the spot. Once we are able to reopen the store, you can pick them up. Some may well be back ordered and take a little time to reach you. Please understand the times we are in. They will be worth the wait.

Here's a small sample:





Yeah! They will be challenging! They range from 100-2000 pieces; from @\$10.00 - \$40.00 and a couple are 2-side. All are truly fine quality. We'll add more as we go. Some may be out of stock when you want them, but be patient and look for the ones that are available. We hope you will take advantage of these and enjoy them thoroughly.

Our May 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 and/or had a trade or purchase since 1 April, 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 May 2020 winner #1 is:

Diana Sanderson

See the other 3 winning names elsewhere in the newsletter, below. Find your name and just call or stop at the store on or before July 1, 2020 to claim your prize:

A \$25 gift certificate from The Book Rack!

May 2020 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

Weekly Celebrations:

WOW! Do we need to celebrate these! Thank you, ALL! Stay healthy.

- Nurse's Week - first full week of month**
- National Police Week - third week of month**
- Emergency Medical Services Week - fourth week of month**

May 1 - Mother Goose Day

5 – Cinco de Mayo

- National Teachers Day

6 – National Nurses Day – You go Nurses!

8 – World Red Cross Day

10 – Mother's Day– The Book Rack will (hopefully) be open – You don't want to miss this one!

11 – Twilight Zone Day

12 – International Nurses Day - You go Nurses!

13 – School Nurses Day - You go Nurses!

15 – Police Officer's Memorial Day

16 – Armed Forces Day

17 – Pack Rat Day

21 – Waiters and Waitresses Day

25 – Memorial Day – The Book Rack will be open!?!?

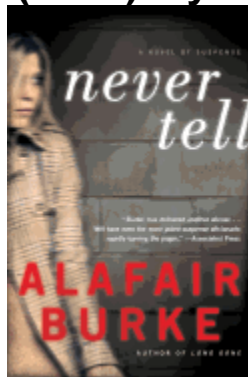
Book Reviews

Mallory's Oracle, by Carol O'Connell,



is the first in a series featuring New York police officer Kathleen Mallory. An orphan growing up on the streets, she is arrested at age 10 by Louis Markowitz, who ultimately adopts her. Louis and his wife Helen are exemplary loving and caring parents, but Mallory (“Don’t call me Kathy.”) is a sociopath with a secretive and combative nature. Still, she becomes a technology expert and an irreplaceable asset in her department. She does have a couple people who seem relatively close to her, psychologist Charles Butler and NYPD Sergeant Riker. Her male superior, Lieutenant Coffey, is equally in love with and afraid of her. A statuesque blonde with blood red finger nails is not how I pictured her, so the intermittent reminders of her appearance are helpful to me! Mallory’s Oracle is the story of a serial killer who is targeting the elderly and wealthy ladies of Gramercy Park who are involved in a séance group headed by a scam artist who gains information from the wealthy women and trades the insider information for a cut of the profits. Mallory becomes involved when her father, Louis Markowitz, is murdered. Along the way Mallory learns new things about Markowitz, giving her an even clearer picture of the man she idolized. I found some similarities between Kathleen Mallory and J.D.Robb’s character Eve Dallas of the “___ in Death” series, but the two New York cops are definitely different women. The Mallory series is recommended to be read in order as well, mostly for character development.

Never Tell by Alafair Burke (2012) Mystery



Sixteen-year-old Julia Whitmire appeared to have everything: a famous father, a luxurious Manhattan town house, a coveted spot at the elite Casden prep school. When she is found dead in her bathtub, a handwritten suicide note left on her bed, her parents insist that their daughter would never take her own life. But Julia's enviable world was more complicated than it seemed. The pressure to excel

at Casden was enormous. Abuse of prescription antidepressants and ADHD medication ran rampant among students; an unlabeled bottle of pills in Julia's purse suggests she had succumbed to the trend. And a search of Julia's computer reveals that in the days leading up to her death she was engaged in a dangerous game of cyberbullying against an unlikely victim.

NYPD detective Ellie Hatcher is convinced the case is a suicide, but she knows from personal experience that a loving family can be the last to accept the truth. When the Whitmires use their power to force a criminal investigation, Ellie's resistance causes trouble for her both at work and in her personal life. As she is pressured to pursue a case she doesn't believe in, she is pulled into Julia's inner circle--an eclectic mix of overly precocious teenagers from Manhattan's most privileged families as well as street kids from Greenwich Village. But when the target of Julia's harassment continues to receive death threats, Ellie is forced to acknowledge that Julia may have learned the hard way that some secrets should never be told.

Review Quotes:

"[Burke] has delivered another winner....Two seemingly different storylines converge in a shocking way, demonstrating Burke's remarkable abilities as a writer....Hatcher is a complex character, and her journey both personally and professionally will have even the most jaded suspense aficionado rapidly turning the pages."-- Jeff Ayers, *Associated Press*

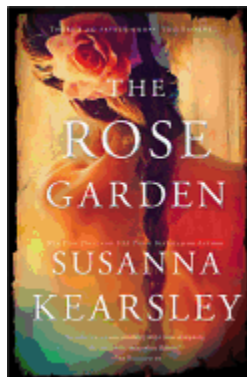
Review Quotes:

"Burke has a good eye for the many faces of New York....Burke's story is complex, but her pace is fast, her prose is crisp and her duplicitous characters ring true in the Darwinian world she creates."-- Patrick Anderson, *Washington Post*

I give *Never Tell a B+*. Claudia & I listened to the audio book on a trip to the Twin Cities and back and the trip seemed much shorter and we were immersed in the mystery. I think Claudia would agree.

If you like Lisa Unger, Lisa Scottolini or Kate White you'll probably like Burke.

The Rose Garden by Susanna Kearsley (2011) Paranormal Romance



"I've loved every one of Susanna's books! She has bedrock research and a butterfly's delicate touch with characters--sure recipe for historical fiction that sucks you in and won't let go!"-- DIANA GABALDON, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Outlander*

A journey through time and a story of love, *The Rose Garden* tells the story of a modern woman thrown back three centuries only to find that might just be where she belongs.

After the death of her sister, Eva Ward leaves Hollywood behind to return to the only place she feels she truly belongs, the old house on the coast of Cornwall, England. She's seeking comfort in memories of childhood summers, but what she finds is mysterious voices and hidden pathways that sweep her not only into the past, but also into the arms of a man who is not of her time. But Eva soon discovers that the man, Daniel Butler, is very, very real and is thrown into a world of intrigue, treason, and love. Inside the old house, Eva must confront her own ghosts, as well as those of long ago. And as she begins to question her place in the present, she realizes she must decide where she really belongs: in the life she knows or the past she feels so drawn towards. An author and genre I wouldn't consider picking up, if we didn't own [The Book Rack](#). That said, I did enjoy it! This phenomenon is one of the wonders of reading. Pick up a book somewhat randomly, start reading it and you are swept into a world unlike you have imagined and you find it (sometimes) one you are glad you visited, if only once. I give *The Rose Garden* a B because it did keep me hooked and entertained, though not as thoroughly as my favorites.

Susanna Kearsley's writing has been compared to Mary Stewart, Daphne du Maurier, and Diana Gabaldon. Her books have been translated into several languages, selected for the Mystery Guild, condensed for Reader's Digest, and optioned for film. She lives in Canada, near the shores of Lake Ontario.

The May 2020 winner #2 is:

Cindy Barber

The Scarlet Pimpernel by Baroness Orczy (1905) Classic



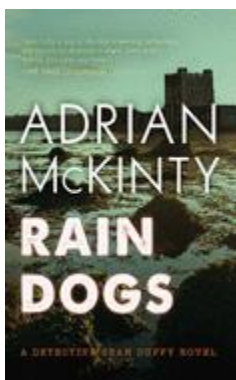
Sir Percy Blakeney lives a double life in the England of 1792: at home he is an idle fop and a leader of fashion, but abroad he is the Scarlet Pimpernel, a master of disguise who saves aristocrats from the guillotine. When the revolutionary French state seeks

to unmask him, Percy's estranged, independent wife, Marguerite, unwittingly sets their agent on her husband's track. Percy's escapades, and Marguerite's daring journey to France to save him from the guillotine, keep the reader turning the pages of Baroness Orczy's well-paced romantic adventure.

Written in just five weeks in 1903, Baroness Emma Orczy's bestseller has been the basis of multiple adaptations. Rooted in the upheaval of Orczy's Hungarian childhood, and in the anxious nationalism of turn-of-the-century Britain, the story of the Scarlet Pimpernel provided a blueprint not only for subsequent historical swashbucklers, but for superheroes from Zorro to Superman.

A true classic that you can read as a modern adventure novel and enjoy as much. Lots of action, suspense and characters you can love and hate. Give it a try. I give it an A.

Rain Dogs, A Detective Sean Duffy Novel #5 by Adrian McKinty (2016) **Mystery**



Rain Dogs, a stunning installment in the Sean Duffy thriller series, following the Edgar Award-nominated *Gun Street Girl*, is ""another standout in a superior series"" (*Booklist*).

It's just the same things over and over again for Sean Duffy: riot duty, heartbreak, cases he can solve but never get to court. But what detective gets two locked-room mysteries in one career?

When journalist Lily Bigelow is found dead in the courtyard of Carrickfergus Castle, it looks like a suicide. Yet there are a few things that bother Duffy just enough to keep the case file open, which is how he finds out that Bigelow was working on a devastating investigation of corruption and abuse at the highest levels of power in the UK and beyond.

And so Duffy has two impossible problems on his desk: Who killed Lily Bigelow? And what were they trying to hide?

My first McKinty novel won't be my last. Set in Northern Ireland during "The Troubles" it isn't about that conflict. It's a solid police procedural and Sean Duffy is a solid detective. I give it an A- and high recommendation. If

you like Mick Herron, Ken Bruen, or Tanya French, make sure and give McKinty a try.

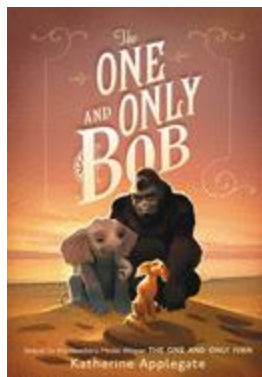
Recent and Upcoming New Releases:

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.

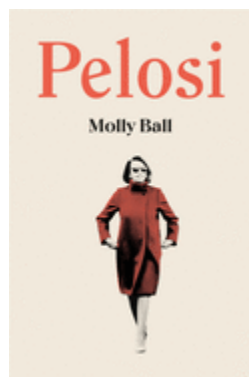
You can also add any of these titles to your request list. Some will come in soon and others may take a while, but many will get to you eventually.

Hardcover and Trade Paperback

Katherine Applegate – The One and Only Bob – 18.99 – Ages 9-12

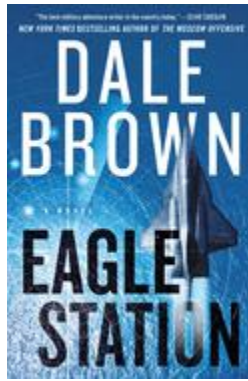


Molly Ball – Pelosi – 27.99 – Biography



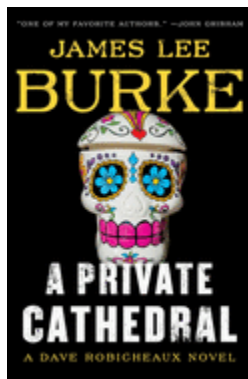
Ben Bova – Uranus – 27.99 – Sci-Fi

Dale Brown – Eagle Station – 28.99 – Espionage/Thriller



Rita Mae Brown – Formidable Foes, A Mrs. Murphy Mystery – 28.00

James Lee Burke – The Private Cathedral, A Dave Robicheaux Novel – 28.00 – Espionage/Thriller



Michael Connelly – Fair Warning, A Jack McEvoy Mystery – 29.00

**Jeffery Deaver – The Goodbye Man, A Coulter Shaw Novel – 28.00
– Espionage Thriller**



Janet Evanovich – The Bounty, A Fox and O'Hare Novel – 28.00

W. Michael Gear – Unreconciled – 27.00 - Sci Fi



Heather Graham – Seeing Darkness, A Krewe of Hunters Novel – 28.99 - Romance

Sue Monk Kidd – The Book of Longings – 28.00 – General Fiction

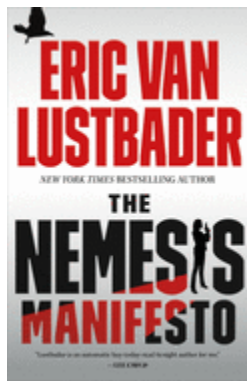


Stephen King – If It Bleeds – 30.00 – Espionage



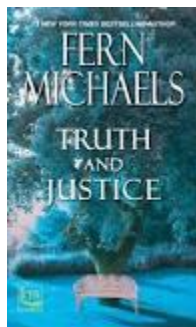
Karen Kingsbury – Someone Like You – 26.00 – Religious Fiction

Eric Van Lustbader – The Nemesis Manifesto – 27.99 – Espionage/Thriller

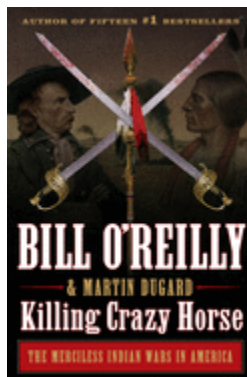


Susan Mallery – The Friendship List – 26.99 – Romance

Fern Michaels – Truth and Justice – 28.95 – Espionage/Thriller

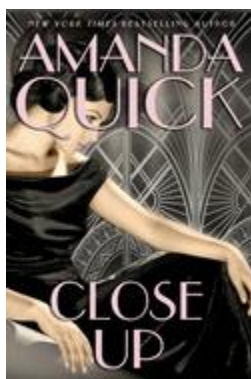


Bill O'Reilly – Killing Crazy Horse, The Merciless Indian Wars in America – 30.00 – General History



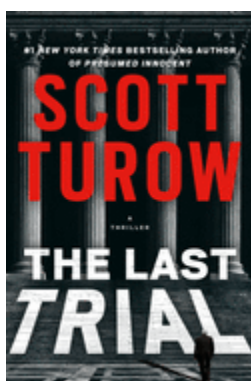
James Patterson – The 20th Victim, A Women's Murder Club Novel – 29.00

Amanda Quick – Close-Up – 27.00 – Romance



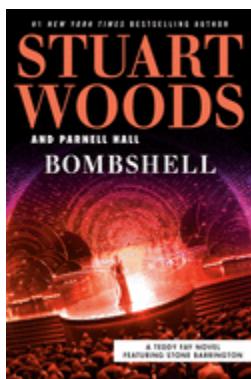
Nora Roberts – Hideaway – 28.99 – General Fiction

Scott Turow – The Last Trial – 29.00 – Mystery/Detective



Marhta Wells – Network Effect, A Murderbot Novel – 26.99 – Sci-Fi

Stuart Woods – Bombshell – 28.00 – General Fiction



Trivia for May

What was the name of Don Quixote's worn-out old horse?

Answer:

Rosinate.

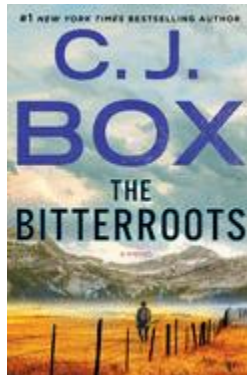
**Sidekick Sancho Panza's Donkey was called
Dapple.**

Mass Market Paperback

The May 2020 winner #3 is:

Deborah Connell

C.J. Box – The Bitterroots – 9.99 – Mystery/Detective



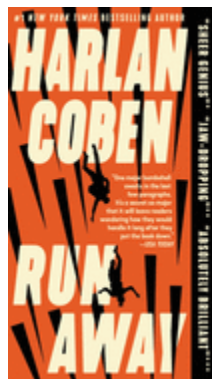
**Terry Brooks – The Fall of Shannara: The Stiehl Assassin – 8.99 –
Fantasy**

Jack Campbell – The Genesis Fleet: Triumphant – 7.99 – Sci-Fi



Orson Scott Card – The Hive, Book Two of the Second Formic War – 8.99 – Sci-Fi

Harlan Coben – Run Away – 9.99 – Action/Adventure



Heather Graham – Witness to Death – 7.99 - Romance

Heather Gudenkauf – Before She Was Found – 9.99 – Psychological Suspense



Karen Harper – Deep in the Alaskan Woods, A Lost Lake Novel – 7.99 – Romance

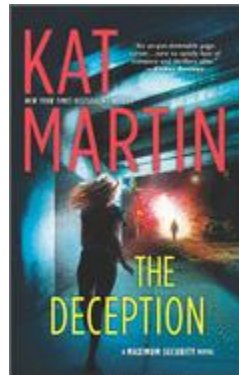
Kristin Higgins – Life and Other Inconveniences – 7.99 – General

Fiction



Craig Johnson – Kindness Goes Unpunished, A Walt Longmeier Mystery – 9.99

Kat Martin – The Deception, A Maximum Security Novel – 8.99

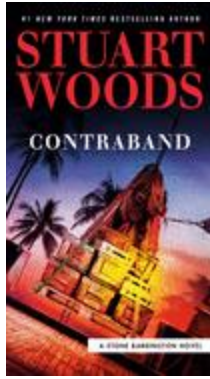


Brad Thor – Back Lash – 9.99 – Action/Adventure

David Weber – The Gordian Protocol – 8.99 – Sci-Fi



Stuart Woods – Contraband, A Stone Barrington Novel – 9.99 – Action/Adventure



**The May 2020 winner #4 is:
Joyce Tracy**