

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 15, #5 May 2022
563-355-2310
BookRackQC@Gmail.com

Store Hours: 10:00 - 6:00 Daily (except New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, July 4, Thanksgiving and Christmas)

Trivia for May 2022

When *The Joy of Cooking* was revised and republished in 1997, it contained 4500 recipes. How many were in the original *Joy*, self-published by Irma Rombauer in 1931?

Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.

\$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, Request List addition or purchase in the past 2-years (Since May 1, 2020).

All a winner must do is read the newsletter and find your name listed below, then call or 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 2022 winner #1 is:

Hillary Erb

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 31 May, 2022 to claim your prize:

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

May 2022 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

Month:

**Asian American Month
Foster Care Month
Mystery Month
National Barbecue Month
Older Americans Month
Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

Weekly Celebrations:

**Be Kind to Animals Week - First full week of month
Nurse's Week - first full week of month
Wildflower Week - week two
National Police Week - third week of month
Emergency Medical Services Week - fourth week of month**

May, 2022 Daily Holidays, Special and Wacky Days:

May 1 – Local Author David Dorris will return to The Book Rack with his locally Best-Selling series of books!

**1 - Mother Goose Day
3 – National Teacher's Day
4 – Star Wars Day
5 – Cinco de Mayo
6 – National Nurses Day
8 – Mother's Day
9 – Lost Sock Memorial Day
11 – Twilight Zone Day
13 – Friday the Thirteenth
21 – Armed Forces Day
25 - Tap Dance Day**

30 – Memorial Day

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Local Author: David Dorris

Fairmont Branch
Davenport Public Library
June 6
6:30 – 7:30 PM

Join author David Dorris for a book talk and signing on Monday, June 6th. Dorris will talk about how he started writing and his method of writing with the research, as well as the advantage of writing a series ...

Frequently Asked Questions About Our Request System

Written by Nicole Steinbaugh

Whether demand is high because of that new Netflix series adaptation or a book is just out of print, there will be times when we don't have what you need on our shelves. Many people take advantage of our request system so that they don't have to keep searching, but not many know exactly how the process works. Here are some of your most frequently asked questions:

How can I request books?

If you have just one or a few books to request, you can call us from 10 am-6 pm any day of the week or message us on Facebook. If you have a longer list, we recommend emailing us at bookrackqc@gmail.com. This will allow for a staff member to sit down and spend more time with your requests, making sure we do not already have any of the titles on hand and ensuring that the information is entered accurately into the system.

If you prefer self-service, our inventory is also logged on our website. You may submit a Want ID for items you cannot find. Staff will then double check inventory and manually enter your request into the system.

(Continued at the end of this newsletter)

Book Reviews

Reviews by Claudia:

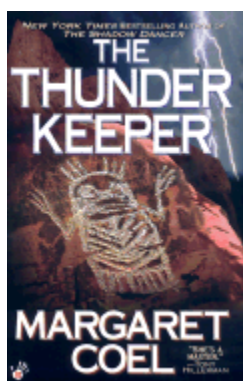
It Happens in the Dark by Carol O'Connell (Mystery) is one of her Mallory series. NYPD Special Crimes Unit Detective Kathy Mallory - but call her "Mallory", NEVER "Kathy" - is a sociopath, and one of my favorite fictional characters. The story takes place largely in a theater where a production reviewed as "A Play to

Die For” does, in fact, contain a dead body in the front row, discovered when the lights come up. On the next night, a second dead body, the playwright with his throat slashed, is found seated in the theater at the end of the play. Mallory takes over, but has no help from any of the theater folks – not the actors, nor the wardrobe mistress. When strange messages appear on a backstage chalk board that rewrite the play incorporating a past massacre, and write Mallory herself into the play, she must work quickly to unravel the mysterious messages, relationships among the deceased and still-living theater people, and who done it before anyone else – including herself – dies. If you’re interested in the Mallory books, I suggest you read them in order. Character and key relationships develop over the series and provide insight and understanding into Mallory’s personality. First book in the series is ***Mallory’s Oracle***. Highly recommended.

The Monsters of Templeton (2008) is Lauren Groff’s debut novel. It incorporates fantasy, genealogy, and mystery. Willie Upton has returned to her Templeton, New York ancestral home - the last place she wanted to end up - after a devastating affair with a married archeology professor. On the day of Willie’s return, the prehistoric monster living in Lake Glimmerglass and that has enthralled the Templeton residents and tourists forever, surfaces. Bordering on Lake Glimmerglass, her childhood home also houses her mother, Vi. Vi is a born-again Baptist, but she reveals that in her hippie youth she conceived Willie with a man who still lives in Templeton. With a back drop of the circumstances of her return to Templeton, changes brought about by the monster’s death, interaction with the characters in her home town, and the illness of a best friend on the opposite coast, Willie uses her archeological skills (formerly in use as assistant to the aforementioned professor on a dig in Alaska) to find her biological father among the Templeton residents. Her journey is fun to follow, and the author has included illustrations, photos and updated family trees as Willie uncovers more of her ancestry and heritage. Recommended.

Reviews by Bob

Margaret Coel – The Thunder Keeper – Mystery – 2001



Although residing in two different states, Arapaho Attorney Vicky Holden and her friend Father John O'Malley find themselves on the same trail – embroiled in an investigation involving the death of a young man on sacred ground.

The Arapahos of the Wind River Reservation are stunned by the apparent suicide of Duncan Grover, who came to Bear Lake Valley from Denver on a vision quest. Why would someone undertake a spiritual Journey in such a revered area in order to die?

A stranger's chilling confession to Father O'Malley reveals that Grover was in fact murdered, and that more deaths are sure to follow. Unable to break the confessional seal, the priest looks into the matter himself. The medicine man who prepared Grover for his quest believes that evil spirits sent by the Thunder beings ended the young man's life. But the police, unable to find a more earthborn suspect, have closed the case.

Then in Denver, Vicky Holden receives a mysterious phone call about an urgent matter involving the reservation. But a hit-and-run "accident" kills the caller before she has a chance to talk to him. Now, Vicky and Father O'Malley must uncover what it is about the reservation that people are willing to kill for...

"Margaret Coel joins the top echelon of writers who weave Native American culture into cleverly designed mysteries."

Midwest Book Review

The Thunder Keeper is a very enjoyable mystery. Vicky and Father John are terrific characters that exude realism and determination and keep you fully engaged through the book. Action aplenty, puzzling clues and the Native American culture interwoven in the books were expertly interconnected. I give this an A. If you like the books by Tony and/or Anne Hillerman, J.A. Jance,

James D. Doss or Craig Johnson, try Coel. You'll not be disappointed.

Walter John Williams – Hardwired – Cyberpunk – 2006



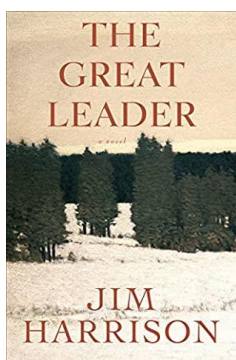
Years ago, the last desperate hopes of Earth were crushed as corporate Orbital blocs ruling from on high devastated the planet's face. Today, the autocratic Orbitals indulge in decadent luxury far above the mudboys, dirtgirls, zonedancers, and buttonheads who live out violent lives of electronic distraction and dependence amid the flooded, ruined cities and teeming slums of a balkanized America.

But there are heroes; those who would stand against the Orbital powers and keep freedom's cause alive. Two such heroes are the metal-eyed ex-fighter pilot turned panzer-driver Cowboy, and Sarah, the cybernetic assassin desperate to find a better life for her drug-addicted brother. Together, Cowboy and Sarah embark on a high-octane odyssey across the shattered face of the American west.

From Walter Jon Williams comes *Hardwired*, the hard-hitting, seminal classic that feels as prescient today as when it was first published. Like a steel-guitar fueled *Damnation Alley*, as directed by Sam Peckinpah, *Hardwired* demonstrates how Williams's singular vision helped defined the cyberpunk genre.

My first cyberpunk novel. At least the first referred to being cyberpunk! It is action-packed for sure. I give it a B+. I listened to the book and found the reader very easy to understand, which is not always the case. He did an excellent job portraying the characters and injecting the appropriate feelings into the words.

Jim Harrison – The Great Leader – Mystery – 2011



On the verge of retirement, Detective Sunderson begins to investigate a hedonistic cult, which has set up camp near his home in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. At first, the self-declared Great Leader seems merely a harmless oddball, but as Sunderson and his sixteen-year-old sidekick dig deeper, they find him more intelligent and sinister than they realized. Recently divorced and frequently pickled in alcohol, Sunderson tracks his quarry from the woods of Michigan to a town in Arizona, filled with criminal border-crossers, and on to Nebraska, where the Great Leader's most recent recruits have gathered to glorify his questionable religion. But Sunderson's demons are also in pursuit of him.

The Great Leader is not a "Great Book." I give it a C. The plot was thin and plodding. The story was focused more on Sunderson's still active sex drive, his constant thoughts about sex and his regular sexual encounters. It seemed Harrison started to write a mystery, then slid into an erotic aging story.

Not a book you'll easily find so don't waste time looking.

The May 2022 winner #2 is:
Brandon Cooper

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

<https://www.ChrisLandsSearch.com>

This will search hundreds of other independent bookstores around the world to help you. If all else fails...there's always AMAZON, or better yet, pick another book! 😊

Health Benefits OF PUZZLES

Besides being fun and relaxing, puzzles also have many surprising health benefits. In honor of World Health Day, explore some of the amazing benefits you can unlock by completing a puzzle.

[SHOP NOW](#)



Improved Memory



Better Problem Solving Skills



Delayed Dementia



Lower Stress Levels



Greater Attention To Details



Stop at our Puzzle Rack just inside the store and exercise your mind with a new puzzle! Don't see

one you like, we have more in our backroom and can order countless more from our distributors.

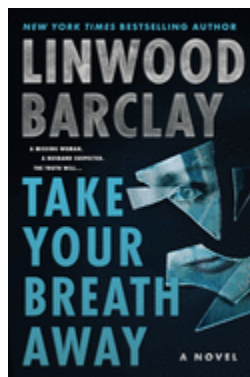
Recent and Upcoming New Releases:

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

Lincoln Barclay – Take Your Breath Away – Thriller - 27.99



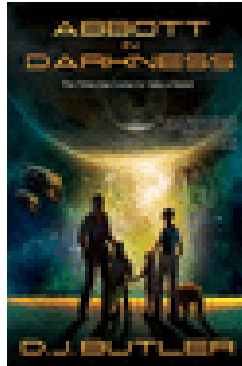
One weekend, while Andrew Mason was on a fishing trip, his wife, Brie, vanished without a trace. Most everyone assumed Andy had got away with murder--*it's always the husband, isn't it?*--but the police could never build a strong case against him. For a while, Andy hit rock bottom--he drank too much to numb the pain, was abandoned by all his friends save one, nearly lost his business, and became a pariah in the place he once called home.

Now, six years later, Andy has finally put his life back together. He sold the house he once shared with Brie and moved away. To tell the truth, he wasn't sad to hear that the old place was razed and a new house built on the site. He's settled down with a new partner, Jayne, and life is good.

But Andy's peaceful world is about to shatter. One day, a woman shows up at his old address, screaming, "Where's my house? What's happened to my house?" And then, just as suddenly as she appeared, the woman--who bears a striking resemblance to Brie--is gone. The police are notified and old questions--and dark suspicions--resurface.

Could Brie really be alive after all these years? If so, where has she been? It soon becomes clear that Andy's future and the lives of those closest to him depend on discovering what the hell is going on. The trick will be whether he can stay alive long enough to unearth the answers.

D.J. Butler - Abbott in Darkness – Sci Fi – 16.00



A MAN AT THE END OF HIS ROPE MUST UNRAVEL A MYSTERY IN A FAR-FLUNG SECTOR OF THE GALAXY. THE WEB OF CONSPIRACY IS TIGHTLY WOVEN, AND JOHN ABBOTT IS BUT ONE MAN FIGHTING THE DARKNESS

John Abbott is all in.

He's up to his eyeballs in debt to pay for school, and he just moved his small family forty light-years from Earth for a plum job with the wealthy interstellar corporation The Sarovar Company. John's first assignment is to discreetly investigate possible corruption at the remote Arrowhawk Station, where Company traders buy the famous Sarovari Weave from the three-sided, crablike Weavers.

John finds evidence of theft and worse, but when the guilty parties realize he's getting close, they come after him and his family. Can John catch the thieves and end their corrupt trade? Can he head off a war between the Company and the Weavers? Can he make a life for his family in this remote wilderness without corrupting himself?

With no way back to Earth, the only direction for John Abbott and his family to go is forward--into danger.

Lorenzo Carcaterra - Nonna Maria and the Case of the Missing Bride – Mystery – 27.00



When a crime on a beautiful Italian island stumps the police, locals turn to the nosy, elderly widow Nonna Maria in this transporting mystery from author Lorenzo Carcaterra. Nonna Maria has lived in Ischia, a little island in the Gulf of Naples, her entire life. Recognizable by the widow's black she's worn every day for decades, Maria always has pasta on the stove and espresso in the pot for the neighbors who stop by to ask her advice on life and love. Everyone knows her, and she knows everyone's business. So when something goes wrong, islanders look to her, and not the local carabinieri, to find the solution. A man's fiancée disappears the night before the wedding. Is it a case of cold feet, or is something more sinister in play? A fisherman who knows the waters around the island like the back of his hand is

drowned early one morning. Was it a tragic accident, or is there more to the story? While the police appear uninterested in these domestic concerns, Nonna Maria pours herself another glass of red wine and gets to work

P.C. Cast – Into the Mist – Fantasy – 24.99



***Practical Magic* meets *Station Eleven* in this gripping take on female power and the inevitable, destructive path of violent patriarchies.**

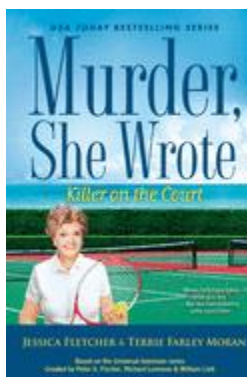
As men fall to the mist, the age of womankind begins to rise.

The world as we know it ends when an attack on the U.S. unleashes bombs that deliver fire and biological destruction. Along with sonic detonations and devastating earthquakes, the bombs have also brought the green mist. If breathed in, it is deadly to all men--but alters the body chemistry of many women, imbuing them with superhuman abilities. A group of high school teachers heading home from a conference experiences firsthand the strength of these new powers. Mercury Rhodes is the Warrior, possessing heightened physical powers. Stella Carver is the Seer, with a sixth sense about the future. Imani Andrews is the Watcher, with a rare connection to the earth. Karen Gay is the Priestess, demonstrating a special connection with Spirits. And Gemma Jenkins is the Healer, a sixteen-year-old student who joins the group after losing her parents.

As they cross the Pacific Northwest, trying to find a safe place to ride out the apocalypse, the women soon learn they can't trust anyone, and with fresh danger around every corner, it will take all their powers to save themselves--and possibly the world.

With timely commentary on power and community, *Into the Mist* delivers a thrilling and fantastical future that is equal parts a feminist commentary and an amazing, witty adventure filled with wine and women- as only P.C. Cast's brilliant storytelling can bring to life.

Fletcher, Jessica & Moran, Terrie Farley - Murder, She Wrote: Killer on the Court – 27.99 – Mystery



Jessica Fletcher's sunny beach vacation with her nephew's family takes a dark turn in this new installment in the USA Today bestselling series. Jessica is delighted when her nephew Grady invites her to spend a few days with his family in

an oceanside New York bungalow. She packs her bags and heads down to the city, ready to spend some quality time with Grady, his wife, Donna, and their young son, Frank. But the morning after Jessica's arrival, Donna finds her boss dead on a tennis court, and Jessica's dreams of a relaxing visit are quashed. Everyone in the small beachside community is a suspect, and the local authorities--headed by an old colleague of Cabot Cove sheriff Mort Metzger--have asked that no one leave town. Will Jessica be able to find a killer and salvage the rest of her trip?

Heather Graham - Sound of Darkness (Original) (Krewe of Hunters #36) – Thriller – 28.99



The cries of the dead are deafening

Women are being taken in Virginia, and FBI agent Mark Gallagher is determined to put a stop to it. Certain he's closing in on the killer known as The Embracer, Mark is less than thrilled when he's partnered with rookie agent Colleen Law, worried she's a liability when there's so much at stake.

But like everyone in the Krewe of Hunters, Colleen has talents that extend beyond the usual investigative toolbox. She can hear the voices of the victims in her head, and they're telling her she and Mark are near to uncovering the truth. When Mark's prime suspect takes a liking to Colleen, he's surprisingly protective of his new partner, even as he admits her connection to the victims is key. But tense interrogations turn dangerously personal when someone close to Colleen goes missing, luring the agents deep into the shadows of wooded rural Virginia, where nobody can hear them scream.

Nick Herron - Bad Actors (Slough House) – 27.99 – Thriller



In London's MI5 headquarters a scandal is brewing that could disgrace the entire intelligence community. The Downing Street superforecaster--a specialist who advises the Prime Minister's office on how policy is likely to be received by the electorate--has disappeared without a trace. Claude Whelan, who was once head of MI5, has been tasked with tracking her down.

But the trail leads him straight back to Regent's Park itself, with First Desk Diana Taverner as chief suspect. Has Taverner overplayed her hand at last? Meanwhile, her Russian counterpart, Moscow intelligence's First Desk, has cheekily showed up in London and shaken off his escort. Are the two unfortunate events connected?

Over at Slough House, where Jackson Lamb presides over some of MI5's most embittered demoted agents, the slow horses are doing what they do best, and adding a little bit of chaos to an already unstable situation . . . There are bad actors everywhere, and they usually get their comeuppance before the credits roll. But politics is a dirty business, and in a world where lying, cheating and backstabbing are the norm, sometimes the good guys can find themselves outgunned.

Stephen King & Richard Chizmar - Gwendy's Final Task: Volume 3 (Gwendy's Button Box Trilogy) – 17.99



The final book in the *New York Times* bestselling Gwendy's Button Box trilogy from Stephen King and Richard Chizmar.

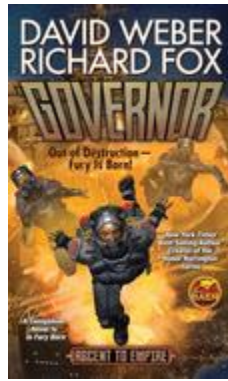
When Gwendy Peterson was twelve, a mysterious stranger named Richard Farris gave her a mysterious box for safe-keeping. It offered treats and vintage coins, but it was dangerous. Pushing any of its seven colored buttons promised death and destruction. Years later, the button box entered Gwendy's life again. A successful novelist and a rising political star, she was once again forced to deal with the temptation that box represented. Now, evil forces seek to possess the button box and it is up to Senator Gwendy Peterson to keep it from them at all costs. But where can you hide something from such powerful entities?

In *Gwendy's Final Task*, "horror giants" (*Publishers Weekly*) Stephen King and Richard Chizmar take us on a journey from Castle Rock to another famous cursed Maine city to the MF-1 space station, where Gwendy must execute a secret mission to save the world. And, maybe, all worlds.

Kat Martin - The Last Mile (Blood Ties, the Logans) – Romantic Thriller – 27.00



David Weber & Richard Fox - Governor: Volume 1 (Ascent to Empire) – Science Fiction – 27.00



The Terran Republic. The Terran League. Genocidal enemies. Members of the Five Hundred don't care. They are the social elite of the Heart Worlds, light-years from any threat of attack. Rear Admiral Terrence Murphy is of the Five Hundred. There is no end to how high he can rise in the Republic's power structure. But the powers-that-be have miscalculated. For Terence Murphy is a man of honor. He intends to stop the killing. Terrence will end fifty-six years of bloodshed and slaughter--and Hell itself rides with him.

The May 2022 winner #3 is:

Melissa Nunn

Trivia for May 2022

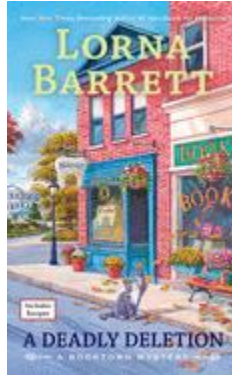
When *The Joy of Cooking* was revised and republished in 1997, it contained 4500 recipes. How many were in the original Joy, self-published by Irma Rombauer in 1931?

Answer:

1,195. The original sold for \$3.00; the new edition was priced at \$30.00.

Mass Market Paperback

Lorna Barrett – A Deadly Deletion (Booktown Mystery) – Mystery – 8.99



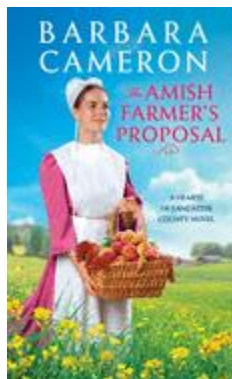
Tricia Miles has just received a second marriage proposal within fifteen minutes. The first was from her friend with benefits, Marshall Chambers, and the second from her ex-lover, police chief Grant Baker. Tricia's got some serious thinking to do.

She's still weighing her options when she hears the sound of an engine roaring down Main Street. It's a big white pickup truck that aims for and hits Marshall as he's walking back to his apartment. Tragically, he's killed, leaving Tricia feeling bereft and guilty. She retreats to her sister, Angelica's, apartment to wait for Baker to update her on what happened. While there, Tricia takes Angelica's dog out for a comfort call behind the building, and the same white pickup roars up the alley and just misses hitting Tricia.

Still shaken by that news, Tricia returns to Haven't Got a Clue and is met by federal marshal Kirby, who tells her that Marshall had been in the Federal Witness Protection Program. Everything Marshall told Tricia was a lie--in particular, that he was a widower. Was his death an act of revenge?

Tricia's on the hunt for a killer, and it seems like she might be next on the list.

Barbara Cameron – The Amish Farmer's Proposal – Romance – 8.99



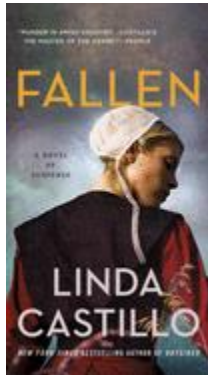
A sweet and heartwarming Amish romance where no disaster can conquer true love.

Dairy farmer Abe Stoltzfus wants to propose to Lavinia Fisher, the beautiful young woman he's been dating, but being a traditional Amish man, he worries about how he can provide for her. Farming can be uncertain enough with weather conditions, crops not doing well, all manner of uncertainties. And after a bad summer storm and a serious injury from a rooftop tumble, Abe wants to wait until both he and his farm are back on their feet.

Lavinia is relieved when Abe survives the fall, yet it seems like it's only the start of events that threaten their future together. But Lavinia is not only a talented Amish crafter, she's also the daughter of a farmer. She knows what the life of

a farm wife is like and remains optimistic things will turn around. And when Abe continues to drag his feet, Lavinia makes him an interesting proposal. Will Abe be able to resist it--and her?

Linda Castillo – Fallen, A Novel of Suspense – 9.99



When a young woman is found murdered in a Painters Mill motel, Chief of Police Kate Burkholder is shocked to discover she once knew the victim. Rachael Schwartz was a charming but troubled Amish girl who left the fold years ago and fled Painters Mill. Why was she back in town? And who would kill her so brutally?

Kate remembers Rachael as the only girl who was as bad at being Amish as Kate was--and those parallels dog her. But the more Kate learns about Rachael's life, the more she's convinced that her dubious reputation was deserved. As a child, Rachael was a rowdy rulebreaker whose decision to leave devastated her parents and best friend. As an adult, she was charismatic and beautiful, a rabble-rouser with a keen eye for opportunity no matter who got in her way. Her no-holds-barred lifestyle earned her a lot of love and enemies aplenty--both English and Amish.

As the case heats to a fever pitch and long-buried secrets resurface, a killer haunts Painters Mill. Someone doesn't want Rachael's past--or the mysteries she took with her to the grave--coming to light. As Kate digs deeper, violence strikes again, this time hitting close to home. Will Kate uncover the truth and bring a murderer to justice? Or will a killer bent on protecting a terrible past stop her once and for all--and let the fallen be forgotten?

Lee Child and Andrew Child – Better Off Dead, A Jack Reacher Novel – Thriller - 9.99



Digging graves had not been part of my plans when I woke up that morning.

Reacher goes where he wants, when he wants. That morning he was heading west, walking under the merciless desert sun--until he comes upon a curious scene. A Jeep has crashed into the only tree for miles around. A woman is slumped over the wheel.

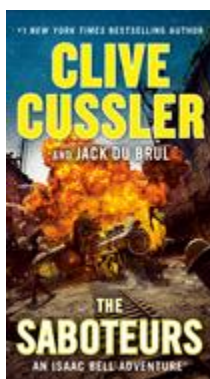
Dead? No, nothing is what it seems.

The woman is Michaela Fenton, an army veteran turned FBI agent trying to find her twin brother, who might be mixed up with some dangerous people. Most of them would rather die than betray their terrifying leader, who has burrowed

his influence deep into the nearby border town, a backwater that has seen better days. The mysterious Dendoncker rules from the shadows, out of sight and under the radar, keeping his dealings in the dark. He would know the fate of Fenton's brother.

Reacher is good at finding people who don't want to be found, so he offers to help, despite feeling that Fenton is keeping secrets of her own. But a life hangs in the balance. Maybe more than one. But to bring Dendoncker down will be the riskiest job of Reacher's life. Failure is not an option, because in this kind of game, the loser is always better off dead.

Clive Cussler w/Jack DuBrul – The Saboteurs, An Isaac Bell Adventure – Action/Adventure – 9.99



Detective Isaac Bell's wife has said that he is always in the wrong place at the right time. This is certainly the case when Bell thwarts the assassination of a U.S. Senator shortly after meeting the man. This heroic rescue is just the start of the mystery for Bell, who suspects that the would-be assassins have a much larger and more dangerous agenda-- involving the nearly constructed Panama Canal. While the senator supports the building of the canal, there are many, including a local Panamanian insurgency known as the Red Vipers, who never want to see its completion.

With millions of dollars and the fates of two nations at stake, Bell heads to Panama to find answers. After a deadly bombing at the canal's construction site, he is determined to stop the insurgents--or whoever is funding them--before they can attack again.

Christine Feehan – Shadow Fire, A Shadow Riders Novel – Romance – 8.99



Shadow Rider Elie Archambault has been called many things: domineering, brash, loyal, but most of all *fast*. And there's nothing faster than choosing to marry a woman you've never met. All he has is a signed contract and a list of his new bride's expectations for their arranged marriage. He's not expecting love or some happy ever after, just a partner that knows exactly what she signed up for. He'll be faithful because he's a man of honor, but she'll never have his heart.... Elie knows who he is. A privileged member of the Archambault family. A skilled rider and fighter. A man who's always had things easy for all the wrong reasons. He's made his mistakes and lost his chance at real, true passion with his other half thanks to his own careless arrogance. Now he just wants to do his duty as a Shadow Rider and leave the past behind.

But Elie has no idea that his choice is about to spark a blaze that will burn all his carefully laid plans to the ground....

Kim Harrison – Million Dollar Demon – Fantasy – 8.99



To save the city, Rachel Morgan will need to show some teeth.

The new master vampire of Cincinnati has arrived . . . and she wants Rachel Morgan out. No matter where Rachel goes, Constance is there--threatening Rachel's allies, causing city-wide chaos, and, to add insult to injury, even forcing Rachel out of her current quarters. Ever since Rachel found a way to save the souls of vampires, the old undead's longtime ascendancy has been broken. Now Constance sees eliminating Rachel as the key to consolidating her own power. Rachel has no desire to be enthralled or killed--and she's terrified of what may become of the city if Constance forces a return to the ancient ways. But even a witch-born demon can't stand against the old undead--at least, not alone. And if Rachel refuses to claim the role of Cincinnati's master demon, the city will tear itself apart, taking her and all those who stand beside her with it.

Stephen Hunter – Hot Springs (Earl Swagger) – Thriller – 9.99



Earl Swagger is tough as hell. But even tough guys have their secrets. Plagued by the memory of his abusive father, apprehensive about his own impending parenthood, Earl is a decorated ex-Marine of absolute integrity--and overwhelming melancholy. Now he's about to face his biggest, bloodiest challenge yet.

It is the summer of 1946, organized crime's garish golden age, when American justice seems to have gone to seed for good. Nowhere is this truer than in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the reigning capital of corruption. When the district attorney vows to bring down the mob, Earl is recruited to run the show. As casino raids erupt into nerve-shattering combat amid screaming prostitutes and fleeing johns, the body count mounts--along with the suspense

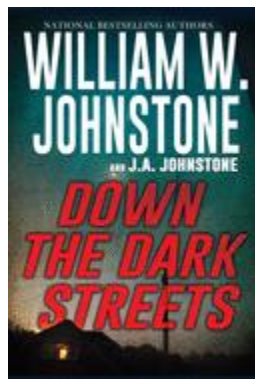
Iris Johansen – Hunting Eve, An Eve Duncan Novel – Thriller – 9.99



She was taken for a reason. Chosen for her skills as a forensic sculptor. Abducted by the deranged father of a serial killer and forced to reconstruct his dead son's skull from bone fragments. Now Eve Duncan has escaped her captor--and she's running for her life. Alone. Unarmed.

In the mountains of Colorado, Eve must use all of her strength, courage, and wits to survive this madman's obsession. But Jim Doane is not the only player in the game. While Joe Quinn, Jane MacGuire, and Kendra Michaels search for Eve in the abandoned mining town that could be her ultimate refuge--or her grave--a stranger with ties to her long-ago past is closing in, circling like a wolf, and **HUNTING EVE**.

William W. Johnstone and J.A. Johnstone – Down the Dark Streets – Thriller – 8.99



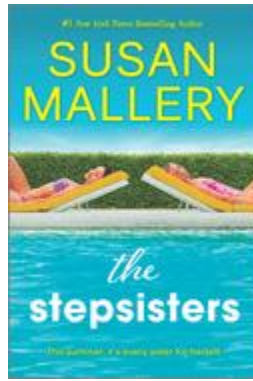
THIS IS NOT THE AMERICA WE LOVE.

From coast to coast, American families are losing their homes. Evicted with little notice and tossed into the streets by predatory bankers, landlords, and real estate developers, these once-proud homeowners have invested their lives in the American Dream--only to see it turn into a nightmare. But one tightknit community is fighting back. They've decided to stand their ground, defend their homes, and fight the power--with firepower...

THIS IS WAR.

Enter Joseph Knox, a military veteran whose parents have been targeted in an illegal scheme to turn their quiet but slightly rundown neighborhood into luxury condos. The man behind the project has the backing of greedy investors, sleazy lawyers, and a corrupt police force. But the Knox family has backing, too--a makeshift army of real Americans who refuse to surrender. With some last-minute training from Joe Knox and his brother John--and a small arsenal of weapons--this ragtag team of senior citizens will do whatever it takes to save their homes. Even kill if they have to.

Susan Mallery – The Stepsisters – General – 9.99



Once upon a time, when her dad married Sage's mom, Daisy was thrilled to get a bright and shiny new sister. But Sage was beautiful and popular, everything Daisy was not, and she made sure Daisy knew it.

Sage didn't have Daisy's smarts--she had to go back a grade to enroll in the fancy rich-kid school. So she used her popularity as a weapon, putting Daisy down to elevate herself. After the divorce, the stepsisters' rivalry continued until the final, improbable straw: Daisy married Sage's first love, and Sage fled California.

Eighteen years, two kids and one troubled marriage later, Daisy never expects--or wants--to see Sage again. But when the little sister they have in common needs them both, they put aside their differences to care for Cassidy. As long-buried truths are revealed, no one is more surprised than they when friendship blossoms.

Their fragile truce is threatened by one careless act that could have devastating consequences. They could turn their backs on each other again...or they could learn to forgive once and for all and finally become true sisters of the heart.

Taylor Moore – Down Range : A Garrett Kohl Novel – Thriller – 9.99



As a decorated undercover DEA special agent, Garrett Kohl has traveled the world--and fought in most of it--but it's the High Plains of northwest Texas he calls home and dreams of returning to one day. Kohl is in the middle of an assignment in Afghanistan when his commander orders him back to Texas on a short mission expected to take a week at most. But Kohl is unsettled to discover that he's moving from one kind of war to another.

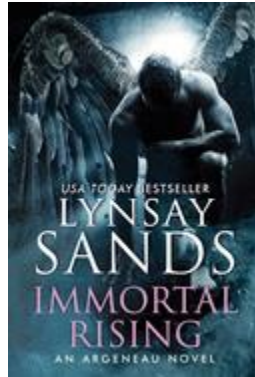
The once-peaceful ranching community he loves is under attack by a band of criminals who have infiltrated law enforcement and corrupted local businesses, and are now terrorizing Kohl's own family. Hoping to prevent bloodshed, Kohl tries to resolve matters peacefully. But when the group strikes first, he has no choice but to go on the attack.

Unfortunately for the crew of criminals, Garrett Kohl, besides being an elite undercover officer for the DEA, is a battle-hardened Green Beret who spent the better part of his career hunting terrorists. Although outnumbered and outgunned, Kohl knows the wild and forsaken Llano Estacado region of Texas better than anyone. And like so many trespassers before them, these murderers will find out the hard way that the only thing tougher than this land is the people who call it home.

The May 2022 winner #4 is:

Alan Buresh

Lynsay Sands - Immortal Rising (Argeneau Novel #34) – Romance – 9.99



Stephanie McGill was attacked and turned when she was just a teenager. Worse, her abilities are unlike any other immortal. Now 13 years later, with the help of her adopted Argeneau family, Steph has carved out a new - if not lonely - life for herself. Until a new neighbor arrives...

Thorne is also one-of-a-kind. The result of a genetic experiment, he's not an immortal, but he's not mortal either. He's looking for a place to hide, to get some peace and quiet so he can figure things out, and Stephanie's sanctuary is perfect. In fact, Stephanie is perfect. For the first time, Thorne is free to be himself and he's falling for her.

But if they're going to have a future together, they'll first need to deal with their past...because the mad scientist who created Thorne is now after Stephanie.

Tui T. Sutherland – The Dangerous Gift (Wings of Fire, Book 14) – Children – 7.99



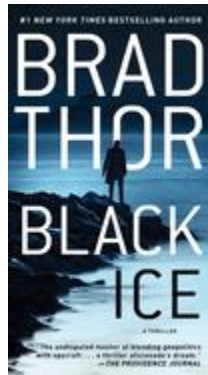
A wall can't protect them anymore . . .

Snowfall didn't expect to be queen of the IceWings at such a young age, but now that she is, she's going to be the best queen ever. All she has to do is keep her tribe within IceWing territory, where it's safe -- while keeping every other tribe out, where they belong.

It's a perfect and simple plan, backed up by all the IceWing magic Snowfall can find. That is, until a storm of unidentified dragons arrives on her shore, looking for asylum.

The foreigners are completely strange and, Snowfall is certain, utterly untrustworthy. But as she escorts the miserable new tribes out of her kingdom, Snowfall is forced to reconsider her plan. Maybe she can only keep her tribe safe . . . if she's willing to risk everything.

Brad Thor – Black Ice, A Scot Harvath Novel – Thriller – 9.99



Scot Harvath is having his best summer ever. With a cottage on the fjord, a boat, and his beautiful girlfriend Sølvi, he's got everything he could possibly want. But out of vacation days and long overdue back home, America's top spy has a decision to make--return, or submit his resignation.

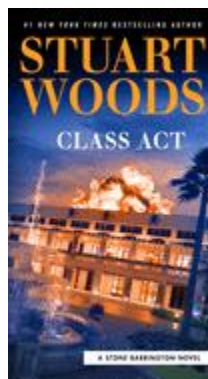
When his deadly past comes calling, though, he'll be left with no choice at all.

Leaving his favorite Oslo café, Harvath watches as a ghost climbs out of a taxi--a man he killed years ago, halfway around the world. *How is he still alive? And what is he doing in Norway?*

In a race against time that will take him high above the Arctic Circle, Harvath is tested in ways he has never imagined and pushed to a limit few human beings could ever endure.

If he succeeds, he'll walk away with everything. If he fails, the United States and its allies will be at the mercy of one of the world's most dangerous actors.

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



Stone Barrington takes down old and new enemies in the latest thriller from perennial fan favorite Stuart Woods.

After a rocky jaunt in Maine, Stone Barrington is settling back in New York City when an old client reaches out for help with a delicate matter. A feud they thought was put to rest long ago has reemerged with a vengeance, and reputations--and money--are now on the line.

As Stone sets out to unravel a tangled web of crime and secrets, his mission becomes even more complicated when he makes an irresistible new acquaintance. In both the underbelly and upper echelons of New York, everyone has something to hide--and if Stone has learned anything, it's that history has a way of repeating itself...

Frequently Asked Questions About Our Request System

(Continued from page 3)

What personal information do you need from me, and do you share it with anyone else?

We request your first and last name, phone number, and email address if applicable. None of your information is shared with anyone but our staff, and we will only contact you if you have asked for a call.

How does your software know when you get a book that I want?

We certainly know how we would *like* our software to work: We'd love to enter a title and author and have it recognize any copy of that book that comes in. However, our system relies on ISBNs (International Standard Book Numbers). An ISBN is a unique number that the publisher pays to be assigned to each edition of a book that is printed. For instance, they may first release a hardcover edition; then, about a year later, they will release a paperback. When they are certain demand is very high for the title, they might even publish a small, mass market paperback. Each of these editions has its own ISBN attached.

Our software is linked to Amazon's database and requires us to enter the ISBN for requested books. That means if you don't have a preference for hardcover, trade paperback, or mass market paperback, we enter *three* separate requests. When a book comes in and is scanned, the software recognizes that ISBN number and prints a request slip. The book is then set aside, and we notify you that it's ready.

Why did I just find a book that I've asked for on the shelf?

This is one of the less convenient aspects of our request system. Because it relies solely on manual entry of ISBNs, it does not know when a different edition is scanned unless we tell it. This means that, if you requested a book when it was only available in hardcover, a subsequent paperback edition will not be recognized, and the system will not notify us.

We try our best to mitigate this issue by having a strong knowledge of the most desired books. In these cases, we can search by title if we think a book may have a request on it and manually print the request slip. However, we're lucky to have thousands of open requests at any given moment, so this is not always possible.

Can I ask you to call me when you receive a book on a specific topic?

You certainly can. A staff member will take the time to find several of the most popular/relevant books on your subject and enter in those requests. But be advised that we cannot call you about every book on that subject. We recommend contacting us periodically so we can see if anything has evaded notice.

Can I request a whole series or anything by a certain author?

Absolutely. In some cases, though, customers are unaware that an author has published more than a hundred books. If this happens, we'll print a bibliography for you to select the books or series in which you're really interested.

Another instance in which this can be overwhelming is children's series. *Goosebumps* has 62 books in its main series and 67 in its sub-series. With two available editions for many titles, this amounts to about 258 individual ISBNs being manually entered *per customer* who requests the entire series. We can and have done this for customers, but we ask that you ascertain your child's interest in these titles before requesting. There have been many times when a child has moved on to reading another series, and then 258 items must be closed by hand.

In these cases, we recommend calling us periodically to check on our stock. We'll be happy to pull what we have and place it on hold for you.

How many copies can I request?

We ask that you only request up to three copies of a single book. This helps maintain fair access to materials for all of our customers.

Is there anything else I *can't* request?

Just one thing: Any book that is not on Amazon. This happens very rarely. In such cases, we'll put a note on your account reminding us to check periodically to see if the item has been listed.

Do my requests expire?

Only if you want them to. We have customers with book club deadlines who prefer to expire their requests after certain dates, but most people leave them open. These requests will be available as long as we exist (but hopefully, the book will come in long before that!).

How long will you hold my books?

We generally hold titles for a week. When we call, we will ask you to notify us if you need a bit longer to pick it up. Generally, we will ask for a date by which you think you can make it, and we're happy to extend a hold for those who are on vacation or otherwise unable to come.

Note that due to the volume of requests, we can no longer make reminder calls.

I don't need my book anymore. Do I have to call you back?

If you receive a voicemail from us and no longer need the title, we appreciate it very much if you give us a quick call back. Remember that there is no obligation to buy requested books, and the person following you on the list will appreciate it too!

I am homebound, lacking transportation, or not local: is there a way I can still benefit from this system?

Yes! Many homebound and out-of-town customers use our request system. Shipping is \$4 flat. If you buy more than \$25 worth of books, we will ship your order for free!

When will my book come in?

Using the request system is always a fun gamble. We have sometimes had customers wait months for fairly popular books, and we have had books that have never been on our shelves arrive *while* the requester was still in the store. So the answer is: maybe tomorrow, maybe next week, maybe next month, maybe...

We rely mostly on our community for our stock, so whether and when your book arrives depends on your neighbors. But we'll be sure to let you know when it does come in!

What if I don't want to wait?

There's still another option. If the book is in print and is carried by our distributor, we generally can order the title new for 20% off the retail price.