

The Book Rack Newsletter

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

Vol 15, #9 September 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 September 2022

What is the native country of Agatha Christie's detective Hercule Poirot?

[Read on and find the answer later in the newsletter.](#)

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Banned Books Week **Written by Nicole Steinbaugh**

As you might know, we proudly carry many banned and challenged titles at The Book Rack, keeping an active lookout for new bans so that we can keep copies of those titles in stock. September 18-24 is Banned Books Week this year, and we thought we'd celebrate by doing a little FAQ about banned books.

Do book bans really happen that often?

Yes. In fact, incidences of book banning in the United States have more than doubled since last year. According to the ALA, this does not include the 82-97% of challenges that are not reported.

What's the most frequently banned book of all time?

Sources disagree on exactly which title has been most frequently banned, but all have one trait in common: They are classics that are still taught in schools today. Different websites suggest *1984* by George Orwell, *The Catcher in the Rye* by J. D. Salinger, and *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* as among the top banned titles.

What types of books are banned the most?

Most commonly, books that are banned in recent years represent diverse groups of people, especially LGBTQIA+ and Black. Half of the books on the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom's 2021 top ten list concern LGBTQIA+ issues. The top three all center around LGBTQIA+ people.

Doesn't banning books just make more people want to read them?

To some extent, yes. But the situation is more complex than that. Even if people begin to buy a title in defiance of a ban, this can lead to quick sellouts, especially during a time of paper and labor shortage. It often becomes inaccessible to many people— and this means that book banning often achieves its aim of censoring certain material.

If a book is banned at my child's school, will you make sure that they do not buy it?

Like at public libraries, we require parents to assume primary responsibility for the books their children read. If you have concerns about the content of any book, you should browse with them. We do keep an eye on our "Spice Rack" so children don't stray into there.

What can I do if I'm concerned about book banning?

The ALA has an extensive list of ways you can protest bans, and most of them revolve around actions you can take while living your daily life. They all have to do with awareness, using your voice, and most importantly, continuing to exercise your right to read freely. You can see the link under the sources below.

Sources

"Book bans are on the rise. What are the most banned books and why?"

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/books/2022/06/29/banned-books-explained/7772046001/>

"Commonly Banned Books"

<https://libguides.butler.edu/c.php?g=34189&p=217684>

Get Involved

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/bannedbooksweek/ideasandresources/activity>

"The Top 10 Most Challenged Books Lists"

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10>

"The Top 10 Most Famous Banned Books of All Time"

<https://writers-house.com/blog/top-10-famous-banned-books-time/>

"What is Book Banning and How Does it Affect Society?"

<https://www.rd.com/article/book-banning/>

\$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 September 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 September 2022 winner #1 is:

Logan Frederick

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 September 30, 2022 to claim your prize:

A \$25 gift certificate from The Book Rack!

September 2022 Holidays and Events at The Book Rack:

September Monthly Celebrations

September Observances to be displayed are noted here in green:

(Please check in with us on Instagram and Facebook for a sneak peek of our themed displays and stock)

Better Breakfast Month

Chicken Month

Honey Month

Baby Safety Month

Happy Cat Month

Hispanic Heritage Month

Mushroom Month

Cottagecore (highlighting homesteading and all things cozy)
Autumn Covers

National Blueberry Popsicle Month
National Courtesy Month
Self Improvement Month
National Sewing Month

Weeks

18-24 – Banned Books Week

Holidays

September 2 - VJ Day, WWII

3 - International Bacon Day - Saturday before Labor Day

5 - Labor Day

6 – Read a Book Day

11 – International Literacy Day

11 – Grandparents Day

11 - Mike McCarty book signing at The Book Rack

17 – Citizenship Day & Constitution Day

19 – National Dance Day

21 – International Peace Day

22 – Hobbit Day

23 – Native American Day

25 - Comic Book Day

25 – Jonathan Turner Book Signing at The Book Rack

28 – National Good Neighbor Day

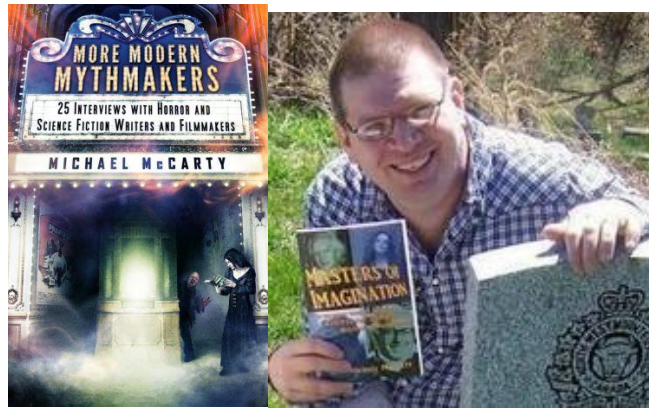
29 – Coffee Day

September's Featured Local Authors

Michael McCarty and Jonathan Turner

Michael McCarty will be at The Book Rack 1-3:00 on September 11.

Mike will be featuring his book, "More Modern Mythmakers: 25 Interviews with Horror and Science Fiction Writers and Filmmakers", which features Horror, Science Fiction and Dark Fantasy's most influential writers and filmmakers interviewed about the art and craft of their genres.



The 25 interviews include:

**Steve Alten
Reggie Bannister
Terry Brooks
Charles de Lint
Dennis Etchison
John Everson
Alan Dean Foster
Ray Garton
Sephera Giron
Owl Goingback
Charles Grant
Nancy Holder
Paul Kane
Ronald Kelly
Joe Lansdale
Bentley Little
Jeff Long
Jonathan Maberry
Elizabeth Massie
Larry Niven
William Stout
Jeff Strand
Harry Turtledove
J.N. Williamson
Connie Willis**

Foreword by Gerard Houarner

Afterword by Jeffrey Thomas

If you're interested in books on writing, the horror genre, science fiction, famous authors, or even becoming a full time author, this book is a must-have.

More Modern Mythmakers is the sequel to 2015's Modern Mythmakers by Michael McCarty, published by Crystal Lake Publishing.

A former stand-up comedian and musician, Michael McCarty has been a professional writer since 1983. The author of over 40 books (fiction and nonfiction), he has also penned hundreds of articles, short stories, poems, etc. **Mike is The Book Rack's #1 selling Local Author of 2021.** He is a David R. Collins' Literary Achievement Award winner from the Midwest Writing Center and a 5 times Bram Stoker Finalist. He lives in Rock Island, Illinois with his wife Cindy and pet rabbit Latte.

Jonathan Turner will be at The Book Rack September 18, 11-1:00, introducing visitors to his new QC travel guide, "100 Things to Do in the Quad Cities Before You Die."



The Quad Cities--three hours from both Des Moines and Chicago--is a unique metropolitan area along the mighty Mississippi River, growing in both size and nationwide reputation. This region of 400,000-plus people has all the friendliness, affordability, and short, headache-free commutes of many small towns, but also a staggering variety and quality of things to do. 100 Things to Do in the Quad Cities is an invaluable source to help you track down some of the top places, events, and organizations that make the area pulse and thrive. Take a tour of the creative, intoxicating QC Ale Trail including Bent River and Front Street breweries. Taste some terrifically varied restaurants like Me & Billy, Tantra, and Food Affair Bistro or enjoy live entertainment at The Music Guild or the Adler Theatre. Abounding museums and art galleries like the Figge and Putnam make the QC a genuinely special, entertaining place. Veteran local journalist Jonathan Turner is your knowledgeable, friendly guide to all that is great about the QC and how to make the most of your visit--whether you're here for a busy, rich weekend, or a satisfying lifetime. You'll want to check all 100 things off your list and then come back around the River Bend for more!

Jonathan Turner has been a digital reporter at WHBF-TV in Rock Island, Ill., since September 2021. He's been a full-time journalist since 1995, in the Quad Cities. He's especially passionate about covering arts and culture.

Book Reviews

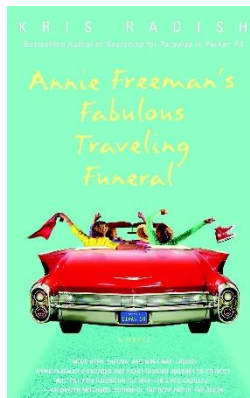
Reviews by Claudia:

A Court of Silver Flames by Sarah J. Maas is the fifth and last book in ***The Court of Thorns and Roses*** series.



This series is advertised as a Young Adult series, which some read as 13-18, and others 18+. Let me first say that this last installment of the series has some explicit, and some would say raunchy, descriptions of sex between the main characters. With that out of the way, this book centers on the relationship between Nesta, one of three human sisters who has been transformed into High Fae, and Cassian, a ripped and winged protector of her brother-in-law, Rhysand, High Lord and ruler of the Night Court. During a lull in the war between various Fae realms and humans, Nesta's struggles with guilt and self-loathing result in self-destructive behavior and ultimately, a family intervention. Nesta starts Illyrian training with Cassian and is put to work in the library where abused and damaged female Fae are brought to safety and healing. Nesta's relationship with Cassian will heat you up, but her deep friendships with some of the Fae women she encourages to train with her are some of my favorite parts of the book. Nesta finds her purpose and her mate, Feyre and Rhys enter a new stage in their lives, and Fae women come into their own. If you like fantasy, monsters, sex, and happy endings, this may be for you. Recommended.

***Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral* by Kris Radish**



is a feel-good tale that follows Katherine Givens as she fulfills her best friend's last request. Katherine receives a UPS package that holds a pair of red sneakers filled with the ashes of Annie Freeman, along with detailed instructions. As directed, she contacts the most important women in Annie's life to serve as "pallbearers" in the traveling funeral. As the women travel across the country,

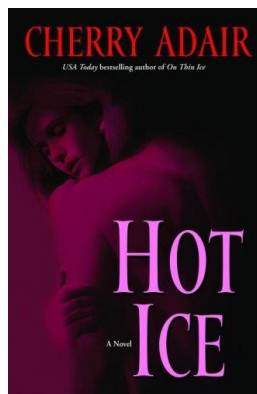
they carry Annie's ashes to specific locations where surprises await. Meeting people along the way and discovering previously unknown facets of their dear friend, the women also share their own challenges, disappointments, hopes and dreams, ultimately learning how much is still attainable in each of their lives. I enjoyed the women's interactions, from meeting one another to becoming fast friends, all orchestrated by Annie Freeman. The women's entries in a shared diary during their travels provides a window into each woman's character and growth. If you want an uplifting story of female friendships, this is for you. Recommended.

The September 2022 winner #2 is:

Ilene Altman

Reviews by Bob

Hot Ice, T-FLAC: Black Rose Trilogy, Book #1 – Cherry Adair (2005)
Romantic Suspense



Diamonds—jewels of every kind, in fact—are Taylor Kincaid's best friends. The only thing she enjoys more is the challenge of stealing them, at which she excels like few others in the world. And specializing in plundering precious stones from wealthy international criminals just makes it all the more satisfying . . . and dangerously exciting. So, for Taylor, there's no resisting the double allure of snatching the elusive Blue Star diamonds—a prize she has pursued across three continents—from the South American stronghold of the murderous Morales terrorist organization.

The heist goes down without a hitch. Until Taylor discovers she has made off with more than she bargained for, namely the secret security-system codes that provide access to a South African diamond mine—packed with enough gems to

sink a battleship. Suddenly, Taylor's no longer just an ultrachic freelance jewel thief, but a reluctant player in a high-stakes cat-and-mouse game against elite global trouble-shooters and bloodthirsty terrorists.

There's nothing reluctant, however, about Huntington St. John, the top T-FLAC operative who's hot on Taylor's trail. And in Taylor's opinion, just plain hot. The feeling, emotional and otherwise, is very mutual. Though they're on opposite sides of the law, Hunt and Taylor swiftly come to appreciate each other's well-honed skills. But since ecstasy is fleeting, and diamonds are forever, Taylor soon slips from the sheets and hits the streets . . . to reclaim the jewels she stashed overseas. And true to his name, Hunt is close behind—but this time, he's after more than the codes. With the clock ticking, and two groups of terrorists closing fast, they'll have to mix pleasure with some very risky business. If they can survive danger at every turn, outwit the ultimate high-tech security system, and somehow conquer each other . . . they just might get everything they desire.

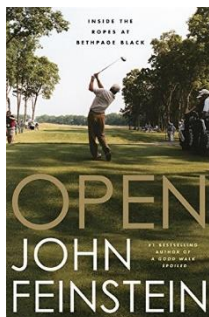
"A thrilling, mysterious, sexy read." Stella Cameron

"No one does hot romance, ice-cold villains, and nonstop adventure better."
Mariah Stewart.

This is a red-hot romance and thrill-a-minute suspense novel at the top of the genre. It will get your juices flowing and your adrenaline flowing fast. I give it an A-

If you like Marliss Melton, Lora Leigh or Lyndsay Sands, you will likely enjoy Cherry Adair

Open: Inside the Ropes at Bethpage Black by John Feinstein – 2003 – Nonfiction – Sports



In June of 2002, the U.S. Open was played, for the first time in history, on a true public golf course. Bethpage State Park is owned by the state of New York, and no membership is required to play there. This is golf at its most populist, most pure--and most challenging. In what Tiger Woods himself would declare "the most difficult national championship, " Sergio Garcia, Phil Mickelson, Nick Faldo, and the rest would, through days of rain and roughs, learn the hard way that while Bethpage may be open to the public, even for the pros the chance of winning can be closed off to mere mortals. With unprecedented backstage access, John Feinstein finally removes the mystery shrouding golf's most famous event, unraveling how pairings are made; qualifiers; setting up the golf course; and all the complexities of bringing golf's most exclusive competition to a truly public setting. In fascinating detail, Feinstein takes readers through every step, every thorny hole, every bitter rivalry of golf's greatest tournament.

- The Bethpage course was so challenging that only one player finished under par; this was golf at its most intense.
- Nobody in America writes about golf better than John Feinstein, as fans of The Majors and A Good Walk Spoiled can attest.
- In the past, Feinstein has written books with multiple tournaments; now he focuses, laser like, on just one, and the result is a book of increased drama and detail.

What a fascinating, wonderful book. John Feinstein is a writing master. Even if you don't watch or play golf, but do love a great book, this is one you need to read. I give it an A+ and compare it to Tracy Kidder's The Soul of a New Machine, another of my all-time favorites.

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

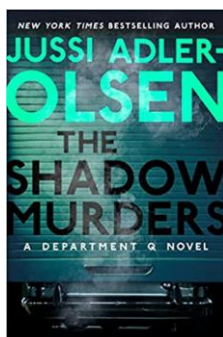
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Did you know?

Diogenes roamed the streets in broad daylight with a lantern looking for that rare thing: an honest man?

Hardcover and Trade Paperback

**Jussi Adler-Olsen – The Shadow Murders, A Department Q Novel
– Mystery/Detective – 28.00**



On her sixtieth birthday, a woman takes her own life. When the case lands on Detective Carl Mørck's desk, he can't imagine what this has to do with Department Q, Copenhagen's cold cases division since the cause of death seems apparent. However, his superior, Marcus Jacobsen, is convinced that this is related to an unsolved case that has been plaguing him since 1988.

At Marcus's behest, Carl and the Department Q gang—Rose, Assad, and Gordon—reluctantly begin to investigate. And they quickly discover that Marcus is onto something: Every two years for the past three decades, there have been unusual, impeccably timed deaths with connections between them that cannot be ignored, including mysterious piles of salt at the scenes. As the investigation goes deeper, it emerges that these "accidents" are in fact part of a sinister murder scheme.

Faced with their toughest case yet, made only more difficult by COVID-19 restrictions and the challenges of their personal lives, the Department Q team must race to find the culprit before the next murder is committed, as it is

becoming increasingly clear that the killer is far from finished.

Taylor Anderson - Hell's March (Artillerymen) - Sci Fi – 28.00



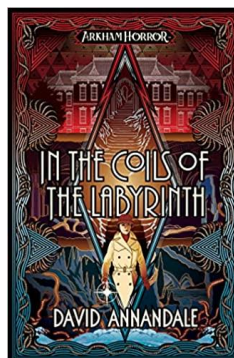
Major Lewis Cayce will need to use every weapon in his arsenal to keep his stranded men alive on a deadly alternate Earth in this gripping new adventure set in the world of the *New York Times* bestselling Destroyermen series.

It is 1847, and almost a full year after being shipwrecked on another, far stranger and more dangerous Earth on their way to fight Santa Anna in the Mexican-American War, Lewis Cayce and his small group of artillerymen, infantrymen, and dragoons have made friends in the Yucatán, helped build an army, and repulsed the first efforts of the blood-drenched Holy Dominion to wipe their new friends out.

As an even more radical cult of Blood Priests arises and begins to pursue its own path to power, the Dominion can't let its defeat stand. It must crush the heretics and expel them from the land it has claimed.

Fortunately, Lewis Cayce is a professional. He understands defense can only result in a stalemate at best, and a stalemate with the more populous Dominion will only lead to defeat in the end. The lucky few will be enslaved. The rest will be sacrificed in the most horrific way imaginable. The only hope his new allies have is to win—and to do that, his little army must attack the most powerful and diabolical enemy on the planet in its own territory. Achieving victory will take all Lewis's imagination, the courage and trust of his soldiers—and all the round shot and canister his tiny band of artillerymen can slam out.

David Annandale - In the Coils of the Labyrinth: An Arkham Horror Novel - 16.95

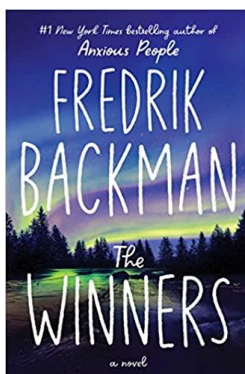


An unnatural terror penetrating our reality preys on the dreams of its victims, in this darkly captivating novel set in the world of *Arkham Horror*

Professor Miranda Ventham is having bad dreams - nothing new in 1920s Arkham - but hers are horrifying glimpses of a dark future. Now seriously ill, she books herself into the new sanatorium, Stroud Institute. With luck, the town's eldritch taint won't reach her there. And yet the nightmares worsen. With the aid of her friend, parapsychologist Agatha Crane, they delve into the background of the sanatorium's enigmatic director, Donovan Stroud. Plagued by

doubts, delusions, and terrifying visions, Miranda must unravel the shrouded history of the Strouds before she is trapped in a labyrinthine nightmare. Something sinister lurks at its heart, and it longs to be set free.

Frederik Backman - The Winners (Beartown) – Literature – 28.99



It starts with a storm, a death, and two funerals on the same day.

One person's life is being celebrated by all of Beartown.

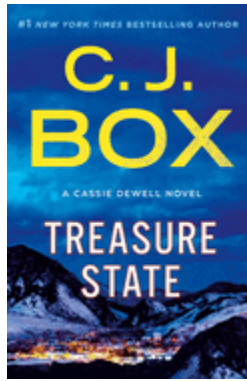
One person's life is being forgotten.

Maya Andersson and Benji Ovich, two young people who left in search of a life far from the forest town, come home and joyfully reunite with their closest childhood friends. They can see how much Beartown has changed. There is a sense of optimism and purpose in the town, embodied in the impressive new ice rink that has been built down by the lake.

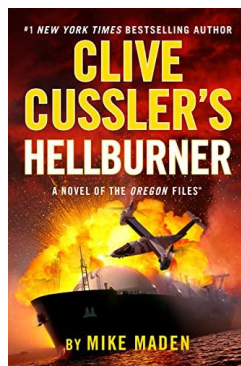
Two years have passed since the events that no one wants to think about. Everyone has tried to move on, but there's something about this place that prevents it. The destruction caused by a ferocious late-summer storm reignites the old rivalry between Beartown and the neighboring town of Hed, a rivalry which has always been fought through their ice hockey teams. Maya's parents, Peter and Kira, are caught up in an investigation of the hockey club's murky finances, and Amat—once the star of the Beartown team—has lost his way after an injury and a failed attempt to get drafted into the NHL. Simmering tensions between the two towns turn into acts of intimidation and then violence. All the while, a fourteen-year-old boy grows increasingly alienated from this hockey-obsessed community and is determined to take revenge on the people he holds responsible for his beloved sister's death. He has a pistol and a plan that will leave Beartown with a loss that is almost more that it can stand.

As it beautifully captures all the complexities of daily life and explores questions of friendship, loyalty, loss, and identity, this emotion-packed novel asks us to reconsider what it means to win, what it means to lose, and what it means to forgive.

C.J. Box - Treasure State: A Cassie Dewell Novel (Cassie Dewell Novels #6) – Mystery – 28.99



Clive Cussler - Clive Cussler's Hellburner (Oregon Files) Thriller – 29.95

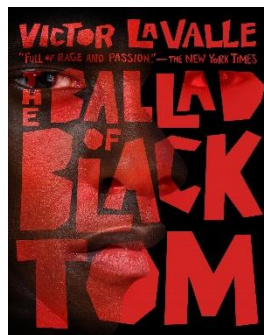


Juan Cabrillo and the crew of the *Oregon* must track down a nuclear torpedo before it unleashes World War III in this electrifying new installment of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling series.

When Juan Cabrillo fails to capture the leader of Mexico's most dangerous drug cartel and loses an *Oregon* crew member in the process, he's determined to get revenge. Little does he know that the explosion he just narrowly escaped was merely the latest flash of violence from a machine of war that has existed for decades, dating from the bloodiest episode in Armenia's history.

Cabrillo's Corporation of mercenaries may have finally met its match in The Pipeline--a criminal syndicate passed down from father to son across generations. A group that sits with its finger on the trigger of a torpedo so deadly it could level entire cities. With millions of innocent civilians hanging in the balance, the *Oregon's* crew must unravel a tangle of drug-smuggling routes and international conspiracies spanning from the Aegean Sea to the Indian Ocean, putting their lives on the line to find the weapon before its countdown hits zero.

Victor LaValle - The Ballad of Black Tom – Fantasy - 19.99



The Ballad of Black Tom—the Hugo, Nebula, *Locus*, World Fantasy, and Bram Stoker Award finalist and

Shirley Jackson and British Fantasy Award-winning excavation of Lovecraftian mythos by Victor LaValle—is given new life in a brand-new hardcover edition.

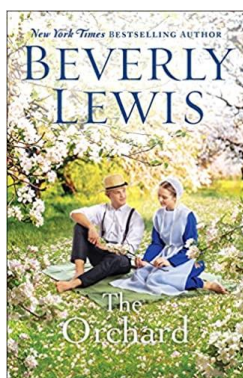
“Full of rage and passion.”—*The New York Times*

People move to New York looking for magic and nothing will convince them it isn't there.

Charles Thomas Tester hustles to put food on the table, keep the roof over his father's head, from Harlem to Flushing Meadows to Red Hook. He knows what magic a suit can cast, the invisibility a guitar case can provide, and the curse written on his skin that attracts the eye of wealthy white folks and their cops. But when he delivers an occult tome to a reclusive sorceress in the heart of Queens, Tom opens a door to a deeper realm of magic and earns the attention of things best left sleeping.

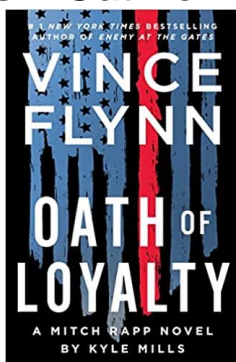
A storm that might swallow the world is building in Brooklyn. Will Black Tom live to see it break?

Beverly Lewis – The Orchard – Christian Fiction – 29.99



For generations, Ellie Hostetler's family has tended their orchard, a tradition her twin brother, Evan, will someday continue. But when Evan is drafted for the Vietnam War, the family is shocked to learn he has not sought conscientious objector status. Can Ellie, with the support of a new beau, find the courage to face a future unlike the one she imagined?

Vince Flynn & Kyle Mills – Oath of Loyalty – Thriller – 28.99



Mitch Rapp confronts a very different kind of killer in the explosive new thriller in Vince Flynn's #1 *New York Times* bestselling series, written by Kyle Mills.

With President Anthony Cook convinced that Mitch Rapp poses a mortal threat to him, CIA Director Irene Kennedy is forced to construct a truce between the two men. The terms are simple: Rapp agrees to leave the country and stay in plain sight for as long as Cook controls the White House. In exchange, the administration agrees not to make any moves against him.

This fragile détente holds until Cook's power-hungry security adviser convinces him that Rapp has no intention of honoring their agreement. In an effort to put him on the defensive, they leak the true identity of his partner, Claudia Gould. As Rapp races to neutralize the enemies organizing against her, he discovers that a new generation of assassins is on her trail. A killer known to intelligence agencies only as Legion.

The shadowy group has created a business model based on double-blind secrecy. Neither the killer nor the client knows the other's identity. Because of this, Legion can't be called off nor can they afford to fail. No matter how long it takes—weeks, months, years—they won't stand down until their target is dead. Faced with the seemingly impossible task of finding and stopping Legion, Rapp and his people must close ranks against a world that has turned on them.

Iris Johansen - Captive (Eve Duncan) – Thriller – 28.99



Jane MacGuire is enjoying a period of domestic bliss as she focuses on her art and her partner Seth Caleb uses his unique abilities as an agent for the MI6 intelligence service. But when Seth crosses crime lord Hugh Bohdan, he incurs the wrath of one of the world's most powerful criminal empires...one whose tentacles reach across the globe and even to the idyllic Scottish retreat where Jane is working.

Soon Jane is on the run, struggling to stay one step ahead of Bohdan's army and his devastating high-tech weaponry. Even with the assistance of Earl John MacDuff, she finds danger at every turn. But with that peril comes an astonishing discovery: a 200-year-old secret on the brink of becoming lost to history.

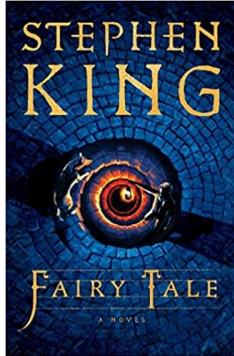
Jane and Seth must join forces to unlock the fascinating puzzle, even as they hurtle toward a lethal final confrontation in the Highlands. But before their adventure is over, Jane and Seth will encounter their biggest shock of all...and realize nothing can be the same for them ever again.

Craig Johnson - Hell and Back: A Longmire Mystery – 28.00

What if you woke up lying in the middle of the street in the infamous town of Fort Pratt, Montana, where thirty young Native boys perished in a tragic 1896 boarding-school fire? What if every person you encountered in that endless night was dead? What if you were covered in blood and missing a bullet from the gun holstered on your hip? What if there was something out there in the yellowed skies, along with the deceased and the smell of ash and dust, something the Northern Cheyenne refer to as the Éveohtsé-heómesé, the Wandering Without, the Taker of Souls? What if the only way you know who you are is because your name is printed in the leather sweatband of your cowboy hat, and what if it says your name is Walt Longmire . . . but you don't remember him?

In *Hell and Back*, the eighteenth installment of the Longmire series, author Craig Johnson takes the beloved sheriff to the very limits of his sanity to do battle with the most dangerous adversary he's ever faced: himself.

Stephen King – Fairy Tale – Fantasy – 32.50



Legendary storyteller Stephen King goes into the deepest well of his imagination in this spellbinding novel about a 17-year-old boy who inherits the keys to a parallel world where good and evil are at war, and the stakes could not be higher - for their world or ours.

Charlie Reade looks like a regular high school kid, great at baseball and football, a decent student. But he carries a heavy load. His mom was killed in a hit-and-run accident when he was 10, and grief drove his dad to drink. Charlie learned how to take care of himself - and his dad. Then, when Charlie is 17, he meets a dog named Radar and his aging master, Howard Bowditch, a recluse in a big house at the top of a big hill, with a locked shed in the backyard. Sometimes strange sounds emerge from it.

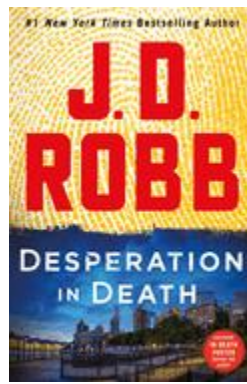
Charlie starts doing jobs for Mr. Bowditch and loses his heart to Radar. Then, when Bowditch dies, he leaves Charlie a cassette tape telling a story no one would believe. What Bowditch knows, and has kept secret all his long life, is that inside the shed is a portal to another world.

King's storytelling in *Fairy Tale* soars. This is a magnificent and terrifying tale about another world than ours, in which good is pitted against overwhelming evil, and a heroic boy - and his dog - must lead the battle.

Early in the Pandemic, King asked himself: "What could you write that would make you happy?"

"As if my imagination had been waiting for the question to be asked, I saw a vast deserted city - deserted but alive. I saw the empty streets, the haunted buildings, a gargoyle head lying overturned in the street. I saw smashed statues (of what I didn't know, but I eventually found out). I saw a huge, sprawling palace with glass towers so high their tips pierced the clouds. I saw a magic sundial that could turn back time. Those images released the story I wanted to tell."

J.D. Robb - Desperation in Death: An Eve Dallas Novel (In Death #55) – Mystery - 28.99



New York, 2061: The place called the Pleasure Academy is a living nightmare where abducted girls are trapped, trained for a life of abject service while their souls are slowly but surely destroyed. Dorian, a thirteen-year-old runaway who'd been imprisoned there, might never have made it out if not for her fellow inmate Mina, who'd hatched the escape plan. Mina was the more daring of the two—but they'd been equally desperate.

Unfortunately, they didn't get away fast enough. Now Dorian is injured, terrified, and wandering the streets of New York, and Mina lies dead near the waterfront while Lt. Eve Dallas looks over the scene.

Mina's expensive, elegant clothes and beauty products convince Dallas that she was being groomed, literally and figuratively, for sex trafficking—and that whoever is investing in this high-overhead operation expects wind-fall profits. Her billionaire husband, Roarke, may be able to help, considering his ties to the city's ultra-rich. But Roarke is also worried about the effect this case is having on Dallas, as it brings a rage to the surface she can barely control. No matter what, she must keep her head clear—because above all, she is desperate for justice and to take down those who prey on and torment the innocent.

Scott Turow – Suspect – Legal Thriller – 28.00

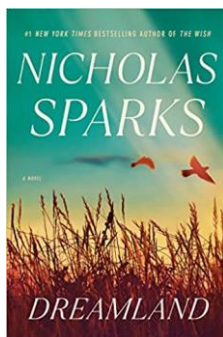


For as long as Lucia Gomez has been the police chief in the city of Highland Isle, near Kindle County, she has known that any woman in law enforcement must walk a precarious line between authority and camaraderie to gain respect. She has maintained a spotless reputation—until now. Three male police officers have accused her of soliciting sex in exchange for promotions to higher ranks. With few people left who she can trust, Chief Gomez turns to an old friend, Rik Dudek, to act as her attorney in the federal grand jury investigation, insisting to Rik that the accusations against her are part of an ugly smear campaign designed to destroy her career and empower her enemies—both outside the police force and within..

Clarice "Pinky" Granum spent most of her youth experimenting with an impressive array of drugs and failing out of various professions, including the police academy. Pinky knows that in the eyes of most people, she's nothing but a screwup—but she doesn't trust most people's opinions anyway. Moreover, she finally has a respectable-enough job as a licensed P.I. working for Rik on his roster of mostly minor cases, like workman's comp, DUIs and bar fights. Rik's shabby office and even shabbier cases are a far cry from the kinds of high-profile criminal matters Pinky became familiar with in the law office of her grandfather, Sandy Stern. But Rik and Pinky feel that Chief Gomez's case, which has attracted national attention, is their chance to break into the legal big leagues.

Guided by her gut instinct and razor-sharp investigative skills, Pinky dives headfirst into a twisted scandal that will draw her into the deepest recesses of the city's criminal networks, as well as the human mind. But she will need every scrap of tenacity and courage to unravel the dark secrets those closest to her are determined to keep hidden.

Nicholas Sparks – Dreamland – Romance - 28.99



A poignant love story about risking everything for a dream—and whether it's possible to leave the past behind.

Colby Mills once felt destined for a musical career, until tragedy grounded his aspirations. Now the head of a small family farm in North Carolina, he spontaneously takes a gig playing at a bar in St. Pete Beach, Florida, seeking a rare break from his duties at home.

But when he meets Morgan Lee, his world is turned upside-down, making him wonder if the responsibilities he has shouldered need dictate his life forever. The daughter of affluent Chicago doctors, Morgan has graduated from a prestigious college music program with the ambition to move to Nashville and become a star. Romantically and musically, she and Colby complete each other in a way that neither has ever known.

While they are falling headlong in love, Beverly is on a heart-pounding journey of another kind. Fleeing an abusive husband with her six-year-old son, she is trying to piece together a life for them in a small town far off the beaten track. With money running out and danger seemingly around every corner, she makes a desperate decision that will rewrite everything she knows to be true.

In the course of a single unforgettable week, two young people will navigate the exhilarating heights and heart-break of first love. Hundreds of miles away, Beverly will put her love for her young son to the test. And fate will draw all three people together in a web of life-altering connections . . . forcing each to wonder whether the dream of a better life can ever survive the weight of the past.

The September 2022 winner #3 is:
Michael & Deborah McDaniel

Trivia for September 2022

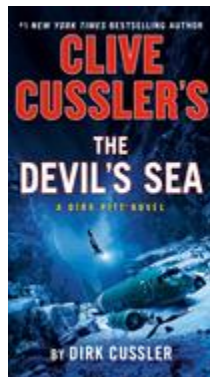
What is the native country of Agatha Christie's detective Hercule Poirot?

Answer:

Belgium

Mass Market Paperback

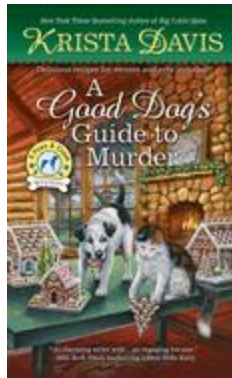
Dirk Cussler - Clive Cussler's the Devil's Sea (Dirk Pitt Adventure)



When NUMA director Dirk Pitt discovers a forgotten plane crash in the Philippine Sea, he unearths clues pointing to an invaluable Buddhist artifact that has been lost for decades. But soon, he will learn that he's not the only one making earthshattering discoveries. During a mission to recover a failed hypersonic missile from Luzon Strait, Pitt finds himself racing against a rogue Chinese military team...who have hijacked a ship strong enough to stir the ocean into a veritable Devil's Sea.

From the cold depths of the Pacific to the dizzying heights of the Himalayas, only Pitt and his children can unravel the mysteries that will preserve a religion, save a nation...and save the world from war.

Krista Davis - A Good Dog's Guide to Murder (Paws & Claws Mystery) – 8.99



The great Gingerbread Dog & Cat House competition has come to Wagtail, along with another murder to solve for Holly and her supersmart Jack Russell terrier Trixie in the New York Times bestselling Paws & Claws series by Krista Davis!

Visitors are arriving in droves to spend Thanksgiving in the mountains of pet-friendly Wagtail, Virginia. Many of them are bringing dog and cat gingerbread houses to enter in the contest that will be held in the new convention center. Wagtail resident Orly Biffle bequeathed the land to the town in his will, provided that they not cut down the grand old oak tree on the property. Orly's children are mighty miffed that they didn't inherit the prime piece of property overlooking the lake.

Holly notices that Trixie and Twinkletoes, her calico kitty, are fixated on the big oak tree. Trixie barks at it as though she thinks it's a corpse! Just as contestants are spicing up their sweet gingerbread creations, the majestic tree drops an enormous limb. The mayor declares that the tree is dangerous and must come down. When a bulldozer churns up some roots, the tree falls over on its own accord revealing a body inside the trunk! Initially, everyone suspects this unsavory trick was Orly's doing. But it soon becomes clear that someone is trying to keep the truth under wraps. Trixie and Twinkletoes now have to help Holly sniff out some suspects and leash a conniving killer.

Ken Follett - The Evening and the Morning (Kingsbridge) – Historical Fiction – 10.99



It is 997 CE, the end of the Dark Ages. England is facing attacks from the Welsh in the west and the Vikings in the east ... In these turbulent times, three characters find their lives intertwined. A young boatbuilder's life is turned upside down when the only home he's ever known is raided by Vikings, forcing him and his family to move and start their lives anew in a small hamlet where he does not fit in. A Norman noblewoman marries for love, following her husband across the sea to a new land. But the customs of her husband's homeland are shockingly different, and as she begins to realize that everyone around her is engaged in a constant, brutal battle for power, it becomes clear that a single misstep could be catastrophic. A monk dreams of transforming his humble abbey into a center of learning that will be admired throughout Europe. And each in turn comes into dangerous conflict with a clever and ruthless bishop who will do

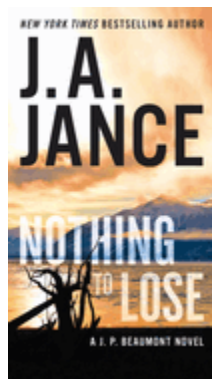
anything to increase his wealth and power ... [This novel] takes us on an epic journey into a historical past rich with ambition and rivalry, death and birth, love and hate, that will end where The Pillars of the Earth begins

John Grisham - The Judge's List (The Whistler) – Thriller – 9.99



As an investigator for the Florida Board on Judicial Conduct, Lacy Stoltz sees plenty of corruption among the men and women elected to the bench. In The whistler, she took on a crime syndicate that was paying millions to a crooked judge. Now, in The judge's list, the crimes are even worse. The man hiding behind the black robe is not taking bribes- but he may be taking lives

J.A. Jance - Nothing to Lose: A J.P. Beaumont Novel – Thriller - 9.99



Beaumont is approached by a visitor from the past and finds himself drawn into a missing person's case where danger is lurking and family secrets are exposed.

Years ago, when he was a homicide detective with the Seattle PD, J. P. Beaumont's partner, Sue Danielson, was murdered. Volatile and angry, Danielson's ex-husband came after her in her home and, with nowhere else to turn, Jared, Sue's teenage son, frantically called Beau for help. As Beau rushed to the scene, he urged Jared to grab his younger brother and flee the house. In the end, Beaumont's plea and Jared's quick action saved the two boys from their father's murderous rage.

Now, almost twenty years later, Jared reappears in Beau's life seeking his help once again--his younger brother Chris is missing. Still haunted by the events of that tragic night, Beau doesn't hesitate to take on the case. Following a lead all the way to the wilds of wintertime Alaska, he encounters a tangled web of family secrets in which a killer with nothing to lose is waiting to take another life.

The September 2022 winner #4 is:

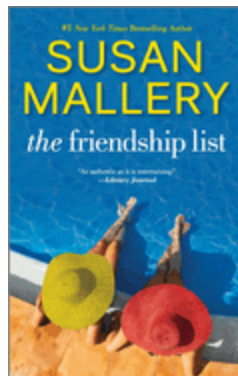
Robert Petrie

Fern Michaels - Secrets: A Thrilling Novel of Suspense (A Lost and Found Novel)



In the second installment in a new series from Fern Michaels, a brother and sister who own an antique shop/café find themselves with life or death information and realize they have no one to turn to but themselves.

Susan Mallery - The Friendship List – General Fiction – 9.99



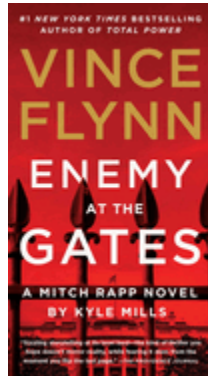
New York Times bestselling author Susan Mallery delights with an engaging novel about two women who are as close as sisters and the summer that changes their lives forever...

As a single mom, Ellen Fox missed out on a lot, but she wouldn't change a thing--until she overhears her son saying he can't go to his dream college because she needs him too much. If she wants him to live his best life, she has to convince him she's living hers.

So Unity Leandre, her best friend since forever, creates a list of challenges to push Ellen out of her comfort zone. Unity will complete the list, too. Only to support her friend, not because she needs to change--she sees no problem with a thirtysomething widow still sleeping in her late husband's childhood bed.

For both women, The Friendship List begins as a way to make others believe they're doing just fine. But somewhere between "wear a bikini in public" and "have sex with a gorgeous guy," Ellen and Unity will discover that life is meant to be lived with joy and abandon, in a story filled with humor, heartache and regrettable tattoos.

Kyle Mills – Vince Flynn’s Enemy at the Gates – Thriller – 9.99



Mitch Rapp has worked for a number of presidents over his career, but Anthony Cook is unlike any he's encountered before. Cunning and autocratic, he feels no loyalty to America's institutions and is distrustful of the influence Rapp and CIA director Irene Kennedy have in Washington. Meanwhile, when Kennedy discovers evidence of a mole scouring the Agency's database for sensitive information on Nicholas Ward, the world's first trillionaire, she convinces Rapp to take a job protecting him. In doing so, he finds himself walking an impossible tightrope: Keep the man alive, but also use him as bait to uncover a traitor who has seemingly unlimited access to government secrets.

Brenda Novak - The Bookstore on the Beach – General Fiction – 8.99



How do you start a new chapter when you haven't closed the book on the last one?

Eighteen months ago, Autumn Divac's husband went missing. Her desperate search has yielded no answers--she still has no idea where he went or why. After being happily married for twenty years, she can't imagine moving forward without him, but for the sake of their two teenage children, she has to try.

Autumn takes her kids home for the summer to the charming beachside town where she was raised. She seeks comfort by working alongside her mother and aunt at their quaint bookshop, only to learn that her daughter is facing a life change neither of them saw coming and her mother has been hiding a terrible secret for years. And when she runs into Quinn Vanderbilt--the boy who stole her heart in high school--old feelings start to bubble up again. Is she free to love him, or should she hold out hope for her husband's return? She can only trust her heart...and hope it won't lead her astray.

Nick Petrie – The Runaway, A Peter Ash Novel – Thriller – 9.99

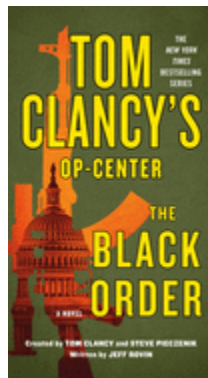


When Peter Ash rescues a stranded woman, he finds she's in far deeper trouble than he could ever imagine in the powerful new thriller in this bestselling and award-winning series.

War veteran Peter Ash is driving through northern Nebraska when he encounters a young pregnant woman alone on a gravel road, her car dead. Peter offers her a lift, but what begins as an act of kindness soon turns into a deadly cat-and-mouse chase across the lonely highways with the woman's vicious ex-cop husband hot on their trail. The pregnant woman has seen something she was never meant to see . . . but protecting her might prove to be more than Peter can handle.

In order to save the woman and himself, Peter must use everything he has learned during his time as a Marine, including his knowledge of human nature, in order to escape a ruthless killer with instincts and skills that match--and perhaps exceed--Peter's own.

Jeff Rovin - Tom Clancy's Op-Center: The Black Order (Tom Clancy's Op-Center #20) – Thriller – 9.99



In a plot ripped from today's headlines, America's elite task force must take down a group of ruthless domestic terrorists determined to paralyze the country through extreme acts of violence in this action-packed new thriller in the bestselling Tom Clancy's Op-Center series.

They are known as the Black Order. Self-proclaimed patriots and survivalists, they refuse to surrender their values and beliefs to the left-leaning cultural and progressive forces threatening their nation. Military veterans and high-tech specialists, they've begun a savage war which includes public assassinations of politicians and celebrities and high-profile bombings, striking without warning or mercy. The Black Order wants nothing less than complete capitulation by the US government, giving them free rein to make their ideologies the law of the land.

Only Op-Center's Black Wasp, a skilled team of military operatives answerable to the President, can defeat these militant revolutionaries. But even as Admiral Chase Williams and his agents force them on the run, the Black Order possesses a weapon of mass destruction that they will not hesitate to unleash

against millions of innocent civilians.

Dorothy St. James - A Perfect Bind (A Beloved Bookroom Mystery) - 8.99



Librarian Tru Beckett, ardent defender of the printed word, is about to find out that keeping murder checked out of her beloved library is much harder than she thought...

Tru Beckett succeeded in building a secret book room in her now bookless library, where book lovers from lovely Cypress, South Carolina, can rejoice in the printed word. Now she's working hard to maintain the little library downstairs while keeping her "real job" upstairs in the bookless technology center. The last thing she needs is a mysterious vandal who seems intent on breaking into her secret book-filled sanctuary and creating chaos. The nasty interloper doesn't steal anything, but brutalizes the books, damaging them and knocking them off shelves.

A patron of the secret book room tells Tru that there have been creepy goings-on at the library for years, especially in the basement where the secret book room is located. He's heard rumors of a poltergeist that haunts the library, determined to scare off readers. Tru is certain it's hogwash, but she's at a loss to think of who might be vandalizing the beautiful books she fought so hard to protect. And when a dead body shows up right behind the library, Tru is certain that it's not a ghost but a cold-blooded killer that she and her trusty tabby Dewey Decimal will need to uncover.

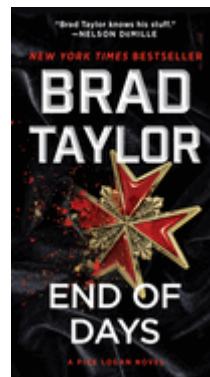
Brad Taylor - End of Days: A Pike Logan Novel (Pike Logan #16) – Thriller – 9.99

The Taskforce and Mossad join forces against a action-fueled thriller from New York Times bestseller officer, Brad Taylor.

When the former head of Israeli intelligence is killed latest in a series of 'accidental' deaths befalling key Israeli governments. Mossad bring in terrorist to investigate – and they know just who to call.

Taskforce operator Pike Logan has been out of action the chance to take on the mission. An Iranian-funded responsibility for the deaths. But something doesn't

wade deep into the complex religious and political currents of the region – and his findings could have disastrous consequences for the entire world...



fanatical organization in this and former special forces

on a paragliding trip, it's the members of the American and hunters Aaron and Shoshana

for too long, so he jumps at militia group has claimed add up. Logan will have to