

Coming Soon

Jeff Abbott

Trust Me

Luke Dantry helps fight the war on terror by surfing the web for terrorists. He encounters harmless rebels until the day he is kidnapped at gunpoint.

Elizabeth Adler

There's Something About St. Tropez

Five very different travelers are brought together at a seaside hotel, but they're all happy that Malibu's famous TV private investigator, Mac Reilly is among them. Too bad Mac and his girlfriend/partner, Sunny Alvarez, have no time to relax when the trip turns deadly.

Sandra Brown

Smash Cut

Hired to look into an accidental shooting of an Atlanta businessman, famed defense lawyer Derek Mitchell comes to realize that the victim's nephew is a psychotic movie buff who enjoys acting out favorite violent film plots.

Mary Jane Clark

Dying for Mercy

TV host Eliza Blake and her colleagues are touring a historic New York estate when a body is discovered. Eliza and the home's owners try to solve the crime, putting the lives of Eliza and her crew in jeopardy.

Robert Cohen

Amateur Barbarians

A middle-school principal hopes to reinvent his humdrum life, while an eternal grad student finally decides he'll settle for the ordinary. Their paths will cross.

Robin Cook

Intervention

After a tragedy shatters his family and career, New York City medical examiner Jack Stapleton decides to enter the alternative medicine field. He makes contact with two former college classmates, including an archaeologist who is digging beneath Saint Peter's and a bishop who would suppress the archaeologist's findings.

Sarah Dunant

Sacred Hearts

Condemned by 16th-century demands for lucrative dowries in order to marry, young Serafina is confined in a Renaissance Italy convent—a situation against which she passionately rebels.

Joseph Finder

Vanished

Security investigator, ex-intelligence agent Nick Heller goes up against one of the most powerful and secretive corporations in the world after an assault on his family.

Stephen Frey

Hell's Gate

Hunter Lee joins an elite team of parachute firefighters after he gives up his high-stakes career and relocates to Montana. There, he learns a sordid local secret regarding deadly arson fires in which lives are lost in exchange for insurance payoffs.

Dorothy Garlock

The Moon Looked Down

Shunned by her neighbors at the height of WWII, German immigrant Sophie Heller discovers that her family has been wrongfully blamed for a tragic train accident. Will the handsome local high school teacher stand up for her honor?

Denise Giardina

Emily's Ghost

This novel imagines the life of the Brontë Sisters and a passion that ignites between Emily and her father's real-life curate, William Weightman.

W. E. B. Griffin

The Traffickers: A Badge of Honor Novel

After a gangland shooting in Philadelphia, Homicide Sergeant Matthew Payne travels to the Texas-Mexico border to pursue a related murder and encounters more danger than anticipated.



Coming Soon

Barbara Hambly

Homeland

Exchanging letters throughout the American Civil War, southerner Susanna Ashford and northerner Cora Poole share their thoughts about their husbands' military service, their love of literature, and the prospects of nineteenth-century women like themselves.

Sophie Kinsella

Twenties Girl

When the bossy ghost of her great aunt asks her to track down a missing necklace, Lara Lington finds her search complicated by her floundering start-up business, her best friend's desertion, and her unfaithful boyfriend.

John Lescroart

A Plague of Secrets

The ex-con manager of a fashionable San Francisco coffee shop is found murdered, clutching a knapsack full of marijuana. Did the shop's high-society owner, Maya Townshend, know what was going on? Dismas Hardy investigates.

David Liss

The Devil's Company

Benjamin Weaver is blackmailed into pilfering documents from the British East India Company. In order to pull off the caper, he must infiltrate the company itself.

James Patterson

Alex Cross's Trial

Detective Alex Cross tells the story of his ancestor, Abraham and his bold pursuit of justice in the face of the resurgence of Ku Klux Klan racism and violence in 1906 Eudora, Mississippi.

Christopher Reich

Rules of Vengeance

Doctors without Borders physician Jonathan Ransom rushes to help during a London bombing. Afterwards, he's accused of aiding the terrorists—and his wife, Emma, who's a spy, vanishes.

Kathy Reichs

206 Bones

Forensic anthropologist Temperance Brennan regains consciousness and discovers that she is trapped in a small enclosed space. Then she remembers an autopsy case that resulted in an attempt on her life.

Nora Roberts

Black Hills

Lil Chance sets up a wildlife refuge on her family's South Dakota property. When someone starts killing animals on her land, she turns to her first love, ex-police officer turned private investigator, Cooper Sullivan, for help.

David Rosenfelt

New Tricks

Advocating on behalf of a puppy whose owner was brutally murdered, Andy Carpenter realizes that the pup possesses a dangerous secret that several people are resorting to violence to obtain.

Richard Russo

That Old Cape Magic

Jack and Joy Griffin always return to Cape Cod, where they honeymooned, as they experience the ups and downs of life.

Sarah Strohmeyer

The Penny Pinchers Club

When "shopaholic" Kat discovers that her husband has a secret bank account, she decides to mend her overspending ways. And then a former lover who has plenty of money drops into town.

Rebecca Wells

The Crowning Glory of Calla Lily Ponder

Calla Lily Ponder is born in 1953 with the power of "healing hands" in the small Cajun town of La Luna, Louisiana. After a series of hometown heartbreaks, Calla Lily sets out for New Orleans to attend a prestigious beauty academy with dreams of one day opening her own salon.

Stephen White

The Siege

Suspended Boulder police detective Sam Purdy investigates a number of high-profile disappearances at Yale University that may have ties to a campus secret society.

Rocky River Public Library

Zombies: The New Vampires

The ocean. Mary has never seen it, but she has heard about it and she dreams that it is still out there somewhere. The women of the Sisterhood deny it, the men of the Guardians are too busy protecting the village to dream at all, and her friends treat her stories about the ocean like fairy tales. In their world, the ocean is not real, but the Forest of Hands and Teeth that surrounds their village is terrifyingly real. On one side of the fence is the village, a last bastion of humanity, and on the other, the living dead, the Unconsecrated. When the village fence is breached and chaos shatters the village, Mary must choose between the ones she loves and finding the answer to the question that has always haunted her: Is there life beyond *The Forest of Hands and Teeth*? This riveting, suspenseful debut novel by Carrie Ryan will leave you hungry for more. Look for the sequel *The Dead-Tossed Waves* due out in 2010.

—Megan Alabaugh

A Brother's Love

The Last Child by John Hart opens a year after twelve-year-old Alyssa Merrimon disappears. The unresolved case has destroyed her idyllic family. Her father has left the family and Alyssa's mother is drowning in alcohol and drugs. Johnny, Alyssa's thirteen-year-old twin, refuses to believe she is dead.

While Johnny is executing his own investigation, Detective Clyde Hunt isn't giving up either. Hunt's singular devotion to the case has broken up his marriage and strained his relationship with own teenage son.

John Hart creates multiple layers with several subplots and a strong cast of supporting characters. This thriller has more than one surprise, and it will keep the reader turning its pages until the very end.

—Janet Sponseller

Bird-Brained

In her touching memoir *Alex and Me*, Irene Pepperberg recounts her life as a groundbreaking research scientist studying bird behavior using a gray parrot named Alex. As their relationship grows, Irene learns that Alex has astonishing mental abilities, beyond anything that anyone has ever seen in a bird with the brain the size of a walnut.

Irene learns that Alex has the ability to grasp concepts and verbalize them. When offered an apple, Alex renames the apple "ban-erry," because it was like a big cherry with yellow inside. Alex could count, knew his shapes and colors and had a wicked sense of humor. If you enjoyed *Dewey, the Small-Town Library Cat*, you'll love *Alex and Me*.

—Evelyn Janoch

Not for the Faint of Heart

Dr. Denis Leary is in rare form as he tries to get the attention of a country he sees running headfirst into its own backside. His latest work, *Why We Suck: a Feel Good Guide to Staying Fat, Loud, Lazy and Stupid*, is not for the faint of heart, and it is certainly not for the easily offended.

However, if you can get past (or enjoy) the colorful language, you are in for a laugh out loud treat. Leary details his childhood experience with bullies, his memories of family holidays, his views on ethnic stereotypes, and the difference between men and women (hint: it has to do with nicknames).

Fans of his stand up work or of the television show "Rescue Me" will have no problem hearing his voice while reading. These same fans may be surprised upon finishing the book that they have actually learned something about personal responsibility, critical thinking and how to make a marriage work.

—Camille Nice

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MEMOIRS

The Mighty Queens of Freeville

Amy Dickinson

Amy Dickinson's delightful memoir sketches her relationship with her mother, sisters and aunts. Her daughter named these strong and resilient women the "Mighty Queens." The love and support they show for Amy and her daughter draw them home to tiny Freeville again and again.

The Chicago Tribune selected the author to take over the advice column of the late Ann Landers. The memoir recounts the many mistakes Amy has made in her own life and as a parent, but it also shows her wry humor and deep family ties.

HISTORICAL FICTION

A Proper Education for Girls

Elaine diRollo

Alice and Lilian live in a house full of oddities collected by their eccentric father. After Lilian is married off to a missionary man who chooses to work in India, Alice is left alone to care for her elderly aunts, her father and his collection. But the sisters desperately miss each other and, on their own, devise a plan to be reunited.

Unconventional characters, complex motivations, and a smidge of whimsy make this trip to the past so very memorable.

Prayers for Sale

Sandra Dallas

Set in the mountainous mining town of Middle Swan, Colorado in 1936, 86-year-old Hennie Comfort meets newcomer 17-year-old Nit Spindle. Hennie immediately takes Nit under her wing, and they develop a wonderful friendship that sees them through thick and thin.

Wonderful characterizations and plot developments that keep you interested. This story has a satisfying ending.

WOMENS' FICTION

Thanks for the Memories

Cecelia Ahern

After receiving a blood transfusion following a tragic accident, Joyce Conway begins to have memories of people and places that she doesn't know and hasn't visited. In the meantime, recently divorced Justin Hitchcock is torn between pursuing a young woman he randomly encounters in some unusual places, or trying to find the person who's been leaving mysterious "thank you" messages for him.

Magically serendipitous! Fans of Cecelia Ahern will be delighted.

Home Safe

Elizabeth Berg

Successful novelist Helen Ames is thrust into coping with the details of everyday life when her husband dies suddenly. Their accountant calls with the distressing news that Dan withdrew a huge sum of money from their shared account shortly before his death. What could he have done with their savings?

An engaging story of the bonds between husbands and wives, and mothers and daughters. Middle-aged Helen has needed to take responsibility for her own life for a long time. Dan's death and her daughter's reaction to it push Helen to become a much stronger and more confident woman.

Everyone is Beautiful

Katherine Center

Lanie Coates's life changes drastically when she moves with her husband and their three preschool boys from Texas to Cambridge, Massachusetts for her husband's graduate studies. Overwhelmed by motherhood and a lack of a support system, Lanie discovers that she can no longer put her needs last.

Written with humor. Very entertaining. Wonderful characterizations. Full of everyday adventure.

TEEN FICTION

Jessica's Guide to Dating the Dark Side

Beth Fantaskey

Jessica was born Anastasia, Princess of the Dragomir vampire clan, but now lives in rural Pennsylvania living a vegan life with her adoptive parents. When Lucius, Prince of the Vladescu vampire clan, comes to fulfill the marriage pact, Jessica is told of her past. If Jessica resists the pact, war will begin between the clans and this pair might be among the first casualties

Both alone and together, these characters are fun to become acquainted with and the story line is just as interesting. A great choice for Twilighters who are experiencing withdrawal.

MYSTERY

In a Gilded Cage: A Molly Murphy Mystery

Rhys Bowen

Molly Murphy finds her next case while walking in New York City's Easter Parade on behalf of Women's Suffrage. Emily engages her to find the truth behind her parents' deaths. During Molly's investigation, she also becomes involved in a domestic case, but the wife passes away before the truth is revealed. Was her death really murder? And which of these cases has caused Molly's life to be in jeopardy?

Great characters with interesting issues add the emotional element to a smart, well-written mystery. The historical details are educational without being dull, and the end is a clever surprise. It may be eighth in the series, but it can be read on its own, too.

The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie

Alan Bradley

The youngest of the three de Luce daughters, 11-year-old Flavia has a keen interest in chemistry and poisons. It's her lucky day when she stumbles upon a freshly murdered corpse on the grounds of her family's estate in their small English village. When her widowed father is fingered for the crime, Flavia's interest in solving the case becomes personal.

Winner of the 2007 Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger. Flavia de Luce is a wonderful character and a whip-smart sleuth. Humorous writing, engaging characters, and a clever mystery too—this first in a planned series really has it all.

SUSPENSE/THRILLER

Bones of Betrayal

Jefferson Bass

During the autopsy of the body of an elderly man whose body was pulled from a frozen swimming pool, Dr. Bill Brockton discovers that the victim, Robert Novak, had been poisoned with a radioactive pellet. When he learns that Novak was part of the atom bomb project during WWII, Brockton searches for clues about who would want revenge 60 years later.

CSI fans will appreciate the detailed forensics. An entertaining read with great historical references.

Plea of Insanity

Jillian Hoffman

Miami Assistant Prosecutor Julia Vacanti sits second chair on a high-profile murder case of a doctor accused of killing his wife and children. When he pleads not guilty by reason of insanity, Julia must confront her own childhood nightmare—that of her parents' murder by her schizophrenic brother.

Unrelenting suspense and a surprise ending that you'll read twice.

FANTASY

Enemies and Allies

Kevin J. Anderson

Though suspicious of each other's intentions, Superman and Batman find they must work together to defeat their common enemy, the manipulative Lex Luthor. Using stolen technology and fear-mongering to his advantage, Lex schemes with a Soviet Army general to profit from an escalation of nuclear arms.



This novel of Good vs. Evil reads like a DC comic book written in the 1950s.

...All the Best in Reading!

An Unforgettable Gift

Looking for a tightly-plotted, entertaining and suspenseful read? You'll get exactly that when you open ***The Birthday Present*** by Barbara Vine. A Member of Parliament, the single, good-looking and successful Ivor Tesham, has planned a surprise for his unhappily-married girlfriend, Hebe. Hebe is to be kidnapped and delivered to Ivor, as part of their adventurous sex life, when things go horribly wrong. When the bound and gagged body of Hebe is found at the scene of a deadly car accident, Ivor wonders how long before the truth is revealed and his reputation is sullied.

Vine, a pseudonym for mystery author Ruth Rendell, delivers a gripping and complex tale that is hard to put down. What is a better gift than that?

—Carol O'Keefe

Walking To America

The Cahills are subsistence farmers in 1950s Ireland. Youngest Greta, called Goose by her family, is awkward and sensitive while her sister Joanna is fierce and determined. When tragedy strikes the family, their mother sends them to America, along with an Irish tinker, Michael Ward, who wants nothing more than to leave the roaming life and settle.

Once in New York City, the sisters are separated, and Michael and Greta thrive, finding work and creating a loving family. When their mother becomes ill, Joanna returns to Ireland. Though Greta longs to join her, she is too frightened that the reunion would reveal a deeply held secret and unravel the life that she has worked so hard to achieve.

The Walking People, Mary Beth Keane's debut novel, is a story of the pain of leaving and loss, but also of the love, strength and courage to begin anew.

—Dori Olivos

The Fault Tree

On her way home from her job as an auto mechanic, Cadence Moran is almost run down by a car. Angry and irritated, Cadence later finds that the car was speeding away from a murder scene. The driver of the car has seen Cadence and she's the only witness to the murder. Trouble is, the murderer doesn't realize that Cadence is blind. Despite her visual handicap, Cadence has a keen ability for hearing and thinks she can identify the car its unique sounds. So begins this taut mystery thriller that is part police procedural and part action suspense. Set in Tucson, Arizona, and written by a previous Shamus Award winning author, ***The Fault Tree*** by Louise Ure is bound to keep you reading through the dark hours of the night.

—Ann Jackson

Honolulu: A Novel

In 1914, Regret wants to escape her small Korean village where women are isolated, forbidden to attend school and are considered "vessels to provide society with an uninterrupted supply of men." To leave Korea, Regret offers herself as a "picture bride" to strangers in Hawaii. She is chosen by someone who promises her wealth and the possibility to attend school, something she desperately wants to do. On the long boat trip to Hawaii, Regret encounters young women from similar situations who are also excited about the possibility of their new lives.

In Hawaii, Regret realizes that her new husband is a poor pineapple plantation worker, an alcoholic, a gambler and a wife beater. Following a miscarriage, the result of being kicked many times, Regret divorces her husband and moves on with her goal to live the American dream.

Alan Brennert's novel ***Honolulu*** is a wonderful story full of powerful female characters who face what awaits them, expected or not.

—Emma Dittmar

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Beyond Dora and The Backyardigans

Looking for something different than Dora the Explorer books for your little ones? Dr. Seuss is an author who is widely read and enjoyed, but how many of you have even heard of ***On Beyond Zebra***? When the good doctor sets about creating the alphabet after Z, imaginative creatures abound.

King Bidgood's in the Bathtub illustrated by Don Wood and text by Audrey Wood was a Caldecott Honor book back in 1986 and with good reason. The illustrations are gorgeous, very detailed and amusing, and if your child loves it you can try to track down the version with the CD which tells the story with song, a nice thing to have for car trips.

Another Honor book worth revisiting is ***The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales***, illustrated by Lane Smith with text by Jon Scieszka. If you have to read it a thousand times, it might as well be something that entertains you as much as your child.

—Julie Mortensen

Of Vikings and Murder

An international group of archeology students is unearthing Viking treasures on the island of Gotland off the coast of Sweden. One student mysteriously disappears and is later found murdered, bled and hanging naked from a tree. When the head of a local Shetland pony is found on a stake at the next victim's house, Detective Anders Knutas must investigate the connection between the crimes. Are these some kind of ritual killings and if so, how will he find the murderer before it happens again?

In ***The Inner Circle***, the third installment of her Gotland mystery series, author Mari Jungstedt combines the present and the past as she explores the dark side of human nature.

—Dori Olivos

When A House Is Not A Home

Told in very different ways, these three suspenseful novels all focus on a house as the main character.

In ***Dream House*** by Valerie Laken, Newlyweds Kate and Stewart begin the renovation of their Ann Arbor Victorian home. When they learn it was once the scene of a murder, Stewart leaves. Kate hires two men to help finish the project, and learns that one of them was the killer.

In ***Never Tell a Lie*** by Hallie Ephron, Ivy and David Rose hold a garage sale to clean out the old owner's things from their rehabbed Victorian. They meet Melissa White, an old high school classmate, who claims to be pregnant just like Ivy. When Melissa is reported missing, Ivy and David become the prime suspects. Who could have set them up so well?

The House at Midnight by Lucie Whitehouse is the story of 30-year-old Joanna and her college friends who still get together every weekend. When Joanna's best friend inherits an old English manor house, the group begins to take on the eerie personality of the house.

—Evelyn Janoch



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A New Detective is on the Case

Big city homicide detective Darko Dawson has been asked to investigate the death of a medical resident working for Ghana's Ministry of Health AIDS program. The case is complicated by having no clear motive and by local police Inspector Fiti who doesn't see the reason for modern investigative techniques. Fiti would rather arrest a troubled boy he doesn't like than to look for the real killer. The additional troubles of his Mother's disappearance, learning of the sacrifice of young women by a local fetish priest to appease the gods, and the working through the clash of attitudes between the old and young increase Darko's load.

Wife of the Gods by Kwei Quartey is a wonderfully complex story, written with incredible style and grace. Darko Dawson has personal demons to conquer, but it doesn't keep him from fighting for true justice. The blurred lines between his professional life and personal issues give an emotional connection to this character and will leave the reader wanting more.

—Stacey Hayman

Beach Reads!

Check out these blazing hot reads—just perfect to take on your summer vacation!

Breaking Cover by J. D. Rhoades

Deep Dish by Mary Kay Andrews

Fire and Ice by Julie Garwood

First the Dead by Tim Downs

Gone Tomorrow by Lee Child

The Last Embrace by Denise Hamilton

Scream for Me by Karen Rose

Working Stiff by Tori Carrington

Can Miss Harper Do It?

Third grade teacher Annie Harper is left behind when her Army boyfriend David is sent to war in Iraq. In order to cope, Annie begins a diary. Annie fills the void left by David by spending time with her best friend Gus, volunteering in an old folks' home, and raising a chicken. Forced to go it alone for a year, she finds herself questioning whether absence truly makes the heart fonder.

Miss Harper Can Do It by Jane Berentson is a memorable and clever debut that tackles some difficult issues with plenty of laughs (and footnotes) along the way.

—Carol O'Keefe

Why Did Stone Fall?

In **Stone's Fall** by Iain Pears, Elizabeth Stone hires a fledgling reporter to find the child named in the will of her late husband, John. It is 1909, and the exceedingly wealthy Stone has fallen to his death from a second story window of their London mansion. Elizabeth was unaware that John had fathered a child, and the terms of his will cannot be satisfied until the child is found.

The story unfolds in the voices of three men whose lives are changed when they are captivated by the mysterious Elizabeth. John Stone is the visionary arms dealer with an unprecedented understanding and control of the world's financial markets. The solitary William Cort is a spy for the British Empire. The last is Matthew Braddock, the reporter who was paid an astonishing sum to find the child. But who is Elizabeth, and what, if anything, is known of her past? Author Pears leaves the reader in awe as he sets up one ruse and subterfuge after another. Just shy of 600 pages, **Stone's Fall** is not your typical beach read, but it is just the ticket for readers looking for a complex and satisfying historical fiction.

—Rosemary Ward

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