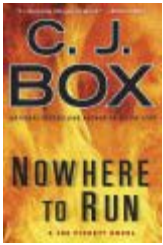


New Mysteries

Next Reads - Summer 2010
Previously Purchased Mysteries



Nowhere to Run - by C.J. Box

Mystery. Preparing to leave his temporary game-warden position in Baggs, Wyoming, and finally return home to his family, Joe Pickett goes for one last patrol in order to investigate reports of illegal poaching and odd attacks on campers. What he finds is a grim situation that nearly kills him and which might be related to the disappearance of an Olympic-caliber runner two years earlier. C.J. Box's 10th Pickett novel has garnered several starred reviews from critics and readers will be clamoring for it; while you wait, try some other suspense-filled tales set in the great outdoors, like Steve Hamilton's Alex McKnight series (it starts with *A Cold Day in Paradise*) and William Kent Krueger's Cork O'Conner books (the 1st is *Iron Lake*).



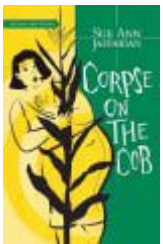
The Weed that Strings the Hangman's Bag: A Flavia de Luce Mystery - by Alan Bradley

Mystery. Flavia's back! The precocious 11-year-old who first charmed readers in the bestselling *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* returns in an outing that will make her even more beloved. In the 1950s, Flavia lives in a once-grand mansion of Buckshaw with her distracted father and two tormenting older sisters, rides her bicycle, Gladys, around the small English village of Bishop's Lacey, conducts experiments in her well-appointed chemistry lab...and investigates the murder of down-on-his-luck TV puppeteer Rupert Porson, whose van broke down in town. Readers who figured out whodunit in the 1st book may have a harder time doing so in Alan Bradley's 2nd village mystery throwback.



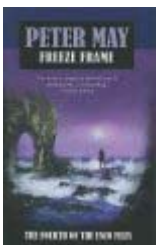
Hazard - by Gardiner Harris

Mystery. New York Times reporter (and former Kentucky resident) Gardiner Harris uses the dangerous, dirty world of coal mining, where people all too often die while trying to earn a living, as the basis for his "top-notch" (Publishers Weekly, starred review) debut novel. In *Hazard*, down-trodden mine inspector Will Murphy investigates what seems to be a routine--and fatal--accident in the Kentucky coal mine that his brother is poised to inherit. But the more Will learns, the more that he thinks what happened 15 stories underground may just be a sliver in a vein of secrets that someone is willing to kill to keep buried. This vividly rendered mystery will take you deep into the coal mines, minus the all-too-real dust and danger.



Corpse on the Cob: An Odelia Grey Mystery - by Sue Ann Jaffarian

Cozy Mystery. When Odelia Grey leaves her California home to travel to Massachusetts for a surprise reunion with the long-lost mother she's just located, she has no idea she'll soon be trying to clear the woman of murder. But that's what happens when Odelia sees her mother for the first time in 34 years, and she's crouched beside a corpse in a corn maze with blood on her hands. For paralegal Odelia, who also learns that she has two half-brothers who are cops, her 5th case is the most personal she's dealt with yet; for fans, this is another charming entry in a delightful series that features a plus-sized heroine.



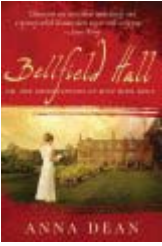
Freeze Frame: The Fourth of the Enzo Files - by Peter May

Mystery. Scottish forensics expert Enzo Macleod, who bet that he could solve seven cold cases listed in a bestselling book, heads to a tiny Channel island off the coast of Brittany, France. He's there to examine a crime scene that has been untouched for almost two decades at the behest of a dying Adam Killian, who supposedly left hidden clues about the identity of his killer. In a starred review, *Publishers Weekly* calls *Freeze Frame* "a must-read." Though readers can start with this entry, we're guessing they'll eventually want to pick up the earlier books in this light-hearted, well-plotted series; they are *Extraordinary People*, *The Critic*, and *Blacklight Blue*.



Mint Juleps, Mayhem, and Murder - by Sara Rosett

Cozy Mystery. Likeable military wife Ellie Avery has a lot on her plate--she runs a professional organizing business (tips included!), has two kids under 5, and is hosting her husband Mitch's family reunion. But when her husband's squadron commander is killed, Ellie adds "find a killer" to her to-do list--and she needs to check off this item quickly, before her Air Force pilot husband is the next victim. If you're a fan of cozy novels who has been looking for a new series, make note of this one--*Library Journal* says that Rosett's books "are among the best." Though *Mint Juleps, Mayhem, and Murder* is the 5th novel to feature Ellie, new readers can start here.



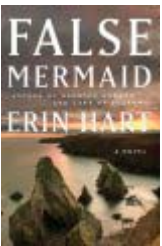
Bellfield Hall, or, the Observations of Miss Dido Kent - by Anna Dean

Historical Mystery. In 1805 England, Miss Dido Kent's beloved niece Catherine has been abandoned by her wealthy fiancé, who disappeared after a mysterious man spoke with him at a dance. Now, an unknown woman has been found shot to death in the bushes outside Bellfield Hall, where Dido is staying in order to comfort Catherine. What is going on? Leave it to Dido, a spinster, who will use her observational skills and rapport with the servants to find out. The 1st in a new series, *Bellfield Hall* (published as *A Moment of Silence* in the U.K.) should please Agatha Christie fans--in a starred review, *Kirkus Reviews* says, "if Jane Austen had written Miss Marple, she would have been Dido Kent."



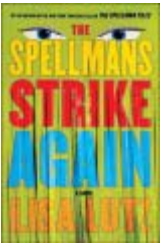
Serpent Pool: A Lake District Mystery - by Martin Edwards

Mystery. In England's beautiful Lake District, something ugly is going on. DCI Hannah Scarlett, who works on Cumbria's Cold Case Squad, is investigating whether young Bethany Friend really drowned herself in 18 inches of water six years ago or if she had help. Meanwhile, book collector George Saffell dies in a fire that seems to be arson. And then another book lover is killed. Could the three cases be connected...other than by the fact that Hannah's live-in love, bookseller Marc Amos, knew all of the victims quite well? Fans of rare books and Thomas De Quincey (his writings play a part) will especially love this 4th book in the Lake District mysteries.



False Mermaid: A Novel - by Erin Hart

Mystery. Did forensic pathologist Nora Gavin's brother-in-law Peter kill his wife, Nora's sister, five years ago? Nora is convinced that he did, but no one else, save a Minnesota cop, agrees. So, when Peter prepares to marry again, Nora leaves her new home in Ireland for America, hoping to prevent another murder--and help her 11-year-old niece. Meanwhile, in Dublin, Nora's lover, Cormac Maguire, reconnects with his estranged father and worries about Nora and that Minnesota cop. *False Mermaid* is sure to please those who like well-crafted, character-driven mysteries. The critics love this 3rd book in a series: in starred reviews, *Publishers Weekly* says it is a "passionate, complex novel" and *Kirkus Reviews* calls it "a winner."



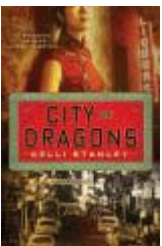
The Spellmans Strike Again: A Novel - by Lisa Lutz

Crime Novel. In *The Spellmans Strike Again*, intrepid San Francisco private investigator Isabel "Izzy" Spellman is preparing to take over her family's detective agency, sifting through trash for a client's missing screenplay, looking for a missing valet, checking out the family's competition (a cop turned PI), and dating a bartender (who's already nicknamed "ex-boyfriend #12"). Readers who've laughed until it hurt while reading author Lisa Lutz's previous books about the eccentric-but-loveable Spellmans will have bittersweet feelings about this 4th entry in the hilarious series--it might be the last one. New to the Spellmans' world? Start with *The Spellman Files*.



Our Lady of Immaculate Deception: A Mystery - by Nancy Martin

Mystery. This 1st in a new series by Nancy Martin marks a departure from her mysteries featuring the socially connected Blackbird Sisters. *Our Lady of Immaculate Deception* introduces smart-mouthed tough gal Roxy Abruzzo, who's the promiscuous single mother of a teenage girl as well as the owner of a (mostly legal) Pittsburgh architectural-salvage business, Bada Bling, and the niece of a Mafia boss. She's trying to be legit, but she's got a few problems morally speaking, as she's stolen a billionaire's Greek garden statue. When the artwork's owner is murdered, she needs to solve the crime to keep her dim-witted accomplice out of jail. Though Roxy isn't as loveable as Stephanie Plum, Janet Evanovich fans may want to give this book, which is chock full of eccentric characters, a try.



City of Dragons - by Kelli Stanley

Historical Noir. Discovering a fatally wounded Japanese teenager during San Francisco's 1940 Chinese New Year celebration and Rice Bowl Party, private detective Miranda Corbie ignores the police's dismissal of the case and investigates on her own. Miranda, a former escort who's recently returned from the Spanish Civil War, uses her old contacts to get at the truth hidden among the tangled Chinatown streets. If you like the gritty crime novels of Dashiell Hammett and Megan Abbott, you owe it to yourself to check out Kelli Stanley's "stunning" (*Publishers Weekly*, starred review) and evocative *City of Dragons*, which is likely to be nominated for a few awards this year.