

There are some great new arrivals including Elena Armas' *The Long Game*, Jennifer L. Armentrout's *The Fall of Ruin and Wrath*, Christine Feehan's *Shadow Dance*, Sarah MacLean's *Knockout*, J.D. Robb's *Payback in Death*, Lynsay Sands' *Bad Luck Vampire*, Lucy Score's *Things We Left Behind* and J.R. Ward's *Darius*. Enjoy! NB. We are now taking signed book pre-orders for Nalini Singh's *There Should Have Been Eight* (on special). Details on Page 3!

Top Books September		Top Books October	
Elena Armas	The Long Game*	Jennifer L. Armentrout	The Fall of Ruin and Wrath*
Christine Feehan	Shadow Dance	Christine Feehan	Dark Memory*
Adalyn Grace	Foxglove*	Felicia Grossman	Marry Me By Midnight
Stephanie Laurens	Miss Prim and the Duke of Wylde*	Charlaine Harris	All the Dead Shall Weep*
Sarah MacLean	Knockout	Vanessa Kelly	The Highlander's Kilted Bride
Emily McIntire	Crossed*	Beth O'Leary	The Wake Up Call*
Katee Robert	Cruel Seduction*	J.D. Robb	Payback in Death*
Joann Ross	Forever in Honeymoon Harbor	Lynsay Sands	Bad Luck Vampire
Chloe Walsh	Binding 13*	Lucy Score	Things We Left Behind*
J.R. Ward	Darius*	Alexander McCall Smith	From a Far and Lovely Country*

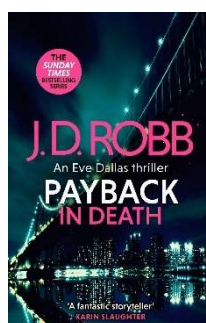
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Title: Shadow Dance
Author: Christine Feehan
Classification: Fantasy & Paranormal
Book Type: Mass Market Paperback
Price: \$26

Annotation: *Shadow Riders Series.*

As the head of the New York City Shadow Riders and his branch of the family, there's nothing more important to Geno Ferraro than protecting his territory and his famiglia. When his parents become the latest victims in a string of murders, Geno is ready to go scorched earth... Amaranthe Aubert's lithe body conceals a spine of steel. Facing lethal interrogation, she's not about to cave. But Geno connects to her in the shadows. Now, she has no way to hide her true reason for being in New York—and nowhere to run.



Title: Payback in Death
Author: J.D. Robb
Classification: Crime/Mystery/Thriller
Book Type: Royal Trade Paperback
Price: \$33

Annotation: *Eve Dallas Series.*

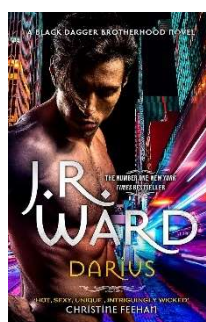
When a retired police officer is found dead in his home, Lt. Eve Dallas and the team are called to the scene to investigate. The victim is Martin Greenleaf, former Captain of Internal Affairs. At first glance it looks like suicide but Eve thinks there could be more to this carefully laid scene than meets the eye... Captain Greenleaf put a lot of cops away during his forty-seven years in Internal Affairs. Did the weight of the job finally prove too much for him? Or could this be a case of payback in death...



Title: Things We Left Behind
Author: Lucy Score
Classification: Contemporary
Book Type: UK B Paperback
Price: \$26

Annotation: *Knockemout Series.*

Lucian Rollins is a lean, mean vengeance-seeking mogul. To erase his abusive father's mark on his family name, he spends every minute pulling strings and building his empire. The more money and power he gains, the safer he feels... Except when it comes to one feisty librarian... Although they are bonded by a dark secret from the past and their current mutual disdain, Sloane Walton only trusts Lucian as far as she can throw him. Until their bickering turns to foreplay, fanning flames of desire that can't be put out... But with Sloane eager to start a family and Lucian refusing to even consider the idea, these enemies-to-lovers are at an impasse... When Lucian learns the hard way that leaving Sloane is impossible, he vows to do everything he can to keep her safe. Whatever the cost...



Title: Darius
Author: J.R. Ward
Classification: Fantasy & Paranormal
Book Type: Royal Trade Paperback
Price: \$33

Annotation: *Black Dagger Brotherhood Series.* Darius, son of Marklon, isn't looking for love when destiny claims him. He's also not interested in crashing his car. But when a human woman runs out into the road and he must swerve to avoid

killing her... everything goes off course... Disillusioned by his King's lack of leadership and the losses in the war against the Lessening Society, Darius finds purpose in protecting a woman he cannot make his own. Love finds a way, however—until the truth of what he is comes out and she leaves him in horror... Unbeknownst to them both, Anne is carrying his young, a female who is destined to be Queen—and after a tragic reunion, he vows to protect their daughter. He is determined to serve the memory of his beloved... unless by some miracle, fate sees fit to once again bring them together.

The book prices shown apply at the time of publication of this catalogue. Prices are subject to change.

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Other Books Available in This

Contemporary Romance & Romantic Suspense

The Mindf*ck Series (Books 1-5) by **S.T. Abby**

(Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$70). They took too much. Left too little. I had nothing to lose... until him... Lana—I didn't expect him. I didn't want to fall in love. But I can't let him go. Logan Bennett makes the world a safer place. He's brilliant. He's a hero. He locks away the sick and depraved. But while he's saving lives, I'm taking them. Collecting the debts that are owed to me. Ten years ago, they took from me. They left me for dead. They should have made sure I stayed dead. Now I'm taking from them. One name at a time. I've trained for too long. I've been patient. I can't stop now. Revenge is best served cold... They never see me coming, until I paint their walls red. Logan doesn't know how they hurt me. He doesn't know about the screams they ignored. He doesn't know how twisted that town really is. He just knows people are dying. He doesn't know he's in love with their killer. No one suspects a dead girl. And Logan doesn't suspect the girl in his bed. They're looking for a monster. Not a girl who loves red. Not a girl in love. I'm a faceless nightmare. At least until I tell them the story they've pretended never happened. But in the end, will Logan choose them? Or will we watch them burn together?

The Long Game by **Elena Armas** (UK B Paperback—\$24). Adalyn Reyes has spent years perfecting her daily routine: wake up at dawn, drive to the Miami Flames FC offices, try her hardest to leave a mark, go home, and repeat... But her routine is disrupted when a video of her in an altercation with the team's mascot goes viral. Rather than fire her, the team's owner—who happens to be her father—sends Adalyn to middle-of-nowhere North Carolina, where she's tasked with turning around the struggling local soccer team, the Green Warriors, as a way to redeem herself. Her plans crumble upon discovering that the players wear tutus to practice (impractical), keep pet goats (messy), and are terrified of Adalyn (counterproductive), and are nine-year-old kids... To make things worse, also in town is Cameron Caldani, goalkeeping prodigy whose presence is somewhat of a mystery. Cam is the perfect candidate to help Adalyn, but after one very unfortunate encounter involving a rooster, Cam's leg, and Adalyn's bumper, he's also set on running her out of town. But banishment is not an option for Adalyn. Not again. Helping this ragtag children's team is her road to redemption, and she is playing the long game. With or without Cam's help.

The Fiancée Farce by **Alexandria Belleflour** (UK B Paperback—\$26). *LGBTQ+*. Tansy Adam's greatest love is her family's bookstore. But when it comes to actual romance, she can't get past the first chapter. Tired of questions about her love life, she invents a fake girlfriend, inspired by the stunning cover model on a bestselling book. But when the real-life Gemma crosses Tansy's path, her white lie nearly implodes... Gemma is a wild child, the outcast of her wealthy family, and now the latest heir to Van Dalen Publishing. But the title comes with one tiny condition: she must be married in order to inherit. When Gemma discovers a beautiful stranger has been pretending to date her for months, she decides to take the charade one step further—and announces their engagement... But as Tansy and

Catalogue

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Gemma play the role of affectionate fiancées, unexpected sparks start to fly and suddenly the line between convenient arrangement and real feelings begins to blur... But the scheming Van Dalen family won't give up the company without a fight, and Gemma and Tansy's newfound happiness might just get caught in the fallout.

Dealbreakers by **Lauren Forsythe** (UK B Paperback—\$26). One woman's trash is another woman's treasure... Coder Marina Spicer has no time to waste when it comes to love, hence her long list of dealbreakers. Frustrated by the online dating world, she created Dealbreakers, an anonymous app where women review how men stack up to their internet profiles. Her high standards have served her well at work, so why not in love?... Enter Lucas Kennedy. A charming Irish content writer, he's the only one standing between Marina and her long-deserved promotion. Much to Marina's chagrin, the two are paired on a project to test out date ideas, ultimately determining which of them will run the department. Taking a peek at Dealbreakers hoping to learn some dirt about her rival, she finds he's the worst-rated man on the entire app... As Lucas and Marina argue their way through mixing cocktails, salsa dancing, and throwing axes, Marina finds herself having more fun than she's had in years. So when temptation becomes too strong to resist, Marina allows herself to break some of her own rules. After all, if the Dealbreakers say he's Mr. Wrong, he can't possibly be Mr. Right... can he?

Ignite by **Melanie Harlow** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$34). *Cloverleigh Farms Next Generation Series*. My new neighbor is a firefighter—and a scorching hot single dad—but I swear I didn't set off that smoke alarm on purpose. (And I was mortified when he rushed in and saw me naked.) Nothing happened, of course—because I, Winnie MacAllister, romance junkie and owner of a constantly broken heart, have sworn off men for one solid year. Even protective men with chiseled jaws, bulging biceps, and deep brown eyes that make my breath come faster. Even former SEALs with broad chests and strong hands that make my skin sizzle. Even gorgeous, grumpy guys who have their hands full raising two adorable little girls and claim they don't believe in love. Until Dex kisses me one night, and I drop all my defenses. (Also my underwear.) He says he's not gentle, and he's right. He says I should take the dream job I'm offered in another state, and he's right. He says he's too old for me and could never be the man I deserve. He's wrong. Dex and I might be twelve years apart, but the fire between us is the kind that will never burn out. How can I convince him to give happily-ever-after with me a chance?

Den of Vipers by **K.A. Knight** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$51). Ryder, Garrett, Kenzo, and Diesel—The Vipers... They run this town and everyone in it. Their deals are as sordid as their business, and their reputation is enough to bring a grown man to his knees, forcing him to beg for mercy. They are not people you mess with, yet my dad did. The old man ran up a debt with them and then sold me to cover his losses... Yes, sold me... They own me now... I'm theirs in every sense of the word. But I've never been meek and compliant.

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These men, they look at me with longing. Their scarred, blood-stained hands holding me tight. They want everything I am, everything I have to give, and won't stop until they get just that. They can own my body, but they will never have my heart... The Vipers? I'm going to make them regret the day they took me... This girl? She bites too.

Charlie, Love and Clichés by **Ella Maise** (UK B Paperback—\$24). Six years ago at a random diner I met a stranger and he became the-one-who-got-away, or more correctly the-one-who-didn't-show-up... A small advice from me to you: if you haven't dated, touched *or* kissed a guy in years and *years*... do not try to crawl away or hide from the-one-who-got-away. It's not a good look... William Carter, the stranger I'd met six years ago was the last person I'd imagine ever seeing at my dad's firm where I work. While I panic and fight off the butterflies in my stomach and in general struggle to act normal, I realize he doesn't even remember me. I'm not sure if I should feel relieved or heartbroken. Things get worse when I learn we'll need to work in close quarters to each other, but at least I let him know that I don't have a crush on him anymore right away. Just in case he gets any ideas... While I'm in the process of writing lists and making serious changes in my life, because I decide I'm ready to be the heroine in my own story; having William just a breath away is not helping things. Especially when things shift between us and we start to make eye contact in meetings. Then he shows up in places I least expect him to... as in blind dates and sex clubs. He also gives me cheese because he knows how much I like it and there are secret notes he leaves in my office. If you were wondering, I still don't have a crush on him though. Nope... Even though I'd promised myself I'd never

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wait around for another guy and postpone my own life, I'm afraid William Carter who looks at me as if I'm his and was always supposed to be his might ruin my hopeful plans. And quite possibly me for any other guy since I'm craving his touch like I've never craved anything in my life before. But we both know we're a losing game so we keep admitting that neither one of us has a crush on the other... Not anymore. Not at all. Not even a little bit.

The Wrong Bride by **Catharina Maura** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$38). *Windsors Series*. She's his fiancée's younger sister. He's the man she's always loved... When her sister doesn't show up on her wedding day, Raven has no choice but to take her place—but marriage to Ares Windsor is nothing short of torture... The elusive billionaire media mogul is the man she's always loved... yet he only had eyes for her sister... Married to him, Raven is determined to win him over... After all, everything is fair in love and war... And this?... This is war.

The Temporary Wife by **Catharina Maura** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$38). *Windsors Series*. When Luca Windsor's secretary suddenly quits her job shortly after his family forces him into an unwanted engagement, he sets out to solve both problems... by secretly marrying his secretary, Valentina, instead... The rules are simple: 1. Don't fall in love. 2. Keep their marriage a secret at work. 3. Share a bed every night... It was meant to be a straightforward and mutually beneficial deal, but with each day that passes, it becomes clearer to Luca that the one thing Valentina wants is the only thing he can never do: Letting her go.

The Wake Up Call by **Beth O'Leary** (Royal Trade Paperback—\$33). Two sworn enemies. One failing hotel. Love is the last thing they need... It's the busiest time of the year, and Forest Manor Hotel is

Pre-Order “There Should Have Been Eight” by Nalini Singh

Pre-order a signed copy of THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN EIGHT by Nalini Singh. The standalone thriller is due to be released on Tue 28 Nov 2023; please allow 1-2 days for the signings to take place before shipping occurs. Our special pre-order price is \$27 (vs RRP \$36.99) plus shipping for the New Zealand trade paperback edition (ISBN 9781399611558) while our first shipment stocks last. Pre-order online at:

<https://chapter.co.nz/product/nalini-singh-there-should-have-been-eight/>

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♥ For Auckland Romance Readers ♥

Are you a romance reader? If so, and if you would you like to meet some like-minded readers, please join our Auckland Romance Readers Book Club Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2423724114458506>.

Also, we have monthly Auckland Romance Readers Book Club Meetings coming up at the Chapter Book & Tea Shop, 442 Mt Eden Rd, Mt Eden, Auckland 1024 as follows:

Sun 24 Sep @ 4.15pm – to discuss HOOKED by Emily McIntire (Dark Romance)

Sun 29 Oct @ 4.15pm – to discuss SLAVE TO SENSATION by Nalini Singh (Paranormal Romance)

Sun 26 Nov @ 4.15pm – to discuss the best books we've read this year

Details at <https://www.facebook.com/ChapterBookAndTeaShop/events>. Water, juice and tea provided. All welcome. But please RSVP to Frances at: info@chapter.co.nz 021-635027 09-6232319

Chapter Book and Tea Shop Short Story Competition Success

Our warm congratulations to the winners of the Romance Writers of New Zealand short story competition which is sponsored by Chapter Book and Tea Shop. The winners for 2023 are: Kris Pearson (1st), Catherine Hart (2nd), Holly Brunnbauer (3rd), Stephanie Ruth (4th) and Leanne Jepson (5th). The anthology of the top entries (LIAISONS) for 2023 (and for earlier years) is available to read at:

<https://www.romancewriters.co.nz/liaison-magazine>

Contemporary Romance & Romantic Suspense quite literally falling apart. So when sworn enemies Izzy and Lucas are given the same shift on the hotel's front desk, they have no choice but to put their differences aside... The hotel won't stay afloat without some sort of miracle. But when Izzy returns a guest's lost wedding ring, the reward convinces management this might fix everything. With four rings still sitting in lost property, the race is on for Izzy and Lucas to save their beloved hotel—and their jobs... As their bitter rivalry turns into something much more complicated, Izzy and Lucas begin to wonder if there's more at stake here than the hotel's future. Can the two of them make it through the season with their hearts intact?

Forever in Honeymoon Harbor by **Joann Ross** (Mass Market Paperback—\$26). *Honeymoon Harbor Series*. Quinn Mannion never believed in destiny until *she* came to Honeymoon Harbor. The eldest of five siblings, Quinn has always found success—head altar boy, valedictorian of Honeymoon High, big-city lawyer. Until he gave it all up. Walking away from his lucrative career and returning to Honeymoon Harbor to reopen the old family pub wasn't as tough as he thought. Not nearly as tough as meeting the woman who was meant to be his forever. But loving a married woman is a line Quinn won't cross... Despite Amanda Barrow's attempts to be friendly yet reserved, she knows Quinn has noticed a shadow hanging over her. And walls that don't invite intimacy. And the unexplained bruises. As much as she tries not to fall so quickly, Quinn's steady nature and loving concern have Amanda burying memories of her disastrous marriage and feeling hopeful for the future. But she'll have to let go of the chaos and pain of the past—and accept a staggering family secret—before she and Quinn can get their happy-ever-after.

The Kingmaker by **Kennedy Ryan** (UK B Paperback—\$28). *All the King's Men Series*. In a world of haves and have-nots, Maxim Cade's family and their oil empire have it all... and he wants nothing to do with it. At odds with his mogul father, he's determined to build his own empire, even if it means traveling far from home, painted as the black sheep... Lennix Hunter is the exception to every one of Maxim's rules. At a protest for the oil pipeline that threatens to mar her ancestral land forever, they meet in a flurry of stars and sparks, and that one moment changes everything. But Maxim's family is the one stealing from hers, and his father is the man she hates most. He has to lie in order to have her once, and despite the truth, he'll do anything to keep her... Even though Lennix tries to hate Maxim, too, their hearts are pointed in the same direction. The inexorable pull between them, across miles and years, will not be denied... And neither will Maxim.

Fallen Foe by **L.J. Shen** (UK B Paperback—\$33). *Cruel Castaways Series*. Arsène Corbin does not intend to marry for love. His fiancée has always been a means to an end, a woman he wants to conquer. But when she dies suddenly in an accident, Arsène's grand plan unravels... Still reeling from his fiancée's death, he meets Winnifred Ashcroft, a struggling actress who lands a coveted role in a play at his theater... and knows things about his late fiancée no one else does. The only

Contemporary Romance & Romantic Suspense problem? They can't stand each other... Backstage at Arsène's theater, Winnie begins to let down her guard around the tempestuous billionaire. She appreciates his wit and quirky affection for astronomy. And Arsène, jaded as he is, respects Winnie's headstrong personality... Tragedy and betrayal bring them together, but will their painful pasts hold them back—or fuel their desire?

The Ritual by **Shantel Tessier** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$52). *Lords Series*. Barrington University is home of the Lords, a secret society that requires blood in payment. They are above all—the most powerful men in the world. They devote their lives to violence in exchange for power. And during their senior year, they are offered a chosen one... People think growing up with money is freeing, but I promise you, it's not. My entire life has been planned out for me. I never got the chance to do what I wanted until Ryat Alexander Archer came along and gave me an option for a better life. He offered me what no one else ever had—freedom... I chose to be his. He made me believe that anyway, but it was just another lie. A way that the Lords manipulate you into doing what they want... After being sucked into the dark, twisted world of the Lords, I embraced my new role and allowed Ryat to parade me around like the trophy I was to him. But like all things, what started out as a game became a fight for survival. And the only way out was death.

Binding 13 by **Chloe Walsh** (UK B Paperback—\$26). *Boys of Tommen Series*. Johnny Kavanagh has everything going for him. On the rugby pitch, he's a force to be reckoned with. Primed for stardom, he's heading straight for the top. Nothing can possibly get in his way, right? Not even the shy new girl at Tommen College. The one with the sad eyes and hidden bruises. The one that distracts him like no one ever has... Life has never been easy for Shannon Lynch. Bullied and tortured, she arrives at Tommen College mid-way through the school year praying for a fresh start and desperate to shake off the demons that plague her. On her very first day at the prestigious private school, she comes into contact with the notorious Johnny Kavanagh. Thrown through a hoop over her feelings for him, and desperate to keep a low-profile, Shannon finds herself once again the target of bullies as she forms a fragile alliance with rugby's rising star... Falling into a complicated friendship and grappling with their undeniable chemistry, Johnny and Shannon could never have foreseen the obstacles that will threaten their blossoming relationship...

Keeping 13 by **Chloe Walsh** (UK B Paperback—\$26). *Boys of Tommen Series*. Falling in love was the easy part. What comes next is the test... Following a devastating injury that has left him sidelined and stripped of his beloved number 13 jersey, Johnny Kavanagh is struggling to hold onto his dreams. Lost, insecure, and desperately seeking comfort, he sets his sights on unravelling the mystery of the girl with the midnight-blue eyes, who haunts his every waking hour... Keeping secrets has never been a problem for Shannon Lynch. The life she was born into demands nothing less. She knows that evil men don't just exist in fairytales. They exist in her world, too. Traumatized beyond repair after her return from Dublin, and desperate to protect her brothers,

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Shannon finds herself falling into the same old cover-up, barely keeping her head above water, as her future unravels before her eyes. Beaten and broken, her walls are up and her trust is shaken... Only one boy has the ability to climb those walls. The boy who owns her heart. But secrets are about to be exposed and lives could be changed forever—can Johnny and Shannon's love survive?

The Hollywood Jinx by **Sariah Wilson** (US 21.5 x 14.3 Trade Paperback—\$33). The small town of Patience needs a financial boost. Temporary librarian and aspiring film-score composer Jane Wagner's plan? Invite movie star Nick Haddon to the town's harvest festival and stand back for the tourist surge. No one thought he'd say yes — much less that he'd bring a documentary crew to stream his visit... Given Nick's affinity for trouble, his reputation and films are tanking. Patience is the perfect stopover on a journey of self-improvement and his chance to put good karma out in the universe. Spending time with a sweet and lovely guide like Jane is a bonus. But Jane's heartbroken past keeps her on guard against men. Especially when they're jinxed... The truth is, Jane's falling hard. But she can't ignore the differences between them. He's famous. She isn't. He's here for two weeks. This is her home. Where can it possibly lead? She'll see. Because day after blissful day, Nick's encouraging Jane to trust again and, best of all, to dream beyond Patience.

The Things We Leave Unfinished by **Rebecca Yarros** (UK B Paperback—\$25). Twenty-eight-year-old Georgia Stanton has to start over after she gave up almost everything in a brutal divorce—the New York house, the friends, and her pride. Now back home at her late great-grandmother's estate in Colorado, she finds herself face-to-face with Noah Harrison, the bestselling author of a million books where the cover is always people nearly kissing. He's just as arrogant in person as in interviews, and she'll be damned if the good-looking writer of love stories thinks he's the one to finish her grandmother's final novel... even if the publisher swears he's the perfect fit... Noah is at the pinnacle of his career. With book and movie deals galore, there isn't much the “golden boy” of modern fiction hasn't accomplished. But he can't walk away from what might be the best book of the century—the one his idol, Scarlett Stanton, left unfinished. Coming up with a fitting ending for the legendary author is one thing, but dealing with her beautiful, stubborn, cynical great-granddaughter, Georgia, is quite another... But as they read Scarlett's words in both the manuscript and her box of letters, they start to realize why Scarlett never finished the book—it's based on her real-life romance with a World War II pilot, and the ending isn't a happy one. Georgia knows all too well that love never works out, and while the chemistry and connection between her and Noah is undeniable, she's determined to learn from her great-grandmother's mistakes—even if it means destroying Noah's career.

The Love Plot by **Samantha Young** (UK B Paperback—\$26). Star Shine Meadows is all about freedom, thanks to the hippie parents who raised her. Juggling her jobs as a professional costume character actor and a line sitter, she believes in no expectations, no stressful ambitions, and no-strings-attached relationships. So when she meets a

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birthday girl's grumpy uncle while working a princess party, she can't help but needle him. She'll never see him again, and honestly, he's pretty hot... Rafe Whitman may be a veterinarian with a great bedside manner, but that doesn't mean his patience extends to anyone with opposable thumbs. His family will not stop nagging him about finding 'the one', so when he runs into obnoxiously cheery Star again, he makes her an offer: He'll pay her more than she would make doing her odd jobs if she'll pretend to be his girlfriend at family gatherings. She can stop sitting in line waiting for someone else's new phone, and he'll get his family off his back... When the tension between them heats to a breaking point, Star's desire for 'no strings' is tested against Rafe's staunch stability. They say opposites attract, after all...

Crime & Mystery & Thriller

The Paper Caper by **Kate Carlisle** (Mass Market Paperback Release—\$24). *Bibliophile Mystery Series*. San Francisco book-restoration expert Brooklyn Wainwright loves a good book festival except when murder is the main event... Brooklyn is excited to be included in the Covington Library's first annual Mark Twain Festival. She'll rebind a rare first edition of *The Prince and the Pauper* before an enthusiastic audience of book nerds—her favorite people. The festival is the passion project of wealthy media mogul, book lover, and newspaper owner Joseph Cabot, who considers himself Twain's biggest fan. Brooklyn's hunky husband, Derek, and his security team once rescued Joseph from a corporate kidnapping attempt. Now Derek and his agents are charged with keeping Joseph and his beautiful young wife safe during the festivities taking place all over town... The centerpiece of the festival is a citywide contest based on *The Prince and the Pauper*: one lucky look-alike will trade places with Joseph for a few days—with access to all the money and power that Joseph commands. Brooklyn and Derek worry that the contest might be generating some dangerous attention. And when someone is mysteriously poisoned right before Brooklyn's eyes, she's not convinced that the victim was the intended target. Now she and Derek must frantically chase clues and suspects through the streets of San Francisco before another murder becomes front-page news...

Murder at a Cape Bookstore by **Maddie Day** (Mass Market Paperback—\$24). *Cozy Capers Book Group Mystery Series*. Mac (Mackenzie) Almeida runs a bicycle repair and rental shop in the Cape Cod village of Westham, and also hosts a weekly cozy mystery book group. The gang discusses the latest fictional murder—and sometimes a real one, too... Everyone loves a festival, though Mac has a few concerns about the Spring equinox event organized by the new Westham Chamber of Commerce director, Wagner Lavoie. After all, March weather on Cape Cod is unpredictable. Still, there's plenty to enjoy, between flower-shaped candies at Salty Taffy's, spring rolls at the Rusty Anchor, and a parade of decorated bicycles. But the festivities soon take a stormy turn. Mac glimpses conflict between Wagner and other locals during the festival, but it's a shock when he's found dead in the Book Nook, pinned beneath a toppled bookshelf. Mac and the rest of the Cozy Capers book group will have to use all their sleuthing skills to bring the killer's story to an end...

Crime, Mystery & Thriller contd

The Recovery Agent by **Janet Evanovich** (Mass Market Paperback Release—\$28). *Gabriela Rose Series*. Lost something? Gabriela Rose knows how to get it back. As a recovery agent, she's hired by individuals and companies seeking lost treasures, stolen heirlooms, or missing assets of any kind. She's reliable, cool under pressure, and well trained in weapons of all types. But Gabriela's latest job isn't for some bamboozled billionaire, it's for her own family, whose home is going to be wiped off the map if they can't come up with a lot of money fast... Inspired by an old family legend, Gabriela sets off for the jungles of Peru in pursuit of the Ring of Solomon and the lost treasure of Cortez. But this particular job comes with a huge problem attached to it—Gabriela's ex-husband, Rafer. It's Rafer who has the map that possibly points the way to the treasure, and he's not about to let Gabriela find it without him... Rafer is as relaxed as Gabriela is driven, and he has a lifetime's experience getting under his ex-wife's skin. But when they aren't bickering about old times the two make a formidable team, and it's going to take a team to defeat the vicious drug lord who has also been searching for the fabled ring. A drug lord who doesn't mind leaving a large body count behind him to get it.

All the Dead Shall Weep by **Charlaine Harris** (Royal Trade Paperback—\$33). *Gunnie Rose Series*. Following the murderous events of the **Serpent of Heaven**, Lizbeth Rose is awaiting the arrival of her sister Felicia and her husband's younger brother Eli in Texoma. Both needed to leave the seat of the Holy Russian Empire in San Diego after Felicia's burgeoning wizardly power in death magic became the reason for kidnapping and assassination attempts from her mother's family of high-powered wizards in Mexico... Yet bad news has traveled ahead of them, as Eli is called back to San Diego, taking Peter along with him, splitting them apart in more ways than one as their enemies' plans for revenge come to fruition.

The Inmate by **Freida McFadden** (US B Paperback—\$34). There are three rules Brooke Sullivan must follow as a new nurse practitioner at a men's maximum-security prison: 1) Treat all prisoners with respect. 2) Never reveal any personal information. 3) Never EVER become too friendly with the inmates... But none of the staff at the prison knows Brooke has already broken the rules. Nobody knows about her intimate connection to Shane Nelson, one of the penitentiary's most notorious and dangerous inmates... And they certainly don't know that Shane was Brooke's high school sweetheart—the star quarterback who is now spending the rest of his life in prison for a series of grisly murders. Or that Brooke's testimony was what put him there... But Shane knows... And he will never forget.

Dead Woman Crossing by **Jeneva Rose** (US 19.8 x 12.9 Trade Paperback—\$34). *Detective Kimberley King Series*. A detective with everything to prove. A devastating murder. A town full of secrets... Haunted by the serial killer she never caught, Detective Kimberley King leaves her job in New York and relocates to the sleepy town of Dead Woman Crossing, Oklahoma. Kimberley hopes to bring her daughter Jessica up close to her family, far from the bad memories the city holds. But her quiet new home

Crime, Mystery & Thriller contd

is not the peaceful place she dreamed of. Within days of her arrival, Kimberley is called to the scene of a terrible crime: her friend Hannah, a single mother, has been brutally murdered, her one-year-old daughter the only witness... Kimberley can't ignore the similarity of Hannah's death to that of Katie James, a young woman who was murdered in 1905 on the banks of the same twisting creek. Dead Woman Crossing is named after her, and it seems someone is drawing inspiration from the crime. Could this killer be a copycat?... Teaming up with Sheriff Sam Walker, Kimberley struggles to make headway with Hannah's murder. In a small town, people don't talk to outsiders and Kimberley has a hard time gaining trust, even within her own family. Kimberley isn't afraid to ask questions, but when she receives a threatening note, she realizes that, as a single mother to a young daughter, she might be putting herself dangerously in the killer's sights...

From a Far and Lovely Country by **Alexander McCall Smith** (Royal Trade Paperback—\$33). *No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series*. If you are the founder and Managing Director of the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency you may expect complete strangers to approach you with their problems when they see you having dinner with your husband in a peri-peri restaurant. And if you are Precious Ramotswe, you are a kind and helpful person who will be willing to take on a quest to find the relatives of a man who, many years ago, left the country for the uncertainties and dangers of a distant conflict... While that is going on, though, there may be other things that claim your attention—such as the shocking news that a club that calls itself the Cool Singles Evening Club is encouraging married men to pretend to be single and meet women under false pretences. Who can be behind such a distasteful venture? Mma Ramotswe shows great tact in dealing with this situation, and avoids harm to the innocent... And all the time, she and her assistant, Grace Makutsi, are getting on with their normal lives—which, of course, include birthdays and the buying of birthday presents. A new dress makes a fine present, but not if, when being tried on, it splits in a way that is thought to be irreparable. Mma Potokwani has dealt with situations far worse than that, and in dealing with this local emergency she shows her characteristic wisdom. At the end of the day, disaster is averted. Life in Botswana, that far and lovely country of the title, continues smoothly, which is what Mma Ramotswe and her friends want—and most certainly deserve.

Fantasy & Paranormal Romance

The Only Purple House in Town by **Ann Aguirre** (UK 20.9 x 14.1 Trade Paperback—\$33). *Fix-It Witches Series*. Iris Collins is the messy one in her family. The "chaos bunny." Her sisters are all wildly successful, while she can't balance her budget for a single month. It's no wonder she's in debt to her roommates. When she unexpectedly inherits a house from her great aunt, her plan to turn it into a B&B fails—as most of her plans do. She winds up renting rooms like a Victorian spinster, collecting other lost souls... and not all of them are "human"... Eli Reese grew up as the nerdy outcast in school, but he got rich designing apps. Now he's successful by any standards. But he's never had the same luck in finding a real community or people who understand

Fantasy & Paranormal Romance continued

him. Over the years, he's never forgotten his first crush, so when he spots her at a café, he takes it as a sign. Except then he gets sucked into the Iris-verse and somehow ends up renting one of her B&B rooms. As the days pass, Eli grows enchanted by the misfit boarders staying in the house... and even more so by Iris. Could Eli have finally found a person and a place to call "home"?

The Fall of Ruin and Wrath by **Jennifer L.**

Armentrout (Royal Trade Paperback—\$33).

Awakening Series. She lives by her intuition. He feeds on her pleasure... Long ago, the world was destroyed by gods. Only nine cities were spared. Separated by vast wilderness teeming with monsters and unimaginable dangers, each city is now ruled by a guardian—royalty who feed on mortal pleasure... Born with an intuition that never fails, Calista knows her talents are of great value to the power-hungry of the world, so she lives hidden as a courtesan of the Baron of Archwood. In exchange for his protection, she grants him information. When her intuition leads her to save a travelling prince in dire trouble, the voice inside her blazes with warning—and promise. Today he'll bring her joy. One day he'll be her doom... When the Baron takes an interest in the prince, and the prince takes an interest in Calista, she becomes the latter's temporary companion. But the city simmers with rebellion, and with knights and monsters at her city gates and a hungry prince in her bed, intuition may not be enough to keep her safe. Calista must choose: follow her intuition to safety or follow her heart to her downfall.

Mother of Death and Dawn by **Carissa Broadbent**

(Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$47). *War of Lost Hearts Trilogy.* In the wake of a crushing defeat, Tisaanah and Maxatarius have been ripped apart. Tisaanah is desperate to rescue Max from his imprisonment, even as her people's fight for freedom grows more treacherous. But within the walls of Ilyzath, Max's mind is a shadow of what it once was... leaving his past a mystery and his future at the mercy of Ara's new, ruthless queen... In the Fey lands, Aefe has been dragged back into this world by a king who vows to destroy civilizations in her name. But even as her past returns to claim her, her former self is a stranger... Tisaanah, Max, and Aefe are thrust into the center of a cataclysm between the human and Fey worlds. The unique magic they share is key to either winning the war, or ending it... But that power demands sacrifice. Tisaanah may be forced to choose between love and duty. Max cannot forge his future without confronting his past. And Aefe must decide between reclaiming who she was, or embracing who she has become... The choices they make will either reshape this world forever... or end it.

Valkyrie by **Cheryl Brooks** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$28). *Avian Clone Chronicles Series.*

Stunningly handsome Avian clone Valkyrie is highly intelligent with superior senses and a pair of golden wings, but he has one trait that allows his horrific past to haunt him—he can't forget anything... Zia, a lovely Mordrial woman with telepathic abilities, works in the orphanage where she and her elder sister, Letsa, grew up. But now Letsa is dead—killed by an unknown assailant with an illegal laser weapon. The police are stumped, and Zia hopes

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Val's legendary computer skills can help her crack the case... When Val reluctantly agrees to help Zia, he gets far more than he bargained for as their working relationship develops into something much deeper. Zia suspects that Val might be The One, but first she must help him let go of the past and move on, as they risk their lives to bring a killer to justice.

Dark Whisper by **Christine Feehan** (Mass Market Paperback Release—\$26). *Carpathian Series.*

Vasilisa Sidkorolyavolkva is a Lycan of royal blood. She knows what is expected of her, but all she wants is to be out from under her family's watchful eyes. There is a fire inside her that is building. A restlessness coupled with a sense of growing dread. Every day she feels the weight of the legacy passed down through generations. The prophecy that says a man will come to claim her as his mate, and that she will guard his soul. She knows nothing about him except that he is hers. But nothing seems real until the night she meets him in the flesh...

Afanasiv Belan is a Carpathian, an ancient one. In all the centuries of his existence, no one has ever affected him like Vasilisa. He can see into her mind and feel what is in her heart. They are so alike, warriors bound by honor and plagued by secrets. They both know they must reveal the darkest parts of their souls if they hope to survive and protect the ones they love... But if they claim each other as lifemates, it will change them down to the bone. They will become something more—something feared by both of their kinds...

Dark Memory by **Christine Feehan** (Royal Trade Paperback—\$33). *Carpathian Series.* Safia Meziane has trained since birth to protect her tribe, the family she holds so dear. All along she told herself the legends she was raised with were simply that. But now, she must call upon all of her skills to fight what lies ahead. Evil has come to their small town on the cost of Algeria, evil that Safia can feel but cannot see... She is terrified she will not be able to protect the ones she loves. As her family's 'chosen one', she has always believed she would face this task alone—until her family reveals she has been promised to a warrior who will join her. An outsider. A Carpathian... Petru Cioban is one of the oldest Carpathians in existence, and he has spent all that time without the soothing presence of his lifemate. For two thousand years he has waited for this woman to be reborn, only to find her in the sights of a monster he has fought before, a vampire risen again to finish a battle started centuries ago... Now, Petru must face his greatest enemy and his greatest shame. He has no hope that Safia will forgive his betrayal once the memories of her past life return to her. But he will not make the same mistake again, even if he has to sacrifice everything for the woman who has claimed his immortal soul.

Foxglove by **Adalyn Grace** (Royal Trade Paperback—\$28). *Belladonna Series.*

A duke has been murdered. The lord of Thorn Grove has been framed. And Fate, the elusive brother of Death, has taken up residence in a sumptuous palace nearby. He's hell-bent on revenge after Death took the life of the woman he loved many years ago... and now he's determined to have Signa for himself, no matter the cost... Signa and her cousin Blythe are certain that Fate can save Elijah Hawthorne from wrongful imprisonment if the girls will entertain Fate's

Fantasy & Paranormal Romance continued

presence. But the more time they spend with him, the more frightening their reality becomes as Signa exhibits dramatic new powers that link her to Fate's past. With mysteries and danger around every corner, the cousins must decide whom they can trust as they navigate their futures in high society, unravel the murders that haunt their family, and play Fate's unexpected games—all with their destinies hanging in the balance.

Dragon Revealed by **Donna Grant** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$26). *Dragon Kings Series*. The capture of a Dragon King is cause for celebration. Jeyra never dreamed she would actually face one of the creatures who destroyed her home. But the longer she's around him, the more she finds herself gravitating to him. All it takes is one reckless kiss that unleashes desires and the truth that has been hidden from her to set them both on a course that could be the end of them... Varek, King of Lichens, has known nothing but a life with magic. Until he finds himself on a different realm unable to call up his powers. Worse, he's in shackles with no memory of how it happened. When he sees an enthralling woman who leaves him speechless, he believes he can charm her to free him. The more she rebuffs him, the more he craves her, igniting a dangerous passion between them. Can he protect the woman he's fallen for while uncovering the truth—or will peril that neither see coming tear them apart?

Smolder by **Laurell K. Hamilton** (Mass Market Paperback Release—\$24). *Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter Series*. My name is Anita Blake and I'm no stranger to killing monsters. But this time, it's personal... The wedding of the century is almost here. My wedding—to Jean-Claude, the new vampire king of America. But not everyone wishes us well. Humans think I'm on the side of the monsters. And the vampires fear their king is under the spell of the most powerful necromancer in a thousand years—me... When the St. Louis police summon me to a brutal murder scene linked to a nationwide slaughter of vampires and humans, I know there is more than just a killer to catch. An ancient evil has arrived in town, hell bent on destroying everything—and everyone—I love... Even I cannot face this alone. Jean-Claude and I must embrace our triumvirate to save both vampires and humans, and to prove that love conquers all.

In Charm's Way by **Lana Harper** (UK B Paperback—\$26). *Witches of Thistle Grove Series. LGBTQ+*. Six months after having been hit by a power surge that nearly obliterated her memory, Delilah Harlow is still picking up the pieces. Her once diamond-sharp mind has become shaky and unreliable, and bristly, self-sufficient Delilah is forced to rely on friends, family, and her raven familiar for help. In an effort to reclaim her wits and former independence, she casts a dangerous blood spell meant to harness power with healing capacities... While the spell does restore clarity, it also unexpectedly turns Delilah into an irresistible beacon for the kind of malevolent supernatural creatures that have never before ventured into Thistle Grove. One night—just as things are about to go terribly sideways with a rogue succubus—a mysterious stranger appears in the nick of time to save Delilah's soul... Gorgeous, sultry, and as dangerous as the knives she carries,

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Catriona Quinn is a hunter of monsters—and half-human, half-fae herself, she is the kind of sly and morally gray creature Delilah would normally find horrifying. Though Delilah balks at the idea of a partnership, she has no choice but to roll the dice on their collaboration. As the two delve deeper into the power that underlies Thistle Grove, they uncover not only the town's hidden history but also a risky attraction that could upend Delilah's life.

Crossed by **Emily McIntire** (UK 20.8 x 13.9 Trade Paperback—\$33). *Never After Series*. He is righteousness. She is sin... Father Cade Frédéric is a holy man. Brought up in the streets of Paris, he has dedicated his life to the church. But there's a monster that lingers just beneath the surface. A sickness. One that bleeds darkness and feeds on the damned. When he's tasked to become the priest in Festivalé, Vermont, a town both beautiful in architecture and riddled with despair, his sickness sings, demanding he rid the place of evil... Amaya Paquette is Festivalé's beautiful mystery. She spends her days caring for her younger brother and her nights transforming into Esmeralda, dancing for greedy eyes and shameless lips. Although she longs for love, she shies away from companionship, afraid of being abandoned again... When Father Cade lays eyes on Amaya, he finds himself ensnared, convinced she's using witchcraft to lure him to her. He can't eat. Can't breathe. Can't think unless it's of her... And temptation is a devastating mistress... She's his weakness, so he decides he'll be her demise... even if it means killing the only woman he might ever love.

Cruel Seduction by **Katee Robert** (UK 20.8 x 13.8 Trade Paperback—\$33). *Dark Olympus Series*. He was my enemy. My lover. My husband. And the one man I swore by all Olympus I would destroy... Aphrodite has never flinched at getting her perfectly manicured hands dirty, and she's not about to start now—even if that means marrying Olympus's enemy number one, the new Hephaestus. She has a wicked plan to keep her deadly new husband off-balance, seducing the one person he seems to care about most in this world—Pandora, a woman as beautiful as she is sweet... Two can play the seduction game, however, and Hephaestus is all too happy to put his new wife in her place. Her ex, Adonis, seems like he'll do the trick. It doesn't hurt that he's gorgeous in the way of fallen angels... The problem with using seduction as a weapon? Hearts are all too quick to get involved. With Hephaestus and Aphrodite trading venomous strikes that feel a whole lot like foreplay, lines become blurred and emotions entangled. But a broken heart may be the least of their worries. With unrest in Olympus reaching new heights, these bedroom games may have deadly consequences for themselves, their city, and everyone they've come to love.

A Game of Gods by **Scarlett St. Claire** (UK B Paperback—\$33). *Hades Saga Series*. Hades, God of the Dead, has finally made Persephone his in every way possible. With their wedding on the horizon, the couple should be ecstatic. But Demeter is wreaking havoc on their bliss by battering New Greece with erratic and dangerous weather. At the same time, Theseus continues with his agenda against the Gods, allying with the hate-group Triad in an effort

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to bring down all of Olympus... Hades refuses to allow anything to stop him from securing Persephone as his bride, but he must play a deep strategic game with the Gods of Olympus to safeguard their future. And it is not entirely clear which Gods are truly on his side... (*Told in multiple POVs*).

Bad Luck Vampire by **Lynsay Sands** (Mass Market Paperback—\$26). *Argeneau Series*. Alasdair MacKenzie has never once considered himself unlucky in all the centuries he's been an immortal rogue enforcer. Not until he meets Sophie. Finding the beautiful, smart, and funny woman who is his life mate is great luck, actually. But meeting her at a wedding full of Argeneaus, not to mention his own busybody uncles determined to "help him claim his woman," is bad luck. And the fact that Sophie is someone else's date? Well that's just the next level of unlucky. From the way her gaze travels over his body like a caress to the electric zing whenever they innocently touch... he has to have her! He'll keep his hands off Sophie until her date is over. After that all bets are off and he'll pull out all the stops to win her for eternity. Great plan—until he gets hit by a car. And then he's poisoned. Is his luck that bad, or is someone out to stop this immortal from claiming Sophie as his life mate?

The Viper by **J.R. Ward** (Mass Market Paperback Release—\$26). *Black Dagger Brotherhood: Prison Camp Series*. Framed for the grisly murder of his shellan, Kane is condemned to the notorious prison camp—unaware of the dark truth behind his arranged mating. Centuries later, when he is horribly burned while attempting to save others, he prays he'll finally be reunited in the Fade with his mate... not knowing what revelations await him... Nadya is a self-taught nurse who does what she can to ease the suffering of the prisoners. When Kane comes under her care, she cannot help but empathize with his condition for very personal reasons—and as the guards take him away one last time, she fears he is facing a terrible death... After a daring rescue, Kane is offered a treatment that will change his very nature. Choosing life, for the time being, he goes back for the female who took such good care of him—but his duty to Nadya sets him on a collision course with his own past. When long-buried secrets are exposed, his self-destruction is inevitable... unless true love can save his soul.

Crave by **Tracy Wolff** (UK B Paperback—\$26). *Crave Series*. The one you crave is the one who could get you killed... The moment she steps foot inside, Grace knows there is nothing normal about Katmere Academy, or the students in it. Her uncle's exclusive and secretive boarding school is the last place she wants to be, but after the tragic deaths of both her parents, she is left with no choice... Soon she realises she's entered a world like nothing she has ever known. Shapeshifters, witches and vampires roam the halls, existing in uneasy cooperation. As the lone mortal, the only thing Grace is sure of is that she doesn't belong... Then she meets Jaxon Vega, a vampire with deadly secrets who hasn't felt anything for a hundred years. Something in him calls to Grace—something that could spell her death... Because Jaxon walled himself off for a reason. And as Grace is drawn further under his spell, she begins to wonder: did she come to Katmere by accident, or

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was she brought here... as bait?

Crush by **Tracy Wolff** (UK B Paperback—\$28). *Crave Series*. Trust no one... When she arrived at Katmere Academy, mortal Grace's world turned upside down. Now back at the school, she is haunted by fragments of days she doesn't remember living, as she struggles to understand who, or what, she really is... Finally reunited with Jaxon, Grace begins to feel safe again—until Jaxon's brother, Hudson, reappears with a vengeance. He insists there are secrets Grace doesn't know, threatening to drive a wedge between her and Jaxon forever... But there are far worse enemies at their doorstep—and the only thing Hudson and Jaxon can agree on is that leaving Katmere would mean Grace's certain death... Unless they can defeat an unspeakable evil, everyone's lives are at risk. But winning will require a sacrifice. And it could be more than they can give.

The Coven by **Harper L. Woods** (US 20.3 x 12.7 Trade Paperback—\$36). *Coven of Bones Series*. Revenge... Raised to be my father's weapon against the Coven that took away his sister and his birthright, I would do anything to protect my younger brother from suffering the same fate. My duty forces me to the secret town of Crystal Hollow and the prestigious Hollow's Grove University—where the best and brightest of my kind learn to practice their magic free from human judgment... There are no whispered words here. No condemnation for the blood that flows through my veins. The only animosity I face comes from the beautiful and infuriating Headmaster, Alaric Grayson Thorne, a man who despises me just as much as I loathe him and everything he stands for... But that doesn't mean secrets don't threaten to tear the school in two. No one talks about the bloody massacre that forced it to close decades prior, only the opportunity it can afford to those fortunate enough to attend... Because for the first time in fifty years, the Coven will open its wards to the Thirteen... Thirteen promising students destined to change the world... If the ghosts of Hollow's Grove's victims don't kill them first.

Warrior's Hope by **Rebecca Zanetti** (US 21.6 x 14.0 Trade Paperback—\$39). *Dark Protectors Series*. As the only female vampire ever born, and the heir to two powerful immortal families, Hope Kayrs-Kyllwood has always felt the weight of fate and destiny. Now her heart is torn between two men and two different futures. It's a choice between duty and love, peace and war, with the fate of everyone she loves hanging in the balance... As the leader of the Kurjan nation, Drake has always known that mating Hope is the best path to avoiding war. He's counting on her to know the same... Paxton has been Hope's best friend and protector since they were children. He would kill and die for her without a second thought. In fact, he's always known that would be his path... With deadly factions at her heels, Hope must decide whom to trust and where her loyalty lies—before the choice is taken away from her...

Historical & Regency Romance

The Duke's Best Friend by **Jane Ashford** (Mass Market Paperback—\$24). *Duke's Estates Series*. What's a lady to do when the man standing in her way might also be the man of her dreams?... Henry Deeping and Kate Meacham seem to clash every time they meet. Kate is frustrated by the change in her

Historical & Regency Romance continued

status following the death of her grandfather, a legendary figure in diplomatic circles. As a lone single woman, she is now effectively nobody, even though she knows everyone and has made important contributions to diplomacy in the past. Henry, just joining the Foreign Office, is wondering how to make his mark... They agree to an exchange—Henry will serve as Kate’s escort to important events to which she is no longer invited, and Kate will introduce him to the important people she knows so well. But when they spot a foreign agent they thought had been apprehended, they decide to investigate on their own, enlisting a motley group of friends and relying on each other to uncover the truth...

Miss Dauntless by **Grace Burrowes** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$33). *Mischief in Mayfair Series*. Matilda Merridew, former hoyden of the first water, finds herself widowed, weary, and in want of coin. Along comes Marcus, Lord Tremont, with an interesting—and decent—proposition. Tremont will provide Matilda a handsome salary and keep a commodious roof over her head if she will relieve him of the burden of managing a houseful of unruly former soldiers... Matilda accepts the post, and soon learns that the proper, soft-spoken earl has a far more dashing side. Marcus, whose lodestars in life have been order and duty, is drawn to Matilda’s determination and pragmatic good cheer. When Matilda’s past rises from the grave to destroy any hope of a happily ever after, Matilda and Marcus will have to decide if love truly can conquer all!

Miss Devoted by **Grace Burrowes** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$30). *Mischief in Mayfair Series*. Psyche Fremont has known two constants in life: Her passion for her art, and society’s determination to ignore her talent. She isn’t looking for anything other than a handsome model when she crosses paths with Michael Delancey, and he’s only interested in making a few discreet coins lounging about in the altogether. Both Michael and Psyche are guarding secrets, but when love blooms, can they continue to guard their hearts?

Duke Seeks Bride by **Christy Carlyle** (Mass Market Paperback—\$26). *Love On Holiday Series*. Miss Evelyn Graves has never had a holiday. She is much too busy as the personal secretary to the Countess of Waverly. But the Duke of Ballymore Castle in Connemara, Ireland, has invited the countess to visit—and as the countess cannot travel, she has insisted Evelyn go in her stead. Except when Evie arrives, everyone mistakes her for the countess—and it’s clear the family who owns crumbling Ballymore were hoping to match the widowed countess with Alexander Pierpont, Duke of Rennick. Though Alex knows the truth of Evie’s identity, he has an unusual request. He’ll happily show her hospitality if she’ll agree to let others think she’s the countess during her visit... There’s just one problem: as time runs out on their arrangement and Alex increasingly fears he must in fact marry an heiress to save his family’s fortunes, he finds that his heart now belongs to Miss Evie Graves... and he can’t bring himself to let her go.

Marry Me By Midnight by **Felicia Grossman** (Mass Market Paperback—\$24). *Once Upon the East End Series*. London, 1832: Isabelle Lira may be in distress, but she’s no damsel. Since her father’s

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death, his former partners have sought to oust her from their joint equity business. Her only choice is to marry—and fast—to a powerful ally outside the respected Berab family’s sphere of influence. Only finding the right spouse will require casting a wide net. So she’ll host a series of festivals, to which every eligible Jewish man is invited... Once, Aaron Ellenberg longed to have a family of his own. But as the synagogue custodian, he is too poor for wishes and not foolish enough for dreams. Until the bold, beautiful Isabelle Lira presents him with an irresistible offer... if he ensures her favored suitors have no hidden loyalties to the Berabs, she will provide him with money for a new life... Yet the transaction provides surprising temptation, as Aaron and Isabelle find caring and passion in the last person they each expected. Only a future for them is impossible—for heiresses don’t marry orphans, and love only conquers in children’s tales. But if Isabelle can find the courage to trust her heart, she’ll discover anything is possible, if only she says yes.

The Highlander’s Kilted Bride by **Vanessa Kelly** (Mass Market Paperback—\$24). *Clan Kendrick Series*. Charlotte “Charlie” Stewart would rather don a kilt and ride her horse than simper in a ballroom. But with her younger sister about to be wed, she can’t escape the pressure to be next. A husband has been chosen, and Charlie’s fate seems set. Until an afternoon gallop sends her horse colliding with Kade Kendrick, the broad-shouldered Highlander who was once her childhood pal... As a youth, Kade felt overshadowed by his older siblings. Now he’s a renowned musician whose fame provides cover for his other work—as a spy. Home from his latest mission, he’s annoyed to be roped into attending the wedding of a family friend—until it reunites him with the fearless tomboy who has become a breathtaking beauty. And though his thoughts should be on a new concerto, Kade is soon distracted by rival suitors, a dangerous quest—and the unconventional woman who fills his soul with music and his body with desire...

Miss Prim and the Duke of Wylde by **Stephanie Laurens** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$47). *Cynsters Next Generation Series*. What happens when Fate tosses two people who had no intention of marrying each other into the hothouse of a noble betrothal under the avid eyes of the ton... A gentleman seeking a suitable wife is forced by Fate and unhelpful circumstance to become engaged to a lady who had no idea that in selflessly assisting him she was auditioning for that part... In the leadup to her tenth Season, Meg Cynster—known to the ton’s eligible bachelors as Miss Prim—takes to the country to ponder the question: If not marriage, then what? She has yet to find an answer when she comes upon a supremely elegant curricle, drawn by a pair of high-spirited horses presided over by an unconscious gentleman. Others present know where he’s staying, but can’t manage the horses. With no real choice, Meg accepts the responsibility and drives the gentleman home. Unfortunately, he’s too inebriated to just leave, so she rouses him enough to help him inside... But then others arrive, and Meg learns the gentleman is none other than Drago Helmsford, the notorious Duke of Wylde—and in order to protect her reputation, she and Drago are forced to declare that

Historical & Regency Romance continued

they are engaged... Although a shocking surprise for everyone, by all measures, the match is highly desirable. Meg and Drago have no option but to allow the engagement to stand until the end of the Season, when they can quietly call it off. Consequently, they have to keep the fact that their engagement is a sham an absolute secret from everyone, including all members of their families... Through the ensuing whirl of the Season, with all eyes focused avidly on them, they duly pretend to be an affianced couple—roles that, to their surprise, come to them remarkably easily. With every member of their families and all the powerful in society being unrelentingly encouraging, both Meg and Drago, with eyes wide open, start to consider the possibility that marrying the other might just be the answer they'd each been seeking when they'd first met... Then accidents start happening and quickly escalate to attacks, and it becomes clear that someone is intent on preventing Meg from marrying Drago. Why is unclear, but with the threat hanging over them, the Cynsters and Helmsfords rally around to ensure Meg makes it to the altar. But even after the wedding, when Drago and Meg retreat to his estate, the attacks continue until, with their hearts and future on the line, Drago and Meg risk all in a gamble to expose the faceless villain and bring the ever-present danger to an end.

Knockout by **Sarah MacLean** (Mass Market Paperback—\$26). *Hell's Belles Series*. With her headful of wild curls and wilder ideas and an unabashed love of experiments and explosives, Lady Imogen Loveless has been labeled peculiar by society, which doesn't know she's one of the Hell's Belles—a group of vigilantes operating outside the notice of most of London... Thomas Peck is not most of London. The brilliant detective fought his way off the

Historical & Regency Romance continued

streets and into a promising career through sheer force of will and a keen ability to see things others miss, like the fact that Imogen isn't peculiar... she's pandemonium. If you ask him, she requires a keeper. When her powerful family discovers her late-night activities, they couldn't agree more... and they know just the man for the task... Thomas wants nothing to do with guarding Imogen. He is a grown man with a proper job and no time for the lady's incendiary chaos, no matter how lushly it is packaged. But some assignments are too explosive to pass up, and the gruff detective is soon caught up in Imogen's world, full of her bold smiles and burning secrets... and a fiery passion that threatens to consume them both.

The Duke Gets Desperate by **Diana Quincy** (Mass Market Paperback—\$26). *Sirens in Silk Series*. Anthony Cary, Duke of Strickland, inherits his spendthrift father's title and can finally restore the family castle to its former glory. But at the reading of the will, Strick is stunned to learn that his father has secretly disintailed him, leaving the family manor—home to twelve generations of dukes—to Strick's American stepmother. Everyone knows Strick detests the dowager duchess, and when she dies mysteriously, damning rumors start to surface... When Raya Darwish unexpectedly inherits her glamorous late cousin's castle in the English countryside, she clashes with the charismatic young duke who insists the castle is rightfully his. The estate is practically bankrupt, so she must find a way to work with the duke in order to save both of their futures... The two cannot stand each other, but mutual disdain soon gives way to desire. When questions arise about how her cousin died, Raya cannot help wondering if Strick's sudden unbridled passion for her is part of a scheme to get his castle back...

Books Available Soon

Top Books Nov/Dec		Top Books First Half of 2024	
Jennifer L. Armentrout	A Fire in the Flesh*	Mary Balogh	Always Remember*
Evie Dunmore	The Gentleman's Gambit*	Patricia Briggs	Winter Lost*
Janet Evanovich	Dirty Thirty*	Tessa Dare	The Bride Bet
Hannah Grace	Wildfire*	Christine Feehan	Leopard's Hunt
Ana Huang	King of Greed*	Emily Henry	Funny Story*
Emily Rath	Pucking Wild*	Jayne Ann Krentz	The Night Island*
Nora Roberts	The Inheritance*	Sarah J. Maas	House of Flame and Shadow*
Nalini Singh	There Should Have Been Eight*	J.D. Robb	Random in Death*
Nora Roberts	The Inheritance*	Nalini Singh	Archangel's Lineage
Rebecca Yarros	Iron Flame*	J.R. Ward	The Beloved*

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Summary of This Catalogue's Books

Author	Title	Classification	Price
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Elena Armas	The Long Game*	Contemporary	\$24
Jennifer L. Armentrout	The Fall of Ruin and Wrath*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$33
Jane Ashford	The Duke's Best Friend	Historical	\$24
Alexandria Bellefleur	The Fiancee Farce*	Contemporary	\$26
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