

There are some great new arrivals. These include Penn Cole's *Burn of the Everflame*, Christine Feehan's *Frost and Venom*, Mila Finch's *Runebreaker*, Steffanie Holmes' *You're So Vein*, T. Kingfisher's *Daggerbound*, J.D. Robb's *Fury in Death*, J.R. Ward's *Lover Enthroned*, Rebecca Yarros's *Threshing Day* and more. Enjoy your reading!

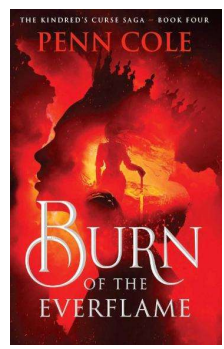
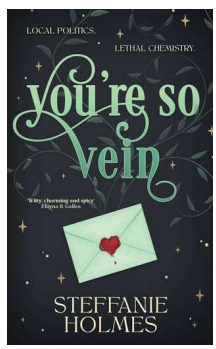
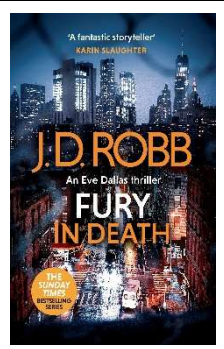
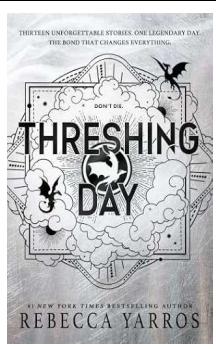
NB. Please see p2 for details of BOOKSHOP DAY on 10 Oct, the AUCKLAND BOOKSHOP TOUR from 7-18 Oct, the COLD REDEMPTION book launch on 1 Dec and the BRIMSTONE & BOOKSHELVES signing event on 23 May 2027 and vampire ball on 22 May 2027.

Top Books Sep Oct		Top Books Sep Oct continued	
Jennifer Ashley	Duchess in Diamonds*	Steffanie Holmes	You're So Vein*
Leigh Bardugo	Dead Beat*	T. Kingfisher	Daggerbound
Penn Cole	Burn of the Everflame*	Richard Osman	We Chase Shadows*
Penelope Douglas	Midnight Curfew	Libby Page	This Book Made Me Think of You*
Sarah M. Eden	Seeking Persephone*	Meghan Quinn	Just for the Plot
Christine Feehan	Frost and Venom*	J.D. Robb	Fury in Death*
Mila Finch	Runebreaker*	Lyla Sage	Free Falling
Stephanie Garber	The Mirror of Infinite Endings*	L.J. Shen	Fallen Rook
Rachel Gillig	The Knave and the Moon*	J.R. Ward	Lover Enthroned*
Laurie Gilmore	Big Bad Wolf	Rebecca Yarros	Threshing Day*

* Hardcover/TPB/POD

& Anthology

Please contact us if you would like to reserve a book

 Title: Burn of the Everflame Author: Penn Cole Classification: Fantasy & Paranormal Book: Royal Paperback Price: \$36 Annotation: <i>Kindred's Curse Saga.</i> War has overtaken Emarion. In the north, Ophiucac and his army of bloodthirsty mortals seek to eradicate all Descended from the continent. In the south, the Guardians of the Everflame lie in wait, plotting a rebellion generations overdue... In Lumnos, Realm of Light and Shadow, the Crowns are gathering. Caught between two deadly foes, they must form an unlikely alliance to save their people... But the Crowns have a secret—and a heart without its mate will burn the world down to fulfil its fate... Hatred reigns. Hope seems lost. With the future in darkness, can a flame emerge to bring the light?	 Title: You're So Vein Author: Steffanie Holmes NZ Author Classification: Fantasy & Paranormal Book: Royal Paperback Sprayed Edges Price: \$36 Annotation: <i>Nevermore Murder Club and Smutty Book Coven Series.</i> Three things get vampire Augustin Durant's undead blood boiling: zoning violations, littering on the village green, and Komal Ahuja. When their rivalry goes too far, Komal declares she's running against him for mayor... As they clash at debates, handle village disasters and entertain the vampire council, Augustin realises Komal has stolen his heart. But he's hiding a secret: a cheeky ten-year-old vampire daughter whose life would be in danger if anyone discovered she exists... Augustin needs Komal out of the village before she gets too close. The trouble is, she won't go without a fight.
 Title: Fury in Death Author: J.D. Robb Classification: Crime/Mystery/Thriller Book: Royal Paperback Price: \$35 Annotation: <i>In Death Series.</i> NYPSD homicide detective Eve Dallas has seen plenty, but even she is shocked when a wealthy biotech executive is beaten to death in his home office. His body is so badly damaged that it's hard to believe one person could have done it. Was the killer unnaturally strong—or very, very angry? The violence suggests a deeply personal attack, but Dallas can't ignore the victim's suspicious Cayman Islands bank account or the shadowy, profit-hungry company he worked for... When another victim emerges, Dallas must tear through layers of secrecy to uncover the truth behind the rage-fuelled murders.	 Title: Threshing Day Author: Rebecca Yarros Classification: Fantasy & Paranormal Book: ANZ Hardcover Sprayed Edges Price: \$50 (RRP \$55) Annotation: <i>Empyrean Series.</i> Welcome to Threshing Day, the brutal trial where Basgiath War College cadets must bond with a dragon or die trying... Rivals will do anything for an advantage, and one choice can forge a rider—or destroy them... Meet thirteen cadets: Xaden, the powerful leader; Rhiannon, the clever friend; Dain, the rule-follower; Liam, the protector; Ridoc, the jokester; Sawyer, the underdog; Garrick, the dependable aide; Imogen, the fighter; Bodhi, the second-in-command; Mira, the fearless rider; Brennan, the tactician; Aaric, the restless royal; and Sloane, the determined sister... On Threshing Day, there's only one rule: don't die.

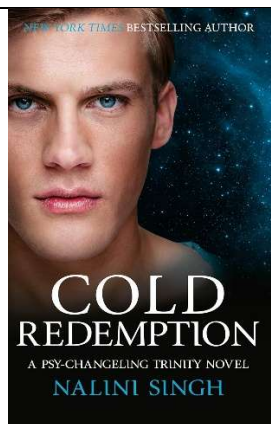
The book prices shown apply at the time of publication of this catalogue. Prices are subject to change.

Bookshop Day | Sat 10 Oct 2026

Come and celebrate Bookshop Day in store with us on Sat 10 Oct from 10-4. To celebrate, we'll have some wonderful giveaways (while stocks last) including: 🍪 Book Cookies 🍪, 📌 Bookmarks and Pins 📌, 🍵 Tea Samples 🍵. Plus: we will have a Dirty Chai Latte special and there will be random spot prizes throughout the day.

Auckland Bookshop Tour | 7-18 Oct 2026

Pick up an Auckland Bookshop Tour map from any of the 17 participating bookshops. Make a purchase—there is no minimum spend—and collect a stamp. Once you have at least two stamps, you are eligible to enter the draw to win \$425 in bookshop tokens. Each additional stamp gives you another entry into the prize draw. Leave your map at the last bookshop you visit and they will submit your entry. Check individual shop opening days and opening hours, which may vary, eg, we are open Tue-Sun 10am-4pm (we are closed on Mondays). Plus, please check The Booklover's Instagram for its post-flood updates. Get your friends together and plan your tour wisely, dear reader!



Cold Redemption Book Launch | Tue 1 Dec 2026 @ 7pm

We are excited to have multiple award-winning author Nalini Singh in store on Tue 1 Dec @ 7pm for the book launch for COLD REDEMPTION (Psy/Changeling Trinity series #10). Come along and meet Nalini, ask your questions (you might win a prize!) and get your book signed.

If you are not able to attend, but you would like a copy signed/personalised and shipped to you, please get in touch or pre-order online. We can organise this for you. Price \$29 + shipping.

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Or order online (New Zealand orders only) at:

<https://chapter.co.nz/product/nalini-singh-cold-redemption/>



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Join us in Aotearoa New Zealand (aka Middle Earth) for BRIMSTONE AND BOOKSHELVES – an enchanted book event like no other. We've conjured a magical weekend where readers of all romance genres can meet their favourite authors from around the world, explore a magical fantasy-themed event, buy bookish merch, and don their most sinister attire for the luxurious, debauchorous VAMPIRE BALL.



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23 MAY 2027
SHED 10, AUCKLAND

Chloe Gong
Nalini Singh
Nisha J Tuli
Penn Cole
S. T. Gibson
Shannon Mayer
Steffanie Holmes

60+ authors and vendors

Brimstone & Bookshelves | 23 May 2027

Exciting! Join 60+ authors and other bookish vendors at the Brimstone & Bookshelves enchanted fantasy-themed book signing and reader event for the romance genre being held in Auckland at Shed 10 on Sunday 23 May 2027. Plus, have a wonderful night at the Crimson Masquerade Vampire Ball on Saturday 22 May 2027.

For more details and the ticket link, please visit:

<https://www.brimstoneandbookshelves.com/>

The Chapter Book & Tea Shop will be there. Come and see us for books from the traditionally published authors.

♥ Auckland Romance Readers Monthly Book Club Meetings ♥

Chapter Book & Tea Shop hosts monthly Book Club Meetings on Sundays at 4.15pm (turn up from 3.45pm onwards). Water and tea provided. All welcome. <https://www.facebook.com/ChapterBookAndTeaShop/events>

Sun 20 Sep—THE ORNITHOLOGIST'S FIELD GUIDE TO LOVE by India Holton NZ Author (Historical—Victorian)

Sun 18 Oct—WILDFLOWER by Eva Camden NZ Author (Contemporary)

Sun 29 Nov—THE SHADOW WEAVER by Ivy Cliffwater NZ Author (Fantasy & Paranormal) + Summer Reads

Other Books Available in This Catalogue

Contemporary Romance & Romantic Suspense

Take a Chance, Sasha Sinclair by Ashley Herring Blake (B Paperback—\$29). *LGBTQ+*. *Clover Lake Series*. Sasha Sinclair is used to being alone. Her parents, successful documentary filmmakers, died in a car accident three years ago, leaving her with a legacy she's been unable to live up to. Instead, she

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spends her time with casual hook-ups and odd jobs as she travels around the country. But she can't stop thinking about her parents' dream project: the story of Alice Bishop in Blair Mountain, North Carolina... Margot Bishop is not a witch, despite the town's century-long suspicion about her family.

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When her ancestor Alice Bishop showed up in 1901 and opened Thornrose Apothecary, the town called her the Rose Witch. Now, the Bishops also run Ghostlight, an occult-themed amusement park that fully leans into the rumours. Unfortunately, the businesses aren't doing well. But when Margot's mother comes up with a solution—a documentary film about their family—Margot can't get on board, not when her family's legacy is at stake. Even worse, she's forced to work with Sasha, the charming, peppy, wannabe-filmmaker. But as they spend more time together, diving deeper into the story of Alice Bishop, the ice slowly melts and their relationship turns into a heart-fluttering rollercoaster ride, one they aren't sure they want to get off...

Set the Record Straight by **Hannah Bonam-Young** (B Paperback—Novella—\$25). *LGBTQ+*. A fake girlfriend. A real best friend. One complicated lie... The day Clara started her new (dream) job as an assistant to her photography idol, she was met with an assumption that caught her off guard and stunned her silent. Suddenly, she has to bring a girlfriend to the gallery's opening in a few weeks—all because she choked up and failed to tell her boss that she is, in fact, straight... Evan was recently dumped by her fellow teacher fiancée for a mutual co-worker and is still trying to figure out where it all went wrong. So when she gets the news the happy new couple will be hosting the staff's holiday party, she feels utterly horrified by her single status and looks for a quick solution... Together, these two life-long friends make a plan to get through the gallery opening and holiday party by pretending to date one another. Easy... right? That is until Clara starts developing real feelings for Evan, shocking herself. All the while Evan realises that perhaps pretending to date your straight best friend, who you've had a crush on for half your life, isn't the best idea.

Pretender by **Eva Camden** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$30). *NZ Author. What Happens In Mayfair Series*. Linnea Fredriksen has a flawless eye for design, but was blind to her dependence on her toxic ex-husband until he took half her business and all but one client. Now she only has a small team she'd do anything to protect, and a new rule. Never depend on a man again... Then her only client, the charmer and devil-may-care billionaire Aiden Aurellan, needs a fake date for his mother's wedding... Agreeing to the ruse means a foot in the door with the clients she needs. But it also means breaking her rule: she'll be even more entangled with one man. The exact man she's kept at arm's length since he saw a side of her she wants to forget... But behind Aiden's charm Linnea finds a man who cares deeply. He holds her hair when she's sick. He's attentive to her in a way she's never experienced. The walls she has built to protect herself are slowly crumbling... She's convinced he isn't at all like her ex... Until he is.

Midnight Curfew by **Penelope Douglas** (B Paperback—\$27). *LGBTQ+*. Summertime is quiet in southern Florida. In the humidity, the streets are empty, and the nights are still—perfect for a little mischief while the police aren't looking... One of five brothers, Dallas Jaeger grew up proud of his community on the wrong side of the tracks—Sanoa Bay—and now, as a man, he's ready to fight to protect it... Callum Ames has a reputation in St.

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Carmen, the affluent neighbourhood bordering Sanoa Bay. He's the hottest. The most popular. The one all the women want. But he has one major secret: he doesn't want them... Summer is also storm season. Heat, wind, rain... and a lockdown... In a desperate bid to impress his powerful father, Callum suggests a curfew to hinder their rivals' hold on the Bay... Unfortunately, the Jaegers don't like rules... As Dallas and Callum clash, out for each other's blood, they can't ignore the heat between them—or the ending they can already see coming... After all, curfews were meant to be broken.

The Princess Trap by **Talia Hibbert** (B Paperback—\$27). *Midnight Heat Collection*. Cherry Neita is thirty, flirty, and done with men. As far as she can tell, they're overrated, overpaid, and underperforming—in every area of life. But a girl has needs, and the smoking-hot stranger she just met at the office seems like the perfect one-night stand... Prince Ruben of Helgmore is reckless, dominant, and famously filthy. The outcast royal is rebuilding his reputation—all for a good cause—but he can't resist a pretty face. And bossy whirlwind Cherry's got the face, the body, and the attitude to make Ruben's convictions crumble. Even better, when she propositions him, she has no idea who he really is... But when paparazzi catch the pair, erm, kissing in an alleyway, Ruben's anonymity disappears faster than Cherry's knickers. Now the press is in uproar, the palace is outraged, and Ruben's reputation is in the gutter. There's only one way to turn this disaster around—and it involves Cherry, some big lies, and a flashy diamond ring. On her left hand... Cherry isn't pleased with Ruben's "fake engagement" scheme... and neither is the king.

Steel Princess by **Rina Kent** (B Paperback—\$27). *Royal Elite Series*. The princess isn't supposed to dethrone the king.

Elsa: He told me he'd destroy me—and he did. I might have lost the battle, but the war is far from over. They say it takes just one move to dethrone a king. No one warned me he'd drag me down with him on the way.

Aiden: If Steel's little princess wants a war, then she'll get one. There's only one rule: follow mine—or none at all. So go ahead, sweetheart. Show me what you've got.

Twisted Kingdom by **Rina Kent** (B Paperback—\$27). *Royal Elite Series*. The kingdom isn't supposed to fall... The truth screws you over before it sets you free. Masks drop. Secrets unravel. The princess's chase for the past blinds her to the present... I'll fight for Elsa. I'll bring her back. I'll protect her, even if it's the last thing I do... We made a promise. She's mine... The only question: is she ready for one final game?

Dante by **Sadie Kincaid** (B Paperback—\$25). *Chicago Ruthless Series*.

Katerina: He's the kind of evil that makes even devils cry. And he owns me... I hate Dante Moretti. He is cold, calculating and vicious. But that's not why I hate him. I hate him because he has taken the only thing I have left in this miserable world—my freedom. He's chained me to him because of a debt that I don't owe. And now I'm trapped in his gilded cage and the only thing I have left to do is run. And I try. But he is everywhere. Suffocating. All

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consuming. Intoxicating... He's a paradox. A man with a heart as cold as ice, whose passion rages like an inferno... My mom always warned me never to play with matches. But if Dante Moretti is fire, then I want to burn.

Dante: I was never supposed to take her, but from the moment I saw her I knew she belonged to me. I'll never let her go, no matter how much she begs me to. She thinks I'm her cage. She has no idea she's already become mine.

Losers: Part Two by **Harley LaRoux** (US Trade Paperback—Sprayed Edges—\$42). *Losers Duet*. Every action has consequences... I made one foolish mistake and ended up with a debt I had only one way to pay... by bowing my head and submitting to the men I swore I hated. But in their dominance I found catharsis. In the darkness we share, parts of myself were brought to the light. I've been wearing a mask for far too long. Now I'm torn between the future I thought I wanted, and a life I once believed was only fantasy. These feelings between us were never just a game... What am I willing to sacrifice? My pride and carefully laid plans, my determination that I can do it all alone? Or my new-found freedom to live without boundaries with the men who turned my world on its head? How much am I willing to give up? Who am I willing to lose?

This Book Made Me Think of You by **Libby Page** (Royal Paperback—\$35). Twelve stories. Twelve months. One chance to heal her heart... When Tilly Nightingale receives a call telling her there's a birthday gift from her husband waiting for her at her local bookshop, it couldn't come as more of a shock. Partly, because she can't remember the last time she read a book for pleasure. Mainly, because Joe died five months ago... The gift is simple—twelve carefully chosen books from Joe, one for each month, to help her turn the page on her first year without him... And so begins a reading-inspired journey that takes Tilly around the world, from bustling sidewalks in New York and the tree-lined avenues of Paris to the tranquil Tuscan countryside and the white sands of Bali. With the help of the bookshop owner, Alfie, Tilly starts to discover who she is now, after Joe... But can Tilly's year of books show her how to love again?

Colt by **Jessica Peterson** (B Paperback—\$27). *Double U Ranch Series*. He has a list of strict rules... She's about to break every single one of them... Lainey Brown is a city girl who landed on the legendary Wallace Ranch to get her career in branding back on track. She's got no interest in cowboys, cattle, or the infuriatingly gorgeous foreman who clearly wants her gone... Colton Wallace has spent every day since losing his wife building something worth leaving his son. The last thing he needs is a firecracker from Austin with a sketchbook full of big ideas and a smile that makes him long for things he can't keep... But somewhere between their very first fight and a Texas night sky that stretches on forever, something shifts. Lainey stops counting the days until she can leave. And Colt stops pretending he wants her to... The ranch has always been the Wallace legacy. But Colt is starting to wonder if the best thing that's ever happened to it—and to him—just walked in wearing city shoes.

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Just for the Plot by **Meghan Quinn** (B Paperback—\$27). *Bay Area Players Series*. They're just friends. At least, that's what she thinks. Him? He has other plans... Bennett Brinkman is San Francisco baseball's golden boy—focused, disciplined, and very bad at ignoring the one woman he shouldn't want. Falling for his sister's best friend was inevitable, even though she's known him since he was all gangly elbows, bad haircuts, and teenage awkwardness... and still insists on seeing him that way... Bower knows exactly why wanting Bennett is a terrible idea. She's fiercely loyal to her best friend and well aware that crossing this particular line could blow everything up. But when she moves into Bennett's apartment building, that "just friends" boundary begins to blur in the most tempting ways... The banter comes fast. The sparks come faster. And pretending it's "no big deal" is getting ridiculous... As feelings get messier and attraction turns undeniable, Bennett and Bower must decide if risking their family ties is worth chasing the love that's been in front of them all along.

Psychotic Obsession by **Leigh Rivers** (B Paperback—\$27). *Prequel to Edge of Darkness Trilogy*. Love is dangerous. Trust is a weakness. Possession is a toxic game... Sweet and gentle, calm and collected, nervous and inexperienced, Tobias Mitchell was death cloaked in the form of a handsome man. But, instead of running the other way, she fell for him... Aria Miller is a scientist researching rare genetic diseases when her world is tilted off its axis, and she collides with Tobias. When she takes him on as her assistant, he becomes infatuated with her in ways he can't comprehend. When reality hits and Aria is forced to leave the country, Tobias is faced with the thought of losing the object of his desire. His mask slips, showing her his true self for the first time... Aria is his, and he'll do anything to make sure she stays that way.
Psychotic Obsession is a standalone prequel set before the Edge of Darkness trilogy, but is best read after the Edge of Darkness trilogy.

Taming the Heart by **Elliott Rose** (B Paperback—Sprayed Edges—\$27). *NZ Author. Crimson Ridge Series*. Being hired by a ranch for the summer sounds picture-perfect, right? Except your new boss is your every fantasy come to life—oh, and he's already accidentally seen your favourite "toy"... I've always been the hyper-independent free spirit. Sage Maloney, the wild child with my heart locked safely out of sight. I thought I had a summer of fun ahead of me. I didn't count on working for a former pro bull rider with a moustache to go weak at the knees for... Beau Heartford. The whole package of temptation. Someone who lures me in with glimpses of what it might be like to let my guard down, to be taken care of. My married boss... We're both stuck fighting a mutual attraction we can't ignore. But there's more at stake than just crossing a line between boss and employee—there's a wedding band on this cowboy's finger.

The One Who Walked Away by **Karen Rose** (Royal Paperback—\$35). Bounty hunter Elle Randolph is on the hunt for a fugitive in the wilderness of Mendocino County. She's also on the run from her past, and the accident she walked away from—but that killed her abusive husband... When the manager of the inn Elle is staying in is murdered, she and her boss Sara become people of interest to

Contemporary Romance & Romantic Suspense

local detective Ronan Clarke. He needs to know exactly what placed these strangers at the scene of the crime... As Ronan questions Elle and Sara, he realises the fugitive they are tracking could be a suspect for the local murder. But to share information there needs to be trust. And, right now, is Ronan in a position to drop the bounty hunters from his enquiries? When another person turns up dead, Ronan sees there could be more to this investigation than he could have imagined. And that Elle Randolph isn't telling him everything...

In the Dark by **Shain Rose** (B Paperback—\$27). *Kept in Paradise Series*. He was only supposed to be a secret fling. A forbidden kiss stolen in the dark... Not the cold-blooded monster who betrayed me... Callahan Knight is the Diamond Syndicate's perfect weapon with honed muscles, lethal control, and merciless loyalty. Even when taking out a rival cartel's capo—my uncle—he doesn't flinch. He shatters my family without hesitation, and I swear I'll never forgive him for that... But the Syndicate doesn't care about my hatred. To secure their power, they demand more: A vow of marriage or watch everything we love get destroyed... Now I'm the unwilling bride living in the luxurious prison of Paradise Grove with the man I refuse to call my soon-to-be husband. Instead, he's the villain. Enemy number one. My tormentor... But also maybe my undoing... Because when he looks at me with the same fire we once shared, I can't decide if I want to kill him... or kiss him... Yet, I refuse to be distracted by his touch or piercing gaze. Instead, I'll play the part, wear the ring, and say my vows all while I dig for his greatest weakness... Because he may be the Syndicate's deadliest weapon—but I'm just as lethal as the monster I have to marry.

Done and Dusted by **Lyla Sage** (UK Hardcover—Sprayed Edges—\$59). *Rebel Blue Ranch Series*. This book is now available as a special edition hardcover.

Daybreak by **Sharon Sala** (US Trade Paperback—\$32). *Crossroads Series*. Dallas detective wins the lottery—but his heart still belongs to the girl next door... Dallas homicide detective Gunner Kingston enjoys his job and thinks he's all set until a gifted lottery ticket turns out to be a winner. Determined to keep his winnings under wraps, he plans to escape the spotlight. But when a dangerous case pushes him to the edge, it's childhood friend Holly Dillion who becomes his anchor—and his greatest temptation... Returning to the small town where they first fell in love, Gunner finds more than safety; he finds a future worth risking everything for.

The Fine Art of Faking It by **Lucy Score** (B Paperback—\$26). *Blue Moon Series*. Innkeeper Eden Moody has got it all. Mostly. She's cornered the hospitality market in Blue Moon offering visitors a place to stay in her hippie-dippie hometown. Business is booming, she's close—but not too close—to family, and she's got her dogs and her friends to keep her company... Unfortunately, she also shares a property line with the crush who broke her teenage heart... Davis Gates spends his days wrestling control of the family winery from his father's semi-retired hands. He doesn't have time for things like dating or dealing with his grudge-holding neighbour. They're just the latest generation to participate in their families' fifty-year feud... When

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the Beautification Committee resorts to an unprecedented—and disastrous—match-making scheme, enemies Eden and Davis join forces to take them down. These two frenemies can survive being fake lovers for a few weeks if it means teaching their neighbours all's not fair in love and war.

Fallen Rook by **L.J. Shen** (B Paperback—\$27). *LGBTQ+. Society of Villains Series*.

Tom: I know a secret that can destroy the most powerful crime organisation in America... For years, I've watched Enzo Ferrante get away with murder. Literally... He's slipped between the FBI's fingers time after time, spreading terror and mayhem on the streets of New York, masked beneath a gorgeous face and elegant pedigree... A sloppy error on his part results in an incident that unexpectedly binds us together... Suddenly, I'm no longer the special agent who is thirsty for his blood... I'm his saviour. His god. The light in his pitch-black existence... Now that I have caught the social butterfly in my spider web, I'm never letting go... He is about to taste the venomous kiss of betrayal as I put him and his entire family behind bars for the rest of their lives... Because when the night falls, the Camorra's enforcer crawls between my sheets and whispers all his sordid secrets in my ear... Enzo Ferrante is completely and utterly mine, and no one knows. Not even his lovely fiancée.

Mr. Masters by **T.L. Swan** (B Paperback—\$28). *Mr. Series*. He is powerful, older and my boss, a lethal combination... Job satisfaction has taken on a whole new meaning. When I lied on my resume, I didn't expect it to matter. I mean any child would love me; I was born to be a nanny. I applied for a position working for a woman, or so I thought. But Julian Masters is definitely all man... the kind you dream of licking chocolate from... The first day was bad. The kids were the spawn of the devil and I spied through a window and caught him doing something obscene... and equally fascinating. The second day was worse, he caught me snooping in his bathroom cabinet in my skimpy pyjamas and all hell broke loose. On the third day, I ran over him in a golf cart. And by day four I had decided that I wanted that chocolate... all of it. Melted... on me. But intelligent, widowed judges don't fall for ditzzy nannies. Or do they?

Crime & Mystery & Thriller

Murder at Cape Costumers by **Maddie Day** (Mass Market Paperback—\$24). *Cozy Capers Book Group Mystery Series*. It's Halloween and Cape Cod bike shop owner Mackenzie "Mac" Almeida and her book club must unmask a killer... Just in time for Halloween, a new costume shop has opened on Main Street in Westham, Massachusetts. Cape Costumers is a cut above the usual seasonal pop-up stores with their flimsy mass-produced outfits and cheap plastic masks, mostly due to co-owner Shelly, a former Broadway costume designer. But when Shelly discovers her elderly boyfriend Enzo—a Broadway star who retired to Westham—dead of unnatural causes, Halloween gets a lot scarier... Sleuthing, Mac has found, is a lot like riding a bicycle: once you learn how, you never forget. Far from being spooked, Mac and the members of the Cozy Capers Book Group put down their weekly book selection and put their heads together to see

Crime & Mystery & Thriller continued

past a bag of tricks and find a malice-making murderer who's hiding in plain sight...

Frost and Venom by **Christine Feehan** (Royal Paperback—\$35). Surgical and trauma nurse Harlow Frye loves the small town of Knightly, where breathtaking views of the Sierra and a tight circle of female friends provide a refuge from her professional life. But lately, it's Harlow's personal life that's causing all the chaos... First, a series of anonymous threatening letters are left in her mailbox. Then, Harlow is dealt a blow when her friend Lawyer dies after reacting to some sort of toxin. And to top it off, Harlow finds her secret obsession, CIA operative Hawkin Wilder, bleeding out on a mountain trail... As Harlow turns her home into a makeshift hospital, her infuriating patient insists on distracting her. But even in the face of their increasing connection, there's no way Harlow can ignore the escalating storm when someone else close to her is struck down by the mysterious toxin... With little more than intuition to go on, Harlow turns to the five friends who have proved themselves to be a better family than her own flesh and blood. As the women attempt to unravel the killings, they will need to rely on their instincts and their connection to each other—or else they'll lose everything they've come to hold dear.

The Surrogate Mother by **Freida McFadden** (B Paperback—\$27). She was promised a miracle. She got more than she bargained for... Abby wants a baby more than anything... But after years of unsuccessful fertility treatments and adoptions that have fallen through, it seems like motherhood is not in her future... That is, until her personal assistant Monica makes a generous offer to serve as a surrogate. It's an offer that will make all of Abby's dreams come true... But soon, strange things start happening. And it turns out Monica isn't who she says she is. The woman now carrying Abby's child has an unspeakable secret... And she will stop at nothing to get what she wants.

We Chase Shadows by **Richard Osman** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *We Solve Murders Series*. At sunrise, high in the Italian hills, a body is found on the steps of a beautiful private villa. On the body is a threatening note, signed by a mystery man... As private security officer Amy Wheeler, famous author Rosie D'Antonio and retired policeman Steve Wheeler get the "We Solve Murders" business up and running, they leap at the chance to take on their first proper case. So what if their client seems to have his own reasons for avoiding the police? All they need to do is uncover who left the note, and then find them. Simple... But once they start digging, the suspects pile up. And as the trio chase a villain through the shadows, danger travels closer to home... Between Italy and Palm Springs, via Barcelona and Steve's village pub, can the team catch an elusive killer who knows exactly where to hide?

The Big Cats Dance Party by **Alexander McCall Smith** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series*. "I am a fortunate woman to have such an eventful life," observes Mma Ramotswe of the No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency. Perhaps, but there are times when rather too much seems to be happening, and a quieter life might seem rather attractive. This latest despatch from Botswana is certainly full of events, even if it starts with a

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leisurely trip to buy a pair of shoes as a birthday present for Mr J.L.B. Matekoni. As often happens in Mma Ramotswe's world, one thing leads to another, and we are soon caught up in an ill-thought-out plan hatched by Charlie, junior mechanic and trainee detective. Charlie has met up with two rising stars of the local musical world—jazz players known to their public as Lion and Leopard. He is keen to plan a big event with them, even though Mma Makutsi sees nothing but disaster ahead. Mma Ramotswe would like to keep an eye on the situation, but she has to go up north, to the wilds of the Okavango Delta, where her friends at an elephant sanctuary are battling with a campaign being waged against them. Mma Ramotswe's help is needed, and, of course, is given with all the generosity of spirit that illuminates the character of this most beloved of lady detectives. A happy ending? Of course.

Vera Wong's Guide to Snooping (On a Dead Man) by **Jesse Q. Sutanto** (B Paperback—\$27). *Vera Wong Series*. Ever since a man was found dead in Vera's teahouse, life has been good. For Vera, that is. She's surrounded by loved ones, her shop is bustling, and best of all, her son, Tilly, has a girlfriend! All thanks to Vera, because Tilly's girlfriend is none other than Officer Selena Gray. The very same Officer Gray that she had harassed while investigating the teahouse murder. Still, Vera wishes more dead bodies would pop up in her shop, but one mustn't be ungrateful, even if one is slightly... bored... Then Vera comes across a distressed young woman who is obviously in need of her kindly guidance. The young woman is looking for a missing friend. Fortunately, while cat-sitting at Tilly and Selena's, Vera finds a treasure trove: Selena's briefcase. Inside is a file about the death of an enigmatic influencer—who also happens to be the friend that the young woman was looking for... Online, Xander had it all: a parade of private jets, fabulous parties with socialites, and a burgeoning career as a social media influencer. The only problem is, after his body is fished out of Mission Bay, the police can't seem to actually identify him. Who is Xander Lin? Nobody knows. Every contact is a dead end. Everybody claims not to know him, not even his parents... Vera is determined to solve Xander's murder. After all, doing so would surely be a big favour to Selena, and there is nothing she wouldn't do for her future daughter-in-law.

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Dead Beat by **Leigh Bardugo** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Ninth House Trilogy*. Hell is empty and all the devils are here... Alex Stern made it to hell and back more than once, but this time she left the door open behind her. Demons are creeping through the streets of New Haven and the Yale campus, feeding on the souls of the living, terrifying the dead. Alex and her allies can hunt them, but it's only a matter of time before the gates to the underworld open and they face a war they cannot win. To stop it, they'll have to reach deep into the secrets of Yale and its societies, and discover the truth hidden in Alex's own blood... While she struggles to hold onto the dream of a future Yale once offered, Alex must contend with the machinations of a corrupt Lethe Board and a deadly vampire with his own connection to the societies. But for the first time in her life, she won't have to face the fight alone. Dawes, Turner, Mercy, and even Tripp

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will have a role to play, none more so than Alex's mentor Darlington, the golden boy who lived so long in her head, now back in the flesh and cursed with dangerous powers of his own. Hell itself is stalking the delegates of Lethe House, and they're all about to learn that demons don't play by human rules.

A Ruin of Roses by **K.F. Breene** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Deliciously Dark Fairytales Series*. I could save him, but he would ruin me... The beast. The creature that stalks the forbidden wood. The dragon prince. He has suffered a fate worse than death. We all have. A curse put upon us by the mad king... We are a kingdom locked in time. Shifters unable to feel our animals. Stuck here by a deal between the late king and a demon who seeks our destruction... The only one keeping this kingdom alive is Nyfain, the golden prince to a stolen throne. The last dragon shifter. He's our hope. He's my nightmare... When he catches me trespassing in the forbidden wood, he doesn't punish me with death, as he's entitled. He takes me, instead. Forces me back to the castle as his prisoner. Seeks to use me. Apparently, I can save him. I can save the whole forgotten kingdom, locked away by the demon king's power... But it would mean taming the monster beneath his skin. It would mean giving myself to him... It would mean my ruin.

The Incendiary by **L.J. Claren** (B Paperback—\$27). *Selvaren Series*. They thought she was powerless. Now she is unstoppable... Everything that Ary thought she knew was a lie... She has been caged and controlled, lied to by the ones she loved. Now she is free—with dangerous magic waking in her veins. They say she is destined to lead an army against a rising darkness. They say the man she loves is dangerous—that she will never see him again. But Ary is done listening to what they say. She will choose her own destiny... It's time for her to burn...

Runebreaker by **Mila Finch** (Royal Paperback—\$30). *Dragon Heirs Series*. An impossible power. A fathomless hatred. A bond that could unravel worlds... Aelie can break runes with her bare hands, shattering the magic at the heart of fae society. They hate her for it, fear her for it, and, when they finally capture her, sentence her to die for it... Desperate to survive, Aelie severs the rune enslaving her executioner—Kairos, a devastatingly handsome fae with a blood-soaked past... The moment he's freed, Kairos slaughters the entire court. Then he drags Aelie to his kingdom, a realm of towering forests and shimmering mists... Bound to the ruthless king she freed, Aelie is thrown into the deadly politics of the fae courts. To survive, she must master her forbidden power and resist the fae who sees her as his greatest weapon... and darkest obsession.

The Demon Overlord's Retirement Plan by **M.H. Foster** (B Paperback—\$27). *Gentle Apocalypse Series*. When destroying the world and killing the hero grows boring, what's a Demon Overlord to do but quit while he's ahead? Begin the conquest of ordinary life today! Galornus Prime was the Scourge of Nations, Ender of Hope, and Master of the Cardinal Sins. He has done everything worth doing. Some of it more than once. His retirement plan was perfect: get a goat, farm quietly, and avoid accidentally conquering anything. Evil never sleeps... but it does plant turnips... What the plan didn't include is soul-crushing town halls, after-school

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combat lessons with children, and a war with perhaps his most worthy nemesis yet: the rose-growing, seventy-three-year-old widow next door... When corrupt officials and greedy merchants threaten his infuriatingly loveable neighbours, Galornus faces his greatest challenge yet: saving his village without revealing he's the very monster parents invoke to make children eat their vegetables.

The Mirror of Infinite Endings by **Stephanie Garber** (Royal Paperback—Illustrated Companion Novella—\$29). *Once Upon a Broken Heart Series*. Jacks and Evangeline Fox have finally found their happily ever after... Everything here in the Hollow is wonderful and perfect. Nothing is going to go wrong. No one is keeping a secret... except for maybe one. But don't worry, it's not going to rewrite reality or alter history or change the ending of Jacks and Evangeline's story. Definitely not.

The Knave and the Moon by **Rachel Gillig** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Stonewater Kingdom Series*. Aisling Cathedral is in ruins. Rodrick Myndacious, Bartholomew and Maude Bauer are rumoured to be dead—and the king has taken Sybil Delling as his bride. To show off their union and solidify his power over Traum, Benji proposes a series of tournaments throughout the hamlets. Captive and drugged, Sybil remains determined to vanquish him as she once did the Omens, even if she destroys the kingdom's faith—and herself—in the process... But then a mysterious knave rises to the top of the lists, a man with no name and no memory who may just be Sybil's ticket to undoing Benji's power. For in a land where stories repeat themselves, where a king can prove as cruel as a god, the only way to truly destroy the Stonewater Kingdom's faith is to save it.

Big Bad Wolf by **Laurie Gilmore** (B Paperback—\$27). *Maple Hollow Series*. The darker the woods, the bigger the secrets... Ruby Bellerose lives on the edge of the woods, in a cottage more akin to a fairy tale than modern day life. Her love life is practically non-existent, and she keeps away from the whispered gossip that travels through Maple Hollow... Until a chance encounter with Rafe... As mysterious as he is brooding, Ruby is drawn to the woodsman, curious to find out about the stranger who lives deep within the woods... But Rafe is hiding a secret. And with something lurking in the shadowy forest, will Ruby find that Rafe is her knight in shining armour, or something altogether more dangerous...

Cursed City by **Kate Golden** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Harker Academy Series*. Welcome back to Harker Academy for Deviant Defense, where the line between hunter and hunted has never been thinner... Viv Abbot will do whatever it takes to rescue Reid Graveheart, the reformed Brood demon she loves—even if it means teaming up with his violent, unpredictable older brother, Deacon. Her uneasy truce with him offers Viv something Reid never could: the chance to embrace her darkness... As the search for Reid intensifies, Viv and her friends must maintain appearances on Harker grounds while wading into Astera's seedy underbelly with none other than the White Stag as their guide. But when a bounty on Viv's head puts those she cares about in danger, Viv will be forced to go to lengths she never dreamed in order to protect them... With enemies closing in from all sides and a ticking clock on her

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life, Viv must save the Half City from destruction while surviving a betrayal that strikes at the heart of everything she's fighting for. Because in a world where monsters wear familiar faces and temptation cuts deeper than any blade, making it through her second semester at Harker will take more than skill—it will take everything Viv has left to give. Who can she really trust in a city that thrives on lies?

The Wretched Divine by **Adalyn Grace** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Wretched Divine Series*. Aurelie Chantelune was born to serve. Raised as a knight in a kingdom ravaged by demons, she's spent her life honing her blade, driven by the memory of the monsters who tore her family apart and by the knowledge that she's one of the few who can stop them... If Aurelie can claim her first kill, she'll inherit a legacy passed down through the Chantelune bloodline: a soulbond with Yurriel, an angel whose power is vital to her kingdom's survival. But when those she loves begin turning into the very monsters she's sworn to destroy, Aurelie is forced to seek help from the last place she ever imagined. Desperate, she forges a second and far more dangerous bond with Severin, a demon she can hardly trust, but who claims to know how to end the war for good... With their lives and fates entwined, Aurelie, Yurriel, and Severin must team up to hunt down a cure capable of turning demons back into humans. But the more they learn about one another and the deeper their relationships grow, the more Aurelie begins to question the war and her place in it. With both of her bonded on opposing sides, she'll have to make a choice: continue to stand with the angels, or risk everything by trusting a demon.

Bound and Unbound by **Ali Hazelwood** (B Paperback—Novella Duology—\$27).

Bound: A reluctant con artist and a professor with too many secrets are bound by an arcane text—in more ways than one... Veronica "Vero" Mercer grew up with grifters for parents, and she knows her way around a con. When grad school bills pile up and her friends are in trouble, she turns her art history skills into a forgery side hustle, but her work draws the attention of Dr. Viktor Ashworth, a reserved, very British professor. Instead of turning her in, Ashworth kidnaps her—politely—and makes an unusual offer: forge a mysterious ancient manuscript for him... Soon Vero finds herself spending long nights with Viktor, bent over rare vellum samples and obscure inks. But as the con grows riskier, Vero has to wonder: what does Viktor really want, and why can't she stay away?

Unbound: A five-thousand-year-old woman who has outlived empires. A doctor who has spent his life fighting death. Their fates collide in a blood game of vengeance... Lilit of Nineveh has spent millennia in control. As a powerful revenant, she enforces one rule above all: protect mortals. Disciplined and focused, she has never made the same mistake twice, and she has learned that attachments only lead to ruin... Enter Roman Martin. An overworked and relentlessly kind ER physician, he is the one mortal Lilit cannot quit. Any relationship between them is against everything Lilit has fought for. Still, she keeps coming back to him... Until someone starts hunting Lilit, and Roman is caught in the crossfire. When everything comes crashing down,

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Lilit must choose between the world she has sworn to protect and the man she was never meant to love.

Unpredictable Magic by **Faith Hunter** (US Trade Paperback—\$43). *Everhart Investigations Series*. Witches Angelina Everhart-Trueblood and her brother Evan run Everhart Investigations, a PI firm in Chattanooga that solves paranormal crimes committed by supernatural beings. When their new client wants help finding her friend, who supposedly disappeared during a reception at Angie's aunt Jane's winter residence, things get... complicated... The client is not who she appears to be, and demons strike the city for the first time since the Witch War. On top of that, evidence is pointing toward the involvement of an overly ambitious vampire—who happens to be Angie's ex-husband... As Angie and Evan team up with CPD, they will have to dig deep into their magical reserves—and rely on some friends in high places—to rid Chattanooga of the danger creeping into their city.

Daggerbound by **T. Kingfisher** (B Paperback—\$27). *LGBTQ+. Swordheart Series*. Learned Edmund, a disillusioned scholar, is transporting yet another precious relic from one stuffy temple to a different stuffy temple. Another great adventure for the ages... But when Edmund is set upon by bandits, in desperation, he breaks the cardinal rule and grabs for the relic, an ancient sword. To his surprise, instead of unsheathing a rusty, ancient weapon, an alarmingly handsome man appears, wielding daggers of blue steel and cutting the thieves down... This man is the Dervish, an immortal warrior who's been trapped for centuries in a sword of enchanted steel, and is angry as hell about it. He hates the curse that put him there, and he wants to hate Edmund, just as he has hated every wielder before him... But the damned scholar is just so sweet and clever and kind. And while the Dervish may be able to protect Edmund from bandits, cultists, dragons, and strange inhuman diplomats, he may find it much harder to protect his own heart.

The Awakening by **Caroline Peckham & Susanne Valenti** (US Trade Paperback—\$48). *Zodiac Academy Series*. I'm a Gemini. Impulsive. Curious. Headstrong. A twin. Heir to a throne I know nothing about. And it turns out, I'm Fae... But of course there's a catch—all I have to do to claim my birthright is prove that I'm the most powerful supernatural in the whole of Solaria. And sure, technically that's true as I'm the daughter of the Savage King. But every single Fae in this Kingdom would claim my throne if they could... The school they've sent me to is both dangerous as sh*t and one helluva party. Vampires bite weaker students in the corridors, the Werewolf pack has orgies in the Wailing Wood at every full moon and don't even get me started on the dark and twisted ways the Sirens use their powers on people's emotions, or how my sinfully tempting Cardinal Magic teacher hosts detentions that leave people needing therapy... Classes are totally interesting if you manage to live through them. And that Gemini star sign I mentioned? It now determines my elemental magic and affects my destiny, so learning astrology is essential if I'm going to beat down my classmates—which is actively encouraged by the way... My biggest problem is the drool-worthy Dragon shifter

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who has his eyes on my throne. He and his three psycho friends are determined to make my time here hell... All I've got to do is survive. But fate might have other ideas... Dammit, why couldn't I have gotten a letter to Hogwarts?

The Double Life of Ariana Mabel by **Georgia Rose** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$30). *NZ Author*.

How can you exist in two places at once?... Ariana Mabel lives a double life—literally. As a human, she is just a quiet, ordinary young woman. But in the fantasy-like world of Syrinia, she is special. She is unique. She is a “Duplicate,” a remarkable occurrence where a soul is split in two, one part living as a human on Earth, the other part existing in Syrinia, a separate, coexisting world kept secret from humans. Ariana experiences the ups and downs of human life while simultaneously existing in a beautiful, immortal world. Feeling like she doesn't belong in the human world, Ariana immerses herself in Syrinia, the one place where she can truly be herself... There are times when Ariana begins to wonder whether Syrinia is real or something that exists only in her mind. But she desperately holds on to her favoured world where she can be with the boy she loves... Syrinia has been a safe haven for its inhabitants since its existence until one day, strange and unsettling things start to happen in what is meant to be a perfect world. In order to save the one place she can truly call home, Ariana must enlist the help of the boy she has known for the entirety of one life, yet never met in the other.

Free Falling by **Lyla Sage** (B Paperback—\$27).

Sweetwater Peak Series. Old haunts, new feelings... Clarke Cartwright probably needed to get out more. She just had a lot to do. Running Toade's Antiques was no small feat, especially considering that the roof was in shambles and half her merchandise was unsellable. But dealing with that felt easier than her other two options: third-wheeling with her best friend... again, or chatting it up with the ghost of her childhood crush's father, who just can't seem to leave her alone... Leith Wilkes has spent his life preparing to take over his family's farm. Well, he's actually spent most of his life flirting, but now he's ready to buckle down, which has nothing to do with an oddly specific clause that his dad left in his inheritance. Leith is pretty sure he's the only one who knows about it... until Clarke drunkenly spills that she knows, too, along with a bunch of other Wilkes family secrets... Leith starts to wonder if there's more to Clarke than she lets on... and if his dad has something to do with it. And if she is keeping secrets of her own, maybe she won't mind helping him with his.

Between Two Kings by **Lindsay Straube** (B Paperback—\$27). *Split or Swallow Series*. Tem never thought she'd fall in love. But now she's caught between the Serpent King and the newly crowned human king... And the war that is brewing between the basilisks and the humans... Tem led a simple life on the family chicken farm, but now, her eyes had been opened—to love, to lust, to the pull of power, gold, obligation, and the violence of greed and war... When Tem embraced her basilisk half and crested Leo, she thought she'd set him free. Though it nearly broke her, now he could find his

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first love again, and she could be happy with Caspen... But love is complicated. As much as Tem embraces her serpent side, rules and loopholes keep her beholden to Leo... despite her marriage to Caspen... And as it becomes clearer that her decision may not be so simple, their desire continues to smoulder... and if one tinder flickers into flame, it could set the entire kingdom on fire.

Bedeveled by **Laura Thalassa** (B Paperback—\$27).

Bewitched Series. “My queen, my wife, my lovely Selene... You who saved me, died for me. Waited eons for me so we could exist in this moment... I am yours forever”... It's been two thousand years since Selene Bowers first fell in love with Memnon Uvagukis, the sorcerer king of the Sarmatians. So when, at present, an unbreakable vow forces Selene to marry this soul mate she once died for, it is in many ways a dream made real... Unfortunately for her, neither she nor Memnon is able to bask in the moment for long. Not when demons keep ambushing her, and her husband's magic appears to slowly be consuming him. And not when, despite eliminating the prior threats to Henbane, the coven still teeters on the brink of shutting down... And then of course there's Eislyn, an age-old menace who lurks somewhere in the shadows. She led to Selene and Memnon's demise long ago, and now she threatens their existence once more. It seems she wants something from them, something she's been waiting millennia for, and if Memnon and Selene don't figure out what that is and stop her for good, she just might get it—and destroy them in the process.

Lover Enthroned by **J.R. Ward** (Royal Paperback—\$35). *Black Dagger Brotherhood Series*.

A Hidden Past: Allhan, a computer genius who works for the Brotherhood, has a deadly secret. Torn between what he must do, and his increasing attachment to Vishous, he's not looking for any more complications in his life. He's not going to survive the one he has.

A Royal Future: Princess Dennesha, heir to the throne of the Shadows, is a live and let die kind of female. At least until she finds herself tangling in the destiny of a human—even though it goes against every instinct of hers and all common sense.

A Terrible Choice: When Allhan and Denne meet by chance, their passion is undeniable. But a rare astrological event triggers a crossroads for the Princess. Either mate a male she doesn't love and assume the throne, or stay true to her heart and condemn the Territory to destruction. With Allhan fighting his conscience—and a lesser who's after Wrath and the Brothers—can the two find a way out of their fates? Or are they doomed to grieve a love that could never be for eternity...

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Duchess in Diamonds by **Jennifer Ashley** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$36). *Satin and Silk Series*.

Eamon Stone, Hayden McCormick, and Dominic Wolfe have survived everything together—from a brutal schoolboy existence to deadly missions against Napoleon. Stranded behind enemy lines at Waterloo, they make a pact: if they live through the day, each will try to settle down and marry, leaving the last bachelor standing the loser of their wager... No one expects Eamon Stone, son of a disgraced

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swindler, to fall in love first, least of all Eamon himself... London, 1816... When Eamon calls on the widowed Duchess of Aylesmore to assess her late husband's art collection, he hardly imagines she'll be young, lovely, and in desperate straits. Caro Aylesmore, raising her nine-year-old son alone and drowning in her husband's debts, hopes the paintings will save them... Dragged across Europe by his trickster father, Eamon learned all about art, including frauds and forgeries. He hates disappointing the late duke's beautiful second wife—so much so that he impulsively offers to search the entire house for anything of value... He's not certain why he's being so gallant. But Caro's quiet resilience reaches him in ways he can't explain, and young Leo, the new duke, is already finding a place in Eamon's heart... Caro faces more than stern debt collectors. Her husband's ambitious nephew aims to claim Leo for himself, and is all too eager to expose Eamon as the fraud he once was. If scandal touches Caro, she could lose her beloved son to a man who covets the title more than the boy... As Caro falls for the disarming Eamon, she faces an impossible choice: her heart, or her son's future... Eamon may have to sacrifice his own happiness to keep her safe—even if it means losing the wager and his heart.

Sinfully Wed by **Kathleen Ayers** (US Trade Paperback—\$34). *The Five Deadly Sins Series*. Odessa doesn't want to wed a gentleman with a title. But Jordan Sinclair isn't a gentleman, he's slightly savage and lacking in manners. Barely an earl. He's a Deadly Sin... Jordan Sinclair, the new Earl of Emerson, finds himself in a precarious position. His older half-brother left the estate and Jordan drowning in debt. He's been given a choice. Marry Odessa Whitehall, daughter of the very man who holds all of Jordan's markers or become destitute... Shunned by the ton her entire life, Odessa has no interest in marrying a foppish lord just to please her ambitious father. She makes herself as undesirable as possible to each potential suitor which forces them to beg off. However, none of Odessa's clever tactics have worked against the Earl of Emerson. He refuses to be dissuaded... Navigating a courtship neither of them wants, Jordan and Odessa find themselves drawn to each other. Will their mutual distrust push them apart or can they allow their attraction to each other to blossom into something else?

The Governess's Guide to Spells and Managing Misfit Marquesses by **Amy Rose Bennett** (US Trade Paperback—\$39). *Parasol Academy Series*. Hermina Davenport can hardly believe the audacious exploit she is about to attempt. To protect an orphaned young viscount, the prim and proper governess feels she has no choice but to break the rules of the Parasol Academy Handbook! When the lad's guardian, a ruthlessly ambitious explorer, ensorcelled by the evil Fae Queen, spirits him away on a dangerous North Pole expedition, Mina employs an invisibility spell to snatch him from the ship. But a magical misfire whisks Mina and her charge onto a different vessel, that of a ruggedly handsome Irishman—a strapping prizefighter from Dublin's backstreets—and Mina finds she's at sea in more ways than one... Phineas O'Connell, Lord Kinsale, can no more explain the

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arrival of this English Rose than he can adapt to his newly inherited title—though his disgruntled pet pug clearly has “thoughts” about the fair stowaway. But their enchanted encounter sparks an irresistible offer: Phinn enlists the polished Miss Davenport to transform this misfit marquess into a mannered gentleman ready for his seat in Parliament. No magic required, just enticingly intimate lessons in etiquette and elocution to smooth his rough edges and help him manage his stammer... But when enemies—both earthly and supernatural, past and present—threaten, a confrontation begins, where Mina's nondescript umbrella is just one of her powerful weapons...

Ethan by **Grace Burrowes** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$31). *Lonely Lords Series*. At the age of fourteen, Ethan Grey was banished by his titled father into a hell his legitimate siblings never learned of. Now that the old earl is dead, and Ethan is a widower with two children to raise, he finds himself attracted to Alice Portman, the boys' scholarly, reserved governess. Alice also has a shadowed past, and she and Ethan must face the demon haunting them both if they're to win their chance for a happily ever after.

The Duke Who Took the Bet by **Jill Darragh** (Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$22). *NZ Author. Dukes for Hire Series*. Romance author Lucy Smith, spinster and realist, is in dire need of a secretary. Her reclusive existence is hindering her writing, and she desperately needs advice on how to spice up her books... Brook Chalfont, Duke of Avendon, is known for his reputation as a rake and for being the owner of the infamous Wildwood Club. Constantly searching for new challenges, he has grown weary of his usual indulgences in debauchery and seduction. When his nemesis Graydon Fanshaw presents him with a wager, Brook accepts, unaware that it will significantly alter his perspective on women and ignite a new sense of purpose within him.

Seeking Persephone by **Sarah M. Eden** (US Trade Paperback—\$43). *Lancaster Family Series*. When Persephone Lancaster receives a marriage proposal from the ill-tempered Duke of Kielder, she refuses—and then reconsiders. The obscene sum of money he's offering Persephone would save her family from ruin. With her characteristic optimism, she travels to the far reaches of Northumberland to wed a greatly feared stranger. Lodged deep in a thick forest infested with wild dogs, the Duke's castle is as cold and forbidding as the Duke himself, a man with terrible scars on his body and his soul. But the Duke's steely determination to protect his heart at all costs is challenged by his growing attachment to his lovely and gentle bride. With caring persistence, Persephone attempts to pierce the Duke's armour and reach the man beneath. Yet he cannot tolerate such exposure, and his repeated rejections take their toll. But when grave danger arises, the Duke realises he must face the risk of revealing his true feelings or lose the woman he cannot live without.

Better Than a Duke by **Suzanne Enoch** (US Trade Paperback—\$43). Arranging a marriage between a proper, lordly bachelor and his free-spirited neighbour may need more than just Cupid's arrows... Fortunately their two enterprising children are ready to play matchmakers... Beckett Raines,

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the Marquis of Hentrose, needs a mother for his young daughter Rebecca, so he's resigned to enduring London's Season to find a suitable wife. Beckett is determined to wed for practicality rather than love, and he thinks he's found the perfect, proper woman for the job... But when his new next-door neighbour Iris Silbern bursts into his London home in pursuit of her mischievous son Edmund, his careful plans fly out the window. Her energy, sharp wit, and humour charm him, but she is anything but proper. Meanwhile, Iris's relations are encouraging a match with a wealthy, crotchety duke—an answer to her financial troubles, if not her romantic dreams... Rebecca and Edmund have no patience for practical plans, not when the perfect father and mother are right in front of them. With only one Season to summon Cupid, can they bring their parents together before they trudge to their separate, sensible altars? But will their schemes show Beckett how perfect imperfection can be? And will Iris see that her reliable neighbour may not be a duke, but something much better?

Lady Farah Creates a Scandal by **Bronwen Evans**

(Print-On-Demand Paperback—\$39). *NZ Author. Season of Secrets Series*. How do you create a scandal? Lady Farah Perrin, younger sister of the Duke of Blackstone, has earned the nickname 'timid mouse' because as the only daughter, she's been brought up to be the demure, perfect ton diamond. But when her overbearing, stuffy brother announces she is to marry the odious Lord Franklin, the timid mouse is replaced by the sly fox. Publicly challenging the duke won't work. However, creating a scandal that cannot be ignored is very achievable. Now all she has to do is ascertain which of the current London rakes will unwittingly aid in her plan... How do you avoid temptation? Lord Rockwell Ware, the younger brother of the Marquess of Wolfarth, loathes being known as 'the spare'. If that's how he's viewed, he'll enjoy living his life on his own terms, amassing a fortune, taking on many wagers or dares, and doing whatever he bloody well pleases. It appears someone else lives life on her own terms—Farah. His best friend's soon-to-be-betrothed little sister begins sending him private missives of the most intimate nature. He should hand them to Blackstone to deal with, but as each note arrives, he finds himself falling further into temptation... Yet, Rockwell soon learns, every wicked game has its price.

A Deal at Dawn by **Vanessa Riley** (US Trade Paperback—\$39). *Betting Against the Duke Series*. Katherine Wilcox Palmers, the Viscountess of Hampton, has lost custody of the daughter she secretly bore to Jahleel Charles, now the Duke of Torrance. The bitter court ruling was engineered by the duke himself, but now he is gravely ill. If he dies, Katherine, branded a scandalous bigamist by her late husband's vengeful family, may never see her child again—unless she makes a bold offer... Desperate, Katherine swallows her pride and proposes that she will nurse Jahleel back to health, serve his every need, and keep up appearances, on one condition: he will secure her a respectable husband to silence society's gossip. In private, she will be his mistress... But Jahleel has plans of his own. Pressured to produce an heir, he resolves to marry someone else.

Historical & Regency Romance continued

The hereditary blood sickness that plagues them both means Katherine can never be his bride again—no matter how fiercely their old passions reignite... As dangerous forces gather, composed of those who would erase their child from the peerage for her mixed heritage, Jahleel and Katherine must confront the betrayals and deceptions that tore them apart. To protect their daughter, and fight for the future they were denied, they must jeopardise everything. Especially their hearts.

Fairest of Them All by **Amy Sandas** (US Trade Paperback—\$37). *Fairchild Cousins Series*. A beautiful princess. A charming adventurer. And a cursed treasure... Phineas Coulter, the Viscount Waring, lives for adventure in distant lands. When family obligation requires his return to London, he unexpectedly finds himself entangled in a mystery of danger... and desire. To save a friend, he must unravel the secrets of a priceless Indian artefact while protecting it from those desperate to claim it. At the centre of it all is a woman of fair and mythic beauty who could be the key to an ancient legend and a tragic curse. He's certain she has the answers he needs, if he could just get her to trust him... Born of a revered and illustrious family, Lady Eleanor Fairchild is expected to do great things. For a woman in her position, that means she must marry very, very well. Despite her renowned beauty and undeniable wealth, a frustrating affliction has resulted in her being deemed undesirable in the marriage market. When the dashing Lord Waring initiates a flirtation, she's certain his interest won't last... even though he seems to truly see her as no one else ever has. While he encourages her to explore her deepest desires, his possession of a mythical necklace of love and murder has her questioning her very purpose in the world... Will a curse of greed and obsession destroy them both, or can a tragic tale lost to time reunite fated lovers from across generations?

The Gilded Heiress by **Joanna Shupe** (US Trade Paperback—\$35). In 1880 a baby was stolen from the wealthiest family in America. Though no ransom was ever demanded, the Pendelton family never gave up hope... and their reward became the stuff of legend... After being raised in a children's asylum, Josie Smith ends up on the streets and quickly learns how to take care of herself. Her singing voice draws crowds on every corner, and she'll stop at nothing to become famous and travel the world, loved and adored by all. Maybe then she won't think about the family who gave her away as an infant... Leo Hardy isn't afraid to use his charm and wits to make a fast buck, especially with a mother and five siblings to support. When he stumbles upon a beautiful young woman singing on the street, Leo notices her striking resemblance to the infamous missing baby's mother, Mrs. Thomas Pendelton. The Hardys lost everything thanks to the Pendeltons, and once Leo sees Josie, he seizes the opportunity to settle the score. All he needs to do is pull off the biggest swindle of his career... As the two are catapulted into Knickerbocker High Society, they grow closer to their goal, as well as to each other. But secrets can only stay hidden for so long. Soon the truth unfolds, and both Josie and Leo must separate what's real from what's just gilding.

Summary of This Catalogue's Books

Author	Title	Classification	Price
Jennifer Ashley	Duchess in Diamonds*	Historical	\$36
Kathleen Ayers	Sinfully Wed*	Historical	\$34
Leigh Bardugo	Dead Beat*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Amy Rose Bennett	The Governess's Guide to Spells and Managing Misfit Marquesses*	Historical	\$39
Ashley Herring Blake	Take a Chance, Sasha Sinclair	Contemporary	\$29
Hannah Bonam-Young	Set the Record Straight (Novella)	Contemporary	\$25
K.F. Breene	A Ruin of Roses*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Grace Burrowes	Ethan*	Historical	\$31
Eva Camden	Pretender*	Contemporary	\$30
L.J. Claren	The Incendiary	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
Penn Cole	Burn of the Everflame*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$36
Jill Darragh	The Duke Who Took the Bet*	Historical	\$22
Maddie Day	Murder at Cape Costumers	Crime/Mystery/Thriller	\$24
Penelope Douglas	Midnight Curfew	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
Sarah M. Eden	Seeking Persephone*	Historical	\$43
Suzanne Enoch	Better Than a Duke*	Historical	\$43
Bronwen Evans	Lady Farah Creates a Scandal*	Historical	\$39
Christine Feehan	Frost and Venom*	Crime/Mystery/Thriller	\$35
Mila Finch	Runebreaker*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$30
M.H. Foster	The Demon Overlord's Retirement Plan	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
Stephanie Garber	The Mirror of Infinite Endings (Illustrated Novella)*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$29
Rachel Gillig	The Knave and the Moon*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Laurie Gilmore	Big Bad Wolf	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
Kate Golden	Cursed City*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Adalyn Grace	The Wretched Divine*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Ali Hazelwood	Bound and Unbound (Novella Duology)	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
Talia Hibbert	The Princess Trap	Contemporary	\$27
Steffanie Holmes	You're So Vein (Sprayed Edges)*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$36
Faith Hunter	Unpredictable Magic*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$43
Rina Kent	Steel Princess	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
Rina Kent	Twisted Kingdom	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
Sadie Kincaid	Dante	Contemporary/Suspense	\$25
T. Kingfisher	Daggerbound	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
Harley LaRoux	Losers: Part Two (Sprayed Edges)*	Contemporary	\$42
Freida McFadden	The Surrogate Mother	Crime/Mystery/Thriller	\$27
Richard Osman	We Chase Shadows*	Crime/Mystery/Thriller	\$35
Libby Page	This Book Made Me Think of You*	Contemporary	\$35
Caroline Peckham & Susanne Valenti	The Awakening*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$48
Jessica Peterson	Colt	Contemporary	\$27
Meghan Quinn	Just for the Plot	Contemporary	\$27
Vanessa Riley	A Deal at Dawn*	Historical	\$39
Leigh Rivers	Psychotic Obsession	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
J.D. Robb	Fury in Death*	Crime/Mystery/Thriller	\$35
Elliott Rose	Taming the Heart (Sprayed Edges)	Contemporary	\$27
Georgia Rose	The Double Life of Ariana Mabel*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$30
Karen Rose	The One Who Walked Away*	Contemporary/Suspense	\$35
Shain Rose	In the Dark	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
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Lyla Sage	Free Falling	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$27
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Amy Sandas	Fairest of Them All*	Historical	\$37
Lucy Score	The Fine Art of Faking It	Contemporary	\$26
L.J. Shen	Fallen Rook	Contemporary/Suspense	\$27
Joanna Shupe	The Gilded Heiress*	Historical	\$35
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J.R. Ward	Lover Enthroned*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$35
Rebecca Yarros	Threshing Day (Sprayed Edges; S.E. Hardcover)*	Fantasy & Paranormal	\$50

* Hardcover/TPB/POD

& Anthology

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