

Who Done It?

Volume 22 Issue 5

May-June 2019



Rachel Howzell Hall

What's Next
June 24

Lou Berney
Rachael Howzell-Hall

July 22
Sidekicks

August 26
Maine, Vermont
and New Hampshire

September 23
Laurie King and
Marc Cameron

Oct 28
Jeffery Deaver
J.A. Jance

November 23
1st time authors in 2019

December 23 or 30?
Christmas short stories

Vital Details

Meeting Time
2 PM except for special
events,

Meeting Day
4th Mon. except on holidays

Meeting Place -
Community Room of YLPL

Location -
18181 Imperial Highway
Yorba Linda, CA

News Editor
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All author information can be
found by googling the au-
thor's name on the internet.

Rachel was born in Los Angeles, California fifteen days after Paul McCartney announced the split of the Beatles. As a child, she kept a pen in her hand, writing everywhere in notebooks, on loose-leaf paper, in her big brothers prep-school yearbook and on the back of church bulletins. But never on walls, buildings or freeway overpasses. That is graffiti.

For four years, she lived in the forest at UC Santa Cruz. There, she received a degree in English and American Literature, and helped to charter the Pi Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Incorporated. She lives with her husband and daughter in L.A.

Detective Elouise Norton

1. Land of Shadows (2014) Along the ever-changing border of gentrifying Los Angeles, a seventeen-year-old girl is found dead at a construction site, hanging in the closet of an unfinished condominium.
2. Skies of Ash (2015) Los Angeles homicide detective Elouise "Lou" Norton arrives at the scene of a tragic house fire, to find the bodies of a mother and two children.
3. Trail of Echoes (2016) On a rainy spring day in Los Angeles, homicide detective Elouise "Lou" Norton is called away from a rare lunch date to Bonner Park, where the body of thirteen-year-old Chanita Lords has been discovered.
4. City of Saviors (2017) After a long Labor Day weekend, seventy-three-year-old Eugene Washington is found dead in his Leimert Park home.

Novels

A Quiet Storm (2002)

The View from Here (2010)

No One Knows You're Here (2014)

They All Fall Down (2019) -Delighted by a surprise invitation, Miriam Macy sails off to a luxurious private island off the coast of Mexico, with six strangers - an ex-cop, a chef, a financial advisor, a nurse, a lawyer, and a young widow.

Inside you will find...

What we read	Page 2—4
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Lou Berney Reading list	Page 7
Lou Berney on his research for NOVEMBER ROAD	Page 8

Reader's Reports April 2019

Pam

Burell, Teresa - THE ADVOCATE -2.00 - Not my type of reading!

Preston & Child - VERSES FOR THE DEAD (Pendergast Series) - 3.75

Pendergast and his new teammate are assigned to Miami Beach, where a rash of killings by a psychopath is distinguished by a confounding modus operandi - cutting out the hearts of his victims and leaving them, along with cryptic handwritten letters at local graveyards..

Preston & Child THE PHAROAH KEY (Gideon Crew Series) -3.75

Gideon Crew and Manuel Garza (employees of engineering company) on their last day of work, find that a code-breaking has cracked translation of a centuries-old tablet - the Phai-tos Disk, The two agree to solve the mystery of the Disk and split the spoils.

Lupica, Mike (Robert B Parker) - BLOOD FEUD (Sunny Randall Series) - 2.75

When her ex-husband is shot and his assailant references the sins of the father, Sunny finds herself targeted by the mastermind of the plot against the family.

Woods, Stuart - DESPERATE MEASURES (Stone Barrington Series) - 3.25 -

Barrington meets a beautiful woman whom he feels is a perfect candidate to meet his professional and personal needs. Before long he is put to the test of protecting her when New York City is rocked by a series of crimes and he feels she might be the next target.

Susan

Willig, Lauren - THE ENGLISH WIFE - DNF

Wallflower sister forms a partnership with a reporter to find the truth behind the apparent suicide and death of her brother and sister in law. Did not like the slow pace and abundance of restrictions on women in Edwardian society.

Hillerman, Tony - FLY ON THE WALL 3.0

Not a Chee/Leaphorn book. I knew that going in but remembered reading this book years ago. Years ago it was better. Now I found it hugely boring.

Box, C J - WOLF PACK 5.0

The wolf pack, 4 killers working together, are after a man in the wit sec program, who happens to be the father of Joe's youngest daughter. Exciting page turner

Fluke, Joanne - CHOCOLATE CREAM PIE MURDER - 2.5
I think I am done with Hannah Swenson, owner of the Cookie Jar in Lake Eden, MN. Way too many recipes and

too much nonessential talking of making and service coffee and cookies. Barely 75 pages of a mystery in 346 pages.

Jance, J A - THE A LIST 4.75 stars

A fertility clinic owner who misled his clients is in prison partly because Ali helped publicize the issue. Now he wants revenge.

Karen

Nickless, Barbara - BLOOD ON THE TRACKS - #1 - 2016 - Denver - 4.0

Sydney Rose Parnell, a railroad cop (and returned vet) works with a K-9 dog, Clyde to find the killer of her mentor's niece. Evidence suggests a homeless rider of trains may be guilty. An incident from the war zone seems to have connections as well as the niece's humane work with the hobos who are being threatened by a biker gang.

Coben, Harlan - RUN AWAY - 2019 - NNYC - 4.25

Simon Greene, investment advisor, is determined to find and save his drug addicted daughter which leads him to working with a P.I. ;hunting for a missing son from a Chicago family. Drug dealers, cults, hired killers, and an adoption scheme. At least the hunted person is known to be alive and doesn't just appear in a photograph.

Harrison, Mette Evie - NOT OF THIS FOLD #4 - 2018 - 3.75

Linda is helping a younger woman deal with questions involving a Spanish speaking ward and a murder of a ;young mother who was afraid of her Church leader. Linda once again crosses too many legal lines as well as questioning the Mormon policies.

Hillerman, Anne - THE TALE TELLER - #5 - 2019 - 2.5

Leaphorn and Louisa are major players in this tale of missing items from a museum donation. Chee is on another case and Manuelito too. Heavy use of Leaphorn's affected speech due to previous was a disruptive factor to me. Also did not appear as well written as earlier books.

Kramer, Julie - SILENCING SAM - #3 - 2010 - 3.75

Riley Spartz, TV reporter, looks into the death of a gossip writer and also why winds mills are killing the bat population.

Box, C J - THE WOLF PACK- #19 - 2019 - 5.0

When a military size drone starts herding and terrorizing the herds of pronghorns, Joe has a case to investigate.. When information leads him to the father of his youngest daughter's boyfriend ... more complications arise.

Perry, Jo -DEAD IS BETTER -2016 - 3.0

Short chapters - each begun with quote from a famous person about death Charles Stone becomes conscious .With

(Continued on page 3)

the help of an equally dead Irish setter Charles begins the search for his killer. Score due to rather original plot device.

Leon. Donna - UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN - #28 - 2019 - 3.0

An elderly gay friend adopts a question younger man and intends to leave his entire wealth to...but then he dies and his close female friend from many years ago is murdered while planning a memorial for her friend. Guess who did it?

Burrell, Teresa - THE ADVOCATES GEOCACHE - 37 - 2015 - 3.25

Lots of details of hunting the geocache. When Sabre finds a death certificate dated a week later he begins the hunt and finds ties to her current child case. Spent some time questioning the inability to get a current paternity test.

Chitra

Winspear, Jacqueline THE AMERICAN AGENT - 2019 (Maisie Dobbs) 3.75

Cain, Sarah THE 8TH CIRCLE - 2016 A Danny Ryan Thriller 3.5

Finch, Charles THE VANISHING MAN 2019 A Charles Lenox Mystery 3.0

Balson, Ronald H. THE GIRL FROM BERLIN - 2018— 5

Scottoline, Lisa KEEP QUIET - 2014 3.75

Penny

Wiehl, Lis - THE CANDIDATE- 5.0

Mike Ortiz is a dynamic war hero favored to win the White House. Standing by his side is his glamorous and adoring wife, Celeste. But something about this seemingly perfect couple troubles Erica, a top rated cable-news host.. Is Celeste really who she seems? What really happened in that squalid Al-Qaeda prison where Mike Ortiz spent nine months?

Desilva, Bruce - CLIFF WALK -5.0

Prostitution has been legal in Rhode Island for more than a decade; Liam Mulligan, an old-school investigative reporter at dying Providence newspaper, suspects the governor has been taking payoffs to keep it that way. A child's severed arm is discovered in a pile of garbage at a pig farm. Then the body of an internet pornographer is found sprawled on the rocks at the base of Newport's famous Cliff Walk. Many twists and turns to the surprising end.

Baldacci, David - CHRISTMAS TRAIN - 4.0

Kienan, Denise - THE GIRLS OF ATOMIC CITY - 4.0
True history regarding women behind the bomb made during WWII

Lis Wiehl - HEART OF ICE - 5.0

The Triple Threat Club novels follow three fiercely intelligent

women-a TV reporter, a Federal prosecutor and an FBI agent-as they investigate crimes as current as today's headlines. Elizabeth Avery, a psychopath, is a flawless figure with friendly manipulative features. Very fast read.

Lis Wiehl - THE NEWSMAKERS - 5.0+

TV reporter Erica Sparks has become a superstar overnight. But is it due to her hard work and talent? Or is she at the center of a spiraling conspiracy? Erica is a beautiful and ambitious reporter who has just landed her dream job at Global News Network in New York. She leaves Jenny, her cherished eight-year-old daughter, in the custody of her ex-husband, Erica is determined to succeed in the cutthroat world of big-time broadcasting.

Thone

Box. C J - all the Joe Pickett series

OPEN SEASON -#1 - discovery of endangered weasel - 5.0

SAVAGE RUN - #2 - Cow blows up - 4.0

WINTERKILL - #3 - Foster daughter is kidnapped - 5.0

TROPHY HUNT - #4 - Nate teaches Sheridan falconry -3.0

OUT OF RANGE - #5 - Joe investigates death of game warden - 5.0

IN PLAIN SIGHT - #6 - Joe contends with Opal Scarlett's family - 5.0

FREE FIRE - #7 - Joe in Yellowstone in "free" kill area -5.0

BLOOD TRAIL - #8 - Poker chips left in deadmen - 5.0

BELOW ZERO - #9 - Joe learns foster daughter is alive - 5.0

NOWHERE TO RUN - #10 - Joe deals with the ""Grim Brothers"

COLD WIND - #11 - Joe's father-in-law is killed on a windmill - 5.0

FORCE OF NATURE - #12 - Nate's story

BREAKING POINT - #13 - Government rip off land owners

STONE COLD - #14 - Rich philanthropist kills those who need killing

ENDANGERED - #15 - Cowboy runs off with Joe's daughter - 5.0

OFF THE GRID - #16 - Action in desert area with Nate - 3.0

VICIOUS CIRCLE - #17 - Air Patrol and Joe search for missing man

THE DISAPPEARED - #18 - Famous British female executive is missing - 3.5

WOLF PACK - #19 - Name of group of hired killers

Bobbi

Eskens, Allen - THE LIFE WE BURY - 5.0

College student, Joe Talbert interviews a dying Vietnam vet

(Continued on page 4)

who has been released from prison for an assignment to write a biography of a stranger. Joe learns the man's history while dealing with his autistic brother and bi-polar mother.

McCrum, Sharyn - THE DEVIL AMONGST THE LAWYERS - 4.25

In 1935 a young teach is charged with killing her father. Big city reporters create stories while young local mountain reporter (Carl Jennings) wants to find the truth. Carl seeks help of cousin Nora, gifted with "the sight"

Ide, Joe - WRECKED - (I Q series #3) - 5.0

When a young painter approaches IQ for help tracking down her missing mother, the new client turns out to be connected to a dangerous paramilitary operation, IQ falls victim to a threat even a genius can't see coming.

Freedland, Dave - LINCOLN 9 - 4,5

Police officers from "America's Safest City," Irvine, California, discovered a gruesome homicide scene which established Bethany as the first in a series of murders that would ultimately span over two decades.

Freedland, Dave - THE PEPPER TREE - 3.5

Another young woman is found dead at the "Pepper Tree" and Lieutenant Scott Hunter uses his knowledge, skill and attention to detail to lead his team of detectives to identify the sociopath and provide answers for the family and friends of the young women gone missing

Cullen, Lynn - MRS. POE - 4.5

Inspired by literature's haunting love triangle, Lynn Cullen delivers a pitch-perfect rendering of Edgar Allan Poe, his mistress's tantalizing confession, and his wife's frightening obsession in this new historical fiction.

Kieran, Denise - THE GIRLS OF ATOMIC CITY (2013) - 4.5

Atomic-bomb history includes works about the communities of workers attached to the main installations where the first nuclear weapon was built. Kiernan's contribution covers Oak Ridge, Tennessee, site of enormous factories built to separate uranium isotopes. A type of oral history, Kiernan's account derives from her intensive interviews with 10 women who, in their youth, labored in a range of occupations at Oak Ridge, from janitor to machine operator to secretary to engineer.

Ingelman, Catharina - THE LITTLE OLD LADY WHO BROKE ALL THE RULES - 5.0

A quirky, humorous, and warm-hearted story about growing old disgracefully - and breaking all the rules along the way! 79-year-old Martha Andersson dreams of escaping her care home and robbing a bank. She has no intention of spending the rest of her days in an armchair and is determined to fund her way to a much more exciting lifestyle.

Yvonne

Dahl, Julia - CONVICTION - (#3) - 4.45

Rebekah Roberts is looking into the conviction of a young man

for the murder of his adopted family – but DeShawn insists he is innocent and as Rebekah digs into the past she discovers this one might hit closer to home than is comfortable for her.

Vatsal, Radha - A FRONT PAGE AFFAIR - (#1) - 3.0

Capability "Kitty" Weeks, an aspiring journalist who would love nothing more than to report on the news of 1915, but she's stuck writing about fashion and society gossip over on the Ladies' Page—until a man is murdered at a high society picnic on her beat. As she becomes involved in front page reporting, her life becomes more in danger. This book is as much about the start of the women's movement from a very personal perspective as it is about the mystery.

Maxwell, Alyssa - MURDER AT BEECHWOOD - 3.0

For Newport, Rhode Island's high society, the summer of 1896 brings lawn parties, sailboat races...and murder. Having turned down the proposal of Derrick Andrews, Emma Cross has no imminent plans for matrimony—let alone motherhood. But when she discovers an infant left on her doorstep, she naturally takes the child into her care.

Nancy

Iles, Greg - CEMETERY ROAD - 4.75

Washington DC journalist Marshall McEwan travels home to Bienville Mississippi to help with the family newspaper. The town is run by the Bienville poker club that is bringing a Chinese paper mill to the area. When McEwan's revered mentor turns up floating in the Mississippi with a skull fracture, the intrigue begins and the tension continues to build until the climax.

Ryan, Hank Phillippi - THE OTHER WOMAN - 3.75

Jane Ryland was a rising star in television news...until she refused to reveal a source and lost everything. Now a disgraced newspaper reporter, Jane isn't content to work on her assigned puff pieces, and finds herself tracking down a candidate's secret mistress just days before a pivotal Senate election.

Dahl, Julia - CONVICTION - 3.75

Journalist Rebekah Roberts sets out to find the truth about a man sitting in prison for 22 years for a crime he says he did not commit- the murder of his foster parents and sister

Kellerman, Jonathan - THE WEDDING GUEST (Alex Delaware #34) - 3.75

I still enjoy the partnership of Alex and Milo, but the plot was a little slow and the ending a little unbelievable.

New Hardcover Releases

June 2019

THE PAPER WASP by Lauren Acampora - The Paper Wasp was a crazy joy ride of a novel; a bold and joyous take on female friendship, outsider ambition and the secret powers of loners. It gives us a heroine who is selfish, weird, manipulative, and sometimes just plain nasty, and makes us root for her with all our selfish, weird, manipulative, and nasty hearts. I loved every second of it." - Sandra Newman

A PLAIN VANILLA MURDER by Susan Wittig Albert - #27 in the China Bayles series

WHEREVER SHE GOES [NS] by Kelley Armstrong - "Few crimes are reported as quickly as a snatched kid." That's what the officer tells single mother Aubrey Finch after she reports a kidnapping. So why hasn't anyone reported the little boy missing?

BEAUTIFUL LIARS by Isabel Ashdown - Every picture hides a story. Behind the story lies secrets . . . In the photograph Martha Benn has kept for two decades, three girls lounge on the grass during a school field trip.

DEATH IN KEW GARDENS by Jennifer Ashley (Below Stairs #3) - In return for a random act of kindness, scholar Li Bai Chang presents young cook Kat Holloway with a rare and precious gift - a box of tea

BIG SKY [Jackson Brodie #5] by Kate Atkinson - Jackson Brodie has relocated to a quiet seaside village, in the occasional company of his recalcitrant teenage son and an aging Labrador,

THE BODY LIES by Jo Baker - When a young writer accepts a job at a university in the remote English countryside, it's meant to be a fresh start

DEAR WIFE by Kimberly Belle- For nearly a year, Beth has been plotting to leave her abusive husband

THEIR LITTLE SECRET [Tom Thorne #16] by Mark Billingham She says she's an ordinary mother. He knows a liar when he sees one. Sarah thinks of herself as a normal single mum. It's what she wants others to think of her. But the truth is, she needs something new, something thrilling.

MURDER IN BEL-AIR [Aimée Leduc #19] by Cara Blac Aimee Leduc is about to go onstage to give the keynote address at a tech conference that is sure to secure Leduc Detective some much-needed business contracts when she gets an emergency phone call from her infant daughter's playgroup:

FAKE LIKE ME by Barbara Bourland - After a fire rips through her loft, destroying the seven billboard-size paintings meant for her first major exhibition, a young painter is left with an impossible task

WHISKERS IN THE DARK [Mrs. Murphy #28] by Rita Mae Brown

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT by David Bruns and J R Olson - Don Riley, head of U.S. Cyber Command, discovers that not only have the Chinese lost control of their military, but the same virus has infected the American network

A WEB OF SILK [Ursula Blanchard #16] by Fiona Buckley - August, 1582. The queen's spymaster, Sir Francis Walsingham, has ordered Ursula to keep an eye on her new neighbour, Giles Frost

THOSE PEOPLE [NS] by Louise Candlish - 'Sharp satire and a plot that builds to a boil with a couple of oh-so-clever final twists in close succession:

THE BOOK SUPREMACY [Bibliophile #13] by Kate Carlisle - San Francisco book-restoration expert Brooklyn Wainwright investigates a mysterious spy novel linked to a string of murders...

EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU by Heather Child - Freya has a new virtual assistant. It knows what she likes, knows what she wants and knows whose voice she most needs to hear: her missing sister's.

RAG AND BONE [Jay Porter #5] by Joe Clifford - Having spent ten months on the run after he was framed for the murder of an estate-clearing associate, Jay Porter returns to his hometown. Compares to Dennis Lehane

RECURSION [NS] by Blake Crouch - New York City cop Barry Sutton investigates the phenomenon the media has dubbed False Memory Syndrome—a mysterious affliction that drives its victims mad with memories of a life they never lived.

ONE SMALL SACRIFICE by Hilary Davidson - NYPD detective Sheryn Sterling has had her eye on Alex Traynor ever since his friend Cori fell to her death under suspicious circumstances a year ago (first in a new series)

GIRL IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR by Kelsey Rae Dimberg - A debut thriller is a story about privilege and power, family and obligation, ambition and complicity, and the pull of the past on the present;

CLAUSE & EFFECT by Kaitlyn Dunnett - As a professional editor, Mikki Lincoln is used to crimes against the English language. As an amateur sleuth, she's finding catching criminals a lot more dangerous than catching typos.

THE CUTTING ROOM [Carver & Lake #2] by Ashley Dyer - Detectives Ruth Lake and Greg Carver, must stop a serial killer whose victims are the centerpiece of his macabre works of art

A NEARLY NORMAL FAMILY by M T Edvardsson - Eighteen-year-old Stella Sandell stands accused of the brutal murder of a man almost fifteen years her senior. She is an ordinary teenager from an upstanding local family. What reason could she have to know a shady businessman, let alone to kill him

THIS STORM [Dudley Smith #2] by James Ellroy - It is January 1942. Torrential rainstorms hit LA. A body is unearthed in Griffith Park. The cops rate it a routine dead-man job. They're wrong. It's a summons to a brand-new war.

CITY OF FEAR by Larry Enmon - (Rob Soliz and Frank Pierce #2) - Someone's taking out drug lords left and right in Dallas

A LADY'S GUIDE TO GOSSIP AND MURDER by Dianne Freeman - **Countess of Harleigh #2**

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ALISTAIR AINSWORTH [Daughter of Sherlock Holmes #3] by Leonard Goldberg - Joanna and the Watsons receive an unexpected visitor to

(Continued from page 5)

221b Baker Street during a nocturnal storm. A rain-drenched Dr. Alexander Verner arrives with a most harrowing tale.

THE SHALLOWS [Nils Shapiro #3] by Matt Goldman - A prominent lawyer is found dead, tied to his own dock by a fishing stringer through his jaw, and everyone wants private detective Nils Shapiro to protect them from suspicion

ASSASSIN OF SHADOWS by Lawrence Goldstone - Just after 4 p.m. on September 6, 1901, twenty-eight-year-old anarchist Leon Czolgosz pumped two shots into the chest and abdomen of President William McKinley.

THIN AIR by Lisa Gray - Private investigator Jessica Shaw is used to getting anonymous tips. But after receiving a photo of a three-year-old kidnapped from Los Angeles twenty-five years ago, Jessica is stunned to recognize the little girl as herself

THE WOMAN IN OUR HOUSE by Andrew Hart - Anna Klein is ready to return to work as a literary agent for the first time since having children. She and her husband, Josh, decide to hire a live-in nanny with some trepidation, but all their misgivings disappear as soon as they meet Oaklynn Durst. A mistake.

JUST ONE BITE by Jack Heath - Timothy Blake, ex-consultant for the FBI, now works in body disposal for a local crime lord. One night he stumbles across a body he wasn't supposed to find and is forced to hide it.

JOE COUNTRY [Slough House #6] by Mick Herron - In Slough House memories are stirring, all of them bad. Catherine Standish is buying booze again, Louisa Guy is raking over the ashes of lost love, and new recruit Lech Wicinski, whose sins make him outcast is determined to discover who destroyed his career,

PARANOID by Lisa Jackson - There are people in Edgewater, Oregon, who think that twenty years ago, Rachel Gaston got away with murder.

THE FIRST MISTAKE by Sandie Jones - domestic suspense audiobook about a wife, her husband, and the woman who is supposedly her best friend.

OLIVER QUICK by Ditter Kellen (e-book) - Former FBI profiler, Oliver Quick finds himself trapped in a game of cat-and-mouse with notorious serial killer.

THE PERFECT FRAUD by Ellen LaCorte - (debut) - Motherhood is tough. But then, so is daughterhood. When we first meet Claire, she's living in Sedona, Arizona with her boyfriend Cal and ducking calls from her mother. Her mom is a world class psychic on the East Coast

A LINE OF FORGOTTEN BLOOD by Malcolm Mackay- The Scottish city of Challaid is corruption-riddled place where people frequently go off the radar. So when PC Vinny Reno discovers his ex-wife, Freya, has disappeared, he turns to private detectives Darian Ross and Sholto Douglas.

THE NANNY by Gilly MacMillan - Jo's nanny disappeared when Jo was seven. 30 years later she learns what really happened.

A PHILOSOPHY OF RUIN by Nicholas Mancusi - Oscar Boatwright, a disenchanting philosophy professor, receives terrible news. His mother, on her way home from Hawaii with Oscar's father, has died

mid-flight, her body cooling for hours until the plane can land.

THE DARWIN AFFAIR by Tim Mason - London, June 1860: When an assassination attempt is made on Queen Victoria, and a petty thief is gruesomely murdered moments later - and only a block away - Chief Detective Inspector Charles Field quickly surmises that these crimes are connected

WE WERE KILLERS ONCE [Brigid Quinn #4] by Becky Masterman - Fact: Two months after the Clutter killing, the Walker family were slaughtered in similar circumstances in Florida. Masterman imagines what might have happened

I'LL NEVER TELL [NS] by Catherine McKenzie - Twenty years ago, Amanda Holmes was found bludgeoned in a rowboat at the MacAllister family's Camp Macaw. No one was ever charged with the crime. Now, after their parents' sudden deaths, the MacAllister siblings return to camp to read the will and decide what to do with the prime real estate the camp occupies.

THE VAN APFEL GIRLS ARE GONE by Felicity McElean (1st) part mystery, part coming-of-age story - with a dark unexplained absence.

THE RIGHT SORT OF MAN by Allison Montclair (London after WWII) - two very different women join forces to launch a business venture in the heart of Mayfair - The Right Sort Marriage Bureau. Miss Iris Sparks, quick-witted and impulsive, and Mrs. Gwendolyn Bainbridge, practical and widowed

DEATH IN THE EAST by Abir Mukherjee - Calcutta police detective Captain Sam Wyndham and his quick-witted Indian Sergeant, Surrender-not Banerjee, are back for another rip-roaring adventure set in 1920s India.

IN THE DARKNESS by Mike Omer - (#2) An online video of a girl clawing at the ceiling of her own grave could be the worst thing FBI forensic psychologist Zoe Bentley has ever seen. Perhaps even more disturbing is the implication of the video's title: "Experiment Number One -

THE UGLY TRUTH by Jill Orr - (#3) - There's been a shocking double murder in Tuttle Corner, Virginia, involving high-profile players from Washington D.C. This brings national attention - and big-city competition for the story - to junior reporter Riley Ellison's little corner of the world.

EVERGREEN by Howard Owen- Willie Black knew he had a father, even if he didn't know where he was buried. It wasn't like Artie Lee gave his son anything but his genes. He died when Willie was 15 months old, and Artie and Peggy never married. They couldn't have, in the segregated commonwealth of Virginia in 1960.

UNSOLVED by James Patterson and David Ellis (Invisible #2)

THE BLACK JERSEY by Jorge Zepeda Patterson - Marc Moreau, a professional cyclist with a military past, is part of a top Tour de France team led by his best friend, an American star favored to win this year's Tour. But the competition takes a dark turn when racers begin to drop out in a series of violent accidents:

THE SERPENT'S MARK by S W Perry (#2) - Nicholas Shelby, physician and reluctant spy, returns to his old haunts on London's lawless

Due in June

Bankside. The queen's spymaster Robert Cecil asks him to investigate the dubious practices of a mysterious doctor from Switzerland

HER DAUGHTER'S MOTHER by Daniela Petrova - Lana Stone has never considered herself a stalker - until the night she impulsively follows a familiar face through the streets of New York's Upper West Side. Her target? The "anonymous" egg donor she'd selected through an agency, the one who's making motherhood possible for her.

THE PERFECT PLAN by Bryan Reardon - Liam Brennan teeters on the edge. Early one morning, he snaps, kidnapping a young woman who works for Drew Brennan, Liam's older brother and the upstart candidate in a heated election.

ROGUE STRIKE by David Ricciardi (#2) - CIA agent Jake Keller and his partner, Curt Roach, are in Yemen on an important mission. They've been tipped off to a secret meeting of top al Qaeda leaders. The plan is to interrupt the meeting with a few unexpected visitors - a pair of Hellfire missiles

YOUR LIFE IS MINE by Nathan Ripley - In 1996, Blanche's father, Chuck Varner, went on a shooting spree before turning the gun on himself. To Blanche and her mother, Crissy, Chuck was not the crazed killer the media portrayed but a devoted leader, For years, in fact, they worked together to honor his memory.

GONE TOO LONG by Lori Roy - On the day a black truck rattles past her house and a Klan flyer lands in her front yard, 10-year-old Beth disappears from her Simmonsville, Georgia home. Armed with skills sharpened while caring for an alcoholic mother, she must battle to survive the days and months ahead.

ALL THE LOST THINGS by Michelle Sacks -Seven year old Dolly is kidnapped by her father.

THE SUMMER DEMANDS by Deborah Shapiro - On the verge of her fortieth birthday and shaken by a recent miscarriage, Emily inherits an abandoned summer camp in Massachusetts.

SHOOT THE BASTARDS by Michael Stanley - When her friend Michael Davidson goes missing while researching a *National Geographic* story on rhino poaching and rhino-horn smuggling, investigative journalist Crystal Nguyen wangles a NG assignment to try to find him and finish his story.

THE SAFE HOUSE by Kiki Swinson - (Black Market #2) It was supposed to be easy money. A few exchanges for cash, one big payoff, and then life would be better than ever with bills all paid and money in her pocket. But the plan fell apart and now she's made an enemy.

BACKLASH by Brad Thor (#19 Scot Harvath) - There were fearless men of honor who have been known throughout history by different names: Spartan, Viking, Samurai. Today, men like these still strike from the shadows. They are highly prized intelligence agents, military operatives, and assassins. One man is all three.

MAN OF THE YEAR by Caroline Louise Walker - Beware the Man of the Year. You may praise him, resent him, even want to be him: but beneath the elegant trappings that define him, danger looms.

A BODY IN THE CASTLE WELL [Bruno, Chief of Police #14] by Martin Walker - A missing art student. An international investigation. A secret that will shatter the village of St Denis. Bruno, chief of police, faces a dark reckoning with France's past in this gripping mystery.

TELL ME NO SECRETS by Lyunn Chandler Willis (#2) - In the heart of Appalachia, newspaper publisher Ava Logan should feel joy and pride as

she watches her thirteen-year-old daughter being baptized in the cold water of Jackson Creek - but she can't rejoice when thoughts of an employee who failed to show for work keep pulling her attention away.

SKIN GAME [Teddy Fay #3] by Stuart Woods & Parnell Hall - When Teddy Fay receives a freelance assignment from a gentleman he can't refuse, he jets off to Paris on the hunt for a treasonous criminal. Teddy unearths more information that just doesn't seem to connect

THE FRIEND [Klara Walldéen #3] by Joakim Zander - Jacob Seger arrived in Lebanon on his first job in the world of international diplomacy when he meets Yassim at a glamorous party. . . but three weeks later, he is wanted on terrorism charges.

Lou Berney Reading List (only NOVEMBER ROAD is in the YLPL)

Series: Shake Bouchon—Charles "Shake" Bouchon, a professional wheelman who walks out of prison after a three-year sentence for grand theft auto determined to change his life and become a chef:

GUTSHOT STRAIGHT (2009) Finalist 2011 Barry Award for Best First Novel

WHIPLASH RIVER (2012) Finalist 2013 Anthony Award for Best Paperback

Finalist 2013 Edgar Award for Best Paperback

DOUBLE BARREL BLUFF (2020)

Novels

THE LONG AND FARAWAY Gone (2015)

2016 Anthony Award for Best Paperback

2016 Barry Award for Best Paperback

2016 Edgar Award for Best Paperback

2016 Macavity Award for Best Mystery

Finalist 2016 Lefty Award for Best World Mystery

NOVEMBER ROAD (2018) follows two strangers whose paths cross—a street-smart mob operator and an Oklahoma mother—after JFK's assassination sets them both on the run

2019 Lefty Award for Best Mystery

Finalist 2019 Barry Award for Best Novel

Finalist 2018 Hammett Prize

Finalist 2019 Thriller Award for Best Novel

Lou Berney



Lou Berney's mother used to say he was conceived on the day John F. Kennedy was shot in Dallas, but he is wary of the claim. "It's plausible," says the writer, "though the math is a stretch, and my mother always did like a good story." I'm a writer because of her, and because of her I've always been fascinated by the Kennedy assassination. My latest novel, *November Road*,

a thriller and love story set 1963, really just finishes the tale she started telling before I was ever born.

The year 2016 was a banner year for Berney: "The Long and Faraway Gone" won almost every award for which it was nominated. And those who live in Berney's hometown, which is the setting for the novel, were captivated by the book's emotional resonance, its depiction of those whose hearts run the blackest and its nod to its literary predecessors. At the same time, it broke from tradition, essentially establishing its own genre. Let's call it "Okie Noir."

And while Berney seemed to become a quick sensation, it was not an easy climb to the Edgar awards stage.

"If I'm an overnight success, it was one long night," he said. "I sold my first short story to the New Yorker when I was 24 years old. My collection of stories came out a couple of years later and got great reviews. I then wrote a novel that didn't sell and then another."

After trying his hand at fiction, Berney made a move to Hollywood.

"I then became sort of 'grunt work' screenwriter and, during the Writer's Guild strike of 2007-2008, I decided to take a shot at another novel, which I realized was really what I was born to do."

Terrific reviews lauded the author's first two humorous crime novels, "Gutshot Straight" and "Whiplash River." These books, coupled with the "Long and Faraway Gone," have led Berney's readers to ask, "What's next?"

On Oct. 9, Berney's newest work of fiction, "November Road," lands in bookstores.

Danielle Bartlett, of Berney's publisher, Harper Collins, said in a news release that "November Road" is the story of two strangers on a journey to escape their troubled pasts, with the specter of the Kennedy assassination hovering over their adventures.

"As lauded as has been 'The Long and Faraway Gone,' 'November Road' stands in a class of its own," she said in the release. "The book is a poignant and evocative crime novel that highlights exactly how, in the hands of a gifted writer, a book in the genre can illuminate the human struggle, explore what connects us and ultimately reveal universal truths, all done within a gripping and entertaining plot."

Berney himself divulged the personal inspiration for the new novel.

"November Road" is somewhat based on my mother, who passed away about 10 years ago," he said. "She was born in Shawnee and grew up poor during the Depression. She never went to college, never had any real opportunities, but she was one of the smartest, most resilient people I've ever known."

