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Aliens & Alibis Books

CAT SCRATCHINGS

November 2006

I can't believe that we're almost at the end of another year -- and that holiday shopping is looming. Hopefully we can give you some ideas on what to buy for that hard-to-please family member or friend.

During the holiday season, **we will be open Noon to 8PM on Thursdays**. We will probably keep that schedule after the holiday season if it proves to be more convenient for our customers.

As you can see, we now have a name for the newsletter/new books email. Hope you like it. The cats think it's a great idea.

Deb and Gary

In this issue:

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My Sister Was Right

The first thing I need to do is publicly admit that my sister was right -- Beckie, you were right.

She said that the membership program that we presented a while ago would not sell - not enough value for the money.

So -- we're trying again. Very simple (and approved by my sister) -- the Discovery membership (\$24.95) buys you 10% off of all new, in-stock books for a year. The Super Reader (\$39.95) buys you 10% off everything for a year.

Free postage is also included in either of the membership categories -- either local or within the Continental US. So, if you see a title on the New Books email that you would like but you don't feel like driving to the store, grab your credit card and give us a call. We'll mail it out as soon as we can and charge you nothing for postage. Good deal? And you save gas.

The purchase information for memberships is on our web site with a link to PayPal so that you can purchase a membership without leaving the house and, if you want, in your pajamas. More gas savings.

A membership can pay for itself. If, on a trip to the bookstore, you buy four hardcovers at \$25.00, you save \$10 -- if you have the Super Reader level, four trips like that to the store and you've made back the money you spent for the membership. (Have us mail the books and you again save the price of gas. Now you can buy even more books.)

[Membership Information](#)

New Mysteries

We have Tony Hillerman's new book, **SHAPE SHIFTER** (\$26.95). It received a starred review from Publisher's Weekly and they had this to say about it: "Only Hillerman could so masterfully connect such disparate elements as an ancient cursed weaving, two stolen buckets of piñon sap and the Vietnam War. The conclusion is sure to startle longtime fans of this acclaimed mystery series." And if you are a Tony Hillerman fan, also check out the books by Margaret Coel and James D. Doss.

Speaking of Tony Hillerman, author Mary Anna Evans has received some words of praise from him for her new book, **EFFIGIES** (\$24.95) due out in February. I've read the early copy of the book and think it's her best yet. If you haven't read any of her Faye Longchamp series, we have the first two in stock -- **ARTIFACTS** and **RELICS**. She will be appearing at the SC Book Festival at the Convention Center with her new book and will be signing copies of the book at our booth. This series, with its archeological background, would appeal to Dana Cameron's fans or readers of Aaron Elkins

And speaking of shape shifters, we have signed copies of **SOJOURN** by Jana Oliver. When I asked her what the book was about, she answered "Shape shifters, time travel and Jack the Ripper". It's a good book and is a lot of fun. It's the first in a series. It's also a book that can be shelved under mysteries or science fiction

Kasey Michaels is probably better known for her romance novels but she also has a mystery series that I like a lot. The hero of author Maggie Kelly's Victorian mystery series comes to life and Maggie must educate him in the ways of 21st century New York -- and solve a murder or two in the process. The current book is **HIGH HEELS AND HOLIDAYS**. Light fun and a lot of laughs. I recommend it -- it's a good antidote to the trials and tribulations of holiday shopping.

If you like British police procedurals and haven't read Clare Curzon, you are in for a treat when you get her newest book **THE GLASS WALL** (\$23.95). Her Mike Yeadings series is wonderful. Even if you haven't read the books prior to this one, I think you can jump in here and enjoy the book just about as much. This series would appeal to fans of Peter Robinson's Alan Banks series or Cynthia Harrod-Eagles' series starring Bill Slider.

Don't forget about the Killer Books list. The new December version is up on the Killer Books site. If you're not familiar with the list, it's a selection of five current books selected by the IMBA (Independent Mystery Booksellers Association). As the site says: "Every selection is a gem that otherwise might have been lost among the more than 100 mysteries published each month."

[Killer Books](#)

New Science Fiction and Fantasy

GRIET WALKER by Kat Richardson (\$17) could be shelved in the fantasy or mystery section. After being dead for two minutes as a result of a clobbering by an angry perp, PI Harper Blaine discovers icky side effects complicate her Seattle life in unexpected ways—she sees ghosts and attracts otherworldly business as she pops in and out of a shadowy overlapping world. A fun book that is hard to put down. It would appeal to readers of Jim Butcher or Charlaine Harris.

BROTHER ODD by Dean Koontz (\$27). I know that there are some of you who have been waiting impatiently for this book. We now have it in stock. **Publishers Weekly** says: "*Bestseller Koontz's third Odd Thomas novel (after Forever Odd) offers an irresistibly offbeat mix of supernatural horror and laugh-out-loud humor.*"

BEGUILEMENT (THE SHARING KNIFE, VOL. 1) by Lois McMaster Bujold (\$25.95) is first of a two-book romantic fantasy. Bujold writes so well and creates such wonderful characters that I look forward to each new world that she creates.

Don't forget the TEMERAIRE by Naomi Novik -- **HIS MAJESTY'S DRAGON**, THRONE OF JADE and **BLACK POWDER WAR**. We've had good reviews of the series from customers. This would appeal to the dashing Brits- on-ships genre perfected by Patrick O'Brian.

Killer Books for December

The Killer Books List from the IMBA (Independent Mystery Booksellers Association) is now on the web. Check it out. And for you Science Fiction and Fantasy fans, we do include crossover books sometimes.

[Killer Books List](#)

Did You Get Your Copy of Pages Magazine?

Next time you are in the store (which we hope will be soon), ask for a copy of **Pages** magazine. On page 15 is a regular column called **ASK AN EXPERT**. In that column you will find some book recommendations that we made and a picture of the store interior. The copies are **FREE** but the number of copies we have is limited.

This issue of **Pages** has a gift guide that can give you some book ideas for the holidays. Remember that you can order most books through us.

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