

The following is a tentative list of new fiction releases for **JULY, 2010**.

**Most titles on this list are on order for the library and can be reserved, but will not be available until the release date.**

***Compiled by Judy Kamiat, West Boynton Branch Library***

Elizabeth Adler, **IT ALL BEGAN IN MONTE CARLO**, (384 pgs) 7/6

Sunny Alvarez and Mac Reilly always seem to find trouble in the south of France. This time, all the trouble began in Monte Carlo. Sunny's relationship with Mac is in jeopardy and Monte Carlo beckons. Soon Sunny is pulled into a web of intrigue involving a series of robberies of high-end jewelry stores. Then there's her wanna-be-new-friend, who turns out to be a sociopath, involved in the sale of sex and in blackmail. Plus there's Sunny's old friend, movie star Allie Ray, who owns a vineyard in France and who comes to help sort Sunny out, while at the same time sorting out the life and appearance of her old friend, Pru Holster, with a makeover that not only changes her dowdy overweight appearance, but changes Pru into an amateur detective. If Sunny doesn't untangle this plot, she might end up an unwitting accomplice to theft, blackmail and even murder. When Mac shows up, he's ready to do anything to get Sunny back, not the least of which is to solve the crimes and save her life. "Another frothy adventure in the South of France." ***Kirkus Reviews***

James Lee Burke, **GLASS RAINBOW**, (384 pgs) 7/13

Burke's new novel finds Detective Dave Robicheaux back in New Iberia, Louisiana, and embroiled in the most harrowing and dangerous case of his career. Seven young women in neighboring Jefferson Davis Parish have been brutally murdered. While the crimes have all the telltale signs of a serial killer, the death of Bernadette Latiolais, a high school honor student, doesn't fit. Robicheaux and his best friend, Clete Purcel, confront Herman Stanga, a notorious pimp and crack dealer whom both men despise. When Stanga turns up dead shortly after a fierce beating by Purcel in front of numerous witnesses, the case takes a nasty turn. Adding to Robicheaux's troubles is the matter of his daughter, Alafair, on leave from Stanford Law to put the finishing touches on her novel. Her literary pursuit has led her into the arms of Kermit Abelard, celebrated novelist and scion of a once prominent Louisiana family whose fortunes are slowly sinking into the corruption of Louisiana's subculture. Abelard's association with bestselling ex-convict author Robert Weingart causes Robicheaux to fear that Alafair might be destroyed by the man she loves. As his daughter seems to drift away from him, he wonders if he has become a victim of his own paranoia. But as usual, Robicheaux's instincts are proven correct and he finds himself dealing with a level of evil that is

greater than any enemy he has confronted in the past. "Burke offers everything his readers expect--brilliant prose, prosaic situations that suddenly become mystic experiences, and a complex plot that repeatedly plumbs the depths of human depravity and the heights of nobility." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)***

W. Bruce Cameron, **A DOG'S PURPOSE**, (320 pgs) 7/6

Told in a touching, doggy first-person, this unabashedly sentimental tale introduces Toby, who's rescued by a woman without a license for her rescue operation, so, sadly, Toby ends up euthanized. He's reborn in a puppy mill and after almost dying while left in a hot car, he's saved again by a woman, and he becomes Bailey, a beloved golden retriever, who finds happiness and many adventures. His next intense incarnation is as Ellie, a female German shepherd, a heroic search and rescue dog. But the true purpose of this dog's life doesn't become totally clear until his reincarnation as Buddy, a black Lab. "A book for all age groups who admire canine courage, Cameron also successfully captures the essence of a dog's amazing capacity to love and protect." ***Publishers Weekly*** "By turns funny, heartwarming, and touching without being overly sentimental, Cameron's novel successfully illuminates the breadth of the American dogscape." ***Library Journal*** "Marley and Me combined with Tuesdays with Morrie." ***Kirkus Reviews*** **FIRST NOVEL**

Emma Campion, **THE KING'S MISTRESS**, (464 pgs) 7/6

Alice Perrers scholar Campion debuts with a fictionalization of the life of Alice Salisbury, who, at 14, leaves family and best friend Geoffrey Chaucer behind to marry Janyn Perrers, a prominent merchant who has the patronage of Isabella, the Queen Mother. Alice accustoms herself to the royal lifestyle, grows close to her husband, and bears a daughter. Her happiness is destroyed when royal fortunes shift, Janyn disappears, and Alice is summoned to court by Queen Philippa. To secure her daughter's safety, Alice complies and is quickly drawn into the machinations and extravagance of Edward III's mid-14th-century court, where she captures the king's interest. Campion stays true to the facts of Alice's life as the mistress of Edward III, the mother of his son John, and a successful businesswoman. "A dynamic fictionalization of the life of Alice Salisbury...an empathetic but realistic portrait of a colorful and, if Campion is to be believed, misunderstood woman." ***Publishers Weekly***

Lorenzo Carcaterra, **MIDNIGHT ANGELS**, (320 pgs) 7/6

Kate Westcott has come to the beautiful city of Florence to study the masterly Michelangelo. Of course she already knows more about him than most art historians, thanks to her guardian and mentor, Professor Richard Dylan Edwards. A preeminent Michelangelo scholar—and a member of the

mysterious Vittoria Society—Edwards has devoted his life to chasing down lost and stolen works of art and returning them to their rightful owners. Exploring the cobbled streets of the Renaissance city with fellow art student Marco Scudarti, Kate feels the pull of destiny. When the two uncover a secret chamber in a corridor sealed since the time of the Medicis, they make a stunning discovery: Michelangelo's Midnight Angels—three small, exquisite sculptures long rumored to exist but never before seen. It is the find of a lifetime—and the beginning of their nightmare. Pursued by operatives of the most heinous criminals, under suspicion from the elite Rome Art Squad, and navigating the underground network of the Vittoria Society, Kate must use all her cunning to elude capture. "This superior religious artifact quest thriller from Carcaterra careens through the streets of Florence with quick stops at various museums and galleries for interesting sidebars on the life and work of Michelangelo..The author's solid, well-executed premise will keep readers turning the pages." ***Publishers Weekly***

John Connolly, **THE WHISPERERS**, (416 pgs) 7/13

Ancient artifacts and the second Iraqi War provide the backdrop for Connolly's ninth novel featuring PI Charlie Parker (after *The Lovers*). When the former NYPD homicide detective looks into the suicide of an Iraq war veteran, he discovers that several members of the soldier's unit have also killed themselves and that they may have been involved in smuggling looted treasures into the U.S. Parker begins to fear that the returning soldiers have brought back more than their own personal demons. As he races to find an antique golden box before it falls into the wrong hands, Parker discovers that he's being shadowed by the enigmatic Collector, a repulsive killer whose nature is as problematic as that of Parker himself. "Connolly displays a real knack for fusing the detective and horror genres, providing a rational chain of evidence and deduction for the plot while simultaneously creating a real atmosphere of numinous dread that reminds us that mystery can refer to more than a mundane tale of crime and human justice." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)***

Susan Fales-Hill, **ONE FLIGHT UP**, (368 pgs) 7/27

What happens after happily-ever-after fades? Can the answer be found one flight up? India, Abby, Esme, and Monique have all been friends since their days at Manhattan's Sibley School for Girls. From the outside, these four women—all grown up now—seem to be living ideal lives, yet each finds herself suddenly craving more. India Chumley is a whip-smart divorce lawyer who routinely declines the marriage proposals of her charming French boyfriend, Julien. Abby Rosenfeld Adams is an irrepressibly upbeat gallery owner who married her WASP college sweet

heart, a passionate but tormented sculptor. When she suspects he is cheating on her, she realizes that perhaps there's more to life than reassuring her husband of his artistic brilliance. Esme Sarmiento Talbot is a Colombian Scarlett O'Hara, bored with her proper Connecticut life and her tame, all-American husband. In order to satisfy her sensuality, she escapes to Manhattan and distracts herself with casual encounters. A card-carrying member of Harlem's thriving buppie-ocracy and a successful gynecologist, Monique Dawkins-Dubois is married to a powerful but dull financier who barely notices her anymore. When an attractive coworker beckons, Monique can't help but be flattered. The most straitlaced of them all, India is dismayed by her friends' illicit activities. That is, until her ex-fiancé, the love of her life and the destroyer of her heart, reappears in New York— and she finds herself caught between the dependable man she thought was her future and the man she never quite let go of. **FIRST NOVEL**

Tama French, **FAITHFUL PLACE**, (416 pgs) 7/13

In 1985, Frank Mackey and Rosie Daly were 19, in love, and planning to run away together from Ireland to start a new life in England. When Rosie failed to meet him, Frank stayed in his hometown of Dublin, estranged from his dysfunctional family. But 22 years later, Frank, now on the Dublin Police Undercover Squad and boss of Det. Cassie Maddox (from *The Likeness*), finds his history in upheaval when his colleagues unearth Rosie's remains in a dilapidated house in his old neighborhood, and he's pulled back into his family of four siblings and their alcoholic, wife-beating father. When his younger brother dies days later—accident, suicide, or murder?—in the yard of the same old house, Frank connives to stay in the loop of the investigation as he tries to put the pieces together and his nine-year-old daughter becomes a key player in the case. "French's emotionally searing third novel of the Dublin murder squad shows the Irish author getting better with each book." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*** "French's writing remains brilliant, and her dialogue is sharp, often lacerating, and sometimes mordantly funny. Faithful Place is her best book yet." ***Booklist (Starred Review)*** "Psychological suspense at its best." ***Library Journal***

Lisa Gardner, **LIVE TO TELL**, (400 pgs) 7/13

On a warm summer night in one of Boston's working-class neighborhoods, an unthinkable crime has been committed: Four members of a family have been brutally murdered. The father—and possible suspect—now lies clinging to life in the ICU. Murder-suicide? Or something worse? Veteran police detective D. D. Warren is certain of only one thing: There's more to this case than meets the eye. Danielle Burton is a survivor, a dedicated nurse whose passion is to help children at a

locked-down pediatric psych ward. But she remains haunted by a family tragedy that shattered her life nearly twenty-five years ago. The dark anniversary is approaching, and when D. D. Warren and her partner show up at the facility, Danielle immediately realizes: It has started again. A devoted mother, Victoria Oliver has a hard time remembering what normalcy is like. But she will do anything to ensure that her troubled son has some semblance of a childhood. She will love him no matter what. Nurture him. Keep him safe. Protect him. Even when the threat comes from within her own house. "Gardner has never shied away from creepy, psychologically twisted stories, but this may be her most unsettling. Gardner never sensationalizes her story, and the book ends with a resolution that is creatively and emotionally appropriate. An excellent novel." ***Booklist (Starred Review)***

Allegra Goodman, **THE COOKBOOK COLLECTOR**, (416 pgs) 7/6

Still in her 20s, Emily Bach is the CEO of Veritech, a Web-based data-storage startup in trendy Berkeley. Her boyfriend, charismatic Jonathan Tilghman, is in a race to catch up at his data-security company, ISIS, in Cambridge, Mass. Emily is low-key, pragmatic, kind, serene—the polar opposite of her beloved younger sister, Jess, a crazed postgrad who works at an antiquarian bookstore owned by a retired Microsoft millionaire. When Emily confides her company's new secret project to Jonathan as a proof of her love, the stage is set for issues of loyalty and trust, greed, and the allure of power. What is actually valuable, Goodman's characters ponder: a company's stock, a person's promise, a forest of redwoods, a collection of rare cookbooks? Goodman creates a bubble of suspense as both Veritech and ISIS issue IPOs, career paths collide, social values clash, ironies multiply, and misjudgments threaten to destroy romantic desire. "If any contemporary author deserves to wear the mantel of Jane Austen, it's Goodman, whose subtle, astute social comedies perfectly capture the quirks of human nature. This dazzling novel is Austen updated for the dot-com era. Enjoyable and satisfying, this is Goodman's most robust, fully realized and trenchantly meaningful work yet." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*** "Goodman is remarkably successful in creating rich, engaging characters and a complex story of love and identity that reads like life itself." ***Library Journal***

David Hagberg, **THE CABAL**, (352 pgs) 7/6

Hagberg's 14th Kirk McGarvey thriller picks up several plot threads from *The Expediter*, the previous book featuring the former CIA director. When Kirk's son-in-law, CIA agent Todd Van Buren, meets his college friend and Washington Post reporter, Josh Givens, at a D.C. restaurant, Josh tells Todd he's investigating a secret shadow government called the Friday

Club, whose members span the breadth of Washington's political and military elite. That same day, two assassins shoot Todd to death in his car on a highway south of Fredericksburg, Md. Hours later, they murder Josh and his wife and son in Josh's Washington townhouse. An enraged Kirk is determined to bring the killers and their masters to justice, but further deaths don't make his mission any easier. "Fortunately, Kirk's a tough customer, and while he's emotionally and physically damaged, readers can rest assured that he'll be back for another go at America's enemies." ***Publishers Weekly***

Elizabeth Harbison, **THIN, RICH, PRETTY**, (352 pgs) 7/6

Twenty years ago, Holly and Nicola were best friends at camp, united in their hatred of the cabin bully, Lexi. Now, Holly, who owns a Washington, D.C., art gallery, is "pre-engaged" to controlling Randy, who will propose if she can drop 20 pounds. Nicola is an actress in L.A., struggling to follow up her one sleeper hit, but being turned down left and right for roles because she doesn't look right. As Holly sheds the weight, Randy's unpleasantness becomes impossible to ignore, and Nicola undergoes plastic surgery that leaves her unrecognizable even to her grandmother (and doesn't get her any work). Meanwhile, Lexi's father dies and her stepmother cuts her off, leaving her destitute. When Holly runs into Lexi, she realizes that undoing a prank she and Nicola played on her years ago at camp could potentially reverse her fortune. "An enjoyable summer novel that's heavy on '80s nostalgia." ***Publishers Weekly***

Gregg Andrew Hurwitz, **THEY'RE WATCHING**, (368 pgs) 7/6

Patrick Davis, a would-be screenwriter, has finally managed to sell a screenplay. The movie, *They're Watching*, is in production, starring a hot young actor. In a skirmish, the actor managed to hurt himself and accused Patrick of assaulting him. Patrick was fired from the film, charged with assault, and sued by the actor and the production company. Oh, and his marriage is on the rocks. As the novel opens, Patrick begins receiving DVDs in the mail, revealing that someone is secretly filming Patrick and his wife in their home. Soon there are e-mails instructing Patrick to do certain things, and from there the story . . . well, let's just say it never quite goes in the direction we expect it to go. "Always a master of the gripping setup, Hurwitz (*Trust No One*) outdoes himself in this ultra-suspenseful thriller. Readers will be more than ready, as Hurwitz sure-handedly leads everyone, Patrick included, through this tale of mystery and murder, serving up one shocking surprise after another." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*** "Hurwitz frequently sets us up to expect one thing but delivers something entirely different. He keeps us constantly on our toes, and—this is especially good—he keeps us guessing right until

the very last pages about exactly who has targeted Patrick and why."  
**Booklist (Starred Review)**

Susan Isaacs, **AS HUSBANDS GO**, (352 pgs) 7/6

Susan is left alone with her three boys, big suburban house, and nagging questions when plastic surgeon hubby Jonah Gersten turns up dead in a hooker's Upper East Side apartment. Though the police and prosecutors wind up their case against call girl Dorinda Dillon, it's far from settled for Susan. It simply didn't add up, in either my head or my heart, she confesses. And what better sidekick to track down the truth than Susan's rogue granny, Ethel. What follows is an intricate and fascinating dissection of Susan's marriage, family, husband's medical practice and partners, and the unwitting call girl at the center of it all. "Bestseller Isaacs draws on tony Long Island, gritty New York City, and a tabloid-friendly murder for this smart-alecky whodunit/surprisingly sweet love story. She brings it all together in this fast and furious ride through wanton greed, fragile relationships, and love worth fighting for."  
**Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)** "Isaacs' latest Jewish-gal-in-distress adventure purrs along perfectly—sharply funny, all-knowing, and marvelously diverting."  
**Booklist** "Isaacs' fans will enjoy another sharp-tongued romp through the New York privileged classes and their foibles."  
**Kirkus Reviews**

J.A. Jance, **QUEEN OF THE NIGHT**, (368 pgs) 7/27

Dedicated to the late Tony Hillerman, Jance's fourth suspense novel featuring former homicide detective Brandon Walker and his wife, novelist Diana Ladd (after *Day of the Dead*), spans some 50 years, from a murder in 1959 in San Diego to a rash of killings in Thousand Oaks, Calif., and Tucson, Ariz., in 2009. Interwoven with these crimes are legends of the Tohono O'odham Indians (aka the Desert People) and the lives of such contemporary Native people as Lani Walker, Brandon and Diana's adopted daughter. Jance's handling of a complex cast of characters makes it easy for the reader to appreciate the intricate web of relationships that bind them across generations. The title refers to the night-blooming Cereus, a desert plant that blooms once a year and is of great symbolic importance to the Tohono. "Brilliant....Jance...has crafted a mystery that Hillerman would be proud of and that her fans will love."  
**Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)**

Iris Johansen & Roy Johansen, **SHADOW ZONE**, (384 pgs) 7/20

This sequel to the Johansens' *Silent Thunder* (2008) centers on the ancient city of Marinth, submerged in a massive tsunami 4,000 years ago and lying a quarter mile beneath the Atlantic Ocean. The secret that doomed Marinth's civilization to decline before the killer wave is still

present and could in the wrong hands be a threat to hundreds of millions of people. As malevolent arms merchant Vincent Gadiare and his femme-fatale lover, Anna Devareau, maneuver to get their hands on Marinth's secret, Hannah Bryson, world-class submarine designer, gathers her own legion of experts, including her love interest, enigmatic assassin Nicholas Kirov. "In this adrenalin-accelerating tale of a high-stakes, high-seas conspiracy, the Johansens adeptly juggle multiple points of intrigue, smoothly balancing the prerequisite whirlwind pacing with plausible, even restrained, personal relationships." **Booklist**

Jeanne Kalogridis, **THE SCARLET CONTESSA**, (464 pgs) 7/6

Caterina Sforza comes into power by marrying the illegitimate son of Pope Sixtus, and while her husband is slothful and suspicious, Caterina is clever and ambitious, allying herself with powerful men to ensure her family's success throughout tumultuous times. Always by her side is her confidante, Dea, who has a gift for reading tarot cards, and, as our narrator, relates Caterina's struggles and schemes against a lush backdrop swarming with the most powerful families of the day--the Borgias and the Medicis. "This vividly rendered historical takes readers to tempestuous Renaissance Italy, where city-states and noble families battle for supremacy over Italy and, through the papacy, the world....plenty of intrigue and conspiracy in the lusty plot." **Publishers Weekly** 'Historical novelist Kalogridis has again woven a delightful and intricate tapestry of life, love, lust, politics and ambition that made up the Italian peninsula in the 15th century. . . . an incredibly rewarding read." **Library Journal**

Alex Kava, **DAMAGED**, (272 pgs) 7/13

On Pensacola Beach, the Coast Guard prepares for a Category 5 hurricane that has entered the Gulf of Mexico. When the air crew patrols the waterways, they spot a huge fishing cooler about a mile offshore. Drug traffickers have been known to dump coolers with smuggled product to avoid detection and pay fishermen to retrieve them. But when the crew open this cooler, they're shocked by what they find: body parts tightly wrapped in plastic. Though she is putting herself in the projected path of the hurricane, Special Agent Maggie O'Dell is sent to investigate. Eventually, she's able to trace the torso in the cooler back to a man who mysteriously disappeared weeks earlier after a hurricane hit Port St. Lucie, Florida. Only Port St. Lucie is on the Atlantic side. How did his body end up six hundred miles away in the Gulf of Mexico? "This intense thriller builds to an eye-popping revelation that will leave fans eager for the sequel." **Publishers Weekly**

John Leegant, **WHEREVER YOU GO**, (253 pgs) 7/12

Leegant's debut novel, after her story collection, *An Hour in Paradise*, follows three Americans who long for definitive answers from their Jewish faith. Yona Stern returns to Jerusalem in an attempt to reconcile with her sister, Dena, from whom she's been estranged for 10 years after sleeping with Dena's husband. Dena has since married a man committed to the uncompromising Jewish settlements. Mark Greenglass, a scholar who has replaced his drug addiction with a religious addiction, leaves Jerusalem to return to New York for a teaching gig and to reconnect with his parents and the woman he loved but couldn't save from a dissipated life. And Aaron Blinder, a college dropout resentful of his father's success writing bestselling novels about the Holocaust, searches for a group to join in Israel to give his life meaning. Then the three paths collide in a frightening incident caused by an impetuous, irresponsible act by Aaron. "Strong, sensory writing." ***Publishers Weekly* FIRST NOVEL**

Alexander McCall Smith, **CORDUROY MANSIONS**, (368 pgs) 7/13

Corduroy Mansions is the affectionate nickname given to a genteel, crumbling mansion block in London's vibrant Pimlico neighborhood, and the home turf of a new cast of captivating, quirky characters. There's the middle-aged wine merchant William, who's trying to convince his reluctant twenty-four-year-old son, Eddie, to leave the nest; and Marcia, the restaurant proprietrix who has her sights set on William. There's also the (justifiably) much-loathed member of Parliament, Oedipus Snark; his mother, Berthea, who's writing his biography and loathing every minute of him; and his long-suffering girlfriend, Barbara, a literary agent. There's the vitamin evangelist, the psychoanalyst, the art student with a puzzling boyfriend, and the Pimlico terrier, Freddie de la Haye, who can fasten his own seat belt and is almost certainly the only avowed vegetarian canine in London. "The wry humor he elicits from the collisions of lives and their repercussions will bring smiles to the faces of many readers." ***Publishers Weekly*** "Wry, witty and wise, its sure to become another best selling series in McCall Smith's impressive dossier." ***Booklist (Starred Review)***

Adrienne McDonnell, **THE DOCTOR AND THE DIVA**, (432 pgs) 7/22

McDonnell weaves the intriguing tale of an early 20th-century opera singer torn between her career and motherhood. Erika von Kessler, a mezzo-soprano of some regard, and her husband, Peter Myrick, have been trying without success to conceive a child for all six years of their marriage. They seek out the expertise of Dr. Ravell, a Boston obstetrician renowned for his fertility successes. Ravell, mesmerized by Erika's beauty and talent, vows to do anything to help the couple realize their dream of children, even if it means deceiving them, which, of course, it does. Meanwhile, Erika isn't so sure about her desire for motherhood and

secretly makes plans to leave her husband and pursue fame in Italy. “McDonnell bases the story on her family history and expertly incorporates surprising facts about the history of fertility research into a twisting tale of miscommunication, love, and unrealized dreams.”

***Publishers Weekly* FIRST NOVEL**

Richard C. Morais, **THE HUNDRED FOOT JOURNEY**, (256 pgs) 7/6

With his debut novel, longtime *Forbes* magazine correspondent Morais delves into a rich, imagery-filled culinary world that begins in Bombay and ends in Paris, tracing the career of Hassan Haji as he becomes a famed Parisian chef. Narrated by Hassan, the story begins with his grandfather starting a lowly restaurant in Bombay on the eve of WWII, which his father later inherits. But when tragedy strikes and Hassan's mother is killed, the Hajis leave India, and, after a brief and discontented sojourn in England, destiny leads them to the quaint French alpine village of Lumière. There, the family settles, bringing Indian cuisine to the unsuspecting town, provoking the ire of Madame Mallory, an unpleasant but extremely talented local chef. “From vibrantly depicted French markets and restaurant kitchens to the lively and humorously portrayed Haji family, Morais engulfs the reader in Hassan's wondrous world of discovery. Regardless of one's relationship with food, this novel will spark the desire to wield a whisk or maybe just a knife and fork.” ***Publishers Weekly*** “This novel, of mythic proportions yet told with truly heartfelt realism, is a stunning tribute to family and food, in that order.” ***Booklist*** “Precise descriptive writing offers much to savor in this bouillabaisse of a first novel.” ***Kirkus Reviews* FIRST NOVEL**

Kate Racculia, **THIS MUST BE THE PLACE**, (368 pgs) 7/6

Sixteen years ago, Amy Henderson ran away from home to become a special effects creator in Hollywood. After she is killed in an on-set accident, her widower, Arthur, finds a box of memorabilia and sets off to her hometown to understand her past. He moves into a boardinghouse run by Amy's childhood best friend, Mona, and her teenage daughter, Oneida. Initially, Mona acts as Arthur's emotional nurse, but as they realize they hold answers for each other about Amy, their bond grows deeper. Oneida, meanwhile, gets involved with a local bad boy. “With its happy ending and rich trove of Gen-X references and humor, this is a thoroughly enjoyable first novel, both accessibly absurd and quite touching. Racculia's irresistibly charming debut is an artful mix of genres: oddball domestic, coming-of-age and literary women's fiction.” ***Publishers Weekly*** “Racculia has packed enough emotion, personality, and deft writing into her debut novel to power this small town. We are fascinated by Arthur's quest and eager to uncover the secrets everyone is

hoarding. By book's end, readers will know they have unearthed a treasure." *Library Journal* **FIRST NOVEL**

Christopher Reich, **RULES OF BETRAYAL**, (384 pgs) 7/13

In 1980, a secret American B-52 crashes high in a remote mountain range on the Pakistan–Afghanistan border. Nearly thirty years later, and spanning locales from those peaks to New York City, a terrible truth will be revealed. Jonathan Ransom returns as the resourceful doctor thrown into a shadowy world of double and triple agents where absolutely no one can be trusted. To stay alive, Ransom must unravel the mystery surrounding his wife—an enigmatic and lethal spy who plays by her own rules—and discover where her loyalties truly lie. “An outstanding third thriller featuring Dr. Jonathan Ransom....The ending leads to an untied thread that will have readers eagerly awaiting the next installment.” *Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*

Nora Roberts, **THE SEARCH**, (496 pgs) 7/6

The latest from Roberts centers on Fiona Bristow, a professional canine search-and-rescue trainer, who moved to Orcas Island in Puget Sound eight years earlier, just after barely escaping from a serial killer. The story opens with Simon Doyle, an artisan cabinetmaker who arrives on the island with a puppy in tow. It's the puppy that brings Fiona and Simon together, and the romance gets off to a rocky start; he's grumpy and plainspoken; she doesn't scare easily. Then a serial killer begins operating within striking distance, and all Fiona's hard-won peace and equanimity begins to wobble: the man who almost killed her is in prison, but he's got a disciple on the outside. “Fiona and Simon are the main attraction, but the setting and the supporting characters—with paws and without—provide a vivid backdrop.” *Publishers Weekly*

Daniel Silva, **THE REMBRANDT AFFAIR**, (496 pgs) 7/20

Determined to sever his ties with the Office, Gabriel Allon has retreated to the windswept cliffs of Cornwall with his wife Chiara. But once again his seclusion is interrupted by a visitor from his tangled past: the endearingly eccentric London art dealer, Julian Isherwood. As usual, Isherwood has a problem. And it is one only Gabriel can solve. In the ancient English city of Glastonbury, an art restorer has been brutally murdered and a long-lost portrait by Rembrandt mysteriously stolen. Despite his reluctance, Gabriel is persuaded to use his unique skills to search for the painting and those responsible for the crime. But as he painstakingly follows a trail of clues leading from Amsterdam to Buenos Aires and, finally, to a villa on the graceful shores of Lake Geneva, Gabriel discovers there are deadly secrets connected to the painting. And evil men behind them.

Chevy Stevens, **STILL MISSING**, (352 pgs) 7/6

If Annie O'Sullivan's mother isn't exactly a warm and fuzzy parent, everything else in Annie's life is great: she has a handsome, attentive boyfriend; loyal friends; and a real-estate career on the upswing. Then, at an open house one sunny afternoon, a stranger with tousled blond hair and a pleasant manner kidnaps her, takes her to a remote cabin and rapes and enslaves her. In an angry voice that unsuccessfully tries to mask her fear and pain, Annie gradually reveals, to her unnamed shrink, what she endured during her captivity—and how she is coping since her return home. People tell her she is lucky to be back, but fragile and stripped of her dignity, Annie makes a compelling case for the idea that she is really "still missing." "Stevens's impressive debut pulsates with suspense that gets a power boost from the jaw-dropping but credible closing twist." ***Publishers Weekly (Starred Review)*** "Sure doesn't read like a first book. In fact, it's a knockout, a psychological thriller that pulls no punches." ***Booklist (Starred Review)*** "A grueling, gripping demonstration of melodrama's darker side." ***Kirkus Reviews*** **FIRST NOVEL**

Robert Tanenbaum, **BETRAYED**, (416 pgs) 7/6

Roger "Butch" Karp is prosecuting Sharif Jabbar, last seen in *Escape*, who's facing trial for his part in an attack on the New York Stock Exchange. Meanwhile, Butch's wife, Marlene Ciampi, steps in to defend Dirty Warren, a friend of Butch's who owns the newsstand in front of Manhattan's Criminal Courts Building. Dirty has been arrested for killing an escort service owner. A murderous judge and a retired CIA man known as the Fixer also figure in the action.

John Verdon, **THINK OF A NUMBER**, (432 pgs) 7/6

Recently retired NYPD homicide detective Dave Gurney is an old warhorse much too easily led to water, in the view of his increasingly disenchanted wife, who insists it's now me-time. But it surprises neither of them that Gurney snaps at the lure when a beleaguered friend sets before him a tasty, number-driven puzzle. Mark Mellery has been receiving mysterious mailings that terrify him because he's convinced the author of them can somehow read his mind, and because the mailings threaten his death for crimes he can't recall having committed. Nor is Mellery the only one, it soon become evident, as a particularly malignant serial killer buckles down to business. "The numbers game gets a murderous spin in Verdon's deft, literate debut." ***Publishers Weekly*** **FIRST NOVEL**

Carey Wallace, **THE BLIND CONTESSA'S NEW MACHINE**, (224 pgs) 7/8

This debut hinges on a romantic triangle consisting of a blind contessa, her aristocratic husband, and an eccentric inventor. As Carolina Fantoni and Pietro prepare for their wedding in early 19th-century Italy, she tells her handsome, well-born fiancé that she is going blind. Like her family, he doesn't take her seriously, and only Turri, Carolina's friend and married neighbor, believes her. While Pietro engages in less than lofty pursuits, Turri and Carolina continue to meet on Carolina's father's property, and Carolina's creeping blindness inspires Turri to invent a machine she can use to write messages. His invention—a typewriter—sparks an affair that could have far-reaching consequences for them both. “Despite its relative brevity, this is a work of surprising insight, humor, and heart.” *Publishers Weekly* “A dreamy, sensual fairy tale.” *Kirkus Reviews* **FIRST NOVEL**

Jennifer Weiner, **FLY AWAY HOME**, (416 pgs) 7/13

When Sylvie Serfer met Richard Woodruff in law school, she had wild curls, wide hips, and lots of opinions. Decades later, Sylvie has remade herself as the ideal politician's wife. At fifty-seven, she ruefully acknowledges that her job is staying twenty pounds thinner than she was in her twenties and tending to her husband, the senator. Lizzie, the Woodruffs' younger daughter, is at twenty-four a recovering addict, whose mantra HALT (Hungry? Angry? Lonely? Tired?) helps her keep her life under control. Still, trouble always seems to find her. Her older sister, Diana, an emergency room physician, has everything Lizzie failed to achieve—a husband, a young son, the perfect home—and yet she's trapped in a loveless marriage. With temptation waiting in one of the ER's exam rooms, she finds herself craving more. After Richard's extramarital affair makes headlines, the three women are drawn into the painful glare of the national spotlight. Once the press conference is over, each is forced to reconsider her life, who she is and who she is meant to be.