

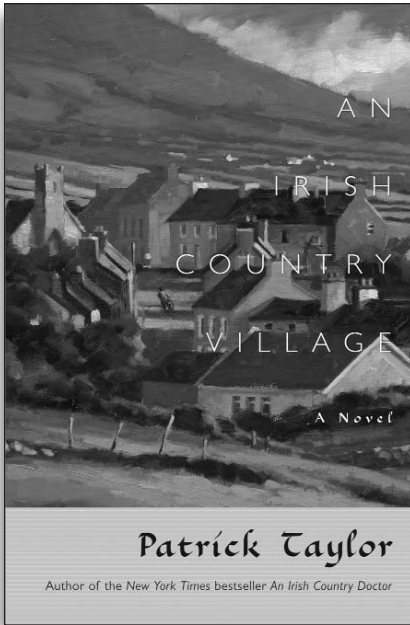


Forge

Winter 2009

Hardcovers  Trade Paperbacks

Fifth Avenue Group • Macmillan • 4-141-41743-2



HC: 978-0-7653-1624-0

ALSO AVAILABLE:

An Irish Country Doctor (1/08)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1995-1
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1995-0
 \$14.95/\$16.95 Can

An Irish Country Village

PATRICK TAYLOR

Sequel to the beloved *New York Times* bestseller
An Irish Country Doctor

Welcome back to the Village of Ballybucklebo!

Come and say hello again to Dr. O'Reilly's odd-as-two-left-feet patients; his housekeeper, Mrs. "Kinky" Kinkaid; and his pets, Arthur Guinness, the beer-swilling black Lab, and Lady MacBeth, the demonically possessed white cat.

And, of course, to young Dr. Barry Laverty.

After Barry's first month as an assistant to crusty Dr. O'Reilly, he has been offered a permanent spot. But Laverty's excitement is dashed when one of his patients unexpectedly dies. The damage to his reputation is enormous, and he and O'Reilly must work to resolve the question of Barry's responsibility for the death.

To make matters even worse, Patricia Spence, the love of Barry's life, announces she is trying to win a scholarship to distant Cambridge University, all the way in England....

Beautifully evocative of a gentler, simpler time, *An Irish Country Village* magically captures the charm, wit, and ribald humor of a vanished Irish countryside and its people.

"Full of stories and vivid characters, the novel recalls a good night in a pub. Its greatest charm lies in homey Ulster idioms.... Good, light entertainment."
 —BOOKLIST ON AN IRISH COUNTRY VILLAGE

"Highly readable." —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON AN IRISH COUNTRY VILLAGE

"This book is written with compassion and hilarity about a community whose inhabitants are as wonderful and loony as any on earth."
 —MALACHY MCCOURT, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR, ON
AN IRISH COUNTRY DOCTOR

PATRICK TAYLOR, MD, was born and raised in Bangor County Down in Northern Ireland. His first novel, *An Irish Country Doctor*, was based on journals he kept of his early days as a doctor. Taylor is a distinguished medical researcher, off-shore sailor, model-boat builder, and father of two grown children. He divides his time between Canada and Ireland.

www.patricktaylor.ca

FICTION

Forge Trade Paperback
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-2023-0
\$14.95
 \$16.95 Canadian
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 432 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-2023-1

A WINTER 2009
 FORGE SELECT TITLE

FEBRUARY 2009

WHITLEY STRIEBER

exploring the unthinkable but very real possibility—
could terrorists get nuclear weapons?

CRITICAL MASS

What would we do if a nuclear weapon was detonated in Washington, and the US government suddenly disappeared? What would we do if a terrorist organization announced that it had concealed nuclear weapons in every major western city and then demanded that the entire planet embrace its twisted brand of Muslim fundamentalism?

In *Critical Mass*, nuclear interdiction expert James Deutsch and his tormented Muslim wife, Nabila, struggle to stop an impending nuclear attack on an American city. Along the way, they delve deep into the hidden world of nuclear terrorism and the experts who strive to contain it, and get a compelling look at the titanic battle within Islam

over its own future—fundamentalist and rejecting, or compassionate and life-embracing?

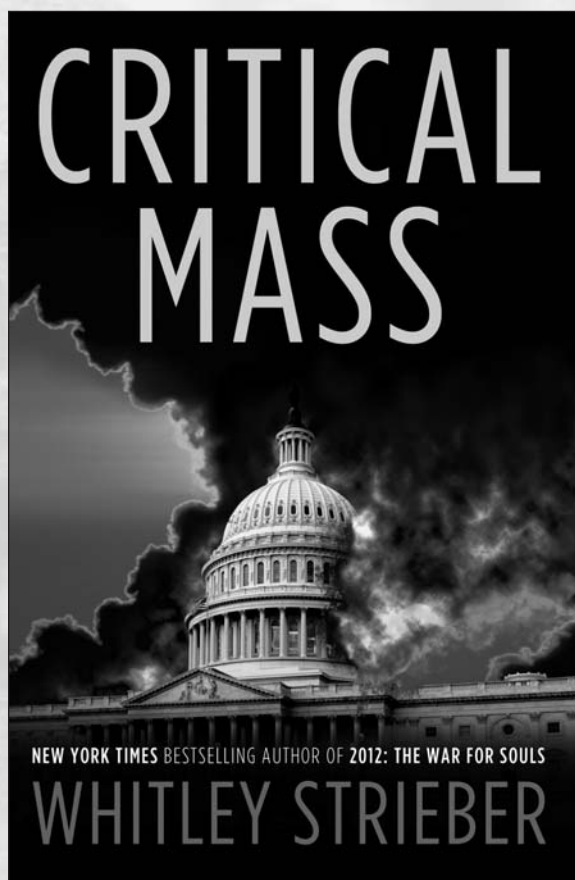
Like Whitley Strieber's classics *Warday* and *The Coming Global Superstorm*, *Critical Mass* is torn straight from the dark pages of a very dangerous and very possible future.

FEBRUARY 2009

**“CRITICAL MASS is one hell of a book—
a frighteningly plausible conspiracy thriller that is
so real it sometimes feels like an exposé.”**

—DOUGLAS PRESTON,

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *BLASPHEMY*



ALSO AVAILABLE

2012: The War for Souls (7/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5867-7
ISBN-10: 0-7653-5867-0
\$7.99/\$9.99 Can

FICTION

Forge Hardcover

**ISBN 13: 978-0-7653-2253-1
\$24.95**

\$27.95 Canadian

ISBN 10: 0-7653-2253-6

6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 304 pages

WHITLEY STRIEBER is the bestselling author of more than twenty-five books, including the legendary *Warday*, *Nature's End*, and *Superstorm*, the basis of the movie *The Day After Tomorrow*. His most recent books, *The Grays* and *2012: The War for Souls*, are both being made into films. His website, Unknowncountry.com, is the largest of its kind in the world, exploring the edge of science and reality.

“[A] truly spooky sci-fi tale.”

—*PEOPLE ON THE GRAYS*

**“Engrossing.... A first-rate
exercise in literary paranoia.”**

—*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY
ON THE GRAYS*



Revenge

HUGH HOLTON

Hugh Holton's last novel, featuring recurring cop protagonist Larry Cole

A brutally wronged girl, now a woman grown—cold, clever, calculating—mistakenly presumed dead.

A macabre magician with a secret past, stalked by an exotic and enigmatic assassin.

A woman with breathtaking beauty and an insidious scheme that is as vicious as she herself is vindictive.

An ex-pro-lineman turned savage gangster...a threat to everyone with his all-consuming greed.

A young, ambitious cop drawn to a wealthy but willful woman... a woman as wily as she is wild.

Legendary Chicago cop Larry Cole must stop them all, particularly the deviously deadly femme fatale. Beautiful as she is bloody, relentlessly obsessed, and bent on vile, violent...revenge.

"Hugh Holton was a master storyteller. How fitting that this final novel about Chicago cop Larry Cole should be one of Hugh's very best books."
—ED GORMAN, AUTHOR OF *SLEEPING DOGS*

"Hugh Holton toiled both in the trenches and on the hill of command in the war against crime; everything he writes can be taken as gospel. But the true power of his prose comes from a combination of pragmatism and compassion that will keep his books in print many years after his splashier contemporaries are forgotten."

—LOREN D. ESTLEMAN, AUTHOR OF *NICOTINE KISS*

"Revenge is a damned fine read. I enjoyed it immensely. *Revenge* struck me on three levels—viscerally because of the blazing action, total enjoyment because of his storytelling skills, and poignancy because of Hugh's untimely demise."

—DAVID HAGBERG, AUTHOR OF *DANCE WITH THE DRAGON*

"Anyone who's spent any time around big-city cops knows that Hugh Holton's writing is the real thing. Impeccable authenticity combines with great storytelling and blood-real characters to make every one of the author's books a terrific read. Superb!"

—RALPH PETERS, AUTHOR OF *WARS OF BLOOD AND FAITH*

Police lieutenant **HUGH HOLTON** was a twenty-nine-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department. He wrote several bestselling novels, including *Time of the Assassins*, *The Left Hand of God*, and *Violent Crimes*. At the time of his death, Hugh Holton was the highest ranking active police officer writing novels in America.

FICTION

Forge Hardcover

ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0139-0

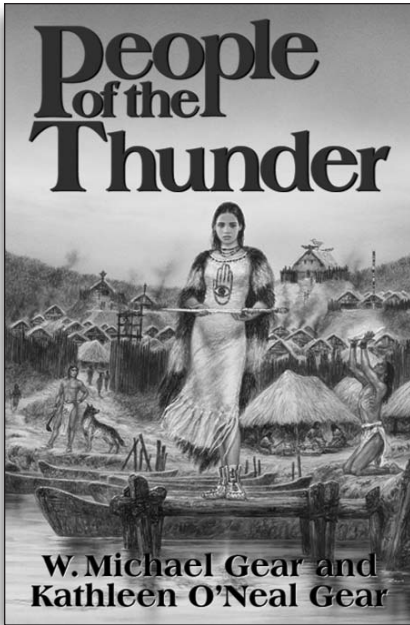
\$24.95

\$27.95 Canadian

6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 304 pages

ISBN-10: 0-7653-0139-3

JANUARY 2009



People of the Thunder

W. MICHAEL GEAR and
KATHLEEN O'NEAL GEAR

The remarkable conclusion to the saga that began
in *People of the Weeping Eye*

By 1300 AD, the Sky Hand people had crushed and enslaved the Albaamaha people and built their high-walled capital, Split Sky City, to dominate towns up and down the Black Warrior River. But a violent wind is brewing that may topple the city's mighty walls. Great armies are on the march and a cunning new leader, Smoke Shield, has risen. He will lead the Sky Hand people either to stunning triumph or to bloody doom.

A novel of desperate political intrigue and spiritual power, *People of the Thunder* once again demonstrates the Gears' mastery of American prehistory. Explore the ancestral heritage of the Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Yuchi peoples as the majesty and genius of the vanished Mississippian mound builders' civilization comes to life.

"Drawing on their backgrounds in archaeology, the Gears vividly re-create Paleolithic America in this enchanting and instructive novel."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON *PEOPLE OF THE NIGHTLAND*

"One of the best novels in the whole series. The Gears have consistently captured early Native American life with precision, detail, and narrative excitement, but in *People of the Moon* they reveal their skills to even sharper effect."

—BOOKLIST

W. MICHAEL GEAR, who holds a master's degree in archaeology, has worked as a professional archaeologist since 1978. He is currently principal investigator for Wind River Archaeological Consultants.

KATHLEEN O'NEAL GEAR is a former state historian and archaeologist for Wyoming, Kansas, and Nebraska for the US Department of the Interior. She has twice received the federal government's Special Advancement Award for "outstanding management" of our nation's cultural heritage.

The Gears, whose North America's Forgotten Past series hit the international as well as *USA Today* bestseller lists, live in Thermopolis, Wyoming.

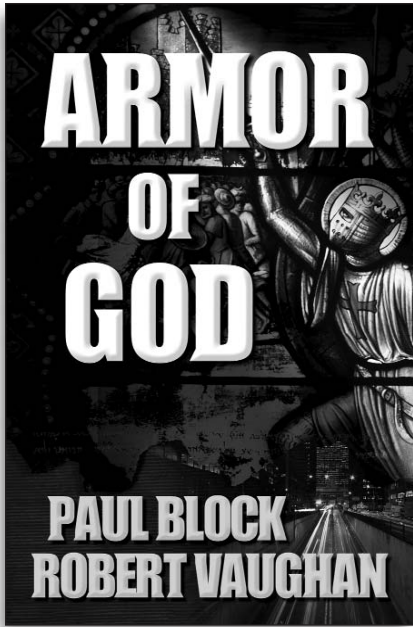
ALSO AVAILABLE:

People of the Nightland (2/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5295-8
ISBN-10: 0-7653-5295-8
\$7.99/\$9.99 Can

FICTION

Forge Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1439-0
\$25.95
\$28.95 Canadian
6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 384 pages
ISBN-10: 0-7653-1439-8

JANUARY 2009



Armor of God

PAUL BLOCK and ROBERT VAUGHAN

In this sequel to *The Masada Scroll*, Father Michael Flannery continues his search for the missing Gospel of Dismayas. Flannery is Keeper of the Sign, prophesied to bring the gospel of peace to the world. On his way to New York for a landmark symposium of the world's largest religious groups, Flannery barely escapes assassination. Not content with possessing the scroll, Via Dei is determined to tie up loose ends and ensure that Father Flannery's message never gets out.

Interwoven with the modern-day suspense is the story of Tobias Garlande, a scholar living during the First Crusade. Burdened with terrifying visions of future tragedies, Tobias is the first Keeper. His connection to Father Flannery echoes across centuries with a simple warning: You must not fail.

Combining international intrigue and suspense with fascinating historical detail, *Armor of God* continues to explore the ramifications of true faith with a compelling tale of past and present religious turmoil and touching human drama.

Praise for *The Masada Scroll*:

"[Vaughan's] latest work is an exhilarating blend of relentless adventure, scholarly intrigue, and cutting wit." —*THE MISSISSIPPI PRESS*

"This is a book that delivers in every way: a great concept, a fascinating journey, and high-class storytelling. *The Masada Scroll* will take you to new places and open your mind to new ways to look at the world. It is the right book at the right time for those of us who seek the ultimate answers to the world's many troubles. I enjoyed *The Masada Scroll* as I have enjoyed few other contemporary novels."

—GREG TOBIN, AUTHOR OF *CONCLAVE* AND *SELECTING THE POPE*

PAUL BLOCK lives in Albany, New York, where he is senior producer of Timesunion.com, the website of the largest newspaper in the capital region.

ROBERT VAUGHAN has authored more than two hundred books in almost every genre.

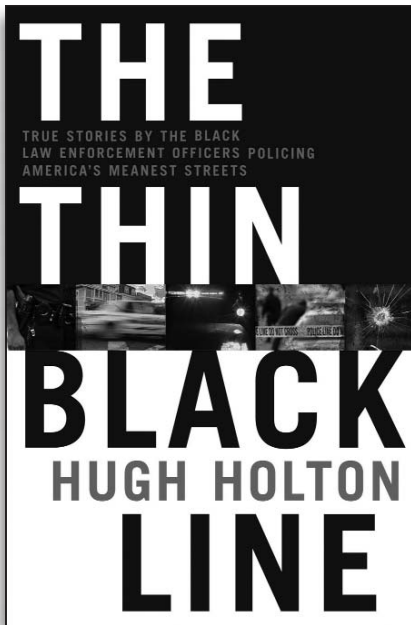
ALSO AVAILABLE:

The Masada Scroll (12/07)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5184-5
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-5184-6
 \$7.99/\$9.99 Can

FICTION

Forge Hardcover
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1339-3
 \$24.95
 \$27.95 Canadian
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 352 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1339-1

JANUARY 2009



The Thin Black Line

*True Stories by the Black Law Enforcement Officers
Policing America's Meanest Streets*

HUGH HOLTON

A nonfiction collection of the exploits and accomplishments of African American law enforcement officers

Meet the black men and women policing our meanest streets....

LaVerne Dunlap—She infiltrates drug gangs and testifies against them in court...only to have the drug lords come gunning for her.

Dep. County Sheriff Winroe Reed—He goes into America's "Homicide Capital" alone to apprehend a 6'9" homicidal crack dealer...a man so dangerous no other cops would accompany him.

Robbie Robinson—A movie actor/martial arts star/probation officer, he takes down LA's toughest gangs.

These are just a few of the courageous black heroes in Hugh Holton's *The Thin Black Line*.

"I've never read a more revealing, riveting account of being a police officer before. The African-American men and women here tell true stories that are terrifying, funny, sad, powerful, and even profound. And ultimately the stories tell us as much about our society as they do about the officers involved."

—ED GORMAN, AUTHOR OF *SLEEPING DOGS*

"No one who reads these accounts of the ongoing war on crime will ever again take the phrase 'to serve and protect' for granted."

—LOREN D. ESTLEMAN, AUTHOR OF THE AMOS WALKER DETECTIVE SERIES

"Inside stories of cops on the front lines. This is the real McCoy."

—BARBARA D'AMATO, AUTHOR OF *DEATH OF A THOUSAND CUTS*

"Nothing short of stunning. These are the real stories of cops in action, in their own words. Sometimes frightening, sometimes sad, sometimes funny, these are the voices of the real deal men and women who are the front line of defense—us against the bad guys."

—DAVID HAGBERG, AUTHOR OF *DANCE WITH THE DRAGON*

Police Lieutenant **HUGH HOLTON** was a twenty-nine-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department. He wrote several bestselling novels, including *Time of the Assassins*, *The Left Hand of God*, and *Violent Crimes*.

BIOGRAPHY

Forge Hardcover

ISBN-13: 978-0-312-86820-8

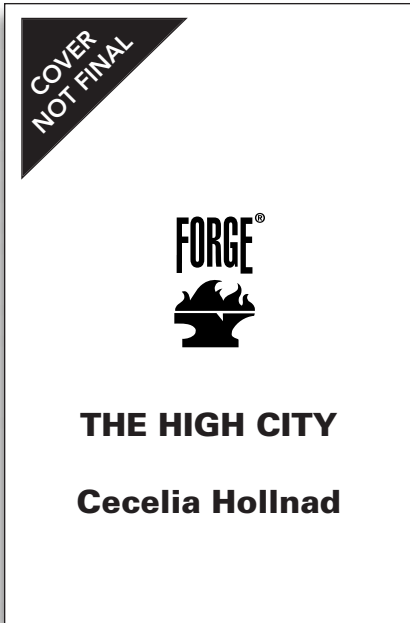
\$25.95

\$28.95 Canadian

6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 304 pages

ISBN-10: 0-312-86820-0

JANUARY 2009



The High City

CECELIA HOLLAND

Cecelia Holland returns after twenty years to the glories and intrigue of the Byzantine Empire and the High City of Constantinople

It is the early years of the reign of Basil II, who became one of the most successful, and most feared, Byzantine emperors. But for now, Basil rules as a co-emperor with his brother Constantine, and makes war on a would-be usurper, Bardas Phokas, son of a general whom Basil supplanted.

Basil's most trusted troops are foreign mercenaries, the Varangian guard hired from the North. Rus and Norsemen, Viking raiders and wild horsemen from the steppes, they fall upon the elegant city of Constantinople like wolves on a garden party. Among them is the wily young son of an Irish slave, who comes to the notice of the emperor's wife. But being noticed by an angry emperor is not safe at all.

"[Holland has] the hard, sharp lines of a master storyteller. She seems remarkably skillful at portraying the masculine mind."

—THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE

"We have come to expect rich, vivid historical novels from prolific Cecelia Holland, and this one, set in ninth century Constantinople, more than fulfills that expectation. We observe the legendary Byzantine duplicity through the eyes of our honorable barbarian hero as he tries to unravel the intrigue. Swiftly moving, plausible, and with just the right amount of historical details to make scenes come clear, the novel is an engrossing tale."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON THE BELT OF GOLD

CECELIA HOLLAND is widely acknowledged as one of the finest historical novelists of our time. She is the author of more than thirty novels, including *The Angel and the Sword*, *Jerusalem*, *Lily Nevada*, and *The Kings in Winter*. Holland lives in Humboldt County, in northern California, where she teaches creative writing, and is currently at work on a new historical novel.

FICTION

Forge Hardcover

ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0559-6

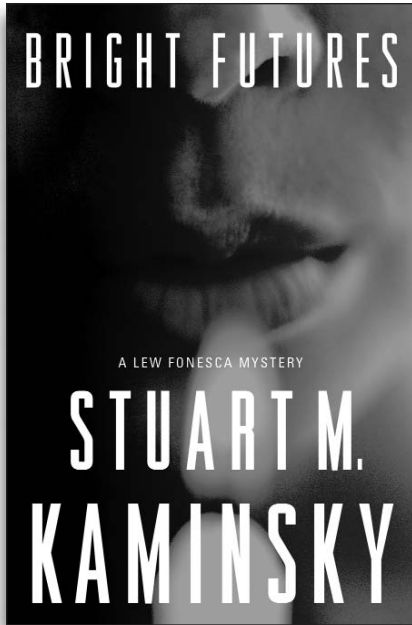
\$25.95

\$28.95 Canadian

5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 336 pages

ISBN-10: 0-7653-0559-3

JANUARY 2009



ALSO AVAILABLE:

Always Say Goodbye (11/07)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1880-0
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1880-6
 \$13.95/\$16.25 Can

Denial (2/07)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5022-0
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-5022-X
 \$6.99/\$8.99 Can

Midnight Pass (12/04)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-4383-3
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-4383-5
 \$6.99/\$9.99 Can

MYSTERY

Forge Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1828-2
\$23.95

\$26.95 Canadian
 5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 304 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1828-8

Bright Futures

A Lew Fonesca Mystery

STUART M. KAMINSKY

A brand-new Lew Fonesca mystery from MWA Grand Master Stuart Kaminsky: "Vivid characters and plenty of local color...it looks as if Lew has a real future ahead of him." —*THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW*

Lovable everyman Lew Fonesca, the Man Who Makes Things Work in Sarasota, is once again faced with cases that try his patience and test his sanity. A local curmudgeon who has been campaigning to end state-sponsored school funding is brutally killed. A recent graduate of a public high school for the gifted is arrested for the crime and turns to Lew for help.

A semi-retired and much beloved singer of children's songs is being anonymously pushed to leave Sarasota, threatened with exposure as a sexual predator. It is up to Lew to uncover the blackmailer and determine whether there is any truth to the accusation.

Lew has decided that life is worth more than just going through the motions. But will the good life that Lew so richly deserves elude him as he uncovers some very sad truths? His final choice: do the right thing and see his happiness evaporate...or betray a trust and stay happy....

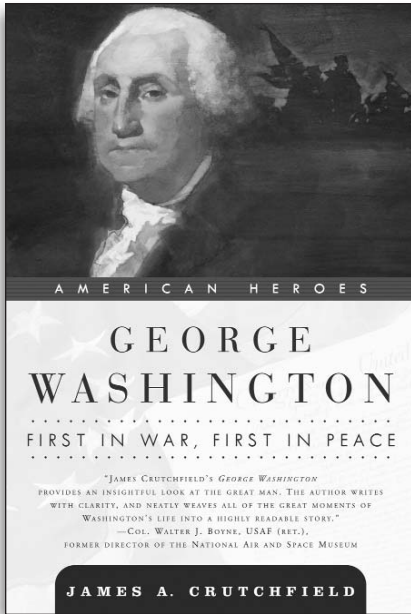
"Good dark fun...Kaminsky strikes new chords of imagination every time out." —*CHICAGO TRIBUNE ON MIDNIGHT PASS*

"Lew is still a triumph: a Lew Archer type with nerve endings so sensitive that when he's asked, 'anybody dead?' he replies, 'Most of the people who ever lived.'" —*KIRKUS REVIEWS ON RETRIBUTION*

★ **"Kaminsky's sense of place is faultless...he grabs readers and takes them on a memorably tumultuous ride of violent dips and turns."** —*PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (STARRED REVIEW) ON VENGEANCE*

"Pacing a series is a tricky maintenance job. Move too fast, your hero loses credibility. Move too slowly, your readers get bored. Move just right, you produce *Denial*." —*THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW*

STUART M. KAMINSKY is the author of more than sixty novels and an Edgar Award winner who has been given the coveted Grand Master Award by the Mystery Writers of America. In addition to his Lew Fonesca series (for which the Sarasota Convention and Visitors Bureau has officially recognized him as "The Voice of Sarasota"), Kaminsky is also the creator of the critically acclaimed Inspector Rostnikov, Toby Peters, and Abe Lieberman mystery series. He resides with his family, naturally enough, in Florida.



HC: 978-0-7653-1069-9

ALSO AVAILABLE:

The Way West (5/06)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0452-0
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-0452-X
 \$15.95/\$17.95 Can

BIOGRAPHY

Forge Trade Paperback
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1070-5
 \$13.95
 \$15.50 Canadian
 5" x 7 1/2" / 240 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1070-8

George Washington

First in War, First in Peace

JAMES A. CRUTCHFIELD

A compact life of "America's first hero" and first president

Washington's rise from anonymity as a minor land-owner and surveyor to become America's first national hero is recreated by veteran historical writer James Crutchfield. The author draws a vivid picture of a man who, with no military training, led the thirteen fledgling colonies through five years of grueling war against formidable British forces, steered the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, and served two terms as the first president of the United States.

Washington's accomplishments were so stunning and he was so revered that by the end of the war some of his generals urged him to install himself as king, an idea he looked upon with abhorrence, calling the very thought "painful." Nor would he consider standing for a third term as president.

In this revealing book, James Crutchfield pictures Washington as an enigmatic man whose outward commonness concealed a quick, analytical mind capable of learning from mistakes. He gauged his successes not on battles won but on the effect his decisions would have on the future of his country.

"Washington remains an American hero, in every definition of the word," Crutchfield says. "He was a man who rose above the political uncertainty of the infant United States to chart its destiny for two centuries into the future."

JAMES A. CRUTCHFIELD of Franklin, Tennessee, is the author of many books on American history, including *The Way West* and *The Santa Fe Trail*.

COVER
NOT FINAL


THE BRANCH AND THE SCAFFOLD

Loren D. Estleman

ALSO AVAILABLE:

American Detective (12/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5082-4
ISBN-10: 0-7653-5082-3
\$6.99/\$8.99 Can

The Adventures of Johnny Vermillion (5/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-4812-8
ISBN-10: 0-7653-4812-8
\$5.99/\$6.99 Can

Port Hazard (2/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-4111-2
ISBN-10: 0-7653-4111-5
\$6.99/\$8.99 Can

HISTORICAL FICTION

Forge Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1599-1
\$24.95
\$27.95 Canadian
5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 272 pages
ISBN-10: 0-7653-1599-8

The Branch and the Scaffold

LOREN D. ESTLEMAN

**Based on the true story of the West's legendary
Hanging Judge!**

When Judge Isaac Parker first arrived in Fort Smith, Arkansas, the town had thirty saloons and one bank. Inheriting a corrupt court and a lawless territory, Parker immediately put the residents on notice by publicly hanging six convicted felons at one time. For the next two decades, his stern and implacable justice brought law and order to the West...and made him plenty of enemies.

As the sole law on the untamed frontier, Parker tried civil and criminal cases throughout the Western District of Arkansas and the Indian Nations. His severe judgments scandalized Washington and took an onerous toll on his private life, but the "Hanging Judge of the Border" never flinched from his duty. Over the years, he and his marshals ran up against some of the most colorful and dangerous outlaws the West had to offer.

The Branch and the Scaffold is a fascinating depiction of Judge Parker's life and times, as told by a five-time winner of the Spur Award.

Praise for *The Master Executioner*:

**"The tale of a master executioner written by a master storyteller:
What more could you ask for?"**
—ELMORE LEONARD

**"A master craftsman at storytelling, Estleman spins a fascinating and
macabre account about a forgotten craftsman of the Old West, the
professional hangman."**
—ELMER KELTON

★ **"Estleman's prose snaps like fresh linen Treasury bills, using a
Cold-Eye-of-God style for a type of fiction-truer-than-fact
stretching back to Defoe's true-fact novel *Journal of the Plague Year*."**
—KIRKUS REVIEWS (STARRED REVIEW)

**"Hauntingly poignant.... Estleman movingly conveys the brutalizing
effects of killing for the law, even when you are terribly good at it."**
—THE ECONOMIST

LOREN D. ESTLEMAN is the winner of five Spurs, two Stirrups, and three Western Heritage Awards for his Western writing. He lives in Whitmore Lake, Michigan.

COVER
NOT FINAL



IRISH TWEED

A Nuala Anne McGrail Novel

Andrew M. Greeley

ALSO AVAILABLE:

Irish Linen (2/08)
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-5500-3
ISBN-10: 0-7653-5500-0
\$7.99/\$9.99 Can

MYSTERY

Forge Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-2223-4
\$24.95
\$27.95 Canadian
6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 320 pages
ISBN-10: 0-7653-2223-4

Irish Tweed

A Nuala Anne McGrail Novel

ANDREW M. GREELEY

"Greeley has hordes of fans who devour his books as fast as he can write them."

—BOOKLIST

Countless readers have been delighted by Father Andrew M. Greeley's bestselling tales of Nuala Anne McGrail, a fey, Irish-speaking woman blessed with the gift of second sight, and her husband and accomplice, Dermot Michael Coyne.

In *Irish Tweed*, Nuala Anne and her daughter have taken up karate to fight off schoolyard bullies who are harassing the family, while their incredibly shy nanny, Julie, is courted by a new fellow. Dermot pores over a memoir of a famine refugee whose family died of a mysterious fever, looking for clues into the illnesses real cause.

Father Greeley's many fans look forward to each installment, and *Irish Tweed* is another captivating tale in a series by one of America's best loved storytellers.

"Immensely entertaining." —PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON THE IRISH SERIES

"Solid, modest Dermot and fiery, unpredictable Nuala Anne enjoy an ideal marriage: sexy and humorous and unabashedly loving."

—LOS ANGELES TIMES

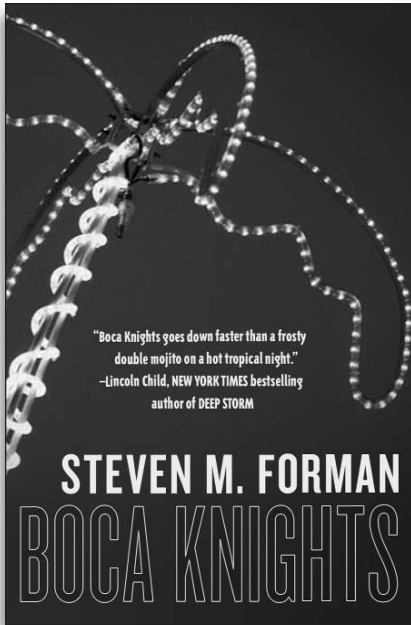
"Greeley's lovable part-time sleuths always deliver."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON IRISH CRYSTAL

"Irresistible."

—BOOKLIST ON IRISH CREAM

ANDREW M. GREELEY, a Catholic priest and sociologist, is an Honorary Senior Fellow at the University of Ireland in Dublin. He divides his time between teaching at the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona at Tucson.



Boca Knights

STEVEN M. FORMAN

A WINTER 2009
FORGE SELECT TITLE

"Boca Knights goes down faster than a frosty double mojito on a hot tropical night."

—LINCOLN CHILD, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *DEEP STORM*

In a debut novel sure to both excite passions and elicit laughter, a different kind of hero emerges in that most unlikely criminal hotbed: Boca Raton.

Eddie Perlmutter is capable of fighting with fearless frenzy, but only does so to defend the defenseless. Eddie's career as a much-honored Boston cop has come to an end. At sixty, he's still energetic and virile, but decades of harsh New England winters and collaring the plug-uglies of Boston's underworld have taken their toll—especially on his knees. So what does a lonely, retired cop with arthritic knees do? Head to sunny Florida, of course.

Country club politics and early-bird specials seem a far cry from the street toughs, scuffles, and arrests of his former life. But some things never change. Instead of enjoying a relaxed, laid-back retirement, Eddie quickly discovers the darker side of Boca Raton's endless sun and palm trees, where hate crimes, counterfeiting, and worse lurk beneath the deceptively calm surface of cushy retirement communities.

With his no-nonsense crime-fighting skills and roll-with-the-punches attitude, Eddie hits Boca Raton like a Nor'easter from hell: fast, fresh, and unstoppable. A compulsively readable comic thriller with an egalitarian message that will inspire readers of all ages, *Boca Knights* will have readers in stitches and keep them on the edges of their seats.

"Steven Forman strafes the south Florida scene with *Boca Knights*, an outrageously funny mystery novel with a raft of offbeat characters and prose that moves trippingly off the pen. His main man, Eddie Perlmutter, is a character for the ages. Carl Hiaasen, watch your back."

—DOUGLAS PRESTON, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF

BLASPHEMY

STEVEN M. FORMAN grew up in the Boston area. *Boca Knights* is his first novel. He divides his time between Massachusetts and Boca Raton, Florida.

FICTION

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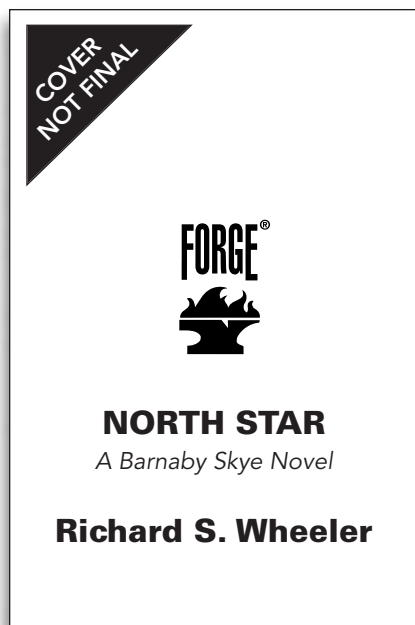
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North Star

A Barnaby Skye Novel

RICHARD S. WHEELER

The sweeping seventeenth novel in Richard S. Wheeler's epic Skye's West series

There is a season for all things....

For Barnaby Skye, legendary guide and man of the borders, it is time to start a new life. For Skye's younger wife, the beautiful Shoshone woman he calls Mary, it is time to find the beloved son she has not seen in seven years. For Skye's half-blood son, North Star, it is time to discover who he is. And for Skye's older Crow wife, Victoria, the whole world is spinning out of control.

In this sweeping novel of the early West, Skye and his wives and son cope with radical change as the wilderness vanishes, the buffalo are slaughtered, and the government puts the tribes on reservation lands. How can people born and bred to tribal life learn to live another way?

Their struggle takes the Skyes from the Crazy Mountains in Montana to St. Louis and the Wind River Reservation in Wyoming. They must wrestle with the tide of settlers and the new settlements that dot the western plains and mountains—a tide that leaves no good place for a veteran borders man with two Indian wives and a mixed-blood son.

"Wheeler's westerns just keep getting better and better."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

"Wheeler is a writer's writer whose prose has the authority of handset type but sparkles like horseshoes on flint rock."

—KIRKUS REVIEWS

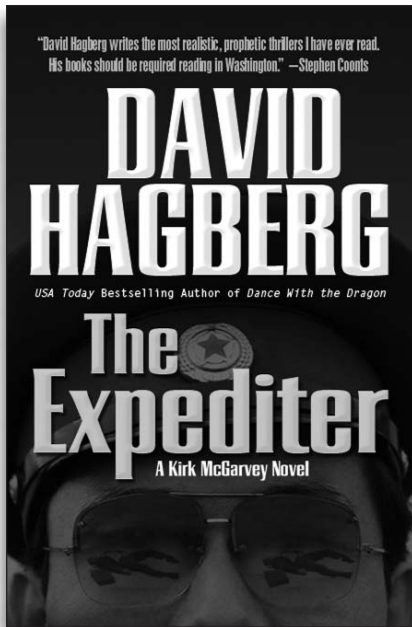
"An exciting, suspenseful story with Barnaby once more facing stronger odds than any man should, but no one should count this unlikely mountain man out."

—ROUNDUP MAGAZINE ON THE FIRE ARROW

"Based on the author's considerable knowledge of the early West and driven by memorable characters, *The Fire Arrow* is a deftly written story of personal integrity and love."

—THE DENVER POST AND ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS

RICHARD S. WHEELER is the author of more than sixty novels of the American West. He has won the Owen Wister Award for lifetime contributions to the literature of the West, as well as five Spur Awards. He lives and writes in Livingston, Montana. His wife, Sue Hart, is an English professor at Montana State University in Billings.



ALSO AVAILABLE:

Soldier of God (12/06)
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-4540-0
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-4540-4
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FICTION

Forge Hardcover
ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-1111-5
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 6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 400 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-1111-9

The Expediter

DAVID HAGBERG

An explosive thriller that pits Kirk McGarvey against Kim Jong-Il

Late one balmy summer evening in Pyongyang, an important Chinese intelligence general on his way to a secret meeting with Kim Jong-Il is assassinated in plain sight of a surveillance camera. The two shooters are wearing the uniforms of North Korean police officers.

Kim Jong-Il denies any knowledge of the shooting, but the Chinese do not believe him. As they prepare to attack, Jong-Il promises to unleash his nuclear weapons on downtown Beijing, Seoul, and Tokyo, plunging the entire region into nuclear war.

Kirk McGarvey, just off a difficult assignment that took him to Mexico City, has returned to his visiting professorship at the University of South Florida. A colonel in North Korea's intelligence service shows up in person, asking McGarvey to prove that North Korea did not authorize the hit.

It's the most extraordinary request McGarvey has ever received. He enters a dangerous international shadow world where almost nothing is as it seems. The puzzles leads him to a mysterious Russian ex-KGB multimillionaire whose specialty is expediting assassins for hire, to Pyongyang where he finds the wedge to open up a far-reaching plot so monstrous the entire world could go up in flames, and finally back to the one nation that potentially has the most to gain by such a war.

And the most to lose....

"An espionage tale of deep intrigue, puzzles wrapped in enigmas, triple crosses, and brutal murders...One can only hope America's real-life enemies haven't thought to study this series."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON *DANCE WITH THE DRAGON*

"David Hagberg writes the most realistic, prophetic thrillers I have ever read. His books should be required reading in Washington."

—STEPHEN COONTS, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE ASSASSIN*

"David Hagberg runs in the same fast, high-tech track as Clancy and his gung-ho colleagues, with lots of war games, fancy weapons, and much male bonding."

—NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

DAVID HAGBERG is a former Air Force cryptographer who has traveled extensively in Europe, the Arctic, and the Caribbean and has spoken at CIA functions. He has published more than twenty novels of suspense, including the bestselling *Soldier of God*, *Allah's Scorpion*, and *Dance with the Dragon*. He makes his home in Sarasota, Florida.

M A R C H 2 0 0 9



Aftershock & Others

19 Oddities

F. PAUL WILSON

A striking collection of exciting stories by the bestselling author of the Repairman Jack novels

Aftershock & Others is the third collection of short fiction by New York Times bestselling author F. Paul Wilson, hailed by the *Rocky Mountain News* as “among the finest storytellers of our times.” The title novelette won the Bram Stoker Award and its companions touch on the past, present, and future—from the inflationary insanity of Weimar Germany (“Aryans and Absinthe”) to disco club-era Manhattan (“When He Was Fab”), to the rationing of medical services in a grim near future (“Offshore”). Wilson’s stylistic diversity and versatility are on display in stories that pay tribute to Ray Bradbury (“The November Game”), use a sentient killer virus as a point-of-view character (“Lysing toward Bethlehem”), and pay unabashed homage to pure pulp fiction in two yellow peril stories (“Sex Slaves of the Dragon Tong” and “Part of the Game”). And finally, Wilson treats us to his popular antihero Repairman Jack at his most inventive: trapped in a drugstore with four killers (“Interlude at Duane’s”).

Praise for F. Paul Wilson:

“F. Paul Wilson is a great storyteller and a thoughtful one. He speculates about real science to generate real suspense while raising troubling, real issues we may all be dealing with much sooner than we expect.”

—DAVID MORRELL, AUTHOR OF *FIRST BLOOD*

“F. Paul Wilson is a writer’s writer, and I grab anything he’s written with enthusiasm.”

—JOE R. LANSDALE, AUTHOR OF *FREEZER BURN*

“Like the best of Dean Koontz’s work, Wilson’s work combines an action-adventure yarn with a touch of the fantastic.”

—THE DENVER POST

F. PAUL WILSON, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the Repairman Jack novels, lives in Wall, New Jersey.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

Bloodline (10/08)

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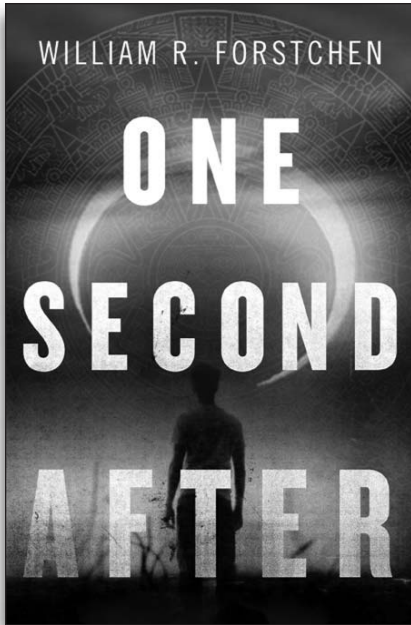
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6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 368 pages

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MARCH 2009



One Second After

WILLIAM R. FORSTCHEN

Foreword by Newt Gingrich

An end-of-the-world novel to rank with *The Stand* and *Lucifer's Hammer*

The world is coming to an end.

Is it the Mayan 2012 apocalypse?

The Rapture? Islamic terrorists?

Or high-tech weapons from hell?

Overnight, the world's trains, planes, cars, trucks, phones, computers, power plants, electronics, and electrical equipment come to a screeching stop. Looting, food riots, and insurrection engulf the globe as the End Time descends. Can it be stopped? A small mountain village in the American South is humanity's last best hope.

"Civilization slides into the abyss of a new dark age in this horrifying apocalyptic novel. Forstchen has put Bin Laden's wet dream on paper and, in the process, taken civilization straight to the rack."

—STEPHEN COONTS, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
THE ASSASSIN

"Forstchen's work has flair and power."

—JOEL ROSENBERG, AUTHOR OF *THE SLEEPING DRAGON*

"Good storytelling consists very simply of creating characters so believable that the reader forms a deep bond. Forstchen did such a damned fine job with *One Second After* that shortly after the first page, I had been reeled in hook, line, and sinker."

—DAVID HAGBERG, *USA TODAY* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
DANCE WITH THE DRAGON

WILLIAM R. FORSTCHEN, PhD, is a professor of history at Montreat College in Montreat, North Carolina. He received his doctorate from Purdue University and specialized in the American Civil War. He is the coauthor of a *New York Times* bestselling series of Civil War novels, including *Grant Comes East* and *Day of Retreat*. He resides near Asheville, North Carolina, with his wife, Sharon, and daughter, Meghan.

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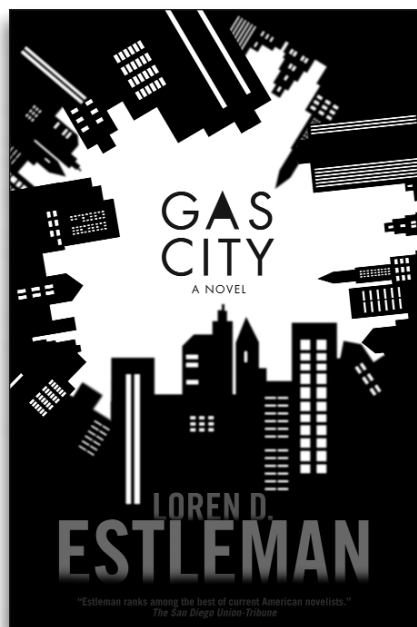
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5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 304 pages

ISBN-10: 0-7653-1959-4

Gas City

LOREN D. ESTLEMAN

★ "The chronically undervalued Estleman serves up what just might be the best novel about urban political corruption since Dashiell Hammett's *The Glass Key*."

—KIRKUS REVIEWS (STARRED REVIEW)

A master of many styles and genres, multiple award-winning author Loren Estleman has penned a modern novel of uncommon depth and power, exploring the darkness of the soul as he chronicles a crisis in an archetypal American city.

A power struggle—between a police chief who has looked the other way for too long, a Mafia boss who holds the city's vices in his grasp, and media reporters looking for a big story—turns what has been a minor dispute into a desperate fight for survival.

Estleman writes with an unerring eye for telling detail and an ear for dialogue that reveals the secret desires of his characters. With powerful insight into the forces of love and ambition, redemption and revenge, Estleman creates a brilliant, sharply observed portrait of the human condition.

"Loren D. Estleman's knife-edged serial-killer thriller *Gas City* is pared to its very bone. Estleman brings to life not just his characters but the vices that fuel them and, in the process, exposes the gritty, ragged, sordid underbelly of urban life."

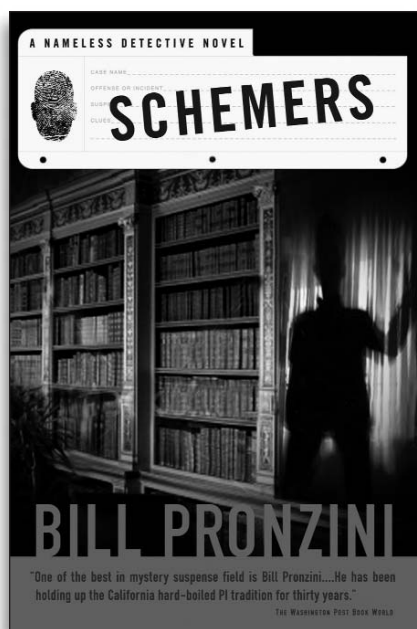
—ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

★ "Shamus-winner Estleman, best known for his hard-boiled Amos Walker series (*American Detective*, etc.), creates a new, morally complex world in this razor-sharp tale of crime and corruption. Admirers of unsparing crime fiction will hope that Estleman plans to visit *Gas City* again."

—PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (STARRED REVIEW)

LOREN D. ESTLEMAN is the author of more than sixty novels. He is the recipient of four Shamus Awards, five Spur Awards, and three Western Heritage Awards among others. He lives with his wife, author Deborah Morgan, in central Michigan.

MARCH 2009



Schemers

A Nameless Detective Novel

BILL PRONZINI

**A new Nameless Detective story from the 2008
Mystery Writers of America Grand Master**

A locked-room mystery that goes from stolen books to stolen lives and the hunt for a phantom stalker with a penchant for pouring acid to make his point give Nameless and his partner Jake more than enough work to earn their fees—as long as neither turns his back at the wrong moment.

Nameless wasn't supposed to come into the office on Mondays; he wasn't supposed to answer the phone. On this Monday, he did both. The call was from Barney Rivera—once a friend, now despised—at Great Western Insurance. Against his better judgment, Nameless agreed to meet with him. The investigation was relatively simple: a multimillionaire rare books collector had reported the theft of eight volumes, worth a half million dollars. From a locked library. To which he has the only key. The books were all crime fiction and suspense—a locked-room mystery about mysteries.

This ordinary Monday brought a second oddball case: The Henderson brothers were being stalked. Someone had dug up the ashes of their late father and poured acid over them, then destroyed the headstone the same way, and left a sign warning that this was just the beginning. Searching for peace of mind and the distraction of work, Jake Runyon is more than happy to bring an end to the brothers' terror.

Praise for Bill Pronzini:

"One of the best in the mystery-suspense field."

—THE WASHINGTON POST BOOK WORLD

"One of the greatest-ever detective series."

—BOOKLIST

**"The Nameless Detective novels are a thinking reader's
detective series."**

—CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

**"There is no living writer whose work more faithfully embodies the
spirit of classic private-eye fiction than Bill Pronzini's. [It is] classy,
classy noir storytelling."**

—THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

BILL PRONZINI's novel, *Snowbound*, received the Grand Prix de la Littérature Policière as the best crime novel published in France in 1988. In addition to six Edgar Award nominations, Pronzini has received three Shamus Awards, two for best novel, and the PWA Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2008, the Mystery Writers of America named him Grand Master. He lives in northern California with his wife, the crime novelist Marcia Muller.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

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MYSTERY

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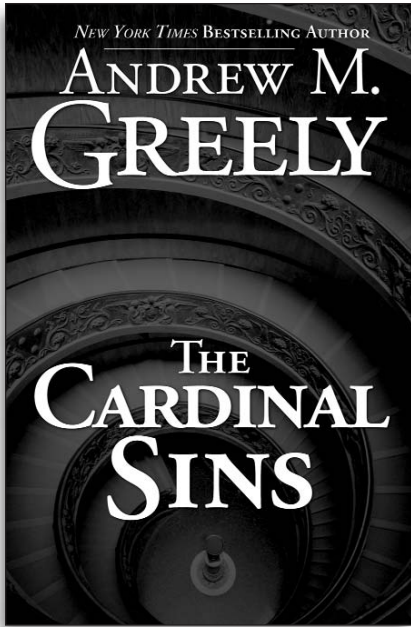
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A P R I L 2 0 0 9



The Cardinal Sins

ANDREW M. GREELEY

The *New York Times* bestselling novel that captivated the nation

A candid and controversial look at the hearts and souls of two very different Catholic priests, *The Cardinal Sins* ignited a sensation when it first appeared nearly thirty years ago. Selling more than three million copies, it resided for fifty-two weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list and launched Andrew M. Greeley's career as one of America's most popular storytellers. Today, this powerful saga of ambition, temptation, and love both spiritual and carnal, remains as timely and provocative as ever.

Spanning decades, *The Cardinal Sins* tells the story of two close friends whose pursuit of God sends them down separate paths, and of the spirited, independent women who love them in profoundly different ways. Kevin Brennan and Patrick Donahue enter the seminary together, but their lives soon diverge dramatically. Intellectual and independent, Kevin often finds himself at odds with his superiors in the Church. And his unwavering principles threaten to cut him off from those closest to him—including the former sweetheart he has never forgotten. By contrast, Patrick rises steadily through the Church hierarchy, only to fall prey to the temptations of lust and power. As his inner demons, and hidden scandals, threaten to destroy the lives of everyone around him, it's up to his oldest friend to save him from himself—and foil a conspiracy that could change the very future of the Papacy!

"Sprightly...scandalous. Father Greeley's narrative seethes with temptations yielded to at the drop of a clerical collar, and his ecclesiastical sizzler makes a splendid yarn." —COSMOPOLITAN

"There is bitterness and anguish in this novel—grief over the possibilities unfulfilled and roads not taken; but there is also courage, honesty, and the healing touch of religion."

—THE SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

"Andrew Greeley is startlingly honest. Thirty years ago, a priest would have been excommunicated for writing such a book. Three hundred years ago, he would have been burned at the stake."

—NELSON DE MILLE, *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR

ANDREW M. GREELEY, a Catholic priest and sociologist, is an Honorary Senior Fellow at the University of Ireland in Dublin. He divides his time between teaching at the University of Chicago and the University of Arizona at Tucson.

You can contact Father Greeley via e-mail: Agree@aol.com

www.agreeley.com

ALSO AVAILABLE:

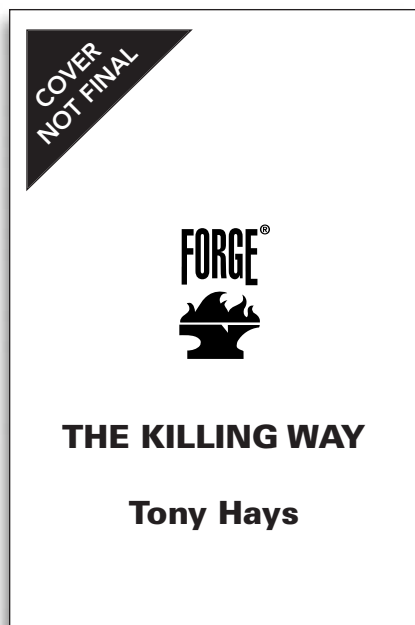
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FICTION

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APRIL 2009



The Killing Way

TONY HAYS

The start of a powerful new medieval mystery series: "This author knows his history and produces a first class, page-turning tale."

—PETER TREMAYNE, AUTHOR OF *A PRAYER FOR THE DAMNED*

It is the time of Arthur, but this is not his storied epic. Arthur is a young and powerful warrior who some would say stands on the brink of legend. Britain's leaders have come to elect a new supreme king, and Arthur is favored. But when a young woman is brutally murdered and the blame is placed at Merlin's feet, Arthur's reputation is at stake and his enemies are poised to strike. Arthur turns to Malgwyn ap Cuneglas, a man whose knowledge of battle and keen insight into how the human mind works have helped Arthur to the brink of kingship.

Malgwyn is also the man who hates Arthur most in the world.

After the death of Malgwyn's wife at Saxon hands, he became Mad Malgwyn, killer of Saxons and right-hand lieutenant to the warrior Arthur. Right hand, that is, until a Saxon cut his sword arm off and left him to die on the battlefield. Arthur rescued him. Now a one-armed scribe and a heavy drinker, Malgwyn rejects the half-life that his liege gave him. But loyalty is sometimes stronger than loathing...and Malgwyn is pulled toward a puzzle that he can't ignore.

Think *CSI: Medieval*—gritty, powerful, and with the true ring of historical perspective and a character who sees more than those around him. *The Killing Way* is the first in a mystery series that is sure to be a hit with both mystery readers and historical fans alike.

"True to the magic of the Arthurian legend. *The Killing Way* is a beautiful tale rich in character and atmosphere, and dark with emotions old as time." —HOWARD BAHR, AUTHOR OF *PELICAN ROAD*

"A vivid and original detective story, *The Killing Way* is an unusual Arthurian murder mystery set against an evocative fifth century background that is more genuine than the usual Arthurian fare. Yes, it might actually have been like that."

—GEOFFREY ASHE, LEADING ARTHURIAN SCHOLAR AND AUTHOR OF *MERLIN: THE PROPHET & HIS HISTORY*

"An exciting, suspenseful murder mystery, *The Killing Way* is an excellent read." —RICHARD TUERK, AUTHOR OF *OZ IN PERSPECTIVE*

TONY HAYS is a journalist and novelist. His short fiction has appeared both in the United States and Japan, and he is the author of three novels. He resides in Tennessee.

www.tonyhays.com

www.chroniclesofmalgwyn.com.

MYSTERY

Forge Hardcover

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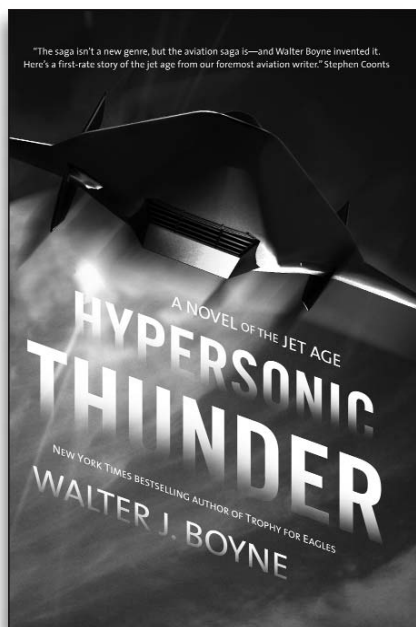
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5 1/2" x 8 1/4" / 320 pages

ISBN-10: 0-7653-1945-4

A P R I L 2 0 0 9



Hypersonic Thunder

A Novel of the Jet Age

WALTER J. BOYNE

New York Times bestselling author and the former director of the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum Walter J. Boyne brings readers the final book in a trilogy highlighting the history of the aircraft industry

The jet age began in 1939 with the brief hop of a secret German airplane. Seventy years later, the entire world depends upon the jet engine in every sphere—political, military, economic, and social. In *Hypersonic Thunder*, Walter Boyne weaves an intricate story of how the jet engine changed aeronautics and astronautics, pushing the frontiers of flight forward and permitting humankind to enter the space age.

Drawing on his knowledge of the period, Boyne paints a gripping picture of jet aviation from the brilliant supersonic Concorde to the coming challenges of hypersonic flight. Using the fictional Shannons as a vehicle, the author ranges the world of aviation, combining the triumphs and tragedies of great aviation companies with the familiar conflicts of family life. All of the great names of aeronautics and astronautics appear here as they did on the historic scene, including such luminaries as Howard Hughes, Kelly Johnson, Burt Rutan, and Steve Fosssett.

The book thunders with the clash of combat, ranging from the courageous fights of the Israeli Air Force down through the raid on Libya, Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom, and, most important, the ongoing war on terror. And space is not neglected, as Boyne covers everything from Skylab and the Space Shuttle, with its great achievements and terrible tragedies, to the International Space Station.

"The saga isn't a new genre, but the aviation saga is—and Walter Boyne invented it. Here's a first-rate story of the jet age from our foremost aviation writer."

—STEPHEN COONTs, AUTHOR OF *THE ASSASSIN*, ON
SUPERSONIC THUNDER

WALTER J. BOYNE is the former director of the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution. Boyne's books have made both the fiction and nonfiction bestseller lists of *The New York Times*. His two most recent fiction books, *Roaring Thunder* and *Supersonic Thunder*, cover the first forty-four years of jet aviation, while his critically acclaimed *Dawn Over Kitty Hawk* recounts the story of the Wright Brothers. A retired Air Force Colonel, Boyne was enshrined in the National Aviation Hall of Fame class of 2007.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Forge Hardcover

ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0845-0

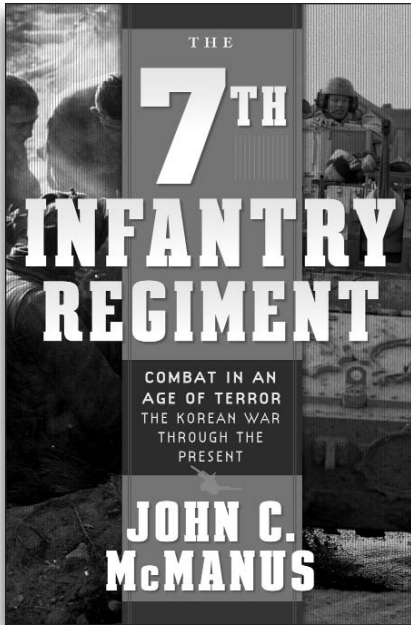
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ISBN-10: 0-7653-0845-2

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HC: 978-0-7653-0305-9

ALSO AVAILABLE:

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Americans at D-Day (5/05)
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 \$14.95/\$21.95 Can

HISTORY

Forge Trade Paperback
 ISBN-13: 978-0-7653-0312-7
 \$15.95

\$17.95 Canadian
 6 1/8" x 9 1/4" / 432 pages
 ISBN-10: 0-7653-0312-4

The 7th Infantry Regiment: Combat in an Age of Terror

The Korean War Through the Present

JOHN C. McMANUS

"McManus masterfully captures the heart and soul of the warriors of the 7th—remarkable storytelling by a highly skilled historian."

—W. E. B. GRIFFIN

The 7th Infantry's motto, "Willing and Able," speaks volumes about its past. Throughout America's history, the soldiers of this regiment have proven, through their sacrifice, their bloodshed, and their sweat, that they are willing and able to fight America's wars. At practically every crucial moment, the 7th has been there, shaping the future of the country and, by extension, the world.

Acclaimed historian John C. McManus takes readers through the amazing story of this ever-present regiment in modern warfare, from Korea to its current toils in the Middle East. McManus tells the tale of those ordinary infantrymen who have always made up the 7th. These soldiers have always been, and probably always will be, the heart and soul of the United States Army.

The 7th is a vital part of America's military tradition, and McManus tells its story complete with the struggle, anguish, fear, sacrifice, triumph, and pride of its soldiers. McManus provides a compelling glimpse of not only the infantryman's journey through American history, but the shaping of our nation as a whole.

"Everyone's heard of the 7th Cavalry, but our 7th Infantry Regiment has even more battle streamers on its flag and a more impressive record of victories. John C. McManus has paid the Cottonbalers (the nickname recalls their valor at the Battle of New Orleans) a worthy and overdue tribute in this superb chronicle of battalion-by-battalion heroism from Korea to Iraq. Grab this book—and buy a copy for a soldier you know!"

—RALPH PETERS, AUTHOR OF *WARS OF BLOOD AND FAITH*

"McManus masterfully captures the heart and soul of the warriors of the 7th—remarkable storytelling by a highly skilled historian."

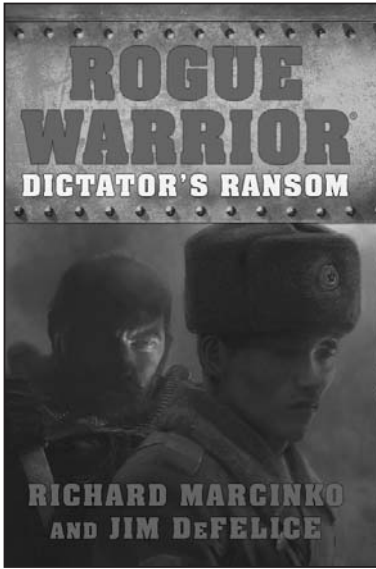
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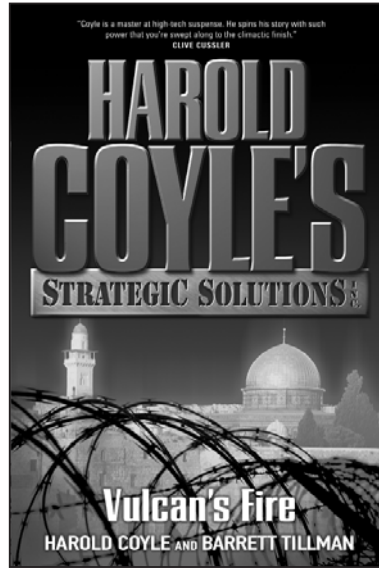
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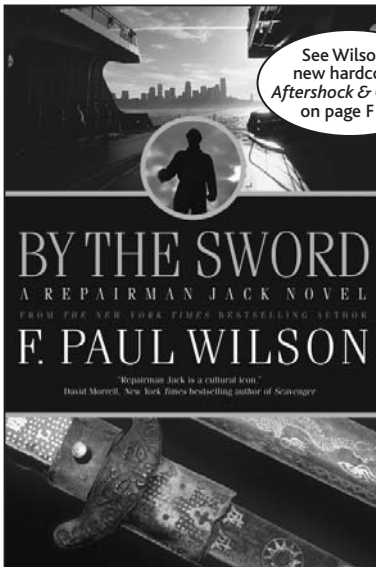
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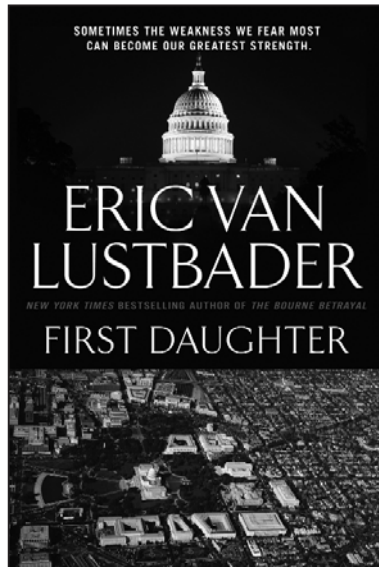
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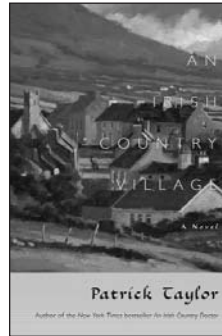
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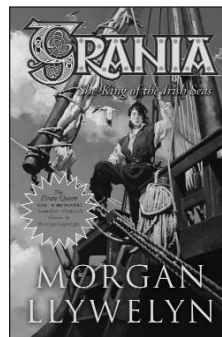
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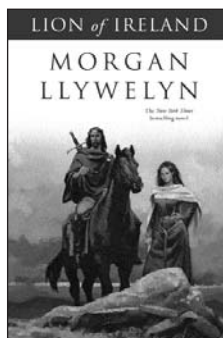
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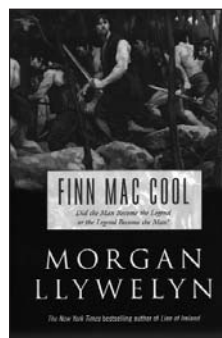
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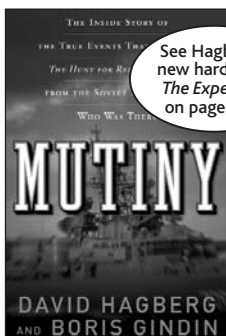
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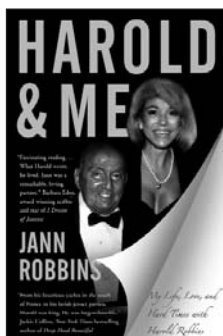
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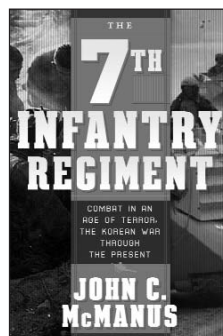
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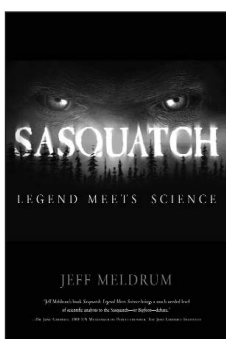
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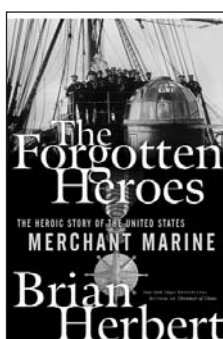
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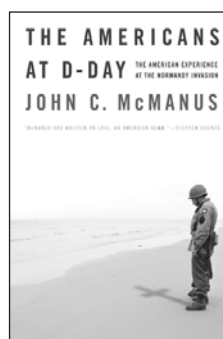
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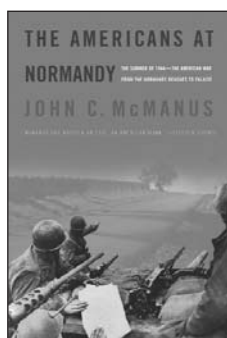
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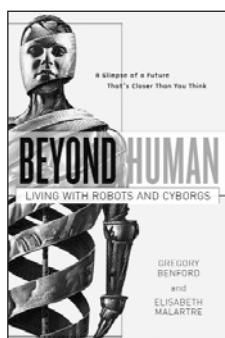
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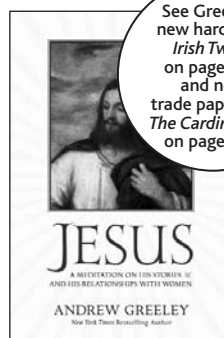
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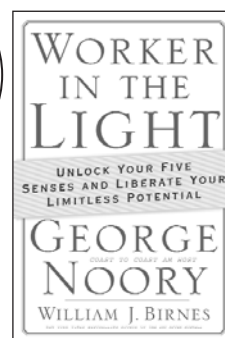
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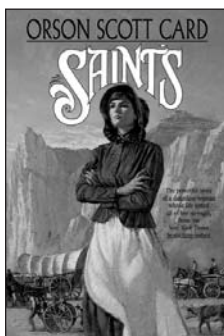
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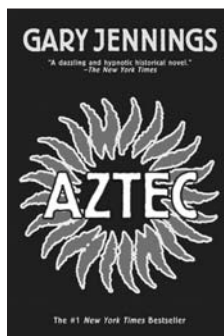
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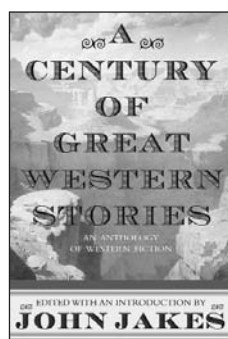
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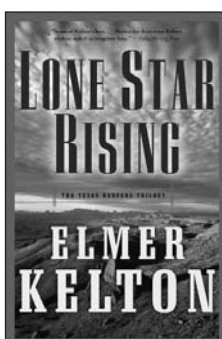
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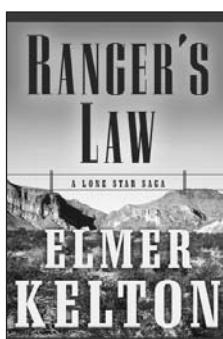
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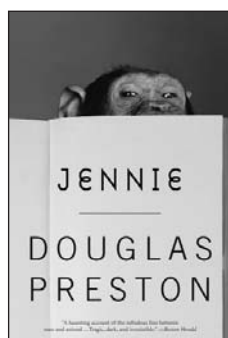
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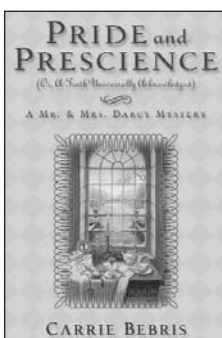
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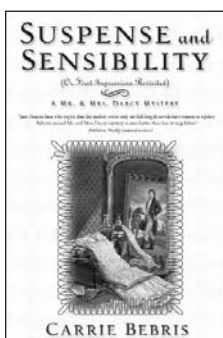
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