

SCENE OF THE CRIME BOOKS

Case file #10

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AUTHOR SIGNINGS:

JEAN RAE BAXTER -

We would like to welcome Jean Rae Baxter. If you remember back on April 2nd we hosted a signing with Jean Rae Baxter and Kerry Schooley for the Insomniac Press novel "Revenge". A compellation of short stories by Canadian authors. Now Jean is flying solo with her first novel "A Twist of Malice". If you like them dark -- you'll enjoy this book. Join us Saturday **September 24th**
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

STORE HOURS:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Thursday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday - 1 to 5 p.m.

UP COMING EVENTS:

Bouchercon

By the time you read this newsletter I'll be in Chicago laughing it up with Lee Child, Linwood Barclay, Max Allan Collins and Rick Mofina - just to name a few of the authors in attendance. But please don't think the store is closed. My parents will be running the store and they can help you with any of your reading needs.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

Don't delay on purchasing tickets for our **Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre** event. We've sold half the tickets already. This is going to be an awesome event. A murder will be committed -- are you smart enough to solve the crime? The event, to be held **Saturday September 24th at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel and Suites**, 2525 Wycroft Rd, Oakville, will feature a three-course meal starting with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. Alcoholic drinks are extra. Solve the murder - win a prize. Tickets are \$60.00 per person and can be purchased through the store.

NEW EVIDENCE:

ELIZABETH BECKA - "TRACE EVIDENCE" Here it is. Fans of Kathy Reichs and early Patricia Cornwell will enjoy this one. She is another forensic scientist-turned-author and this is her first book. Check out her web site at www.elizabethbecka.com to get more info. I have already read this book and highly recommend it. It's a nice light read - very down-to-earth. I found myself believing in the character. Personally I enjoyed this book as much as the first five novels of Patricia Cornwell's Kay Scarppetta series.

A young woman has been forcibly drowned, her feet chained and sunk into concrete. When a second victim is connected to a prominent Cleveland family, all hell breaks loose. Evelyn James is working hard to find the killer when she realizes that her daughter may be the next one on the killer's list.

This novel will be available after Wednesday September 7th right now their being shipped to Chicago to be signed.

First edition SIGNED, published by Hyperion. \$29.95

BARRY EISLER - "KILLING RAIN" Let me introduce you to John Rain, an Asian-American assassin who specializes in "natural looking assassinations." For example: making your death look as if you've had a heart attack. I read the first novel in this series and loved it. I keep meaning to read more of the series. But continually sell them out. I'll work harder at it. In this novel John has a new employer, "Mossad" and a new partner, "Dox". But Rain has problems; he's an assassin with a conscience and in this business that's not a good thing. Before Rain can even get comfortable, he finds out Mossad has a new target - John Rain himself.

First edition SIGNED, published by Putnam. \$35.00

FAYE KELLERMAN - "STRAIGHT INTO DARKNESS" In 1920 Munich is a war -wounded city. The body of a beautiful young society wife turns up displayed in an artful arrangement in the vast English Garden. Homicide Inspector Axel Berg is horrified by the crime and his superiors demand quick results. And anyone will do. But when a second body turns up, the city erupts into panic and Axel Berg starts questioning who he can trust. As Hitler starts his rise to power, Axel must find a killer before his city veers "*STRAIGHT INTO DARKNESS*". First edition, published by Warner Books. \$34.95

JULIE SMITH "P.I. ON A HOT TIN ROOF" P.I. Talba Wallis gets a frantic call from Orleans Parish Prison, it's her boss' daughter, a lawyer named Angie. Angie has been picked up for drug possession but Angie insists the drugs were planted. Angie claims she been representing a group protesting illegal commercial use of their marina. A marina owned by Judge Buddy Champagne - and Angie claims the Judge is dirty. So Wallis goes undercover as a housekeeper in the Judge's house and finds herself in a lifestyle very similar to that of a Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. When Wallis exposes everything to a local newspaper the scandal deepens ... Judge Champagne ends up dead. Was it politics that killed him or his own family? First edition, published by Forge. \$34.95

DON'S PICKS

I guess you can figure out from the **Elizabeth Becka** outline above that I loved the book. Trust me when I say it's good. Next I would like to point out **Mark Cohen's** newest novel "**The Fractal Murders**". If you remember last month's newsletter I wrote about Mark Cohen's recent novel "**The Bluetick Revenge**" and said that it had rocketed to the top of my reading list. Well I had copies of the first novel "**The Fractal Murders**" and thought hey why not practice what I preach and read the first novel FIRST! Even though "**The Fractal Murders**" focuses on the deaths of three mathematicians, Mr. Cohen seems to keep the math out of it to some degree. He doesn't bog you down with a lot of jargon and seems to be able to create a character that seems as loveable as Travis McGee. My only problem is the lack of violence. I kept waiting for someone to beat the brains out of Pepper Keane but it just never happens. Even though I say I was disappointed, in reality it was a change from every Travis McGee wanna-be book out there. Anyways I'm really looking forward "**The Bluetick Revenge**."

BOOKCLUB:

Bouchercon, the Murder Mystery Dinner, Jean Rae Baxter, what more could we do? Oh yes **Lyn Hamilton** is coming to our Book Club meeting on **Thursday September 15 at 7:00 p.m.** We'll be discussing Lyn's novel "**The African Quest**". This is truly exciting. After being a guest at our Denise Hamilton Book Club, the ladies asked Lyn if she would come back. If you're a Lyn Hamilton fan or if you just want to find out what the club is all about then come out and enjoy. As a side note, we'll also be celebrating **Agatha Christie's birthday** which also falls on the fifteenth. There'll be cake and tea (from thyme in a basket). So come out!

Due to the fact the Book Club changed from the third week to the second week of the month, we have two book reviews this month.

Linwood Barclay's "Bad Move" as written by Book Club organizer, Janet Costello:

In *Bad Move*, Zack Walker has moved his family to Oakwood, a generic development that is easily seen as Oakville, to be in a safe, quiet neighbourhood. Zach is a great character, so oblivious of his flaws that he describes them in his personal narrative, looking for some understanding from the reader. The story tells of Zack's discovery of a body in the burbs, and his involvement in the investigation because he knew the victim and suspected he knew the killer. The story is a laugh-out-loud read, and the familiar settings provide lots of grins. The plot has some unexpected twists, a great host of quirky characters, and the punches are not pulled when it comes to showing a bit of violence. The tag line for the book reads "Life in the suburbs can be murder", but reading this book can be a sheer delight.

Secondly is Jason Starr's "Tough Luck":

Jason Starr presents Mickey Prada as a young man in Brooklyn with the potential to well for himself. He's been accepted into college, and he's just delayed a year to look after his sick father. Then, Angelo Santoro bullies him into making bets for him, and paying the losses! Mickey's life is sucked into an unavoidable mire of more and worse problems. There are many vivid characters, none of them with redeeming qualities. I have to admit the majority of the club did not enjoy the book, but those who did were very vocal about it. The dialogue is very quick, and the book has a fast pace. Reminiscent of *Catch in the Rye* or works by Jim Thompson this is a disturbing novel, but written with a light touch.

Thanks to Janet for this month's reviews.

THE GAME IS A FOOTE:

I want to thank the last month's contestants: Dave Powers, Michael Buck and Patricia Pederson - who are all winners of free advance reading copies. Keep up the good work! We are sorry that there is no contest for this month - my creative juices were all used up in preparation for Bouchercon. But I will be back with a vengeance next month!

AFTER HOURS:

Last month we had to say good bye to author Ed McBain. And I mentioned he was one of the one I hadn't met. This month we have to say a sad good bye to Dennis Lynds known by many as Michael Collins. In Dennis Lynds' long career he has written under the names William Arden, Nick Carter, John Crowe, Carl Dekker, Maxwell Grant and Mark Sadler. I have met Mr. Lynds a couple of times at Bouchercon and always found him to be a gentleman.

Hope everyone had a great summer! Look forward to seeing you soon!

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