

BESTSELLERS

A list of national bestsellers compiled by Publishers Weekly

HARDCOVER

FICTION

- 1. EXTREME MEASURES**, by Vince Flynn (Atria)
- 2. THE BRASS VERDICT**, by Michael Connelly (Little, Brown)
- 3. THE LUCKY ONE**, by Nicholas Sparks (Grand Central)
- 4. THE STORY OF EDGAR SAWTELLE**, by David Wroblewski (Ecco)
- 5. BONES**, by Jonathan Kellerman (Ballantine)
- 6. A LION AMONG MEN**, by Gregory Maguire (Morrow)
- 7. ROUGH WEATHER**, by Robert B. Parker (Putnam)
- 8. TESTIMONY**, by Anita Shreve (Little, Brown)
- 9. A MOST WANTED MAN**, by John le Carré (Scribner)
- 10. ONE FIFTH AVENUE**, by Candace Bushnell (Voice)

NONFICTION

- 1. AGAINST MEDICAL ADVICE**, by James Patterson and Hal Friedman (Little, Brown)
- 2. THE LAST LECTURE**, by Randy Pausch with Jeffrey Zaslow (Hyperion)
- 3. DEWEY**, by Vicki Myron with Bret Witter (Grand Central)
- 4. THE SNOWBALL**, by Alice Schroeder (Bantam)
- 5. MY STROKE OF INSIGHT**, by Jill Bolte Taylor (Viking)
- 6. A BOLD FRESH PIECE OF HUMANITY**, by Bill O'Reilly (Broadway)
- 7. HOT, FLAT, AND CROWDED**, by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
- 8. HERE'S THE STORY**, by Maureen McCormick (Morrow)
- 9. THE SECRET**, by Rhonda Byrne (Atria / Beyond Words)
- 10. MULTIPLE BLESSINGS**, by Jon & Kate Gosselin and Beth Carson (Zondervan)

PAPERBACK

- 1. THE SHACK**, by William P. Young (Windblown Media)
- 2. THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES**, by Sue Monk Kidd (Penguin)
- 3. THE LOVE DARE**, by Stephen Kendrick and Alex Kendrick (B&H Books)
- 4. THREE CUPS OF TEA**, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin (Penguin)
- 5. THE AUDACITY OF HOPE**, by Barack Obama (Three Rivers)
- 6. DREAMS FROM MY FATHER**, by Barack Obama (Three Rivers)
- 7. EAT, PRAY, LOVE**, by Elizabeth Gilbert (Penguin)
- 8. WORLD WITHOUT END**, by Ken Follett (NAL Trade)
- 9. WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING**, by Heidi Murkoff and Sharon Mazel (Workman)
- 10. THE ROAD**, by Cormac McCarthy (Vintage)

Bookends

CRIME FICTION

BY SARAH WEINMAN

Baltimore Sun

WHEN WILL THERE BE GOOD NEWS? by Kate Atkinson. Little, Brown; 350 pp., \$25.

Reading a novel by Kate Atkinson demands a languorous pace, the better to savor her ability to shear through layers of secrets and inhibitions and tease out the baldest of truths about her characters. Whether it's the carefully crafted reserve of Dr. Joanna Hunter, still caught in the echoes of the three-decades-old horror that wiped out most of her family; the plucky resourcefulness of Reggie, the teenage minder of Joanna's baby; Detective Louise Monroe's resigned acceptance of the desultory turn of events in her personal life; or former private detective Jackson Brodie's befuddlement at the discord between his own idealism and the world's larger cynicism, Atkinson shines her metaphoric flashlight into dark corners full of hidden revelations.



TOROS AND TORSOS, by Craig McDonald. Bleak House Books, 408 pp., \$14.95 paper.

Much of Craig McDonald's fiction work centers around Hector Lassiter, a hard-drinking, harder-living writer of lurid pulp stories who brings to mind Ernest Hemingway. His younger self stars in a story spanning several decades, notable historical events (the Florida Keys hurricane of 1935, the Black Dahlia murder 12 years later), gruesome, art-inspired serial murder, and many, many shots of alcohol. McDonald's writing cuts as deep as Sweeney Todd's straight razor, and his enthusiasm for the developing narrative overrides the occasional strain in connecting Lassiter's exploits to real-life events. "Toros and Torsos" confirms McDonald as a distinctive new voice in crime fiction.

Just the facts on Patty Hearst's saga

PATTY'S GOT A GUN: Patricia Hearst in 1970s America, by William Graebner, University of Chicago Press, 218 pp., \$20.

BY LIZ BROWN
Special to Newsday

In 1974, Patty Hearst's transformation from abducted heiress to gun-toting guerrilla riveted the nation, and it's little wonder that in recent years such writers as Susan Choi, Christopher Sorrentino and Dana Spiotta have centered novels around

home-grown terrorists. Now, in "Patty's Got a Gun," historian William Graebner returns to the actual events, positioning Hearst's experience with the Symbionese Liberation Army against the backdrop of a "post-Vietnam, post-Watergate climate of malaise, midway



THE SERPENT AND THE SCORPION, by Clare Langley-Hawthorne. Penguin, 289 pp., \$14 paper.

Readers of historical mysteries were introduced to Clare Langley-Hawthorne's delightful, forward-thinking heroine Ursula Marlow in 2007's "Consequences of Sin." Now Marlow returns, still in mourning over her father's death and running his company — when not in the thick of the suffrage movement or in a scrape. Marlow travels to Egypt and back on the trail of whoever killed her friend Katya and another woman found in Marlow's factory. The narrative produces an array of expected and surprising twists, but the main pleasure is the book's continuing theme of women's changing fortunes. Ursula is a worthy heroine in Edwardian London; she'll be a formidable one as the Great War looms.



COLD IN HAND, by John Harvey. Harcourt, 376 pp., \$25.

Detective Inspector Charlie Resnick, the jazz-loving, crime-solving star of Harvey's acclaimed 10-book series spanning the 1990s, has been making noises in other books that he might come out of creative retirement. Now Harvey makes good on his protagonist's return with a brand-new solo outing. "Cold in Hand" begins with the murder of a teenage girl caught in the middle of a war between rival gangs. But once Resnick and his partner (and lover) D.I. Lynn Kellogg are



on the case, matters turn complex. As ever, Harvey's writing walks a tightrope between sparseness and poetic beauty.

RITUAL, by Mo Hayder. Atlantic Monthly Press, 410 pp., \$22.95.

Mo Hayder packs plenty of gore and thrills in her work, but her ability to frighten stems from the tremendous sense of empathy she feels for and imbues in her characters. Jack Caffery, a return visitor after starring in Hayder's first two novels ("Birdman" and "The Treatment") is the most obvious example. In "Ritual" he cedes the limelight to two very different protagonists: Flea Marley, a gifted police diver drawn to the lure of African shamanism, and Mossy, a young boy whose overtures of friendship to another boy draws him further into an underworld of street children lured by drugs. Although "Ritual" doesn't pack the dazzling punch that earlier standout "The Devil of Nanking" did, its subtle approach to darker magic still devastates.

THE NIGHT VILLA, by Carol Goodman. Ballantine, 400 pp., \$14 paper.

Goodman's five previous novels have built up her reputation as a practitioner of the "literary mystery," in large part because she writes beautifully and gets inside the head of her female protagonists with deceptive ease. She continues her winning streak with "The Night Villa," juxtaposing a sobering school shooting in Texas with a spirited expedition to the isle of Capri, where 30-something classics professor Sophie Chase is tasked with finding the manuscripts of a slave girl amid the ancient rubble of Mount Vesuvius. Goodman explores the quiet fissures underlying Sophie's need to escape her current life and the consequences of trusting the wrong people — and distrusting the right ones.

