

# Apple Seeds

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September—November 2010  
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**Mildred Riley:** There's hope yet for all you "aging" youngsters who hope to become authors. Mildred Riley, a 92-year-old retired nurse, is now on the adventure of a lifetime and proud to proclaim herself a published romance author! Her 14<sup>th</sup> title, "*The Doctor's Wife*" deals with infidelity in a longtime marriage.

Ah-ha! Romantic Times Magazine (RT) news: **Lisa Kleypas'** Hathaways series had its last book out (July), BUT there is another installment available-online! Look to **LisaKleypas.com/factsfun.asp**.

Check in the October RT for more!

**Fern Michaels** has had her computer smokin', with the continuation of "The Sisterhood" series. Release of "*Crossroads*": 9-28-10.

**Linda Lael Miller** has "*Willow*", expanded and revised (and well-advertized) in print this October. Since Ms. Miller does not have her own website, I found her on the site listed below.

Our talented staff thought they would share a great on-line site: [www.fictiondb.com](http://www.fictiondb.com). You can find author book lists, including series; read descriptions of individual books, find pseudonyms; "If you like, try...", and other daily/weekly/monthly surprises such as "How many books have the same titles?"—(Quite a lot, actually!)

-----and of course, the frequently mentioned [www.stopyoure Killingme.com](http://www.stopyoure Killingme.com). A mystery book reference which can be searched either by author or protagonist!

"The Girl With..." and "The Girl Who..." by **Stieg Larsson** are still on Bestseller Lists.

**THE EXILE:** **Diana Gabaldon** authors another Outlander book, while artist Hoang Nguyen completes the Graphic side of this Novel of Jamie's return to the country.

"*Bones of Empire*", a fast-paced space opera, follows, "*At Empire's Edge*". Authored by **William C. Dietz**, this Science Fiction Hardcover will be on shelves sometime in October.

The October RT had a surprising SIX TOP PICKS out of twenty-five Mystery-Suspense & Thriller Reviews. They are pretty honest in their reviews, so you know the six must be good reads. (Five are hardcovers.) **Harlen Coben's** "*Play Dead*" is a hardcover with this reissue, after 15 years out of print.

Screaming **Nancy Grace** (sorry) of TV fame has been touting her new book, "*Death on the D-List*" and it received not a Top Pick, but still the top 4½ stars, so even RT says it's a GOOD novel.

Oh, and another TOP PICK is a mystery author I'm not familiar with: **Tom Franklin**. His "*Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter*" is about Mississippi in the 1970s, race issues, a lonely Larry Ott and his only friend, Silas Jones and a missing girl. The reviewer wrote, "...this literate, evocative tale is a story of guilty secrets, hidden loves and, ultimately, of redemption, with characters who are so real they practically walk off the page."

Aaand, RT chose Harlequin Nocturne's "*The Keeper*" by **Heather Graham** as a TOP PICK in its Series Romance Reviews. "Constant tension...will keep readers on the edge of their seats." Went to the website [fictiondb.com](http://fictiondb.com) and found Heather Graham Pozzessere and Shannon Drake's books listed right there! Such fun.

**Adrienne Barbeau:** Remember her? She played “Maude’s” daughter on TV. Anyway, she had a son, John Cody Carpenter in 1984 (director John Carpenter). Then, she had twin boys in 1992 at the age of 47, (Yikes) namely Walker Steven and William Dalton Van Zandt (Billy Van Zandt, brother of Steven Van Zandt, musician.) Stage, the big screen, TV and now novels! The hardcover, “**Love Bites**”, which came out in September, is a follow-up to her first novel, 2009’s “*Vampyres of Hollywood*”.

How’s that for news and gossip?

This September **Ken Follett** (“*Pillars of the Earth*” guy) begins a new trilogy with a 1,000,000 hardcover print of “*Fall of Giants*”. A major cast of eight characters show us how events and issues affect different people, and how different people affect events and issues up to and directly after WWI. PW says, “...it is a remarkable and wonderfully readable synthesis of fact and fiction.”

The ads read “Discover multiple-ending books set in the world of **Innerstar University**.™ Find multiple endings in the book—and online! And guess what—it’s the latest release from **American Girl Books!**

**Listen up all you Self-Published Authors: Publishers Weekly (PW) is heralding “PW Select”, a quarterly supplement announcing self-published titles and reviewing those they believe are most deserving of a critical assessment.**

**We have the information sheets in the store for you to use when entering. Unfortunately, at this time, your book must have been published in 2010 and have a valid ISBN.**

**There is, of course, a fee.**

PW also announced that **Elmore Leonard** celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday with a pirate novel. The book’s title is “*Djibouti*” which is fun to let roll off your tongue—kinda like rum would. YoHoHo. The reviewer said (in a kind way, we hope), “Seasoned Leonard readers will see some grays poking through—this at times reads like a quite good imitation of an Elmore Leonard novel—but it still beats the pants off of most of

the competition.” October publishing date—it’s in hardcover.

We are seeing all types of genres being advertized as “E-Book Format Only”. Too bad.

*Freddy Funkhauser and the French Fries?* (*Fries Alive!*) *Freddy Funkhauser: The mystery of Silas Finklebean?* **AND David Baldacci?**

The first book was published in June of 2005; the second in January of 2006 and they’re full of fun for young readers!

**David Baldacci’s** “True Blue” paperback was #3 on the Paperback Bestseller List as of Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>.

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, **Stuart Woods’** “*Kisser*” was at No. 11 (the paperback) & “*Santa Fe Edge*” (HC) just published, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Your support of our **Area Authors** is beyond belief. We have reordered books again and again, much to the happy faces of the authors. They thank you for the wonderful responses!

*Persistence* is the word! Even **James Patterson** had to work at it: When he wrote his first novel “*The Thomas Berryman Number*”, he was turned down by approximately 31 publishers. THEN he won an Edgar for Best First Novel. Persistence.

**Kathy Reichs’** “*Spider Bones*”: No. 3 on the Hardcover Bestseller List its first week on the market, according to the September 6th PW.

Our **Writers’ Group** is trying to understand, just like you, what on earth happened to summer! We hope you enjoy the beauty of FALL (and may it last a little longer...). To our Snowbirds starting to pack up, we send our wishes for a good WINTER Season and to let you know we’ll be waiting for your return.

Gotta go...bye for now.....



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## Apple Seeds Extra

Reading a review of **Lee Child's** 15th Jack Reacher Novel, ("*Worth Dying For*") I now understand exactly why I'm so drawn to the books: "Crisp, efficient prose and well-rounded characterizations (at least of the guys in the white hats) raise this beyond other attempts to translate the pulse-pounding feel of the *Die Hard* films into prose." I love the *Die Hard* films, and have watched them many times! Publishers Weekly (PW) says the hardcover has a November print date.

Saw an ad in the October Family Circle Magazine: **Martina McBride** urging everyone to collect SunnyD labels: "*When your class sends in 20, we'll donate 20 free books.*" Great idea. Now if they would just do something about the taste. (That's a personal observation.)

"*Happy Ever After*", the 4<sup>th</sup> and final book in **Nora Roberts'** Bride Quartet will be published in November, promising (according to PW), "...frothy fun, culminating in—of course—plenty of bridal fabulousness."

I've read "*The Search*", **Roberts'** 2010 HC, and, of course, really liked the dog-rescue-training novel. You know the bad guy is going to get it in the end, but the intricate (and clever) dog training is a learning experience.

**Roberts'** February release of "*Fantasy in Death*" and coming November print date of "*Indulgence in Death*" mean more reading for all the **J.D. Robb** fans. Ah, Roarke...

**Lisa Gardner** had two books on the Bestseller List this July: "*The Neighbor*" (scary title!) is now in paperback and was at #9, and the newest hardcover "*Live to Tell*" is at #10. In preparation for the latest, Gardner went to a psychiatric ward for children to learn of the wonderful work being done for acute patients.

Money, money, money. Before getting rid of the July issue of PW, I blipped thru the pages quickly and found this article: "*Can Any Author Be Worth \$50 Million Today?*" --Meaning, **Janet Evanovich**. It is said she was asking the \$50 mil for a 4-book deal. After all, Ken Follett supposedly got \$50 million for a 3-book deal three years ago. Publisher's worry? Simple: What if everything goes to E-Books? E-Books and the different digital rights to the titles. Lots of new legal stuff.

**Daniel Silva:** His first three novels of espionage were bestsellers, but his fourth—and the creation of Gabriel Allon—set fire to his novels. Allon, art restorer and sometime Israeli secret agent, was a hit with readers and has now resulted in ten novels in the series, the latest, a HC, "*The Rembrandt Affair*"—with his "*The Defector*" still on the Paperback Bestseller List.

On September 30, the Entertainment World lost a very talented author/producer/actor, **Stephen J. Cannell**. He not only wrote several books, he founded MANY television series, often appearing in them. If you or your child has dyslexia, please click on Cannell's website. He speaks on a short video, giving explanations that would benefit many teachers who were never taught the diversity of dyslexia. (And did an Info-movie about it.)

**Vince Flynn**, an unknown who resorted to self-publishing, AND who is now an internationally-known author read by and recommended by presidents, also has dyslexia.

Your children do NOT need Remedial Classes—they are going to be dyslexics all their lives, sometimes a little less in adulthood, so they need help resolving the puzzle to each of their particular problem/problems.

By the way, **Stephen J. Cannell** and **Janet Evanovich** were going to produce a movie together in 2007. Never happened, but wouldn't that have been a hoot? **Vince Flynn** has "*American Assassin*" in print this October.

During a book review of a World War II Mystery the protagonist gets his silver first lieutenant bars pinned on by a general, his own Uncle Ike. Ike, as in Eisenhower. You know,

the General. The President. That guy. In the history books. Aw, forget it—you're too young.

**Peter Straub:** Since we're including October/Halloween, we have to let Straub slide in on some glop of slime. He's been creepily busy with "*A Dark Matter*" published in 2/10, "*A Special Place*" in 7/10, "*The Juniper Tree and Other Blue Rose Stories*" on 8/10 and "*Pork Pie Hat*" on October, 2010.

The "Spook Authors" all whisper about basements, the things crawling and scratching in the dark; **Straub** also said to think about *stairs*. In a RT article he says he fears the cellar, and, "Imagine that you are alone in a house...then you hear someone or something moving on the staircase, and it is coming in your direction."

**Peter Straub/Stephen King** has got to be the most scariest, most prolific author of thrillers/horror novels ever. People that live near the Kings say they are the "Nicest neighbors..." !

Sometimes, after reading all the gory vampire stories (I like the romances and funny ones) a person gets kind of used to all that blood. Well, give me a dose of the above ↑ and it really scares the daylight out of me.

It is also fitting that we again speak of **Maggie Shayne**, well-liked author and Wiccan High Priestess (Legal Clergy). Unlike (recent) Stephanie Meyer and her Twilight Saga Series, **Maggie Shayne's** "*Wings in the Night*"—"*Twilight*" Series (many titles have "*Twilight*" in them) started with "*Twilight Phantasies*" in October of **1993**! Her stories, of course, involve *adult* vampires, whereas Meyer's began as a YA Series, soon picked up by adults.

**Steve Berry's** first Book, "*The Amber Room*" hit our shelves early in 2004, having been published in 2003. That's pretty fast, but readers came in looking for more! He has now written **10** novels, the latest to be in stores in December—"The Emperor's Tomb", once again starring **Berry's** protagonist, Cotton Malone, who is featured in 7 of his books.

**Patricia Cornwell's** paperback "*The Scarpetta Factor*" was sitting at #4 of the PW Bestseller

List as of September 27. Do you know she has been writing now for twenty years?

**Stephen Hunter's** "*I, Sniper*" is at #10 on the PW Paperback Bestseller List for 10/4/10.

**John Grisham's** "*Ford Country*" is at #5 after six weeks on the same list for 10/4/10.

**Michael Ledwidge (& James Patterson)** have their Trade Paperback ("*Worst Case*") on the PW Bestseller List at #8 for the same date. A still awed **Ledwidge:** "Every time the phone rings and James Patterson's name comes up on caller I.D. I still think, Man, this is wild. Who's going to call me next, Stephen King?"

Ever-popular **Debbie Macomber** has "*1022 Evergreen Place*" still at #5 after four weeks on the Paperback Bestseller List.

Things are starting to wind down here in the Leech Lake Area. Waterlovers are bringing their boats in for winter storage, docks are being pulled from the lakes and the leaves are falling faster than they can change colors. The backyard is pretty silent, considering all those cheeps and chirps usually sent **Mr. P's** way. (The birds follow him, jump up on the deck rail and talk to him—especially when a squirrel is bothering them. Seriously.)

My Mr. P has his garden in, including the 28 pound Hubbard Squash—the other five had a combined weight of 96 pounds! Everything harvested about three weeks early this year...rough winter coming? Different groups of squirrels and rabbits—and skunks—moved in over the summer, causing havoc with the plants, until BLAMMM. He did live-bait quite a few, except the skunks, but there were just too many. And now we have a raccoon in the trap!

For all you travelers getting ready to head south, thank you for your kind thoughts. My health seems to be more good than bad and Sherry, Karen and Linda did a great job this summer, so Thanks go out to them (and my Mr. P) for keeping the store running!

Have a GREAT DAY and WINTER

