

Apple Seeds

Little Apple Paperback Exchange Bookstore
513 MN Ave PO Box 263
Walker MN 56484
218-547-1816
~~~~~

Sandy Pauly, Owner  
www.littleapplebookstore.net

January/February 2007  
~~~~~

Happy New 2007 to you!

We have added two books to our “Area Author Section”. **Dr. William Kirtland** (now deceased) was born in Bemidji, and spent his adult life as an educator. His stories of growing up (and other good stuff!) in Bemidji and Littlefork will remind many of the not-too-long-ago years in our northland. Look to our shelves for “**Billy**” and “**Billy Remembers**”.

Got bugs? We’ve been *flicking* Box Elder Bugs and those Asian Beetles—but, found out our “Minnesota-best-bug-get-rid-of” (Duct Tape!) is top notch. Can’t put them in the garbage or the sink drain; it doesn’t work. You have to flush them, or the little buggers crawl out. Yech.

Greg Iles: Just finished reading his excellent “*Turning Angel*”. The book starts out with a bang, gets a little bogged down in (necessary) background work and has lots of seemingly-guilty-looking characters, but I read that thick novel in two nights. Captivating!

Julie Garwood: *Romantic Times Book Reviews Magazine* did an interview with Garwood—and, yes, she IS writing another historical romance. Hopefully, it’ll be on shelves at the end of 2007.

The same January magazine did a two-page spread on **John Lescroart** (pronounced “less-kwah), touting his release, “*The Suspect*”. A little tidbit from the interview: He loves music and has been a player, writer and singer—and made his living as Johnny Capo of Johnny Capo and his Real Good Band. Huh... Anyway, he’s got his own record label and is working on his next country music CD. Huh... ☺
Other favorites are fishing, cooking, reading and baseball. He’s 58, married & has two kids.

Is this a sign of gangs (or a gang-wanna-be)? The back alley is showing several signs of gang graffiti—not a comforting thought.

Just received another shipment of books from our Area Author, **Dr. Duane Lund**. I’m also still sorting through the books that we purchased from our Sharon. There are some crafting, animal and plant books in there. Somewhere.

It’s nice to see: **Inspirational Novels** have come a long way in the last few years. We are seeing books with 3 to 4 ½ star reviews, where just a few years ago they garnered 2 to 3 stars, tops. Authors such as **Karen Kingsbury**, **Beverly Lewis**, **M.L. Tyndall**, **Dee Henderson** and **Michael Phillips** are penning books that are more realistic with everyday life—retaining a religious theme without being unrealistically overly-preachy and sweetsy-cutsey-nicey.

Hardcovers are driving us nuts! *First*, our shelves are not made for the heavier or taller books. *Second*, storage is really a problem. *Third*, the pricing is touchy. We are a paperback store, and that is what we are promoting. However, publishing companies are really pushing many, many major award-winning paperback authors into doing hardcovers.

Downtime between a hardcover and the printing of a paperback is much less now, but just knowing that author’s (more expensive) book is available is really a bummer—especially for those of us watching our spending.

Mystery Hardcover now out:

Linda Fairstein’s *Bad Blood*; **Iris Johansen’s** *Stalemate*; **Jonathan & Fay Kellerman’s** *Capital Crimes*; and **Dean Koontz’s** *Brother Odd*.

Going back to **Publishers Weekly** December 11th issue, I was amazed at the **Children's Picture Book Bestseller Lists**. Out of the 15 listed, only one was priced at \$6.95. The rest showed one at \$12.99, with the remainder from \$15.99 to \$24.95. Ridiculous!

Picture books are usually for toddlers to 7-8 year olds—which means that a lot of the books are going to be chewed on, driven over by *brmmm* plastic trucks and tug-of-warred with the dog. It's like having a favorite doll that cost too much, so a little one can only stare at it up on an unreachable shelf.

Yes, kids can be taught to “be very careful with books”, but to make them untouchable for little ones is just plain stupid.

Okay, I'll be quiet now.

Who is **Joe Hill**? Well, his debut novel “*Heart-Shaped Box*” will be published this February. And, well, he wants to make his own way in the world of great authors. Actually, he did do a book of his short stories, “*20th Century Ghosts*” and a famous author did dedicate “*The Shining*” to him. (And, he *does* look like his dad did a few years ago...) His legal name? Joseph Hillstrom King. Hmm, do you suppose.....

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Want to protect your email friends?

Received this from a local writer a while ago:

Open your email address book and click on “new contact”.

In the window where you would type your friend's name, type **A**.

For the screen name or email address, type **AAAAAAA@AAA.AAA**

It won't keep a virus from entering *your* computer, but will stop it from using your address book to spread further, and will alert you that the worm has gotten into your system. This will work until a wormster figures out how to overcome yet another block.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

These are “hot” too: **Audiobooks**. A busy, multi-talking society, we are listening to books while housecleaning, driving, finishing another scrapbook or quilting (even exercising). I think audios are terrific, but so many of us are “gotta hold that book” people.

Did you watch the Memorial Service for reporter/correspondent/journalist, **Ed Bradley**? Oh, my.

“*Puff The Magic Dragon*” by **Peter Yarrow** will be published next fall as a picture book—to be followed by “*Day is Done*”. If I read the article correctly, the six book/CD deal fattened his wallet by six figures. The man's a genius. A singalong at several publishing companies resulted in a sale, with a promised first printing of 100,000 copies.

Have you read any of the “Sweet Potato Queen” books? They are good “uppers” between reading Oprah's “downers”. A new one out January 2nd is “*The Sweet Potato Queens' First Big-Ass Novel (Stuff We Didn't Actually Do, But Could Have, and May Yet)*”. These, um, *well-endowed* ladies are good for a laugh.

Lisa Gardner's newest novel “*Hide*” and **Lincoln Child's** “*Deep Storm*” have a “street” date of January 30. (Hardcovers AGAIN.)

A reader alerted me to a new spy/international suspense novelist, **Ted Bell**. His website (tedbellbooks.com) could use some work, but I understand the “*Alex Hawke*” books are being compared to the writings of **Nelson DeMille**.

William Kent Krueger notes:

Winner of the Anthony Award for the Best Mystery Novel of 2005.

Nominated for the Minnesota Book Award, Northeastern Book Awards and The Barry Award.

On October 11, Krueger was honored at the Barnes and Noble in the Maplewood Mall after being selected by Barnes and Noble stores as the 2006 Star of the North, in recognition for significant contribution to literature in the state. Congrats, Mr. Krueger!

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

